



## Norway

### National developments in 2025



Norway implements the parts of the Pact that are relevant to the Schengen system and the Dublin procedure, including the AMMR, Parts 3, 5 and 7, the Screening Regulation, the recast Eurodac Regulation, Crisis and Force Majeure Regulation, Articles 12 and 13 and Articles 1-6 insofar they are relevant for the application of Articles 12 and 13. Norway will implement the return border procedure regulation if and when a national asylum border procedure is introduced. The Immigration Act was amended in 2025 to comply with new Schengen Information System requirements.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) launched a major digitalisation and modernisation initiative to improve the efficiency of asylum procedures and the broader migration system.

As in 2024, several developments focused on Ukrainian applicants. In January 2025, new safe areas in Ukraine were added to the list. People from these areas are not covered by temporary protection and are channelled through the regular procedure.<sup>2</sup> At the same time, the Immigration Regulations were amended to extend the temporary collective protection scheme, in line with the EU's extension to March 2026.<sup>3</sup> After an initial decline, arrivals of Ukrainian nationals began to rise again from September 2025, following Ukraine's decision to allow men to leave the country. The Immigration Appeals Board (UNE) established a dedicated team to handle asylum applications by Ukrainian nationals and renewals of collective protection.<sup>4</sup>

Norway experienced fluctuations in its reception capacity during 2025 but remained stable by the end of the year. The UDI provided grants for child-focused activities in reception centres and delivered multiple training sessions for staff at the national arrival centre, including specialised modules on identifying and assisting victims of torture. The UDI also worked on enhancing its mapping tool for unaccompanied minors arriving in Norway.

The guidance on applicants' right to work was revised, clarifying that asylum seekers whose cases are on hold or suspended due to uncertain country conditions are no longer deemed highly likely to receive protection and thus lose eligibility for interview exemptions and temporary work permit renewals.<sup>5</sup>

Throughout the year, the government supported various municipalities and NGOs in promoting integration projects to help beneficiaries of international protection and asylum seekers to enter the labour market and participate in the host society. It further proposed an integration declaration which outlines the rights, obligations and expectations for newly-arrived refugees.<sup>6</sup>

Following observations from the Supervisory Council for Forced Returns and the Parliamentary Ombudsperson, the government launched a consultation on new rules for the immigration detention centre at Trandum to modernise its legal framework and clarify the rights of detainees.<sup>7</sup> The government introduced the new 2025–2030 return strategy to support controlled and sustainable migration.<sup>8</sup> In addition, new regulations strengthened the best interests of the child in expulsion cases.<sup>9</sup>

**More input from civil society:**

- [European Network on Statelessness](#)

# Norway

## Key indicators for 2025



Rank by number of asylum applications

16

Rank per capita (applications per 1M inhabitants)

16

Share of applications in EU+

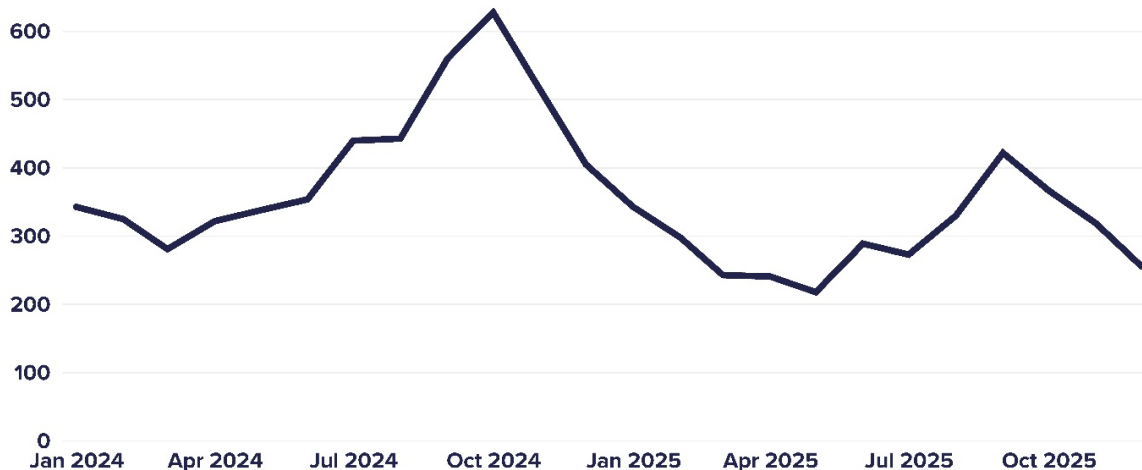
0.4%

Recognition rate

27%

Indicator	2025	2024	% change	Top 3 countries of origin
Asylum applications	3,587	4,941 ↓	-27%	Ukraine (34%), Syria (11%), Eritrea (8%)
Pending cases (Dec '25)	5,128	5,282 →	-3%	Syria (50%), Ukraine (10%), Eritrea (7%)
First instance decisions	2,133	2,622 ↓	-19%	Ukraine (28%), Türkiye (10%), Afghanistan (8%)
Refugee status	485	1,289 ↓	-62%	Türkiye (26%), Eritrea (21%), Russia (7%)
Subsidiary protection	82	131 ↓	-37%	Afghanistan (41%), Sudan (17%), Eritrea (13%)
Negative	1,566	1,202 ↑	30%	Ukraine (38%), Afghanistan (7%), Colombia (7%)

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 Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (4 April 2025). [Tilpasninger i utlendingsloven som følge av nye EU-forordninger om Schengen Information System \(SIS\)](#) [Amendments to the Immigration Act following new EU regulations on the Schengen Information System (SIS) and related matters].

<sup>2</sup> Norwegian Directorate of Immigration | Utlendingsdirektoratet. (15 January 2025). [Har ankommet 92,000 ukrainere](#) [92,000 Ukrainians have arrived].

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (11 February 2025). [Fordrevne fra Ukraina får forlenget oppholdstillatelsen i Norge med ytterligere ett år](#) [Displaced persons from Ukraine will have their residence permit in Norway extended for another year].

<sup>4</sup> Immigration Appeals Board | Utlendingsnemnda. (29 September 2025). [Nytt lag etablert i UNE](#) [New team established in UNE].

<sup>5</sup> Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (24 June 2025). [GI-08/2025 – revidert instruks – utlendingsloven § 94 annet ledd – unntak fra vilkåret om gjennomført asylintervju ved søknad om midlertidig arbeidstillatelse](#) [GI-08/2025 – revised instructions – Section 94, second paragraph, of the Immigration Act – exemption from the condition that an asylum interview must be completed when applying for a temporary work permit].

<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (Norway) | Arbeids- og inkluderingsdepartementet. (13 October 2025). [Ny integreringserklæring med tydelige krav og forventninger fra dag én](#) [New integration declaration with clear requirements and expectations from day one].

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (31 March 2025). [Foreslår nye regler for utlendingsinternatet på Trandum](#) [Proposes new rules for the immigration detention centre at Trandum].

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (12 February 2025). [Returstrategi 2025–2030](#) [Return strategy 2025–2030].

<sup>9</sup> Ministry of Justice and Public Security (Norway) | Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet. (13 January 2025). [Ny regulering i forskrift for å ivareta hensynet til barnets beste i utvisningssaker](#) [New regulation in regulations to safeguard the best interests of the child in expulsion cases].