



Ad-Hoc Query on type of status in relocation/resettlement schemes

Requested by SI NCP on 4th June 2015

Compilation produced on

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom plus Norway (21 in Total)

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1. Main Question:

We would like to ask EMN NCPs about the following: Does your national legislation provide any type of 'national status' beside of International Protection Status (refugee and subsidiary protection) to the persons accepted to their countries on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes? YES / NO

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If YES:

Q.1.1.) What kind of status do you grant to persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes (for example humanitarian status, etc) and is this a permanent or temporary status?

Q.1.2.) What are the additional conditions that person has to fulfil for granting such status?

Q.1.3.) What kind of documents do you issue to these persons?

Q.1.4.) Does the level of the rights deriving from the 'national status' and integration measures for persons with "national status" differs from the level of rights and integration measures which in line with the *acquis* should be provided for persons with international protection?

Q.1.5.) Please describe briefly integration measures after the admission of relocated/resettled persons.

If NO:

Q.1.6.) Do you grant persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes refugee or subsidiary protection status?



Q.1.7.) Please describe briefly the practical procedure of granting refugee or subsidiary protection status and integration measures after the admission of relocated/resettled persons.

We would very much appreciate your responses by 29th June 2015.

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2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?	<p>Does your national legislation provide any type of 'national status' beside of International Protection Status (refugee and subsidiary protection) to the persons accepted to their countries on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes? YES / NO</p> <p>If YES:</p> <p>Q.1.1.) What kind of status do you grant to persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes (for example humanitarian status, etc) and is this a permanent or temporary status?</p> <p>Q.1.2.) What are the additional conditions that person has to fulfil for granting such status?</p> <p>Q.1.3.) What kind of documents do you issue to these persons?</p> <p>Q.1.4.) Does the level of the rights deriving from the 'national status' and integration measures for persons with "national status" differs from the level of rights and integration measures which in line with the <i>acquis</i> should be provided for persons with international protection?</p> <p>Q.1.5.) Please describe briefly integration measures after the admission of relocated/resettled persons.</p> <p>If NO:</p> <p>Q.1.6.) Do you grant persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes refugee or subsidiary protection status?</p> <p>Q 1.7.) Please describe briefly the practical procedure of granting refugee or subsidiary protection status and integration measures after the admission of relocated/resettled persons.</p>
	Austria	Yes	<p>No.</p> <p>1.6.) Syrian refugees who are admitted on the basis of the Humanitarian Admission Programme (HAP)/Resettlement are granted permanent refugee status (asylum ex officio under the terms of Art. 3 para. 4 Asylum Act).</p> <p>1.7.) In general, after granting of status, refugees are entitled to four months of basic welfare support. Basic welfare support includes, besides accommodation, material reception conditions (i.e. housing, food, clothing and pocket money) as well as non-material reception conditions (e.g. health insurance, education, etc.). After this period, refugees in general are entitled to the needs-based minimum welfare support (equal to Austrian citizens). According to Art. 68 of the Asylum Act, foreign nationals who have asylum status can be granted integration support. This support includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language courses; • Education and training courses; • Events on the introduction to the Austrian culture and history; • Joint events with Austrian citizens to facilitate mutual understanding; • Information provision regarding housing; and • Activities of the Austrian Integration Fund. <p>These services are also open to refugees under the HAP/ resettled refugees.</p> <p>With regards to Syrian refugees in the HAP, extra measures are offered targeting this group: IOM conducts Cultural Orientation Trainings (COs) as pre-arrival integration measure in the transit countries; and NGOs offer specialised services including housing, counselling, language courses, etc.</p>
	Belgium	Yes	<p>Q.1. NO</p> <p>Q.1.6.) Refugee status.</p> <p>Q 1.7.) There is no specific legal framework for resettlement in Belgium. According to Belgian Aliens law, refugee status cannot be granted outside the Belgian territory. As a consequence, the decision to authorize travel to Belgium will be taken by the State Secretary for Asylum and Migration. He/she will take this decision based on the proposal for selection by the CGRS and if he/she decides to follow this advice, he/she will give the instruction to the Immigration Office to issue travel documents, if refugees do not possess such documents, and visa, that will be prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After arrival, the resettled refugee will need to lodge an asylum application, although this is a pure formality: there will be no interview on the</p>


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			<p>substance and no full investigation will be carried out. Refugee status will be granted as soon as possible after arrival.</p> <p>Regarding integration: It is Fedasil, the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers, that is in charge of the pre-departure cultural orientation, the transfer, the initial reception, the monitoring of the integration process and the overall coordination of all involved actors/partners.</p> <p>The initial reception phase is ensured by FEDASIL: the refugees are hosted in a federal reception centre for a duration of 6 to 7 weeks. The objectives of this transitional period include: identification of special needs, dealing with administrative steps (opening of social rights), provision of basis integration courses, liaison with integration actors.</p> <p>The provision of adequate housing and social support for a duration of minimum 12 months is delegated to voluntary public centres for social assistance (“CPAS/OCMWs”) which are competent at the municipality level. An agreement is signed between the voluntary CPAS/OCMW and FEDASIL. In 2013 and 2014, 30 voluntary CPAS/OCMWs have been selected to provide housing and intensive social support to the resettled refugees.</p> <p>Two NGOs subsidised by FEDASIL (Caritas and Convivial) assist the CPAS/OCMWs by bringing additional support to the refugees’ integration process for a period of up to 24 months depending on the specific needs of each refugee. They can also play a role in emergency resettlement (eg if no voluntary OCMW / CPAS can be found in due time).</p> <p>All of these resettlement operational partners also refer the refugees to existing specific services such as the civic integration programme in Flanders, the literacy and language training structures in Wallonia, the regional employment agencies, vocational training organizations, psychological counselling services, etc.</p>
	Croatia	Yes	<p>Q.1. NO. Croatia national legislation does not provide any “national status” besides of International Protection Status (refugee and subsidiary protection) to the persons accepted through relocation/resettlement programmes.</p> <p>Q.1.6.) According to the provisions of the International and Temporary Protection Act, that entered into force on 2nd of July 2015, resettled/relocated persons are granted refugee or subsidiary protection status.</p> <p>Q 1.7.) Croatia for now does not have experience in relocation and resettlement procedures. However, according to the provisions of the International and Temporary Protection Act, Decision and Programme for the resettlement and relocation is rendered by the Government of the Republic of Croatia, following a joint proposal by the Ministry of the Interior and the ministry competent for foreign affairs. Therefore, Croatia is currently in the process of preparing the aforementioned Government Acts.</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p>NO</p> <p>Q 1.6.) refugee status</p> <p>Q 1.7.) the refugee status is granted right after the arrival. The integration measures, as well as the rights of resettled refugees, are the same as for regular refugees. In some cases, we would provide additional integration assistance within the national resettlement programme.</p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>Estonia has not yet taken part in resettlement programmes, but as regard to current European asylum policy, the changes to national legislation will be amended accordingly.</p>
	Finland	Yes	<p>Q 1.6.) The resettled refugees are granted refugee status in Finland.</p> <p>Q 1.7.) A residence permit under the Finnish refugee quota may be granted if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the person is in need of international protection with regard to his/her home country, • the person is in need of resettlement from the first country of asylum,




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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the requirements for admitting and integrating the person into Finnish society have been assessed, • public order and security or Finland's international relations do not prevent the granting of the residence permit. <p>The selection of quota refugees is usually based on documentary information received from UNHCR and interviews carried out under the direction of the Finnish Immigration Service in the country where the refugee resides, at refugee camps or at local UNHCR offices, and the grounds for granting a residence permit are investigated on the basis of such documents and interviews.</p> <p>Very urgent, or emergency cases One tenth of the quota has been selected annually for urgent cases and persons whom UNHCR has assessed to be in need of urgent resettlement. Finland selects these emergency cases on the basis of UNHCR documents.</p> <p>The integration of quota refugees in Finland is a duty of the receiving municipality and follows the same procedure as integration of any other immigrants residing in Finland. The legal basis for the procedure is laid in the Act on Integration of Immigrants (Integration Act). According to the Act refugees are eligible for the certain services that are to promote their integration.</p> <p>In most municipalities social services is responsible for the initial phase of integration of refugees. Social services take care of arrangements for the settlement before arrival and the services in the initial phase. The refugees are interviewed to get the general view of person's background, situation, wishes for the future and need for services. Physical examination is also done soon after arrival. The Integration Act obliges the authorities to give basic information about the rights and duties of a person living in Finland, information about the service system and the measures a person is entitled to regarding integration.</p> <p>The Integration Act allows a refugee a possibility to get an initial assessment in which his/her preparedness for education, work and integration as well as needs for education and supporting services are charted and compiled. Thereafter a person can be drawn up a personal integration plan in which his/her individual path to integration is plotted. This contains measures and services a person needs to develop a language and other skills needed to be able to study, work and act as a member of a society. Usually the initial assessment and the integration plan are prepared and carried out by the Office of Employment and Entrepreneurship ("TE-palvelut"). A person is entitled to financial support when he/she is attending an integration measure included in his/her integration plan, for example integration education arranged by the municipality or some other organizer or independent studies. Integration education consists of language training and information about Finnish society and working-life.</p> <p>For refugee children, the comprehensive and secondary schools have a one-year initial period in order to strengthen language and learning skills, intended for all immigrant children.</p>
	<p>France</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. NO</p> <p>1.6 – France signed on February 4, 2008, a framework agreement with the UNHCR which provides for processing each year 100 applications for resettlement presented by the UNHCR. The applicants are put under the UNHCR strict mandate (articles 6 and 7 of the Statute of the UNHCR) in a vulnerable position or in precarious situation in the first host country.</p> <p>1.7 - The UNHCR sends the applications to the asylum department of the ministry of the Interior. Each application is processed individually in cooperation with the competent geographic departments of the ministry of Foreign affairs and if necessary with the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA). There are also public order controls. The decision is taken by the asylum department.</p> <p>In case of approval, the refugee obtains a long term visa for asylum purpose which allows him/her to enter France. At his/her arrival, he/she needs to go to the Prefecture to complete an application form for asylum on which he/she needs to mention that he is put under the UNHCR strict mandate and he benefits from the resettlement program. He/she is issued a receipt of temporary residence permit valid for 6 months and renewable, with access to work.</p> <p>Since these persons are put under the UNHCR strict mandate, the OFPRA gives them automatically the status of refugee. Consequently, the Prefecture issue them a ten year residence permit renewable with access to work.</p> <p>Since 2008, 836 persons from 29 countries have been welcomed in France under this program.</p>





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			<p>Please note that France has also implemented 2 other operations which are not always linked to resettlement issues :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As requested by UNHCR, France has launched a specific operation for Syrian nationals who will be authorized to reside in France either on the basis of resettlement programs or for humanitarian reasons. As of July 2015, 489 Syrian nationals arrived in France under this operation. This operation will be renewed. This agreement is complementary with the Syrian nationals who benefit from the asylum procedure. <p>Since July 2014, France has also agreed to host Iraqi nationals who are persecuted or threatened for religious issues. The applicants are those with family members already residing in France, with strong links with France or in a highly vulnerable position. They are also issued the refugee status with a ten year residence permit renewable and with access to work. As of July 2015, 2 490 Iraqi nationals have thus been authorized to come to France.</p>
	Germany	Yes	<p>Q.1.1.) Resettled individuals are obtaining a humanitarian status. This status is embedded in the German Residence Act (Art. 23 para. 2). Resettlement induces at first an up to 3 years temporary status. It is then extended for a maximum another 3 years term before it amends to a permanent status to reside. Germany does currently not relocate refugees to Germany. Germany's humanitarian admission program of 20,000 Syrians however results in a 2 years temporary status with extension of another 2 years. Additionally Germany's Federal States (separate) admission programs of 15,000 Syrian have the same status.</p> <p>Q.1.2.) Germany's Minister of the Interior in consultation with the 16 Federal State Ministers of Interior is setting out the relevant conditions which are in principle requirements in line with UNHCR appeals and/or international standards. There are no additional extra conditions besides the fact that in Germany residing relatives or acquaintances can also submit a proposal for a resettlement intake.</p> <p>Q.1.3.) Generally an electronic residence card is issued as well as a certificate to attend an integration course.</p> <p>Q.1.4.) The level of rights is very akin to persons with "national status". Integration measures, family reunification, applying for social benefits are the same in both ways.</p> <p>Q.1.5.) Resettled persons are entitled to gain an incipiently 2 weeks pre-integration course in a German reception centre. After dispersal to the final destination integration courses are held, where they receive language training (600 lessons) and advice how to deal with all important areas of everyday life in Germany (60 lessons). Kindergarten and schooling are compulsory for children. Migration consultancy service for adults and migration services for young people are other measures to support resettled persons to prepare them for the demanding daily life. They have an unrestricted right to work. Foreign qualifications can be approved. Social benefits are paid for individuals who are seeking employment (financial support until a job) or temporarily or permanently unable to pursue an occupation. Costs for accommodation, heating, basic medical care can also be granted.</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>No. Hungary does not provide any 'national status' for resettled/relocated persons in its national legislation.</p> <p>1.6. In the recent years, Hungary has only applied the resettlement scheme. According to the national legislation, after conducting a formal procedure for international protection, Hungary grants refugee or subsidiary protection status for the resettled persons. Resettled persons enjoy the same rights as other beneficiaries of international protection.</p> <p>1.7. Once the selection for the national resettlement programme is done and the participants have been informed, the necessary travel documents and visas are issued. Afterwards, pre-departure and post-arrival cultural orientation programs are provided that cover activities such as helping with the arrangement of all necessary documents and providing practical information on the everyday life in Hungary.</p> <p>Integration measures are also applicable for resettled persons; for example being provided with the opportunity to learn Hungarian, to get assistance in arranging accommodation if needed, financial support and other personal integration assistance as well.</p>
	Ireland	Yes	<p>Q1 – No. Ireland grants programme refugee status (which is the equivalent of Convention refugee status) to persons resettled or relocated on its territory. This is</p>




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			provided for under Section 24 of the Refugee Act 1996 as amended. As regards relocation, Ireland has to date only accepted for relocation persons who are beneficiaries of international protection and not applicants for international protection. If the persons being relocated to Ireland were applicants for international protection, the only status they would currently be considered for would be refugee status/subsidiary protection. See http://www.integration.ie/website/omi/omiwebv6.nsf/page/resettlement-en
	Italy	Yes	<p>No. At the moment, there is no specific regulation on resettlement in Italy. However, the Italian Government took part in a number of ad hoc projects, fostered and funded by the EU from 2007 to 2011.</p> <p>1.6) All persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes are granted refugee status o subsidiary protection.</p> <p>1.7) The Ministry of the Interior, Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration, developed ad hoc procedures for each resettlement project, in keeping with the general rules set out in Legislative Decree No 251/2007.</p> <p>In some cases, applicants were not interviewed by the Territorial Commission for the Recognition of Refugee Status because the UNHCR had already provided the qualified Commission with a Resettlement submission dossier that contained all relevant information for the purposes of status recognition. In such projects, («<i>Oltremare 1 and 2</i>» in 2007 and <i>Reinsediamento al Sud</i>» in 2009-2010 in favour of Eritrean, Iraqi and Palestinian nationals), refugee status was granted following an examination of these dossiers. Whereas in 2009, in a project in favour of Eritrean citizens, “<i>Piccoli Comuni Grande Solidarietà</i>”, the Department decided it was mandatory to carry out an interview with the applicants, following which refugee status and, in some cases, subsidiary protection were granted.</p> <p>In all projects, the resettled persons benefited from integration measures, including Italian language classes, vocational training and psychological and health support services.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	As far as Latvia has never participated in relocation or resettlement schemes the current national legislation does not provide a special procedure to deal with person who could be admitted due to relocation or resettlement schemes. At the same time we consider that there are no obstacles which could prevent granting refugee or subsidiary form of protection to persons who are accepted in the framework of these schemes as well as to ensure the rights attached to these statuses. However for more successful integration of these persons the special integration program should be set up in the future.
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. No.</p> <p>1.6. Both refugee and subsidiary statuses could be granted depending on existing threats. National legislation does not provide any “national statuses”.</p> <p>1.7. Foreigners who a granted a refugee status receive a permanent residence permit (5 years) and foreigners who are granted subsidiary protection receive a temporary residence permit (2 years). All foreigners granted international protection in Lithuania gain the same integration rights. Integration is started in the Refugee reception centre (8 months) and if needed later continued in the municipality (for 12 months). In the Refugee reception centre all foreigners are entitled to accommodation, language training, education, social and health protection, and monthly allowance. In a municipality foreigners receive allowance for renting accommodation, allowance for settlement, help in finding employment, etc.</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. No.</p> <p>1.1 N/A.</p> <p>1.2 N/A.</p> <p>1.3 N/A</p> <p>1.4 N/A</p> <p>1.5 N/A</p> <p>1.6 Individuals who have been relocated/resettled to Luxemburg are granted refugee status.</p> <p>1.7 The resettled nationals do not have to undergo the regular application process but are granted refugee status upon their arrival in</p>




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			Luxembourg. They get a residence permit and have the same rights and obligations as other beneficiaries of international protection. The Luxembourg Reception and Integration Agency (OLAI) is responsible for their accommodation, the granting of financial assistance, administrative assistance and social aid as well as the socio-educational supervision of the children. Children have access to education (primary and secondary school) and adults are offered French language classes.
	Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>1.6 Both are possible; depends on the content of the asylum claim.</p> <p>1.7 The procedures for relocation and resettlement are similar although the stakeholders are interchangeable. After admission to the Netherlands the refugees are outplaced directly to a municipality (as in resettlement) and the residence permit is granted upon arrival (as in resettlement). The integration measures do not differ from other accepted asylum applicants.</p> <p>More detailed information can be found here: http://www.unhcr.org/3c5e5925a.html</p>
	Poland	Yes	<p>The persons accepted to Poland on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes are granted - depending on circumstances - one of the international protection statuses: refugee status or subsidiary protection (Article 86a point 2 of the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland). Polish law doesn't provide any type of national status for these categories of foreigners.</p> <p>Foreigner who has been selected to relocation/resettlement prior his/her departure has to submit an application to the Head of Office for Foreigners via the competent Border Guard officer (delegated abroad for this purpose). The officer performs her/his tasks aiming at foreigner's identity verification, grants the applicant a provisional identity certificate of a foreigner (valid for a period of 30 days after entering Poland) and forwards the application to the Head of OF in order to examine it.</p> <p>The decision on granting refugee status or subsidiary protection is issued within 30 days from the foreigner's arrival to Poland.</p> <p>Resettled and relocated persons are entitled to the same integration measures as other persons who have been granted international protection in Poland.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1.6. No. Relocated/resettled persons can be granted asylum or subsidiary protection in the Slovak Republic. Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum and on changes and amendments of some acts does not provide any type of 'national status', except for International Protection Status (asylum or subsidiary protection) for persons accepted to this country on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes.</p> <p>1.7. After relocated/resettled persons enter the Slovak Republic, they are obliged to submit an application for asylum. The Slovak Republic individually examines and assesses the grounds for granting an asylum and if the persons meet all the required conditions, they are granted asylum or subsidiary protection and they have the same rights as other persons granted asylum or subsidiary protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic. According to the amendment to the Act on Asylum coming into force 20 July 2015 (Article 11 (1d)), the asylum application is dismissed by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic as inadmissible if the asylum seeker has been granted asylum or subsidiary protection by another Member State of the European Union on the basis of serious harm; this does not apply if the Slovak Republic agreed with the relocation of the foreigner to its territory.</p> <p>So far Slovak Republic has not accepted any persons on the basis of relocation/resettlement schemes and due to this fact the integration measures have not been carried out. If there were any persons accepted on this basis, they would have the same rights as people granted International Protection Status. The emphasis is put on the fact that these persons become independent and do not rely on social benefits. Six months after granting them protection, Slovak Republic usually provides financial assistance to cover their accommodation and food, social, legal and psychological counselling and assistance with searching accommodation and job. Financial assistance to vulnerable groups can be prolonged. Their integration is usually ensured by non-governmental organizations funded from EU Funds (previous ERF, AMIF in the future) or the integration is financed from the state budget as it is in the</p>


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			present.
	Slovenia	Yes	In SI resettled/relocated persons are granted refugee or subsidiary protection status. National legislation does not provide any 'national status'. Relocated/resettled persons gain the same rights as other persons with recognized international protection status. They are also entitled to the same integration measures (learning Slovenian language and society, financial compensation for private accommodation, financial assistance and other integration assistance), However resettled/relocated persons are also entitled to the orientation programme in the introductory period that lasts 3 month. Orientation programme consists of learning basics of Slovenian language; help in arrangement all documents needed and practical understanding of everyday life in Slovenia.
	Sweden	Yes	Q.1.) Yes, Sweden has additional national grounds. Q.1.1.) They needs protection because of an external or internal armed conflict or, because of other severe conflicts in the country of origin, feels a well-founded fear of being subjected to serious abuses, or ; is unable to return to the country of origin because of an environmental disaster. The first paragraph, point 1 applies irrespective of whether it is the authorities of the country that are responsible for the alien running such a risk as is referred to there or whether these authorities cannot be assumed to offer protection against the alien being subjected to such a risk through the actions of private individuals. Q.1.2.) Nothing more than that an application for asylum has been provided. The legal system take the process top down from refugee status to subsidiary protection and then the national subsidiary protection and finally ground of exceptionally distressing circumstances. Q.1.3.) Aliens passport if no national passport are available or deemed impossible to get Q.1.4.) No. Q.1.5.) It's the same as for those granted international protection. They moving out from reception centers to municipalities, where the responsibility are. Learning Swedish is a main target as well as getting a job as fast as possible.
	United Kingdom	Yes	Q.1; <u>Resettlement schemes</u> No. The UK offers International protection status to all resettled persons. This is because those accepted on resettlement schemes are accepted as being in need of international protection. The UK offers Humanitarian Protection (HP) to people resettled under the Syrian Vulnerable Person's Relocation Scheme(VPRS). This is the equivalent status to Subsidiary Protection (international protection) offered by many Member States (meeting the requirements of the Qualification Directive). Q.1.6.) There are different statuses resettled persons will be given, depending upon the resettlement scheme they are accepted on. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People accepted on the Gateway protection programme (which is the UK's contribution to UNHCR resettlement programme) are given refugee status. Resettled refugees are automatically granted indefinite leave to remain. This status is different to that granted to in country refugees, whose status is reviewed after a period of 5 years before they become eligible to apply for indefinite leave to remain. • As stated above people accepted on the Syrian VPRS are given Humanitarian Protection (HP) This offers 5 years leave to remain. Q 1.7.). Recipients of refugee status and HP are allowed to work, access mainstream benefits, access social, health and education services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By accepting cases under the Gateway scheme we are confirming that they will have refugee status on arrival. They are issued with a Biometric residence Permit confirming this status. After arrival in the UK, Gateway refugees are provided with 12 months resettlement support including a caseworker and access to the benefits system. The caseworkers serve as a contact for refugees, providing advice and support, including helping them to access services such as healthcare, social welfare, education and training.Gateway refugees are granted Indefinite Leave to Remain on arrival in the UK and have the right to take up paid employment in the UK. • By accepting cases under the VPRS we are confirming they will be given humanitarian protection status on arrival. People received under VPRS are provided with 12 months resettlement support including a caseworker and access to the benefits system. The caseworkers serve as a contact for refugees, providing advice and support, including helping them to access services such as healthcare, social welfare, education and training and English language provision. Those accepted under the VPRS are given Humanitarian protection which offers leave to remain for 5 years. They have the right to take up paid employment in the UK.

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	<p>Norway</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. No, Norway does not provide any kind of “national status” to persons accepted on the basis of relocation/resettlement</p> <p>1.6. Norway does not have “subsidiary protection status” and most of the persons accepted on the basis of resettlement will be granted residence on protection grounds. However in specific cases some may be granted humanitarian status.</p> <p>1.7. 1.7 Resettlement selection is made on a dossier basis and through selection missions. An entry visa and a residence or work permit are issued prior to departure for Norway. In dossier cases, status determination is made following (after) entry. In the case of selections made following a selection mission, status determination is made prior to arrival.</p> <p>The following considerations are applied to the decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for international protection • The need for resettlement. Prospects for other durable solutions are also considered on a short-term basis as well as seen from a long-term perspective • Norway gives priority to Women-at-Risk Cases. A substantial proportion of available resettlement places are reserved for women and girls • Persons of known criminal behaviour or heavy drug users will, as a rule, not be offered resettlement in Norway • Persons to whom the exclusion clauses of the 1951 Convention apply shall not, as a rule, be offered resettlement in Norway • Norway will not accept persons who may constitute a threat to national security • The capacity of settlement services to cater for resettled individuals with special needs. <p>Resettlement allocations also include sub-quotas. Norway has 20 places available each year allocated to medical cases. Norway applies exactly the same criteria as those outlined under 4.1.1 in the UNHCR Resettlement Handbook^[1] when assessing the severity of the health condition and possible improvement after resettlement.</p> <p>The quota for cases with emergency priority has varied between 75 and 80 places between 2008 and 2014. Such cases are processed within 48 hours. Furthermore, the sub-quota for unallocated places contained 175 places since 2009.</p> <p>Integration: Established by the Introductory Act of 2005, the right and obligation to take part in the introductory programme and Norwegian language classes are important measures in the Norwegian integration policy. Refugees, persons granted humanitarian status, persons who have obtained group-based protection and their family members between 18 and 55 years of age have a statutory right and obligation to take part in the programme.</p> <p>The purpose of the programme is to provide basic Norwegian language skills, basic insight into Norwegian society, and preparation for participation in work life and/or education. Participants receive an introduction benefit that is equivalent to twice the basic amount from the National Insurance Scheme. The duration of the programme may be up to two years, with an extension in the case of an approved absence. Municipalities start providing programmes for immigrant residents as soon as possible and no later than three months after a person’s arrival. Monitoring and evaluation indicate that the effects of the programmes are positive and that the main elements in the Introductory Act have been implemented in the municipalities to a large extent.</p> <p>Since 2005, it is compulsory for certain newly arrived adult immigrants to take 300 lessons in Norwegian language and social studies. For those getting their first residence permit after 1 January 2012 this has increased to 600 hours. Beyond the compulsory instruction, those who have further need for instruction will have the opportunity to take additional classes (up to 3,000 lessons, depending on the needs of the individual). This system applies to refugees, persons granted humanitarian status, persons granted collective protection and their family members. Persons who come from outside of the</p>
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^[1] The UNHCR Resettlement Handbook can be found in electronic version on the UNHCR website : <http://www.unhcr.org/4a2ccf4c6.html>.

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			<p>European Economic Area/European Free Trade Area (EEA/EFTA) and have a work permit are entitled to take part in 300 lessons, but have no legal right to take the courses free of charge. People from the EEA/EFTA have no legal obligation to take part in language courses.</p> <p>Assistance with housing is also provided to newly arrived refugees, both resettled persons and successful asylum-seekers. Municipalities provide housing for refugees with government funding.</p>
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