

SOCIAL BENEFITS AND RIGHTS FOR BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

EMN INFORM

2018

1. INTRODUCTION

The influx of asylum seekers in 2015 has increased awareness about the differences across the EU Member States and Norway in social benefits standards and the arrangements for rights enjoyed by beneficiaries of international protection.¹ This attention to social benefits and rights enjoyed by beneficiaries of international protection also stems from the Qualification Directive (2004/83/EC) and the recast Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU).² In the absence of harmonised social security policies at EU-level, the recast Qualification Directive, as a part of the overall aim of the EU's Common European Asylum System (CEAS), seeks to remove differences in social benefits' standards³ enjoyed by beneficiaries of international protection. The aim of the harmonisation of social benefits' standards is broadly twofold. Firstly, to ensure a dignified standard of living for beneficiaries of international protection across the EU, and, secondly, by offering better and comparable conditions consistently across Member States, to discourage secondary intra-EU movements.

This Inform, written by the European Migration Network (EMN),⁴ presents an overview of five social benefits and arrangements for rights granted by Member States and Norway to beneficiaries of international protection: (1) education, (2) healthcare, (3) financial allowances, (4) housing and (5) family reunification. It describes the social benefits standards and arrangements for rights in Member States and Norway and whether or not these countries differentiate between beneficiaries of international protection who are recognised as refugees⁵ and those who are granted subsidiary protection status. Additionally, in regards to several social benefits and rights, differences between beneficiaries of international protection and nationals⁶ are explained.

The aim of the Inform is to provide policy makers, researchers and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on the national and EU level with a factual overview of several policies and practices Member States and Norway have adopted. This information can be used to facilitate the exchange of good practices and to identify areas where further EU action is needed.

The information in this Inform has been collected from a number of sources. The relevant EMN publications have been used.⁷ In

- 1 For more information, ICF, Evaluation of the application of the Qualification Directive, June 2016.
- 2 Qualification Directive (2004/83/EC) and Recast Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU)
- 3 EU Member States Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom do not take part in the recast Directive and are not bound by it or subject to its application. Norway is not a Member State of the EU.
- 4 The EMN is made up of National Contact Points (NCPs) in EU Member States and Norway.
- 5 For the purpose of this Inform, the term refugee is defined as "a third-country national who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country" (Source: EMN Glossary 6.0).
- 6 In this Inform, 'nationals' refers to citizens of the Member State (a citizen of a particular country, typically entitled to hold that country's passport).
- 7 EMN Ad-hoc Query (2016): Allowances for international protection applicants, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/2017.1249_hr_access_to_financial_allowances.pdf
EMN Ad-hoc Query (2016): Recognition of academic and professional qualification of beneficiaries of international protection, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/ad-hoc-queries/ad-hoc-queries-2016.1016_ahq_on_the_recognition_of_academic_and_professional_qualification.pdf
EMN Ad-hoc Query (2017): Selected benefits (retirement benefit, compensation for disabled persons and benefit in material need) for beneficiaries of international protection
EMN Focussed Study (2014): Migrant access to social security and healthcare: policies and practice, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/final_synthesis_report_migrant_access_to_social_security_final_3july2014_en.pdf
EMN Focussed study (2015): Integration of beneficiaries of international protection into the labour market, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/emn-studies-00_integration_of_beneficiaries_of_international_protection__eu_2015_en_final.pdf
EMN Focussed Study (2017): Family Reunification of Third-Country Nationals in the EU plus Norway, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/00_family_reunification_sr_final.pdf

Level of social benefits and rights



In all Member States and Norway, education is compulsory for all minors. Special **educational** programmes for adults are available in the majority of Member States and Norway.



In all Member States and Norway, beneficiaries of international protection have access to immediate and emergency **healthcare**, as well as long-term care.



In the majority of Member States and Norway, **financial allowances** are provided to beneficiaries of international protection, both in the sense of income (replacement) allowance/remuneration and social assistance allowance.



Almost all Member States and Norway provide, or assist with, **housing** to beneficiaries of international protection.



Most Member States and Norway apply favourable conditions for **family reunification** of beneficiaries of international protection.

In addition, EMN National Contact Points (NCPs) have been consulted to update and, if needed, supplement the information collected from EMN publications.⁸ Furthermore, three EMN Ad-hoc Queries were specifically launched to collect information for this Inform.⁹

In order to give context to the comparison between the social benefits granted by Member States and Norway to beneficiaries of international protection and the living standards in the different countries, statistical data on the absolute numbers and percentage of first time applicants for international protection in the EU per Member State has been used.

In total, 26 out of 27 EMN National Contact Points in the Member States and Norway have provided inputs for this Inform.^{10 11} The analysis of the collected information was carried out by EMN NCPs in Croatia, Luxemburg, Poland and the Netherlands. The information in the Inform was reviewed and verified by contributing EMN NCPs and the EMN Service Provider.



2. KEY POINTS TO NOTE

The Inform Social Benefits and Rights identifies a number of key points. Listed below are some general points, followed by points relating to each of the five different topics identified above (education, healthcare, financial allowances, housing and family reunification).

General findings

- Differences do remain across the Member States and Norway with respect to the level of the respective social benefits and rights granted to beneficiaries of international protection.
- Member States and Norway uphold a certain minimum level of the respective social benefits and rights, with minor exceptions.

- All Member States and Norway treat access to education and access to healthcare as a fundamental right.
- Administrative and practical arrangements for granting respective social benefits and rights vary among Member States and Norway.

Education

- In all Member States and Norway education is compulsory for minors, although the upper age limit after which education is no longer obligatory ranges from 15 – 18 years.
- The majority of Member States and Norway have special educational programmes for adults, which are sometimes limited to beneficiaries of international protection, while others are larger integration programmes for foreigners, in order to foster their integration in society.
- Verification of the academic diplomas, work certificates and experience and other documents relating to education of beneficiaries of international protection differs amongst Member States and Norway. Nevertheless, it should be underlined that most countries are familiar with cooperation with/under the National Academic Recognition Information Centres in the European Union (NARIC).
- In the majority of Member States and Norway, governmental authorities and NGOs cooperate in providing access to education for beneficiaries of international protection.

Healthcare

- All Member States and Norway report that beneficiaries of international protection have access to immediate and emergency healthcare.
- Long-term care is accessible for beneficiaries of international protection in all Member States and Norway.
- In two Member States (FI, IT) healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is funded by a special budget.

8 For example, use of bilateral information requests to EMN NCPs on family reunification and housing in 2017.

9 EMN Ad-hoc Query (2017): Access to education
EMN Ad-hoc Query (2017): Access to financial allowances
EMN Ad-hoc Query (2017): Access to healthcare

10 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK, UK and NO.

11 It should be noted that the number of Member States and Norway providing information on the several topics in the Inform may differ. Please see the separate chapters with clarification on which Member States have provided information on that particular subject.

Financial allowances

- In the majority of Member States and Norway the schemes for financial allowances are the same for refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.
- The majority of Member States and Norway provide financial allowances to beneficiaries of international protection, both in the sense of (a) income (replacement) allowance / remuneration and (b) social assistance allowances.
- In the majority of Member States and Norway, financial allowances are funded from the general national budget.
- The majority of Member States and Norway provide financial allowances by a mixed system of social welfare institutions and central and local authorities.

Housing

- Nearly all Member States and Norway provide, or assist with, housing to beneficiaries of international protection.
- Four Member States¹² and Norway grant housing to beneficiaries of international protection without conditions.

Family reunification

- Most Member States and Norway have favourable conditions for family reunification of beneficiaries of international protection.
- In half of the Member States and Norway the same conditions or restrictions apply to refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.
- Within most Member States, NGOs are involved in providing (legal) advice and consultation to family members and their sponsors or with assisting family members and their sponsors in the cost and logistics of the travel to the Member States and Norway.



3. STATISTICAL DATA

Between 2014 and 2016, Member States and Norway experienced increased numbers of first time applicants for international protection, with considerable differences across the countries. Overall figures of Eurostat show a total of 431 095 first time asylum applicants in 2013 and 626 960 in 2014 in the European Union.¹³ In 2015 and 2016 more than 1.2 million first time applicants for international protection were registered. The Member States with the highest share of first time applicants in 2015 were Germany (35.1%), Hungary (13.9%) and Sweden (12.4%). In 2016, Germany (59.9%), Italy (10%) and France (6.4%) received the highest share of first time applicants.¹⁴

In 2017, the number of first time applicants for international protection dropped by almost 50% in comparison to 2016. Approximately 650 000 first time applicants were registered. The Member States with the highest share of first time asylum

applicants in 2017 are Germany (30.6%), Italy (19.4%) and France (14.1%).



4. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Social assistance policies are a national competence, and thus are not harmonised across the EU. Nevertheless, the 2004 Qualification Directive (2004/83/EC) and the recast Qualification Directive (2011/95/EC) do aim to harmonise social benefits' standards enjoyed by the beneficiaries of international protection in the participating Member States and secure the level of rights contained in the 1951 Refugee Convention by diminishing exceptions and levelling up the protection of beneficiaries of protection at national level. The degree to which the recast Qualification Directive provides access to certain rights and social benefits still varies, as some are granted under the same conditions as third-country nationals legally residing while others are granted under the same conditions as nationals of the host country.¹⁵ As a general rule, beneficiaries of international protection enjoy the same rights and benefits as nationals of the host Member State as regards access to **employment-related education opportunities, vocational training and counselling services** offered by employment offices (Article 26(2)). With regard to **education**, Article 27 of the Directive provides that participating Member States should ensure full access to the education system to all minors granted international protection under the same conditions as nationals of the host country, and to all adults under the same conditions as legally residing third-country nationals. Access to education is also provided to family members with a view to facilitating their integration into the host society. Although closely linked to education, it should be noted that this Inform does not cover the access to procedures for the recognition of qualifications (Article 28).

Similarly, Member States are also required to provide **health-care** under the same eligibility conditions as nationals of the host country (Article 30). This covers both physical and mental healthcare and includes the provision of treatment of mental disorders to beneficiaries of international protection with special needs, such as pregnant women, disabled people, and victims of torture, rape or other serious forms of violence. This also applies to minors who have experienced any form of abuse.

As concerns access to **housing**, the recast Qualification Directive (Article 32) grants beneficiaries of international protection the right to accommodation under equivalent conditions as other third-country nationals legally resident in a Member State.

The recast Qualification Directive is not fully prescriptive about access to financial allowances. Article 26(4) states that the law in force in Member States regarding access to **social security systems** shall apply to beneficiaries of international protections as they do to nationals. The access to social assistance allowance is covered by Article 29 of the Directive, granting beneficiaries of international protection the necessary social assistance as

¹² DE, FI, NL, SE

¹³ Eurostat (table "migr_asyappctza", extracted 30 August 2018)

¹⁴ The number of first time applicants does not imply that these persons were staying in the Member States of application as 2015 and 2016 were also marked by substantial onward movements of persons having applied for asylum.

¹⁵ A 2016 evaluation of the application of the recast Qualification Directive noted that the equivalence between certain rights and benefits of the beneficiaries of international protection to those granted to legally residing third-country nationals led to uncertainty and different levels of rights and benefits in different EU Member States. This was mainly due to the fact that rights granted to long-term resident third-country nationals are entitled to higher level of benefits compared to regular third-country seasonal workers or other similar categories. For more information, see Evaluation of the application of the Qualification Directive, June 2016 (ICF).

Figure 1: Overview of asylum applications in EU Member States and Norway (2015-2017)

Highest numbers:



Numbers of first time applicants for international protection in the EU per Member State in 2015-2017

	2015	2016	2017
Germany	441 800	722 264	198 253
Italy	83 243	121 187	126 552
France	70 571	76 789	91 965
Greece	11 370	49 873	56 942
United Kingdom	39 718	39 242	33 310
Spain	14 602	15 568	30 443
Austria	85 503	39 876	22 454
Sweden	156 112	22 331	22 188
Netherlands	43 034	19 286	16 091
Belgium	38 991	14 250	14 037
Romania	1 224	1 853	4 701
Cyprus	2 106	2 842	4 475
Finland	32 152	5 274	4 326
Bulgaria	20 161	18 992	3 470
Norway	30 472	3 241	3 348
Denmark	20 823	6 055	3 125
Hungary	174 434	28 215	3 113
Poland	10 253	9 780	3 004
Ireland	3 271	2 237	2 912
Luxembourg	2 361	2 064	2 322
Malta	1 695	1 733	1 612
Slovenia	259	1 266	1 437
Czech Republic	1 233	1 202	1 138
Portugal	871	710	1 013
Croatia	142	2 148	882
Lithuania	273	414	522
Latvia	328	344	355
Estonia	226	150	182
Slovakia	270	99	148

Source: Eurostat (migr_asyappctza), extracted 1 August 2018

provided to nationals of that Member State.¹⁶ At the same time, Member States may limit social assistance provided to subsidiary protection holders to core benefits by way of derogation from the general rule. Such core benefits are understood to cover at least minimum income support, assistance in the case of illness, or pregnancy, and parental assistance, in so far as these are granted to nationals.

On **family reunification**, Article 23 of the recast Qualification Directive¹⁷ requires Member States to ensure that family unity can be maintained and that family members of the beneficiary

of international protection who do not qualify for such protection are entitled to claim the benefits laid out in the Directive. As opposed to this, beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are subject to more restrictive conditions regarding family reunification, as Article 3(2)(c) of the Family Reunification Directive is interpreted to exclude these from its scope. Hence, it is currently up to each Member State to lay down the rights related to family reunification for persons granted subsidiary protection.

¹⁶ The recast Qualification Directive uses the term 'social welfare' in the title of Article 29, while referring to 'social assistance' in the text of the Article. In what follows the term social assistance is used to denote in general the social support provided to beneficiaries of international protection. When referring specifically to contributory benefits, the notion of social security is used.

¹⁷ IE does not participate in the recast Qualification Directive (2011/95) or the Family Reunification Directive.

5. NATIONAL POLICIES REGARDING SOCIAL BENEFITS AND RIGHTS



5a. National policies concerning education

Most of the 23¹⁸ responding Member States and Norway that reported information on education for this Inform - in principle - grant the same access to education to those recognised as refugees or granted subsidiary protection status as to nationals: they have access to all sectors of state education (primary, secondary and tertiary education).

In all Member States and Norway education is compulsory for all children or minors. Nevertheless, in some countries, there is an upper age margin after which education is no longer mandatory, ranging from 15 – 18 years.

All Member States and Norway reported that they have special programmes¹⁹ (e.g. intensive language courses, special classes, extra-curricular support to parents and/or teachers' aids) for children (3- 16 years)²⁰ in their respective educational system.

All responding Member States and Norway have special programmes/courses for adults in order to foster their integration in society and gain access to the labour market. These programmes

range from language courses, vocational training to coaching and more specialised services (i.e. labour market introduction activities and assistance in acquiring or improving their qualifications in order to find a job).

14 out of 23 Member States and Norway²¹ have notified courses/programmes for adults to improve their skills in the host country language, wherein in most cases free language support is funded by the government and NGOs. However, in five Member States²² no specific programmes nor courses are carried out for illiterate adults.

Assessment of the level of education of beneficiaries of international protection takes an important role in all Member States and Norway and has its own specifics at each stage (i.e. primary, secondary and tertiary education). In all Member States and in Norway the specific school programme for children begins with an evaluation of the child's knowledge of the host countries' language, English and/or skills in other fields to determine the level of education reached prior to the arrival in the respective country. All the (Member) States' educational systems try to keep children together in the same age cohort.

Verification of academic diplomas, work certificates and experience and other documents relating to education of beneficiaries of international protection differs amongst Member States and Norway. Nevertheless, it should be underlined that most countries are familiar with cooperation with/under the

18 AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK, UK and NO.

19 In LU, the specific programmes are implemented for migrant children without distinction if they are legal migrants, applicants for international protection or beneficiaries of international protection.

20 The age to start school may differ among Member States, mostly ranging between three and six years.

21 AT, BE, CZ, DE, FI, HR, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, SI, SE, UK and NO.

22 CY, FR, LV, PL, SK. NB as from 2019, FR will create dedicated courses (600 hours) for adults to improve their skills in the host country language.

Sources of funding for education for beneficiaries of international protection



National or regional general (education) budget



Combination of national general budget and special budgetary line



National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC) in the European Union. Some practices of Member States can be highlighted. For example, in Germany, programmes are in place to (a) identify areas of possible compensation of missing skills and (b) recognise professional competencies aiming at identifying non-formal and informally acquired job skills. In the Slovak Republic, the beneficiary of international protection can directly address the potential employer, who will decide on the suitability of the person's professional qualification. In Belgium, skills and competences can be converted into qualification certificates, which can be used to access the labour market or to get an exemption for certain training and educational programmes.

14 Member States and Norway²³ indicated that education for beneficiaries of international protection is solely funded from the national or regional general (education) budget.²⁴ Austria indicated that they partly fund education for beneficiaries of international protection from a special budgetary line. Additionally, five²⁵ Member States indicated that both ways of funding (i.e. special budgetary lines and the national general budget) were used. In Germany national education is funded through a general budget, but is complemented with special budgetary lines. Specifically, funding for national education is divided into various sub-budgets for specific purposes on different federal levels, e.g. education measures for migrants are sourced from several of these sub-budgets under the responsibility of various ministries and agencies.

Programmes and/or courses for the education of beneficiaries of international protection are provided by a range of authorities and organisations (see Annex 1). In almost all Member States and Norway, the cooperation of several organisations is used to provide education for beneficiaries of international protection. In most Member States and Norway, ministries or national authorities are involved, and 21 Member States have indicated that other organisations (i.e. international organisations or local NGOs) participate in granting and/or facilitating access to education to beneficiaries of international protection. In contrast, Norway and Sweden indicated that they do not have any NGOs participating in granting and/or facilitating access to education to beneficiaries of international protection.

5b. National policies concerning healthcare

All of the 24 Member States²⁶ and Norway that provided information on healthcare for this Inform reported that access to healthcare and medical treatment is a fundamental right. Therefore, access to healthcare is the same for nationals and beneficiaries of international protection (including both refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection).²⁷ This approach applies also to access to immediate and emergency care. In this respect, Austria emphasised the legal obligation of physicians

to treat all individuals in emergency situations, regardless of the residence and insurance status.

Five Member States²⁸ reported conditions and/or factors influencing access to (full) healthcare. For example, France requires legal residence for the previous three months (except for beneficiaries of international protection who are exempted from stable residence condition). Hungary has a six-month period in which beneficiaries of international protection are entitled to immediate and emergency medical care free of charge before getting the same access to healthcare as nationals. Additionally, it can be noted that in Italy, the personal situation of a beneficiary of international protection can be of influence on access to healthcare. In Finland and Sweden access to healthcare is residence-based, implying that the municipality or regional government is responsible.

Long-term care is accessible for beneficiaries of international protection in all Member States and Norway. Germany states that long-term care is also accessible for beneficiaries of international protection, but is restricted with aid that requires private payments. In principle, since access to healthcare is a fundamental right and therefore the same for nationals and beneficiaries of international protection, 24 Member States and Norway reported that no special measures or procedures apply for persons who are in need of long-term care. Nonetheless, in Italy there has been an increased awareness about the psychological health of beneficiaries of international protection, expanding the services to help persons with mental disorders.

Different types of insurance schemes apply to beneficiaries of international protection. 13 Member States and Norway²⁹ reported that they have public insurance.³⁰ In four Member States,³¹ healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is funded on the basis of a mixed type of insurance. For example, Belgium finances public healthcare on the basis of employees and employer contributions, government contributions and a percentage of VAT revenues. And, in the Netherlands, a private insurance for all persons older than the age of 18 years is combined with a government contribution for children under 18 years old. In Luxembourg, health insurance is a tripartite system; one part is financed by the employees (contributions taken directly from their salaries), employers (paid by them) and a contribution of the state which represents half of the system (which is financed by general taxation). In France, a public insurance - the universal health protection (PUMa) - is the basic health insurance that any person, French, EEA or non-EEA national, working or residing regularly in France, such as beneficiaries of international protection, can benefit from. In addition, beneficiaries of international protection can also benefit from a complementary health protection (CMU-C) if they respect the resources condition³² while they do not have to fulfil the requirement for the three months of residence (country to other third-country nationals). If a beneficiary

23 BE, CY, EE, ES, FI, HR, LV, LU, MT, NL, PL, SI, SK, UK, NO.

24 Differences can stem from the education system of the respective Member States.

25 CZ, FR, IT, LT, SE.

26 AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK, UK and NO.

27 For example, in NL this implies that no group (i.e. migrants, beneficiaries of international protection, permit holders) is excluded in the national health care laws.

28 FI, FR, HU, IT, SE.

29 AT, CY, CZ, DE, EE, FI, LT, LU, LV, MT, PL, SI, SK and NO.

30 In example, this can be both, exclusively or partially, financed by public institutions or managed by public administration/establishments.

31 BE, FR, LU, NL.

32 The resource condition stipulates that a single person cannot earn more than a certain amount of euros.

Types of health insurance schemes for beneficiaries of international protection



Public insurance



Mixed type of insurance
(combination of
funding sources)



of the health insurance, including a beneficiary of international protection, finds a job, the health insurance will be shifted from the residence criteria to the employment criteria.

In 21 Member States and Norway,³³ healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is covered by the general healthcare/health security budget. For example, in France healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is covered by the social security budget (as part of the general healthcare budget). Additionally, in Finland, healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is funded by the general social and health care budget. However, municipalities are entitled to compensation from the state for this particular group.

In Italy, healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is funded by a special budget. In the Czech Republic, specialised healthcare and medical aids that are not covered by public healthcare insurance might be funded by the State Integration Programme; this is a programme to support beneficiaries of international protection 12 months after being granted legal residence. In Spain, healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection is covered by the healthcare budget from every regional healthcare department of the autonomous communities. In Slovenia, healthcare is partly covered by the general healthcare budget and partly from a special health security budget.

Annex 2 shows the authorities and organisations involved in providing healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection. In 19 Member States and Norway, a range of different authorities

and organisations is involved in the organisation of healthcare. In three Member States³⁴ a single authority or organisation is responsible for organising the healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection.

Annex 2 shows also that the Ministry of Health is involved in 18 Member States and Norway. And, in the six Member States in which the Ministry of Health is not involved, the public health or social security service is involved. In Estonia, the Estonian Health Insurance Fund has a role in the organisation of healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection. In Slovenia, there exists a separate governmental organisation responsible for integration measures (Government Office for Support and Integration of Migrants), which arranges access to healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection.



5c. National policies concerning financial allowances

Most of the 23 Member States³⁵ and Norway that provided information on financial allowances for this Inform reported that they provide financial allowances to beneficiaries of international protection, both in the sense of (a) income (replacement) allowance/remuneration and (b) social assistance allowances. Croatia and Latvia provide only income (replacement) allowance/remuneration, while three Member States (the Czech Republic, Ireland and Poland³⁶) only provide social assistance allowances.

33 AT, BE, CY, CZ, EE, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK, UK and NO.

34 HU, SE, UK.

35 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, EL, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, NL, SK, SI, SE, UK and NO.

36 In PL, apart from the social assistance beneficiaries it is also possible to request the individual integration programmes (IPI) support.

Sources of funding for financial allowances for beneficiaries of international protection



No specific budget for beneficiaries of international protection



Mixed budget for beneficiaries of international protection



The main criterion for being granted financial allowances is the income earned by the beneficiary of international protection and/or the contribution paid to the social security system. Additional conditions for receiving these financial allowances, besides the income level and the insurance periods, are the household and health situation. This is the general practice in Member States, except in Sweden, and in Norway. In Norway, the condition for receiving financial allowances is the participation in fulltime introduction programs, including language training, vocational training, and cultural training and in some cases, this might include advanced education. In Sweden, beneficiaries of international protection are covered by the general social welfare system, but if they participate in integration measures, they are entitled to a special allowance for this purpose.

In 18 Member States,³⁷ beneficiaries of international protection are in general granted the same financial allowances. However in Belgium, there are slight differences between refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. In the Slovak Republic, some allowances are specifically dedicated to beneficiaries of international protection.

In the majority of Member States and Norway, the schemes for financial allowances are the same for beneficiaries of international protection who are recognised as refugees and those who are granted subsidiary protection status. Austria and Latvia make a distinction between these two protection statuses. In Latvia, beneficiaries of subsidiary protection receive financial allowances for a shorter period than refugees. In Austria, refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection in general receive

the same benefits. A difference, however, exists, as refugees are no longer entitled to material reception conditions after being recognised as refugees, whereas beneficiaries of subsidiary protection receive material reception conditions as long as they are in need without time limitation. However, in such cases beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are not entitled to childcare allowance or family allowance, both benefits that are granted to refugees regardless of their employment situation. Under such conditions, in Austria beneficiaries of subsidiary protection receive less financial allowances than refugees.

In 23 Member States and Norway financial allowances for beneficiaries of international protection are funded by the general budget (Figure 4). In Slovak Republic and Slovenia, financial allowances for beneficiaries of international protection are covered by both AMIF and the general national budget.

The average amount of financial allowances granted to beneficiaries of international protection is difficult for Member States to calculate as they depend on a variety of different factors and the individual situation of the person (children, disabilities, insurance periods, households etc.).

Social assistance allowances are granted on a different time basis (once, daily, monthly, and annually) and for a range of different purposes, including food, essential needs, housing, accommodation, clothing, education, health assistance. The financial allowances are provided by a range of authorities and organisations (Annex 3). In most Member States and Norway, financial allowances are provided by a mixed system of social welfare institutions and central and local authorities.

37 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, LU, NL, SI, SE, SK, UK.

Location of housing for beneficiaries of international protection



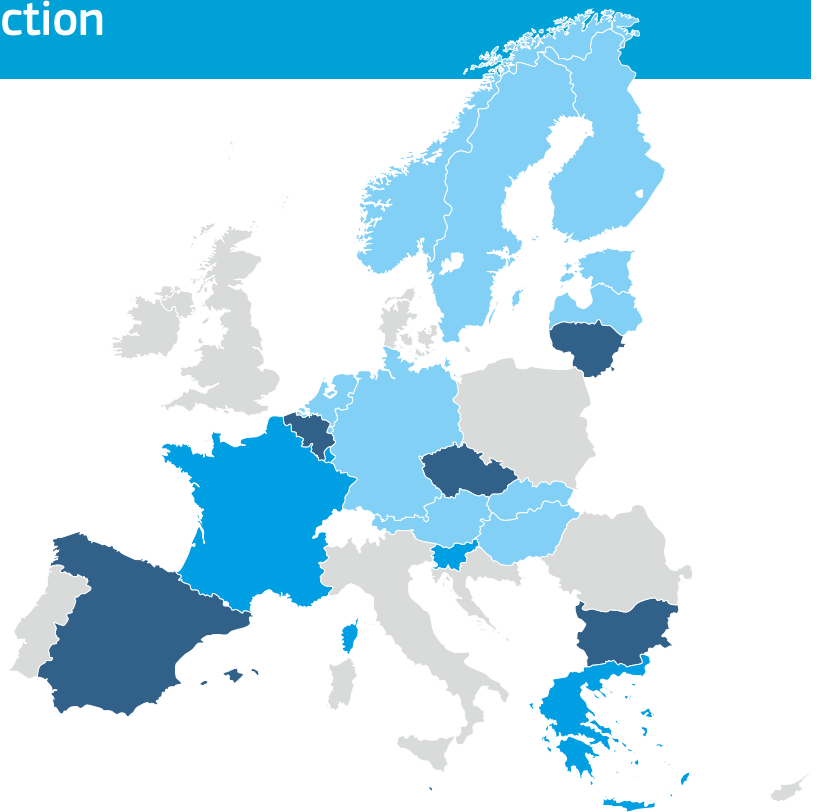
Free to choose preferred location for housing



Location of housing dependant on availability



Location of housing dependant on various factors (e.g. job opportunities)



In four Member States,³⁸ the central government is the main providing institution.



5d. National policies concerning housing

23 out of 24³⁹ Member States and Norway that have provided information on housing for this Inform reported that they provide, or assist with, (granting) housing to beneficiaries of international protection. Only Cyprus does not explicitly grant housing to beneficiaries of international protection. Hungary and Poland⁴⁰ indicated that housing of those granted international protection can be provided in the short term in the reception system by the asylum authority, following recognition, from the date of communicating the decision for up to 30 days. Of the 25 participating countries, 15 Member States⁴¹ provide (temporary) accommodation or assistance to beneficiaries of international protection to find accommodation.

Four Member States⁴² and Norway grant housing without conditions. Five Member States⁴³ (AT, FR, HR, IT, MT) only grant housing under certain conditions. The main condition for being granted housing in these countries is not having sufficient financial resources and/or not exceeding a certain maximum income

threshold. Other conditions can be related to (a) whether the beneficiary as access to other assets such as valuable items and (b) citizen and residence status.

In the majority of Member States and Norway, there is no difference made between those who are recognised as refugees and those granted subsidiary protection status when it comes to the right to accommodation. Only Austria and Malta make a clear distinction between the two categories. Austria generally provides municipal housing and housing subsidies to refugees, but beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are obliged to fulfil certain criteria to be eligible for housing subsidies and municipal housing. In Malta, refugees may apply for social housing, but beneficiaries of subsidiary protection may not.

In 16 Member States⁴⁴ and Norway, access to housing and housing conditions are generally the same for nationals and beneficiaries of international protection. Several other Member States⁴⁵ stipulate that there are some (minor) differences between housing for beneficiaries of international protection and nationals. Differences in housing between those categories can be related to (a) their residence status, (b) existing projects and procedures, (c) entitlement to non-profit rental housing and (d) the involvement of certain organisations providing housing.

38 CY, CZ, LT, SK.

39 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK and NO.

40 In PL, financial support for beneficiaries may be also used to cover costs concerning housing during 12 months after the decision is granted (within the Individual Integration Programme).

41 AT, BE, BG, CZ, EE, ES, EL, HU, LT, LV, LU, NL, SE, SI, SK.

42 DE, FI, NL, SE.

43 AT, FR, HR, IT, MT.

44 BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, SE, SK and NO. Only Cypriot nationals who have been internally displaced as a result of the conflict with Turkey are entitled to a housing scheme. Other Cypriot nationals are treated the same way as beneficiaries of international protection with regard to housing.

45 AT, ES, HU, MT, NL, SI. No general housing benefit scheme exists currently in HU. That means that state funded central benefit is not available to Hungarian citizens either.

Most Member States⁴⁶ have special procedures or methods in place to enable beneficiaries of international protection to access housing. However, many countries do not have a specific procedure that is exclusively focused on beneficiaries of international protection, but beneficiaries of international protection are contrarily often included in the 'normal' procedure. The following (special) approaches can be categorised:

- Financial allowances, loans and/or material aid.⁴⁷
- Support (related to integration) to further provide- and/or find housing.⁴⁸
- Assistance with (temporary) housing or alternative housing schemes.⁴⁹ This can be done through contracts and agreements with municipalities, private owners, the allocation of beneficiaries of international protection to various municipalities or other (governmental) organisations.

The majority of participating Member States and Norway reported that they grant financial support to beneficiaries of international protection for housing. The financial arrangements differ among the countries. 11 Member States⁵⁰ and Norway provide either housing subsidies or housing allowances, if needed. Seven Member States⁵¹ provide financial support, but not specifically housing allowances.⁵² Greece, Finland and Hungary do not provide financial support. In Croatia, the government provides accommodation free of charge, but only under certain conditions.

In four Member States⁵³ and Norway financial assistance is only provided to beneficiaries who meet certain conditions.⁵⁴ In particular, this means that their income should not exceed a particular threshold or that they are not entitled to receive other financial allowances. In Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Sweden, beneficiaries of international protection have to pay for their rent from their own income, however they can apply for other forms of assistance (e.g. extra allowances, loans, social benefits) as a means to pay for their rent or other costs.

15 Member States⁵⁵ have no specific funding and/or special funds for the housing of beneficiaries of international protection.

Seven Member States⁵⁶ have or make use of special funds for the housing of beneficiaries of international protection.

In six Member States⁵⁷ beneficiaries of international protection are mostly free to choose their preferred location for housing. In four Member States⁵⁸ the location of their housing is primarily based on the supply side of the housing market. Moreover, in other Member States⁵⁹ and Norway an individual approach is taken to determine the location for housing of beneficiaries of international protection. This includes different forms of (special) procedures/measures/methods: areas near the reception centre, housing related to integration grants,⁶⁰ health and livelihood conditions, job opportunities, the creation of 'housing' profiles⁶¹ and consultations with municipalities, provinces or (federal) organisations, place of residency or the place of employment.

Housing is provided by a range of authorities and organisations (see Annex 4). As summarised in Annex 4, in almost all Member States and Norway, the cooperation of several organisations is used to provide housing for beneficiaries of international protection. Additionally, in most countries, municipalities or national authorities are involved in providing housing to beneficiaries of international protection.

With the exception of Latvia, all Member States and Norway have at least one governmental actor that is involved in providing housing for beneficiaries of international protection.



5e. National policies concerning family reunification⁶²

Member States have made several conditions and/or procedures for the (practical) application of family reunification of beneficiaries of international protection. The following section only applies to family outside the Schengen area and does not cover Dublin procedures and/or cover the status of family member that have travelled and are staying with the beneficiary of international protection. This section does not include information on family reunification for unaccompanied minors in the Member States.

46 AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, HU, LT, LU, NL, PT, SE, SK and NO. In Luxembourg, beneficiaries of international protections are encouraged to look for private housing because they receive the *revenu minimum garanti* (RMG). During the time that they can leave the reception centers they have to pay a participation for their housing in the reception centers. They are assisted in the search of private housing by the LISKO service of the Luxembourgish Red Cross.

47 AT, BE, CZ, DE, LT, SK.

48 BG, CZ, LU, SK. In LU, the housing subsidy is for any person legally residing in Luxembourg, including beneficiaries of international protection who have a low income and who already rent or want to rent an accommodation. The beneficiary must have to have regular income for at least the three last months before the application in order to obtain the housing allowance.

49 EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, LU, NL, PT, SE and NO.

50 AT, BG, CY, DE, IE, LU, MT, NL, SI, SK and SE.

51 BE, CZ, EE, ES, FR, LT, LV.

52 Indicating that beneficiaries of international protection are entitled to other allowances that cover their housing costs or that they are part of 'normal' housing procedures, just as nationals.

53 BE, DE, SE and SI.

54 For more information, please see '7 National policies concerning financial allowances' in this Inform.

55 AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, EE, ES, HR, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, and SE. ES has no special funds for the housing of beneficiaries of international protection. However, financial support for renting during a specific period of time is given.

56 CZ, EL, FI, FR, HU, SI, SK. In FR, the fund dedicated to housing of beneficiaries of international protection is part of a global fund dedicated to integration and access to citizenship of third-country nationals.

57 BE, BG, CZ, ES, LT and MT.

58 EL, FR, LU and SI.

59 AT, DE, EE, FI, HR, LV, NL, SE and SK.

60 For example, in NO municipalities settling beneficiaries of international protection receive integration grants for newly arrived beneficiaries of international protection. When offered a placement the beneficiary must move to the township or forfeit their housing benefit.

61 For example, NL creates a 'housing profile', which contains information about family size, country of origin, languages spoken, education, work experience and medical conditions, to allocate the beneficiaries of international protection to a specific municipality based on this profile.

62 Please also see the EMN Study on Family Reunification (2016).

National policies concerning family reunification



Nuclear family members eligible for family reunification



Nuclear family members and extended family members eligible for family reunification



Out of the 22 Member States⁶³ and Norway that provided information on family reunification, all⁶⁴ stated that they have favourable conditions applying to family reunification of beneficiaries of international protection. For example, Finland, France, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom have a simplified procedure in place for family members of persons who have been granted asylum and beneficiaries of international protection.

Member States apply different conditions and requirements that have to be met when applying for family reunification. For example, in nine Member States⁶⁵ beneficiaries of international protection have the legal entitlement to family reunification for nuclear family members only. In France, Luxembourg⁶⁶ and Spain, extended family members can be eligible for family reunification as well. The majority of the Member States has applied favourable conditions for beneficiaries of international protection, such as no financial requirements for the sponsor⁶⁷,

no administrative fee for a residence permit application⁶⁸ or no specific material requirements.⁶⁹

In 13 Member States⁷⁰ and Norway, the same conditions or restrictions apply for those recognised as refugees and those granted subsidiary protection status. In four Member States⁷¹ conditions or restrictions are mostly the same, however a difference exists in Croatia and Slovenia when the scope of family reunification is extended beyond the nuclear family members⁷². In Hungary and Latvia, the only exception is the grace period in the case of family reunification of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.

Nevertheless, in seven Member States⁷³ different conditions, terms and/or restrictions for those recognised as refugees and those granted subsidiary protection status apply. Austria has a three-year waiting period, beginning from the date when international protection is granted, which applies only to beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. In the Slovak Republic, asylum for the

63 AT, BE, CZ, CY, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, NL, PL, NO, SE, SI, SK, UK.

64 AT, BE, CZ, CY, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK, UK and NO.

65 BE, CY, IE, IT, LV, NL, PL, SK, UK. In PL, the conditions concerning material requirements does not apply to a temporary residence permit for the purposes of family reunification granted to a family member of a foreigner who has been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection, where an application for granting him/her such a permit has been filed before the lapse of a 6-month period from the date of being granted refugee status or subsidiary protection.

66 Family reunification can be authorised under certain conditions for ascendants and single adult children of the sponsor or his/her spouse or partner. The BIP UAM has the right to be reunited with his/her ascendants in the first degree. Also, s/he can apply for the family reunification of his legal guardian or any other member of his/her family if s/he does not have any direct ascendants.

67 IE, IT, NL, SI, SE, UK.

68 BE, SK.

69 CZ, BE, CY, EE, FR, HR, IT, LV, NL, FI, PL, SE. In BE, this only applies during the grace period and if family ties precede the entry of the foreigner.

70 BE, EE, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, NL, PL, UK and NO. In PL, the conditions concerning material requirements shall not apply to a temporary residence permit for the purposes of family reunification granted to a family member of a foreigner who has been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection, where an application for granting him/her such a permit has been filed before the lapse of a 6-month period from the date of being granted refugee status or subsidiary protection.

71 HR, HU, LV, SI.

72 For example, in HR, the difference exist only when the scope of family reunification is extended beyond nuclear/core members of the family of asylum seekers. Exceptionally, any other relative may also be regarded as a member of the nuclear family of a foreigner granted asylum status, if there are special personal reasons or serious humanitarian grounds for the family reunification in the Republic of Croatia. This is not possible if sponsor is third country national is granted subsidiary protection status.

73 AT, CY, CZ, DE, SE, SI, SK.

purpose of family reunification is initially granted for three years; after the expiry of three years such status is granted for an indefinite period of time if legal requirements are met. In contrast, subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification is granted in Slovak Republic and Slovenia for one year. In Cyprus and Sweden⁷⁴ family members of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are normally not granted family reunification. In Germany, as from 1 August 2018, family reunification of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection is limited to 1 000 persons per month.

In the majority of the Member States⁷⁵ and Norway, restrictions or conditions for family reunification for beneficiaries of international protection and nationals are different. In Latvia and Lithuania, the restrictions or conditions are mostly the same. However, in Latvia there are some exceptions in documents which need to be handled by family members and in Lithuania a difference occurs in the assessment of the scope of what is regarded as family. Moreover, in Luxembourg the beneficiaries of international protection have the right to apply for family reunification in the same condition as Luxembourgish nationals if they introduced their application in the three months following the granting of the status.⁷⁶

Several Member States reported to apply more favourable conditions for nationals, which can be categorised and relate to:

- Family reunification may be allowed to a larger group of family members (AT, IT);
- More lenient age limit (BE);
- Exemption from the payment of the administrative fee (SK);
- Income requirement and/or secure means of support (FI);
- Ability to file an application in-country and/or abroad (FI);
- Absence of standard conditions: for example, it is not necessary to prove financial requirements, sickness insurance and an adequate accommodation (IT, PL).

Other (Member) States reported to apply more favourable conditions for beneficiaries of international protection,⁷⁷ which can be categorised and related to:

- More leniency towards accommodation requirements (EE, FR, HR, IE, NL, SE, UK);
- Legal entitlements (IE);⁷⁸
- Financial requirements (IE, NL, NO, SE, UK);
- Language requirement (NL, UK);
- More favourable administrative conditions (SI).

Family reunification is provided and supported by a range of authorities and organisations. As summarised in Annex 5, in almost all Member States and Norway, a cooperation of several organisations is used to process family reunification applications. The general rule for most (Member) States is that applicants of family reunification generally have to apply abroad to

the locally competent professional representation authority (i.e. embassies or consular missions abroad). Member States have different ministries and specialised departments responsible for case processing. The Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or related public agencies are the most common, or a combination of both (like e.g. in Germany). Within most Member States, NGOs are involved in providing (legal) advice and consultation to family members and their sponsors or in assisting family members and their sponsors with the cost and logistics of travel to the Member States. Besides national NGOs, international organisations that provide assistance are, among others: the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Red Cross and Caritas.

74 Under a temporary act, which is in force from 20 July 2016 until 19 July 2019.

75 AT, BE, CZ, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LU, NL, PL, SI, SE, SK and UK.

76 The beneficiaries of international protection do not have to fulfil the requirements established in article 69 (1) of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration if they file the application during the three months following the granting of the status.. In this sense, they do the application in the same conditions as a national.

77 It should be noted that according to Art. 12 of the Family Reunification Directive (2003/86/EC), Member States may require the refugee to meet certain conditions (as laid out in Article 7(1), if the application for family reunification is not submitted within a period of three months after the granting of the refugee status.

78 Legal entitlement in relation to the nuclear family member only. Applications in relation to extended family members fall under administrative arrangements.

ANNEXES

Annex 1 (Education): Organisations/authorities involved in granting or facilitating the programmes/courses for education for beneficiaries of international protection¹

	Provinces \ municipalities \ local authorities	Ministry of Education (and related, i.e. culture, science, youth and sports)	Ministry of Labour and/or Social Affairs	Ministry of Migration	Other Ministries or state institutions	Educational institutions (e.g. universities)	NGOs	Other
AT	✓	✓	✓		✓ ²		✓	✓ ³
BE	✓	✓	✓		✓ ⁴	✓	✓	
CZ		✓			✓ ⁵		✓	
CY		✓					✓	
DE			✓	✓ ⁶			✓	
EE	✓	✓				✓	✓	
ES	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
FI	✓	✓	✓				✓	
FR		✓					✓	
HR		✓				✓	✓	
HU					✓ ⁷		✓	
IT		✓					✓	
IE		✓					✓	✓ ⁸
LV	✓	✓					✓	✓ ⁹
LT		✓	✓ ¹⁰		✓ ¹¹		✓	
LU	✓	✓	✓		✓ ¹²	✓	✓	✓ ¹³
MT	✓	✓ ¹⁴	✓			✓	✓	
NL		✓	✓		✓ ¹⁵	✓	✓	✓ ¹⁶
PL		✓			✓ ¹⁷		✓	
SI	✓	✓			✓ ¹⁸	✓	✓	
SK					✓ ¹⁹		✓	✓
SE	✓	✓	✓			✓		
UK	✓	✓					✓	✓
NO	✓	✓		✓		✓		

1 The roles and tasks of the organisations within education may differ.

2 Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

3 Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, the Public Employment Service and the Austrian Integration Fund.

4 For example: Flemish Ministry for Local Government, Integration, Housing, Equal Opportunities and Poverty Reduction.

5 The Ministry of Interior.

6 The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees.

7 The Ministry of Human Capacities and the Ministry of Innovation and Technology.

8 Education and Training Boards.

9 Latvian Language Agency and the State Employment Agency.

10 The Ministry of Social Security and Labor.

11 The Ministry of Economy.

12 Ministry of Family and Integration.

13 Salaried Workers' Chamber and Chamber of Crafts and Trades.

14 Migrant Learners Unit, the Directorate for Research, Lifelong Learning and Innovation and the National commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE) within the Ministry for Education and Employment.

15 Ministry of Justice and Security.

16 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA).

17 Office for Foreigners.

18 Slovenian Government Office for Support and Integration of Migrants.

19 Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

Annex 2 (Healthcare): Organisations involved in providing healthcare for beneficiaries of international protection per Member State and Norway¹

	Municipality & county councils	Ministry of Health(care)	Ministry of the Interior	Other Ministries	Public Health-care or Social Security Service	Health Insurance Funds	Others
AT		✓				✓	
BE		✓			✓	✓	
CY		✓					
CZ		✓	✓			✓	
DE					✓		✓ ²
EE				✓ ³	✓	✓	✓ ⁴
ES	✓	✓					
FI	✓				✓		
FR		✓			✓		
HR		✓				✓	
HU			✓ ⁵				
IE		✓			✓		
IT	✓	✓			✓		✓ ⁶
LT		✓		✓ ⁷		✓	
LU					✓	✓	
LV		✓			✓		
MT		✓		✓ ⁸			
NL	✓	✓					
PL		✓					✓ ⁹
PT		✓			✓		
SE	✓						
SI		✓					✓ ¹⁰
SK		✓	✓				✓ ¹¹
UK		✓ ¹²					
NO	✓	✓ ¹³			✓		

1 The roles and tasks of the organisations within organising healthcare may differ.

2 Social welfare offices.

3 Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs.

4 Estonian Tax and Customs Board & Estonian Unemployment Office.

5 Ministry of Human Capacities.

6 Local associations, including NGOs.

7 Lithuanian Ministry of Social Security and Labor.

8 Maltese Ministry of the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity.

9 Polish Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Policy.

10 Slovenian Government Office for Support and Integration of Migrants.

11 Slovakian Healthcare Surveillance Authority.

12 Department of Health and Social Care.

13 National Directorate of Health.

Annex 3 (Financial allowances): Organisations involved in providing (funding for) financial allowances for beneficiaries of international protection per Member State and Norway¹

	Municipalities, provinces and/or local authorities	(Independent) public agency or institution	Ministry of Labor/ Welfare/ Social Affairs	Ministry of the Interior	Tax-related authorities	Job centres/ employment agencies/ social workers	NGOs
AT	✓				✓		
BE	✓ ²		✓ ³				
BG		✓	✓				
CY			✓				
CZ			✓				
DE	✓	✓				✓	
EE	✓	✓				✓ ⁴	
EL	✓		✓				
ES	✓		✓				✓
FI		✓					
FR		✓	✓				
HR		✓					
HU	✓	✓	✓ ⁵				
IE	✓		✓				
IT		✓			✓		
LT			✓				
LU		✓	✓ ⁶				
LV		✓	✓				
NL	✓						
PL	✓		✓				
SE	✓	✓					
SI		✓					
SK			✓				✓
UK	✓	✓	✓			✓	
NO	✓	✓	✓				

1 Please be noted that the roles and tasks of the organizations within providing (funding for) financial allowances may differ.

2 Public Social Welfare Centres.

3 Federal Public Planning Service Social Integration.

4 Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund.

5 Ministry of Human Capacities.

6 Ministry of Housing for the rent subsidy and Administration for the Development of Employment for the unemployment benefits.

Annex 4 (Housing): Organisations involved in providing housing for beneficiaries of international protection per Member State and Norway¹

	Municipalities & local authorities	(Independent) public agency or institution	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ministry of the Interior	Ministry of Labor/Welfare/Social Affairs	Ministry of Migration Policy	Ministry of State Property	Job centers/ employment agencies/ social workers	NGOs	UNHCR and/ or Red Cross	Other
AT	✓		✓						✓	✓	
BE	✓				✓			✓	✓		
BG	✓										
CY ²											
CZ				✓	✓				✓		
DE	✓							✓	✓		
EE	✓	✓ ³			✓						
EL	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	
ES	✓										
FI	✓	✓									
FR											✓ ⁴
HR					✓		✓				
HU				✓					✓		
IE	✓	✓									
IT	✓			✓	✓				✓		
LT	✓								✓		
LU	✓	✓ ⁵		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
LV									✓		
MT					✓ ⁶						
NL	✓	✓									✓
PL					✓ ⁷						
PT	✓	✓									
SE	✓										
SI								✓	✓		
SK				✓					✓		
NO	✓				✓ ⁸	✓					

1 Please be noted that the roles and tasks of the organizations within organizing housing may differ.

2 The information of CY on involved organizations/authorities is not available.

3 The Accommodation Centre for Asylum Seekers or the Vao Centre.

4 In France, there is a special structure, namely an Interministerial Delegation for Accommodation and Access to Housing (DIHAL) that coordinates the work of operators in charge of managing the accommodation of beneficiaries of international protection.

5 The Reception and Integration Agency, which is primarily responsible for the housing of beneficiaries of international protection, is a public agency under the auspices of the Ministry of Family, Integration and Grand Region.

6 Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity.

7 In Poland during 12 months after the decision is granted a refugee may benefit from the Individual Integration Programme provided by the Ministry of Family, Labor and Social Policy.

8 Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion.

Annex 5 (Family reunification): Organisations involved in providing family reunification for beneficiaries of international protection per Member State and Norway¹

	Diplomatic and consular authorities	Ministry of Interior	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Special department and/or organisation for Immigration, migration and naturalisation	Police and Border Guard / Office	NGOs and/or international organisations	Other
AT	✓						
BE	✓	✓	✓			✓	
CZ		✓	✓			✓	
CY	✓	✓					
DE	✓			✓			
EE	✓				✓	✓	✓
FI	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
FR	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
HR	✓				✓		
HU		✓					
IE				✓		✓	✓
IT	✓	✓		✓		✓	
LU			✓ ²			✓	
LV	✓	✓					
LT	✓	✓				✓	
NL	✓		✓	✓			✓
PL		✓					✓
SE	✓			✓		✓	
SI		✓				✓	
SK		✓			✓		
UK		✓					
NO	✓			✓		✓	

¹ Please be noted that the roles and tasks of the organizations within providing family reunification may differ.

² Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.



Keeping in touch with the EMN

EMN website www.ec.europa.eu/emn

EMN LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-migration-network/>
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EMN National Contact Points

Austria www.emn.at

Belgium www.emnbelgium.be

Bulgaria www.mvr.bg

Croatia www.emn.hr

Cyprus www.moi.gov.cy

Czech Republic www.emncz.eu

Denmark https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/authorities/denmark_en

Estonia www.emn.ee

Finland www.emn.fi

France www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2

Germany www.emn-germany.de

Greece www.immigration.gov.gr

Hungary www.emnhungary.hu

Ireland www.emn.ie

Italy www.emnitalyncp.it

Latvia www.emn.lv

Lithuania www.emn.lt

Luxembourg www.emnluxembourg.lu

Malta <https://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/mhas-information/emn/pages/european-migration-network.aspx>

Netherlands www.emnnetherlands.nl

Poland www.emn.gov.pl

Portugal https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/authorities/portugal_en

Romania www.mai.gov.ro

Slovakia www.emn.sk

Slovenia www.emm.si

Spain <http://extranjeros.empleo.gob.es/en/redeuropeamigracion>

Sweden www.emnsweden.se

United Kingdom https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/authorities/united-kingdom_en

Norway www.emnnorway.no