



Ad-Hoc Query on "the support/accommodation provided to irregularly staying third country nationals"

Requested by NL EMN NCP on 15 May 2014

Updated compilation produced on 10th November 2014

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

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1. <u>Background Information</u>

Third country nationals may find themselves without legal stay on the territory of a (EU) Member State. Some of these persons may have lodged an asylum application, some of them have never been in contact with the government/ have never applied for any legal stay. In the Dutch Parliament, debate has been re-opened on the provision of support to asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected. During the debate the State Secretary for Security and Justice agreed to explore the measures taken and practices experienced by other Member States to see whether (and if so, what kind of) support is available and provided to this target group. That is why we turn to you with the following questions.

EMN NL NCP Ad-Hoc Query the support/accommodation provided to irregularly staying third country nationals

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- 1. Do you provide shelter, accommodation or any other kind of support (for example a monthly fee) to asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected and are under the obligation to leave the country? Please elaborate on the possible distinction between certain groups (e.g. single adults, vulnerable persons and/or families) and on criteria in order to be given shelter or other support (e.g. the willingness to cooperate with his return). What is the (national or international) legal basis or obligation for your country to provide support?
- 2. For how long do you provide support/shelter and what happens if illegally staying third-country nationals persist on not returning to the country of origin and forced return is not possible?
- 3. If shelter/support is provided, what kind of shelter/support (individual housing, return center, a monthly fee to rent a place, ...) is provided and by whom (central authorities, local municipality, non-governmental organizations, ...)?

We would very much appreciate your responses by **13 June 2014** – or even sooner if possible – since our State Secretary has to inform the Parliament on his findings before summer.

2. <u>Responses</u>

Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
Belgium	Yes	1. In Belgium accommodation and material aid are available for asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected and who are under the obligation to leave to the country, but there are certain conditions and restrictions.
		Asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected (after appeal), will receive an order to leave the country with a term of 10 days. During this period, the ex-asylum seekers will be accommodated in the open return places located in a reception center of the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (Fedasil). The term of the order to leave the country is renewable twice, provided that the ex-asylum seekers co-operate with the voluntary return procedures. So if the ex-asylum seekers co-operate with the organisation of their voluntary return they can stay up to 30 days in the open return places. If they don't co-operate, for example by introducing a new asylum demand, the order will not be renewed

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	eave the reception structure (unless the new asylum procedure is taken into consideration and the right to ception facility is opened again).
	ake action within the given time limit.
If after two renewals of	the order to leave the country (whilst staying in the open return places), the ex-asylum seekers have not left
	30 days, they are no longer entitled to reception and have to leave the open return places, unless they have
	return. In that case they are entitled to reception until the moment of departure to their country.
At the end of the asylun	procedure there are some exceptions to a transfer to the open return places:
First of all there is a pos	tponement for residents who have a family member still in asylum procedure.
If the family member ge	ts a negative decision in respect of their asylum procedure, then the suspension is lifted and the whole family
is assigned to an open re	turn place.
The <u>exemptions</u> for a tra	
a. families with school-	ge children from the 1 st of April until the 30 th of June (so that children will be able to finish their school year
in the same school)	
	ninors who are going to school and have come of age during the school year from the 1 st of April until the
	can finish their school year in the same school)
	al contra-indication for a transfer and their family members (hospitalization, hemodialysis treatment,
	nent, bedridden, patient in wheelchair, TB treatment, chemotherapy or radiotherapy treatment until a month
	ment, pregnancy from 3 months before the expected delivery date up to two months after giving birth)
	hild and their family members
	have signed a request for voluntary return before a final decision in their asylum procedure and who have the
	nts to organize a voluntary return
	nptions categories b en c (except residents in wheel chairs, in treatment for hemodialysis and peritoneal
dialysis), can ask to be a	ssigned to an open return place on a voluntary basis if the period to which the exception applied, is over.
Non accompanied minor	
	s are <u>not</u> transferred to the open return places at the end of their asylum procedure. They will remain in the
reception facilities adapt	
	s can return voluntarily but they can't be expelled. They are allowed to stay in Belgium until they are 18. The
	mpanied minor can apply for an extension of the right to reception, which Fedasil will grant for a period of 4
	opplication. A more permanent option is the search for a "sustainable solution" by the guardian and the
	'sustainable solution' can be:
	Sustainable Solution van de.
	of origin or to a third country where he is authorized to stay
- an authorization for un	of origin or to a third country where he is authorized to stay imited stay in Belgium. ion Office is competent to decide on the sustainable solution for the minor. While the decision of the

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	Immigration Office is pending, the right to reception is maintained.			
	Families with minors who reside unlawfully on the Belgian territory:These families, although not or no longer entitled to reception, can be accommodated if a Public Center for Social Welfare (OCMW)establishes that the under age children are destitute and the parents are unable to fulfil their maintenance obligation.The families receive reception and material aid in the Open Return Center, an open center managed by the Immigration Office andFedasil. The reception is provided in principle up to maximum 30 days. If the family doesn't return within these 30 days they aretransferred to an accommodation unit managed solely by the Immigration Office in order to organize a forced return. These units arealternative open accommodation units for families with minors instead of a closed detention center in which minor children are notallowed to be detained.The duration of the reception in the Open Return Center can exceptionally be extended if the family has agreed to a voluntary returnand couldn't return within the predefined time limit.			
	Undocumented migrants who sign up for a voluntary return: Exceptionally, undocumented migrants who sign up for a voluntary return but have no accommodation or means to support themselves, may be accommodated in the open return places for the short period required to prepare for their actual return.			
	Medical treatmentThe necessary medical treatment is available for everyone, including undocumented migrants.In the case of a medical situation of such a nature that it is a temporary hindrance to departure, the alien concerned can apply forpostponement of departure from the reception facility. This is only the case if they were already residing in a reception facility duringtheir asylum procedure and, after receiving a negative decision along with an order to leave the country, the medical situationprevents them from leaving the reception facility. In that case, they can apply for an extension of their stay in the reception facility onmedical grounds.			
	This is all based on our Law of 12 January 2007 on the reception of asylum seekers and certain other categories of aliens ("Reception Act"). Last modification in May 8 th 2013 and currently, there are 33 executive decrees of the Law (royal or ministerial decrees). Specifications are given in the Fedasil directive of 15 October 2013 with regard to the end and the extension of reception rights and the Fedasil directive of 23 September 2013 with regard to the return path and the open return places. There are also a various number of other Fedasil directives for specific situations (with regarding to employment, daily allowances, etc.).			
	 The main evolutions/changes (mainly in the context of the reception crisis 2008-2011) to regulations on reception rights are: possibility to limit reception rights except for medical assistance, at first instance from the third asylum application then, in a second time (since January 2012) from the second asylum application; possibility to limit reception rights (except medical assistance) if the asylum seeker refuses or leaves (without informing the authorities) the accommodation facilities (January 2012); 			

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	 possibility to stop reception in case of employment (April 2010) or in case of sufficient financial resources (January 2012); implementation of the "Return path" by way of the Reception Act (January 2012) and the open return places in 4 accommodation centers (July 2012); implementation of a list of safe countries with an accelerated asylum procedure, having as a result that the period of stay in the reception facility is limited (May 2012); no reception rights in case of a cassation procedure by the Council of State and only when procedure has been declared admissible (May 2013).
	2. Ex-asylum seekers whose application has been rejected (after appeal), have 10 + 10 +10 days to leave the country voluntarily (so 30 days in total if they co-operate with the organization of their voluntary return; shorter period and an end to reception if they do not co-operate (see above). During this period accommodation and material aid is provided in the open return places (located in 4 reception facilities managed by the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers). If the order to leave the country has expired, and if the ex-asylum seeker didn't return voluntarily and if a forced return is not possible, access to reception facilities is terminated. Continued access to reception facilities can, in fact, be granted if an extension of the right to reception was allowed before the order to leave the country expired. The reasons accepted for an extension of reception are: a. to be able to finalize the school year (between the 1 st of April and the 30 th of June) b. pregnancy from 2 months before the expected delivery date up to two months after giving birth c. demand introduced to the Immigration Office to postpone the order to leave the country because of the impossibility to return to their country of origin for reasons independent of their will* d. parent of a Belgian child who introduced a demand for a residence permit ("article 9bis procedure" of the Alien Law) at the Immigration Office e. medical reasons supported by a demand for a residence permit based on medical reasons ("article 9ter procedure" of the Alien Law) introduced at the Immigration Office. In special circumstances concerning the respect for human dignity, the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers can allow for extension of reception for other reasons than the ones mentioned above.
	*Ex-asylum seekers who are unable to return to their country of origin for reasons independent of their will (for example no travel documents and the Embassy of their country of origin is unable to deliver them): on the one hand, persons who cannot return, may ask for an extension of time in the reception center (conditional to both a recommendation of the Voluntary Return Unit of Fedasil and an extension of the order to leave the territory by the Immigration office). On the other hand, despite a negative decision regarding their asylum application, they may ask for a residence permit through the so-called "article 9bis procedure" (Alien Law). However, this remains an exceptional procedure.
	3. Presently there are 300 return places. These are open (free to come and go) housing facilities, located in 4 of the regular collective reception centers managed by Fedasil (Federal Agency for the reception of asylum seekers) and paid for by the Federal

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		 government of Belgium. Newcomers with pending asylum applications and ex-asylum seekers are living together and use the same accommodation and facilities in these collective reception center. The open return places fall within the scope of the Reception Act and all rights and obligations provided in the Reception Act remain applicable. The material aid offered in the return places comprises therefore: accommodation; food; clothing; medical, social and psychological support; access to interpretation services; access to legal representation; access to training; access to a voluntary return programme and a small allowance (so-called pocket money). The internal rules in these facilities are the same as in the regular reception structures of Fedasil and the reception partners like the Red Cross, and provide therefore access to the same rights and obligations (community services,). The Open Return Center, managed by the Immigration Office and paid for by the Federal government of Belgium offers the same material aid as above to families with minors who reside unlawfully on the Belgian territory. Asylum seekers who are unwilling to return to their country of origin (even after their asylum demand is rejected, sometimes several times), sometimes end up in reception facilities of the municipalities when shelter is no longer being provided by the government. This also happens in Belgium, though it is very exceptional and usually there are additional humanitarian motifs involved such as concern for the small children. There are also a number of NGOs and humanitarian organizations that assist undocumented migrants with information, food parcels, housing 	
Croatia	Yes	Illegally staying foreigners are not provided by any kind of financial or other material support. Rejected asylum seekers to whom decision of rejection of application have become legally valid, are considered as illegally staying foreigners. The Croatian Law on foreigners does not foresee possibilities of financial or other material giving aiming to foster voluntary return. In next amendments of the Law it is planned to regulate such solutions.	
Czech Republic	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.	
Estonia	Yes	 In Estonia, accommodation is available for asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected and who are under the obligation to leave to the country. The asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected can appeal within 10 days after the application has been rejected. Together with the application rejection decision the possibilities for leaving the country is being introduced to the applicant – one can leave voluntary or the process for deportation will be started b the Authorities. Until leaving the country all asylum seekers whose application has been rejected is provided with accommodation. The necessary medical treatment is available for everyone, including illegal aliens. If the alien needs the medical treatment that excludes the possibility for deportation, then the service is provided until the person is healthy enough for travelling. 	

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			2. The deportation of asylum seekers whose application has been rejected will be started after the term of appeal has expired. Until the deportation or until the date that the applicant has stated as the day of the voluntary leave, the applicant is being provided with the accommodation.		
			3. In the reception centres basic facilities are offered such as a roof, cooking facilities and washing areas. The occupants also receive monthly pocket money. The occupants are also provided first aid medical help, if required.		
+-	Finland	Yes	1. According the section 14 of the Act on the Reception of Persons applying for International Protection: Persons entitled to reception services		
			(1) Reception services are provided for persons applying for international protection and beneficiaries of temporary protection.		
			(2) Persons that have been issued with a residence permit on the basis of an application for international protection and beneficiaries of temporary protection that have been issued with a continuous residence permit may be provided with reception services for a reasonable period.		
			(3) After the refusal of his/her residence permit or withdrawal of his/her temporary protection status, an alien that has been provided with reception services is provided with reception services until he/she has left the country. Persons applying for international protection that are citizens of Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland are, however, provided with reception services only until the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service on the refusal of their application for international protection has been served on them.		
			(4) Citizens of the states referred to in subsection 3 above on which the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service on the refusal of international protection has been served and who agree to leave the country under supervision or agree to an arrangement under which the decision on the refusal of entry is enforced before 30 days have elapsed from the service of the decision, may be provided with reception services for a maximum of 7 days until they leave the country. The director of the reception centre may decide that such persons be provided with reception services for a reasonable period for a special personal reason.		
			2. In principle, there is no time limit imposed on how long a person can be provided, in this case accommodation at a reception center, if the person will not leave voluntarily and he/she cannot be returned by force.		
			23. There is also support provided for undocumented persons in the form of health care; the following information is provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health:		
			Health care of undocumented persons There are people residing both legally and illegally in Finland that are referred to as undocumented persons. Undocumented persons refer		

to several different groups of people that have different types of needs for health care services. It is estimated that there are approximately
three thousand undocumented persons in Finland.
Who is undocumented?
An undocumented person usually refers to:
■a person residing in Finland without a residency permit that has come from a non-EU country or outside of the European Economic Area or Switzerland. The person's residency permit has expired or entry / residency in the country is not legal.
 A person that has come to Finland to study or for another reason from outside of the EU, European Economic Area or Switzerland. The person has received a residency permit based on private health insurance, but the coverage has expired or it is not comprehensive. A person that has come to Finland from outside of the EU, European Economic Area or Switzerland and residency proceedings are still in progress or unclear.
A EU citizen who is in the country legally, but does not have health insurance coverage for illness or health care.
A person is not automatically an undocumented person, if he or she does not have a residency municipality or health insurance coverag in Finland. In this context, undocumented persons do not refer to individuals in Finland on short-term tourist or business trips (3 months).
Who does care have to be given to? In Finland, the Municipality of Residence Act determines if a person is to be granted health care services by the public health system Providing health insurance coverage is determined based on the Health Insurance Act.
A person may, however, be entitled to public health care services and/or health insurance medical care compensation, if EU legislation of an international social security agreement so requires. A home municipality or health insurance is not required in such cases.
Urgent care
According to the Health Care Act, public health care must always provide urgent treatment to all that need it.
Urgent care refers to:
 sudden illness, injury, worsening of a long-term condition or decrease in ability to function that requires immediate assessment and treatment. In these cases, treatment cannot be delayed without the sickness or injury worsening. urgent oral care, mental health care, substance abuse care and psychological care. The patient will pay for the treatment, if he or she does not have a residency municipality in Finland or is not entitled to use public health
care services based on EU law or an international social security agreement.
Payment is handled after urgent care is administered.
Providing non-urgent care

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			Some undocumented persons also have the need for non-urgent health care services. However, the person is not entitled to use public health care services if he or she does not have a residency municipality in Finland or EU legislation or an international social security agreement does not apply.
			If an undocumented person is given treatment through public health care, he or she pays the full cost of the treatment.
			The National Institute for Health and Welfare investigated the organising of health care services The National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) was commissioned by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health to investigate the healthcare for undocumented persons residing in the country without a residency permit or health insurance. Finland is not currently providing proper healthcare for undocumented persons.
			The report also indicates that further work is required to establish, among other things, the means for recognizing undocumented persons in the healthcare system, how medication expenses for outpatients will be reimbursed, and how, from the perspective of public health, to ensure the prevention of communicable diseases via provision of vaccines.
	France	Yes	Following the definitive rejection of his application, the applicant must leave the reception centre for asylum seekers (CADA= Centre d'accueil pour demandeurs d'asile) within a month or exceptionally within a month after the OFII decision for the people who requested assisted voluntary return. Specific centre for failed asylum seekers don't exist in France. In practice, the associations notice that it may be difficult to force the failed asylum seeker to leave the CADA. These provisions are stated in the articles R.348-1 to R.348-6-1 of the Code for Social Action and the Family (the period of one month is stated in the article R.348-3).
			Within the framework of the asylum reform in France, two parliamentarians submitted a report in November 2013 where they proposed to create specific and semi-open housing facilities for return. The report stated that, in order to encourage ex asylum seekers to be placed in these centers, financial assistance could be provided to them. The two parliamentarians claimed that these centers would provide more counselling and rights to the ex asylum seekers and promoted the opening of an experimental center in the Rhône-Alpes region. However, this center is not operating yet.
	Germany	Yes	Asylum seekers who are obliged to leave the country after the rejection of their application for asylum continue to receive the same benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Law at all times and in the same way as during the ongoing asylum procedure. Such benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Law include basic benefits for food, accommodation, household, personal hygiene and health care (only in the form of benefits in kind), a sum of money in cash staggered according to age and marital status to cover the personal needs of daily life (pocket money), benefits during illness, pregnancy and birth as well as other benefits in the case of special needs of the individual. Accommodation can be in the form of community accommodation and in individual apartments. Should it not be possible to apply measures to end the stay for reasons for which the person concerned is responsible, the benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Law will only be granted if in that individual case the reasons are irrefutable in accordance with the circumstances prevailing. The German Federal States and the municipalities are responsible for the execution of the Asylum Seekers'

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		Benefits Law. The Federal States can create departure facilities for the accommodation of individuals obliged to leave where by means of support and guidance the readiness for a voluntary departure can be encouraged and the accessibility for authorities and Courts of Law as well as the execution of the departure can be ensured. (§ 61, section 2, Residence Act).
Hungary	Yes	 Asylum seekers whose asylum application has been rejected and are under the obligation to leave the county (and do not have the right to stay), are placed in detention centers. N/A N/A
Italy	Yes	1-2-3 Asylum applicants who do not have sufficient means to support themselves and their family members (to guarantee suitable life quality and health) are entitled to reception measures. Reception measures provides for hospitality in <i>centres</i> run by the Ministry of the Interior (Prefectures) through agreements with public and/or private organizations that have been awarded contracts for providing these services. In reception <i>centres</i> , asylum applicants are given free food, shelter, personal items, health care services, psychological and social assistance and language and cultural mediation services. If there is no room in the reception centres, a first-assistance allowance ($€$. 27.89 per day) is granted until a place become available. Reception measures (providing for either hospitality or allowances) cease to apply on notification of a decision regarding the asylum application. However, if an asylum application is rejected and an appeal is lodged, the reception measures are extended for the time it takes for submitting the appeal and until a negative decision is communicated (if this is the case) not authorizing the applicants to stay in the country. At any rate, <i>reception measures cease to apply after six months</i> (after which term, asylum applicants can start working in Italy), unless they are unfit for work. Generally speaking, Italian Regions may establish measures for <i>irregular</i> TCNs who are present in their territory. The Central Government challenged this provision before the Constitutional Court on the grounds that it would favour illegal immigration, but the Court found it legal (Decision No. 61 of 2011). As a result, a Region may provide for additional reception measures on top of those established at a domestic level. These additional measures may be taken in agreement with local municipalities and are applicable only to irregular TCNs who are present in the concerned Region.
Latvia	Yes	 Rejected asylum seekers are not provided with shelter, accommodation or any other kind of support (monthly fee). Rejected asylum seekers are obliged to leave the country voluntarily (they cover the costs for departure by themselves or receive financial support from IOM to depart from the country) or they are forcefully removed by the State Border Guard. Usually in case of voluntary return with IOM support and forced return during the return proceedings, arrangements related with departure of a foreigner are organized. So at the end of return proceedings when departure of a foreigner is organized a detained foreigner is released from detention center or an alternative measure to detention is revoked. Rejected asylum seeker, who was not detained and with regard to whom voluntary return decision is issued, organize his/her departure by himself/herself or apply for IOM support. In accordance with Regulation

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		No454 regarding forced removal of third-country nationals, in case of forced removal departure document and the issue thereof, a foreigner receive a sum of money in amount of 28,46 Eur for covering food and transport costs. The Regulation mentioned defines that vulnerable foreigner, who is a subject of forced return need to be to removed to the place of residence or a specialized institution in the country of destination.
		2. Latvia does not have such category as illegally staying foreigners, who persist on not returning. In accordance with the Immigration Law illegally staying foreigner, who is hiding his/her identity, provides false information or refuses to cooperate in other ways or the foreigner has previously avoided a removal procedure in Latvia or other EU MS or foreigner has unjustifiably failed to execute the voluntary return decision can be detained and forcefully returned to the country of his/her origin.
		Legislation of the Republic of Latvia does not define the obligation for the state authorities to provide non removable foreigners with support/shelter.
		Latvia has elaborated amendments to the Immigration Law, which define that not detained foreigner with regard to whom a voluntary return decision or decision on forced return is issued and he/she does not have financial means to support himself or herself and his/her minor children until departure will be provided with social care services with the aim to meet basic needs (food, clothing, housing, health care and education) until his/her departure.
		3. Latvia has elaborated amendments to the Immigration Law, which define that not detained foreigner with regard to whom a voluntary return decision or decision on forced return is issued and he/she does not have financial means to support himself or herself and his/her minor children until departure will be provided with social care services with the aim to meet basic needs (food, clothing, housing, health care and education) until his/her departure.
Lithuania	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
Luxembourg	Yes	1. In Luxembourg the international protection applicants are entitled to reside in the reception facilities until the final appeal is rejected and the decision becomes final. In that case the applicant has to leave the country and in consequence the reception facility. Seen that article 22 of the amended Law of 5 May 2006 on the Right of Asylum and Complementary Forms of Protection establishes that the applicant has 30 days to leave the country voluntarily. In these cases the rejected international protection applicant (single adult, family or vulnerable person) can be authorized to remain in the reception facility until s/he leaves the country in the deadline imposed by the Minister in charge of immigration. Under these circumstances the same benefits will be granted to the rejected international protection applicant. The legal basis is article 22 of the Asylum Law and article 9 of the Grand Ducal Regulation of 8 June 2012 setting the conditions and modalities under which international protection applicants may benefit from a social aid. During the 30 days period given to leave the country the single adults, the families or vulnerable persons should stay in the reception facility where they are staying.
		2. As we mentioned in question 1 the support will be given during the delay for the voluntary return (normally 30 days). This can be

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		 exceptionally extended if the Ministry grants it based on the personal situation of the applicant. In the case of a medical condition of such a grave nature that it is a temporary hindrance to departure, the TCN concerned can apply for postponement of removal which, if granted, is linked to a right to access to reception facilities. In case that the deadline of 30 days passed and the rejected international protection applicant refuses to leave the country, the Minister in charge of Immigration will issue an order to place him in detention (120 (1) of the modified Law of 29 August 2008 on Free Movement of Persons and Immigration) and an entry ban will be issued (article 112 (1) of the modified Law of 29 August 2008). If forced return is not possible s/he does not have the right after being freed to have access to the reception facilities. 3. Normally the rejected international protection applicant is allowed to stay in the same reception facility where s/he was before. In Luxembourg there are the following types of reception facilities: a. Collective open reception centres (these reception facilities are run by the Luxemburgish Reception and Integration Office (OLAI) directly or through two NGO's (Caritas and the Luxemburgish Red Cross); b. Special reception centres or facilities for vulnerable groups (e.g. victims of torture or specific vulnerable female applicants) Special separate reception centres for unaccompanied minors (These are run by Caritas and the Luxemburgish Red Cross)
Netherlands	Yes	1. In the Netherlands, accommodation is available for asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected and who are under the obligation to leave to the country, but there are certain restrictions. Asylum seekers whose (first) asylum application has been rejected (after appeal), have 28 days to leave the Netherlands voluntarily. During this period, they will be accommodated at a reception centre of the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA). If they do not leave the Netherlands within these 28 days, they are no longer entitled to receive the reception facilities. This is to urge them to take actions within the given time limit. However, after the aforementioned 28 days they can receive shelter in a so-called freedom-restricting location, under the condition that the actual return can take place within a period of, in principle, 12 weeks. The foreign national can carry on with his preparations for departure in this facility. Foreign nationals housed in the freedom-restricting accommodation are permitted to leave the centre but they have to stay within the boundaries of the respective municipality and report to the centre every day (article 56 of the Dutch Aliens Act). Family locations Family locations house families with minor children who no longer have a right to reception. Their request for asylum has been refused and they must leave the country. Shelter is provided if this is deemed necessary to prevent the minor children will find them self in a situation of humanitarian need.
		<i>Medical treatment</i> The necessary medical treatment is available for everyone, including illegal aliens. In the case of a medical situation of such a nature

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	that it is a temporary hindrance to departure, the alien concerned can apply for postponement of departure which, if granted, is linked to a right to access to reception facilities. Furthermore, aliens with medical problems may, under certain conditions, be eligible for access to reception facilities while awaiting a decision on their application for a residence permit on the grounds of medical treatment or a decision on a request for postponement of departure.
	This is all based on our Aliens Act (article 10). This is deemed in accordance This is all based on our Aliens Act (article 10). This is deemed in accordance with the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights and the need to search for a fair balance between the demands of the general interest of the community and the requirements of the protection of the individual's fundamental rights.
	 Asylum seekers whose application has been rejected (after appeal), have 28 days to leave the Netherlands voluntarily. During this period shelter is provided. After this period and under certain circumstances, they can obtain shelter in a freedom-restricting centre for a period of – in principle – 12 weeks.
	In cases where it can be assumed that the alien will be unwilling to cooperate with his return and forced return is not possible, access to reception facilities is terminated and, in principle, no shelter in a freedom-restricting centre will be offered. Individual circumstances are still taken into consideration, even in the latter situation. Continued access to reception facilities can, in fact, be granted in highly exceptional circumstances. COA has no policy rules or fixed guidelines for defining this criterion. A decision to allow such access to reception facilities is made on a case-by-case basis and serves as a 'safety net' for unforeseen situations.
	The stay at a family location can be ended only when the family leaves the Netherlands or the youngest child in the family turns eighteen.
	3. During the 28 days period, shelter is provided by COA in reception locations. COA has various types of reception centres throughout the Netherlands. In the reception centres basic facilities are offered such as a roof, cooking facilities and washing areas. The occupants also receive weekly pocket money. The occupants usually live in housing units in groups of between five and eight persons. Each housing unit has a number of bedrooms and a shared living room, kitchen and sanitary facilities. The Asylum Seekers Health Centre (GC A) offers quality healthcare. The family doctor practices located in asylum seeker centres are 'small practices' which do not always have staff present every day. Each location has a certain number of walk-in consultation hours per week. In addition, occupants can call the Practiceline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
	A freedom-restricting centre is not much different from a reception location. Occupants receive shelter, food and pocket money. Occupants are only entitled to urgent medical health care. The house rules are more stringent than at an asylum seekers' centre. The occupant is allowed to leave the location, but must stay within the boundaries of the municipality where the freedom restricting location is situated.
	Family locations have basic facilities. Only the facilities which are absolutely necessary are provided. There are no restrictions on the

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		facilities available for children, which are the same as those at other reception locations.		
		The above mentioned forms of shelter are paid for by Dutch Government. No other forms of shelter than the above mentioned are provided for by Dutch Government. However, some former asylum seekers are unwilling to return to their country of origin (even after their asylum demand is rejected, sometimes several times), and sometimes end up in municipalities when shelter is no longer being provided by Dutch government. Some municipalities offer them a form of support or shelter but this is not supported nor deemed desirable by national government since this practice sends out the wrong message to these third country nationals, namely that staying in the Netherlands is still a viable option.		
		The DT&V also works closely together with the municipalities which provide support to third country nationals in a so-called local return platform. This local return platform consists of representatives of the Repatriation and Departure Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the local aliens police and the respective municipality. The case of each individual third country national is carefully and thoroughly assessed, together, in order to determine which steps have to be taken towards a (voluntary) return to the country of origin.		
Poland	Yes	 Yes. In case of Poland asylum seekers whose [first] asylum application has been rejected and are under the obligation to leave Poland have 30 days to leave the territory of Poland voluntarily, after the negative decision in the asylum procedure has become final and binding 1. During the period of 30 days after the negative decision has become final and binding all foreigners receives the same social assistance as during the asylum procedure. The abovementioned rule is foreseen in the Chapter 5 of the Act of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland [articles 70-86]. Additionally if during the period of 30 days a foreigner will inform the Head of the Office for Foreigners about the will to voluntary return to the country of origin s/he may have the voluntary return organized by the Head of the Office for Foreigners can provide the following forms of aid: accommodation in an open centre for foreigners, of which 13 are currently operating (4 are run by the Office for Foreigners and other 9 by third parties, selected on the basis of open tender procedures – public procurement), funds for financing their stay on the Polish territory - in this case, a foreigner sorganize accommodation by themselves and the Head of the Office for Foreigners covers the cost of accommodation. Furthermore, regardless of the form of aid [in the centre or outside], each foreigner: is provided with medical care, and can request assistance for his/her voluntary return to the country of origin. 		

¹ The abovementioned rule is not applicable if 1] on the date of the decision to refuse refugee status or subsidiary protection award or the decision to discontinue the proceedings on granting refugee status, a foreigner staying in a guarded centre or in a remand centre, or 2] a decision on refusal to grant refugee status or subsidiary protection award or a decision to discontinue the proceedings on granting him/her refugee status was issued because another application for the refugee status has been submitted.

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A foreign national who has been accommodated in a centre is provided with:
 full board (three meals a day) in accordance with cultural principles. It is also possible to exchange food for cash equivalent (for organizational reasons),
- allowance for incidental expenses,
 extra allowance for the purchase of personal hygiene products,
- clothing and footwear allowance,
 reimbursement of travel costs due to participation in asylum proceedings, medical examinations and vaccinations, and in other justified cases,
- access to free Polish language courses, which are organized at the centre, and to basic learning materials. ²
In addition:
 children have access to public schools, and those who participate in compulsory education receive a set of required textbooks and exercise books, basic school supplies and cash equivalent instead of meals,
 parents of children up to 6 years of age receive financial compensation in exchange for food in order to purchase food tailored to the age of the child (for children up to 6 years of age, children attending kindergarten, elementary school, secondary and high school students and persons requiring a special diet; it may also be granted for organizational reasons).
As indicated above, a foreigner can receive social assistance in the form of cash payments to cover his/her living costs in the Republic of Poland (accommodation and meals). If a person wishes to live outside a reception centre, he/she must submit an appropriate request at the Department for Social Assistance of the Office for Foreigners. Assistance may be granted in this form for
organizational reasons, and also in the following cases:
 in order to provide a foreigner with security if, for various reasons, it is not possible in the centre,
 there is a threat to public order,
 there is a need to protect and maintain family ties,
 the foreigner has received the decision on granting refugee status or a decision on the refusal to grant the refugee status providing for subsidiary protection or permit for tolerated stay.
The amount of aid is determined by the Ordinance of the Minister of Interior and Administration of 10 November 2011 on the amount
of assistance for foreigners applying for refugee status. According to the above Ordinance, the amount of assistance provided in the form of "cash benefits" depends on the size of the family who has submitted the request according to the following rules:
 PLN 25 per day per person (approx. EUR 6.25),
 if the foreign national lives on the Polish territory along with a spouse or underage children, cash benefits for each family
member per day amount to: in the case of a family consisting of two members - PLN 20 (approx. EUR 5), three members -
PLN 15 (approx. EUR 3.75), four or more members - PLN 12.50 PLN (approx. EUR 3).
Benefits are paid monthly at the centre located nearest to residence of the foreigner or by postal order to the address indicated.
Foreigners living outside the centre are also provided with (1) medical assistance, (2) access to free Polish language courses, which

² Polish language courses are available in all reception centres. The number of hours of classes depends on the number of participants (adults and children). Participants are divided into groups: usually, children aged 6 to 9, children aged 10 to 15, young adults and adults.

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are organized in the centres, and (3) necessary learning materials (children are provided with a set of textbooks and basic school
supplies) and (4) assistance in the case of a voluntary return to the country of origin.
The following acts constitute the legal basis for providing support to foreigners:
 Act on Foreigners of 12 December 2013 [Journal of Laws 2013 item 1650]
 Act on granting protection for foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland of 12 June 2003 [Journal of Laws 2012 item 680]
 Rules of stay in the centre for foreigners seeking refugee status, which constitute Annex to the Ordinance of the Minister of Interior of 6 December 2011 [Dz. U. of 2011, No. 282, item 1654]
 Ordinance of the Minister of Interior and Administration of 10 November 2011 on the amount of assistance for foreigners applying for refugee status [Dz. U. of 2011, No. 261, item 1564]
 Ordinance of the Minister of Health of 1 March 2011 on medical examination and the sanitary treatments of the body and clothing of foreigners applying for refugee status [Dz .U. 2011.61.313]
- Act of 27 August 2004 on health care services financed from public funds [Dz. U. of 2004 No. 210, item 2135, as amended].
2. In case of Poland asylum seekers whose [first] asylum application has been rejected and are under the obligation to leave Poland have 30 days to leave the territory of Poland voluntarily. During this period his / her stay on the territory of Poland is legal and a foreigner is empowered to be provided with shelter and social assistance as during the asylum procedure. After this period a foreigner is obliged to leave the territory of Poland. The abovementioned form of support is also provided for foreigners by the day of his / her voluntary return organized by the Head of the Office for Foreigners.
In general terms there is no possibility to offer social assistance or shelter to foreigners staying illegally on the territory of Poland. In order to omit the situation when a foreigner is not following the return decision or there is no possibility to return a foreigner by force several activities were taken into consideration and are planned.
In accordance with the Article 351 of the Act of 12 December 2013 on Foreigners if the return decision is ineffective a foreigner shall be granted a permit for tolerated stay within the territory of the Republic of Poland if a return obligation for him/her:
1) can be made solely to the state in which within the meaning of the Convention for the Protection of Human Right and Fundamental Freedoms drawn up in Rome on 4 November 1950:
a) his/her right to life, freedom and personal security might be threatened, or
b) he/she could be subject to torture or inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment, or
c) he/she could be subject to forced labour, or
d) he/she could be deprived of the right to fair trial or be punished without a legal basis, or
- in case when there are circumstances to deny him/her the residence permit for humanitarian reasons referred to in Article 349, or
2) is not feasible for reasons beyond the control of the authority responsible for the forced execution of the decision on imposing the
return obligation and beyond the control of the foreigner, or
3) can be effected only to a country expulsion to which is inadmissible under a ruling of a court of law or because of a decision of the
Minister of Justice on the refusal to expel a foreigner.
Those foreigners who have been granted permission to stay for humanitarian reasons or tolerated stay on Polish territory shall be

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		 provided with targeted allowances, as well as provided with shelter, food and necessary clothing [as listed in the Article 18.1 point f of the Act on social assistance of 12 March 2004, Journal of Laws of 2013 item 183]. Regional social policy centres, poviat centres for family assistance and gmina centres for social assistance shall provide for family benefits and social assistance;3 The abovementioned solution entered into force on 1st may 2014 with the basis on the Act of 12 December 2013 on Foreigners. However Border Guard is planning to offer foreigners who were granted a permit for tolerated stay one-time special social assistance package [details of the new project are still under construction]. 3. n/a 	
Romania	Yes	 According to the legal provisions the asylum seekers enjoy the right to remain in Romania up to the expiration of 15 days after the termination of the asylum procedure. Exceptions are rejection of the asylum applications in the accelerated and border procedure when the applicants must leave the territory as soon as the procedure was terminated (Law 122/2006 on asylum procedure, art. 17, para (1) letter a)). Also, the asylum applicants who do not have the necessary means of support have the right to be accommodated in the reception centers of the General Inspectorate for Immigration until the right to remain in Romania is terminated (Law 122/2006 on asylum procedure, art. 17, para (1) letter k)). Also, upon request, the asylum applicants enjoy the right to benefit from assistance necessary to sustenance in case they do not have the necessary means. The necessary budget for food, accommodation and other expenses are set by government decision and are provided by the state budget through the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Law 122/2006 on asylum procedure, art. 17, para (1) letter j)). Simultaneously, the asylum applicants with special needs have the right to benefit from adaptation of the accommodation conditions and assistance in the accommodation centers In cases when the third country nationals have no stay right and, due to objective reasons, they do not leave the Romanian territory, tolerated status may be granted (Government Emergency Ordinance 194/2002 on aliens' regime in Romania, art. 102, para. (1)). For the third country nationals who applies for voluntary return and enroll in special programmes, International Organization for Migration may support the costs for accommodation, according to the provisions of the specific voluntary return programmes. 	
Slovak Republi	c Yes	 Asylum seekers can be accommodated in reception facilities only until the decision on granting asylum (or the rejection) becomes effective. Afterwards, they have to leave the facility. There are few exceptions when the (rejected) asylum seekers may remain in the reception facility (e.g. in case of their voluntary return to the country of origin). The period during which they can remain in the facility is not set by the law. In case of a voluntary return it can last until the day of the return. If an application of an asylum seeker from a third country has been rejected and the decision has become effective, their stay in the 	

³ While implementing social security tasks, government and local administration bodies cooperate on the basis of partnership with social organizations and NGOs, Catholic Church and other churches and associations as well as with individuals and entities. Support is granted from the state budget.

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	Slovak Republic is considered illegal. According to the Act on the Residence of Aliens, the third country national is consequently		
	expelled from the territory based on the expulsion order. The Police shall set the period for departure during which the third country		
	national has to provide for his documents (tickets, travel documents etc.) for the purpose of his departure from the Slovak Republic.		
	During the period for departure, the third country national can take advantage of the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration		
	Programme of IOM which includes the following:		
	 provision of information and counselling to applicants for voluntary return, 		
	 preparation of a travel plan and logistics related to the return, 		
	 assistance with issuing emergency travel documents, 		
	 assistance at the airport when departing from Slovakia, assistance in transit countries, 		
	 assistance with reintegration in the country of origin. 		
	If a third country national is not issued the period for departure in their expulsion decision, the Police detain the third country national		
	in the detention centre (in Sečovce or in Medved'ov). In the detention centre, the third country national is provided care in compliance		
	with the international and national law and standards, accommodation, food, health care, in-kind assistance according to their current		
	needs. Apart from this, they are provided support by the nongovernmental organizations through the implementation of projects co-		
	financed by the Funds from the General Programme "Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows" mainly from the Return Fund		
	aiming at covering expenses for specific needs of third country nationals placed in detention centres and in some cases even after their		
	release from the centres., The following activities are implemented within the aforementioned projects: provision of social		
	counselling, psychological help, legal counselling, education, in-kind help, toiletries, free time activities (sport, music therapy, art		
	therapy, library – foreign language literature, TV, DVD etc.). These persons are not provided financial assistance as such. Special		
	attention is paid to vulnerable persons as has been stipulated by the Act on the Residence of Aliens. If the third country nationals can		
	provide for themselves, they ensure some of the expenses on their own (such as cigarettes, coffee etc.).		
	Unaccompanied minors are a special category as they cannot be expelled from the territory of the Slovak Republic and cannot be		
	detained (except for families with children or a minor with a legal counsellor). The court decides about the counsellor for an unaccompanied minor and the minor is consequently placed in a specialized facility of the Ministry of labour, social affairs and		
	family of the Slovak Republic.		
	If rejected asylum seekers who apply for a voluntary return are not able to provide for themselves (if they are not detained or		
	accommodated in the reception facility for a sylum seekers), they are arranged accommodation through the Assisted Voluntary Return		
	and Reintegration Programme of IOM. However, as IOM does not have any special facilities for this purpose, they are usually placed		
	in low threshold facilities for homeless people. This accommodation is usually provided during the period of 6 months but in special		
	cases it can be prolonged.		
	cubes it can be protonged.		
	2. If the expulsion measure cannot be carried out (there are obstacles to administrative expulsion, departure is not possible due to		
	objective grounds e.g. it is not possible to get hold of emergency travel documents etc.), upon the release of the third country national		
	from the detention centre can lodge an application for a tolerated stay. Nongovernmental organizations provide to the third country		
	national temporary accommodation and basic in-kind assistance (i.e. until they are granted tolerated residence; until they have all the		
	necessary arrangements; or until they contact their family etc.). Consequently they have to cover all the expenses related to their stay		
	in the Slovak Republic on their own or they can ask for help nongovernmental or charitable organizations, civic associations etc.		

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			operating in this field. For the length of the period of the provision of accommodation see also 1.
			3. See 1.
	Slovenia	Yes	 Asylum seeker which application has been rejected obtains all rights until decision is final or he is return to the country of origin. Legal basis for providing shelter and other support lay down in the International Protection Act. Articles 15 - 16 define vulnerable person (unaccompanied minors, single adults, pregnant women and children, etc) and type of shelter and support which differs from support provided for asylum seeker. Usually shelter is provided by the Ministry of the interior in the Asylum Home. In case that asylum application is rejected and final or removal decision is issued a illegally staying third-country national is transferred to the Alien Center and is carried out by the Police. In case that illegally staying third-country national refuse return to the country of origin or force return is not possible decision for removal is extended for maximum 6 months. Such decision is taking by the Police authorities only. For asylum seeker shelter is provided in the Asylum Home and in case that application is rejected and final he is transferred to the Alien Center until his final removal to the country of origin.
	Sweden	Yes	 Yes. According to the Act on Reception of Asylum Seekers (SFS 1994:137, 11§) everyone who has applied for asylum is entitled to reception until he/she has been granted a residence permit or has left the country. There is no difference in the reception conditions before and after the first decision on the asylum application.
			2. Reception is provided until the person is granted a residence permit or leaves the country. If the person is not leaving the country voluntarily and cannot be removed by force he/she will be entitled to reception on the same conditions as before and as everyone else in the asylum system. If the asylum seeker cannot be removed by force this can be a ground for granting a residence permit allowing the person to stay in Sweden.
			3. The reception conditions are the same as for all other asylum seekers. In other words it can be accommodation provided by the Swedish Migration Board or the asylum seeker can live with friends and relatives, in any case a daily allowance is provided by the Swedish Migration Board. For more information please see the Swedish contribution to the EMN study on reception of asylum seekers.
X	United Kingdom	Yes	 In the UK, failed asylum seekers may be supported under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. In order to be granted support, they need to show that they are destitute <u>and</u> can satisfy one or more of the conditions set out in regulation 3(2) of the Immigration and Asylum (Provision of Accommodation to Failed Asylum-Seekers) Regulations 2005. The current section 4 rate for adults is £35.39 per week.

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The following are the criteria for support set out in regulation 3(2):						
 (a) s/he is taking all reasonable steps to leave the United Kingdom or place himself in a position in which he is able to leave the United Kingdom, which may include complying with attempts to obtain a travel document to facilitate his departure; 						
(b) s/he is unable to leave the United Kingdom by reason of a physical impediment to travel or for some other medical reason;						
(c) s/he is unable to leave the United Kingdom because in the opinion of the Secretary of State there is currently no viable route of return available;						
(d) s/he has made an application for judicial review of a decision in relation to his asylum claim-						
i in England and Wales, and has been granted permission to proceed pursuant to Part 54 of the Civil Procedure Rules 1998, ii in Scotland, pursuant to Chapter 58 of the Rules of the Court of Session 1994 or						
iii in Northern Ireland, and has been granted leave pursuant to Order 53 of the Rules of Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) 1980; or						
(e) the provision of accommodation is necessary for the purpose of avoiding a breach of a person's Convention rights, within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998.						
The majority of persons supported under section 4 of the Act are single persons or persons who had children after their applications for asylum were refused. However, around 20% of persons supported under section 95 of the Act (the provisions for support and accommodation of asylum seekers) are failed asylum seekers, who, because they had children at the time their application for asylum was refused, remained on section 95 support in order to safeguard the welfare of the children.						
2. Section 4 support is lower than the support provided for asylum seekers as it is intended to be a limited and temporary form of support for <u>destitute failed asylum seekers</u> who have been found by the courts not to be in need of protection and who are taking steps to leave the UK. The provision of the support is reviewed regularly to ensure that the criteria continue to be met. Failed asylum seekers in receipt of section 4 support will continue to receive it until the barrier to leaving the UK, upon which their support relies, is resolved.						
3. The UK Home Office is explicitly prevented by legislation from providing section 4 support in the form of cash. Section 4 support is accommodation based, on a no-choice basis, with additional support provided via the Azure Card to the value of £35.39 per person, per week for the purchase of food, essential toiletries and other items as specified within the Immigration and Asylum (Provision of Services or Facilities) Regulations 2007 ("the 2007 Regulations").						
Azure Card holders are able to access a comprehensive list of affiliated supermarkets and retail outlets throughout the UK. Section 4 accommodation is usually provided within a three mile radius from a supermarket affiliated to the Azure card scheme and, as a result, supported persons can travel to and from the supermarket on foot.						
Additional support under the 2007 Regulations is available to eligible section 4 recipients who require support that are above and						

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		beyond those which can be provided in the form of ordinary section 4 support.						
			S4 support rates for failed asylum seekers.					
			Circumstances	S.4 Rate				
			Child < 1year	£45.39*				
			Child 1-3 years	£43.39*				
			Child 3-15	£40.39*				
			Young person 16/17	£35.39				
			Adult	£35.39	*Additional payments to children on			
			Pregnant woman	<i>Rate</i> $+$ £3 /week & £250 grant for each child	Section 4 require an application			
Norv	way		Some of this information can be found in the UK national report on reception facilities for asylum seekers although the report mainly focuses on reception conditions of asylum seekers and not <i>failed asylum seekers</i> . Only asylum seekers have a right to stay in reception centers. However, they have the right to continue to stay in reception centers after a final negative decision (including all appeals options) up to their actual return (with VARP or forced return) to their country of origin. Families with minor children who are not former asylum seekers, and who are otherwise unauthorized to stay in the country, have no right to stay in a reception centers until they actually return. Adults receive reduced financial benefit after a final negative decision has been made; minor children do not get their support reduced. Families that are not former asylum seekers and otherwise not authorized to stay in the country, are not entitled to reception rights, but may receive emergency health care from the mainstream system. Norway provides a place in a reception center for previous asylum seekers who have received a final negative decision until they can in fact depart Norway. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration administers reception centers (through out-sourcing) and would provide a place in a reception center in these cases.					
