

# Monthly data collection on the migration situation in the EU

## October Highlights

1–30 September 2017

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***In view of the increasing numbers of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants entering the EU, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) publishes monthly overviews of the fundamental rights situation of people arriving in those Member States that have been particularly affected by large migration movements. The countries covered are Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.***

## Key fundamental rights concerns

### Key emerging fundamental rights concerns

In **Greece**, the management of the response to the refugee situation on the islands has been transferred from NGOs and international organisations to the Greek authorities. [UNHCR expressed concerns](#) about the deteriorating situation on the Eastern Aegean islands, the conditions being the most worrying on Lesbos, Chios, Samos and Leros, which have received the largest number of arrivals including many children. UNHCR urged the Greek authorities for robust action to improve reception conditions and for urgent deployment of additional staff in the areas of health care, psychosocial support and the protection of unaccompanied children.

[Monitoring](#) the border between **Italy** and Austria (Brenner) and in the town of Bolzano (Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol) over several months revealed significant fundamental rights concerns in the treatment of asylum seekers by Italian border guards, including unaccompanied children. In particular, reception centres at the border were overcrowded, access to reception and to the asylum procedure was not always granted and psychological assistance and information was lacking.

As widely [reported by the media](#) in **Hungary**, there was an increase in the fear local communities felt and expressed in relation to refugees visiting their settlements as tourists. Villagers in various Hungarian settlements protested against refugees, including children, coming to town for short holidays to help their integration into society.

In **Austria**, according to NGOs, officers of the Federal Office for Asylum Matters (*Bundesamt für Fremdenwesen und Asyl (BFA)*) and police officers patrolling asylum accommodation facilities made racist comments towards asylum seekers and NGO staff. Caritas Vienna reported at least one legal complaint against a police officer for such comments.

Authorities in **France** took measures to prevent the creation of new informal migrant camps or to evacuate emerging ones in the North Department (e.g. in the vicinity of the towns Norrent-Fontes and Grande-Synthe, and again in Calais). According to *France Terre d'Asile*, evacuated migrants had been sent to reception facilities elsewhere in the country, but nearly 500 people have already returned. NGOs criticised the legal grounds for these operations. Around 700 to 800 people, including some 100 children, mostly unaccompanied, were waiting in Calais, where authorities had recently set up water points and showers.

The **Danish** Red Cross raised concerns about vulnerable asylum seekers, who were transferred to the Centre of Kærshovedgård and needed to report to the authorities on a regular basis, since their health or social background would hinder their ability to comply with the duty to report.

### **Key persisting fundamental rights concerns**

The **Greek** Reception and Identification Centres (RIC) in the Aegean islands remained [overcrowded](#) and living conditions in the [hotspots](#) problematic.

The number of Nigerian women and girls trafficked into **Italy** has remained high, according to the [International Organization for Migration](#).

Since March 2017, the police in **Hungary** has been escorting all irregular migrants apprehended in the country to the Serbian side of the border fence, to wait there until they can submit their asylum claims in one of the transit zones operating at Hungary's Southern border (Röszke, Tompa). Asylum applicants, who have been obliged to stay there for the whole duration of the procedure, have practically been [deprived of liberty](#), as they may only [leave](#) the transit zones through the one-way exits towards Serbia. After banning civil society organisations and the media from transit zones, the operations there have lacked any transparency and oversight by external actors.

A prevalent recurring issue in **Austria** has been the lack of qualified interpreters in the health system, as reported by Caritas. Non-emergency patients have been turned away and asked to come back with an interpreter another time, leading to lengthy waiting periods. In addition, the lengthy asylum procedure has continued to negatively affect the lives of those concerned.

In **France**, NGOs continued to note delays to access the asylum procedure. For instance, *La Cimade* reported that in certain Departments, asylum seekers still had to wait more than two months before obtaining an appointment at the Prefecture (whereas the law provides for a three-day deadline). Difficulties in submitting asylum applications at the French-Italian border persist. Many migrants were stopped by the police and returned, without being able to lodge an asylum claim, according to *La Cimade* and *ANAFÉ*.

In **Germany**, practical and legal barriers to access family reunification continued to be one of the main fundamental rights concerns. Due to the complicated legal procedure, it has practically been impossible to apply for family reunification without the support of a lawyer. Costs for legal advice and visa as well as multiple journeys to embassies made this right unaffordable for many. Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection, whose right to family reunification is in principle suspended until March 2018, can exceptionally apply to be reunited with family members in urgent cases. However, since March 2016, out of [845 applications](#), only 23 emergency visas have been granted to family members of beneficiaries of international protection so far.

Access to asylum also remained an issue in **Poland**. According to NGOs following the situation at the borders, border guards [continued to disregard](#) the interim measures of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). According to the ECtHR, Poland should cease to refuse entry of asylum seekers at the Terespol and Medyka land border crossing points. Furthermore, as reported by the

Association for Legal Intervention, in Poland there was still no well-functioning system to appoint guardians for unaccompanied children.

In **Spain**, the situation at [Barajas airport in Madrid deteriorated](#). Given the high number of asylum applicants, the capacity of the airport asylum room remained insufficient and the general conditions inadequate, particularly for children.

As pointed out by Save the Children, the **Swedish** law on temporary restrictions to grant residence permits to refugees, which is in force until July 2019, has not only restricted the right to family reunification, but has also affected the right to education and the right to health.

## Situation at the border

The European Union military operation in the southern Central Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED) and the **Italian** Financial Guard (*Guardia di Finanza*) started [training some 100 cadets of the Libyan coast guard](#) in sailing techniques, international law and migrants' fundamental rights.

As reported by the National Police Headquarters, **Hungarian** law enforcement authorities apprehended 85 people who climbed over the border fence, but no criminal procedures were initiated against these people. After handling the cases as administrative infractions, authorities imposed monetary fines or returned these people to Serbia.

Random border checks have been introduced in **Austria** near the borders with **Slovakia** to fight the increasing number of smugglers trying to lead migrants across the border, as reported in the [Slovak Spectator](#).

In **Spain**, more and more migrants arrived by [small inflatable boats](#). At the same time, more people have been rescued at sea from January to September 2017 (11,043) than throughout the year 2016 (10,389), according to the Spanish Red Cross. Some [12,000 persons](#) entered by sea, compared to almost half (5,445) who arrived in Spain the year before over the same period.

## Asylum procedure

### Trends

In at least half of the 14 EU Member States, the number of asylum applications continued to decrease since March this year (for example in Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Hungary, Finland and Poland).

Over the last six months, half of the 14 EU Member States experienced a decrease in asylum applications (Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Sweden), compared to the same period in 2016, according to [Eurostat](#). Others (Finland, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain) received more asylum applications in the last six months than at the same time last year. Slovakia's number of asylum applications remained at the same low level.

The **Greek** Asylum Service recorded more asylum applicants (close to 6,000) than in the previous month (some 5,000 applications in August) – approximately 4,000 men and 2,000 women, mostly originating from Syria, Afghanistan and

Pakistan. The number of arrivals to Greece has been steadily growing since summer.

Similarly, **France** was also confronted with a rising number of asylum applications (the number of all asylum applications submitted in 2017 represents an increase of 16% compared to the same period in 2016, as reported by *La Cimade*). In order to deal with the growing number of applicants, authorities increasingly resort to accelerated asylum procedures.

In **Spain**, the number of applications for international protection in the [Madrid Barajas Airport](#) has continued to increase.

**Finland** received an unusual high number of renewal applications amounting to over 1,500 (out of the total 3,560 applications by the end of August 2017). According to the Finnish Immigration Service, this was probably due to the high number of negative decisions and earlier changes to the Reception Act causing reception services to discontinue after 30 days, unless the person applies for assisted voluntary return.

### **Access to asylum procedures**

Following NGO reports of [racial profiling](#) at the border between **Italy** and Austria (Brenner), people were stopped at the border and their fingerprints were checked in the Eurodac database. If they were not registered in Eurodac, Italy sent them back to Austria without giving the opportunity to apply for asylum.

In **Hungary**, the police apprehended slightly fewer people (almost 1,100 persons) in the country, to escort them to the border fence where they had to wait to apply for asylum in one of the transit zones. Access to asylum procedures in Hungary remained limited, which is the result of several measures. Such measures include the [further tightened border policy](#) since March 2017; the restriction of registering asylum applications in the two transit zones, where opening hours and admissions were limited (5 persons in each transit zone per day, weekends excluded); the consideration of Serbia as a safe third country; lengthy asylum procedures (some applicants waiting in the transit zones for five months); and the low recognition rate. However, authorities now seemed to be flexible with the daily caps in cases of families, if the number of family members exceeded the maximum limit per day. In such cases, the whole family was let in.

The Workers' Welfare Association in **Germany** reported severe deficiencies regarding the qualification of interpreters in the asylum procedure. In addition, access to independent and early legal counselling remained challenging for asylum seekers, according to German Caritas Association and the Jesuit Refugee Service. Appointments at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees were still announced at short notice, although this has improved, compared to the situation in previous months, according to Workers' Welfare Association.

Access to the asylum procedure [remained difficult](#) in **Spain**. In particular, access to legal support and information was insufficient. This led to the dismissal of many applications, according to [the Ombudsperson](#). 50 people went on [hunger strike at Barajas airport](#) because they were not given access to the asylum procedure.

Accelerated asylum procedures, an increasing number of negative asylum decisions and removals continued to create tensions and frustration among asylum seekers in **Finland**, according to the Refugee Advice Centre.

## Return procedure

Returns to Afghanistan continued from several EU Member States (at least from Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Sweden). [Amnesty International](#) was calling for a moratorium on all returns to Afghanistan, until the security situation has improved.

The police in **Greece** carried out 602 forced returns. The majority of returnees were Albanians. In addition, some 560 people have been [readmitted by Turkey](#) (40 % of them were Syrians), either under the bilateral and EU-level readmission agreements or in application of the EU-Turkey Statement of March 2016.

Stop and search police operations in **Italy** continued to combat irregular migration. For example, 36 Nigerian women were stopped by police officers on the outskirts of Turin (Piedmont) and two of them were directly [returned to Nigeria](#) after being held at the detention centre of Ponte Galeria (Rome).

In **Bulgaria**, 57 persons were returned in total, the majority of which under assisted return programmes. Almost 40 % were from Afghanistan and almost 30 % from Iraq, as reported by the Ministry of the Interior.

The return procedure in **Spain** continued to be a cause for concern, because of insufficient staff and lack of legal support. For example, according to [Radio Madrid](#), six Saharawis, who had requested asylum at the Barajas Airport in Madrid, were returned without any legal advice or information about the asylum procedure.

In **Germany**, some federal states (especially Bavaria, Hamburg, Baden-Württemberg and North Rhine-Westphalia) resumed the return of Afghan citizens to Kabul after having stopped deportations following the terror attack at the German Embassy on 30 May 2017.

In **the Netherlands**, the Aliens Circular (*Vreemdelingencirculaire*) was [amended](#) in regard to the expulsion of aliens with health issues. The Repatriation and Departure Service is now obliged to conduct investigations regarding the health situation in the country of return, before expelling them. The amendment was motivated by the ECtHR ruling in the case [Paposhvili v. Belgium](#).

The **Danish** Refugee Appeals Board (*Flygtningenævnet*) announced that cases concerning the return of two rejected asylum seekers to [Iraq](#) and [Pakistan](#) would be reopened due to criticism by UN treaty bodies. One of the applicants had in the meantime already voluntarily returned to Pakistan. Final decisions upholding the previous rejections were reached in two other cases concerning the return of an [Iranian woman and her two children](#) and a [Russian married couple and their three children](#), which were previously reopened on the same ground.

Amnesty International urged the **Swedish** Migration Agency to pay more attention to its so-called "pre-return talks" held with unaccompanied children whose asylum claims have been rejected, and perform them as dialogues instead of information meetings.



In **Finland**, the maximum amount of [financial support for voluntary returnees](#) will rise from € 1,000 to € 1,500 for adults, and from € 600 to € 750 for accompanied underage children. The total number of assisted voluntary returnees was 84, according to IOM, mainly to Iraq (57), Albania (15), and Georgia (3). One person voluntarily returned to Afghanistan.

## Reception

### Reception capacity

The **Greek** Reception and Identification Centres (RIC) in the Aegean islands remained [overcrowded](#). For example, as [reported by the Doctors Without Borders](#), some 2,000 people were crowded in the RIC in Samos, which had a capacity of 700; hundreds were forced to sleep in the woods close to the reception centre, without access to sanitation.

In **Italy**, a campaign of several associations and NGOs called [LasciateCIEntrare](#) reported that almost 3,000 international protection applicants lived in the centre for asylum-seekers and refugees (*centro per l'accoglienza dei richiedenti asilo e rifugiati*, CARA) of Mineo (Sicily), which was built for around 1800 – 2000 places. The Mayor of Lampedusa (Sicily) [announced](#) his intention to close the local hotspot due to overcrowding and the negative impact the critical conditions had on the local community.

The **Hungarian** transit zones along the Serbian border continued to receive primarily families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. Families were given priority over single men. Some 183 asylum seekers stayed in the Tompa transit zone (with a capacity of 250 beds) and 236 applicants stayed in the transit zone of Rösztke, with a capacity of 450 beds. The open refugee centres located in Vámoszabadi and Fót could accommodate 480 persons altogether, but the number of beneficiaries of international protection placed there has constantly been decreasing (71 people as compared to 95 people last month – mostly families and unaccompanied children below 14 years of age). This low number was the result of the so-called [further tightened border control policy](#), implemented since March 2017.

The number of persons in regional basic care facilities in **Austria** further declined, leading to spare capacities, according to Caritas Styria. In Styria, numbers declined, particularly in facilities in more rural areas.

In **Bulgaria**, approximately 24 % of the reception places were occupied (1,257 out of 5,190 places). Additionally, 416 asylum applicants were living outside the centres, according to the Ministry of the Interior. Due to the lack of integration programmes and delayed return procedures, reception centres still accommodated persons who had already received a positive or negative decision on their asylum application, according to the Bulgarian Ombudsperson. The State Agency for Refugees announced the opening of a closed reception centre in Pastrogor [by the end of 2017](#), for around 300 people who violated internal rules in an open reception centre. Asylum applicants would not be allowed to leave the centre.

In **Germany**, reception centres showed an overcapacity. For example, in 11 out of 16 federal states, at least 170,000 places for adult asylum applicants and

their children were available in different types of reception facilities and fewer than 100,000 of those places were occupied. In addition, numerous places were available in other facilities, private flats and facilities operated by communes.

Reception capacity in **France** was at 70,000 to 80,000 places, according to *La Cimade*, whereas altogether close to 110,000 people were still in need of accommodation. As a consequence of the insufficient reception capacity, informal camps reappeared, which the authorities try to prevent with evacuation operations. Due to police pressure exerted in these areas, NGOs have sometimes been prevented from distributing meals to people, as pointed out by *France Terre d'Asile*. The Prefect of the Île de France region [announced](#) the imminent opening of 'pre-orientation' centres, which would add to the First Reception Centre in the capital. According to the Prefecture, this would improve the reception system in Paris, which has currently been saturated.

An overcapacity was reported in **the Netherlands**. In September, 22,031 asylum seekers and people granted international protection were [accommodated in reception centres](#). Furthermore, the number of available places in the centres is planned to be [reduced](#) back to 31,000 places by the end of the year. In comparison, 48,700 places were available in April this year.

### **Reception conditions**

In **Greece**, the mayor of Lesbos [sent a letter](#) to the Greek Minister of Migration Policy and the government's coordinator for the refugee situation, calling for urgent action to reduce overcrowding in the reception centres in the hotspots, following the recent increase in arrivals to the island. He also refused to cooperate in creating a new pre-removal centre there.

In **Italy**, the temporary emergency reception hub at the central railway station in Milan [was taken down](#), leaving some 1000 migrants without shelter. Several NGOs have [lodged a complaint](#) with the Prefect of Milan against the so-called 'extraordinary emergency orders' enacted by several mayors in Lombardy. These orders urged citizens to notify municipal authorities if they were willing to host asylum seekers. If they failed to do so, the municipalities issued a fine against them.

During his visit to a transit zone in **Hungary**, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [urged](#) the Hungarian authorities to provide better conditions to asylum seekers accommodated there and called for ending child detention in these facilities. According to him, asylum seekers complained mostly about the lack of information about the asylum procedure and that they have been kept there without freedom to move beyond the razor-wire fences. The High Commissioner [requested](#) Hungary to do away with its transit zones, which he considers detention centres.

The supply of German language courses varied widely between the regions in **Austria**. For example, in Vienna and Vorarlberg, courses and public transport to go to the courses were free of charge for all asylum seekers. In other regions, admission to cost-free courses depended on the likelihood of being granted protection status, or the criteria were not transparent, according to the Red Cross.



In **Bulgaria**, construction and repair works continued in most of the reception centres, according to the Ombudsperson.

In Paris, where the majority of asylum applicants in **France** have been concentrated, NGOs criticised the conditions of access to the First Reception Centre (*Centre de Premier Accueil*), since the police were regularly present to prevent the establishment of new informal camps by migrants waiting to enter.

In **Germany**, emergency shelters such as former commercial halls were still used as reception centres, despite the sharp decline in new arrivals, according to the Workers' Welfare Association.

Resources for [integration programmes](#) in **Spain** have been significantly reduced. When refugees leave the reception system there are no programmes to support their further integration.

The lack of proper accommodation for asylum seekers in **Sweden** was raised as a matter of concern by Save the Children and by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions. The shortage in reception capacity has led to an uneven distribution of asylum seekers around the country, according to these NGOs.

### **Vulnerable persons**

The Centre for Research on Women's Issues "Diotima" has published a [report](#) on the needs of female asylum seekers living in reception centres in **Greece** (the research was carried out in the second half of 2016). According to the report, asylum seeking women have been exposed to gender-based violence in certain reception centres due to the lack of police presence, no adequate lighting, and the inadequate number of protection bodies. Most of such cases were not made public given the fear for social stigma and social exclusion and the lack of trust in the authorities.

In **Bulgaria**, the number of qualified psychologists to provide support to vulnerable persons was still insufficient, according to the State Agency for Refugees. Furthermore, some reception centres still lacked accessible infrastructure for persons with disabilities, stated the Ombudsperson.

In **France**, the NGO *Le Comede* [published a report](#) on violence, social vulnerability and the psychological problems among migrants, which highlights the lack of time and resources of public health services to support asylum applicants and to provide adequate health care.

In **Germany**, still no standardised and effective procedures for the identification of specific needs of vulnerable asylum applicants were in place, according to the Jesuit Refugee Service and the Workers' Welfare Association. Often, social workers and not the authorities identified specific needs of vulnerable persons and hence no adequate accommodation and healthcare could be provided on time. Some federal states like Bavaria, North Rhine Westphalia and Brandenburg [oblige](#) asylum seekers to stay up to 24 months in reception centres. Asylum seekers with mental illnesses or trauma could not be adequately accommodated or treated there, as pointed out by the Workers' Welfare Association.

## **Victims of torture and trauma**

UNICEF and IOM's report [Harrowing journeys. Children and youth on the move across the Mediterranean Sea, at risk of trafficking and exploitation](#) stated that 77% of the children travelling across the Mediterranean route to Europe, including to **Italy**, experienced some form of abuse, exploitation, and violation that could be labelled as 'human trafficking'. Children coming from sub-Saharan countries were the most exposed to the risk of exploitation and trafficking.

In **Germany**, female interpreters and interviewers were often not available for presumed female victims of trafficking.

In **Poland**, according to the [Ombudsman](#), NGOs and UNHCR, asylum seekers and other migrants who had been victims of violence were often placed in detention because identification and referral procedures did not work properly.

## **Child protection**

### **Guardianship for unaccompanied children**

No child protection officers have yet been assigned to children in the hotspots in **Italy** or **Greece**, according to [IOM](#).

In **Hungary**, the authorities [continued to assign](#) guardians, only to unaccompanied children under the age of 14, who were placed in childcare institutions.

Following changes of the [Codes of Social Law](#) SGB VIII (*Sozialgesetzbuch*, SGB VIII) in **Germany**, youth welfare officers started to generally apply for international protection on behalf of unaccompanied children. However, without an individual assessment, this would not necessarily be in the best interests of the child, according to the [Federal Association for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees](#). In addition, this association identified an urgent need for further qualification of youth welfare officers to deal with asylum procedures.

In **Sweden**, problems have been reported by Amnesty International and Save the Children, concerning the appointment of guardians for unaccompanied children. For instance, the rules applicable to guardians varied between different municipalities; some municipalities set a limit on how many children one guardian can be responsible for. However, it was hard to check these caps in practice, since a guardian could be responsible for children in different municipalities.

The government in **Finland** has set up a working group to review the system of representatives for unaccompanied children and promised to review the housing and general support for unaccompanied children with a residence permit. The Ombudsperson for Children and Amnesty International among others have raised concerns about the inadequate number of representatives for unaccompanied children.

### **Safeguards and specific support measures**

In **Greece**, some 1,650 unaccompanied children continued to wait for accommodation in specialised facilities, including 106 children in protective custody, which has been a slight increase from last month. The total number of

available places was 1,126. In total, some 2,800 unaccompanied children were [estimated](#) to be residing in the country, according to the National Centre for Social Solidarity. [Save the Children highlighted](#) the unacceptable living conditions of children on the Aegean islands, stating that camps on Samos were highly unsafe for children, due to overcrowding. [Human Rights Watch urged](#) the Greek authorities to guarantee that all migrant children on the Aegean islands have access to education, since hundreds of asylum seeking children in the hotspots remained outside of schools at the start of the school year.

To mark the beginning of the new school year in **Bulgaria**, the State Agency for Refugees and other stakeholders organised a special programme for the children accommodated in reception centres. The children performed folk songs and dances and received backpacks, textbooks and school stationary. NGOs continued to provide various types of educational and recreational activities to refugee children, such as excursions, Bulgarian language classes and help with homework, according to Caritas Bulgaria and Caritas Sofia.

In **Austria**, UNICEF offered a specific lecture program on child protection. Asylum accommodation providers could book the lectures for their staff free of charge, according to the Austrian Red Cross.

Once again, the **German** Bundesrat postponed the vote on the [Act on the Strengthening of Children and Adolescents](#) (*Gesetz zur Stärkung von Kindern und Jugendlichen*) submitted by the federal parliament. The new act was criticised by the [Federal Association for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees](#) for creating a "second class" youth welfare for unaccompanied children. Young refugees (older children and young adults) still had [difficulties to obtain work permissions](#), even if they were accepted for apprenticeships by employers.

The **French** Government [announced](#) financial assistance of € 6.5 million for all Departments in charge of child welfare services. In addition, a dialogue with the Departments with a view to elaborating an action plan to improve the reception conditions of unaccompanied children was declared for 2018.

The Ombudsperson in **Spain** brought [a case of a mother and her four-year old child](#) from Côte d'Ivoire, who have lived in separate reception facilities for several months, to the attention of the Public Prosecutor and the Melilla Children Protection Service (*Servicio de Protección del Menor de Melilla*) with the aim to reunite them. The authorities denied the mother's right to visit her son, arguing that they needed to wait for the result of a DNA test first. The [PRODEIN Association](#), an NGO dedicated to protecting children's rights, requested the Public Prosecutor in Melilla to take action on the "hundreds of children out of school" who live in this Autonomous City.

In **the Netherlands**, a [report](#) on two special shelters for unaccompanied children at risk of human trafficking by the Inspectorate for Youth Care showed that the shelters had improved the quality of their care. However, issues regarding information management, the use of freedom restricting measures and child disappearances from the shelters exist.

In **Denmark**, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child adopted [Concluding observations for Denmark](#).

In **Sweden**, the results of age assessment procedures carried out by the National Board of Forensic Medicine (*Rättsmedicinalverket*) have been

[questioned](#) in-house, given its flawed scientific grounds. The methods used (X-ray of wisdom teeth and MRI of knee joints) entailed significant risks that a child would erroneously be assessed to be an adult. The [average length](#) of asylum procedures in cases of unaccompanied children amounted to nearly 1.5 years.

### **Missing children**

Many of the children placed in the children's home in Fót, **Hungary**, went missing.

By the end of September, **Austria** had entered a total of 690 non-EU children into the Schengen Information System (SIS II) as missing (out of these, 202 children are between the age of 0 to 14, and 492 children are between the age of 14 and 18), according to the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Criminal Intelligence Service, Competence Centre for Missing Children.

In **the Netherlands**, in 2016, one fifth of the children (27) placed in shelters for unaccompanied children at risk of human trafficking disappeared, the majority of whom were Vietnamese. However, the number of disappearances in the [first three months of 2017](#) was less than five.

### **Immigration detention**

As reported by the movement "United Against Racism and the Fascist Threat", more than 800 detainees held in the Korinthos pre-removal centre (**Greece**) were on [hunger strike](#), protesting against the substandard living conditions, the lack of information about their future (some have been detained there for 15 or 16 months) and inadequate medical care. Overall, the number of irregular migrants in pre-removal detention has significantly increased over the reporting period (over 7000 detainees, compared to some 5200 people in August).

The number of people held in asylum detention has decreased in **Hungary** (12 persons compared to 20 asylum seekers detained in August). Authorities have ordered pre-removal detention in 72 cases.

According to the Ministry of Interior of **Bulgaria**, 362 persons were detained and accommodated in the pre-removal detention facilities, which accommodated 575 persons in total.

In **Poland**, doctors who work in immigration detention centres do not review detainees' medical information in foreign languages, according to NGOs.

The NGOs *La Cimade* and *ANAFÉ* [reported](#) that immigration detention has been increasingly used in **France**, both in administrative detention centres (*centres de rétention administrative*) and in "waiting areas" at international airports and railway stations. Concerning Mayotte and French Guyana, the [National Consultative Commission on Human Rights made recommendations](#) to the French authorities to "break with the systematic locking up of foreigners and favour less coercive measures".

Immigration detention conditions of the Aliens Detention Centres in **Spain** remained poor. In Madrid, 47 inmates [escaped](#) from the Aliens Detention Centre of Aluche. 26 of the detainees were found and brought back to the centre. In addition, 39 people detained in the Zapadores CIE of Valencia [filed a](#)

[complaint](#) with the Spanish Ombudsperson and before the Court of First Instance of Valencia for human rights abuses in the centre. The complaints concern cold water showers; cells without bathroom and with bottles to urinate; police cells inspections at night; aggressive and violent treatment and temporary prohibition on religious practices. The NGO SOS Racismo blamed the Aliens Detention Centres for [institutional racism](#).

In **the Netherlands**, a [report](#) showed that the total number of people put in immigration detention in the first half of 2017 increased by 30 % compared to the same period in 2016. This increase was caused by the many arrivals from so-called safe countries, such as Albania, Algeria and Morocco. Furthermore, the number of people leaving immigration detention in the respective time period increased by 33 % compared to the same period last year. Amnesty International, Mediciens du Monde and Stichting LOS raised [criticism](#) about the [examination](#) of a fire that broke out in the Detention Centre Rotterdam in May 2016, as it revealed the use of solitary confinements, in which six detainees were placed after the fire.

In **Finland**, the [Finnish Security Intelligence Service](#) supported the idea to establish specific return centres in addition to detention facilities. The [police](#) opposed this plan.

## Legal, social and policy responses

### Legal developments

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) [dismissed](#) **Slovakia's** and **Hungary's** actions for annulment and confirmed that the provisional measures adopted by the Council two years ago, which established a mandatory relocation scheme of asylum seekers from Greece and Italy to other EU Member States, were proportionate and in compliance with EU Treaties. The Hungarian Government claimed they would '[push the case further](#)' although the CJEU's judgment is final.

Following a request of a court in **the Netherlands** for a preliminary ruling, the CJEU [ruled](#) that the detention of an applicant for international protection to determine or verify his or her identity or nationality can be compatible with the right to liberty, if adequate safeguards are applied.

Furthermore, in a preliminary ruling requested by the **Swedish Migrationsverket**, the CJEU [explained](#) how the time limits for detention in Dublin transfer cases must be interpreted, and to what extent time limits enshrined in national law are precluded by the Dublin Regulation.

In **Greece**, the [Council of State found](#) that decisions of the Asylum Appeals Committees, considering Turkey as a safe third country, were reasonable and thus lawful. The Council of State also decided not to ask a preliminary ruling from the CJEU to determine the question whether Turkey could be considered a "safe third country" under EU law. [Amnesty International](#) warned that this judgment might pave the way for massive forced returns to Turkey.

In Borgosesia (Piedmont), **Italy**, the Mayor approved an [Ordinance](#) against begging in the street. If applicants of international protection living in local

reception centres are fined for begging, the police must notify the manager of the reception facility.

The **Hungarian** Government [submitted a bill](#) to the Parliament concerning the amendment of certain migration related laws. It primarily aims at implementing the EU Researchers Directive ([Directive \(EU\) 2016/801](#)). It also envisages replacing the applicable general administrative procedural rules in aliens policing and asylum procedures with new, more detailed rules, with a view to aligning this legislation with the new Code on Administrative Procedures, which will enter into force in January 2018.

In **Bulgaria**, the [draft amendments to the Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act](#) passed the first reading in parliament. They envisage alternatives to pre-removal detention (bail and deposit of passports or travel documents), new rules on the representation of children and the short-term detention of migrants. Furthermore, the government adopted a decision restricting the areas in which asylum applicants, accommodated in reception centres, can move freely.

In **Austria**, an 'Anti-face-covering Act' ([Anti-Gesichtsverhüllungsgesetz](#)) came into force. Covering one's facial features by means of clothing or other means, in such a way that they are no longer recognisable in public constitutes an administrative offence (with a fine up to € 150). Cyclists covering their face with a scarf against the wind and a computer store's mascot in a shark costume [were fined](#). The [Alien Law Amendment Act](#) (*Fremdenrechtsänderungsgesetz FrÄG 2017*) was again submitted to the parliament following an error in the publication of the law. The law introduces a new type of residence restriction, restrictions on basic care, and the acceleration of asylum withdrawal procedures.

According to Human Rights League, the regional court in Kosice, **Slovakia**, cancelled the detention of a man from Congo. It underlined the importance of personal freedom of migrants and the need to first explore alternatives to detention. In another case, the court voided a decision taken by the Migration Office on the expulsion and issuing of an entry ban to two Syrians.

An Administrative Court in **Germany** [decided](#) that the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees was obliged to immediately transfer parents and siblings from Greece to an unaccompanied child who had applied for asylum in Germany before the expiry of the period of transfer under the Dublin Regulation. The [Federal Constitutional Court](#) strengthened the right to legal aid in asylum procedures.

In **France**, the [Court of Cassation found](#) that French law does not authorise Dublin transferees to be deprived of their liberty before the actual transfer takes place, as the legislator did not adequately define "considerable risk of absconding". After this ruling, many asylum seekers have been released from Dublin-related detention. As reported by the NGO *Roya citoyenne*, the Administrative Court of Nice (France) ruled that the Prefect had breached the right to asylum of three individuals, who were apprehended at the border and immediately handed over to the Italian authorities.

In **Denmark**, the Ministry of Immigration and Integration sent a [proposal](#) to limit the granting of a permanent residence permit to foreigners to public consultation. Another [draft bill](#) proposes a more flexible arrangement for quota



refugees. The [Danish Refugee Council](#), [UNHCR](#) and the [Danish Institute for Human Rights](#) raised concerns over the proposed amendments.

The **Swedish** Government submitted a bill to the Parliament to grant a [temporary monetary contribution](#) of some € 20.5 million to municipalities in 2018 to enable them to allow unaccompanied children to stay in school after they turn 18.

## **Policy responses**

Members of the **Greek** Parliament [tabled parliamentary questions](#) concerning the mismanagement of the increased arrivals and the overcrowding of the reception facilities in the hotspots, raising also concerns over public health and safety. They also argued that measures should be taken to specifically address the fact that winter was coming, including the transfer of all vulnerable people to the mainland.

Furthermore, the Italian Government presented the '[National Plan for the Integration of Holders of International Protection](#)'. Some 75,000 people could benefit from this plan.

The political campaigns for the parliamentary elections in **Austria** on 15 October concentrated on [stricter asylum rules](#), [integration](#) and its [financial implications](#).

Following the **German** national elections, the Bavarian [Christian Social Union put pressure](#) on the Christian Democratic Union and other potential coalition partners by making an upper limit of 200,000 refugees allowed into Germany per year (including numbers of family reunifications) conditional for a coalition. The anti-muslim and anti-immigration party, Alternative for Germany (*Alternative für Deutschland - AfD*), won 12.6 % of the votes, becoming the [first far-right party to enter the Bundestag](#) in six decades.

The **Spanish** Parliament adopted a [State Pact on Gender-Based Violence](#) including support and protection of victims of crime, assistance and protection of children and awareness raising and recognition of other forms of violence against women, such as trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation. Moreover, the parliament approved a [Draft Law to eradicate violence against children](#), including unaccompanied and separated children.

In **Finland**, the government [allocated](#) an additional € 12 million to the police and Security Intelligence Service. Including previous funds, the two authorities will receive € 50 million more in 2018 than this year. To counter terrorism, Finland planned to equip all police patrol units with submachine guns. Furthermore, the [government announced](#) to amend citizenship laws and criminalise the harbouring of undocumented migrants. The Ministry of the Interior published an annual report 2017 on the [implementation of the National Action Plan for the Prevention of Violent Radicalisation and Extremism](#).

In **the Netherlands**, the four political parties planning to form a new government [leaked information](#) on an agreement to open eight new shelters for rejected asylum applicants, who could stay there for two months while being obliged to leave the country.

The Moderate Party (*Moderaterna*) in **Sweden** tabled a legislative [proposal](#) reconsidering the right to asylum and envisaging a system primarily based on

acceptance of quota refugees. Amnesty International voiced concerns over this proposal since it would undermine the right to asylum.

### **Responses by civil society, local and political actors**

In **Greece**, the NGOs “SolidarityNow” and “HelpRefugees” [launched a program](#) offering shelters to vulnerable people, including asylum seekers and refugees. The objective of the programme was to build bonds and trust between the refugee population and the locals, to support the early stages of refugees’ integration into the host society and to improve mutual understanding via intercultural dialogue.

In **Hungary**, the village of Esztergályhorváti adopted a [local ordinance](#) that obliged accommodation service providers to obtain health certificates from people enjoying international protection, which proves that they had received all the necessary vaccinations before allowing them to stay in their premises.

On the sixth ‘[Long day of flight](#)’ in **Austria**, UNHCR and other independent organisations, associations, municipalities, cities etc. offered a varied program for asylum seekers, refugees and Austrian visitors to get to know each other.

In several cities of **Germany**, demonstrations against deportations to Afghanistan took place. For example, 200 protestors took to the airport in [Düsseldorf](#), as well around 100 in [Hamburg](#).

UNICEF Netherlands issued a [press release](#) on the education of asylum seeking children in **the Netherlands**, in which it outlined several general recommendations for improvement.

Some 70–100 asylum seekers organised a protest against the forced removal of an Afghan family from the reception centre in Jyväskylä, in **Finland**, according to the National Police Board. The police used teargas. An Arabic speaking Facebook group called ‘Mass Immigration’ mobilised a [demonstration](#) of approximately 50 asylum seekers against the country’s asylum policy crossing the border from Finland to Sweden in Haaparanta. Some supporters of the right-wing party Finland First organised a demonstration called ‘Finland strikes back’ and burnt an Isis flag, according to the National Police Board. ‘Soldiers of Odin’ and another anti-immigration groups organised a demonstration of some 170 people, as reported by the National Police Board.

The Nordic Resistance Movement, a proclaimed Nazi organisation, [demonstrated](#) in the city of Gothenburg, **Sweden**, with about 500 participants. They called for immediately stopping mass immigration and repatriating non-ethnic North Europeans from Sweden. After some disturbances, the police apprehended 35 persons. In response to the event, the Prime Minister invited all political parties of parliament – except the Sweden Democrats – to participate in a dialogue on how to counteract such antidemocratic movements.

### **Hate speech and violent crime**

In **Greece**, as reported by the Racist Violence Recording Network, three racist attacks took place in the centre of Athens against foreigners and a complaint was also lodged because of the racist behaviour of public bus drivers. Racist

attacks by locals and violence by police against migrants were reported in the countryside (in the municipalities of [Aspropyrgos](#) and [Monastiraki](#)).

In **Italy**, NGOs [criticised](#) the newspapers *Libero* and *Il Tempo* for using discriminatory and racist language when reporting about an Italian girl who had died from malaria. According to the newspapers, the death was caused by the diseases brought to Italy by migrants and asylum-seekers. The Mayor of Porto Empedocle (Sicily) symbolically closed all shops to protest against migrants and the damage they allegedly caused to tourism. The town hosted one [reception centre for 44 unaccompanied children](#), which had already been closed by the local Prefect due to inadequacy. Furthermore, the Mayor of Paternò (Sicily) publicly [expressed his opposition](#) to the Prefect's decision to transfer 50 asylum seekers to a local reception centre, as the territory was already affected by high rates of criminality. Finally, an Eritrean man was [violently attacked](#) in Rome by four men in a car using derogatory and racist expressions.

Residents of the [village of Ócsény](#) (Southwest **Hungary**) held an emergency village assembly triggered by the arrival of recognised beneficiaries of international protection, mostly women and children, to spend a few days of vacation in a guesthouse. Local residents believed that refugees would not only stay for a few days and were afraid they would bring diseases. After violent incidents against the guesthouse owner and intensified hatred against refugees, the mayor has resigned.

In **Austria**, the Federal Agency for State Protection and Counter Terrorism (*Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung, BVT*) reported on several incidents, for example the *Identitäre Bewegung Österreich* (IBÖ) organised a memorial march in Vienna to commemorate the "liberation of Vienna and the defence of Europe". A counter-demonstration took place. The Anti-discrimination Office Styria reported eight hate crime cases in the region of Styria, i.e. one spitting on a person, six insults because of a headscarf and one physical attack. 87 online hate postings were reported to the [Ban Hate App](#).

In the context of the election campaign in **Germany**, many right wing parties and their supporters organised rallies and public discussions against migrants and spread racist election posters and posts in social media. In addition, the German Amadeu Antonio Foundation and PRO ASYL [recorded](#) at least six violent attacks against asylum seekers with at least eight injured persons; a minimum of four arson attacks against reception and accommodation centres as well as 15 "other attacks" against reception and accommodation centres (e.g. damage of property). The [Federal Criminal Police Office](#) registered 232 offences against migrants, with 29 injured persons in July 2017. Although the police investigated 136 suspects, only one person was provisionally arrested.

As [reported by the Ombudsman](#), xenophobic attacks against foreigners were on the rise in **Poland** (15 more cases than in the previous month). [For instance](#), an Ethiopian man was beaten on his way home, and a Chechen woman was also attacked in Warsaw while walking her children to the kindergarten.

In **France**, a member of the Senate belonging to the far right party *Front national* was suspended by his party because he compared the presence of migrants in France to the Nazi occupation during the Second World War.

The 2017 [Public Prosecutor's Report](#) in **Spain** revealed that racism and xenophobia were the most relevant hate and discrimination crimes in 2016. The

Spanish Ministry of Interior [noted](#) that racism and xenophobia constituted 37.7 % (416) of the total of the criminal offences registered (1,272, 4 % less than the previous year). The 2017 [Annual Report on racism in Spain](#) notes that incidents of institutional racism (82) and racist conflicts and attacks (51) were the main incidents of the total number of incidents registered in 2016 (309).

A [rally by a number of far-right groups](#), organised by Fortress Europe, took place in Enschede, **the Netherlands**. Some 150 people, including supporters from Germany and Finland, were present. At the same time, anti-fascist campaigners gathered for a counter-demonstration, which disrupted the far right rally. 32 people (most of them anti-fascist demonstrators) were arrested and released on the same day.

In **Finland**, the National Police Board reported several incidents of alleged hate speech and hate crime, especially in the social media, following the alleged terrorist knife attack in Turku in August. In Oulu, unknown suspects broke the windows of a mosque for the third time, according to the National Police Board.

## Stakeholders interviewed in September 2017

Country	Stakeholders interviewed
<b>Austria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Ministry of the Interior, Department III/9 (<i>Bundesministerium für Inneres, Abteilung III/9 Grundversorgung und Bundesbetreuung</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Ministry of the Interior, Department III/5 (<i>Bundesministerium für Inneres, Abteilung III/5 Asyl und Fremdenwesen</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Ministry of the Interior, Criminal Intelligence Service, Competence Centre for Missing Children (<i>Bundesministerium für Inneres, Bundeskriminalamt, Kompetenzzentrum für Abgängige Personen</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Agency for State Protection and Counter Terrorism (<i>Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung, BVT</i>);</li> <li>• Austrian Ombudsman Board (<i>Volksanwaltschaft</i>);</li> <li>• Caritas Vienna (<i>Caritas Wien</i>);</li> <li>• Caritas Styria (<i>Caritas Steiermark</i>);</li> <li>• Antidiscrimination Office Styria (<i>Antidiskriminierungsstelle Steiermark</i>);</li> <li>• Austrian Red Cross (<i>Österreichisches Rotes Kreuz</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Interior, Directorate General Border Police (MoI – DGBP) (<i>Министерство на вътрешните работи, Главна дирекция „Гранична полиция“, МВР – ГДГП</i>);</li> <li>• State Agency for Refugees (SAR) (<i>Държавна агенция за бежанците, ДАБ</i>);</li> <li>• Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria (<i>Омбудсман на Република България</i>);</li> <li>• State Agency for Child Protection (SACP) (<i>Държавна агенция за закрила на детето, ДАЗД</i>);</li> <li>• Ministry of the Interior, Directorate General Criminal Police (MoI – DGCP) (<i>Министерство на вътрешните работи, Главна дирекция „Криминална полиция“, МВР – ГДКП</i>);</li> <li>• UNHCR Bulgaria;</li> <li>• Caritas Bulgaria (<i>Каритас България</i>);</li> <li>• Council of Refugee Women in Bulgaria (CRWB) (<i>Съвет на жените бежанки в България, СЖББ</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Denmark</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Danish Ministry of Justice (<i>Justitsministeriet</i>), including the Danish National Police (<i>Rigspolitiet</i>);</li> <li>• Danish Immigration Service (<i>Udlændingestyrelsen</i>);</li> <li>• Jammerbugt Municipality, Asylum Section (<i>Jammerbugt Kommune, Asylafdelingen</i>);</li> <li>• UNHCR Regional Representation for Northern Europe;</li> <li>• Danish Refugee Council (<i>Dansk Flygtningehjælp</i>);</li> <li>• Danish Red Cross (<i>Røde Kors</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Finland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Police Board;</li> <li>• IOM Finland;</li> <li>• Finnish Immigration Service;</li> <li>• Ombudsman for Children;</li> <li>• Amnesty International, Finnish Section;</li> <li>• Finnish Refugee Advise Centre.</li> </ul>
<b>France</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Interior (<i>Ministère de l'Intérieur</i>);</li> </ul>

Country	Stakeholders interviewed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Defender of Rights (<i>Le Défenseur des droits – DDD</i>);</li> <li>• National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (<i>Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme – CNCDH</i>);</li> <li>• National Association of Border Assistance for Foreigners (ANAFÉ) (<i>Association nationale d'assistance aux frontières pour les étrangers</i>);</li> <li>• La Cimade (<i>Inter-Movement Committee for evacuees - Comité inter mouvements auprès des évacués</i>);</li> <li>• Doctors of the world - France (<i>Médecins du Monde</i>);</li> <li>• France Land of Asylum (<i>France Terre d'Asile</i>);</li> <li>• Le Comede (<i>Committee for the health of exiles - Comité pour la santé des exilés</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Germany</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (<i>Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (<i>Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge, BAMF</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Ministry of the Interior (<i>Bundesministerium für Inneres</i>);</li> <li>• Jesuit Refugee Service (<i>Jesuiten Flüchtlingsdienst, JRS</i>);</li> <li>• Federal Association for Unaccompanied Minor Refugees (<i>Bundesfachverband Unbegleitete Minderjährige Flüchtlinge</i>);</li> <li>• Workers' Welfare Association (<i>Arbeiterwohlfahrt AWO Flüchtlingshilfe</i>), Unna, Northrhine-Westfalia and Munich, Bavaria and Federal Association;</li> <li>• National working group psychosocial centres for refugees and victims of torture (<i>Bundesweite Arbeitsgemeinschaft Psychosozialer Zentren für Flüchtlinge und Folteropfer, BAFF</i>);</li> <li>• Ministry of the Interior, Construction and Sports Saarland;</li> <li>• Ministry of the Interior, Digitalisation and Migration Baden-Württemberg;</li> <li>• Hamburger Behörde für Inneres und Sport;</li> <li>• State Office for Refugee Issues Berlin (<i>Landesamt für Flüchtlingsangelegenheiten Berlin</i>);</li> <li>• Hessian Ministry for Social Issues and Integration (<i>Hessisches Ministerium für Soziales und Integration</i>);</li> <li>• Hessian Ministry of the Interior and for Sports (<i>Hessisches Ministerium des Innern und für Sport</i>);</li> <li>• Bayrisches Staatsministerium für Arbeit und Soziales;</li> <li>• Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Inneres und Sport.</li> </ul>
<b>Greece</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Greek Ombudsman (<i>Συνήγορος του Πολίτη</i>);</li> <li>• Hellenic Police Headquarters (<i>Αρχηγείο Ελληνικής Αστυνομίας</i>);</li> <li>• Greek Asylum Service (<i>Υπηρεσία Ασύλου</i>);</li> <li>• International Organisation for Migration Greece (<i>Διεθνής Οργανισμός Μετανάστευσης-Ελληνικό Τμήμα</i>);</li> <li>• United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Greece (<i>Υπατη Αρμοστεία του ΟΗΕ για τους Πρόσφυγες-Ελληνικό Τμήμα</i>);</li> <li>• Doctors Without Borders Greece (<i>Γιατροί του Κόσμου-Ελληνικό Τμήμα</i>);</li> <li>• Hellenic League for Human Rights (<i>Ελληνική Ένωση για τα Δικαιώματα του Ανθρώπου</i>);</li> <li>• National Centre for Social Solidarity (<i>Εθνικό Κέντρο Κοινωνικής Αλληλεγγύης</i>);</li> <li>• Solidarity Now (<i>Αλληλεγγύη Τώρα</i>).</li> </ul>



Country	Stakeholders interviewed
<b>Hungary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Interior (<i>Belügyminisztérium</i>);</li> <li>• Ministry of Human Capacities (<i>Emberi Erőforrások Minisztériuma</i>);</li> <li>• National Police Headquarters (<i>Országos Rendőr-főkapitányság</i>);</li> <li>• Immigration and Asylum Office (<i>Bevándorlási és Menekültügyi Hivatal</i>);</li> <li>• UNHCR Hungary;</li> <li>• MigSzol;</li> <li>• Hungarian Association for Migrants (<i>Menedék Migránsokat Segítő Egyesület</i>);</li> <li>• Cordelia Foundation (<i>Cordelia Alapítvány</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Italy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Interior;</li> <li>• Authority for the Protection of People who are Detained or Deprived of their Personal Freedom (<i>Garante nazionale per i diritti delle persone detenute o private della libertà personale</i>);</li> <li>• Association for Legal Studies on Immigration (<i>Associazione per gli studi giuridici sull'immigrazione, ASGI</i>);</li> <li>• Italian Refugees Council (<i>Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati, CIR</i>);</li> <li>• NGO 'Doctors Without Borders Italy' (<i>Medici Senza Frontiere Italia, MSF Italia</i>);</li> <li>• United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef);</li> <li>• United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);</li> <li>• Italian Red Cross (IRC);</li> <li>• Jesuit Refugee Service 'Centro Astalli';</li> <li>• Community of Sant'Egidio (<i>Comunità di Sant'Egidio</i>);</li> <li>• 'Melting Pot Europa' project;</li> <li>• NGO 'Borderline Sicilia';</li> <li>• NGO 'Naga'.</li> </ul>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Security and Justice: central information point, providing information on behalf of: Immigration and Naturalisation Service, Aliens Police, Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (all members of the so-called 'Alien Chain');</li> <li>• Statistics Netherlands (<i>Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek</i>);</li> <li>• Defence for Children the Netherlands;</li> <li>• Amnesty International the Netherlands;</li> <li>• Stichting LOS;</li> <li>• MiND-the Dutch Reporting Point for Discrimination;</li> <li>• Dutch Council for Refugees (<i>Vluchtelingenwerk Nederland</i>);</li> <li>• UNICEF the Netherlands;</li> <li>• NIDOS.</li> </ul>
<b>Poland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Association for Legal Intervention (<i>Stowarzyszenie Interwencji Prawnej, SIP</i>);</li> <li>• Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (<i>Helsińska Fundacja Praw Człowieka, HFPC</i>);</li> <li>• UNHCR Poland;</li> <li>• Ombudsman (<i>Rzecznik Praw Obywatelskich, RPO</i>);</li> <li>• Polish Migration Forum (<i>Polskie Forum Migracyjne, PFM</i>);</li> <li>• Ombudsman for Children (<i>Rzecznik Praw Dziecka, RPD</i>);</li> <li>• Head of the Office for Foreigners (<i>Szef Urzędu do spraw Cudzoziemców, UDSC</i>);</li> </ul>

Country	Stakeholders interviewed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of the Interior and Administration (<i>Ministerstwo Spraw Wewnętrznych i Administracji, MSWiA</i>);</li> <li>• The Rule of Law Institute Foundation (<i>Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Państwa i Prawa, FIPP</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Slovakia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic;</li> <li>• Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic;</li> <li>• Office of Border and Alien Police of the Police Presidium;</li> <li>• Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family;</li> <li>• Public Defender of Rights;</li> <li>• Commissioner for Children;</li> <li>• Slovak National Centre for Human Rights;</li> <li>• IOM;</li> <li>• UNHCR – Regional Representation for Central Europe, Budapest, Hungary;</li> <li>• Slovak Committee for UNICEF;</li> <li>• Human Rights League;</li> <li>• Islamic Foundation in Slovakia;</li> <li>• Slovak Humanitarian Council;</li> <li>• Mareena Civic Association.</li> </ul>
<b>Spain</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-directorate for Immigrant Integration of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security (<i>Subdirección General de Integración de los Inmigrantes del Ministerio de Empleo y Seguridad Social</i>);</li> <li>• Spanish Ombudsman;</li> <li>• Spanish Committee of UNHCR (<i>Comité español de la Agencia de la ONU para los Refugiados, ACNUR</i>);</li> <li>• Spanish Committee of UNICEF (<i>Comité español de UNICEF</i>);</li> <li>• Jesuit Migrant Service (<i>Servicio Jesuita Migrantes, SJM</i>);</li> <li>• Spanish Refugee Aid Commission (<i>Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado, CEAR</i>);</li> <li>• NGO La Merced Migraciones;</li> <li>• Chair of Refugees and Forced Migrants of Comillas ICAI-ICADE, INDITEX (<i>Cátedra de Refugiados y Migrantes Forzados de Comillas ICAI-ICADE, INDITEX</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Sweden</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swedish Migration Agency (<i>Migrationsverket</i>);</li> <li>• Swedish Police Authority (<i>Polismyndigheten</i>);</li> <li>• National Board of Health and Welfare (<i>Socialstyrelsen</i>);</li> <li>• The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (<i>Sveriges kommuner och landsting</i>);</li> <li>• The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (<i>Brottsförebyggande rådet</i>);</li> <li>• Save the Children Sweden (<i>Rädda Barnen</i>);</li> <li>• Swedish Red Cross (<i>Röda Korset</i>).</li> <li>• Amnesty Sweden.</li> </ul>