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The EMN Quarterly provides policymakers and other practitioners with updates on recent migration and international protection policy developments at EU and national level. The 39th edition provides information from **April to June 2022**, including the (latest) relevant published statistics.

The Quarterly is organised by policy theme. You can directly access your area of interest by clicking on one of the following themes:

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- 11. [ANNEX: EU & COMPLEMENTARY STATISTICS, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OTHER EMN OUTPUTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS](#)**

SPECIAL NOTE

Recent EMN publications:

- [2021 EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum](#), along with its accompanying Statistical Annex, presented at a launch event on 15 June 2022
- [EMN study on Detention and Alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures](#)
- [EMN inform on Attracting and retaining international researchers](#)
- [EMN inform on Mapping of mental health services for refugees and migrants](#)
- [EMN inform on Incentives and motives for voluntary departure](#)

Stay tuned for upcoming EMN publications:

- EMN study on the Integration of migrant women in the EU and Norway: Policies and measures
- EMN inform on Bilateral return agreements: inventory, characteristics, and effectiveness
- EMN inform on Lawful secondary movements of beneficiaries of international protection
- EMN inform on Measures to support transition to adulthood for unaccompanied minors

Note on information regarding Ukraine

The 39th edition of the EMN Quarterly includes some main information on arrivals from Ukraine, with major EU-level updates and examples of national responses under each relevant section for the reporting period.

However, for detailed information please refer to the recently published [EMN inform on the Application of the Temporary Protection Directive \(Scope and Registration\)](#).

Stay tuned too for other upcoming EMN publications related to the Temporary Protection Directive (regarding the provision of services and the provision of accommodation and housing).

In the meantime, more information regarding Ukraine may be found for each EMN member and observer country on our [website](#).

1. GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATE

On 1 April 2022, the [European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(FRA\)](#) welcomed the Council's adoption of the amendment made on its founding Regulation, which will strengthen the Agency's mandate.

On 12 May 2022, FRA released its first [bulletin on Ukraine](#), assessing the implications of the war in Ukraine on fundamental rights within the EU.

In a [speech](#) delivered by the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen at the World Economic Forum on 24 May 2022, a reconstruction plan for Ukraine was discussed, which some have termed a Marshall Plan for Ukraine. The platform would serve to map investment needs and coordinate relief efforts after the war with Russia in the short-, mid-, and long-term.

On 9 and 10 June 2022, the [Justice and Home Affairs \(JHA\) Council](#) took place in Luxembourg, where EU home affairs ministers together with Vice-President Schinas, Commissioner for Justice, Dieder Reynders, and Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson, discussed various topics on EU security and migration, including the [10-Point Action Plan](#) aimed at increasing support for Ukrainian refugees.

On 22 June 2022, the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union released a [statement regarding steps to be taken to implement the European Pact on Migration and Asylum](#) through a voluntary solidarity mechanism. The statement covers various aims and objectives on how Member States can regulate migration together and respond to emerging needs.

Also on 22 June 2022, the Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper) adopted Council negotiating mandates on the Eurodac and Screening Regulations, including methods to better trace irregular migrants and asylum applicants, such as through biometric data and increased interoperability across information systems to facilitate the monitoring of applications and identification of persons. Reacting to the influx of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine, the Eurodac Regulation would make it mandatory to register beneficiaries of temporary protection.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Austria: On 13 April 2022, a [Federal Law Gazette](#) was published extending the special acquisition rights of Austrian citizenship to specific groups of persons and their descendants. This includes former citizens who were deported by NSDAP authorities before 9 May 1945 or former citizens who were not able to enter or return to Austrian territory between 30 January 1933 and 9 May 1945 due to fear of persecution, as well as the descendants of citizens who died due to persecution by NSDAP authorities before 9 May 1945.

On 11 May 2022, a [Decree of the Federal Minister for the Interior](#) was promulgated in the Federal Law Gazette extending border controls at the internal borders with the Republic of Slovenia and Hungary for an additional six months (from 12 May 2022 until 13 November 2022).

On 30 June 2022, the [Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum Procedures Act](#) was amended, creating the legal basis for an EU-wide exchange of data on displaced persons from Ukraine.

Belgium: Since 28 June 2022, Belgium has had a new State Secretary for Migration: Ms Nicole de Moor who succeeds Mr Sammy Mahdi.

Cyprus: On 25 May 2022, an amendment to the EUAA Operating Plan to Cyprus was signed in order to allow the Agency to provide support to the Cypriot Authorities on the management of the flows of Ukrainian Refugees.

Czech Republic: On 18 July 2022, the Czech Republic [issued an amendment to the Lex Ukraine Act](#) (Lex Ukraine II), which regulates the procedures for requesting temporary protection on the territory of the Czech Republic. This addendum responds in particular to the expected end of the state of emergency, the need to integrate children into the school system for a longer period, and the prohibition for citizens of Russia and Belarus to apply for visas and residence permits (an exception is provided for in the Government Decree). As of 30 June 2022, the number of temporary protection visas issued by the Czech Republic to Ukrainian refugees since the start of the Russian invasion was 386 061.

Estonia: On 3 June 2022, the Estonian prime minister [dismissed the coalition partner](#) Centre Party from the Government. As a result, for the rest of June, the position of the Minister of Interior was temporarily undertaken by the Minister of Defense.

Finland: On 9 June 2022, the Ministry of the Interior set up a [legislative project to enable automated decision-making](#) in the Finnish Immigration Service's activities. This would make it possible to resolve simpler matters as efficiently as possible.

On 15 June 2022, the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (ETNO) published a report, which examines what kind of [barriers to participation and exerting influence in society](#) there are among immigrants and multilingual Finns and presents solutions for removing them.

France: On 20 June 2022, the Department of Statistics, Studies and Documentation (DSED) of the Ministry of the Interior published its [2021 annual statistics](#) regarding the issuance of residence permits, visas to foreign nationals, asylum applications, access to nationality, as well as the main data on immigration in France.

Greece: On 10 June 2022, a new [Code of Legislation](#) entered into force for the reception, international protection of third country nationals and stateless persons and temporary protection in case of a mass influx of displaced persons. This codified the applicable legislation on the above issues into a single text.

Italy: On 15 April 2022, the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers was published, regulating in detail the duration and procedures for issuing residence permits for temporary protection, extended to study and work, to displaced persons from Ukraine.

Since April 2022, the Immigration Offices have been issuing residence permits for temporary protection to applicants. Clarifications on access to work for holders of temporary protection are contained in the [FAQ](#) prepared by the Ministry of Labour and published on the Integration of Migrants portal. On 21 June 2022, [Decree-Law No. 73](#)

provided important simplifying measures for entry flows of workers into Italy. The two main introductions are:

- the granting of authorisation to work in Italy, within 30 days from the publication of the decree-law, for applications submitted under the 2021 and 2022 Flows Decree, if by that time information on any obstacles to the issuance have not been acquired;
- the possibility for the employer to immediately hire workers already irregularly present in Italy on 1 May 2022, if their presence can be proven by photodactyloscopic surveys, declarations or documentation with a reliable date issued by public bodies.

The decree also simplifies the checks on compliance with the collective labour agreement, stipulating that the agreement must be approved by labour consultants and employers' associations. The National Labour Inspectorate, in cooperation with the Revenue Agency, will carry out random checks.

Lithuania: On 7 June 2022, the Vice-minister of the Interior announced that the Vilnius Regional Administrative Court would [evaluate the possibility of removing measures restricting freedom of movement](#) on an individual basis for each of the remaining 1467 migrants who irregularly entered the territory of Lithuania from Belarus and who have spent 12 months in the country.

According to the [information provided by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour](#) on 9 June 2022, of the 55 800 Ukrainians who have found refuge in Lithuania, 11 500 have successfully entered the labour market.

On 17 June 2022, [the Ministry of Social Security and Labour reported](#) that the Lithuanian citizens and businesses that have accommodated Ukrainian nationals in Lithuania have received compensations worth more than € 1.1 million.

On 20 June 2022, the Migration Department [released its annual report on migration](#) processes for 2021. The number of asylum requests received by the Lithuanian authorities has increased 13 times since 2020 reaching 4 529 cases, while most of the temporary residence permits – approximately 85% - were issued on the grounds of employment.

Luxembourg: On 20 June 2022, [bill No 8032 was submitted](#) to the Chamber of Deputies. The aim of the bill is to introduce an aggravating circumstance into the Penal Code for an act qualified as a crime or an offense committed on the grounds of one of the characteristics referred to in Article 454 of the Penal Code, for example, origin, skin colour, gender, age, sexual orientation, et al.

The Netherlands: On 26 April 2022, the Ministerial Crisis Management Committee (MCCb) for the reception of refugees from Ukraine [announced the establishment of a separate Programme Directorate-General for Ukrainian IDPs](#) (DG.Oek) for policy coordination, support and planning with regard to beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine. In addition, a National Reception Organisation (NOO) was established to realise adequate reception and support for this group.

In June 2022, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (Immigratie-en Naturalisadienst, IND) started [pilots to hand out 'residence stickers'](#) to beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine. The stickers are intended to demonstrate their lawful

residence and right to work in the Netherlands for the time that the Temporary Protection Directive is in force. The aim is to distribute approximately 1 200 stickers per day at fixed locations, by means of an online system through which registered beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine can make an appointment.

Poland: On 15 April 2022, the amendment to the Act on Foreigners entered into force whereby the minister competent in foreign affairs has become the authority that issues national visas to foreigners who are already staying on the territory of Poland. The subject criteria for the issuance of a visa by the MFA will be specified in a separate regulation. This results from the fact Polish consular posts can no longer issue visas in Ukraine due to the situation there and that issuing these visas was one of the basic components of the system for admitting foreigners into Poland.

From 16 May 2022, in accordance with the new ordinance, the state of epidemic was cancelled and the state of epidemic threat was introduced. This indicates a general relaxation of existing rules in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the change does not impact the mechanisms aiming to facilitate the functioning of foreigners' stay in Poland during the COVID-19 pandemic, which includes the extension of residence permits, visas, and work permits.

Due to the armed conflict taking place on the territory of Ukraine since 24 February 2022, between 1 April 2022 and 30 June 2022, 1 903 862 Ukrainians arrived in Poland. During the same period, 1 956 417 Ukrainian citizens left the territory of Poland.

Portugal: On 29 April 2022, the Portuguese Government decided to postpone the restructuring of the Foreigners and Borders Service (Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras, SEF), that had been planned to take place, although the new date has not yet been decided.

Slovenia: The number of new applications for temporary protection has been decreasing. As of the middle of June, there have been around 8 000 applications and more than 4 000 decisions issued.

Georgia: On 11 May 2022, Georgia and Switzerland [signed a Memorandum of Understanding](#) on cooperation in migration related issues. The document will enhance legal migration programmes, strengthen the protection of migrants' rights, ensure the management of migration flows and work for the prevention of irregular migration.

On 6 June 2022, the [first session of the Government Coordination Commission on the Population Census was held](#) and the 2024 Census programme was approved. According to the programme, the next Census will be held in Georgia from 14 November to 19 December 2024, and its reference date defined as 13-14 November 12 a.m. The new Census will provide up-to-date information on population size, age and sex, employment, education, health status and household composition.



2. INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM AND TEMPORARY PROTECTION

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

During the reporting period, and following the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 on temporary protection, the European Union Agency for

Asylum (EUAA) [provided specialised training](#) to national officers on capacity building following the mass influx of refugees arriving from Ukraine.

On 20 April 2022, the EUAA released updated '[Country Guidance' for Afghan applicants](#) to assist national authorities in deciding who qualifies for international protection with the aim to harmonise the approach across Member States.

In May 2022, the European Commission [launched a dedicated phone helpline](#) to assist people fleeing Ukraine.

On 31 May 2022, the European Commission [launched an EU platform for the registration of beneficiaries of temporary protection](#). The platform will facilitate the exchange of information between Member States and register people in real time, which will grant refugees fleeing Ukraine effective access to their rights and benefits, as well as address the issue of multiple registrations and limit possible abuse.

LATEST RELEVANT STATISTICS

No relevant statistics [published](#) during the reporting period.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Belgium: Over the past few months the federal reception agency Fedasil has struggled to provide accommodation for asylum seekers. As a result, many (especially male) asylum seekers have had to wait several nights before a place is found for them. This has triggered more than 1 400 court cases against the government since the beginning of this year. The French-speaking Brussels Labour Court condemned Fedasil in 90% of these cases. In June, this Court stated that the violation of the right to reception is a practice that is "deliberate, sustained and coordinated", which the Belgian authorities firmly deny.

Bulgaria: A total of 361 439 Ukrainians came to Bulgaria from the beginning of the armed conflict until 22 June 2022. Of these, 83 215 have remained in Bulgaria; 119 057 received shelter; 117 591 were registered for temporary protection (12 340 men; 59 498 women; 45 261 children, and an additional 492 unaccompanied minors). More than 1 775 officials of the Ministry of Interior were trained by the State Agency for Refugees (SAR) to support the registration process and granted access to the SAR Registration System.

Croatia: Between 1 April and 1 June 2022, 1 880 persons expressed their intention to seek international protection. During the same period last year, the number was 776.

From 8 April 2022, persons under temporary protection were granted benefits and services within the social welfare system. Since 16 April 2022, persons under temporary protection have been able to exercise the right to health care to the same extent as an insured person under national legislation. Both of these changes were enabled by [the Act on Amendments to the Act on Compulsory Health Insurance and Health Protection of Foreigners](#).

Cyprus: On 27 May 2022, the Minister of Interior issued an [updated list of Safe Countries of Origin](#), removing Ukraine from the list. The complete list can be found in the Gazette in Greek.

Estonia: On 18 May 2022, the parliament [passed the Act on Amendments to the Family Benefits Act, the Social Welfare Act and Other Acts](#). With the amendments, the social services and benefits data register will be extended with the data for assessing the need

for assistance in individuals who are seeking international protection and have received it, and for offering them help. The purpose of the amendment is to better plan and organise the social services needed by Ukrainian refugees in Estonia, as well as the payment of benefits to them.

On 4 April 2022, [the Social Insurance Board signed an agreement](#) with the company Tallink Grupp to offer temporary accommodation on ferry MS Isabelle to Ukrainian refugees in Tallinn. The Tallink ship, which typically serves the company's Riga-Stockholm route, was chartered out from 7 April, for an initial period of four months with an option of extension. The ship can accommodate approximately 2 100 people and will remain in port in Tallinn, which will allow the people staying on board to use services aimed at them in Tallinn.

In April 2022, the Social Insurance Board and real estate portal Kinnisvara 24 [launched a real estate site aimed to match Ukrainian refugees](#) who are looking for accommodation and locals who have accommodation to offer for them.

On 11 April 2022, the Tallinn City Government [opened a school for around 200 Ukrainian students](#) and ten teachers on RäÄgu street, with some from Ukraine. For the start of the new academic year in September, the school could expand to up to 600 students. Starting from September, another school aimed for Ukrainian students – [Vabaduse School](#) – will offer 800 additional places for refugees.

Finland: On 4 April 2022, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment [published a leaflet to advise Ukrainians on finding employment in Finland](#). Those who have requested temporary protection have the right to work without any restrictions or delay as soon as they have received a decision on temporary protection. They can also register as jobseekers at the TE Office and receive employment support services.

On 28 April 2022, [a new action plan was launched to support Ukrainian higher education](#) students and researchers. Finnish universities and universities of applied sciences will open up new study opportunities to help Ukrainians entering the country. Students will be given opportunities to start or continue their studies, and researchers will be offered the opportunity to continue their research work in Finland.

France: Since 2 May 2022, [the dematerialisation of summonses and decisions](#) issued by the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA), already in force in some regions, has been extended to all other French regions. This means that letters are now sent to the asylum seekers' secure personal digital space so they do not have to physically go to the OFPRA office.

On 21 June 2022, the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) published its 2021 activity report detailing the main characteristics and trends in asylum applications in France for the year 2021.

Germany: Starting from 1 June 2022, beneficiaries of temporary protection (BTP) are [eligible for social benefits](#) in accordance with general German social law. The benefits entail support for living expenses, housing and heating. In addition, BTP have health insurance under statutory health insurance. One-off financial support may be granted, e.g. when accommodation has been found but furniture is needed.

Italy: On 11 April 2022, a notice was published for expressions of interest to carry out reception activities for Ukrainian refugees. Among the services to be offered are

assistance in job placement and vocational training and retraining with particular attention to skills that will be useful upon return to Ukraine.

On 4 May 2022, the National Association of Italian Municipalities [published a handbook](#) collecting all the regulatory measures that have been adopted with regard to the reception and assistance of Ukrainian citizens, in order to support municipalities and other entities affected by the presence and reception of Ukrainian refugees.

During the reporting period, the reception of Ukrainian refugees was increased as a result of the Notice of 16 March 2022. An additional 3 530 places were financed, [extending](#) the already existing Rete SAI projects of the ordinary category, and applications were received from municipalities for a total of 6 420 places.

A [40-million-euro fund](#) has been set up to support the social services of municipalities, which are called upon to provide services for Ukrainian citizens in their territories, in terms of integration into society, work, education, health, etc.

On 21 June 2022, the National Commission for the Right to Asylum held the closing event of the European project EmAs.Com, which in almost three years of work has enabled the implementation of the national asylum system, thanks to economic funds made available by the European Commission. Implemented in partnership with the UNHCR, the project has improved the reception system with more effective procedures and ensured a high level of attention paid to vulnerabilities.

As of 28 June 2022, 141 562 people fleeing the war crisis in Ukraine arrived in Italy, 134 221 arrived at the border and 7 341 were checked by the Railway Police. Out of this total, 74 771 are women, 22 071 men and 44 720 minors.

Ireland: On 23 May 2022, Ireland's reception facility for those fleeing Ukraine was [transferred](#) from Dublin Airport to a new location at the City West Convention Centre in Dublin. The reception facility constitutes a 'one-stop shop' where those seeking protection under the Temporary Protection Directive are issued with a Temporary Protection permission letter and [connected](#) to available services and supports, including housing and social welfare, and issued with a Personal Public Service (PPS) number so that they can seek employment.

Lithuania: On 22 April 2022, the Ministry of Interior [reported](#) that Lithuania is leading European countries in accepting Ukrainian refugees. According to the April data, the number of Ukrainian nationals who fled the war in their country and have registered in Lithuania consists of 1.7 per cent of the total country population exceeding the EU average by 3.4 times.

On 25 May 2022, the Ministry of the Interior [proposed](#) to create an institution responsible for the reception and accommodation of refugees coming to Lithuania by April 2023. With the creation of a new institution, the authorities aim to delegate some of the responsibilities previously carried out by the State Border Guard Service to increase its efficiency.

Luxembourg: On 30 March 2022 a one-stop shop for applicants for temporary protection who fled the war in Ukraine [was opened](#). This administrative centre brings together the services of the immigration department, the judicial police, the National Reception Office (ONA), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth and the financial services of "Post Luxembourg" in the same building.

The law of 10 May 2022 [amending the Social Security Code](#) facilitates the affiliation of beneficiaries of temporary protection to social security by providing for their compulsory and definitive affiliation to health insurance, and therefore coverage by the National Health Fund as soon as they have the temporary protection certificate (retroactive effect from 4 March 2022).

On 12 May 2022, the Minister of Immigration and Asylum [held a public information session](#) in collaboration with the Local Interests Syndicate Kirchberg and the City of Luxembourg in order to inform residents of the municipality of Luxembourg on the opening of a new temporary protection accommodation structure for people fleeing the war in Ukraine. This structure will have a maximum capacity of 1 200 places and will accommodate a mixed population, namely families and single men and women.

In their response to parliamentary question no. 5883, the Minister for Family and Integration, [presented two new projects](#) in order to consolidate offers of support for people fleeing the war in Ukraine who have arrived in Luxembourg:

- a mechanism to connect people fleeing the war in Ukraine with Luxembourg residents wishing to offer them accommodation or family reception.
- coordinating volunteering by guiding interested people to organizations offering voluntary activities in different fields.

The Netherlands: On 13 April 2022, the Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Council of State ruled that the IND is obliged to do further research on the situation of asylum seekers being transferred to Croatia under the Dublin III Regulation. This is due to reports of frequent pushbacks (including of asylum seekers who are transferred to Croatia from another EU member state), which may result in a violation of the principle of non-refoulement. On 30 May 2022, [the Minister for Migration announced that until this research is concluded, no Dublin transfers to Croatia will be carried out](#).

Following the official country report on Belarus, on 12 May 2022 the Minister for Migration announced that a [country policy for Belarus has been installed](#). Opposition members, political activists, journalists, human rights activists and transgender persons who significantly criticize the authorities are now designated as risk groups. In addition, the IND cannot assume that the Belarusian authorities provide adequate reception and care to unaccompanied minors, unless this can be established through an individual case assessment.

On 17 June 2022, the Minister of Justice and Security [activated the 'national crisis structure'](#) in order to coordinate efforts to resolve the severe shortage of reception and housing capacity for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection. The strategy of the government consist of [measures in three phases](#): the establishment of more emergency reception locations, temporary housing solutions for beneficiaries of international protection, and the development of more long-term strategies to ensure adequate reception and housing.

On 29 June 2022, the Minister for Migration announced a [decision and departure moratorium](#), which means that no decisions on asylum applications by Russian conscripts are taken and they do not have to return for the duration of the moratorium. The group concerned consists of Russian men between the age of 18 and 27, who refuse to serve in the military or who desert the military service due to the war in Ukraine.

Since 26 August 2021 the IND had a so-called decision and departure moratorium to delay decisions on asylum applications by people from Afghanistan. This meant that the IND did not have to take a final decision on asylum applications by Afghans due to the uncertain situation in the country. Since 30 June 2022 the decision and departure moratorium has ended, which means that [the IND can decide again on applications of asylum applicants from Afghanistan.](#)

Poland: On 29 April 2022, President Andrzej Duda [signed the law amending the special Act on Assistance to Ukrainian citizens](#) in connection with an armed conflict in the territory of that country. The purpose of the amendment is to extend the period from 60 days to 120 days for which cash benefits may be granted to provide accommodation and meals to Ukrainian citizens.

On 30 June 2022, [another amendment to the law on Assistance to Ukrainian citizens was signed](#) in connection with an armed conflict in the territory of that country and certain other laws. Changes include: the exclusion, apart from Polish citizens, of other citizens of the European Union from the group of people who may be covered by the provisions of the Act; designation of the Border Guard Commander in Chief and the Head of the Office for Foreigners as the competent authorities acting as the national contact point for the purpose of exchanging information on persons enjoying temporary protection.

An amendment to the special Act of 23 March 2022 extended its scope to citizens of Ukraine and their family members who came to Poland as a result of an armed invasion on Ukraine to include those in transit through another country. Such persons had been issued, upon their request, a certificate of temporary protection in Poland, in accordance with the provisions of the Act on granting protection to foreigners in the territory of the Republic of Poland but they were entitled to a narrower catalogue of rights. As a consequence of this change, the certificates issued were annulled and the persons to whom they had been issued had to return them – the base for the annulment of the previously issued certificates was adopted on 8 April 2022 as a part of another amendment to the special Act.

The [amendment of the Act on Granting Protection to Foreigners within the Territory of the Republic of Poland](#) introduced specified provisions on temporary protection regarding foreigners who are not covered by the special Act on Assistance to Ukrainian Citizens.

Based on the amendment of the special Act of 23 March 2022 Ukrainian citizens, who decide to leave the territory of Poland for more than 30 days, might be deprived of rights resulting from being covered by the special Act.

Portugal: On 1 June 2022, Portugal joined the European Commission's Temporary Protection Platform to provide EU Member States with simple and practical information related to Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (UA BTP) across the EU.

Within the scope of Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001, following Russia's military aggression against Ukraine on 24 February, and following the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022, between 1 April to 30 June a total of 45 619 requests for temporary protection were lodged (37 824 from Ukrainian citizens). The Portuguese government has [applied the temporary protection regime](#) to Ukrainian citizens and [created a Portugal for Ukraine platform](#) to coordinate the actions of the national government to support and integrate displaced persons. However, in June

in the Algarve region, there was a notable reduction in the number of requests and the return of a considerable number of Ukrainian nationals to Ukraine.

Between April and June 2022, the number of asylum applications registered increased compared to the same quarter of the previous year: 442 compared to 214 in 2021. Within the scope of Portugal's continuous support to voluntary relocation in the Central Mediterranean, 12 asylum seekers were relocated to Portugal: 10 from Italy and 2 from Malta.

During the second quarter of 2022, evacuations from Afghanistan were ongoing. An additional 46 Afghans were brought to Portugal, which represents a total of 862 Afghans evacuated since mid-August 2021.

Slovenia: On 2 April 2022, a new Ordinance determining the [list of safe countries of origin](#) came into force.

During the reporting period, there has been a constant increase in the numbers of asylum applications, with a shift in countries of origin. More applicants are now from African countries, Cuba and India

Slovak Republic: On 17 March 2022 [the Act on Asylum was amended](#) and entered into force on 1 June 2022. The main changes include: a) adjustments in the hierarchy of granting protection statuses, especially giving preference to provision of subsidiary protection for the reason of serious harm before granting asylum for the purpose of family reunification and humanitarian reasons, b) a systemic change in the initial integration of asylum seekers and foreigners granted subsidiary protection, both of whom will be provided with a financial contribution for integration during the 6 months following the application submission (1.75 times the subsistence minimum), c) the period for asylum applicants to access the labour market was shortened from 9 to 6 months after the beginning of the asylum procedure.

The accommodation allowance for people providing accommodation to temporary protection holders, as defined in the [amended Act on Asylum](#) that entered into force on 7 June 2022, has increased and will continue to be paid until 30 September 2022. The allowance is paid by municipalities from the budget of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. More information and procedures related to the allowance are available in the [government regulation 218/2022](#) in force since 21 June 2022.

Spain: On 19 April 2022, the Department of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, in collaboration with "la Caixa" Foundation, enabled a family placement programme that matches Ukrainian families with foster families for a minimum duration of 6 months.

This programme is a pilot taking place in Barcelona, Madrid, Málaga and Murcia, the areas with more significant arrivals of displaced Ukrainians.

As of 3 May 2022, more than 40 000 people displaced from Ukraine have been assisted in the Centre for Reception, Attention and Referral (CREADE) of the Ministry of Inclusion.

On 6 May 2022, 201 Syrian refugees arrived in Spain from Lebanon under the National Resettlement Programme.

On 19 May 2022, an employment advisory service was established, as part of the Enterprises for Ukraine initiative, which offers more than 2 500 job vacancies in various companies for Ukrainians and other refugees.

As of 20 June 2022, more than 124 000 Ukrainian refugees already have temporary protection and 8 100 have found work over a period of three months. Approximately 21 000 refugees remain in places in the state reception system.

On 27 May 2022, the Ministry of Inclusion and Reporters Without Borders signed a collaboration agreement for the socio-labour integration of 500 refugee journalists from Afghanistan and Ukraine.

3. UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

In April 2022, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) released an updated version of the [Handbook on European law relating to the rights of the child](#), which is a practical guide and introduction to European law for lawyers, judges, prosecutors, social workers, non-governmental organisations, and other bodies for whom knowledge on these issues is needed.

On 2 June 2022, the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) organised a meeting to discuss the [coordination and response of Member States to gender-based violence](#) in the context of Ukraine. On the same day, FRA participated in a meeting of the European Commission regarding [care and guardianship for unaccompanied minors from Ukraine](#).

On 2 June 2022, the European Commission [proposed to increase EU aid to support displaced children from Ukraine](#) who have enrolled in schools in the EU, by internally redistributing funds under the EU school scheme.

On 9 June 2022, [the Council adopted conclusions on the EU strategy on the rights of child](#), focusing on protecting their rights in situations of crisis or emergency. As a result of the war in Ukraine, the Council has given specific attention to the need to protect them from recruitment by armed forces, illegal adoption, trafficking in human beings, sexual exploitation, and family separation.

Judgment of the European Court of Justice

[Case C-451/19 and C-532/19](#)

On 5 May 2022, the CJEU delivered a joint judgement regarding the denial of residence permits to minors. The Court determined that a) it would be an infringement of the effective enjoyment of the substance of rights granted to citizens of the European Union to refuse a third-country national a derived right of residence on the sole ground that the Union citizen family member does not have sufficient resources, where there is a relationship of dependency, and b) that the best interest of the child must be taken into account, regarding all circumstances of the case which include legal, emotional, and financial matters together considered together.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Bulgaria: The Minister of Labour and Social Policy approved by Order No. RD-06-6 of 18 April 2022, a coordination mechanism for interaction between the authorities and organisations working on cases of unaccompanied minors or foreign children separated from their families in Bulgaria, including children seeking and/or receiving international or temporary protection.

Croatia: At the 115th session of government held on 27 April 2022, the Croatian Government [adopted a Decision on the appointment of a representative](#) of the Interdepartmental Commission for the Protection of Unaccompanied Children, in accordance with the Protocol on the Treatment of Unaccompanied Children. The first

session was held on 24 May 2022 at the Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy.

Cyprus: In June 2022, the construction of the new safe zone for vulnerable persons and unaccompanied minors at the First Reception Centre 'Pournara' was completed, increasing the centre's capacity. The pre-fabricated houses for the safe zone were donated by EUAA.

Finland: The Embassy of Ukraine in Finland has asked Finland to receive children and disabled persons transferred from Ukraine. [Finland has responded to the request of Ukraine](#) indicating that it is initially prepared to receive 20 persons of reduced mobility and their immediate family members, and 30 unaccompanied minors.

On 16 June 2022, the [Government submitted a proposal for amending the Aliens Act](#) to promote the protection of family life and the realisation of the best interests of the child. When a family member of a minor who has been granted international protection applies for family reunification, a residence permit could be granted without the requirement for sufficient financial resources of sponsors who are minors.

France: On 7 April 2022, an [instruction on the management of the situation of unaccompanied minors displaced from Ukraine](#) was published. The document details the procedures and regulations to be implemented in order to offer an adapted and legally consolidated care to unaccompanied minors displaced from Ukraine.

Greece: On 20 June 2022, the draft law of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum: "National system of guardianship of unaccompanied minors and framework for accommodation of unaccompanied minors" was put out to public consultation until 4 July 2022.

Italy: On 5 April 2022, the law [provided for contributions](#) of up to € 100 per day per person, to support municipalities in ensuring the care of unaccompanied Ukrainian minors, in particular for the activation of specific interventions in education and mediation services. In addition, the [contribution was recalculated](#) in favour of municipalities that receive unaccompanied foreign minors, under the National Fund for Unaccompanied Minors, increasing from € 45 to € 60 per day.

On 10 May 2022, the Directorate-General for Students, Inclusion and School Guidance has [published procedures for accessing the resources of the 2014-2020 Asylum Migration and Integration Fund](#), which can be used to establish partnerships between networks of schools, reception centres, public institutions and other actors in their respective territories for the involvement of unaccompanied foreign minors.

On 16 May 2022, the three-year Memorandum of Understanding to promote the social and labour integration of applicants and holders of international protection and other foreign citizens in vulnerable conditions was published. The document, drafted in cooperation with UNHCR, was signed by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies, the Minister of the Interior, the President of the National Association of Building Contractors and the general secretaries of the workers' unions.

On 26 May 2022, the Council of Ministers approved a regulation that will regulate in a coordinated and organic manner the powers of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies on the subject of unaccompanied foreign minors, bringing together in a single measure all the implementing provisions that have been accumulated over time.

Lithuania: On 12 April 2022, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, together with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, [signed an agreement regarding Ukrainian children's protection](#) during the war in Ukraine. The agreement posits that Lithuania will ensure the rights of unaccompanied minors, their proper representation, and other necessary social services.

Luxembourg: To cope with the large influx of Ukrainian refugee children, the law of 1 April 2022 creates [the legal basis for an increase in staff resources](#), on the one hand, teaching staff in public international schools and basic education, and on the other hand, the education service for foreign children in the form of intercultural mediators in charge of supervising Ukrainian pupils.

On 18 May 2022 [the national action plan for children's rights 2022 - 2026 was launched](#). The action plan was developed between September 2021 and March 2022 in a consultation process with all relevant partners. Eight priority areas have been selected: identity and non-discrimination, placement measures, health and well-being, unaccompanied minors, justice for children, violence, rights of children in crisis and the right to participation.

The Netherlands: On 31 May 2022, a [new law on the determination of statelessness was passed](#) in the House of Representatives. This act introduces a judicial procedure to establish the statelessness of a person, which can be requested by any person residing in the Netherlands for at least five years. The act is now being reviewed in the Senate.

Nota bene, stateless persons having lived in the Netherlands for five years are also eligible to acquire Dutch citizenship (i.e. through the so-called 'optie' procedure).

In addition to the abovementioned law on the determination of statelessness, on 31 May 2022 [the Netherlands Nationality Act \(Rijkswet op het Nederlanderschap\) was amended](#) to allow stateless, undocumented minors to acquire the Dutch nationality after five years of residence.

On 8 June 2022, the Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Council of State ruled that [the Minister for Migration must vigorously investigate](#) whether unaccompanied minors whose asylum application is rejected are provided with adequate reception in their country of origin: the investigation must take place during, or swiftly after, the negative asylum decision, and cannot be postponed until unaccompanied minors have reached adulthood (in which case the adequacy of reception in the country of origin no longer has to be examined)

Portugal: During the second quarter of 2022, 51 unaccompanied minors and young adults were relocated to Portugal, in line with the European Programme of Voluntary Relocation from Greece of Unaccompanied Minors and families. Their transfer occurred under the procedure foreseen in article 17(2) of Regulation (EU) N. 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013.

The Figueira da Foz coast border post reported five unaccompanied minors from Ukraine to judicial authorities to ensure their protection.

Slovenia: With the arrival of a larger number of asylum applicants from African countries, the number of vulnerable applicants for international protection also increased, as applicants include many families, single women and unaccompanied minors (under 10 years old).

Spain: As of 3 June 2022, more than 9 300 minors and young people ex-tutelage have benefited from the reform of the immigration regulations in the first six months.

Regulatory change means four out of five young people have authorization to work. In the first four months of the reform, the number of minors and young people ex-tutelage who have found work has doubled.

Georgia: On 5 April 2022, the “door-to-door” [campaign to identify and document stateless persons was launched](#). Within the campaign, eight information meetings were held in each region of Georgia to engage the representatives of local administrative bodies (municipality staff, social protection and educational institution personnel). As a result, data on 34 potential beneficiaries has been collected.

According to the amendments to Governmental Ordinance #217 made on 21 April 2022, the service fee for the statelessness status determination and the fee for obtaining Georgian citizenship under the regular procedure for stateless persons was [annulled](#).

Republic of Moldova: On 14 April, by [the decision of the Commission for Exceptional Situations](#), the inter-sectoral cooperation mechanism on the identification, assistance and monitoring of children at risk who came from the territory of Ukraine after the declaration of a state of war in Ukraine was approved.

The purpose of this mechanism is to clearly establish the actions of public authorities, other structures involved in the field of social assistance, law enforcement bodies, on the provision of necessary assistance and monitoring of children coming to the Republic of Moldova from the territory of Ukraine during the declaration of the state of war in Ukraine and to establish the conditions for their safe return to Ukraine.

4. LEGAL MIGRATION

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

On 5 April 2022, [Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2022/554](#) was published regarding access to the labour market for refugees in order to provide guidance on quicker, fairer and more flexible approaches Member States can implement to officially recognise qualifications.

On 6 April 2022, [the European Commission sent a reasoned opinion](#) to Malta regarding the ‘golden passport’ scheme, as it considers it to be in breach of EU law to grant EU citizenship in return for investments without any other link to the Member State.

On 27 April 2022, the European Commission [proposed a regulation to digitalise the Schengen visa process](#) whereby applications would be submitted through the European online visa platform. The digitalisation is proposed to increase efficiency, reduce costs and increase security for Member States, as well as to meet the aims of the New Pact on Asylum and Migration which is set to fully digitalise visa procedures by 2025. On the same day, the European Commission [proposed an ambitious plan for a sustainable, legal migration policy](#) that aims to attract skills and talent to the EU and strengthen legal pathways for third-country nationals.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Bulgaria: The Law on Labour Migration and Labour Mobility was amended in June 2022 (SG 41/03.06.2022) and permission for access to the labour market is no longer

required for third-country national workers for the period they enjoy temporary protection.

Croatia: From 7 April 2022, employers can submit [online applications](#) for residence and work permits for seasonal workers for up to 90 days through a dedicated application.

Cyprus: On 11 May 2022, the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance, [published the revised decree regarding the employment of third country national students](#). The decree expands the sectors/professions in which students can be employed including as ward assistants and assistants in health clinics. The revised decree with all sectors listed, can be found in the Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus in Greek.

On 22 April 2022 the Council of Ministers decided to modify the conditions for new registrations for third country nationals studying in private Higher Educational Institutes. New registrations can now exceed 25% (with a minimum of 50) in the Spring semester 2021, excluding students from third country members of the Council of Europe. The minimum deposit fee for registration was increased from € 3 000 to € 4 000.

Estonia: On 9 April 2022, the Government issued a Regulation, which [introduced restrictions on the short-term employment of Russian and Belarusian citizens](#) in Estonia and on the issuance of temporary residence permits or visas for employment or engagement in business. It will still be possible to travel to Estonia based on family-related or humanitarian grounds.

On 24 May 2022, [amendments to the Aliens Act came into force](#), which specify conditions for third-country nationals working, studying and settling in Estonia. With the new provisions, residence permit for studying will expire 30 days after failure to complete the study programme to the required extent or interruption of studies. The same 30 days applies to the spouse and any close relative of the student. Also, the time spent in Estonia on the basis of a temporary residence permit for study is not included while granting a temporary residence permit for settling permanently in Estonia.

The [amendments to the Aliens Act also specify employment provisions](#), including lowering the salary requirement of top specialists to at least equal to the annual average gross monthly salary and wages in Estonia, last published by Statistics Estonia, multiplied by 1.5 and ensuring the payment of the required remuneration.

Additionally, [new provisions were adopted, which regulate the legal status of Ukrainian war refugees](#) and simplify their entry to the Estonian labour market, including setting a remuneration requirement of at least equal to 0.8 of the average gross annual salary in the relevant field of activity as published by Statistics Estonia.

Finland: On 15 April 2022, [new amendments easing the entry and retention of international students in Finland entered into force](#). Under the new act, students and their family members arriving in Finland from abroad will obtain a residence permit for the entire duration of their studies. The law will also make it easier to apply for work after graduation.

On 19 April 2022, [special grants for 2022 were allocated to Talent Hub regional cooperation models](#) that develop the immigration of experts. Talent Hubs are set up to create customer-oriented service paths across organisational boundaries to make Finland as attractive and easy a place for experts and their families to move to as possible.

On 1 June 2022, [a new fast track service was launched](#) enabling specialists, growth entrepreneurs and their family members to obtain a residence permit within 14 days. This service pledge is one of the Government's many measures to streamline the immigration of experts.

France: On 25 April 2022, Campus France released the [*new edition of the "Choisir la France" guide*](#), a comprehensive guide to help international students coming to France for their studies. Available in French, English and Spanish, the new "Choosing France" guide for the 2022-2023 year provides all the useful information on the French higher education system and their stay in France.

On 27 April 2022, [a decree was published](#) authorising beneficiaries of temporary protection to carry out self-employment activities in France.

Greece: Guidelines were issued to the competent authorities in accordance with the relevant [Recommendation of the European Commission](#) regarding investor citizenship schemes and investor residence schemes concerning residents permits for Russian citizens in Greece.

On 20 April 2022 a [Joint Ministerial Decision was published](#) on the Determination of a minimum number of days' wages or a minimum period of insurance, per insurance entity, for the renewal of residence permits of third-country nationals. The Joint Ministerial Decision is available in Greek.

Ireland: On 22 April 2022, the Minister for Justice [announced that the option for a five-year multi-entry short-stay visa would be extended](#) to all visa-required countries. The scheme is particularly aimed at individuals who travel to Ireland frequently for business or family reasons. Ireland already offered one-, two-, and three-year multi-entry visas, but the five-year option (introduced in 2019) was previously only available to those with Chinese passports.

On 24 May 2022, [the Department of Justice clarified arrangements](#) for individuals whose immigration permissions had been extended through to 31 May due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The statement confirmed that those whose Irish Residence Permit cards had not yet arrived by 31 May could continue to reside and work legally in the State, provided they could demonstrate that they had applied for a renewal of their immigration permission and were waiting for it to be processed.

Italy: In April 2022, training sessions continued for the staff of all Immigration Offices and information was distributed regarding the possibility for the Chief of Police of the province where the foreigner is staying to extend the entry visa for short stays.

The Ministry of Universities and Research has defined the procedures for the entry, stay, enrolment and recognition of qualifications of international students for courses at universities, academies and conservatories in the academic year 2021/2022. The website [Studiare in Italia](#) contains the circular with the procedures and other useful documents.

Between May and June 2022, 73 beneficiaries arrived in Italy under the Protocol for the implementation of 'Humanitarian Corridors from Lebanon'. With the arrival of 46 beneficiaries on 25 May 2022, the Protocol of 3 May 2019 for the implementation of Humanitarian Corridors from Ethiopia, Niger and Jordan was recently concluded.

Latvia: On 21 April 2022, a [amendment to the Citizenship Law](#) regarding the revocation of citizenship was adopted, as the Citizenship Law did not previously provide for a

condition for the revocation of Latvian citizenship involving violations of generally recognised international law against another democratic state, that create an indirect threat to Latvia's democratic establishment and constitutional values. These amendments were adopted in the context of the war on Ukraine launched by Russia. Latvian citizenship may be revoked only in case of dual citizenship; a person cannot become stateless.

On 29 June 2022 [amendments to the Immigration Law](#) came into force, introducing remote work visas to promote the migration of highly qualified professionals to Latvia. The amendments to the Law stipulate that a third-country national has the right to request a long-stay visa for a period of one year to reside in Latvia during an employment relationship with an employer that is registered in any other Member State of the OECD, or if they are registered as a self-employed person in an OECD Member State. To diminish the administrative burden, the Law stipulates that, following the expiry of the visa, it may be requested again for a period of one additional year for the purpose of remote work. Before the amendments, third-country nationals who worked remotely had limited options to receive residence permits in Latvia.

Lithuania: On 28 June 2022, [the parliament extended a state-wide emergency](#) until 15 September 2022, and the country continues to apply a strict visa regime for Russian and Belarus citizens by suspending decisions on their visa applications. The exception applies to cases where the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is an intermediary in issuing visas.

On 30 June 2022, the [parliament agreed with the government's proposal to change the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners](#). The new amendments to the Law are designed to attract highly qualified migrants by shortening immigration procedures, increasing their accessibility, and facilitating better recruitment opportunities.

Luxembourg: On 22 June 2022, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government Council [marked its agreement](#) with the draft Grand-Ducal regulation providing for the extension of the temporary restriction on the entry of third-country nationals into the national territory until 30 September 2022 inclusive.

On 28 June 2022, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chamber of Deputies [adapted the amended law of 20 June 2020](#) introducing certain temporary measures relating to the application of the law on immigration. This law extends restrictions on the immigration of third-country nationals to Luxembourg until 31 December 2022.

The Netherlands: On 19 April 2022, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (Immigratie-en Naturalisatiedienst, IND) [announced it has taken measures to shorten the waiting time](#) for persons applying for family reunification with beneficiaries of international protection. To prevent long waiting times, more account is taken of the administrative practice in the country of origin; lower requirements are set on the evidence needed to make a biological family relationship plausible; and certain additional investigations that are conducted in current applications have been limited.

Poland: On 15 April 2022, the temporary waiver of the one of requirements for granting a temporary residence permit for the purpose of conducting business activity was [introduced in regard to Ukrainian citizens](#). During proceedings conducted until 31 December 2022, Ukrainian citizens who apply for this permit in connection with running a business on the basis of an entry in the register of entrepreneurs, do not have to prove that the business activity is (or will become) beneficial for the economy of Poland as it brings an appropriate level of income and affects the domestic labour market.

As of 15 April 2022, it is possible for Ukrainian citizens who benefit from temporary protection in Poland to apply for a temporary residence and work permit if they intend to work as [drivers in international transport](#). This possibility is an exception from the general rule of refusal of initiating residence permits proceedings, if a foreigner is registered for a temporary protection in Poland. Moreover, Ukrainian drivers in international transport, whose visas have been extended by law on the basis of special regulations, have the [option of obtaining a visa sticker](#) for their passport which gives them the opportunity to continue employment and crossing the border of the Republic of Poland. Read more [here](#).

In the period from 15 April to 31 December 2022, the [time limits were suspended for certain matters](#) related to the legalisation of the stay of foreigners, including granting and revoking of residence permits, conducted by voivodeship offices. The suspension of the time limits does not mean the suspension of administrative proceedings, but only that the Polish official is not obliged to inform the party about the case not being resolved on time. Due to this change, proceedings regarding inactivity or delay will temporarily not be initiated.

A new type of the temporary residence permit based on the other circumstances, issued to national visas holders on the basis of humanitarian issues, was introduced. The basis for granting this permit is being a citizen of the state specified in separate regulations (in accordance with the ordinance of 14 June 2022, which will enter into force on 8 July 2022, citizens of Belarus are entitled to obtain this permit).

Portugal: Between April and June 2022, the Algarve region registered a continuous increase of Brazilian nationals acquiring legal status as well as an increase in the number of requests of seasonal work visas by citizens from India and Thailand, mainly for agriculture activities. The number of residency visas requested has also increased exponentially, mainly by British nationals, due to BREXIT.

Slovak Republic: Entering into force on 1 April 2022, the Slovak government adopted a [regulation](#) that simplifies access to the Slovak labour market by granting a national visa to selected groups of third-country nationals in the interest of the Slovak Republic – namely to citizens of Belarus, Serbia, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Georgia, Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine who are drivers of heavy goods vehicles for national and international transportation.

Spain: On 18 May 2022, [the project Migrasafe Africa was launched](#). The aim of this project is to support safe, orderly and regular migration through the promotion of legal pathways to the EU, by strengthening the capacities of the different actors involved in legal migration to the EU in eight African countries (Morocco, Senegal, Cape Verde, Tunisia, Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria and Ethiopia).

Sweden: On 1 June 2022, [stricter rules for labour migration entered into force](#) in Sweden. An employment contract is required to be granted a work permit in order to counteract the exploitation of labour migrants. Furthermore, employers may be obliged to notify the authorities if the terms of employment change in order to counteract employers deteriorating working conditions over time. A maintenance requirement is also required for family members.

Republic of Moldova: On 28 June 2022, by the [decision of the Exceptional Situation Commission](#), derogations from the regulatory framework (*Law 200/2010 on the regime of foreigners*) were approved regarding the stay of more than 90 days of displaced

persons from Ukraine on the territory of the country; and the application for granting/extending the right of residence on the basis of a travel document whose term has been extended for more than 10 years.

Georgia: On 14 June 2022, [an International Agreement](#) signed with the United Arab Emirates on mutual visa exemption for ordinary passport holders [entered into force](#).

STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

No new developments.



5. INTEGRATION

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

7 May 2022 marked [EU Open Day](#), where EU institutions opened their doors with workshops, information, and interactive activities for anyone interested to learn more about the EU and how the institutions function. This included an explanation of the Temporary Protection Directive, as well as hosting a football game where young people from across the EU and refugees played together as a way to create an environment of inclusion.

In June 2022, the results of the Eurobarometer survey '[Integration of Immigrants in the European Union](#)' were released and showed trends in public opinions on the topic useful for integration policy.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Austria: On 11 June 2022, an amendment to the [Integration Act](#) entered into force, expanding the target group of the Act to displaced persons from Ukraine. According to this amendment, German courses must be made available to displaced persons from Ukraine above the age of 15 years. Additionally, integration support measures, including orientation talks provided by the Austrian Integration Fund, can be offered to displaced persons from Ukraine.

Also on 11 June 2022, an amendment to the [Recognition and Assessment Act](#) entered into force, allowing the recognition and assessment of foreign educational or vocational qualifications of displaced persons from Ukraine.

On 29 June 2022, the member of the Viennese City Council in charge of integration announced in a press conference that the City of Vienna has set up free German courses for 900 children from Ukraine which will take place in Vienna over the summer.

Belgium: On 5 April 2022, the Flemish government decided to deploy extra resources to assist and support Ukrainians who fled to Belgium in their search for work and help protect them against exploitation. In this light the Flemish government will give the Flemish employment service VDAB extra resources to temporarily employ 47 extra mediators to assist Ukrainian refugees in their search for a job.

Croatia: On 10 June 2022, a [third session of the Permanent Commission for the Implementation of the Integration of Foreigners into Croatian Society was held](#). In the session, a Decision was made for the establishment and appointment of members of the Working Group for the preparation of the Protocol of Procedures for the Integration of Persons Granted International Protection. Members of the Working Group met on June

29 to discuss the Draft of the Protocol, prepared by experts from the Croatian Legal Centre (HPC).

In May 2022, the [Social inclusion of persons who have been granted international protection in the Republic of Croatia](#) was published.

On 26 April 2022, the first meeting of the coordinators (representatives of competent bodies and public institutions in key areas of integration) for the collection of data on the social inclusion of persons granted international protection was held.

During May and June 2022, several schools in Zagreb, Osijek and Sisak organised social actions in the community. The aim was to empower local communities to accept citizens of third countries. The actions were organised as part of the project "INCLuDE of the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities, together with students, school employees, and residents of local communities.

In May 2022, eight civil society organisations signed a cooperation agreement with the City of Zagreb to carry out activities from the Action Plan of the City of Zagreb for the integration of applicants for international protection and persons granted international protection for the year 2022. These activities are part of the project Connection - CONNEcting Cities Towards Integration actiON project.

The integration.zagreb.hr website, funded by the Connection project, was created. Website contains information on the rights and services provided by the City of Zagreb for international protection seekers, persons granted international protection and persons under temporary protection, i.e. displaced persons from Ukraine. The information is published in Croatian, English, Arabic, Farsi and Ukrainian and refers to services in the fields of social protection, health care, education, employment, free legal aid and cultural activities organised by the cultural centres of the City of Zagreb.

Cyprus: On 3 May 2022 the Ministry of Health announced that asylum seekers during the first year from the date of submission of their application will be accepted in public hospitals, upon presentation of their Confirmation Letter, issued by the Asylum Service, instead of a Medical Card. After the expiration of the first year, a valid Medical Card should be presented.

On 3 June 2022, the Ministry of Education announced free intensive Greek language lessons for Ukrainian beneficiaries of temporary protection. The lessons will take place in June and July in one of the State Institutes of Further Education that operate in each district.

Estonia: On 1 April 2022, it was announced that [Estonia will offer 10 000 summer language school places for Ukrainians](#) for learning Estonian. Courses last 60 academic hours and vocabulary needed for everyday life will be taught.

On 17 June 2022, [registration began for the temporary adaptation programme](#) for Ukrainian war refugees who have received temporary protection in Estonia. The programme will provide information on issues related to the functioning of the Estonian state and society, daily life, work, study and family, and additionally A1 language learning will be provided.

Finland: On 2 May 2022, [consultation rounds for a new Act on the promotion of immigrant integration began](#). The objective of the legislative proposal is also to promote

the social inclusion, health and wellbeing of immigrants, to increase equality and to strengthen good relations between population groups.

On 25 May 2022, the [Government proposed amendments to three Acts](#) to prepare for the transfer of responsibility for organising health and social services from municipalities to wellbeing services counties at the start of next year. The changes would promote employment and integration.

France: On 29 April 2022, [a decree was published regarding a new language training offer](#), deployed by the French Ministry of the Interior and the French Office of Immigration and Integration (OFII), available for beneficiaries of temporary protection. This offer includes training courses of 100 to 200 hours to reach level A1 of the CEFR, 100 hours to reach level A2, and 100 hours to reach level B1.

On 5 May 2022, the Inter-Ministerial Delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (Dair) [developed an information booklet](#) for beneficiaries of temporary protection to guide them in the process of opening a bank account. Access to a bank account in France is a key step in enabling beneficiaries of temporary protection to access the labour market, permanent housing and their social rights.

Germany: On 13 April 2022, the Federal Government [appointed Natalie Pawlik as new Federal Commissioner for Matters Related to Ethnic German Resettlers and National Minorities](#). She serves as the main contact at federal level for ethnic German resettlers from Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union. She is responsible for coordinating the Federal Government's policy on ethnic German resettlers and for coordinating integration measures within Germany. She also provides assistance to German minorities in their countries of origin, coordinates aid policy measures and serves as co-chair on the government commissions concerning affairs of German minorities.

On 11 May 2022, the chambers of industry and commerce and the confederation of skilled crafts [started their joint initiative to Ukrainian jobseekers with vacancies more quickly](#). First checks which examine formal qualifications, work experience and language skills allow for recommendations for apprenticeships or jobs. They also allow potential employer to understand the formal and other qualification of the jobseeker.

Ireland: On 20 June 2022, the Department of Justice [held the first in-person citizenship ceremonies since March 2020](#). 950 new Irish citizens were welcomed in two ceremonies in Killarney, County Kerry.

On 28 June 2022 Ireland [published the Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual, and Gender-Based Violence and Implementation Plan](#).

Italy: On 9 April 2022, The National Association of Employment Agencies (Assolavoro) and trade unions have [signed an agreement to facilitate the reception, inclusion and social-labour integration of vulnerable migrants](#) belonging to the following categories: holders of international protection (refugee status and subsidiary protection), temporary protection and special protection.

On 12 April 2022, the Ministry of Labour, Regions and Municipalities [joined forces for integration with a declaration of intent](#) that "recognises the importance of the regional

and urban dimension in the integration processes involving foreign citizens and their families in Italy and the need for approaches dedicated to local specificities".

On 13 April 2022, an [updated list of associations working with migrants was released.](#)

On 14 April 2022, [the Ministry of Education provided further operational guidelines](#) for the management of the reception of Ukrainian school-age refugees. The contributions were collected in a special section called "[Ukrainian Educational Emergency](#)" on the Ministry's website. The web page gathers official documents, materials and contributions for teacher training, stories about the pupils received, and the latest news on the subject.

On 11 May 2022, a section [dedicated to the reception, inclusion and involvement of incoming students from Ukraine](#) was released as part of the 2022 Summer School Plan. The educational actions dedicated to Ukrainian students include to intensify the teaching of Italian, encouraging the use of school premises and computers so that any online lessons organised by Ukrainian teachers can be attended in groups, and supporting minors through recreational and creative activities.

On 30 May 2022, the new Annual Reports on migrant communities in Italy were published. The reports illustrate the characteristics and integration processes of each of the 16 main migrant communities that exist in Italy (Albanian, Bangladeshi, Chinese, Ecuadorian, Egyptian, Filipino, Indian, Moroccan, Moldavian, Nigerian, Pakistani, Peruvian, Senegalese, Sri Lankan, Tunisian, Ukrainian).

On 4 June 2022, an order was given that [defined specific measures on the final assessment of State exams taken by Ukrainian students](#) for the school year 2021/2022.

On 9 June 2022, the new notice of "[PUOI – Protezione Unita a Obiettivo Integrazione](#)" (Protection with Integration Objective), a project dedicated to vulnerable migrants promoted by the Directorate General for Immigration and Integration Policy, was published. Thanks to a refinancing of EUR 11.8 million, the project will implement a further 2 000 socio-occupational integration pathways throughout the country with the cooperation of public and private labour market operators.

During the reporting period, [the Technical Committee for developing the National Plan for the fight against undeclared work continued to meet](#). In the coming months, the Technical Committee, coordinated by the Ministry of Labour, will outline a strategy on inspection activities, study concrete forms and methods of reporting by workers forced to work illegally, and foster dialogue and cooperation amongst relevant social actors.

Latvia: On 19 May 2022, the amendments [to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians](#) came into force which provide financial support to Latvian households, which will facilitate the possibility for Ukrainian civilians to receive accommodation for up to 90 days.

On 27 May 2022, the [amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians](#) came into force which provide for a framework for the acquisition of evaluations for Ukrainian civilians undertaking different level education programs 2021/2022, as well as for the language of education beginning on 1 September 2022. The aim of the Law is also to clarify the granting of social services to Ukrainian civilians.

On 23 June 2022, [the amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians](#) came into force which provide uniform primary aid in the form of accommodation for all

Ukrainian civilians for up to 120 days prior to 31 December 2022. Secondly, the amendments provide that natural and legal persons will also be able to receive reimbursements for the accommodation of Ukrainian civilians for a period of up to 120 days prior to 31 December 2022.

On 13 May 2022, Cabinet Regulations "[Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education](#)" came into force which establish a framework for the transfer of minor/ adult Ukrainian civilians who have been admitted to the education institutions in the next class or course.

On 3 June 2022, it was announced that [12 000 Ukrainians will be provided with the opportunity to learn Latvian](#). Training programs will include learning skills such as listening, reading, speaking and writing skills for communication in simple everyday situations. Language trainings are scheduled from June to the end of December 2022.

Lithuania: On 4 May 2022, the government [decided to allocate an additional € 6.7 million](#) for the essential education needs of Ukrainian nationals who fled the war in their country.

Luxembourg: On 23 April, 2022 the fourth Orientation Day of the Welcome and Integration Contract (CAI) [took place online](#). On 24 virtual stands, representatives of different ministries, administrations and associations in Luxembourg were present to answer the signatories' questions on integration topics, such as political participation and associations, further education, recognition of diplomas or culture.

On 14 June 2022, the Chamber of Deputies [adopted a project](#) to create a sixth public international school, this time on the territory of the City of Luxembourg. The school offer thus continues to be broadened and adapted to an increasingly heterogeneous school population.

On 15 June 2022 meeting of the Group for [exchange and support on integration at the local level took place](#). Political leaders, municipal representatives as well as members of municipal integration advisory committees met face-to-face and by videoconference to discuss the theme "Citizen and political participation: raising awareness and motivating non-Luxembourgers to participate in the municipal elections of June 11, 2023".

On 27 June 2022, a [call for projects in the framework of the National Action Plan on Integration was launched](#). The call for project proposals 2023 is based on one main area of intervention "Promoting an intercultural "living together" through associative life" divided into three sub-sections: 1) Promoting cultural diversity within associations, 2) Strengthening associations in their management of cultural diversity, 3) Strengthening relations between municipalities and associations

The Netherlands: On 22 April 2022, the Ministerial Crisis Management Committee (MCCb) for the reception of beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine announced that municipalities will receive [an additional €136.3 million](#) through a Specific Allowance, in order to be able to arrange sufficient school buildings for Ukrainian students.

On 10 June 2022, the government announced several [actions to facilitate housing, care, work and education](#) for the 60 000 beneficiaries of temporary protection from Ukraine staying in the Netherlands. A task force has been established to (financially) support municipalities and other stakeholders to realize flexible housing capacity; measures will be taken to grant Ukrainian refugees access to support for entering the labour market;

and entrance exams for higher education in Ukraine will be organised for children staying in the Netherlands.

Poland: Based on the amendment of the special Act of 23 March 2022 foreigners, both adults and children benefiting from temporary protection can attend Polish language classes and are provided with basic materials necessary to learn.

Regarding foreign minors with a certificate confirming temporary protection, who benefit from [education and care in public institutions](#), primary and secondary schools, the Head of the Office for Foreigners provides teaching aids in the form of a school starter kit or vouchers for its purchase, as well as the purchase of textbooks for those students who do not receive them at school or institution.

Slovak Republic: The Slovak Republic has adopted measures to facilitate access to employment and information to people holding temporary protection including translation of all vacancies of the state portal sluzbyzamestnanosti.gov.sk into Ukrainian. As of 1 May 2022 the [Labour Offices provide consultancy services](#) in labour market orientation that include information provision with a focus on the regional situation, individual support in contact with potential employers and administration, or support in preparing documents in Slovak when searching for a job. Temporary protection holders participating in the consultation process are provided with an allowance to cover travel and food.

Spain: On 1 June 2022, The Ministry of Inclusion and the International Olympic Committee signed an agreement to promote sport in the reception of international protection. On 14 June 2022, the government authorized subsidies for € 30 million to promote the coexistence and social cohesion of migrants, co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus.

On 27 June 2022, the government approved the granting of direct subsidies to several entities of the Third Sector for a total amount of € 96.25 million to carry out international protection and migration activities. The purpose of the subsidies is to meet the need of migrants who are in a situation of vulnerability and to promote the autonomy of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection, stateless persons and beneficiaries of temporary protection in Spain.

Sweden: On 2 June 2022, the Ministry of Employment announced that [there will be increased opportunities for Ukrainians to find employment in Sweden](#). The initiative to facilitate the provision of education and training for Ukrainians is financed by the European Social Fund and through the EU Commission's Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE).

On 24 May 2022, the Swedish Government tasked the Swedish Public Employment Service [to increase the entry of foreign-born women into the labour market](#). The authority, together with the Swedish Gender Equality Agency, the Swedish Migration Agency and a number of other authorities, has been commissioned to present a plan on how to break segregation and to enhance gender equality.

Georgia: As of 30 June 2022, 73 Ukrainian beneficiaries (who live in Georgia due to the current situation in Ukraine) enrolled in the State Language Teaching and Integration Programme; 48 of them successfully completed the course, and 25 continue studying.

Georgia provided continuity of pre-school and general education for children displaced from Ukraine. Overall, 218 children were enrolled in kindergartens and 997 students in schools.

At the decision of the Prime Minister, in addition to Tbilisi [an additional Ukrainian-speaking sector was launched in Batumi](#). Currently, 442 students from Ukraine receive education in their native language in both cities. Most of the teachers employed in the Ukrainian sectors are also displaced persons from Ukraine. School students were also provided with psychosocial services and involvement in non-formal education.

Republic of Moldova: On 20 June 2022, World Refugee Day was celebrated in Moldova. The [Bureau for Migration and Asylum](#), together with NGOs specialized in migration, organised a series of activities, aimed at promoting knowledge and respect for cultural, ethnic, linguistic and social diversity, as well as democratic values. Among these events was the exhibition of paintings and handicrafts of refugee children in Moldova from over nine countries of the world, organised jointly with the AO "Refugee Charity Centre of Moldova" at the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History.

6. MANAGEMENT OF THE EU EXTERNAL BORDERS

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

On 24 May 2022, the European Commission presented the first [State of the Schengen Report](#), which assesses of how Schengen countries manage their internal and external borders, as well as proposes ways that they can improve the management of external borders.

On 25 May 2022, the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) held a [joint event](#) in Vienna, Austria to discuss fundamental rights issues when accessing asylum procedures at the EU external borders and the application of the Temporary Protection Directive with the participation of high-level judges.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Croatia: [Trainings were held](#) in the period April-May 2022, in which a total of 94 police officers participated. Of these 94, 16 are shift leaders, who, attended modules on fundamental rights and border surveillance.

Estonia: As of 24 May 2022, [Estonia ended temporary border controls on the Latvian border](#). The aim of border controls was to maintain an overview of those arriving in the country. By the end of May the number of refugees from Ukraine arriving via Latvia had significantly decreased, and migration routes have changed, now most refugees are arriving in Estonia via Russia.

Italy: 22 178 migrants landed on Italy's southern shores from 1 January 2022 to 15 June 2022, including 2 505 minors.

Following the political statement on the relocation mechanism in favour of the Mediterranean external border states, the work on the adoption of the Schengen Borders Code Revision Regulation and the so-called 'Screening' Regulation continues.

Latvia: On 11 May 2022, [Amendments to the Cabinet Order No. 518 "Regarding the Declaration of Emergency Situation"](#) came into force which prolongs the emergency situation until 10 August 2022 in the following administrative territories: *Ludza*

municipality, Krāslava municipality, Augšdaugava municipality and the city of Daugavpils.

On 28 June 2022, [the Ministry of the Interior received official approval](#) from the European Commission for the allocation of € 63 million for measures to strengthen the security of the Latvian-Belarusian border. With the support of the European Union, the Ministry of the Interior will implement Latvia's first fully-fledged border automation project. Any attempts to illegally cross the Latvian-Belarusian border or hybrid attacks by Belarusian authorities on the border will be prevented.

Poland: On 30 June 2022, [the construction of a physical dam on the Polish-Belarusian border was completed](#). The dam is approximately 187 km long and equipped with special throughways for animals. Currently, the electronic protection (perimetry) is being installed. On 1 July 2022, the ordinance of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration on a temporary ban on staying in 183 localities in the border area of Podlaskie and Lubelskie voivodships will cease to apply. At the same time, as a result of equipping the barrier on the Polish-Belarusian with electronic technology, the Podlasie voivode will be able to prohibit staying within 200 meters from the state border line.

Portugal: On 15 June 2022, [the Ministry of Internal Affairs announced new measures for the IATA Summer Contingency Plan 2022](#). Based on a risk analysis, and to respond to a massive increase in passenger traffic flows during the summer 2022, SEF developed a Summer Contingency Plan (SCP) for its air external borders. SEF currently monitors the plan daily to adapt to the changing dynamics of flows. It comprises a meticulous management of extra staff allocation to the borders (border guards, both from SEF and other authorities, as well as airport staff), improvements in Smart Borders / Automated Border Control Gates, including RAPID4ALL extended to new nationalities to facilitate more effective traffic flows, new operational solutions, as well as improvements in passenger guidance at the airports. The SCP will be implemented from June to October 2022.

Slovenia: During the reporting period, Slovenia carried out training in managing external borders, namely regarding risk analysis, on-line training for the Entry/Exit System, and training for the surveillance of state borders by helicopter during the night.

Georgia: In the framework of MIA-Frontex cooperation, within the reporting period 16 Frontex officers were deployed to Tbilisi and Kutaisi International Airports, while one Georgian patrol police officer was placed in Poland (Krakow International Airport).

Based on the Entry/Exit Law, from 1 April to 1 July 2022, 630 citizens of Georgia intending to travel to the EU/Schengen area were refused permission to depart the country.

A memorandum of understanding was signed during the working visit to the Republic of Latvia on 16-18 May 2022. The MoU envisages hand over of a helicopter to the MIA Georgia by the Republic of Latvia. Furthermore, during the visit 2022 cooperation plan in the field of border protection was signed between the parties.

7. IRREGULAR MIGRATION

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

No new developments

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Estonia: On 18 June 2022, several minor [amendments to the Obligation to Leave and Prohibition on Entry Act entered into force](#). With the amendments the EU Regulation 2018/1860 (on the use of the Schengen information system for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals) and EU Regulation 2018/1861 (on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of border checks) was formulated in more detail into national legislation including entering and deleting alerts into SIS and forwarding information to the competent authorities of other member states. In addition, amendments were made to take into account the comments made to Estonia in 2018 during the Schengen evaluations in the field of return. They primarily concern the short-term detention of a person staying in the country without a legal basis and the determination of the country responsible for return.

Finland: On 21 April 2022, the [government submitted a proposal to Parliament for new provisions to be added to the Aliens Act](#) to enable Finland to make use of the support from the EUAA as smoothly as possible in the event of a mass influx of migrants.

On 22 June 2022, the Government submitted a proposal for amending the Aliens Act to make it easier to manage migrants who have made their way towards Finland. In future, [the border procedure could be introduced](#) by decision of the Government if an exceptionally large number of people were to arrive in Finland over a short period of time or if hybrid influence activities that exploit migration were directed against Finland.

Slovenia: During the reporting period, Slovenia carried out a gap analysis in cooperation with FRONTIEX, which resulted in a list of recommendations including to start implementing the Return Case Management System (RECAMAS) national restructuring programme.

Portugal: During the reporting period, the Algarve SEF Directorate detected some facilitation of illegal immigration networks involving mainly nationals from Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and India.

During this period, Portugal registered 335 operations regarding irregular immigration (Lisbon and Tejo Valley Region – 318; Center Region – 1; North Region - 16); there were 159 notifications of voluntary return (Lisbon and Tejo Valley Region – 156; Madeira Region – 3) and 19 detentions for illegal immigration (Lisbon and Tejo Valley Region – 10; North Region – 8; Madeira – 1, all for using a fake document). Additionally, Portugal registered 28 operations regarding irregular immigration (Lisbon and Tejo Valley Region – 23; North Region – 5) between April and June 2022.

Georgia: On 6-10 June 2022, MIA representatives completed a [training course on "Facilitation of illegal migration – human rights compliant interview techniques"](#). From 23 June to 1 July 2022, MIA employees underwent cascade trainings on issues of combating irregular migration and detecting fraudulent documents.

8. RETURN

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

On 3-5 May 2022, a [Capacity Development and Training for Return Counsellors \(CADRE\) took place in Brussels](#), organised by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) / the European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN). The

training is part of the efforts of the EU to improve quality of pre-departure assistance and to promote the process of voluntary return. Counsellors received guidelines and information regarding these processes and vulnerabilities.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

France: On 9 May 2022, [the Ministry of the Interior issued an instruction](#) detailing the terms and conditions for the use of preparation centres for return schemes (DPAR, *Dispositifs de préparation au retour*), the target groups likely to be accommodated in frame of the scheme, the terms and conditions for house arrest, and the procedure for admission to the scheme.

Greece: Counselling to the administratively detained third-country nationals against whom a return decision has been issued in order to motivate them to depart voluntarily through the AVRR program was provided by IOM Greece. Out of 136 beneficiaries, 11 departed voluntarily to their country of origin, while according to IOM Greece, 743 third-country nationals also departed voluntarily to their country of origin including the 11 mentioned above. Finally, according to the data provided by the Hellenic Police 468 forced returns had been carried out by the end of May.

Luxembourg: On 30 May 2022, the bill amending the amended law of December 18, 2015 on international protection was [tabled in the Chamber of Deputies](#). The bill aims to adapt the law to two judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Union:

- by providing objective criteria for the reasons of fear of absconding of an applicant for international protection who is the subject of a transfer procedure to another competent Member State in accordance with the Dublin III Regulation, and which justify their placement in the Detention Center pending the execution of their transfer.
- by specifying that a third-country national who is a beneficiary of international protection in another Member State of the Union cannot be the subject of a return decision, involving removal from the territory of the Schengen area.

On 9 June 2022, the bill amending [the amended law of 17 July 2020 on measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic was adopted](#) by the Chamber of Deputies. The law removes the health measures in place in the Detention Centre (quarantine of people arriving in the Detention Center, etc.), thus aligning the measures in place in the Detention Centre with those applicable to the general population.

Malta: Between April and June 2022, return counsellors conducted outreach on voluntary return in several Maltese localities. Moreover, the Returns Unit met with various stakeholders such as migrant NGOs, homeless shelters, and the Government entity responsible for addressing homelessness.

The Netherlands: On 20 May 2022, the government decided that the Return and Repatriation Service (Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek, DT&V) is no longer required to investigate the [accessibility to healthcare](#) in the country of return, if the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (Immigratie-en Naturalisatiedienst, IND) accepts the claim of the returnee that they will not have the necessary access. Research by the IND showed that such time-intensive investigations did not contribute to effective returns. However, the person still needs to convincingly show that necessary medical treatment will not be accessible upon return.

On 31 March 2022, [the Minister for Migration announced](#) that all third-country nationals who resided legally in Ukraine, regardless of their nationality and whether they fall under the Temporary Protection Directive, qualify for basic return and reintegration assistance. The DT&V and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) arrange the departure for this target group from the Netherlands. Return assistance includes support obtaining replacement travel documents and airline tickets, information and advice.

Portugal: During the reporting period, 56 people returned to their country of origin with the support of IOM's Voluntary Return Programme (53 Brazilians; 1 Algerian; 1 Indian; 1 Senegalese). Compared to the same period last year, there was an increase of 27%.

Slovenia: Slovenia implemented the JRS (Joint Return Service), which was launched by Frontex, and there were two cases of return to Albania.

Sweden: On 22 June 2022, the Swedish government tasked the Swedish Migration Agency, the Swedish Police Authority and the Swedish Prison and Probation Service to ensure [greater effectiveness in the return procedure](#). The number of returns should increase by 50% in 2023, compared to 2021.

Georgia: MIA participated in seven Collecting Return Operations coordinated by Frontex. As a result, within the reporting period 312 Georgian citizens were safely returned from EU Member States to Georgia.

Within the reporting period, expulsion decisions on 88 foreigners were issued and 53 foreigners left Georgia based on those decisions.

9. ACTIONS ADDRESSING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

On 4 April 2022, the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings held a conference entitled '[Upholding victims' rights and strengthening assistance](#).' High-level speakers gathered to discuss the provision to comprehensive assistance, durable solutions, and the (re)-integration of victims.

On 11 May 2022, the [EU Solidarity Platform](#) presented a tailored [Common Anti-Trafficking Plan](#) to address the risks of trafficking in human beings and potential victims. The plan was developed by the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Diane Schmitt, together with EU agencies and countries. The plan delivers on one of the goals established in the [10-Point Action Plan](#), which presented elements needed to increase coordination within the EU in protecting (potential) victims, particularly refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine at this time.

Also on 11 May 2022, the European Commission [proposed new EU legislation](#) to protect children against sexual abuse, online and offline.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Croatia: On 28 April 2022 in Split, the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities, in cooperation with the Judicial Academy, [organised a seminar entitled "Suppression of human trafficking"](#). The seminar was organised as part of the implementation of the National Plan for Combating Human Trafficking 2018 - 2021 to raise awareness of judicial officials about human trafficking and how to prosecute it efficiently.

On 11-12 May 2022, [an international conference was held in Dubrovnik](#) discussing international obligations, conceptual approaches and political responses to human trafficking, with a focus on combating demand in South-eastern Europe. The conference was organised by the Croatian Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of France, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

On 2 June 2022, in Budva, Montenegro, the Croatian National Coordinator for Combating Human Trafficking participated in the annual meeting of the informal network of coordinators for combating human trafficking in Southeast Europe. The objectives of this meeting were to provide a platform to discuss the impact of the Ukrainian crisis on human trafficking in NATC SEE network members, especially the current situation and how to mitigate risks of human trafficking amid mass displacement from Ukraine.

On 13-14 June 2022, the [Croatian National Coordinator for Combating Human Trafficking participated](#) in the annual meeting of national coordinators that was held in Vienna, Austria, under OSCE and the Council of Europe.

Finland: On 7 June 2022, [the Ministry of the Interior commissioned a study on the reflection periods granted to victims of human trafficking](#) during which the victims can decide whether to cooperate with the authorities in apprehending those suspected of human trafficking. The study aims to improve detection of human trafficking.

On 17 June 2022, [the Ministry of the Interior sent out for comments draft amendments](#) to the Act on the Reception of Persons Applying for International Protection and on the Identification of and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. The amendments aim to weaken the link between the provision of assistance to victims of human trafficking and criminal proceedings.

France: On 13 April 2022, the Ministry of the Interior published an inter-ministerial circular calling for a harmonisation of practices regarding access to residence for foreign victims of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation or pimping. The instruction recalls the criteria for obtaining a temporary residence authorisation for third-country nationals involved in a programme to leave prostitution.

Judgment of the European Court of Justice

[AG Opinion regarding the reflection period of \(potential\) victims of human trafficking under Directive 2004/81](#)

On 2 June 2022, AG de la Tour delivered their opinion, subsequent to a request for a preliminary ruling from the District Court of the Hague. The AG assess the scope of the Dublin III Regulation on the matter as well as stated that the (potential) victim ought to have a period of reflection that may begin once the authorities are informed and to consider that there are grounds to believe that the third-country national falls within the scope of the directive and is informed accordingly about the possibilities at their disposal, as well as their obligations.

Greece: On 10-12 May 2022, the Medusa 2022 exercise on trafficking in Human Beings organised by the Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum, gave the opportunity to all relevant national and international services and institutions to strengthen their collaboration in combating human trafficking.

On 20-22 June 2022, a training seminar on "Combating Human Trafficking" was organised in Thessaloniki by the local Directorate for Combating Organised Crime and Human Trafficking of the Hellenic Police, with the participation of all relevant services.

On 29-30 June 2022, the Office of the National Rapporteur participated in a distance education training seminar organised by the National Referral Mechanism in collaboration with SEPE (Hellenic Labour Inspectorate) about procedures for combating human trafficking. The action is part of the continued efforts to enhance the capabilities of the labour inspectors to recognize the victims and persecute their exploitation.

Hungary: Concerning the fight against trafficking in human beings, Hungary followed-up on developments provided in the last quarter in the context of the Ukrainian crisis. Although the influx of refugees slightly decreased by May to 2 500 daily arrivals on average, vulnerabilities persist. Awareness-raising activities are ongoing including using information materials (flyers, large-size posters) as of the end of April.

Since then, the Trafficking in Human Beings Unit of the National Bureau of Investigation, under the lead of Europol, has joined a new initiative to enable Airbnb to directly alert the central anti-trafficking units of Member States to short-term bookings in countries neighbouring Ukraine that raise suspicions of trafficking in human beings.

On 23 May 2022, the Trafficking in Human Beings Unit of the National Bureau of Investigation participated in an online joint action day called Hackathon to detect criminal networks attempting to recruit Ukrainian refugees for sexual and labour exploitation via websites, social media platforms and the DarkWeb.

On 15-21 June 2022, the Hungarian Police participated in the EMPACT action days against labour exploitation with special focus on the vulnerabilities of Ukrainian citizens. All county police headquarters prepared an action plan for the occasion and coordinated the participation of relevant partner organisations (labour authority, immigration authority, NGOs) within their jurisdiction.

Ireland: On 21 June 2022 the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, as independent Rapporteur on trafficking, published Ireland's first [Evaluation of the Implementation of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive](#) report.

Malta: On 4-6 April 2022, the Human Rights Directorate (HRD) participated in the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)'s [22nd High-Level Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons](#), entitled "Protection: Upholding victims' Rights and Strengthening Assistance." It analysed some emerging patterns in State protection systems and approaches. On 12 April 2022, the recommendations made during this conference were presented by the HRD during the 9th roundtable organised by the Foundation for Social Welfare Services (FSWS) whereby representatives of various entities, ministries, and NGOs discussed topics relating to the crime of trafficking in human beings.

On 13-14 June 2022, the HRD participated in the [Annual meeting of the National Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinators and Rapporteurs](#). This meeting was organised by the Office of

the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (OSR/CTHB) and the Council of Europe. It focused on the recent policy developments to combat technology-facilitated trafficking in human beings, the risks of trafficking in human beings stemming from the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, as well as ways to enhance and sustain anti-trafficking capacity building efforts at national level

Poland: The Ministry of the Interior and Administration conducts systematic monitoring of crimes related to the potential threat of human trafficking, in particular refugees from Ukraine, including the information campaign 'Do not trust implicitly. Do not become a victim of human trafficking'.

On 7-9 June 2022, the [3rd evaluation round of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Trafficking in Human Beings \(GRETA\)](#) took place in Poland.

Portugal: On 1 April 2022, the National Rapporteur and the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings participated at the Extraordinary Meeting of the National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms/EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator to take stock of the situation in relation to trafficking in human beings related to the war in Ukraine.

Between 4 and 8 April 2022, several activities took place under the "Programme to Support the Integration of Equatorial Guinea - PAIGE (2021-2022)" - an initiative of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries in conjunction with the Guinean authorities. The project aims to tackle several dimensions, including trafficking in human beings. A training action on trafficking in human beings took place with the support of the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings, which consisted of sending training material.

On 18 May 2022, the Observatory of Trafficking in Human Beings received a Delegation from Mozambique / Public Prosecutor - Attorney General's Office / Specialized Department for the Criminal Area. The visit to Portugal was accompanied by the Attorney General's Office/Central Department of Investigation and Prosecution (DCIAP) - International Judicial Cooperation and Study Planning Unit. The meeting was centred on the presentation of the work of the Observatory of Trafficking in Human Beings, exchange of experiences, knowledge and Best Practices.

In May 2022, the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality delivered a training to government agencies about prevention and referral of victims of trafficking in human beings.

In May 2022 and under the coordination of The High Commission for Migration (national representative at the *Solidarity Platform*), the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings jointly with the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality contributed to the proposal for a National Contingency Plan for reception of displaced persons from Ukraine/Dimension Trafficking in Human Beings. Still in May, Portugal contributed to the "*Common Anti-Trafficking Plan to address the risks of trafficking in human beings and protection potential victims among those fleeing Ukraine*" that was published on 11 May 2022 by the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.

The Observatory on Trafficking on Human Beings gave four training actions (three in April and one in May) to law enforcement agencies about prevention and referral of victims of trafficking in human beings.

From 8 to 9 June 2022, in Brussels, the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings participated in the Consultation Workshop Project entitled "Contributing to Address the

needs of Migrant Children at Borders in Europe". The main aim is the development of a toolkit for frontline workers on promising practices in addressing the needs of migrant children at borders in Europe.

Slovenia: On the basis of the Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings 2021–2022, in cooperation with the Police and the Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia, we prepared [Guidelines for Labour Inspectors - Identifying Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings](#). The guidelines will help labour inspectors help identify and identify victims of trafficking. We need to be aware that labour inspectors have an important role to play in combating the exploitation of people at work, especially when they detect suspicious circumstances of forced labour or exploitation in their work. It is therefore important to advise and inform workers, employers and potential victims of forced labour in order to prevent forced labour and protect victims.

On 2 June 2022, in Budva, Montenegro, the head of The National Working Group on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings attended the [annual meeting of the Network of the Anti-Trafficking Coordinators of South-Eastern Europe](#). The rationale of the meeting was a discussion of the effects of the Ukrainian crisis on the trafficking in human beings in the region based on the network countries' experience in the past months. The degree of implication of the Ukrainian crisis on the NATC SEE Members varies. Some are affected by a significant influx of people fleeing the war, such as Moldova and Romania. In contrast, others are less affected by the current crisis but have lessons learned to share from previous experiences. Therefore, this meeting provided a platform to exchange between the NATC SEE members on the current situation and to share good practices.

Spain: In case there is a suspicion that Beneficiaries of International Protection staying in the Reception, Care and Referral centres (CREADE) may be subject of human trafficking, there is a Procedure for the prevention, detection, care and referral of possible victims of human trafficking. For the moment it is an informal procedure.

Georgia: On 11-15 April 2022, through the cooperation of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Agency for State Care and Assistance for (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking, [an information campaign was held](#) in various villages of the Guria region of Georgia. During the meetings, topics related to forced labour with a particular focus on child labour exploitation, relevant legislative and institutional framework, as well as available state services were covered. Moreover, on 7-8 April 2022, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) in cooperation with the IOM, organized a [training on forced labour and labour exploitation](#). 36 employees of the Labour Inspection Service took part in the training led by an invited expert.

With the support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Embassy of Switzerland in Georgia, a [project](#) "Combating Trafficking in Human Beings: Sustaining Multi-Agency Collaboration through National Simulation Based Training Exercises" was [launched](#) in Georgia on 23 June 2022. The objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of relevant institutions to effectively investigate and prosecute trafficking in human beings (THB) cases and to promptly identify and assist THB victims by promoting a multi-agency, victim-centred and human rights-based approach through national simulation-based training. Georgia will be one of the first countries where national simulation-based training on THB will be conducted.

On 29-30 June 2022, bilateral meetings between Georgia and Uzbekistan were held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, to discuss existing challenges on Human Trafficking and strengthen cooperation in the field of prevention and effective identification of THB cases, as well as the protection and reintegration of the victims. The meetings were held in close cooperation with IOM with the financial support of the US Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

10. EXTERNAL DIMENSION

EU DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

No new developments.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Croatia: On 4 May 2022, the government of the Republic of Croatia [adopted a Decision on sending humanitarian aid to Ukraine](#) on the occasion of the International Donor Conference at a high level for Ukraine, with a contribution of € 5 million

Czech Republic: Under the national programme [MEDEVAC](#), delivery of a € 21 000 (520 000 CZK) medical aid package to Ukraine was organised, containing chest suction cups with accessories. Two persons from Ukraine were evacuated to the Czech Republic for treatment. Furthermore, medical humanitarian missions provided by Czech partner hospitals were deployed to Jordan, Lebanon and Ghana, where surgeries in the fields of gynaecology, ophthalmology, reconstructive plastic surgery and traumatology were provided to people from socially disadvantaged areas.

In May 2022, the Czech government approved support to three projects under the Ministry of the Interior's Aid in Place programme. Two projects focusing on livelihoods support will be implemented in Lebanon (by ADRA and Lutheran World Federation), the third project will be implemented by UNICEF in Mali and will focus on children on the move. The total support for all three projects amounts to € 1.7 million.

Malta: On 7 April 2022, Malta participated in the first meeting of the Governing Board of the Training Institute on Migration Capacity Partnership for the Mediterranean (MCP Med TI).

Georgia: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) announced the launch of the three flagship grant programmes on Diaspora for 2022: a) "Become a Young Ambassador of your Country"; b) "Support for Diaspora Initiatives"; c) "Supporting the Georgian Dancing and Singing Groups Abroad".

On 27 May 2022, [the forum "Georgian Diaspora for the Future of Georgia" was held](#) in Tbilisi, dedicated to the Diaspora Day. The annual Diaspora Forum in accordance with the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy of Georgia aims to deepen cooperation with compatriots living abroad, ensuring their connection with the homeland, encouraging their active involvement in the country development and finding the ways to solve the problems facing Georgian Diaspora.

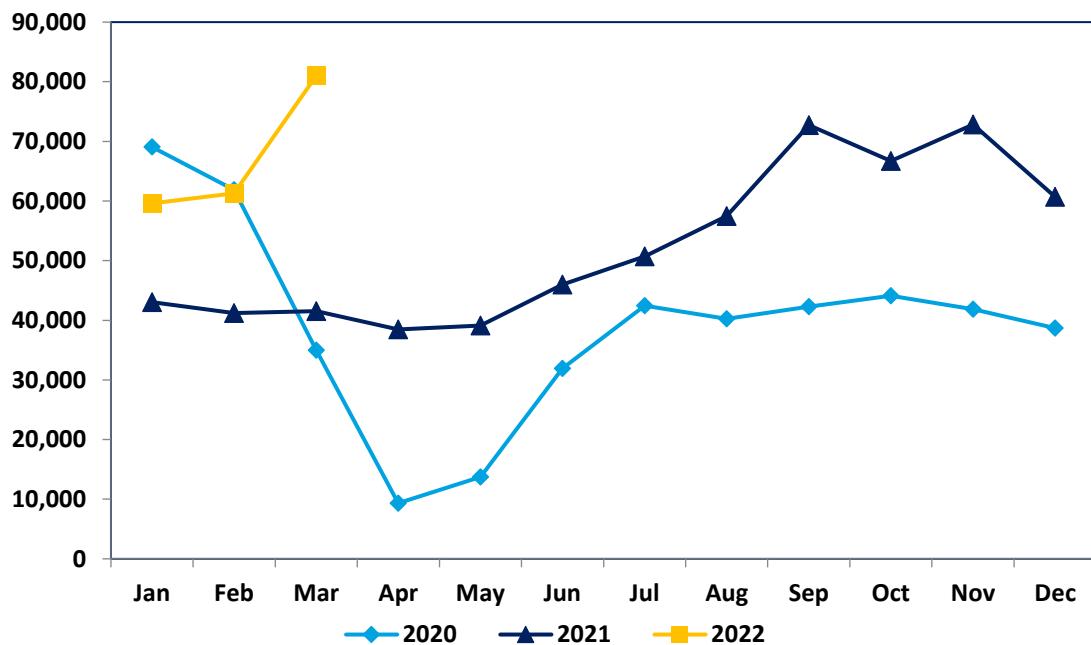
On 10 June 2022, the Turkish-Georgian business forum "Chveneburebi" [was held in Tbilisi](#) for the first time with the involvement of MFA and in cooperation with the Georgian diaspora living in Turkey. The aim of the forum was to inform the representatives of the Turkish business community about the investment opportunities and economic environment in

Georgia, in order to attract investments to the country with the support of the Georgian Diaspora living in Turkey.

Republic of Moldova: On 17-19 May 2022, the State Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Mrs. Jana Costachi, attended the [International Migration Review Forum](#), New York, USA. The speech reflected the progress of the Republic of Moldova on the implementation of the 23 goals of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, but also the challenges faced by the Republic of Moldova regarding the migration crisis caused by the war in Ukraine.

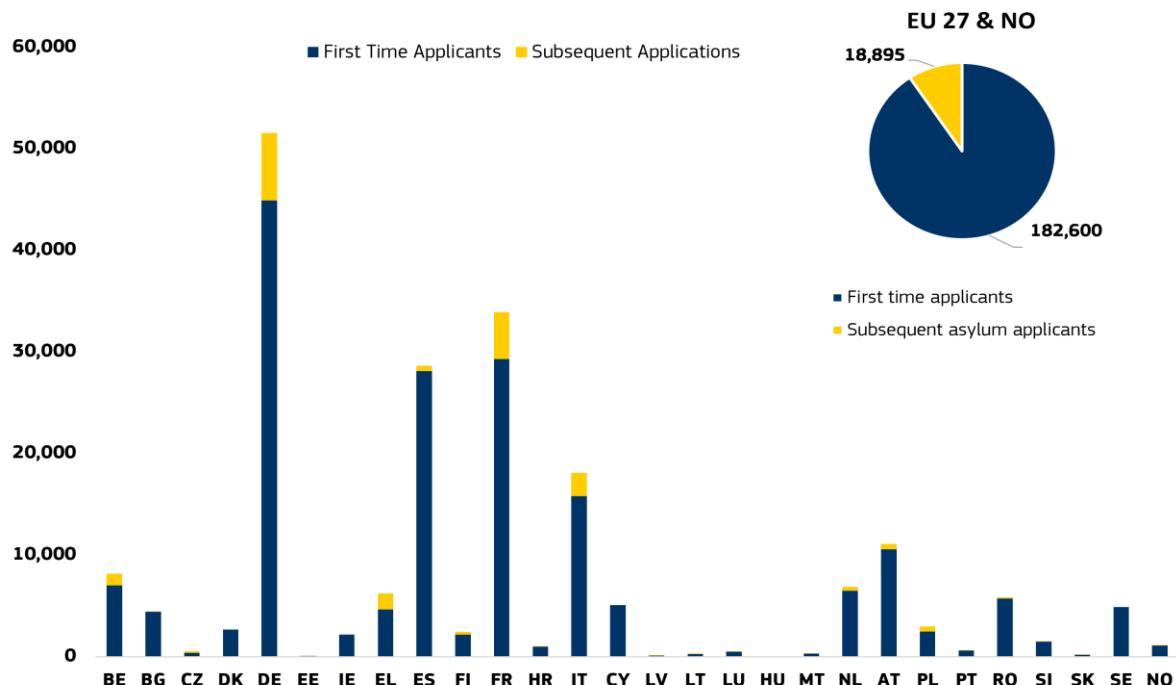
ANNEX: EU & COMPLEMENTARY STATISTICS, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, OTHER EMN OUTPUTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Figure 1: Asylum applications in the EU-27, January – March 2022



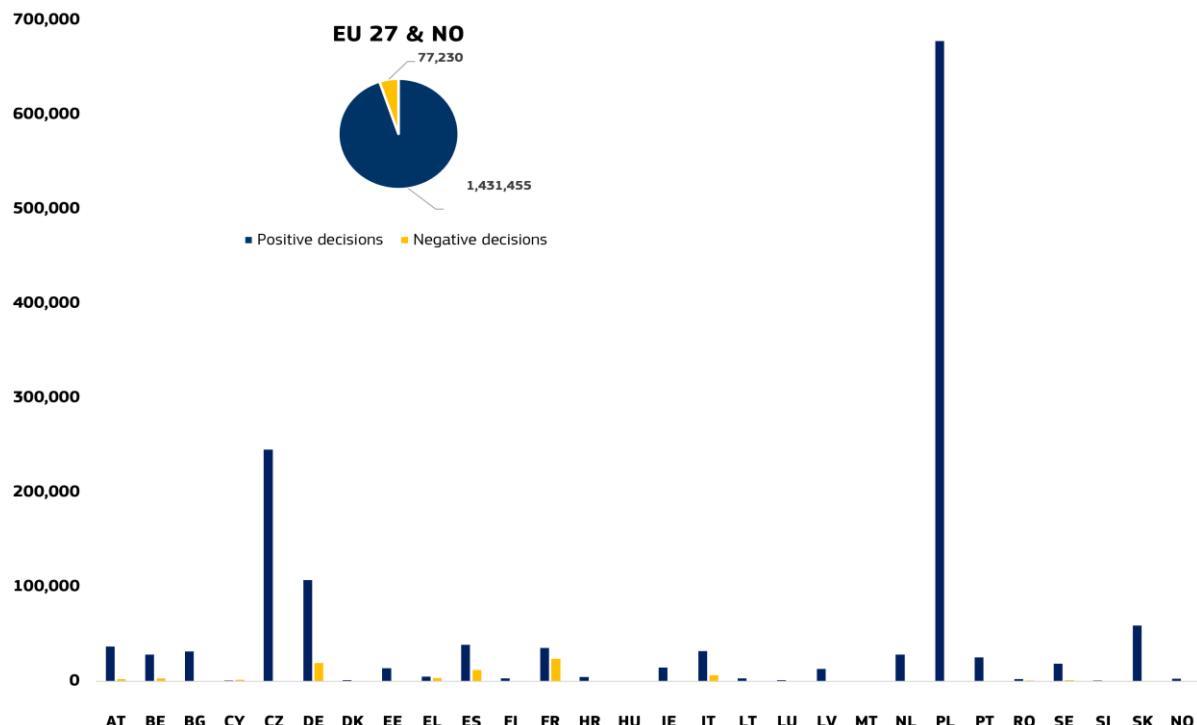
Source: Eurostat [[migr_asyappctzm](#)], total asylum applicants, extracted on 11 July 2022.

Figure 2: First time asylum applicants and subsequent applicants (together, total asylum applicants) in the EU-27 and Norway, Q1 2022 (quarterly data)



Source: Eurostat [[migr_asyappctzm](#)], accessed on 11 July 2022.

Figure 3: First instance asylum decisions in EU-27 and Norway for non-EU citizens, Q1 2022



Source: Eurostat [[migr_asydcfstq](#)], accessed on 11 July 2022.

Updates on EU legislation transposition

No new developments.

EMN National Contact Points: National Events and Publications

Recent National EMN conferences:

- **EMN Austria:** On 11 April 2022, a [kick-off event on Global Skill Partnerships in Austria](#) took place in cooperation with the Federation of Austrian Industries and the Austrian Economic Chambers to familiarise participants with the concept of GSPs. The results of the EMN-OECD Inform on the topic published in March were presented to selected stakeholders from the private and public sector, economic interest groups as well as representatives from NGOs, research and academia. On 20 May 2022, the [Long Night of Research](#) took place. It is an Austria-wide event with the objective of getting the general public excited about science and research. For the second time EMN Austria participated to present its work. Event participants were invited to answer a short quiz on selected questions related to migration in Austria. The answers were then fact-checked and discussed with EMN and IOM migration experts.
- **EMN Belgium:** On 1 and 2 June EMN Belgium, Enabel, the Belgian development agency, and IOM Belgium & Luxembourg organised an event on "Skills Mobility Partnerships." The conference brought together over 250 stakeholders. The PowerPoints, the videos of the panels and presentations, a conference report and the photos of the event can be found [here](#).

- **EMN Croatia:** On 23 June 2022, EMN NCP Croatia and the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia held a national conference "Women in Migration" in Zagreb and online. As part of the conference, there were three panels with women involved in the creation of migration policies and migrant women themselves, who gave an overview of the topic of women's empowerment in migration and their successful inclusion in society. The conference brought together a number of participants live and online, including representatives of ministries and other relevant state administration bodies, academia, NGOs, experts and participants from other Member States. Read more [here](#).
- **EMN France:** On **EMN France**: On 21 June 2022, EMN France organised a high-level conference in Paris in the framework of the French Presidency of the Council of the EU. The conference was dedicated to the issue of assisted voluntary return and reintegration, focusing on EU and non-EU Member State approaches and European coordination. The conference gathered policy makers, practitioners, researchers, NGOs and international organisations at national and European level, and provided a forum for constructive exchange regarding voluntary return and reintegration.
- **EMN Italy:** Pursuant to Declaration No. 13637/20 of 2 December 2020 of the Council of the European Union, calling on Member States to integrate the fight against anti-Semitism, the National Association of Italian Municipalities presented the National Strategy against Anti-Semitism and the IHRA's operational definition of anti-Semitism, drafted in line with the resolution on the fight against anti-Semitism adopted by the European Parliament on 1 June 2017.
- Between 23-29 May 2022, the Ministry of Education participated in the XXXIV edition of the [Turin International Book Fair](#). The events included projects dedicated to welcoming Ukrainian students and supporting the learning processes of unaccompanied foreign minors. Of particular interest was the event 'Intercultural orientation and school libraries', organised by the Directorate-General for Students, with the presentation of the Ministry of Education's new document on the integration of students from migrant backgrounds.
- On 27-28 May 2022, a [national workshop organised by CoNNGI](#), the network of associations of young people with a migration background, dedicated to culture as a tool for social cohesion and promotion, was held. Testimonies, performances, exchanges of views and proposals reaffirmed the importance of dialogue between new generations and institutions. The event was promoted with the collaboration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, the CoNNGI territorial association Ubuntu - New Italian Generations, with the support of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), and various local bodies.
- On 29 April 2022, the final event of the [LGNetEA](#) project - an acronym for Local Government Network for Rapid Response and Fast Track Inclusion Services in Disadvantaged Urban Areas - was held on the 29th of April. The project aims to improve the well-being of communities with high numbers of citizens from abroad with low levels of integration by taking care of the most complex situations also in order to combat degradation, marginalisation and social conflict in the urban areas concerned.
- **EMN Lithuania:** On 14 June 2022, EMN Lithuania organised a national conference "Initiatives to Support the Integration of Refugees from Ukraine" to share experiences regarding the public and private efforts to help Ukrainian

refugees in the field of accommodation, employment, and education. A summary of the event is available on [EMN Lithuania's website](#).

- **EMN Luxembourg:** EMN Luxembourg published the inform "[Interpretation and distinction between labour exploitation in the context of trafficking in human beings and particularly exploitative working conditions under the Employers Sanctions Directive](#)".
- The aim of this EMN Luxembourg inform is to map the Member States' legislative and procedural frameworks with regards to the interpretation and distinction between "labour exploitation" which can be considered as trafficking in human beings covered by the Anti-trafficking Directive (Directive 2011/36/EU) and "particularly exploitative working conditions" under the Employers Sanctions Directive (Directive 2009/52/EC).
- **EMN Malta:** On 24 and 29 March; 12, 21, and 28 April; as well as 5, 11, 19, and 24 May the Human Rights Directorate's SOGIGESC Unit, in partnership with the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers, devised two training sessions. One targeted at professional and managerial staff and the other at security and administrative personnel. Three half-day training sessions reaching around 30 professionals were organised with the first cohort while six two-hour sensitisation sessions reaching around 120 workers were held with the second.
- **EMN Portugal:** On 23 June 2022, the Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service (SEF) launched the EMN co-funded Report on Immigration, Borders and Asylum (RIFA) 2021, which can be found [here](#).

Upcoming EMN National conferences

- **EMN Estonia:** EMN Estonia and EMN Georgia will organise a joint national conference "[Advancing Data-Driven Decision-Making in Migration Management](#)", which will take place on 19-20 September in Tbilisi, Georgia. This conference focuses both on online transactional and online analytical processing systems and explores the ways in which data can be used to enrich decision-making processes in migration management and how to facilitate the development of a data-driven decision-making culture in the field.
- **EMN Spain:** National conference, September 2022
- **EMN Cyprus and EMN Luxembourg:** Joint National Conference 'Six months into applying the Temporary Protection Directive – Lessons learned and shared experiences,' 13 October 2022 in Limassol, Cyprus