# Welcome to IDS

The EUAA Information and Documentation System (IDS) is a comprehensive source of up-to-date information on policies, practices and legislation related to the implementation of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) in 30 EU+ countries. Each stage of the asylum process is described at national and regional levels, enabling users to compare and contrast practices across Europe.

This handbook aims to facilitate the user experience by providing instructions on how to navigate in the platform, search for and consult information, stay informed about the latest developments in EU+ countries and draw comparative overviews.
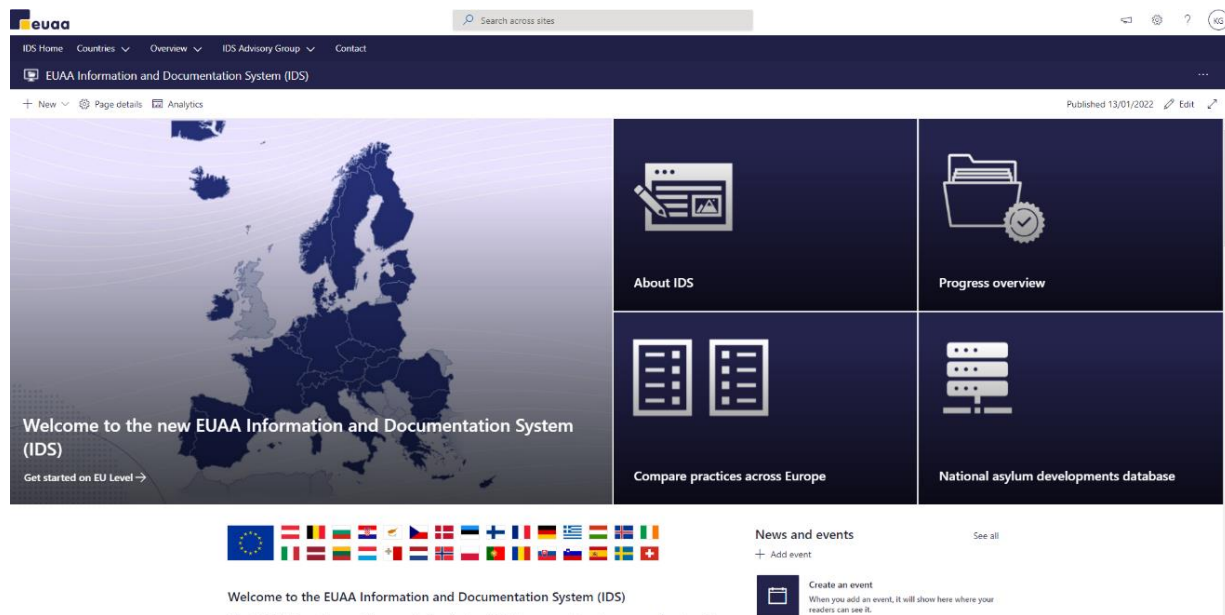
*1 - **IDS homepage***

Dissemination and use of information

Information is restricted to authorised users and should not be copied, distributed, or reproduced in whole or in part to an unauthorised third party. Users must not publicly disclose any information from IDS unless authorisation has been granted by EUAA.

Methodology

EUAA collects information from national administrations and supplementary sources, including international organisations, civil society organisations, research institutes and academia. The information is analysed and included in relevant thematic sections for each country.
In particular, the IDS platform:

- Presents current, comprehensive and verified information on policies, practices, legislation and jurisprudence related to international protection.
- Provides a platform for national asylum and reception administrations to share knowledge and practices on key aspects of CEAS.
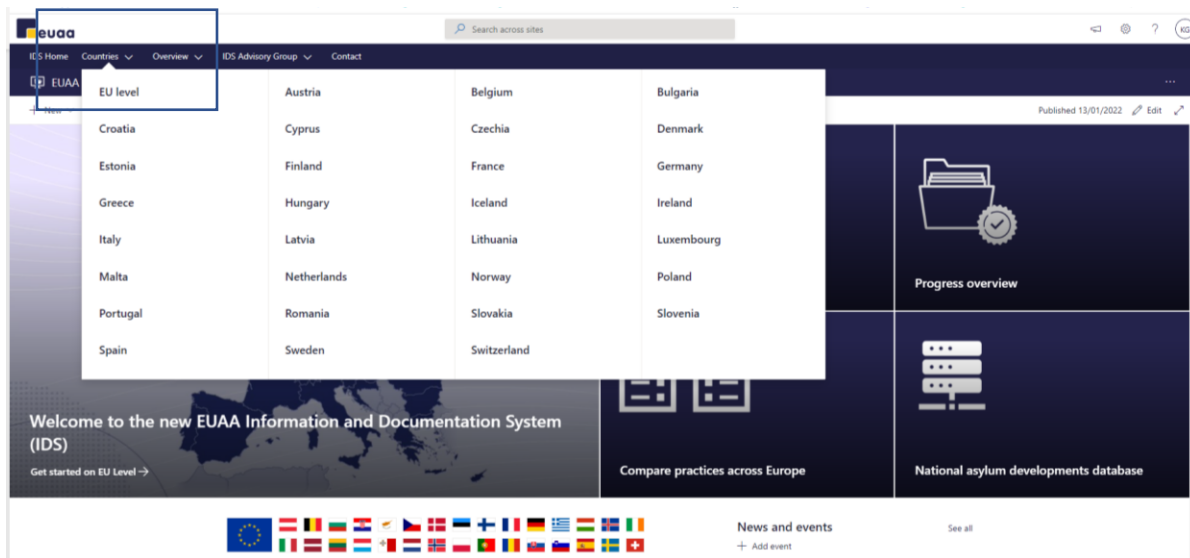- Consolidates comparable information and data on national asylum practices

New developments and updates are reviewed and validated by EU+ countries through the IDS Advisory Group Network, which comprises nominated national focal points. The Advisory Group also provides strategic guidance on the development of the database and approves the creation/deactivation of user accounts.

Getting started with IDS: Homepage

From the IDS homepage, users can consult different topics and countries by using quick links, drop-down menus or the flag navigation to reach a selected country.

The latest news, events and publications can be accessed by clicking on the menu bar or the icons at the right of the page.

The image below shows the top of the homepage where there are drop-down menus from the top navigation bar.

2 - Top navigation

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www.euaa.europa.eu

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Analysis, reports, additional resources and progress overviews can be accessed from the top menu by clicking on the relevant links.

News, events and publications

The latest news, events and publications are new features in the platform.

The **News and events** widget presents information on events which are organised by EUAA.

EUAA Newsletter on Asylum Case Law, Issue 4/2021

The **Latest publications** widget is updated regularly with situational awareness reports, analytical products, fact sheets and newsletters which are published by EUAA

The **Additional resources** section provides direct access to various EUAA platforms. The **Quick links** section provides direct access to resources by key stakeholders.

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Country profile

A country profile can be accessed from the flag navigation bar. A country profile is a set of thematic sections related to different aspects of CEAS. Each section is regularly updated with additional information and national developments.

Belgium

Legislative Reference   Jurisprudence   Save as Word   ...

Organisation of asylum and reception system in Belgium

Learn more →

Legal framework

Competent authorities

Official journal

Thematic sections available

| Access to procedures | Dublin procedures | First instance determination | Second instance... | Reception | Detention | Forms of protection | Return | Application of the non-... |

| Resettlement |

Recent developments

+ Add new

2021

30/09/2021 | Legislative | Source

Practical developments/asylum/personal interviews/minors/covid-19

The CGRS announced that the current measures linked to the coronavirus do not allow children to be heard in a suitable room. Read more...

12/05/2021 | Legislative | Source

Jurisprudence/Subsequent applications

Decision of the Administrative Court of International Protection on stating that those who make a subsequent application are not considered applicants for international protection until the examination and decision of their application. Read more...

22/03/2021

Practical developments/information provision

The CGRS launched the new website asyluminbelgium.be providing information specifically on the asylum procedure in Belgium in nine languages (English, dutch, French, Spanish, Arabic, Pashto, Farsi, Tirgrinya and Somali). Read more...

Latest news and updates

Intérieur Binnenland Retweeted

Civil Security ✓
@CivilSecurityBe

L'IRM a émis un avertissement de mauvais temps. En cas de dommages causés par les eaux, demandez l'assistance des pompiers via l'e-guichet 1722.be (1722.be/fr/index.html) ou appelez le 1722.

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Recent developments

Recent developments in the main country page feed information to the National Asylum Developments Database, which is available on the EU level pages. A summary for each development is available in English, with related information and sources in the original language. Summaries of recent developments are accessible by clicking on the title of each development or the 'Read more...' link.

Recent developments

+ Add new

2021

12/04/2021 | Institutional | Source
Jurisprudence/Subsequent applications
Decision of the Administrative Court of International Protection on stating that those who make a subsequent application are not considered applicants for international protection until the examination and decision of their application. Read more...

02/04/2021
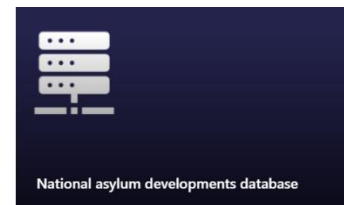**Civil society organisations/asylum**
AIDA Country Report Cyprus: Update on the year 2020 published by ECRE. Read more...

20/03/2021
Practical developments/Pact on Migration and Asylum
Joint statement of the inter-ministerial meeting MED5 (Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Spain and Greece) in Athens. Read more...

National asylum developments database

Thematic sections of a country profile

A user can navigate, access and consult information in the different thematic sections of each country by clicking on the quick link. The content of each thematic section and respective pages can be exported as a Word document.

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Thematic sections available

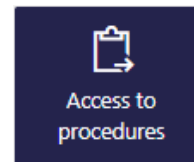|								
Access to procedures	Dublin procedures	First instance determination	Second instance...	Reception	Detention	Forms of protection	Return	Application of the non-...

Resettlement

Access to procedures

Access to procedures

📄 Legislative Reference ⚖ Jurisprudence

Last updated: 21/12/2021
📄 Save as Word ··· ✓ Last validated: 21/12/2021

Relevant thematic sections

Types of procedures at.	Assessment of applications	Personal interview	COI Unit	Safe country concept

Competent actors

Making	Immigration Office | Office des étrangers | Dienst Vreemdelingenzaken
Registering	Immigration Office | Office des étrangers | Dienst Vreemdelingenzaken
Lodging	Immigration Office | Office des étrangers | Dienst Vreemdelingenzaken

Overview

Making an application

Applications for international protection can be made: (1) **at the border** posts, airports or seaports - ferry terminals (to the Border Police Section of the Federal Police, custom officers); (2) **within the territory** (to the Immigration Office in Brussels, director of the prison or detention facility for foreigners or federal police. Applications cannot be made to a Belgium embassy abroad, and they cannot be submitted in writing via post or email.

Belgium has a **scheme for issuing visas for humanitarian reasons**. Such visas are delivered to very specific persons (e.g. high-profile persons, such as foreign politicians, opposition leaders) or clear-cut cases of protection needs, sometimes after Belgian authorities had been contacted by UNHCR. Humanitarian visas were also granted in other cases, for example to Rwandan nationals fleeing the genocide in 1994 and to Palestinian children in need of specialised medical care.

Belgium has **two types of external borders**: air- and sea borders. There are **six external air border crossing points** (BCP). The busiest point of entry at the air borders is Zaventem (Brussels National Airport). There are six external sea border crossing points (BCP). The most frequently used is the port in Antwerp. There is also **one international train station** (Eurostar terminal at Brussels South station).

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EU level: National Asylum Developments Database

The National Asylum Developments Database can be consulted for institutional, legislative and policy changes across 30 EU+ countries. These developments are analysed and summarised in the Agency's flagship report, the *EUAA Asylum Report*.
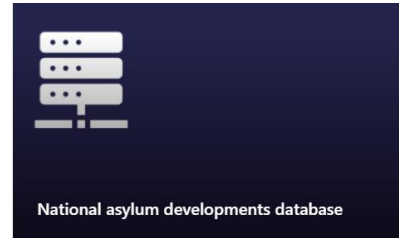
To search for developments, select the criteria in the drop-down menu. Searches can be narrowed down by:

- Country and year.

- Type of development: legislative, institutional, policy (integrity), policy (efficiency) and policy (quality).

- Thematic area: access to procedure, access to information, legal assistance and representation, interpretation services, special procedures, procedures at first instance, reception of applicants for international protection, detention, procedures at second instance, country of origin information, statelessness in the asylum context, content of protection, return of former applicants, resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes.

- Stakeholder.

The results can be exported into Excel and Word files.

European Union

⚖ Jurisprudence   📄 Save as Word   · · ·

Recent developments

The National Asylum Developments Database presents an overview of the legislative, institutional and policy changes in EU+ countries which are reported in the EASO Asylum Report. Main developments can be easily searched by country, year, type of development and steps of the asylum procedure. To populate results, select and search filters from the drop-down menu and click apply.

+ Add new

Country	Start date	End date
All	13/09/2021	13/10/2021

Thematic area	Type of development	Stakeholder
All	All	All

Apply   Reset

⬇ Save results as CSV (Excel)

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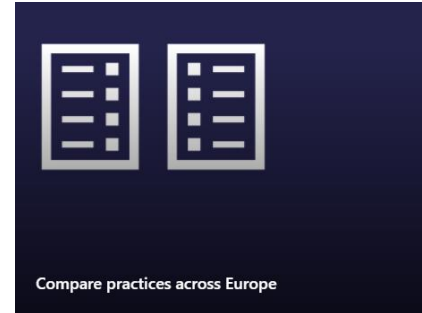Tel: +356 2248 7500
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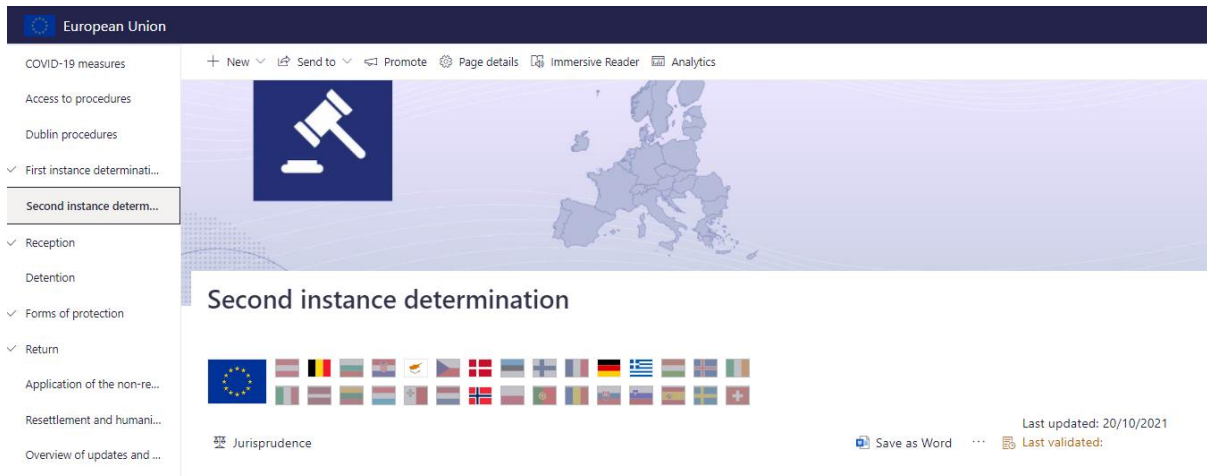
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EU level: Comparative overviews

A new feature of the improved IDS platform is the comparison of policies and practices across EU+ countries. Each country profile has several comparable fields for different thematic sections.

To consult information available in a comparative overview:

1. Click on a thematic section on the EU level page, for instance: Second instance determination.

2. Scroll in the page to see the comparable fields which are available.

Comparative overview: Nature of the body			Edit table	Export table ⌄
	First appeal instance		Second appeal instance	Cassation or other instance
Austria	Judicial		Judicial	Judicial
Belgium	Judicial (administrative court)		N/A	Judicial (supreme administrative court)
Bulgaria	Judicial		Judicial	n/a
Croatia	Judicial		Judicial	Judicial
Cyprus	Judicial (Administrative Court)		Judicial	
Czechia	Judicial		N/A	Judicial

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3. Click **Edit table**/compare practices and select the subfield and the country/ies or select all to create an overview of information available for all EU+ countries.

4. Consult the information online or export the comparable results into a Word or Excel document.

Search function

Searches can be conducted **across all sites** or **individual country sites**. The search bar is at the top of each page, where users can select from a list of countries which automatically drops down.

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Issues with access? Get support

The most common issues and solutions are listed below and in the Log-in page you used to access this handbook.
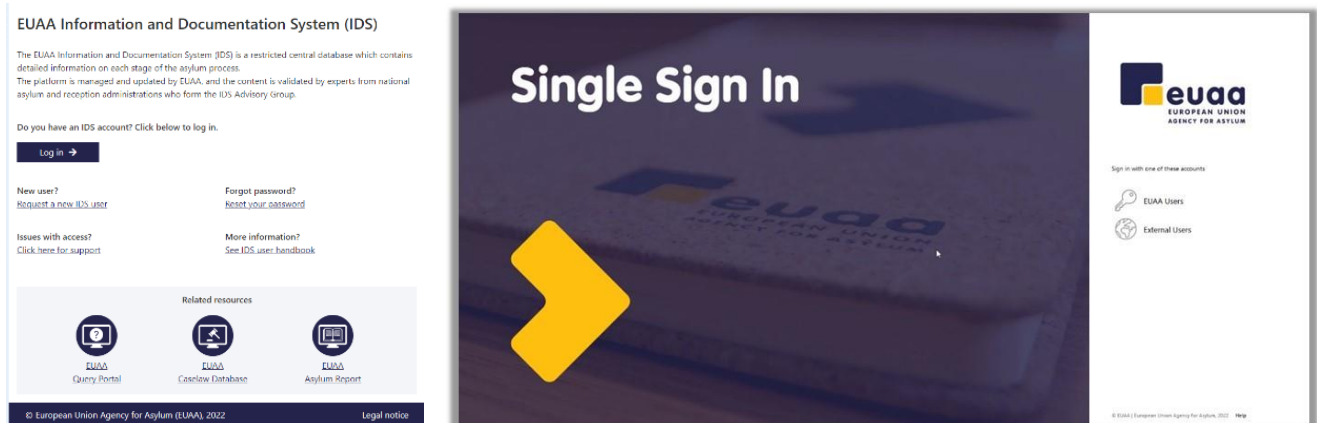
I don't have an account

Click on the new user link to request the creation of an account by the IDS team.

How do I activate my new account?

Follow the instructions in the account activation wizard or request support from the IDS team administrators by contacting: ids@euaa.europa.eu wizard to guide you with additional instructions.

I forgot my password.

Click the 'Forgot password' link to access the EUAA Self-Service Password Management area, where you can reset your password.

IDS user support

If you need help or support, please contact:
IDS team at ids@euaa.europa.eu
and cc EUAA Help Desk at ict.helpdesk@euaa.europa.eu

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