



Ad-Hoc Query on the Organization of Reception Centers

Requested by FI EMN NCP on 24th of August 2015

Compilation produced on

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom plus Croatia, Norway (23 in Total)

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1. Background Information

Finland is currently drafting a Government Bill in order to amend legislation regarding organization of reception centres maintained by the Government. In Finland there are namely two reception centres that are owned and ran directly by governmental agencies. Currently these centres are independent authorities i.e. administrative units of Government, but after the amendments, these two centres will be part of the Finnish Immigration

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Service, most likely as separate units. For these reasons, we would like to request information on how the reception centres are organized in other states.

Therefore we kindly ask you to reply to the following questions:

1. In what way are the reception centres organized in your country; Do you have reception centres owned and/or ran by the Government or are all the centres organized and operated by other service providers (municipalities, NGOs, private actors, other)?
2. Who has the power to make a decision on establishing and/or closing down a reception centre and/or a decision on terminating a contract between state and service provider? Is the decision normally made by the Government, ministry, immigration service or other authority?
3. Do you have any upcoming legislation regarding this matter? Can you provide with information on the possible amendments to your national legislation?

We would kindly request the responses by **24th of September**.


2. Responses¹

		Wider Dissemination? ²	
	Austria	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Austria, there are three types of reception facilities: (i) collective initial reception centres and distribution facilities, (ii) organized reception facilities, including special reception facilities for UAMs and (iii) individual accommodation (such as houses, flats or possibilities of staying with friends or family). Organized reception facilities are available in all provinces and at the federal level, while individual accommodation is only provided for in the provinces. Collective initial reception centres and distribution facilities are under the responsibility of the

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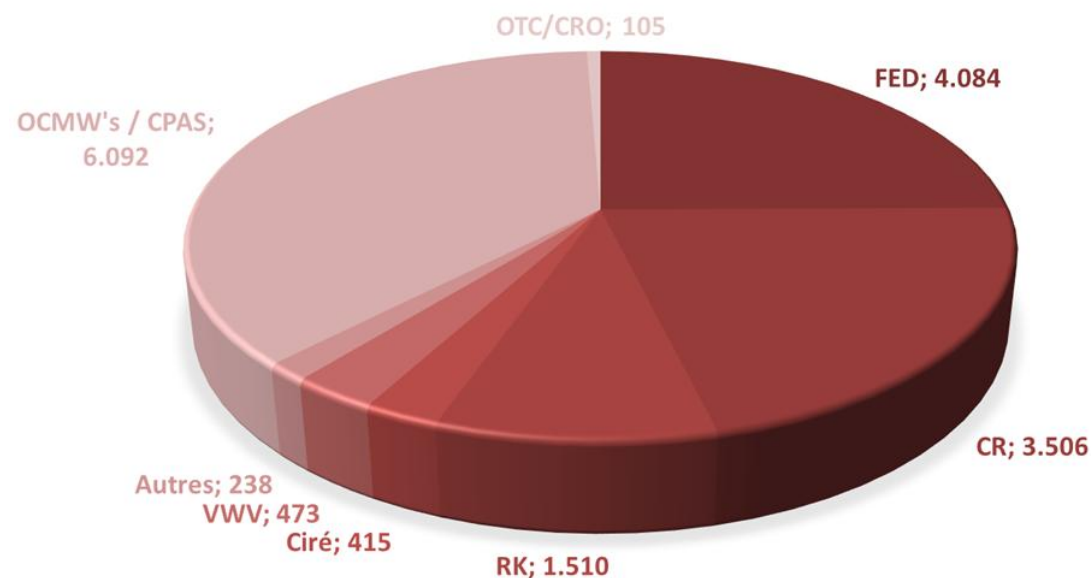
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			<p>federal government, which sub-contracts the operation of the facilities to private companies. The Basic Welfare Support Agreement that regulates the responsibilities of the federal government and the provinces states that these may contract humanitarian, faith-based or private institutions as well as social welfare organizations to provide basic welfare support. The service providers are bound to the authority's instructions and have to report. At the federal level, and in most of the provinces, the operation of reception facilities are outsourced to private institutions, NGOs, church-based organization and private guesthouse operators.</p> <p>2. The relevant institutions for federal care are the Federal Ministry of the Interior as the responsible authority for providing basic welfare support and the Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum as the executive public authority. The Federal Office immediately reports to the Federal Ministry of the Interior (for further information see http://www.bfa.gv.at/files/broschueren/BFA-Folder-en-V23052014-web.pdf). In the provinces, the responsible public authority is established within the respective provincial government office and is also responsible for providing basic welfare support. One exception is Vienna, where the responsibility of providing basic welfare support is outsourced to a fund, the Fonds Soziales Wien, which is under the control of the City of Vienna. These responsible public authorities at federal government or provincial level tender in accordance with government procurement regulations and conclude contracts with service providers. The contracts define the number of beneficiaries to be received and the tasks to be fulfilled by the service provider. The above mentioned authorities also make decisions on establishing/closing down reception facilities or terminating contracts. Relevant legislation: Federal Government Basic Welfare Support Act, Basic Welfare Support Agreement, Act Establishing the Federal Office for Immigration and Asylum</p> <p>3. A government legislative initiative to introduce a constitutional provision is currently discussed in parliament to give the Federal Government the right to establish accommodations for asylum-seekers on federal properties, without authorizations needed by the local authorities, in those provinces and municipalities which do not create sufficient accommodations. The initiative already passed the Constitutional Committee and will be decided in the National Council as well as voted on in the Federal Council end of September 2015.</p> <p>Further information about the ongoing discussion can be found here (in German): http://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/VHG/XXV/A/A_01295/index.shtml#tab-ParlamentarischesVerfahren</p> <p>Further information about the Organization of the reception system in Austria: EMN Country Report Austria: The Organization of the Reception System in Austria (2014)</p>
	Belgium	Yes	<p>For the sake of clarity: the information concerns a situation with a normal inflow of asylum seekers. In case of crisis measures, due to the high inflow of asylum seekers, this will mentioned explicitly.</p> <p>1. Yes, we have reception centers owned and ran by the Government, namely by the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum</p>

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Seekers (Fedasil) itself. It concerns 16 collective reception centers + 2 centers and mobile units (900places) opened due to the asylum crisis.

In Belgium we also have reception facilities (individual and collective reception) organized and operated by other service providers: MUNICIPALITIES (OCMW/CPAS) (6299 individual places in local reception initiatives and 50 places organised by the city of Ghent); NGOs: Red Cross (13 centres + 3 centers and military barracks opened due to the crisis in Flanders (RK) and in the French speaking Community: 17 centers + military barracks opened due to the crisis (CR)); Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen (VWV) (698 individual reception places); Coordination et Initiatives pour Réfugiés et Étrangers (Ciré) (590 individual reception places). And some smaller service providers offer reception places such as a non-profit association and a health insurance provider. For the first time, due to the current inflow of asylum seekers, Belgium launched a public tender in which PRIVATE ACTORS can participate to organise 7.000 reception places (and an extra 10.000 places in case of need). The numbers used in the pie chart date from May 2015, the numbers in the text above date from 24/09/2015.







For your information: the reception capacity in Belgium will increase from 16.200 places in July 2015 to almost 36.000 places by the end of 2015.



2. The federal government has the power to make a decision on establishing and/or closing down a reception center and/or a decision on terminating a contract between the state and service provider. Fedasil as federal administration is charged with

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			<p>implementing the decisions taken by the government. According to the 'Reception Act' of 12 January 2007, Article 56. § 1. Fedasil has, among other things the task to assure the organisation, the management and the quality control of the material aid granted to beneficiaries of reception. Fedasil can grant subsidies in connection with her tasks. And Fedasil may delegate the task to provide material aid to reception partners (Red Cross, other public authorities and administrations and associations – NGOs, non-profit associations). To this effect, Fedasil concludes agreements with these partners. The monitoring of the implementation of these agreements is also a task of Fedasil.</p> <p>3. /</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Asylum facilities regulated by Act no. 325/1999 Coll., on asylum, are established by the Ministry of the Interior. The Czech Republic provides accommodation and other services to applicants for international protection, beneficiaries of international protection and to detained foreigners through the Refugee Facilities Administration. The Refugee Facilities Administration (SUZ) is an organizational unit of the Government. It was established in 1996. SUZ is under the authority of the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Internal Safety. It is responsible for reception, accommodation and integration asylum centres and for detention centres (out of scope of this ad-hoc query) in the Czech Republic. Currently, there is no other operator than SUZ. The Ministry of the Interior is the body responsible for the establishment of the reception centres. It is quite a broad question. The Parliament is now debating about the extensive amendment to the Asylum Act, which transposes the directives on asylum. The amendment also contains some changes concerning the stay of asylum seekers in asylum facilities. However, the provisions concerning the asylum facilities as such do not change. As asylum facilities are not established by law it is not necessary to change the legislation in case there is a need to open a new facility.
	Denmark	Yes	
	Estonia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Estonia, there is one accommodation center for asylum seekers. The center is ran by state owned company under a contract with the Ministry of Social Affairs. In Estonia, the Ministry of Social Affairs or an agency in the area of government thereof is responsible for functioning of the accommodation centre for asylum seekers. Ministry of Social Affairs makes the decision. There are currently no upcoming legislation regarding this matter.
	Finland	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Finland, we have reception centers in 23 municipalities. Two of these reception centers are governmental agencies, six centers are ran by Finnish Red Cross and rest of the centers are maintained by municipalities. In Finland, the Ministry of the Interior makes the decision based on the proposal by the Finnish Immigration Service.




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			<p>1. 3. Finland is currently drafting a Government Bill in order to amend legislation regarding organization of reception centers maintained by the Government.</p>
	France	Yes	<p>1. In France, reception facilities are under the responsibility of the State and are run by private and semi-public organisations, most of them non-profit.</p> <p>The financial responsibility over the reception facilities is carried out by State authorities: the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) which ensures the financing for the initial reception system (PADA = Reception platform for asylum seekers), and the Ministry of the Interior, which is financially responsible for the accommodation of asylum seekers.</p> <p>The executive responsibility over the reception facilities is carried out by:</p> <p>a) Local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Ile-de-France: the Regional and Interdepartmental Department for Accommodation and Housing (DRIHL) and its departmental units; - For the rest of the country: the Departmental Directorate for Social Cohesion (DDCS), the Departmental Directorate for Social Cohesion and Protection of the General Public (DDCSPP) or the Immigration and Integration Services in the prefectures; <p>b) External service providers such as non-profit organisations or the semi-public company Adoma, which are responsible for operating the reception facilities under the administrative and financial control of the State departments.</p> <p>As of May 2015, there are 261 reception centers for asylum seekers (Centres d'accueil pour demandeurs d'asile – CADA) and 2 transit centers. Over the 261 reception centers 209 are managed by non-profit organizations and 52 by the semi-public company Adoma.</p> <p>2. The decision on establishing and/or closing down a reception center and/or a decision on terminating a contract between the State and a service provider is normally made by the State, through the authority of the departmental prefect.</p> <p>3. The Act dated 29 July 2015 reforming the right of asylum introduced several amendments to the national legislation. Regarding the organisation of reception centers, the objective is to guaranteeing an even distribution all over the territory, through a national reception scheme, less dependent on emergency accommodations, as well as a mandatory and directive referral system intended to direct asylum seekers to any available accommodation. The responsibility of matching an asylum seeker with an adequate accommodation has been transferred to OFII. To reach this goal, the Government plans to create up to 5 000 reception center places by the end of 2015.</p>
	Germany	Yes	<p>1. Germany has four types of accommodation facilities for asylum seekers: reception facilities, collective accommodation, local (individual) accommodation and facilities for vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The Asylum Procedure Act (Asylverfahrensgesetz – AsylVfG) obliges the Federal Länder to see to it that accommodation is</p>



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			<p>provided to asylum seekers. Asylum seekers who are required to file their asylum application with a branch office of the Federal Office are required to live in a reception facility for at maximum the first three months of the procedure. The Federal Länder are responsible for establishing these reception facilities.</p> <p>Whilst initial reception is largely governed by federal law, follow-up accommodation is to a large extent provided in accordance with the provisions of the respective Federal Land in the event of the length of the asylum procedure exceeding the permissible residence period in the reception facilities. Whilst the Asylum Procedure Act stipulates in this regard that: "Foreigners who have filed an asylum application and are not or no longer required to live in a reception facility, should, as a rule, be housed in collective accommodation". This is however a provision which leaves considerable latitude for the Länder and municipalities in selecting and designing the accommodation. The Federal Länder can choose between collective accommodation, in which a large number of asylum seekers are accommodated centrally, and local accommodation, in which asylum seekers are placed in individual houses or flats.</p> <p>In addition to the three types of accommodation mentioned above, most Federal Länder have special facilities for the reception of vulnerable groups, in particular unaccompanied minors, as well as traumatised persons seeking protection.</p> <p>2. Reception facilities are in principle created, funded and operated by the Federal Länder on their own responsibility. It is necessary to distinguish between the various types of accommodation facility when it comes to executive responsibility. (Initial) Reception centres are in principle a matter for the Federal Land in question. By contrast, executive responsibility for follow-up accommodation varies between the Federal Länder. As a rule, the municipalities in the large states – with the exception of Bavaria – are responsible for establishing, operating and maintaining the follow-up accommodation facilities, operation being assigned to private providers in some cases. The reception facilities are generally operated centrally by the respective Federal Land. Branch offices of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, where the asylum applications are processed, are established in the immediate vicinity of reception facilities. As a rule, the reception facilities are assigned to the mostly intermediate and higher accommodation authorities of the Federal Länder. Having the initial accommodation organised by the same authority that is responsible for implementing measures to terminate residence is to ensure that the procedure is shortened as intended by the legislature. In the event of the Federal Office being able to decide on the asylum application within six weeks up to a maximum of three months – this is the maximum period that asylum seekers are obliged to live in the reception facility – and the application being rejected as to be disregarded or manifestly unfounded, it is guaranteed that the foreigner, who is then obliged to leave the country, is available for the responsible foreigners authority. If no decision can be taken at short notice, the Federal Office informs the responsible foreigners authority, and the asylum seeker is released from the reception facility. The obligation to live in the reception facility is furthermore to ensure that asylum seekers are available for the implementation of the asylum procedure to the branch office of the Federal Office that is assigned to the reception facility in order to facilitate the rapid implementation of the asylum procedure.</p> <p>Unlike initial reception, there is much greater variation in the system of follow-up accommodation: Firstly, two different forms of accommodation are practiced here – collective accommodation and local accommodation. Secondly, there are considerable differences between the Federal Länder when it comes to executive responsibility, operation and political and administrative responsibility for the design of follow-up accommodation. Whilst the majority of the Federal Länder have assigned these tasks to the municipalities with differing degrees of latitude, Bavaria and the city states operate the follow-up accommodation facilities themselves.</p>
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			<p>3. Though there are both national and Länder regulations regarding the reception of asylum seekers, the administrative implementation is the exclusive responsibility of the Länder. Legislation: The Asylum Procedure Act (Asylverfahrensgesetz – AsylVfG), §§44; 47; 50; 53) and several laws of the Federal Länder. At the moment, there is a bill in preparation which will prolong the possible period of accommodation in an initial reception centre from currently three months to six months. Furthermore, the draft bill seeks to make it possible that asylum seekers from safe countries of origin can be obligated to remain in the initial reception centre throughout the entire procedure</p>
	Greece	Yes	<p>1. In Greece the First Reception Service of the Ministry of Interior runs two First Reception Centers, one in Fylakio at the Greek-Turkish borders and one in Moria in the island of Lesbos. The First Reception Service also operates in two identification reception centers run by the Hellenic Police, one in the island of Samos and another one in Lesbos. There are plans to set up two more centers in Leros and Kos in the following weeks. Some services like medical screening, interpretation services, psycho-social support are outsourced to NGOs and/or International Organizations like IOM, UNHCR.</p> <p>2. In Greece the Government makes the decision. As regards the First Reception Service, the Minister of Interior together with the Minister of Finances make the decision on establishing a reception center and the Director of the First Reception Service can decide upon terminating their operation.</p> <p>3. There is no upcoming legislation regarding this matter at the moment.</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>1. In Hungary, the reception system is centralized, that is controlled by the Hungarian Government. The reception centers are run by the Office of Immigration and Nationality (OIN). The Office of Immigration and Nationality was established as a nationwide, independent budgetary authority under the Ministry of Interior on 1 January 2000. In accordance with the administrative reform efforts, the OIN has been supplemented with regional bodies organised at territorial level since January 2002. The Ministry of Interior exercises supervisory control over the OIN. Five reception facilities operated by the OIN provide accommodation and support for asylum-seekers (Békéscsaba, Bicske, Debrecen, Vámosszabadi, Nagyfa).</p> <p>2. The Hungarian Government has the right to make any decision concerning the establishment/ run of reception centers.</p> <p>3. N/I.</p>
	Italy	Yes	<p>1.2.3. Under Article 8 Legislative Decree No 142/2015, in force since 30 September 2015, implementing Directive 2013/33/EU on <i>laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast)</i> and Directive 2013/32/UE on <i>common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (recast)</i>, the reception system in place for applicants for international protection provides for a two-stage process. In the first stage, the TCNs may be sent to two types of centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial reception centres (CPSAs), which are located in the following four Provinces: Agrigento (Island of Lampedusa), Cagliari (Municipality of Elmas), Lecce (Municipality of Otranto), and Ragusa (Municipality of Pozzallo). On arrival in Italy, the TCNs are sent to these centres for the purposes of identification, photographing and fingerprinting. There, they also receive the initial medical treatment they need, and they can apply for international protection. - Reception centres (CDAs) and Reception centres for asylum seekers (CARAs), in the following cities: Gorizia, Ancona, Rome, Foggia, Bari, Brindisi, Lecce, Crotone, Catania, Ragusa, Caltanissetta, Agrigento, Lampedusa, Trapani, and Cagliari. CDAs are

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			<p>intended for the TCNs found on national territory. In CDAs, TCNs are identified and their status is checked. By contrast, CARAs are meant for the reception of the TCNs who have applied for international protection. In CARAs, TCNs are identified, and relevant procedures are initiated.</p> <p>These reception centres are established by Decree of the Minister of the Interior, after hearing the Unified Conference (State, Regions and Local Authorities) and according to the plans and criteria set by the National Coordination Committee and the Regional Coordination Committees (provided for in Article 29 of Legislative Decree No 251/2007). The role of the above Committees is to set out the guidelines and prepare the annual reception plans to be implemented in the different facilities. Therefore, these are governmental centres, but through public procurement procedures, their operation can be entrusted to local authorities, public bodies or private organisations that are authorised to work in the area of immigration and social assistance.</p> <p>In the second phase of assistance, the TCNs who have applied for international protection and who prove that they do not have the means to support themselves and/or their family members enter the System for the protection of asylum seekers and refugees (SPRAR). The SPRAR was established by Law No 189/2002, following a Protocol of Understanding signed in 2001 by the Ministry of the Interior, the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).</p> <p>The SPRAR is made of the network of local authorities that have access to the <i>National Fund for Asylum Policies and Services</i>. The reception centres belonging to the SPRAR network are governmental as well. In fact, just like the initial reception centres, they are established by decision of the Ministry of the Interior and managed through a multilevel governance policy. Such multilevel governance involves the Prefectures (Local Governmental Offices under the Ministry of the Interior), the Local Authorities (Municipalities and Provinces) and associations working in the area of immigration and social assistance, which are usually entrusted with the operation of these facilities.</p> <p>Under Article 11 (<i>Extraordinary reception measures</i>) of Legislative Decree No 142/2015, if there is no availability in the above-mentioned facilities due to a considerable number of arrivals of TCNs, after hearing the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration (in the Ministry of the Interior), the Prefect may order the opening of Extraordinary Reception Centres (CASes). Through public procurement procedures, the operation of CASes is entrusted to local authorities, public bodies or private organisations that are authorised to work in the area of immigration and social assistance.</p> <p>In brief, anything that has to do with the opening, management and closing of a reception centre is under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior (either directly or indirectly through its territorial offices, the Prefectures).</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is only one reception centre in Latvia owned by the State Provision Agency under the Ministry of the Interior and run by the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs (Ministry of the Interior). 2. Ministry of the Interior. 3. No.
	Lithuania	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Lithuania, there are 2 centers: one accommodates asylum seekers (Aliens registration center) and the other provides reception for persons who have received international protection in Lithuania (Refugees reception center). Both institutions ran by the Government: Aliens registration center is under the State Border Guard Service and the Refugee reception center is under the Ministry of social security and labour. 2. Power to make a decision over one Aliens registration center is exercised by the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry

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			of the Interior and for the refugee reception center - by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour over the second. Refugees reception centre increased the capacity from 80 to 160 in response to relocation scheme.
	Luxembourg	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Luxembourg, most reception centres are directly managed by the Accommodation Department of the Luxembourg Reception and Integration Agency (OLAI) of the Ministry of Family, Integration and the Greater Region. Some are managed by NGOs as it is the case with the Luxembourgish Red Cross (Foyer Don Bosco, Foyer Lily Uden, Foyer Chomé, Foyer Rédange) and Caritas Luxembourg (Foyer St-Antoine, Centre OASIS). The OLAI carries the overall responsibility for the reception of applicants for international protection³. The relationship (including duties, responsibilities and financial aspects) with NGOs, which in the case of Luxembourg are the Luxembourgish Red Cross and Caritas Luxembourg, is specified in annual individual cooperation agreements. For other reception facilities, such as hotels and/or communal houses, the OLAI also concludes agreements of cooperation, which include financial compensation covering all accommodation costs (food, electricity, water, waste management). In matters of securitisation/surveillance, the OLAI proceeds to a call for tender, which is followed by a signature of a contract. There are 21 reception centres for families in 20 different municipalities: 2 reception centres for single adults administered directly by OLAI, 6 reception centres administered by NGOs (Red Cross and Caritas), 14 private structures (hotels and hostels in 14 different locations) and 112 beds in town halls in 14 different municipalities.⁴ In Luxembourg, the OLAI is in charge of implementing the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg's reception and integration policy. OLAI depends of the Ministry of Family, Integration and the Greater Region. The OLAI also organises the reception, accommodation, and social supervision of applicants for international protection. It is the responsible authority for establishing reception centres and it carries the financial responsibility over all types of reception structures. Even, in cases where local authorities provide the physical facilities, the OLAI pays, in several cases, a monthly financial compensation. On 6 February 2015, the Ministry of Family, Integration and of the Greater Region introduced the bill n° 6775 on the reception of international protection applicants in Luxembourg in the Parliament.⁵ Article 11 of the bill establishes that international protection applicants can be lodged in different types of public and private structures. It can be in collective centres, houses, apartments, hotels, in private or any other structures adapted to lodge the applicants.⁶ Lodging can be provided in one of the following forms: 1) lodging in a structure with full board; 2) lodging in a structure with a service including three meals per day; and 3) lodging in a structure with a kitchen that allows the beneficiary to cook.
	Netherlands	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) is responsible for the reception of asylum seekers in The Netherlands. The accommodations could be owned by COA or rented from a third party. The agency is responsible for the operation of these centers and has the authority to establish or close down the center. The Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) has the power to make a decision on establishing and closing




³ [Articles 1 and 3 of the Grand Ducal Regulation of 8 June 2012 setting the conditions and modalities under which asylum seekers may benefit from a social aid.](#)

⁴ Ministère de la Famille, l'Intégration et de la Grande Région, Rapport d'activité 2014, Luxembourg, 2015, p. 165

⁵ Parliamentary document n° 6775/00 of 6 February 2015. Actually this disposition exists in the Grand-ducal regulation of 8 June 2012 on granting social aid to international protection applicants.




⁶ Parliamentary document n° 6775/00 of 6 February 2015. Exposition of Motives, p. 14.

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			<p>down a reception center and to terminate contracts.</p> <p>3. No</p>
	Poland	Yes	<p>1. In accordance with Article 79 of the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners on the territory of the Republic of Poland [Journal of Laws 2003.128.1176] the Head of the Office for Foreigners not only provides and organizes the management of the open centers for foreigners, but he can also outsource the management of open centers to social organizations, associations or other natural and legal persons. At the moment, the Office for Foreigners runs 4 centers owned by the entity (including 2 reception centres and 2 residence centres) and 8 reception centers administered by private entities.</p> <p>2. All open centers for foreigners in Poland operate on the same legal principle, i.e. under Article 79 of the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners on the territory of the Republic of Poland. Paragraph 1 of the abovementioned article states that the Head of the Office for Foreigners provides and organizes the management of the open centers for foreigners [and these are the centers owned by the Office for Foreigners] and paragraph 2 indicates that the Head of the Office for Foreigners may delegate the management of centers to other entities [and these are centers rented by the Office within the public procurement procedure]. In both types of centers employees of the Social Policy Department located in the Office for Foreigners are representatives of the Office for Foreigners and take care of the management of centers. Centers administered by private entities operate on the basis of agreements concluded between the Office for Foreigners and the entities selected through public tendering - in accordance with the Public Procurement Law. The Office for Foreigners pays a contractual rate for room and board actual number of foreigners living in the resort. The agreements are concluded for a fixed period [e.g. for 2 years]. Both parties have the opportunity to terminate the contract. The Office also has internal procedures for opening and closing the center. In the event of a sudden increased influx of foreigners applying for international protection, the Office for Foreigners has had the opportunity to conclude an agreement with the free hand.</p> <p>3. There are no changes foreseen in this respect.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>1. We have one detention centre and five centres at the borders (one in each international airport), none reception centre. All of them are owned and ran by the Immigration and Borders Service (Minister of the Interior); NGO's ("Doctor's of the World", "Jesuit Refugees Service" and "International Organization for Migration") were invited to participate in our daily routine and they work at the detention centre with the police personnel.</p> <p>2. In Portugal, if it's necessary to close or establishing a centre the decision must be of the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>3. In Portugal, each centre has a specific regulamentation based on migration national legislation and European directives.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. Asylum seekers are accommodated in the Slovak Republic in collective accommodation centres. There are two types of accommodation facilities – one reception centre (in Humenné) and two accommodation centres (in Rohovce and in Opatovská Nová Ves). All facilities are owned by the state and maintained by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic. Certain services within the facilities are provided by NGOs funded from AMIF project (previously ERF). The call for</p>

EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Organization of reception centres

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			<p>proposals is published by the Ministry of Interior which also signs agreements with successful grant applicants (NGOs).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The decisions are made by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic The legislation has been changed recently. At the moment, no new legislation is planned.
	Slovenia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> We have one Aliens Centre run by the Police, one Asylum Centre and two Integration Houses run by the Directorate for Administration, Migration and Naturalization both are under authority of the Ministry of the Interior. Under the proposal of the MOI the final decision is taken by the Government. No. <p><i>Due to a sudden increase of refugee flow in October please check information before use it.</i></p>
	Spain	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The accommodation system to the asylum seekers consists of a network of centers run by the Government (4 reception centers, and 2 provisional centers of immigrants) and others run by specialized NGOs, which receive funds from the Spanish government to manage those centers. The decision to establish or close down a reception center run by the Government is taken by the General Secretariat of Immigration and Emigration, through a Ministerial Order signed by the Ministry of Presidency on a proposal of the Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations, and the Ministry of Employment and Social Security. However, the centers run by NGOs, these have to take the decision, with the consensus of the General Secretariat of Immigration and Emigration, and taking into account the accommodation needs in this area There is no legal reform foreseen on this issue.
	Sweden	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Sweden all reception centres are owned by and run by private service providers after public procurement processes. Asylum seekers can also live in regular apartments rented by the Swedish Migration Agency. In addition, asylum seekers have the option to arrange their accommodation themselves, and e.g. stay with friends or relatives pending the decision on their application. Detention centres are owned and run by the Swedish Migration Agency. The decision to open up or close a reception centre is made by the Swedish Migration Agency. There has been a discussion initiated by the Director General of the Migration Agency that the Agency should be able to own houses for reception facilities. This proposal led to a report by the Swedish Agency for Public Management which concludes that it would not be cost efficient for the government to own housing for asylum seekers. For more information see: http://www.statskontoret.se/templates/showsummarypage.aspx?publicationid=2022 (in Swedish). After this report nothing further has happened in terms of legal changes.

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	United Kingdom	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The UK's asylum support legislation allows asylum seekers who are, or are about to become, destitute to apply for support in the form of accommodation and/or a cash allowance to cover their essential living needs. The majority of asylum seekers are provided with such accommodation in properties within the community as a whole, rather than in open reception centres. While they are waiting a decision on their application for support they may be temporarily housed in one of six Initial Accommodation(IA) centres around the UK. They may spend around 2-3 weeks here. <p>The Home Office (Government Department responsible for Home Affairs, including migration) contracts with various private companies across the UK to deal with the day to day running of accommodation provided to destitute asylum seekers. To support the key strategic objectives in providing asylum support (including reception services) the UK is split into six geographic regions. In each there is an Initial Accommodation (IA) centre provided and managed under contract by a private sector provider.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The Home Office will make the decisions around establishing/closing reception centres and terminating contracts between state and service provider. The Home Office awarded new accommodation and transport contracts for asylum support services in March 2012. These new contracts are known as COMPASS (commercial and operational managers procuring asylum support services) contracts. 3. The UK has no upcoming legislation regarding this matter.
	Croatia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Reception Centres for Asylum Seekers (2 in total in Croatia) are organisational units of the Ministry of the Interior and are owned and operated by MoI. The UNHCR, the Croatian Red Cross and other organisations that work to protect the rights of refugees or that engage in humanitarian work may conduct training, educational and similar programmes in the Reception Centres, and provide other forms of aid and assistance, with the prior consent of the Ministry. 2. N/A – The Government/MoI manages the Reception Centres. 3. Currently in preparation, the new Foreigners Act is to be discussed in the Parliament and adopted in due course. The new Act on International and Temporary Protection entered into force in July 2015, replacing the former Asylum Act.
	Norway	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) has an administrative unit (Department for Regions, Reception and Return) that has responsibility for managing reception centers/facilities. We do not have reception centers owned and run by the Government. All the centers in Norway are organized and operated by other service providers. Other service providers usually operate the facilities we establish: such services are thus out-sourced. Establishment and management of reception centers is based on contracts. <p>UDI makes a public request for proposal (RFP) involving a bidding process, where parties interested in procurement of contracts with UDI, submit business proposals describing the facilities offered and service and management parameters. Normally bids are received from private parties, including NGOs but in some cases, also municipalities run reception centers.</p>

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			<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Establishing contracts with and /or closing down reception centers or terminating contracts with service providers is managed by the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration. The financial responsibility for reception facilities for applicants for international protection is carried by state level authorities in Norway where subcontract service providers manage the day-to-day running of the reception facilities. Facilities are inspected at least once during a period of three years in Norway.3. No changes planned.
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