



## Lithuania

### National developments in 2025



The Ministry of the Interior worked on a legislative proposal throughout 2025 to transpose provisions of the Pact into the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners. The amendments were submitted to the government, but no draft law was published at the end of December 2025.<sup>1</sup> Based on the findings of the EAAMR, the European Commission determined that the country was at risk of migratory pressure due to the risk of hybrid threats linked to the weaponisation of migration.<sup>2</sup>

As the number of asylum applications decreased compared to 2024, the Migration Department managed again to decide on cases within the 6-month time limit prescribed by national law and reduce the backlog of cases. This was achieved with the same number of staff as in 2024, as – despite funding being made available to increase staff and provide higher salaries in the previous year<sup>3</sup> – there was high turnover.

The new Reception and Integration Agency was established as a national-level institution in January 2025. The objective of the change is to strengthen the country's operational capacity, centralise key functions and enhance the strategic planning.<sup>4</sup> The agency provides interpretation in reception and during the lodging of an application, as well as state-guaranteed legal aid. The change means that since 2025, foreigners may also receive state-guaranteed secondary legal aid, upon request, for proceedings before the Supreme Administrative Court, in accordance with the applicable legal framework. Under AMIF support of EUR 10 million,<sup>5</sup> the Reception and Integration Agency launched a project to improve reception infrastructure.<sup>6</sup> The authority noted that the project's objective goes beyond structural upgrades, and it is considered to be the foundation for a resilient reception system that can quickly adapt to changing circumstances.<sup>7</sup>

A state of emergency was maintained along the border with Belarus due to the risk of an instrumentalisation of migrants, and several temporary restrictions were introduced at various border checkpoints. The Migration Department underlined that asylum applications continued to be registered within the territory and safeguards for vulnerable persons remained in place. The Lithuanian Red Cross observed that the restrictions may prevent potential applicants, especially from Belarus and Russia, to express their wish to apply for international protection.<sup>8</sup> A case was pending in front of the ECtHR concerning alleged pushbacks that happened at the Belarusian border in 2022.<sup>9</sup> Following a judgment by the CJEU in 2022<sup>10</sup> and the Lithuanian Constitutional Court in 2023<sup>11</sup> that the automatic detention of migrants who crossed the border illegally was not compatible with EU law and was unconstitutional, a group of asylum seekers who were detained based on this policy filed a class action with the Supreme Administrative Court for compensation for non-pecuniary damages, which was admitted by the court and was pending a ruling.<sup>12</sup>

**More input from civil society:**

- [European Network on Statelessness](#)
- [Lithuanian Red Cross Society | Lietuvos Raudonojo Kryžiaus](#)

# Lithuania

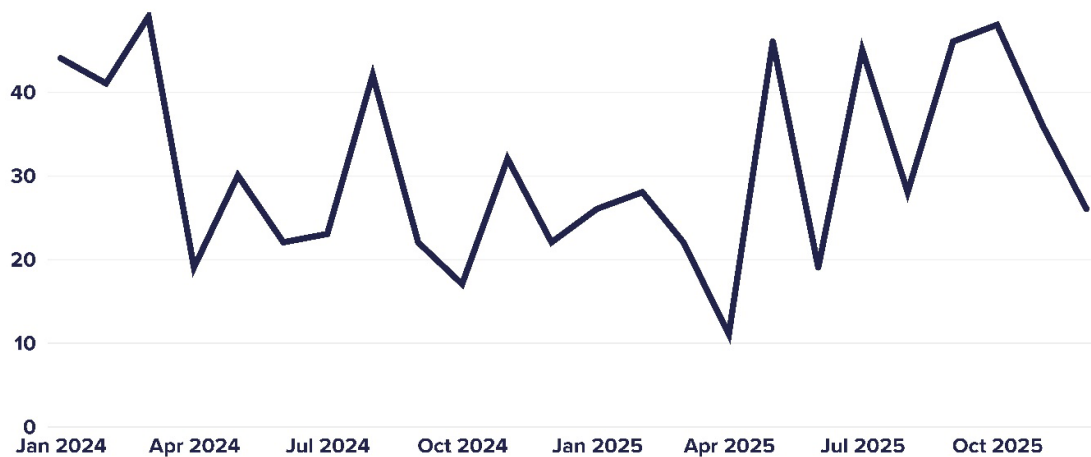
## Key indicators for 2025



Rank by number of asylum applications <b>27</b>	Rank per capita (applications per 1M inhabitants) <b>25</b>	Share of applications in EU+ <b>0.05%</b>	Recognition rate <b>43%</b>
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Indicator	2025	2024	% change	Top 3 countries of origin
Asylum applications	381	363 →	5%	Belarus (22%), Somalia (12%), Russia (9%)
First instance decisions	307	380 ↓	-19%	Belarus (41%), Russia (17%), Ukraine (9%)
Pending cases (Dec '25)	162	219 ↓	-26%	Belarus (26%), Somalia (9%), Pakistan (8%)
Refugee status	131	163 ↓	-20%	Belarus (69%), Russia (15%), Afghanistan (5%)
Subsidiary protection	0	12 ↓	-83%	Russia (50%), Sudan (50%)
Negative	174	205 ↓	-15%	Belarus (20%), Russia (18%), Ukraine (17%)

Evolution of asylum applications, 2024-2025



For more developments, please consult the [Asylum Report 2026](#) and the [National Asylum Developments Database](#).





## Sources

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- <sup>1</sup> Ministry of the Interior (Lithuania) | Lietuvos Respublikos vidaus reikalų ministerija. (31 December 2025). [2025 metų Vidaus reikalų ministerijos darbų apžvalga](#) [2025 Review of the Work of the Ministry of the Interior].
- <sup>2</sup> European Commission. (11 November 2025). [Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: The European Annual Asylum and Migration Report \(2025\)](#). COM(2025) 795 final; European Commission. (11 November 2025). [Commission implementing decision pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1351 of the European Parliament and of the Council](#). C(2025) 7099 final; European Commission. (11 November 2025). [Annexes to the Commission implementing decision pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1351 of the European Parliament and of the Council](#). C(2025) 7099 final.
- <sup>3</sup> European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). (12 June 2025). [Asylum Report 2025](#).
- <sup>4</sup> European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). (12 June 2025). [Asylum Report 2025](#).
- <sup>5</sup> European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). (12 June 2025). [Asylum Report 2025](#).
- <sup>6</sup> Reception and Integration Agency | Priėmimo ir Integracijos Agentūra. (23 April 2025). [Tobulinama ir plečiama priėmimo infrastruktūra](#) [Improving and expanding the reception infrastructure].
- <sup>7</sup> Reception and Integration Agency | Priėmimo ir Integracijos Agentūra. (23 April 2025). [Tobulinama ir plečiama priėmimo infrastruktūra](#) [Improving and expanding the reception infrastructure].
- <sup>8</sup> Lithuanian Red Cross | Lietuvos Raudonasis Kryžius. (10 June 2025). [2024 m. stebėsenos ataskaita](#) [2024 Monitoring Report].
- <sup>9</sup> Council of Europe, European Court of Human Rights. (12 February 2025). [Grand Chamber hearing concerning alleged “pushbacks” at the Lithuanian-Belarusian border](#).
- <sup>10</sup> European Union, Court of Justice of the European Union [CJEU], [M.A. v State Border Protection Service at the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania](#), C-72/22 PPU, ECLI:EU:C:2022:505, 30 June 2022. Link redirects to the English summary in the EUAA Case Law Database.
- <sup>11</sup> Lithuania, Constitutional Court [Lietuvos Respublikos Konstitucinis Teismas], [Decision of the Constitutional Court on the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners](#), 10-A/2022, 7 June 2023. Link redirects to the English summary in the EUAA Case Law Database.
- <sup>12</sup> Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania | Lietuvos vyriausiasis administracinis teismas, (13 March 2025). [LVAT: grupės skundas dėl žalos, siejamos su automatiniu užsieniečių judėjimo laisvės apribojimu, atlyginimo priimtas pagrįstai](#) [SACL: Group complaint regarding compensation for damage associated with automatic restriction of freedom of movement of foreigners accepted as justified].