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Ad-Hoc Query on 2022.58 Resettlement, humanitarian admission and sponsorship programmes

Requested by the Commission on 27 October 2022

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden (25 in Total)

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## 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The aim of this Inform is to provide an overview of the recent developments regarding resettlement, humanitarian admission and sponsorship programmes in the EMN Member and Observer Countries from 2016 until 2022. Furthermore, the Inform offers EMN Member States and Observer

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countries that are starting a new programme, the opportunity to learn from other Member States with well-established programmes for admission on humanitarian and international protection grounds.

In terms of scope, the Inform investigates the status of activities in regard to resettlement, humanitarian admission schemes and sponsorship programmes in EMN member and Observer Countries from 2016 to 2022. In addition, the significance of the emerging sponsorship programmes shall be explored, including an analysis of the challenges (e.g. procedural, structural) faced by these various programmes and schemes. Also, the process within EU Member States of determining the pledges shall be examined.

More specifically, this includes:

- An overview of the resettlement schemes, the humanitarian admission programmes, and the sponsorship programmes in the EMN Member and Observer Countries
- Examining the processes within EMN Member and Observer Countries when defining the capacities/quotas
- An outline of the main challenges of both current and future programmes

The specific impact of COVID-19 and the unique situation in Ukraine do not fall within the scope of this inform, as they present ad hoc events that do not represent a durable EMN Member and Observer Countries policy on the topics of Resettlement, Humanitarian admission and Community Sponsorships.

Furthermore, these efforts have been already reflected upon by the EUAA.[1]

Nonetheless, it is clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the number of arrivals under these programmes and in the way programmes had to operate. Therefore, EMN Member and Observer Countries must specify when COVID-19 related impediments may affect the information given to the network.

[1] <https://euaa.europa.eu/publications/resumption-resettlement-and-humanita...>, last accessed on 18 July 2022.

**We would like to ask the following questions:**

**1. Has your country implemented Resettlement programmes in the period 2016-2022? YES/NO/OTHER. If you answer YES, please describe the scheme(s) briefly (e.g. name(s) of scheme(s), starting date, period of implementation, number of persons resettled, places from which they were resettled, stakeholders involved). If you answer NO, are there any plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future?**

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2. If you answer yes to Q1, what procedure is followed to select persons for resettlement? In your answer please describe the eligibility criteria/selection priorities (e.g. geographical priorities, countries of first asylum, vulnerability, presence of family members in your country, etc.) for the resettlement programmes implemented in the period 2016-2022, if applicable.
3. Has your country implemented Humanitarian admission schemes in the period 2016-2022? [Yes/No/Other] If you answer Yes, please describe the scheme(s) briefly (e.g. name(s) of scheme(s), starting date, period of implementation, number of persons resettled, places from which they were resettled, stakeholders involved). If you answer NO, are there any plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future?
4. If you answer yes to Q3, what procedure is followed to select persons for Humanitarian admission schemes? In your answer please describe the eligibility criteria/selection priorities (e.g. geographical priorities, countries of first asylum, vulnerability, presence of family members in your country, etc.) for the Humanitarian admission schemes implemented in the period 2016-2022, if applicable.
5. Has your country implemented Sponsorship schemes in the period 2016-2022? [Yes/No/Other] If you answer Yes, please describe the scheme(s) briefly (e.g. name(s) of scheme(s), starting date, period of implementation, number of persons resettled, places from which they were resettled, stakeholders involved). If you answer No, are there any plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future?
6. If you answer yes to Q5, what procedure is followed to select persons for Sponsorship schemes? In your answer please describe the eligibility criteria/selection priorities (e.g. geographical priorities, countries of first asylum, vulnerability, presence of family members in your country, etc.) for the Sponsorship schemes implemented in the period 2016-2022, if applicable.
7. If you answer Yes to Q1, Q3 or Q5, does your Member State impose a quota for the persons resettled or admitted under humanitarian admission or sponsorship schemes? If yes, please explain what these quotas consist of and the time frames applied, if any.

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**8. Does your Member State have a mechanism to determine these quotas? (e.g. housing capacities, forecasting of migration flows, parliamentary debate, ordinance by ministry)? Yes/No. If yes, please describe briefly**

**9. What type of residence permit is granted in your Member State beneficiaries of a resettlement, humanitarian admission or sponsorship scheme (if applicable)? Please indicate the validity and the conditions on which it is granted.**

**10. Which rights derive from the residence permit(s) granted mentioned in Q9 (i.e. family reunification, financial allowance, access to the labour market, education, accommodation, health services, etc.)?**

**11. Has your country experienced challenges in regard to schemes mentioned above (in Q1, Q3, Q5)? YES/NO. If yes, please elaborate on the challenges (e.g. insufficient resources, e.g. financial or staff; length of process; relations to international organisations or NGOs in country of first asylum; relations to authorities in country of first asylum; provision of information to persons eligible for resettlement; meeting expectations of persons to be resettled; lack of sponsors, housing; refusal rate, drop-out quota; finding sponsors).**

Please note: Please indicate separately any challenges solely related to COVID-19.

**12. Have there been any formal evaluations of the schemes asked about in Q1, Q3 and Q5? Yes/No. If yes, please indicate the results of the evaluation.**

We would very much appreciate your responses by **9 December 2022**.

## 2. RESPONSES


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<sup>1</sup> If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

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		Wider Dissemination	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. No. However, Austria implemented three humanitarian admission programmes from 2013-2017. At national and international levels, Austria has referred to these programmes as “Humanitarian Admission Programmes” (HAP; Humanitäres Aufnahmeprogramm) or “Humanitarian Action”. For further information see Q3 and Q4. (Source: K. Kratzmann, Resettlement and the humanitarian admission programme in Austria, IOM, 2016, p. 9, available at <a href="https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf">https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf</a>) Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. n/a Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>3. As already mentioned in Q1, Austria implemented humanitarian admission programmes between 2013-2017. The so-called “Humanitarian Action Syria” consisted of three humanitarian admission programmes (HAP I: 500 individuals; HAP II: 1000 individuals; HAP III: 400 individuals). By the end of 2017, a total of 1902 refugees from Syria had been admitted under the HAP I, II and III programmes in cooperation with UNHCR, IOM as well as church and civil organizations. For this group of people, specially adapted integration services were offered by the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs (BMEIA) in cooperation with the Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF) and a working group (ARGE Resettlement) consisting of Caritas, Diakonie and the Red Cross. Currently, no humanitarian admission program is being implemented. (Sources: <a href="https://www.bmi.gv.at/301/Allgemeines/Begriffsbestimmungen/start.aspx#be_26">https://www.bmi.gv.at/301/Allgemeines/Begriffsbestimmungen/start.aspx#be_26</a>; K. Kratzmann, Resettlement and the humanitarian admission programme in Austria, IOM, 2016, p. 29, available at <a href="https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf">https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf</a>)</p>


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			<p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4. Under HAP I, II and III, Syrian refugees in need of special protection in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey were selected by the Austrian Ministry of the Interior for admission to Austria after a corresponding proposal from UNHCR. (Source: <a href="https://www.unhcr.org/dach/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2020/03/Erfolgsbrosch%C3%BCre.pdf">https://www.unhcr.org/dach/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2020/03/Erfolgsbrosch%C3%BCre.pdf</a>) Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>5. No Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>6. n/a Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>7. As already mentioned in Q3, Austria admitted 1902 Syrian refugees within the three humanitarian admission programmes implemented between 2013-2017. Currently, no resettlement programme, no humanitarian admission programme and no sponsorship programme are being implemented. Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>8. n/a Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>9. According to Article 3a Asylum Act 2005, a foreigner shall be granted asylum status or subsidiary protection status ex officio and without any additional procedure when Austria has undertaken to do so under international law. The status granted is the same as the status assured to any person making an application for international protection in Austria which is subsequently approved. The beneficiaries of the HAP I-III (2013-2017) were granted asylum and associated right of residence upon arrival in Austria. Pursuant to the 2016 amendment to the Asylum Act, asylum status entails a residence permit that is</p>
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			<p>preliminarily limited to three years where such status is granted after 31 May 2016 and is extended for an indefinite period if the conditions for initiating proceedings to withdraw the asylum status are not met or if the withdrawal proceedings are discontinued (Art. 3 para 4, Art. 73 para 15 and Art. 75 para 24 Asylum Act). (Source: K. Kratzmann, Resettlement and the humanitarian admission programme in Austria, IOM, 2016, p. 36, available at <a href="https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf">https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf</a>) Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>10. As already mentioned in Q9, the status granted pursuant to Article 3a Asylum Act 2005 is the same as the status assured to any person making an application for international protection in Austria which is subsequently approved. Individuals admitted to Austria between 2013-2017 under HAP I-III were granted asylum status and consequently enjoy the same rights as other persons granted asylum in Austria, including, for example, the right to family reunification. (Source: K. Kratzmann, Resettlement and the humanitarian admission programme in Austria, IOM, 2016, p. 37, available at <a href="https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf">https://www.emn.at/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Resettlement-and-the-Humanitarian-Admission-Programme-in-Austria.pdf</a>) Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>11. n/a Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>12. n/a Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Yes, Belgium has a structural resettlement programme with an annual quota <u>since 2013</u>. The quota for the first years of the programme were set at 100, but this increased gradually to 1.250 for 2022, mainly for the resettlement of Syrian and DRC refugees. The implementation periods are on an annual basis. For the exact details on number of persons resettled, places from which were resettled and the nationalities of the resettled persons, please look at the</p>

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		<p>excel table attached. Prior to the current, structural programme, Belgium had two pilot projects in 2009 and 2011, through different ad hoc resettlement operations (Iraq, Libya), and the development of the Joint European Resettlement Scheme.</p> <p><i>Pledges since 2016</i></p> <p>In the <u>framework of the Council Conclusions of 20 July 2015 and the EU Resettlement Scheme</u>, Belgium pledged to <b>resettle 550 refugees in 2016 and 550 refugees in 2017</b>.</p> <p>For the <b>2018-2020 EU AMIF pledging exercise</b> (extended until 31/12/2021), Belgium pledged to resettle <b>2.758 refugees</b>, of which 2.259 arrived (94.2 % Syrian refugees).</p> <p>In December 2019, in the context of the <u>2020 European pledge</u>, Belgium committed to resettle 758 refugees + 881 between 01/01/2020 - 30/06/2021.</p> <p>Given the suspension of the resettlement programme from October 2018 to March 2019 and the postponement of transfers between July 2019 and August 2020, Belgium was not able to fulfil its earlier commitments (for more information on the reasons for the suspension, please see answer Q11). For the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021, 1 463 persons still needed to be resettled to fulfill Belgium's total outstanding commitment. While in 2021 Belgium focused on previous commitments, it announced a new pledge of 1.250 persons in 2022.</p> <p>The 2022 pledge further included a promise to continue its increase of pledges in the future (1.400 persons in 2023 and 1.500 in 2024), entirely <u>within the framework of the European Resettlement Programme</u> financed by AMIF. From the 2022 quota of 1,250 persons, the unexecuted transfers of 2021 (almost 400) have to be deducted, bringing the operational quota to 858 As in previous years, the places are mainly allocated to Syrian and Congolese refugees. For the first time, <b>a limited number of places is available for emergency cases</b>, more precisely 50. <u>In October 2022</u>, Belgium again committed under the European Resettlement Programme to resettle 500 people by 2023. The latter pledge was less than the 2021 promise of 1 400 persons. This can be explained by the ongoing reception crisis in Belgium.</p> <p><i>Stakeholders involved in the resettlement process</i></p> <p>The two main operational authorities, the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (<b>CGRS</b>) and the Federal Agency for the reception of asylum seekers (<b>Fedasil</b>), fall under the competence of the State Secretary for Asylum and Migration. The selection process is managed by the CGRS. Social screening, pre-departure cultural orientation, travel and medical arrangements, initial reception and transition to mainstream and specific</p>
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		<p>integration services are managed by Fedasil. Fedasil operates 5 structural reception models through which resettled persons can be housed in Belgium. One of its reception models is the Community Sponsorship reception model. Additionally, Fedasil assists families who want to house selected refugees themselves on an ad-hoc basis. In the past and present, Fedasil examines several alternative reception models for resettled individuals, including the creation of a specific resettlement reception centre in 2023.</p> <p>Transportation in the country of asylum, medical arrangements, and organisation of the transfer to Belgium are delegated to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).</p> <p>The <b>Immigration Office</b> is competent for the issuance of travel documents and visa for individuals who do not possess such documents. The IO also falls under the competence of the State Secretary for Asylum and Migration. Finally, the <b>Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation</b> is involved in the process of the issuance of the visa in third countries.</p> <p>The Belgian Immigration Act does not include specific provisions on resettlement. However, the Immigration Act does prescribe the rules regarding the determination of refugee or subsidiary protection status.</p> <p><b>For more information on the implementation of the programme, please see answer Q2.</b></p> <p>rst_numbers_be_1.xlsx</p> <p>2. For geographical priorities: see attached file to Q1.</p> <p><b>Decision-Making Process</b></p> <p><i>Resettlement submissions</i></p> <p>On the basis of the UNHCR's Projected Global Resettlement Needs document, an annual quota is established (see answers Q1 and Q8). Belgium <u>only accepts resettlement submissions of UNHCR</u> and takes into account these priorities as far as possible.</p> <p>The <u>conditions to be eligible for resettlement</u> are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR identifies a person as a refugee</li> <li>• All durable solutions have been assessed, and resettlement, not voluntary return or local integration, is identified as the most appropriate solution</li> <li>• To fall under one of the following seven UNHCR submission categories:</li> <li>• legal and/or physical protection needs</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• survivors of violence and/or torture</li> <li>• medical needs</li> <li>• women and girls at risk</li> <li>• reunification with an already resettled family member</li> <li>• children and adolescents at risk</li> <li>• refugees without a prospect of local integration or voluntary return</li> <li>• In Belgium, specific rules for child marriages apply : UNHCR is asked not to submit cases with girls/women who got married before they turned 16, unless at the time of submission the marriage was concluded more than 15 years after the woman turned 18.</li> </ul> <p>Additional criteria may apply. Belgium asks the UNHCR for a 'balanced' caseload. For example, in general Belgium asks the UNHCR not to submit cases of families with more than six family members, due to a lack of available housing for large families. However, the UNCHR may ask the national authorities to consider a specific case, which may then be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The same applies to cases involving persons with serious medical conditions. In the latter situation, Fedasil assesses, again on an individual basis, whether it is feasible, amongst others, to organise reception and adequate post-arrival support.</p> <p>Belgium's <u>focus</u> is on vulnerable families in protracted refugee situations, although other political considerations are also taken into account, (e.g. the start of the one-to-one scheme of the EU-Turkey statement of 18 March 2016).</p> <p><i>Deciding on the submissions</i></p> <p>All cases submitted for resettlement are screened and cleared by the State Security Services (State Security Service, General Intelligence and Security Service (Military Intelligence) and the Federal Police). If there are indications that a person should be excluded from international protection or would pose a threat to public order or national security, the case is rejected.</p> <p>All refugee resettlement submissions are considered by the CGRS in accordance with existing guidelines and policy. An applicant must meet the criteria in the Geneva Convention<sup>[1]</sup> to be eligible for resettlement in Belgium. A caseworker specialised in the region of origin of the applicant analyses the Resettlement Registration Form in detail and drafts a decision. The latter is subsequently discussed with a supervisor and/or with the Commissioner general or one of his deputies.</p> <p><i>Unaccompanied minors</i></p>
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		<p>The CGRS takes additional measures to process applications of UAMs. These measures take account of the principle of the best interest of the child. Belgium <u>accepts only a limited numbers of unaccompanied minors</u> within the resettlement programme (since 2018 Belgium has not resettled UAM's), mainly because of a high number of applications for international protection by unaccompanied minors already in Belgium. The high number of applications puts a lot of pressure on the processing capacity and the reception capacity for this particular group.</p> <p><i>Accepted submissions</i></p> <p>Refugee status cannot be granted outside of the Belgian territory. As a consequence, the State Secretary for Asylum and Migration may authorise travel to Belgium, taking into account the selection advice by the CGRS. If this advice is followed, the Immigration Office receives the instruction to issue travel documents (for refugees who do not possess such documents), and a visa, which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs prepares. After arrival, the resettled individual needs to register an application for international protection at the Immigration Office. The latter is a pure formality, given that the interview and adjudication of one's case already took place during the selection mission. Within days after arrival, refugee status is granted, and within weeks, the refugee certificate is handed to the resettled person. If a case is rejected based on the analysis of the RRF, a general reason for rejection is communicated to UNHCR.</p> <p>[1] Even though EU instruments allow for the resettlement of people in need of subsidiary protection, Belgium has always granted refugee status to people arriving through resettlement.</p> <p>3. Yes. On 23 December 2021 the State Secretary for Migration and Asylum and Sant'Egidio signed a Memorandum of Understanding to <u>start a humanitarian corridor for 250 individuals in need of international protection, in the period 2022-2024</u>. The target group for this humanitarian corridor is 250 vulnerable persons residing in Lebanon (Syrians, between 50 and 150, not yet registered by UNHCR and who arrived after 2015 in Lebanon), Syria (Syrians, between 1 and 25), Libya (between 20 and 100 persons, nationalities not determined) and Afghanistan (between 20 and 100 Afghans with special risk profile), who are <u>eligible for an international protection status</u>. The focus is on vulnerable refugees (families with young children, unaccompanied minors, people with disabilities, elderly, pregnant women, parent alone with children, victims of human trafficking, people with a serious illness, people who have been tortured or raped or other, people with mental disorders etc) and with possible links with Belgium (additional criterion). Sant'Egidio is responsible for the identification of the individuals, assisted by local partners and possibly by UNHCR. The corridor is partly funded by AMIF. The beneficiaries are granted a humanitarian visa to travel to Belgium.</p>
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		<p>In 2022, the quota is established at 75 individuals in need of international protection. Due to the Ukrainian crisis, the programme was delayed and the first submissions (Syrians residing in Lebanon) were made in May 2022. The first 16 individuals arrived in November 2022 and the next persons are expected to arrive in January.</p> <p>4. On 23 December 2021 the State Secretary for Migration and Asylum and Sant'Egidio signed a Memorandum of Understanding to <u>set up the humanitarian corridor</u>. The CGRS provides Sant'Egidio with general, publicly available information on the protection policy and protection rates applied to the population in need of international protection in the countries included in the MoU ( i.e. Lebanon, Syria, Libya and Afghanistan). Taking this information into account, Sant'Egidio subsequently transmits pre-agreed elements of individual cases, on which the CGRS, at the request of the State Secretary, formulates an advice on the international protection need. Ultimately, the Secretary of State decides whether or not to grant the humanitarian visa. After arrival, a formal application for international protection needs to be registered and the CGRS conducts a thorough analysis of the file. The CGRS gives priority to these files, with the goal of issuing a decision on international protection within weeks after arrival in Belgium. Contrary to the case of resettlement, the CGRS does not conduct selection missions to interview the applicants from the humanitarian corridor, does not dispose of an RRF and, therefore, has more discretion in deciding on the application for international protection lodged in Belgium.</p> <p>5. Since 2020, when it started a 3-year pilot phase, Belgium implements Community Sponsorship programmes. The project is led by Fedasil, in collaboration with partner organisations (Caritas &amp; SB overseas). The refugees who can be hosted via Community Sponsorship are always individuals selected to travel to Belgium via resettlement and who expressed their interest to take part in a Community Sponsorship programme. In 2022, 49 people, resettled from Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt, were hosted through this programme . By the end of the year, this number should reach 55 people. 11 host groups are responsible for these 55 individuals. Host groups consist of minimum 5 persons and are responsible for at least one family. Caritas and SB Overseas, as umbrella organisations, support the host groups. The host groups commit, prior to arrival of the families to find housing (self-owned or on the private housing market and that live up to certain minimum standards) which they can make available to the family for at least one year after their arrival, and commit to providing guidance to that family. The host group in itself is not granted financial assistance and is expected to provide certain financial support to the</p>
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			<p>families. However, the umbrella organisations do receive some financial support to support the families. This way of organising Community Sponsorship is being evaluated (see Q12) and the possibility to provide for other financial structures is being analysed.</p> <p>6. As mentioned above (Q5), one must be eligible for resettlement to Belgium in order to participate in the Community Sponsorship program.</p> <p>Prior to a resettlement transfer, Fedasil staff travels to the country of first asylum (or online, if conditions do not allow it), in order to conduct a social screening. During this interview, the Community Sponsorship program is explained to the people who can be resettled to Belgium. If they wish to participate in the program, they are asked to sign a consent form.</p> <p>Subsequently, Fedasil organises a matching with the host groups who wish to participate in the program in Belgium. This matching is done on the basis of several criteria, including the information collected during the social screening. Matching happens on a case-by-case basis. Families eligible for resettlement indicate whether they would wish to participate in a Community Sponsorship Programme. When a host group comes forward that could host these families, the former are asked to provide further information, inter alia, on which support they could give, which type of housing they could provide and what their individual profiles are. Subsequently, Fedasil checks which groups matches best with the needs of the eligible candidates. Prior to the departure, Fedasil organises, usually in collaboration with IOM, an online meeting with the sponsor group and the candidates.</p> <p>7. Quota on resettlement: see Q1.</p> <p><i>Community sponsorship</i></p> <p>As mentioned in Q2 and Q8, the size of the quota for the Belgian Resettlement programme is decided by the Belgian Government (State Secretary for Asylum and Migration). The quota for Community Sponsorship is included in the Resettlement quota, as a reception model supporting the resettlement programme. Therefore, the Community Sponsorship program in Belgium does not have stand-alone quota.</p> <p><i>Humanitarian Admission</i></p> <p>See Q3 for the quota. A proposal is made by Sant'Egidio to the political authority who accepts this, adapts it or refuses it.</p>
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			<p><b>8. Resettlement (including Community Sponsorship)</b></p> <p>The size of the quota is decided by the Government (State Secretary for Asylum and Migration). CGRS, and Fedasil make a proposal on the allocation of the quota based on the UNHCR projected global resettlement needs, the EU priorities in the Joint European Resettlement Scheme and other EU-programmes and national considerations. For example, absorption capacities - including integration possibilities, housing for large families, specific services (e.g. for unaccompanied children, high care places, etc.) - are taken into account when determining the allocation of the quota.</p> <p>The final decision belongs to the Government (State Secretary for Asylum and Migration). To optimise the national strategic use of resettlement, coherence with the Belgian Foreign Affairs and Development cooperation policy is sought. The timing of the decision process follows publication of UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs document, European thematic and geographic priorities and ERF/AMF pledging exercises, and Belgian budget cycles.</p> <p>9. There is no specific legal framework for resettlement in Belgium and there are no specific provisions on resettlement in Belgian legislation on immigration, reception, social integration, etc. As a consequence, resettlement is handled within the existing legislation. Since the international protection status cannot be granted outside of the Belgian territory, resettled individuals are granted refugee status immediately after arrival in Belgium. As mentioned above, EU instruments allow for the resettlement of people in need of subsidiary protection. However, Belgium has always granted refugee status for people arriving through resettlement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For Resettlement (and Community Sponsorship): refugee status is granted, the duration of the right to residence for recognised refugees is 5 years. After these 5 years they can receive an electronic B card which is valid indefinitely.</li> <li>- Humanitarian admission: Once arrived in Belgium the beneficiaries of the Humanitarian Corridors cannot rely on a specific, simplified procedure and thus follow the regular procedures for international protection: registration at the Immigration office - interview(s) by CGRS - determination of status of international protection. However, as a result of the Declaration of Intent between the State Secretary and Sant'Egidio which includes a provision on a priority assessment at the CGRS, their application is usually processed within 3 months.</li> </ul> <p>During the procedure they reside in Belgium with an Attestation of Immatriculation which justifies their temporary stay. If international protection status can be granted: see previous point.</p>
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			<p>10. As <i>an applicant for international protection</i> in Belgium, they have the following rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have the right to receive information about their application, their rights and duties in a language that they understand.</li> <li>• They are entitled to basic assistance including accommodation, food, legal, medical and psychosocial assistance.</li> </ul> <p>As soon as they have <i>registered as an applicant of international procedure</i>, they have certain rights and obligations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They can lawfully stay in Belgium until a final decision on your application has been taken.</li> <li>• Belgian authorities will assign them a place in a reception centre (for free), which they cannot choose. They are not obliged to stay at the reception location and they can move around freely within Belgium. However, they are not allowed to travel to another country. After a stay of 6 months at a collective reception centre, they may ask for an individual residence.</li> <li>• Applicants of international protection may obtain the right to work 4 months after they have registered their application for international protection.</li> <li>• If they do not stay in a reception centre, they are entitled to medical support/reimbursement by Fedasil. This means that, just like other people in a procedure for international protection, they must apply for a requisitorium prior to every doctor or pharmacist visit.</li> <li>• They are entitled to a daily allowance.</li> <li>• Children between 6 and 18 must be enrolled in a school within 60 days.</li> <li>• They can only follow integration courses and have access to social services after obtaining a protection status and residence permit.</li> </ul> <p><b>For resettlement, community sponsorship and possibly humanitarian admission:</b></p> <p><i>If a person is granted refugee status in Belgium:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have the right to reside in Belgium for a period of five years. After five years, they will be entitled to permanent residence.</li> <li>• They have the right to work in Belgium.</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are entitled to the same social security benefits as Belgian nationals.</li> <li>• They are allowed to travel abroad with the travel document provided to recognized refugees.</li> <li>• They can apply for family reunification.</li> <li>• They have the right to obtain the Belgian nationality.</li> </ul> <p>In Belgium, there is compulsory education for children who reside on the territory (regularly or irregularly) from 6 to 18 years old.</p> <p>Children can be enrolled in a preparatory 'reception class' according to his or her language ability and educational level, if the school has one. Once sufficient language and general skills have been acquired, they should be oriented into the regular education system.</p> <p>For more elaborate explanations on the rights attached to refugee status, see attached.</p> <p><b>Possibility for people coming through humanitarian admission:</b></p> <p><i>If a person is <b>granted subsidiary protection</b> in Belgium:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They receive a residence permit that is valid for one year. After one year, the permit can be renewed for another two years and then again for two years. After five years counting from the date on which the application for international protection was lodged, the person is entitled to permanent residence.</li> <li>• They have the right to work in Belgium.</li> <li>• They are entitled to the same social security benefits as Belgian nationals.</li> <li>• They are allowed to travel abroad if they have a valid passport and the visas required for the countries that they wish to visit. If they are unable to obtain a passport, they have to apply for a special travel document at the municipality where they are registered.</li> <li>• They can apply for family reunification.</li> <li>• They have the right to obtain the Belgian nationality either through a declaration of nationality or naturalization, only after they have received indefinite leave to remain in Belgium.</li> </ul> <p><b>Persons who come through humanitarian admission:</b></p> <p>Persons coming through the Humanitarian Corridor must follow the regular international protection procedure. Therefore, they first register their application at the Immigration Office, after which they are invited for an interview at the CGRS. Subsequently, the CGRS analyses their case and a decision is issued. In the meanwhile, they reside in</p>
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			<p>Belgium with an Attestation of Immatriculation which justifies their temporary stay (See answer Q9). refugee_rights.pdf</p> <p>11. <i>General</i></p> <p>During the past years, it has been a major challenge for Belgium to find <u>sufficient reception places</u> for refugees who are to be resettled because of the high influx of asylum seekers in Belgium. This regularly results in delays in the programme and in the quota not being (fully) filled. In August 2019, the lack of reception capacity led to a year-long suspension of the resettlement programme. For the same reason, in the second half of 2021, a large number of planned transfers had to be postponed. In 2022, this evolution continued: in the first 11 months of 2022, only 57 persons were resettled. Fedasil, the federal reception agency responsible for the reception of resettled refugees, is exploring new and alternative reception models for this target group to better withstand fluctuations in the reception network capacity.</p> <p>During the <u>Covid-years 2020 and 2021</u>, all selection interviews were conducted remotely, through videoconference. While it is not intended to continue this as standard practice (face-to-face interviewing are still preferred), it has become clear that remote processing is a workable option and a valuable alternative that can be used in specific circumstances. The same goes for Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) missions: all Belgian Cultural Orientation (BELCO) trainings were delivered online, except for the Rwanda mission at the of end 2021. Trainers found it extremely challenging, even impossible, to maintain the core spirit of BELCO's core spirit of interactivity and group participation. Therefore, virtual PDO training remains the exception. As for medical screenings, Belgium relied entirely on the services of IOM, which was a good alternative to in-person medical consultations.</p> <p><i>Community Sponsorships</i></p> <p>The main challenges in implementing the Community Sponsorship programme in Belgium since its inception in 2020 are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>The sponsoring groups are experiencing difficulties to provide housing to (i) start the one year reception of transferred families and (ii) transfer the family when the sponsorship period ends.</u> Belgium is currently experiencing a housing crisis, exacerbated by the significant rise in gas and electricity prices and rising inflation.</li> <li>• <u>Difficulties in recruiting new sponsor groups:</u> this can be explained by the requirement to provide housing, as</li> </ul>
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			<p>well as by the project's lack of visibility among the Belgian population. Another obstacle raised by potential hosting groups was their financial involvement (even if limited to the period prior to the granting of social benefits by the Belgian state).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Lack of knowledge of municipalities</u> about the project. This has created difficulties at the administrative level, especially concerning the granting of social benefits.</li> <li>• <u>Delays in the transfer of resettled refugees participating in the program</u>: some flights were delayed, mainly for medical reasons or because of administrative delays in the countries of first asylum. This implied that host groups had to pay rent for unoccupied houses and discouraged them.</li> <li>• <u>The accompaniment period of one year proved too short</u> for quality accompaniment in some cases: options to extend the accompaniment period are being explored.</li> </ul> <p><i>Humanitarian admission</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Administration</u>: is time consuming as the Humanitarian Corridors depend on the availability of different partner organisations: CGRS, Secretary of state, Immigration office, Fedasil, airlines, Embassy, TLS visa application centers, authorities in the countries of origin and transit. So it is never 100% certain who will be able to benefit from the corridor and when they will travel.</li> <li>• <u>Funding</u>: finding sufficient funding to support families during the months of their procedure for international protection is a challenge.</li> <li>• <u>Adequate housing</u>: After the influx of refugees from the Ukraine, the problem got even more acute. Local governments did not have the space to ask their residents to also provide housing for Syrians or others.</li> <li>• <u>Staff</u>: it is also a challenge to bring together different groups of volunteers willing to help the beneficiaries of the Humanitarian Corridors for at least one year starting from their arrival in Belgium. Indeed, this requires a lot of time and energy from the volunteers. Matching beneficiaries and sponsors is also not easy, because of the limited information available.</li> <li>• Finally, the <u>follow-up of the beneficiaries</u> requires a tailored approach. Every situation is different. Expectation management of both beneficiaries and sponsors is key.</li> </ul> <p><i>Covid</i></p> <p>COVID-19 created a series of obstacles. First, it was impossible to organise transfers of resettled persons to Belgium for several months because of sanitary restrictions. Second, the pandemic caused anxiety among host groups, who</p>
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			<p>preferred to withdraw from the program. When transfers resumed, the obligation for a negative COVID test to travel to Belgium led to postponements of flights with the consequences described above. Finally, follow-up and trainings with host groups and refugees had to be adapted, especially in the form of hybrid meetings.</p> <p><i>12. Resettlement &amp; Community Sponsorship</i></p> <p>Fedasil is currently developing a Monitoring and Evaluation framework for the Resettlement program as a whole and for the Community Sponsorship program, in particular. MPI Europe is assisting Fedasil in the development of this framework. The first implementations towards a formal evaluation of the Community Sponsorship program are planned, following results of a first evaluation cycle by the end of 2023.</p>
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. Yes. The Republic of Bulgaria has implemented EU Resettlement programme. In 2016 a Framework of a national mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement was approved by the Council of Ministers. The Programme was updated in 2017. The implementation period was two years - from April 2018 to December 2019. In June 2018 the first group of resettled persons arrived in the Republic of Bulgaria. Till December 2019, 85 Syrian nationals were resettled from the Republic of Turkey. The State Agency for Refugees is the national contact point responsible for the organisation and coordination of all the activities, as well as for the interaction with all partners involved in the process - the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) - Turkey, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the EUAA Resettlement Support Facility (RSF) in Istanbul. Two liaison officers have been appointed. A selection team has been set up. It includes experts from the State Agency for Refugees, the State Agency for National Security and interpreters/translators. The established organisation and excellent interaction ensured the smooth running of the resettlement process.</p> <p>2. In accordance with Art. 17, paragraph 3 of Regulation No. 516/2014/EU and the List of common priorities of the Union in the field of resettlement (Annex III), and in view of the EU-Turkey Agreement of 18.03.2016, the Republic of Bulgaria resettled persons included in priority "Syrian refugees in the region and specifically from the Republic of Turkey."</p> <p>The eligibility criteria primarily concerned vulnerable persons, persons with medical needs, children at risk, families</p>


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			<p>with minor children, older and sick persons.</p> <p>3. The Republic of Bulgaria has not implemented Humanitarian admission schemes.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7. The National Council on Migration, Borders, Asylum and Integration, which is a collective advisory body for formulating and coordinating the implementation of national policies in the areas of migration, borders, asylum and integration, proposes to the Council of Ministers the number of persons to be resettled during the corresponding programming period. The Council of Ministers takes a decision.</p> <p>8. Relevant migration and asylum developments at national level, such as housing capacities, migration flows, pandemic are taken into account.</p> <p>9. Beneficiaries of a resettlement are granted international protection - refugee status or subsidiary protection (called humanitarian status in the national legislation). They receive respectively a card of a refugee and a card of a foreigner with humanitarian status. The refugee card certifies the identity of the person and the right of its holder to reside on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period of its validity. The card of a foreigner with humanitarian status certifies the identity of the person and the right of its holder to reside on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria for the period of its validity.</p> <p>Refugee card is issued by the authorities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to a person with refugee status with a validity period of three to five years;</p> <p>The card of a foreigner with humanitarian status is issued by the authorities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to a</p>
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			<p>foreigner with granted humanitarian status, with a validity period of up to three years.</p> <p>10. Persons granted refugee status have the rights of Bulgarian citizens, with the exception of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the right to participate in general and municipal elections, in national and regional referenda, to participate in the establishment of political parties and be a member of such parties;</li> <li>2. the right to hold positions for which Bulgarian citizenship is required by law;</li> <li>3. the right to serve in the army;</li> <li>4. other restrictions explicitly provided for by law.</li> </ol> <p>Persons granted humanitarian status (subsidiary protection) have the rights of a foreigner with a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Bulgaria.</p> <p>11. Drop-out in the last moment and meeting expectations. Please note: Please indicate separately any challenges solely related to COVID-19.</p> <p>12. No</p>
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	<p>1. Yes. Croatia has applied EU Resettlement programme started in 2017 when the first group of refugees was transferred. Since 2017 until 2019 in total, of 250 persons have been resettled. All resettled people were Syrian, who were transferred from Turkey.</p> <p>2. In order to select individuals, Croatia has previously conducted selection missions to Turkey as a priority country. The eligibility criteria primarily concerned with vulnerable persons such as children at risk, families with minor children, pregnant women, older and sick persons.</p> <p>3. Yes. Soon after the Taliban came to power in Afghanistan, Croatia contributed and, in August 2021, transferred 41 Afghans from Afghanistan to Croatia.</p>


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			<p>4. No particular criteria were used for the admission of the Afghan people, but people with family members or other links in Croatia have an advantage in an evacuation.</p> <p>5. No.</p> <p>6. -</p> <p>7. The resettlement quota was imposed and determined by the government for every single year.</p> <p>8. As it is answered in Q7, the determination of quotas is under political decision. However, when establishing quota there are elements taken into account such as housing capacities, migration flows, pandemic.</p> <p>9. All resettled people benefit from international protection (asylum). Soon after the decision on granted international protection is delivered to them, they are obliged to submit the application for issuing a residence permit to police administration or police station according to their residence. The residence permit is granted for a period of 5 years.</p> <p>10. Following rights derive from the residence permit granted to the beneficiaries: family reunification, social welfare, access to the labour market without a work permit, education at the same conditions as Croatian citizens, free accommodation for a period of two years, health services, right to free legal aid, free language course. They are also entitled to their passport, in accordance with the 1951 Convention.</p> <p>11. Please note: Please indicate separately any challenges solely related to COVID-19.</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	1. No

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			2. N/A 3. No 4. N/A 5. No 6. N/A 7. N/A 8. No 9. N/A 10. N/A 11. N/A 12. N/A
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	1. Yes. The Czech Republic has implemented the European Resettlement Scheme. In total 52 persons have been resettled – 20 Syrian refugees from Jordan (2015) and 32 Iraqi refugees from Lebanon (2016). The resettlement was coordinated and conducted fully by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. Refugees were referred to the resettlement programme by UNHCR.

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			<p>2. Refugees had to be referred by UNHCR. The criteria of UNHCR took into account the geographical priorities of the Czech Republic. The priority for this period was namely the Middle East (following the Syrian refugee crisis).</p> <p>3. Yes. The Czech Republic has implemented a national humanitarian scheme for internally displaced persons in Iraqi Kurdistan. Throughout 2016, the Czech Republic admitted 55 Iraqi IDPs in total. The Czech Republic has also implemented a national humanitarian scheme for persecuted and vulnerable persons from Belarus in a follow up to the demonstrations against the results of presidential elections of August 2020. The Czech Republic admitted in total 90 Belarusians throughout autumn 2020 and spring 2021.</p> <p>4. To activate a national humanitarian admission scheme is an ad hoc political decision of the Czech Republic, therefore the criteria depend on each cause.</p> <p>5. No. There are currently no plans to establish such a scheme.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7. Yes, there is always a limit for these types of programmes due to capacity reasons.</p> <p>8. N/A. CZ has currently no running resettlement and humanitarian admission scheme.</p> <p>9. International protection (asylum or subsidiary protection).</p> <p>10. All equal rights as for any beneficiaries of international protection (in accordance with the Asylum Act).</p> <p>11. One of the biggest challenges is meeting expectations of persons to be resettled – especially when it comes to refugees from the Middle East. Despite the fact that they all received international protection (and all related rights) some of them moved to other Member State, notably Germany.</p>
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			12. N/A.
	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	<p>1. Yes. In respond to 13 May 2015 the European Agenda on Migration adopted by European Commission, Estonia initially declared its readiness to relocate 329 persons in need of international protection from Italy and Greece and resettle 20 individuals from a Turkish refugee camp. In order to resettle the persons in need of international protection, the Ministry of the Interior started to negotiate with the UNHCR to conclude an agreement. At its meeting of 6 August 2015, the Government of the Republic adopted the "Action Plan for Implementing EU Relocation and Resettlement Measures" which provided plan for the reception of 180 individuals. At its meeting of 8 October 2015, the cabinet ministers approved the revised action plan to provide for the reception of 550 persons in need of protection over a period of two years. As Estonia had no previous experience in the relocation of persons, the Ministry of the Interior set up refugee policy coordination council with a view to ensuring better cooperation and coordination between various ministries and agencies and to work out a national action plan.</p> <p>Estonia made the formal commitment to participate in resettlement programmes in 2015, but the actual implementation began in 2016.</p> <p>In 2016 Estonia first time participated in resettlement and relocation schemes, when first refugees arrived as part of relocation programmes in March 2016 and as part of resettlement in August 2016. Resettlement scheme was carried out in the framework of the European Migration Agenda (EMA).</p> <p>In the end of December 2017, Estonian government decided to end resettlement in the framework of the EMA. The Government of the Republic decided to contribute further with the resettlement from Turkey under the recommendation of the European Commission, which sought to provide up to 50 000 resettlement places in EU MS by October 2019. In respond to European Commission recommendations made in September 2017, to resettle within EU 50 000 persons (by 32th October 2019) Estonian Government decided in 2017 that Estonia will resettle 80 persons from Turkey in the years 2018 and 2019 (40 persons in 2018 and 40 persons in 2019). In March and November 2018, the Police and Border Guard Board organised two resettlement missions to Turkey.</p> <p>In 2019 Estonia decided not to continue with resettlement and relocation activities.</p> <p>In total, during period 2015-2019, Estonia granted international protection to 213 persons, of whom refugee status</p>

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			<p>was provided to 86 persons and subsidiary status to 127 persons.</p> <p>As in 2021, the situation in Afghanistan escalated, as a result of which the Government of the Republic decided to accept up to 30 Afghans who had cooperated with Estonia and our allies. In 2021, 16 individuals evacuated from Afghanistan and arrived in Estonia. In 2022 8 Afghan nationals arrived in Estonia, thus in total 2021-2022, Estonia granted refugee status to 24 Afghans.</p> <p>In total, during 2015-2019 Estonia granted international protection to 213 persons within resettlement and relocation programmes and during 2021-2022 within humanitarian admission 24 persons.</p> <p>emn_inform_on_resettlement_concept_note_final_12.12.docx</p> <p>2. Estonian position was to prefer full families (parents with their minor children), single parent families, unaccompanied minors, orphans, and also presence of family members in our country (family reunification), which was also one of the priorities.</p> <p>Estonian officials were working closely with the UNHCR to resettle persons.</p> <p>Estonian authorities were carrying out all the necessary proceedings on-site in Turkey, including interviews and other expert consultations. In Turkey also assistance of permanent liaison officer was used.</p> <p>For relocation activities in Greece and Italy, Estonia sent on-site relocation team consisting of officials from the Police and Border Guard Board, the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Estonian Internal Security Service.</p> <p>The need for international protection was determined before the people actually arrived in Estonia. If persons were chosen to relocate to Estonia, IOM organized their transportation to Estonia.</p> <p>3. Yes, as in 2021, the situation in Afghanistan escalated, the Government of the Republic decided to accept up to 30 Afghans who had cooperated with Estonia and our allies. In 2021, 16 individuals evacuated from Afghanistan, and they arrived in Estonia.</p> <p>The Estonian government on August 19, 2021, decided to accept up to 30 Afghans who have cooperated with Estonia and its allies. In addition to 20 people who have cooperated with Estonia and their family members, Estonia was ready to accept up to 10 Afghans who have cooperated with NATO or the EU, plus their family members. In 2021, in total 16 individuals evacuated from Afghanistan, and they arrived in Estonia.</p> <p>Although that Ministry of Foreign Affairs prepared an initial list of evacuated persons (mainly midwifery trainers who</p>
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			<p>have worked for development NGO Mondo MTÜ and activists for girls' education and women's rights), also Minister of Defence proposed to assist evacuation of Afghan interpreters who were in cooperation with allies, the decision who will be admitted to Estonia was made by the Police and Border Guard Board on the basis of the International Protection of Aliens Act.</p> <p>4. The Estonian government on August 19, 2021, decided to accept up to 30 Afghans who have cooperated with Estonia and its allies. They were mainly midwifery trainers who have worked for development NGO Mondo MTÜ and activists for girls' education and women's rights) but also Afghan interpreters who were in cooperation with allies.</p> <p>5. No. No, there is no such plans.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7. According to the law, the Government of the Republic shall decide on the participation of Estonia in resettlement and relocation, coordinating it with the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu. The decision also determines at least the quota and country of origin of the persons to be resettled or relocated and the year of resettlement or relocation.</p> <p>8. No, there is no mechanism determining quota. Previous decisions have been made within the framework of different stakeholders' cooperation.</p> <p>9. Depending on the individual circumstances, the resettled persons are granted either refugee status or subsidiary protection status in Estonia. Validity of issued residence permit for subsidiary protection is one year and for refugee status for three years. Residence permit may be extended to a refugee for three years at a time and for subsidiary protection for two years at a time if the circumstances due to which the residence permit was issued have not ceased to exist and no circumstance exists which constitutes the basis for revocation thereof.</p> <p>10. Yes, persons are provided with range of services:</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing –</li> </ul> <p>The Estonian National Social Insurance Board will organise within four months as of the date of the issue of a residence permit, the settlement of a beneficiary of international protection in the territory of a local government in an agreement with the local government, taking into account the state of health of a beneficiary of international protection, the place of the residence of the relatives by blood or marriage and other significant circumstances, and considering the housing and employment opportunities, including the proportional allocation of beneficiaries of international protection among the local governments. A beneficiary of international protection may participate in the selection of the local government most suitable to person.</p> <p>The expenses of the services provided to a beneficiary of international protection will be covered to a local government from the state budget pursuant to the following rates for housing: one-time expenses related to the entering into a rental contract of a dwelling – at a rate of up to 6 times the subsistence level for a family (in 2022 200 EUR/per first person in family, 240 EUR/ per child).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial allowance –</li> </ul> <p>During persons stay in Estonia, a beneficiary of international protection is entitled to receive state pension, family support, employment services and employment subsidies, social benefits, health services and other assistance on the same grounds as a permanent resident of Estonia. A local government may pay subsistence benefit to a beneficiary of international protection whose financial status does not allow to support themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to labour market –</li> </ul> <p>Persons are entitled to same labour market services and benefits as Estonian permanent residents. They can register themselves in Estonian Unemployment Insurance Fund and receive assistance in preparing and seeking employment in Estonia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education –</li> </ul> <p>Basic education or studying until 17 years old is compulsory in Estonia and has provided by the state. An adult beneficiary of international protection shall be guaranteed access to general education, further training and retraining on the same basis as the third country nationals residing in Estonia on the basis of a residence permit or the right of residence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health services –</li> </ul> <p>Health insurance is provided on the same grounds as to Estonian permanent residents.</p>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language courses – Estonian language courses are provided to persons for up to two years. Translation service is also provided for communication with state and local government institutions, visiting the doctor etc. Cost of the Estonian language learning will be covered by the state at a rate of up to 6 times the subsistence level per person and cost of translation services – at a rate of up to 8 times the subsistence level per person (200 EUR/per person) or up to 16 times the subsistence level per family.</li> <li>• Adaptation and integration support – Welcoming programme is provided to refugees. It consists of various theme-based training <a href="#">modules</a>. Persons are offered the international protection module, but additionally they have the possibility to participate in the basic module that gives an overview of the functioning principles of Estonian state, society, culture and people, rights and obligations of residents, public services etc. Additionally, to that they can participate in other thematic modules (working and entrepreneurship, family life, studying and research).</li> <li>• Persons are entitled to family reunification.</li> </ul> <p>11. At first there were some minor challenges (e.g. increased public interest to beneficiaries of international protection; accommodation difficulties etc.) but they had no significant impact.</p> <p>12. No, there is no formal evaluations on resettlement schemes.</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. YES. Finland has implemented resettlement programmes in the period of 2016–2022.</p> <p>In Finland, when the Parliament approves the Budget for each year, it also decides how many quota refugees Finland commits to receiving. During the years 2001–2019, Finland has received 750 quota refugees per year (plus an additional quota of 300 refugees in 2014 and 2015). In 2020, the number was 850, in 2021 the number was 1,050, and in 2022 the number was 1,500. Persons who have been determined as refugees by UNHCR and whom UNHCR has suggested for resettlement in Finland can be admitted to Finland as quota refugees.</p> <p>A part of Finland's annual refugee quota is reserved for refugees whom the UNHCR has defined to be in need of emergency or urgent resettlement. The Finnish Immigration Service also issues residence permits to refugees who are admitted into Finland under the emergency or urgent refugee quota. The decision on the selection is made on the</p>

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		<p>basis of UNHCR's documents, without a personal interview. The documents must be prepared very thoroughly, so that decisions can be made quickly without having to obtain additional information. The processing of emergency and urgent cases is prioritised at the Finnish Immigration Service – the referrals by UNHCR are processed as quickly as possible (urgent), the very urgent cases are processed in 5 working days (emergency). The Finnish Immigration Service requests a statement from the Finnish Security and Intelligence Service and may request additional information from UNHCR and, if necessary, a statement from a medical expert or other instances.</p> <p>The participants in the quota selection process for resettlement of Finland, and their responsibilities, are the following:</p> <p>UNHCR: Bilateral negotiations with the Ministry of the Interior of Finland, a proposal to Finland on the allocation of the refugee quota.</p> <p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry for Foreign Affairs &amp; Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment: The Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, prepares a proposal for the Government on the territorial allocation of the refugee quota (comments from the Finnish Immigration Service and the Finnish Security and Intelligence Service are requested if necessary).</p> <p>Ministry of the Interior: Coordination of the allocation decision.</p> <p>Finnish Immigration Service: Implementation of the allocation decision (arrangements for and execution of selection missions or remote selection missions or dossier selection, granting of residence permits to refugees admitted under the refugee quota, municipal placement and requests for travel arrangements, cultural orientation training for selected refugees). UNHCR submits the personal data forms.</p> <p>Finnish Security Intelligence Service: An assessment of the security issues connected with the refugees.</p> <p>International Organisation for Migration (IOM): Travel arrangements (in cooperation with UNHCR and the Finnish Red Cross).</p> <p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs / Finnish missions: Processing of residence permit cards and granting of travel documents (Laissez-Passer) when needed.</p> <p>The Finnish Border Guard: Registration of refugees after their arrival in Finland.</p> <p>Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment &amp; Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment: National coordination and guidance regarding municipal places.</p>
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			<p>Municipalities: Reception and integration.</p> <p>The details for the yearly resettlement programmes for 2016-2020 (places from which persons were resettled, number of persons resettled, nationality of the persons resettled, additional notes) are the following:</p> <p>2016</p> <table><tr><td>Country</td><td>Accepted</td><td>Nationality of the accepted quota refugees</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey*</td><td>11</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey</td><td>512</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Lebanon</td><td>135</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Emergency and Urgent quota referrals</td><td>91</td><td>Different nationalities</td></tr><tr><td>In total</td><td>749**</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>* No selection trip. Decisions were made based on the background documents.</p> <p>** Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.</p> <p>2017</p> <table><tr><td>Country</td><td>Accepted</td><td>Nationality of the accepted quota refugees</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey</td><td>290</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey</td><td>240</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Zimbabwe</td><td>120</td><td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td></tr><tr><td>Emergency and Urgent quota referrals</td><td>100</td><td>Various nationalities</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>750*</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>*Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.</p> <p>2018</p> <table><tr><td>Country</td><td>Accepted</td><td>Nationality of the accepted quota refugees</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey</td><td>340</td><td>Syria</td></tr><tr><td>Turkey</td><td>185</td><td>Syria</td></tr></table>	Country	Accepted	Nationality of the accepted quota refugees	Turkey*	11	Syria	Turkey	512	Syria	Lebanon	135	Syria	Emergency and Urgent quota referrals	91	Different nationalities	In total	749**		Country	Accepted	Nationality of the accepted quota refugees	Turkey	290	Syria	Turkey	240	Syria	Zimbabwe	120	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Emergency and Urgent quota referrals	100	Various nationalities	Total	750*		Country	Accepted	Nationality of the accepted quota refugees	Turkey	340	Syria	Turkey	185	Syria
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			<p>Zambia 125 Democratic Republic of the Congo 122, Burundi 3**  Emergency and Urgent quota referrals 100 Various nationalities  In total 750*</p> <p>*Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.  **Other family members are Congolese.</p> <p>2019</p> <p>Country Accepted Nationality of the accepted quota refugees  Turkey 213 Syria, 212, Irak 1**  Turkey 218 Syria  Zambia 9 Democratic Republic of the Congo  Zambia 93 Democratic Republic of the Congo  Niger 117 Eritrea 63, Somalia 37, Sudan 17  Emergency and Urgent quota referrals 100 Various nationalities  In total 750*</p> <p>*Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.  **Other family members are Syrian.</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Country Accepted Nationality of the accepted quota refugees  Turkey 249 Syria 248, without nationality 1****  Zambia* 211 Democratic Republic of the Congo  Libanon** 151 Syria  Emergency and Urgent quota referrals 119 Various nationalities  In total 730***</p> <p>*No selection trip has been made. Decisions were made based on the background documents.  **No selection trip has been made. The persons have been selected on the basis of remote interviews.  ***Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.</p>
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			<p>****Other family members are Syrian.</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Due to the coronavirus pandemic, quota refugees were selected on the basis of remote interviews or background documents in 2021.</p> <p>Country Accepted Nationality of the accepted quota refugees</p> <p>Niger 2020* 116 Eritrea 57, Somalia 22, Sudan 19, Ethiopia 18</p> <p>Libanon 15 Syria</p> <p>Libanon 202 Syria</p> <p>Turkey 330 Syria</p> <p>Rwanda 30 Sudan 17, Eritrea 12, South Sudan 1</p> <p>Zambia 275 Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>Emergency cases and other unallocated cases 123 Various nationalities</p> <p>In total 1091**</p> <p>*Because the evacuation flights from Libya to the Niger were delayed, the selection decision was made in 2021.</p> <p>**Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics. As for the Niger the selection is still in progress.</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Due to the coronavirus pandemic, quota refugees were selected from the summer 2020 until the summer 2022 mainly on the basis of remote interviews and on few occasions on dossier basis. Since 2022, Finland has again continued normally the selection missions abroad.</p> <p>Country Accepted Nationality of the accepted quota refugees</p> <p>Niger 2021* 57 Eritrea 38, Sudan 19</p> <p>Rwanda (2) 2021* 15 Sudan 8, Eritrea 7</p> <p>Rwanda 67 Eritrea 50, Sudan 14, South Sudan 3</p> <p>Libanon 301 Syria</p> <p>Turkey 199 Syria</p>
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		<p>Zambia 189 Democratic Republic of the Congo 186, Burundi 2, Rwanda 1***  Iran (1) 317 Afghanistan  In total 1145**</p> <p>*Because the evacuation flights from Libya to the Niger were delayed, the selection decision was made in 2022.  **Children born after the decision of the Finnish Immigration Service are not included in the statistics.  ***Other family members are Congolese.</p> <p>The implementation details are also available at the website of the Finnish Immigration Service:  <a href="https://migri.fi/en/quota-refugee-statistics">https://migri.fi/en/quota-refugee-statistics</a></p> <p>2. The UNHCR submits the refugees from whom the Finnish authorities then select the quota refugees to be admitted to Finland. The selection is usually made on the basis of interviews. The Finnish Immigration Service decides on the granting of residence permits for quota refugees. The persons admitted to Finland as quota refugees proposed by the UNHCR are granted refugee status.</p> <p>Requirements for issuing a residence permit under the refugee quota are defined in the Aliens's Act of Finland in the section 92. The grounds for issuing a residence permit under the refugee quota are as follows: 1) The alien is in need of international protection with regard to his or her home country. 2) The alien is in need of resettlement from the first country of asylum. 3) The requirements for admitting and integrating the alien into Finland have been assessed. 4) There are no obstacles under section 36 (General requirements for issuing residence permits) to issuing a residence permit.</p> <p>The need for international protection is the key criterion for resettlement. In addition, the potential for successful reception and integration into Finnish society is assessed when quota refugees are selected. A person may be refused admission if he or she is thought to pose a threat to public order and security, public health or Finland's international relations. In its quota policy, Finland emphasizes the resettlement of the most vulnerable groups, such as families with children and women in a difficult position (widows, single parents and single women). About ten per cent of the annual quota is reserved for refugees resettled on an emergency or urgent basis.</p> <p>3. NO. No humanitarian admission schemes have been implemented in Finland in the period of 2016-2022. There are</p>
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			<p>no plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. NO. No sponsorship schemes have been implemented in Finland in the period of 2016-2022. Finland is currently planning to launch a community sponsorship programme in 2023 for resettled refugees. The programme aims at enhancing refugees' integration in Finland.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7. In Finland, when the Parliament approves the Budget for each year, it also decides how many quota refugees Finland commits to receiving. During the years 2001–2019, Finland has received 750 quota refugees per year. In 2020, the number was 850, in 2021 1,050, and in 2022 1,500.</p> <p>8. See answer to Q7. The Parliament sets an annual refugee quota when the Budget is approved.</p> <p>9. The Finnish Immigration Service issues residence permits to refugees who are admitted into Finland under the refugee quota, in the resettlement process. The residence permit is granted for four years (A). Refugee status is also granted to each accepted quota refugee. They are also issued with a residence permit card. The decisions may not be appealed against.</p> <p>10. The resettled refugees have rights for family reunification and many rights as a municipality habitant. The resettled refugees move directly after arriving into Finland to the municipality, where they have access to health and social care, education, labour market, financial allowance etc.</p> <p>11. No challenges have been identified. The Finnish Immigration Service has continued its resettlement programme also throughout the covid-19 pandemic without major delays or challenges.</p>
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			12. No.
	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. Yes.</p> <p>Since 2008, France has been receiving resettled refugees in need of protection under a bilateral framework agreement with the UNHCR, under which it undertakes to examine annually around one hundred cases of persons placed under the protection of the UNHCR. This framework agreement, which is still in force today, makes it possible to offer lasting prospects for integration to refugees in highly vulnerable situations in many countries of first asylum throughout the world and with very varied profiles.</p> <p>In parallel to this framework agreement, France committed itself in 2015, under the aegis of the European Commission, to intensify its action in the field of resettlement by making stronger commitments. This new direction at European level, followed by many other States, was notably translated into a European decision of 20 July 2015, then into a declaration between the European Union and Turkey, encouraging the various Member States to make commitments in terms of resettlement. Within this framework, France has since committed to resettle, on a multi-annual basis, many particularly vulnerable refugees. These refugees are placed under a UNHCR mandate in a country of first asylum, and are identified by the UNHCR as being in need of effective protection and durable integration solutions in a new country of resettlement.</p> <p>1. The humanitarian resettlement programme 2016-2017</p> <p>Between July 2015 and July 2017, France committed to resettle nearly 10 000 refugees under the protection of UNHCR and located in regions considered as priorities by EU, in accordance with commitments made in the framework of the European Council Decision of 22 July 2015, the EU-Turkey Declaration and a bilateral commitment made with Lebanon. As of November 2017, approximately 7 000 refugees have been identified by France under these commitments, and 3 565 refugees have been hosted in France over this period (mostly from Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt/Iraq and Turkey).</p> <p>2018-2019</p> <p>In the autumn of 2017, the President of the Republic made strong commitments to the Office of the UN High</p>

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			<p>Commissioner for Refugees, deciding to welcome 10 000 refugees to France over the years 2018-2019, including 7 000 Syrian refugees from the Middle East (Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan), and, for the first time, 3 000 sub-Saharan refugees from Chad and Niger.</p> <p>As part of this commitment, France welcomed 9,684 refugees between December 2017 and December 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 005 refugees from Niger (including 604 refugees evacuated from Libya);</li> <li>- 111 refugees from Egypt;</li> <li>- 1 743 refugees from Chad;</li> <li>- 3 008 from Lebanon;</li> <li>- 3 500 from Turkey;</li> <li>- 317 from Jordan.</li> </ul> <p>2020-2021</p> <p>In the context of the World Refugee Forum in December 2019, the President of the Republic renewed France's commitments to the UNHCR to receive 10 000 resettled refugees over the years 2020-2021, i.e. 5 000 refugees per year from the Middle East and Africa. Under these new commitments, France has decided to continue to receive refugees from the Middle East and Africa. Despite the health crisis, it has also deployed its operations in new countries, namely Rwanda in 2020 and Cameroon and Ethiopia in 2021.</p> <p>However, the health crisis and the security context in some first asylum countries strongly affected the implementation of this programme in 2020, during which almost 1 200 refugees were still resettled. Due to the lack of visibility linked to the health crisis and the organisational constraints caused by it, particularly on France's deployment capacities abroad, it was decided to readjust the commitments to 5 000 resettlements to be carried out over the period 2020-2021 (i.e. a target of 3 800 in 2021).</p> <p>Thanks to the improvement of the health situation during 2021 and despite the pressure on the host territories following the large evacuations of Afghans from the summer of 2021, France has managed to resettle a total of 2 743 people in 2020 and 2021 (including 1,639 people received in 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 refugees from Niger (including refugees evacuated from Libya);</li> <li>- 95 refugees from Cameroon;</li> <li>- 269 refugees from Chad;</li> <li>- 412 refugees from Egypt;</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 430 refugees from Rwanda (including refugees evacuated from Libya);</li> <li>- 191 refugees from Jordan;</li> <li>- 476 refugees from Turkey;</li> <li>- 860 refugees from Lebanon.</li> </ul> <p>2022</p> <p>In 2022, France remains fully committed to the reception of resettled refugees. Thus, it has set itself the objective of receiving 5 000 resettled refugees this year. However, due to the war in Ukraine, which led to the arrival of 100,000 displaced persons on its territory in a few months, and France's mobilisation on various complementary humanitarian admission mechanisms (see Q.3 and Q.5), these objectives had to be readjusted downwards, to 3,000 arrivals over the year, in order to take account of the reception capacities of the territories.</p> <p>As of 30 November 2022, 2 645 refugees have already been received in France under the resettlement programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 refugees from Ethiopia ;</li> <li>- 188 refugees from Niger (including people evacuated from Libya);</li> <li>- 215 refugees from Chad;</li> <li>- 226 refugees from Cameroon;</li> <li>- 244 refugees from Rwanda (including evacuees from Libya);</li> <li>- 339 refugees from Egypt (including evacuees from Libya);</li> <li>- 93 refugees from Jordan;</li> <li>- 613 refugees from Turkey;</li> <li>- 722 refugees from Lebanon.</li> </ul> <p>Nearly 3000 refugees are expected to be settled by the end of the year.</p> <p>2. <u>The resettlement programme under the framework agreement</u></p> <p>Under the bilateral framework agreement concluded between France and the UNHCR in February 2008, 766 refugees were resettled in France between 2016 and 2021: 130 in 2016, 174 in 2017, 96 in 2018, 172 in 2019, 116 in 2020, and 198 in 2021.</p> <p>Between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2022, 109 people arrived under this programme.</p> <p>2. Benefiting vulnerable refugees, resettlement is a partnership operation, which allows for the complete and secure</p>
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		<p>care of the refugee from the country of first asylum to the country of resettlement. The journey of resettled refugees is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People flee persecution and generalised violence in their country of origin and find refuge in a country of first asylum where the French programme is deployed, as is currently the case for Syrians in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Egypt, or refugees from sub-Saharan Africa in Chad, Niger, Rwanda, Cameroon, Egypt and Ethiopia.</li> <li>- UNHCR identifies people in need of protection, based on specific vulnerability criteria, and proposes them to a third state for admission under resettlement. The refugee does not choose the state, which examines his resettlement file.</li> <li>- When the French authorities receive an application for resettlement from the UNHCR, the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) and the security services of the Ministry of the Interior study the files submitted by the UNHCR and then interview the refugees on site.</li> </ul> <p>Resettlement applicants are eligible according to criteria "centred on their psychological, physical and socio-economic vulnerability", which deprive them of any prospect of integration in their first country of refuge. These include survivors of violence and torture, women, children or adolescents at risk, or people with medical needs.</p> <p>In addition, there are also criteria for exclusion or restriction of priority, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Problems related to family composition (unresolved child custody, marriage to a minor);</li> <li>- Individuals who have been involved in armed or private security activities, intelligence activities; members of paramilitary or militant groups (also a UNHCR exclusion criterion);</li> <li>- Member of law enforcement agencies (also a UNHCR exclusion criterion);</li> <li>- Individuals who have committed crimes in their country of origin (also a UNHCR exclusion criterion);</li> <li>- People with family members directly involved in armed struggle (also a UNHCR exclusion criterion).</li> </ul> <p>On arrival in France, these persons resettled following missions carried out by the OFPRA and the security services are immediately recognised as refugees or subsidiary protected persons.</p> <p>With regard to resettlement under the framework agreement, the examination of these files, submitted by the various UNHCR regional offices, is carried out by the Asylum Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior. After security checks with the relevant departments and an advisory opinion from the directorates of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs concerned, the Asylum Directorate makes a decision on the file without a prior on-site mission.</p> <p>These files cover the following categories of vulnerability: survivors of violence and torture, urgent and non-urgent need for legal and physical protection, women and children at risk, medical needs, lack of durable solution.</p>
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			<p>On arrival in France, refugees resettled under the framework agreement must register with the one-stop shop of their home prefecture and be heard by the OFPRA in order to be granted protection (either statutory refugee or subsidiary protection) by France.</p> <p>Here again, criteria for exclusion or restriction of priority may be applied (see above).</p> <p>3. Yes.</p> <p>In response to the international solidarity appeal launched by the UNHCR, the French authorities set up a specific operation to receive 500 Syrian refugees in 2014 (Operation "500 Syrians"). This operation was renewed for 2015 to receive between 500 and 700 additional refugees. Thus, over the period 2014-2015, almost 1000 people arrived under this operation. Between 2016 and 2021, the reception of Syrian refugees under this scheme continued, with 236 Syrian refugees resettled in France over this period.</p> <p>In addition, as early as 2012, Syrian nationals exiled in countries bordering Syria (Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey) were received in France under the asylum visa scheme. Iraqi nationals belonging to persecuted religious minorities and displaced in Iraq benefited from a similar scheme in 2014.</p> <p>The issuing of visas for asylum is a French specificity. The granting of these visas to people under threat, in particular because of their commitment to freedom, allows foreign nationals who benefit from them to enter French territory in order to apply for asylum.</p> <p>Between 2012 and today, the French authorities have issued nearly 16,000 asylum visas to people of all nationalities, but mainly to Syrian and Iraqi nationals.</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Four humanitarian missions, coordinated by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs with the support of the services of the Ministry of the Interior, were conducted in Erbil in December 2018, April 2019, June 2019, and September 2019. The aim of these missions was to enable the reception in France of Yazidi families who have been victims of the exactions of the Islamic State group. These operations were carried out as part of the commitment made by the President of the Republic in October 2018 to Nadia Murad, the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize winner, to receive 100 women and their children on French territory by the end of 2019.</p> <p>At the end of these four missions, 102 families have been welcomed in France.</p> <p>2021</p>
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			<p>In the spring of 2021, a special reception operation for Afghan local staff working for French interests took place. In the framework of this operation, 631 people were received between May and July 2021.</p> <p>Then, a vast evacuation operation of French, Afghan and third-country nationals was launched by the French army on 15 August 2021 (operation APAGAN) over 15 days. 2 600 Afghans reached Paris from Kabul thanks to a military airlift. Evacuations continued, and between 15 August and 31 December 2021, 3 530 Afghans at risk were evacuated.</p> <p>In addition to operation APAGAN, and from August 2021, France has put in place specific conditions for examining visa applications from Afghan nationals at risk who have fled their country, including those for asylum purposes. Thus, since 18 August 2021, 468 Afghans have been granted a visa-asylum and have arrived in France under this scheme.</p> <p>2022</p> <p>The UNIV'R project, supported by the UNHCR and the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF), aims to set up a university corridor, a legal and safe admission route allowing French-speaking students who are currently refugees in a first country of asylum (in the Middle East, or in North, Central or West Africa) to pursue Master's studies (two years) in France. This multi-stakeholder project involves the French authorities at national level (Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Ministry of Interior, General Secretariat for European Affairs (SGAE/Prime Minister), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs), local authorities, higher education institutions, the Migrants in Higher Education network, NGOs, civil society, the private sector and refugees.</p> <p>In December 2021, as a follow-up to the commitments made at the World Refugee Forum in December 2019, France committed to receiving 20 students at the start of the academic year in September 2022, and 30 at the start of the following academic year. Twenty-one refugee students have thus joined France for the start of the 2022 academic year.</p> <p>4. The procedure for issuing a long-stay visa for the purpose of seeking asylum is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The consular post of the country of origin or of a third-country of residence is contacted by an applicant and, in the light of the information sent to it by e-mail or post, assesses the need to invite him or her for an interview.</li> <li>- The person concerned is invited by the post to formalise his or her application by completing a questionnaire on his or her personal situation. The applicant is then invited by the post to attend an interview.</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The post then assesses the admissibility of the application.</li> <li>- If the application is deemed admissible, it is forwarded to the Ministry of the Interior's Asylum Directorate for processing.</li> <li>- If the decision is positive, the post is then competent to issue long-stay visas to the persons concerned.</li> <li>- The beneficiaries of the scheme are taken care of on arrival in France either by private individuals who have previously provided a certificate of accommodation, or by a transit centre which will ensure that they are taken care of at the airport, as well as their accommodation until they enter the national reception system and are reoriented to a reception centre for asylum seekers.</li> <li>- Once in France, these people must submit an asylum application to the OFPRA like any other asylum seeker.</li> </ul> <p>As the aim of the visa-asylum scheme is to identify individuals in need of international protection, the criteria for granting a long-stay visa for the purpose of seeking asylum, set jointly by the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, follow the criteria for international protection in France. They are based on the one hand on the conventional provisions relating to statutory protection as defined by the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the status of refugees, on the other hand on the criteria for constitutional asylum as defined in paragraph 4 of the preamble to the 1946 Constitution and Article 51-3 of the Constitution, and finally on those for subsidiary protection.</p> <p>Although particular links (cultural or family) with France may support an application for visas for asylum and facilitate care in France, these criteria are not decisive when examining and considering the application submitted. The system is not intended to issue long-stay visas for the purpose of seeking asylum to applicants who are integrated in the country of first reception, or to persons who can claim protection from this country. Finally, particular attention may be paid to applicants who are very vulnerable in the country of first reception. Certain profiles from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq are subject to careful monitoring and specific criteria, in order to adapt the system to the emergency situation and the specific context of the country concerned, so as to enable rapid identification of the most vulnerable profiles in urgent need of protection.</p> <p>With regard to the "500 Syrians" operation, the majority of refugees were resettled from Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan. They were received in France under two schemes, the framework agreement resettlement and the humanitarian admission resettlement programme:</p>
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			<p>- In the case of refugees resettled under the framework agreement resettlement, the usual resettlement procedure applies (see Q.2.). However, in the context of this operation and as an exception to the ordinary law on resettlement, these Syrian refugees are exempted from submitting an asylum application to the OFPRA on their arrival in France. The Office, informed of their arrival, organises an interview as soon as possible after their arrival in the country in order to transfer their status.</p> <p>- In the case of refugees resettled under the humanitarian admission resettlement programme, contrary to the usual procedure, the UNHCR does not examine refugee status, but identifies a vulnerability justifying resettlement. As regards the university corridors, the French universities having shown an interest for this device work in collaboration with the UNHCR and the AUF to select the profiles of eligible students: after the diffusion of a call for application in the countries of first asylum, the UNHCR submits an application file to the French partner universities in charge of the selection. The candidates must be recognized refugees by the UNHCR or by a country of first asylum in which they reside legally, be French-speaking, and hold a degree.</p> <p>5. Within the framework of the asylum visa system, the Asylum Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior has been organising the reception of beneficiary nationals for several years in cooperation with associations and families present on French territory.</p> <p>Indeed, on 14 March 2017, a protocol relating to the implementation of humanitarian corridors for Syrian and Iraqi refugees from Lebanon was signed by the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs and five faith-based associations (the Community of Sant'Egidio, the Protestant Federation of France, the Federation of Protestant Mutual Aid, the Conference of Bishops of France and Secours catholique-Caritas France). The objective of this protocol is to implement a solidarity operation to welcome 500 refugees over a period of 18 months. These refugees, welcomed in France on the basis of an asylum visa, are then taken care of by the associations party to the protocol. This protocol was renewed in 2021 with a target of 600 refugees over three years with the Community of Sant'Egidio, the Fédération Protestante de France and the Fédération de l'Entraide Protestante.</p> <p>2017-2021 Between 2017 and the end of 2021, 531 agreements were issued between 2017 and 2021.</p> <p>2021-2022 Under the same scheme, 90 agreements have been issued since January 2022, and as many people arrived in France</p>
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			<p>between January and November 2022.</p> <p>6. With regard to the humanitarian corridors, the persons concerned are identified by the faith-based associations that are party to the protocol and present in Lebanon, which undertake to take charge of their travel, reception and accommodation until they enter ordinary housing. On arrival in France, the persons concerned have the status of asylum seekers: they must therefore take steps with the prefecture and the OFPRA to obtain protection and a residence permit. The criteria applied are those in force within the framework of the asylum visa system.</p> <p>7. As part of the renewal of its resettlement commitments, France determines, depending on the renewal period chosen (two years or one year), the level of commitments that will be made taking into account, on the one hand, the reception and care capacities of the territories and operators and, on the other hand, the needs and priorities expressed by the UNHCR and the European Commission.</p> <p>Under the bilateral framework agreement concluded with the UNHCR, France undertakes to examine each year around one hundred refugee cases identified by the UNHCR as being in need of resettlement. Furthermore, France does not set any quotas for the delivery of asylum visas, but in the context of humanitarian corridors, it sets targets with the faith-based organisations that have signed the protocol.</p> <p>8. No. The objectives are determined in discussions between the national and international partners involved.</p> <p>9. The procedures applicable in the context of resettlement: Two situations should be distinguished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the persons concerned have been interviewed by OFPRA during on-site missions in the country of first reception (the vast majority of resettled persons - the resettlement programme)</li> </ul> <p>The OFPRA protection decision (refugee status or subsidiary protection) is transmitted by the Office to the resettled persons as soon as they arrive on French territory. These persons do not have to submit an asylum application on arrival in France. They must apply directly for a residence permit as a refugee (valid for ten years) or subsidiary</p>
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		<p>protection (valid for four years) from the relevant prefecture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For resettled persons who have not been interviewed by the OFPRA in the country of first reception (approximately one hundred cases per year - the resettlement agreement framework)</li> </ul> <p>They must submit an asylum application to the OFPRA on arrival in France. To this end, they follow the "classic" asylum application procedure: they go through the one-stop shop (without first going through the first reception structure) and are issued with an asylum application certificate valid for one month; it will be renewed for a period of nine months. The OFPRA grants them protection within one to four months.</p> <p>It is the Asylum at the Directorate General Directorate for Foreign Nationals in France or the association/operator who organises their reception who reports these persons to the territorially competent prefecture (for those who already benefit from the OFPRA protection) or to the territorially competent one-stop shop (for those who do not yet benefit from the OFPRA protection).</p> <p>For a person recognised as a refugee: pursuant to Article L.424-1 of the Code on Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and Right of Asylum (CESEDA), a residence permit valid for 10 years is issued by right by the prefecture of the place of residence. A travel document is also issued by the prefecture of the place of residence, at the request of the person concerned. It is valid for all countries, except for the country of nationality or habitual residence.</p> <p>For a person benefiting from subsidiary protection: pursuant to Article L. 424-9 of the CESEDA, a multi-annual residence permit of a maximum duration of four years is issued automatically by the prefecture of the place of residence. An identity and travel document is also issued by the prefecture of the place of residence, at the request of the person concerned. It is valid for all countries except the country of nationality or habitual residence.</p> <p>A visa for asylum is issued to beneficiaries of the humanitarian admission and private sponsorship programmes by the consular authorities, which allows them to return regularly to France where they file an application for international protection and then obtain either refugee status or subsidiary protection status, according to the procedure described above.</p> <p>10. Persons resettled/admitted under a humanitarian admission programme are recognised as statutory refugees or subsidiary protected persons (see Q9). With this title, they acquire a status (either refugee or subsidiary protection) which gives them direct access to common law (social rights, access to employment). The residence permits issued according to the status granted (refugee or beneficiary of subsidiary protection) then give the same rights as foreign</p>
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		<p>nationals admitted in the context of a "standard" asylum application and benefiting from the same residence permits. Resettled persons also benefit from specific monitoring and support in France, provided by operators who are mainly associations. These operators are responsible for receiving people, rehousing them and providing them with comprehensive support for one year following their arrival date. This socio-administrative support covers the following aspects: finding permanent accommodation, administrative procedures, children's schooling, opening of rights (affiliation to a social insurance scheme, housing and subsistence allowances, etc.), medical and psychological care, support towards training/employment, etc.</p> <p>The right to family reunification for resettled persons or persons admitted under a humanitarian admission programme is the same as for refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.</p> <p>Resettled refugees can therefore apply for French nationality by decree as soon as they meet the conditions under the same provisions as refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. As part of this application, they must demonstrate their assimilation into the French community (knowledge of the French language in particular) and adherence to its values. Article 21-17 of the Civil Code states that 'naturalisation can only be granted to a foreign national who can prove that he or she has been a habitually resident in France for the five years preceding the start of the application'. Furthermore, Article 21-19 of the Civil Code states that 'a foreign national who has obtained refugee status is not subject to the five-year habitual residence requirement. The beneficiary of subsidiary protection is in fact subject to this requirement'.</p> <p>Thus, the conditions of access to French nationality are different for refugees who do not have to wait five years of residence before applying, unlike beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.</p> <p>With regard to the material conditions of reception of applicants for international protection, Decree No. 2018-1359 of 28 December 2018 also creates, in application of the law of 10 September 2018, a provisional authorisation relating to family composition. This attestation must enable persons recognised as refugees or benefiting from subsidiary protection, as well as their family members, to assert their rights. Persons taken into care as part of a resettlement procedure may also request the issue of this certificate from the operator responsible for their support, who will draw it up and have it validated by the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII).</p> <p>The same rights are granted to foreign nationals received under private sponsorship if they obtain protection in France under the asylum system.</p>
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		<p>11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dissemination of information to those selected for resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes through cultural orientation training or information guides does not always provide enough specific or individualised information about travel and reception conditions in France. This can sometimes be a source of misunderstanding or frustration for families who often discover reception and accommodation conditions on arrival in France.</li> <li>• Deteriorating security situations or political tensions in the beneficiaries' country of departure can slow down a programme. Thus, the length of the selection process and the delays in organising the departure after the person has been informed of their selection are often badly felt by the resettled persons. For example, no resettlement missions could be deployed in Niger in 2020 and 2021 due to the prevailing security situation (as well as the Covid-19 pandemic - see below).</li> <li>• The expected number of resettled persons and the joint arrival of several families represent challenges for operators to manage the mobilisation of numerous accommodations adapted to the needs of the families and an individualised reception.</li> <li>• The Covid-19 health crisis abruptly interrupted all resettlement programme activities in March 2020. The programme was partially resumed in the summer of 2020, thanks to the easing of movement restrictions imposed at EU level and the mobilisation of all programme actors. This partial resumption and the uncertainty regarding the evolution of the health situation led to the resettlement objectives of 5 000 refugees initially set for 2020 being spread over two years.</li> </ul> <p>12. No.</p> <p>To date, France has never conducted formal evaluations of its various reception programmes. Nevertheless, in July 2019, France launched a follow-up study on a sample of 3 229 people in order to collect information on the situation of refugees received in France under the 2018-2019 resettlement programme. This quantitative study, whose methodology is based on a three-stage data collection process (on arrival, 6 and 12 months after the arrival of the refugees, i.e. 12 months corresponding to the end of the administrative and social support provided to the refugees by NGOs and associations), provided precise information on the integration pathway of the refugees monitored in the framework of this study (i.e. access to housing, children's schooling, learning of French, employment, financial</p>
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			autonomy).
	EMN NCP Germany	Yes	<p>1. Following the decision of the Conference of the Ministers of the Interior of the Federal States ("Innenministerkonferenz") in December 2011, Germany started its own resettlement programme and resettled 300 persons per year between 2012 and 2014. The number increased in 2015 with 500 persons resettled. Between 2016 and 2021, almost 7.000 refugees have been taken in from countries of first asylum such as Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Niger and Sudan (please look at attachement to question 1: Overview and numbers).</p> <p>Based on Section 23 (4) Residence Act, the Federal Government, in consultation with the federal states, decides to what extent the programme will be continued beyond the current resettlement period in the upcoming year. In 2022, the aim is to admit up to 2,700 people through resettlement in cooperation with the UNHCR. The Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI), the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA) engage as stakeholders in implementing the resettlement programme. As UN Migration Agency, IOM supports the procedures of departure. The interior ministries of the federal states and the local authorities (foreigners' authorities and social welfare authorities) are responsible to assist and support the resettled refugees once they arrive in Germany.</p> <p>Based on Section 23 (1) Residence Act, the federal states can initiate state admission programmes, which need the prior consent of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and for Community. Some state programmes are focused on resettlement based on UNHCR referrals. In 2022, 300 places are foreseen for two programmes of Berlin and Brandenburg. In total, 1.118 persons were resettled between 2016 and 2022 through resettlement programmes of the federal states, which are also part of the German pledge within the EU-Resettlement-Programme. ahq_2022.58_attachement_to_question_1.docx</p> <p>2. Germany currently lays its focus for resettlement missions on countries in the Middle East and Africa. Refugees receive access to the resettlement programme through UNHCR submissions. After being submitted by UNHCR, the resettlement candidates take part in a selection interview conducted by BAMF and a security interview conducted by the security authorities. During the selection interviews, criteria such as the "degree of vulnerability", "preservation of</p>



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			<p>family unity”, “family or other integration-promoting ties to Germany” and the “ability to integrate” are being examined. The security interviews carried out by German security authorities serve to exclude persons who could pose a threat to public security in Germany.</p> <p>Persons admitted under the resettlement programme are allocated to the federal states depending on the states' population and its financial capacities, reflected in the so-called “Königstein Key”. As far as possible, regional ties of the refugees admitted (e.g. family links) are taken into account. Travel to Germany is regularly being carried out by charter flights, in some cases commercial flights might be the better option. Group departures are usually preferred. IOM is entrusted with organizing the transfer to Germany. In Germany, the resettlement refugees regularly spend two weeks in reception centers before they are being transferred to their host cities by the federal states.</p> <p>3. Germany has been running a “Humanitarian Admissions Procedure” as part of the 1:1 scheme included in the EU-Turkey-Statement in order to take in Syrian refugees from Turkey since 2017. As with previous entries via the resettlement programme from Turkey, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) selects the persons who are admitted within the programme. In addition to Syrians, in justified individual cases stateless persons who can prove that they lived in Syria prior to their stay in Turkey and whose identity has been clarified can also be selected for the humanitarian admission program. Legal basis is Section 23 (2) Residence Act.</p> <p>In 2020 Germany implemented a humanitarian admission scheme from Greece following the fires at the Moria refugee camp on the island of Lesbos. Between 2020 and 2021 Germany has admitted 1.562 individuals from Greece. Legal basis was Section 23 (2) Residence Act.</p> <p>Between 2017 and 2021, a total of 12.862 people were admitted through humanitarian admission from Turkey and Greece:</p> <table> <tr> <th>Entry Date</th><th>Number of Arrivals</th><th>Exit Country</th><th>Nationality</th></tr> <tr> <td>2017</td><td>2710</td><td>Turkey</td><td>Syria</td></tr> <tr> <td>2018</td><td>2805</td><td>Turkey</td><td>Syria</td></tr> <tr> <td>2019</td><td>2406</td><td>Turkey</td><td>Syria</td></tr> </table>	Entry Date	Number of Arrivals	Exit Country	Nationality	2017	2710	Turkey	Syria	2018	2805	Turkey	Syria	2019	2406	Turkey	Syria
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			2020	1178	Turkey	Syria
			2020	289	Greece	various nationalities
			2021	1273	Greece	various nationalities
			2021	2210	Turkey	Syria
			<p>In 2022, the aim is to admit up to 3.000 refugees through humanitarian admission from Turkey. It should be expressly pointed out at this point that the humanitarian admissions from Turkey are part of the German Resettlement Pledge in the EU Resettlement Programme and therefore count as resettlement places even though there are two different legal bases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 23 (2) Residence Act: In order to safeguard special political interests of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal Ministry of the Interior may, in consultation with the supreme Land authorities, order the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees to grant foreigners from specific states or certain categories of foreigners defined by other means approval for admission. No preliminary proceedings take place pursuant to section 68 of the Code of Administrative Court Procedure (Verwaltungsgerichtsordnung). The foreigners concerned are to be granted a temporary residence permit or permanent settlement permit, in accordance with the approval for admission. The permanent settlement permit may be issued subject to a restriction on the permissible place of residence.</li> <li>• Section 23 (4) Residence Act: In consultation with the supreme Land authorities, the Federal Ministry of the Interior may, within the context of resettling persons seeking protection, order the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees to grant approval for admission to certain persons seeking protection who have been selected for resettlement (resettlement refugees). [...]</li> </ul> <p>In addition, it should be noted that in the Afghanistan context, Germany has accepted a very large number of persons under Section 22 Residence Act ("A temporary residence permit is to be granted if the Federal Ministry of the Interior or the body designated by it has declared, so as to uphold the political interests of the Federal Republic of Germany, that the foreigner is to be admitted.). Between May 15th 2021 and November 25th 2022, 18.640 former Afghan local staff and their family members as well as 8.519 Afghans at particular risk (e.g. journalists, human rights</p>			

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			<p>defenders) have arrived in Germany.</p> <p>4. The Turkish migration authority DGMM submits lists with suggested persons for further referral through UNHCR. Different from previous Humanitarian Admission Programmes (HAP) for Syrian citizens (2013-2015), it is not possible for relatives in Germany to propose people for admission.</p> <p>As in the resettlement programme, various criteria are taken into account in the selection process. They include the “degree of vulnerability”, “preservation of family unity”, “family or other integration-promoting ties to Germany” and the “ability to integrate”. The selected resettlement refugees arrive to Germany in groups (mainly via charter flights) and are accommodated in a reception center for two weeks after their arrival. After the distribution across the federal territory according to the “Königsteiner Key”, the refugees receive residence permits in accordance with Section 23 (2) Residence Act.</p> <p>A new “Humanitarian Admission Programme” for Afghans was decided in 2022. In this programme, the proposals are to be submitted by NGOs with previous experience in Afghanistan. First arrivals are expected in 2023.</p> <p>5. Since May 2019, the German Federal Government has implemented the Pilot Community Sponsorship Programme “NesT – New Start in a Team”. The programme offers the opportunity to local sponsor groups to support resettlement refugees. The programme's main goal is not only to actively involve civil society in the humanitarian admission of refugees but also to increase the admission capacity of the German resettlement programme. In the pilot, an overall additional resettlement quota of 500 vulnerable refugees was foreseen. The pilot will end in 2022 and NesT will become a regular programme starting with 200 resettlement spaces / year. Refugees in the NesT-Programme have the same legal status and get the same rights as the regular resettlement refugees. They are eligible to all social rights and security benefits, to free integration counselling provided by local migration counsellors. They also can attend subsidized German language courses, which are called „integration courses“. In addition, the sponsor groups provide support in two forms: A financial support for one year, in which sponsors find and secure appropriate housing for the refugees and a social support for at least one year in which sponsors help refugees to settle in Germany by getting access to central social services or becoming a part of the local community. They help refugees with</p>
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			<p>contacting local authorities, with finding schools and with exploring training or jobs opportunities. They also facilitate first social contacts between refugees and the local community.</p> <p>From the beginning, the NesT programme was supported by a broad alliance of state and civil society actors: The Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community, the Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration, and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees are responsible for implementing NesT. Various civil society and church actors strongly support the programme. The NesT programme builds upon the unique partnership between the government and civil society working together to support newly arrived refugees in Germany. The NesT Programme is, in that sense, a pioneer programme for Germany.</p> <p>Since 2019, 139 persons from Syria, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, DR Congo and Eritrea came to Germany through the programme (countries of first asylum: Ethiopia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Niger, Kenya and Greece).</p> <p>6. The selection of refugees for NesT is closely linked to the selection of refugees for the German Resettlement Programme. Only those individuals who have successfully completed the resettlement process can be considered for NesT. In addition, refugees with close ties to Germany are not considered for the programme as they already have sufficient prospects for integration. Also, individuals with special medical needs or severely traumatized individuals have not been considered to date due to the high needs and thus large burden on the sponsor group.</p> <p>Within the matching process between sponsor group and refugees, special attention is paid to the following criteria: Apartment size in relation to the family of refugees, location of the apartment (e.g. close to kindergarten, university etc.) and language skills. Besides these matching criteria, other criteria are relevant depending on the sponsor group and their offers (e.g. special skills), so this process might vary from matching to matching.</p> <p>7. Germany sets a specific admission quota each year and determines a specific target size for each admission programme. From 2023 onwards, GER strives for a multi-year planning and thus multiyear quota to enable a better planning reliability.</p>
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		<p>In addition to the numerical quota, there is also a quota in the admission of particularly serious medical cases (max. 5 % of all resettlement cases, 3 % of all humanitarian admission cases). Although there is no specific numerical limit on the admission of unaccompanied minors in need of protection, these admissions take place in close coordination with the federal states as well as UNHCR.</p> <p>8. The quota is set in result of intergovernmental negotiations taking into account the viewpoints of the federal states.</p> <p>9. Refugees admitted through resettlement or through NesT are granted a residence title on special political grounds according to Section 23 (4) of the German Residence Act and are given a residence permit with a validity of up to three years. After three years of legal residence in Germany, refugees can receive a permanent residence permit if further conditions are fulfilled e.g. sufficient income, sufficient German language skills, sufficient living space for all family members. After eight years of legal residence, refugees can apply for German citizenship. One of the conditions to be fulfilled is that the identity is clarified and that refugees demonstrate sufficient personal income and sufficient knowledge of the German language. The waiting time can be reduced to seven years if refugees successfully participate in an integration course. Citizenship law is currently reformed in Germany.</p> <p>Refugees admitted through a humanitarian admission programme are granted a residence title on special political grounds according to Section 23 (2) of the German Residence Act. The validity of the residence permit is up to three years and with an option of possible extension. After five years of legal residence in Germany, refugees can receive a permanent residence permit. Refugees have to fulfil further requirements to receive a permanent residence (e.g. sufficient income, sufficient German language skills, sufficient living space for all family members). The same conditions apply to the acquisition of German citizenship as to refugees admitted in the context of resettlement.</p> <p>10. Refugees admitted through all above mentioned national programmes have similar rights as recognized refugees in Germany. Certain differences exist for the admission programmes of the federal states.</p> <p>Upon receiving a residence permit, refugees admitted through one of the three above mentioned national</p>
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			<p>programmes (resettlement, humanitarian admission from Turkey, NesT) are entitled to participate in integration courses and have an unrestricted right to work.</p> <p>If refugees are able to work but have not yet found employment, they are entitled to basic assistance for persons seeking employment in accordance with Social Code Book II. If refugees are temporarily or permanently unable to pursue an occupation, they can claim social benefits. Costs for accommodation and heating, and basic medical care can also be granted according to Social Code Book XII.</p> <p>As for the integration programmes, refugees are entitled to attend an integration course. If beneficiaries do not have sufficient knowledge of German, or receive state benefits within the framework of basic assistance for persons seeking employment, they are also obliged by law to attend such an integration course. Children of school age go to school in Germany. Compulsory schooling generally begins at the age of six. Public schools are free of charge. Germany aims to admit families as a whole in the mentioned programmes in order to preserve the family unity. Should this not be possible in individual cases, the general regulations for family reunification of §§ 27 ff. of the Residence Act apply. Family reunification is only possible for the spouse and minor children. Family reunification for other relatives may only be granted in special hardship cases. Generally, the preconditions for family reunification are sufficient personal income and sufficient living space for all family members.</p> <p>If refugees admitted through resettlement or NesT apply for family reunification within three months of entering Germany, privileged conditions apply. In this case, beneficiaries do not have to prove sufficient living space and financial income in Germany.</p> <p>For refugees admitted through humanitarian admission, no privileged conditions apply. However, family reunification for humanitarian reasons may be considered. This is the case, for example, if a minor child is affected or if the life, limb or freedom of the spouse, the minor unmarried child or the parents of a minor alien in the country of residence are seriously endangered. If this is the case, no proof of sufficient living space and financial income is required.</p> <p>11. Please note: Please indicate separately any challenges solely related to COVID-19</p>
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		<p>There are several challenges that have become apparent in recent years, some of which are country-specific, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fragile security situation in some countries of first asylum and related need to adapt plans/ postpone missions or provide special precautions (e.g. Niger and Lebanon)</li> <li>• challenging climatic conditions in some countries of first asylum during missions and related need to adapt plans (e.g. Kenya)</li> <li>• limited capacities (e.g. staff/ space) of involved stakeholders to conduct missions</li> <li>• challenges with relation to authorities in country of first asylum concerning the process of exit and/ or travel permissions respectively the timely issuance of permits (e.g. KEN); procedures taking longer in general (e.g. EGY)</li> <li>• high expectations of refugees concerning life, accommodation and income in Germany (important: expectation management prior to admission), false information about Germany</li> <li>• timely provision of dossiers/ information by UNHCR on persons eligible for resettlement</li> <li>• reduced availabilities of charter flights, in particular during summer months, high costs for charter flights</li> <li>• ensuring sufficient financial resources as admission programmes are cost-intensive</li> <li>• insufficient staffing of many actors especially in view of the short-term increase in the number of admissions</li> </ul> <p>lack of sponsor groups (NesT) mainly due to challenges in finding appropriate housing for refugees acerbated by housing needs of UKR refugees</p> <p>Challenges solely related to COVID-19:</p> <p>All admission programmes had to be suspended in the beginning of 2020 and almost no admission took place in 2020. Germany introduced a pilot mission for remote selection interviews in Lebanon and faced a number of technical and communication challenges. Only in 2021 face-to-face mission resumed. Still, a high number of positive Covid-19 test results led to difficulties in providing accommodation both in countries of first asylum and upon arrival in Germany due to the necessity of isolation/ quarantine regulation and charter flights had to be cancelled and postponed due to high numbers of positive Covid-19 tests</p> <p>12. The last review by the Research Centre of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees on resettlement was done in 2016 (<a href="https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Forschung/WorkingPapers/wp70-r...">https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Forschung/WorkingPapers/wp70-r...</a>); <a href="https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Forschung/Kurzanalysen/kurzana...">https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Forschung/Kurzanalysen/kurzana...</a>)</p>
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			<p>The Research Centre is currently planning a three-year research project with a planned start date in early 2023. The research project will examine the significance of resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes (HAP) in shaping a sustainable and participatory life perspective for refugees in Germany. While the flight experiences and integration of asylum seekers in Germany have been the subject of various research projects in recent years, there are no robust data and research results for people who came to Germany in the context of resettlement and HAP.</p> <p>Resettlement and HAP will be analysed as processes that begin in the first countries of asylum and do not already end after initial admission, but are intended to ensure sustainable protection and integration for particularly vulnerable refugees through appropriate measures even after arrival. For this reason, in addition to conducting a first Germany-wide representative study, refugees in a first country of asylum will also be surveyed. The data collected will be used to take a holistic look at the organised admission of persons in need of protection. The project currently has two main objectives: 1.) to gain insights into the extent to which the situation of refugees has improved as a result of resettlement and especially in which areas of life and 2.) to find out where the special integration needs of this group lie (also in comparison to asylum seekers). In this way, the research project aims to answer the question of whether resettlement actually fulfils the intended goals with regard to a sustainable and participatory life perspective for refugees and how it can be improved. Also, it aims to gain insights into who actually comes to Germany within the framework of the resettlement and HAP programmes and what their integration capacity and needs are, in order to provide decision-makers with information on the basis of these findings as to which groups should possibly be given greater consideration.</p> <p>This will be done firstly with a secondary analysis of register data available on resettlement and HAP refugees with the aim of obtaining an overview of the basic population, its composition and Germany-wide distribution, as well as the trajectories of their residence titles. Secondly, a representative survey of all resettlement and HAP refugees living in Germany since 2013 will be conducted on the basis of a scientifically designed standardised questionnaire. In addition, a qualitative-explorative study will be conducted to operationalise the questions and possibly identify problems of understanding. Accompanying the quantitative survey, the qualitative study is intended to contextualise, deepen and validate the findings already obtained in order to answer partial questions that can only be answered</p>
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			<p>with qualitative methods.</p> <p>The Research Centre carries out a formative evaluation of the programme NesT. The results will be published in the first half of 2023. The focus lies on the recruitment and training of sponsors, the matching between refugees and sponsoring teams and the first two years after arrival in Germany. Preliminary results stress the engagement of faith-based communities in the programme, the challenges for the sponsors to find and finance accommodation and the quality of the personal support they provide to the refugees.</p>
	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<p>1. Greece has not implemented Resettlement programmes during the aforementioned period, nor has there been any provision for the implementation of such programmes so far.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3. Yes. Greece has implemented emergency humanitarian admission actions, such as the one that was implemented between 09/2021 and up to today. In total, 817 Afghan nationals were evacuated from Afghanistan to Greece. Moreover, this procedure was initiated by the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6.</p> <p>7. No quotas were imposed by Greece on the number of persons admitted for humanitarian reasons.</p> <p>8. N/A</p> <p>9. Those, of Afghan nationals, who applied for international protection in Greece have been issued residence permits</p>


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			<p>(ADET) after the examination of their request and the relevant rights derive from the residence permit which is granted for reasons of international protection.</p> <p>10. <i>See answer in question 9.</i></p> <p>11.</p> <p>12.</p>
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	<p>1. No</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. -</p> <p>7. -</p> <p>8. -</p> <p>9. -</p>

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			<p>10. -</p> <p>11. -</p> <p>12. -</p>
	EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	<p>1. The Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) was established by the Irish Government in September 2015. In total, as of November 2022, 3,826 people have been brought to Ireland under the IRPP. This figure includes relocation and resettlement, as well as persons admitted under the humanitarian admission schemes and community sponsorship (detailed in subsequent answers).</p> <p>With the initial establishment of the IRPP, the Irish Government committed to receiving up to 4,000 persons through a combination of relocation and resettlement. Under the relocation strand, it was initially envisaged that a total of 2,622 persons would be relocated to Ireland – 1,089 from Greece, 623 from Italy and 910 who remained unallocated by the European Commission. These relocations occurred under Council Decisions 2015/1523 and Council Decision 2015/1601. Due to security-related issues with relocations from Italy, the majority of relocations to Ireland were from Greece. In total, Ireland relocated 1,022 persons from Greece. The main stakeholders involved in relocation were the Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) unit and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Those relocated were primarily of Syrian, Palestinian and Iraqi origin. This strand closed on 31 March 2018.</p> <p>Ireland also responded to requests to accept migrants rescued in the Mediterranean in Search and Rescue operations and disembarked in Italy and Malta.</p> <p>There was a commitment to relocate 200 unaccompanied minors from Calais to Ireland under the Calais Special Project. A total of 41 children were relocated under the project. Ireland also committed to accepting 36 unaccompanied minors from Greece on a bilateral basis in December 2018. A Tusla-led mission to Athens took place in September 2019 and eight minors were approved for relocation to Ireland.</p> <p>Under the resettlement strand, a total of 2,087 Programme Refugees have been resettled to Ireland between 2016 and November 2022 under the IRPP. The main stakeholders involved are the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) (previously the IRPP was in the Department of Justice and Equality) and UNHCR. Most resettlement is from Lebanon and Jordan and is primarily Syrian refugees. Other nationalities resettled</p>

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		<p>to Ireland include Iraqi, Palestinian and Afghan, among others.</p> <p>In 2019, Ireland announced plans to resettle up to 2,900 refugees between 2020 and 2023 at the Global Refugee Forum through a combination of resettlement and community sponsorship. It was planned that 650 resettlements would occur in 2020, 700 in 2021, 750 in 2022 and 800 in 2023. However, these plans were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and only 195 people were resettled in Ireland in 2020, 55 people were resettled in 2021 and in 2022, 142 were resettled as of November 2022.</p> <p>In October 2020, the Minister for Justice announced that Ireland would resettle up to 50 people in family groups who had been displaced from the Moria camp on the island of Lesbos, Greece. This was in addition to the commitment to resettle up to 2,900 people under the UNHCR resettlement programme between 2020 and 2023. In 2021, Ireland accepted 50 refugees (37 Syrian, 13 Afghan) from Greece, who obtained programme refugee status on arrival, 28 Unaccompanied and Separated Children arrived from Greece in 2021, and 44 asylum-seekers were admitted (21 from Malta, 23 from Italy) from Search &amp; Rescue missions.</p> <p>In August 2021, in response to the crisis in Afghanistan, the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) made approximately 545 places available for Programme Refugees from Afghanistan.</p> <p>In 2022, there have been 297 arrivals to end of November 2022, this consists of 155 programme refugees and 142 persons admitted under the Afghan humanitarian scheme, with another 51 scheduled for December 2022</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Resettlement to Ireland is conducted in close co-operation with UNHCR.</p> <p>UNHCR, in co-operation with partner organisations at a local level, identify the most vulnerable persons for resettlement purposes, regardless of their race, religion, nationality or ethnicity. For a person to be eligible for resettlement as a programme refugee, they must be determined to be a refugee by UNHCR in the country of refuge. In addition, resettlement must be identified by UNHCR to be the most appropriate durable solution for the person or family.[1]</p> <p>Persons or families are identified as having a resettlement need if they are at risk in the country of refuge or have particular needs that correspond with the various UNHCR resettlement categories, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• legal and/or physical protection needs,</li> <li>• survivors of torture and/or violence,</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• medical needs,</li> <li>• women and girls at risk,</li> <li>• family reunification,</li> <li>• children and adolescents at risk, and</li> <li>• lack of foreseeable alternative durable solution. [2]</li> </ul> <p>Where a person or family is determined by UNHCR to be eligible for resettlement, UNHCR then refers the cases to Ireland for consideration. Referrals for resettlement are submitted by UNHCR to the IRPP unit. Ireland considers whether those referred are acceptable for interview and then arranges a selection mission. Selection missions are carried out by Irish refugee resettlement teams, comprised of officials of the IRPP unit and An Garda Síochána. The Health Service Executive (HSE) is consulted in advance on the quota of medical cases and the types of conditions that can or cannot be treated effectively in Ireland. Security screenings are also undertaken by the selection team. On return to Ireland, a submission is prepared by the resettlement team for the Minister to approve.</p> <p>[1] UN High Commissioner for Refugees (2011). 'UNHCR Resettlement Handbook', Geneva, Switzerland.  [2] UN High Commissioner for Refugees (2011). 'UNHCR Resettlement Handbook', Geneva, Switzerland.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>Yes. Ireland has implemented two humanitarian admission schemes as part of the IRPP in the reference time frame. The Irish Humanitarian Admission Programme (IHAP) was announced in November 2017. This programme allowed international protection status holders in Ireland and naturalised Irish citizens to make a proposal to bring their family members who are nationals of one of the top ten major source countries of refugees to Ireland (Syria, Eritrea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Lebanon and Myanmar). There were two windows for proposals to be made, one in mid-2018 and one at the end of 2018.</p> <p>Between 2018 and 2021, there was a total of 826 beneficiaries of IHAP.</p> <p>The Afghan Admission Programme (AAP) was introduced in 2021 following the crisis in Afghanistan. Up to 500 places were available under the programme. Family members who are legally resident in Ireland (proposers) were able to submit proposals to bring up to four family members. While the applications are currently being processed, no persons have been admitted under the scheme to date.</p>
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			<p>4.</p> <p>The IHAP scheme was for eligible family members of naturalised Irish citizens, persons with Convention refugee or subsidiary protection status or persons who are Programme Refugees in Ireland. In deciding the eligible countries of nationality for consideration, the Department of Justice and Equality chose the top ten major source countries of refugees set out in UNHCR's Annual Global Trends Report. During the first and second calls for the IHAP those countries were: Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Myanmar, Eritrea and Burundi. Beneficiaries make their own travel arrangements when travelling to Ireland. The Afghan Admission Programme required that the 'proposer' was a current or former Afghan national who was legally resident in Ireland on or before 1 September 2021 or a naturalised Irish citizen who was previously from Afghanistan. It was designed for Afghan nationals residing in Afghanistan or in the neighbouring countries of Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The proposer was required to be able to financially support the beneficiaries and to provide accommodation for their family members. The proposer was also required to be of good character and have no criminal convictions. The beneficiaries (family members in Afghanistan/neighbouring countries) were required to be a close family member, face a risk to their freedom and safety as a result of the changes in Afghanistan, of good character and with no criminal convictions, have no current or previous involvement in any organisations or activities regarded in Ireland as being of a criminal or terrorist nature. They were also required to not be eligible for family reunification under the provisions for refugees in the International Protection Act 2015. If applications for more than 500 people were received, it was foreseen to prioritise those most at risk. The assessment had regard to the vulnerability of older persons, children, single female parents, single women and girls, individuals with disabilities, and people whose previous employment exposes them to risk (e.g., UN and EU staff).</p> <p>5.</p> <p>Community sponsorship began as a pilot project in Ireland in December 2018. Five families (17 persons) were resettled by host community groups in Cork, Waterford and Meath during the pilot phase. Following a successful pilot project, it was launched as a national programme in November 2019. The initial pilot model sought to enable interested groups within a community to come together to support arriving refugees as a Community Sponsorship Group (CSG). The local group provides supports around access to housing and</p>
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		<p>to different state services. Refugees arrive in Ireland following selection by UNHCR and a vetting process overseen by the IRPP. The Irish model was developed in co-operation with the Government of Ireland, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (RCC), and civil society organisations such as UNHCR, the Irish Red Cross, Nasc, the Irish Refugee Council and Amnesty International Ireland.</p> <p>There are four designated Regional Support Organisations (RSOs) who support CSGs. These are Nasc, Doras, the Irish Refugee Council and the Irish Red Cross.</p> <p>A total of 34 families have been resettled in different rural and urban communities throughout Ireland.</p> <p>In 2021, with the arrival of Afghan refugees, a less formalised version of this programme was used to house Afghan persons, including Afghan judges.</p> <p>6.</p> <p>Programme Refugees within the Community Sponsorship scheme are selected for consideration by Ireland by UNHCR upon applying a number of specific criteria. These families are specifically interviewed for the Community Sponsorship scheme. During resettlement missions there are criteria applied to the selection process by IRPP.</p> <p>7.</p> <p>Yes, as described above, quotas are applied. Under the initial IRPP programme, announced in 2015, it was intended that 4000 persons would be resettled or relocated to Ireland. In 2019, it was announced that 2,900 refugees would be brought to Ireland through a combination of resettlement and community sponsorship between 2020 and 2023. Ireland submitted a pledge to the European Commission in October 2022 to resettle 800 programme refugees in 2023, with a further 100 persons to be resettled under humanitarian admission.</p> <p>Humanitarian schemes: for IHAP, a quota of 530 persons was set. However, this figure was exceeded. For the Afghan Admission Programme, a quota of 500 was set with figure of arrivals to date at 554. There are typically short periods for submitting a proposal to bring family members to Ireland under the schemes.</p> <p>8.</p> <p>Quotas for the intake of programme refugees are set and reviewed annually by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The Minister makes decisions regarding the country of origin/country of first asylum,</p>
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			<p>in consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and UNHCR.</p> <p>9. Programme Refugees resettled to Ireland are issued with permanent residence status (applies to resettlement and community sponsorship). For persons admitted through the humanitarian scheme 'IHAP', they were also issued with Programme Refugee status and thus permanent residence status. For persons to be admitted under the Afghan Admission Programme, they will be issued with a temporary immigration permission for a two-year period. While the beneficiary can seek a renewal, there is no automatic right to such a renewal.</p> <p>10. Programme refugees (resettlement, community sponsorship and beneficiaries of the IHAP humanitarian scheme) are generally provided with rights and privileges similar to those enjoyed by Irish citizens, including immediate access to social welfare allowances, access to the labour market without a permit, education, accommodation supports (such as the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)) and health services. Persons admitted to the state under the Afghan Admissions Programme will be able to work without a permit, access education and emergency healthcare treatment.</p> <p>11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Irish Refugee and Protection Programme stated that during the COVID-19 pandemic, no missions took place and there was a reduction in the number of arrivals.</li> <li>• Community Sponsorship schemes have resettled displaced Ukrainians as a result of shortfall in Programme Refugees arriving.</li> <li>• Availability of housing is an issue due to increase demand and lack of housing stock across the country.</li> </ul> <p>12. No.</p>
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	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. The Italian resettlement program was launched in 2015 following the recommendation of June 8, 2015 of the European Commission, and the JHA Council conclusions of July 20, 2015, and consists of the transfer of refugees, upon UNHCR referral, from countries of first asylum to Italy. A co-financing of € 10,000 euros for each resettled refugee from Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) is foreseen. A total of 2,514 refugees have been resettled so far, from Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Syria, Sudan and Turkey, which are included in the Reception and Integration System (SAI). These are mostly Syrian families, accounting for about 84 percent of the total.</p> <p>2. In order to coordinate the national resettlement program, a dedicated structure - Resettlement Unit - has been established with the technical support of four external experts coordinated by Office IV - International Relations. Thanks to its offices in the countries of first asylum where refugees come from, UNHCR is entrusted with the forwarding of the dossiers containing information on the refugee status determination (RSD) and the resettlement needs of potential beneficiaries to the Resettlement Unit. The dossiers are screened by the Resettlement Unit, which selects eligible cases for the transfer to Italy. The choice of countries from which the resettlement can be performed is linked to the geographical priorities indicated by the Commission.</p> <p>3. Since 2015, the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior has welcomed several requests from the not-for-profit Sector for the implementation of new projects for a regular and safe entry of refugees, developing and consolidating stable "humanitarian admissions" mechanisms. In Italy, these forms of public/private partnerships have been labeled "Humanitarian Corridors". These instruments' peculiarity is that they leave the identification of beneficiaries directly to the civil society associations involved in reception. Thanks to the ratification of several Memoranda of Understanding for the implementation of "humanitarian corridors," 4231 people have arrived so far.</p> <p>A list of Protocols signed and currently in force are listed below:</p>
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			<p>1. Protocol for the realization of "Humanitarian Corridors from Lebanon" from Lebanon</p> <p>The "Humanitarian Corridors from Lebanon" protocol of August 2021 is still ongoing, and it will be concluded in November 2023. Signatories are MAECI, the Community of Sant'Egidio, the Waldensian Table and the Federation of Italian Evangelical Churches-FCEI-). This Protocol provides for the transfer of a contingent of 1,000 beneficiaries to be identified mainly among Syrian families and vulnerable individuals. Through the protocol, 418 beneficiaries have arrived in Italy so far. This is the third edition of the protocol. Thanks to the previous two protocols, a total of 2,019 people have arrived in Italy.</p> <p>b. Protocol for the realization of "Humanitarian Corridors from Niger, Ethiopia e Joardan"</p> <p>A protocol for the implementation of "Humanitarian Corridors from Ethiopia, Niger and Jordan" was also signed last October 2022 (signatories MAECI, the Italian Episcopal Conference (CEI) and the Community of Sant'Egidio). It foresees the entry of 600 people in two years, starting from the date of the first arrival (not scheduled yet). This is the third edition of the protocol. Thanks to the previous two protocols, a total of 1,114 people have arrived in Italy.</p> <p>Hybrid protocols for the implementation of "Humanitarian Corridors/Evacuations": During 2021, in order to cope with the situation of emergency, two new memoranda of understanding were signed. They provide for the entry into Italy of people in clear need of international protection, partly through evacuation and partly through the mechanism of humanitarian corridors.</p> <p>c) The first one is the protocol of April 23, 2021, for the implementation of the recently concluded "Humanitarian Corridors - Evacuations from Libya" project, which provided for the arrival of 500 beneficiaries by November 2022 (signatories MAECI, the Community of Sant'Egidio, UNHCR, the Federation of Italian Evangelical Churches-FCEI and the Waldensian Table). Under the same protocol, 487 people have arrived so far: the national reception system has welcomed 286 of them, and the proposing organizations have taken charge of the remaining 201.</p> <p>d)The second protocol is the one of November 4, 2021, which envisages the implementation of "Humanitarian Corridors-Evacuations for Afghanistan" (signatories MAECI, the Community of Sant'Egidio, UNHCR, IOM, ARCI, the National Institute for the Health Promotion of Migrant Populations and the Fight against Poverty-related Diseases-INMP-, the Italian Episcopal Conference-CEI-, the Federation of Italian Evangelical Churches- FCEI- and the</p>
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		<p>Waldensian Table). It provides for the arrival of 1,200 Afghan nationals from Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Jordan and Bosnia and Herzegovina by July 2024. 800 of the new arrivals will be identified and welcomed by the proposing associations and the remaining 400 will be taken into the care of the Administration, which will include them in the Reception and Integration System (SAI) after the screening performed by UNHCR personnel on site. Under this instrument, 479 beneficiaries have arrived in Italy so far at the expense of the signatory associations.</p> <p>Next to the humanitarian corridors, in order to offer a prompt response to the necessities of people in need of international protection and who are particularly vulnerable in emergency contexts, the Department has coordinated in the past, in close collaboration with UNHCR, a series of <u>evacuations from Libya and Niger</u> (8 operations between 2017 and 2019 of which 6 from Libya and 2 from Niger for a total of 913 people.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>Humanitarian admission programs' peculiarity is that they undertake the identification of beneficiaries directly by the civil society associations involved in reception. Regarding the two aforementioned Hybrid Protocols for the implementation of "Humanitarian Corridors/Evacuations" it is noted that:</p> <p>1. The protocol for the implementation of the project "Humanitarian Corridors - Evacuations from Libya," envisages as beneficiaries, people recognized under UNHCR mandate, or individuals registered to the UNHCR Libya, and in clear need of international protection present in Libyan territory on or before January 1, 2021. In addition, in a complementary and substitute form to the previous criteria, specific conditions of vulnerability are taken into account.</p> <p>2. The protocol for the implementation of "Humanitarian Corridors-Evacuations for Afghanistan" provides that the 800 beneficiaries accepted by the proposing associations are identified among Afghan citizens (and their family members) in clear need of international protection. In addition, for this quota, in a complementary form and not a substitute for the aforementioned criteria, there are additional criteria to be taken into account (family ties, collaboration with Italian contingent in Afghanistan, vulnerability, etc.). For the 400 beneficiaries in the care of the Administration, the protocol envisages as beneficiaries, people recognized as refugees or otherwise in need of international protection registered with the UNHCR Office on the ground.</p> <p>Finally, the aforementioned evacuations from Libya and Niger, conducted between 2017 and 2019, involved particularly vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers identified by UNHCR Libya.</p>
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			<p>5. Please, refer to point 4. dedicated to Humanitarian Corridors</p> <p>6. Please, refer to point 4. dedicated to Humanitarian Corridors</p> <p>7. <u>Each year, on the basis of the geographical priorities indicated by the Commission, Italy decides its commitment (pledge) and defines the quotas of beneficiaries to be resettled and (starting with the 2022 pledge) to be admitted through humanitarian admissions.</u> <u>For the year 2022</u>, in agreement with the European Commission, Italy's pledge provides for the arrival, by the first semester of 2023, of: 100 Afghan refugees from Pakistan, 90 Afghan refugees from Iran, 50 refugees of various nationalities from Turkey, and 67 refugees, mostly Syrian, from Lebanon, for a total of 307 people. <u>As regards humanitarian admissions</u>, in accordance with the European Commission, Italy's pledge for 2022 provides for the arrival by the first semester of 2023 of 1,481 people in clear need of international protection, and in particular 500 from Libya (of various nationalities) and 981 Afghans from Iran and Pakistan.</p> <p>8. The choice of third countries of asylum is mainly linked to the geographical priorities indicated by the Commission, the guidelines and procedures adopted by UNHCR and the action plans adopted by the European Asylum Agency EUAA. In addition to this, an assessment is made regarding the capacity of operations in the third countries of origin, the needs of the Italian reception system, the coordination of the various stakeholders involved as well as possible needs to outsource some services.</p> <p>9. When the Territorial Commission recognizes the beneficiary's refugee or subsidiary protection status, the territorially</p>
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			<p>competent Police Headquarters shall issue a permit with the reason "political asylum." The permit for political asylum has a duration of 5 years and is renewable.</p> <p>10. The residence permit referred to in item 9:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- allows access to study;</li> <li>- allows the performance of a work activity (subordinate or self-employed);</li> <li>- allows access to public employment;</li> <li>- allows enrollment in the health service;</li> <li>- entitles to welfare benefits from Inps and local authorities;</li> </ul> <p>Political asylum permit holders can apply for the EU long-term resident permit; Asylum permit holders can apply for family reunification to allow their family members to enter Italy.</p> <p>11.</p> <p>Yes, it has. The Covid 19 pandemic negatively impacted the aforementioned schemes as well. The national resettlement program suffered a setback while initiatives falling under the scope of so-called humanitarian admissions slowed down sharply. From the point of view of medical checks, some innovations were introduced such as the stipulation of specific health protocols with the local health authority; PCR testing for beneficiaries both in the pre-departure phase and upon arrival at the airport; use of biocontainment means for the management of positive cases upon arrival at the airport; and periods of isolation or quarantine in dedicated facilities according to what was imposed by the regulations in force at the time.</p> <p>12.</p> <p>As part of the resettlement program, there are periodic audits performed by a specific Audit Authority under the AMIF fund. With regard to humanitarian admissions, monitoring systems have gradually been introduced over time. In particular, the most recently signed protocols foresee the establishment of a specific Unit for coordination and evaluation of results.</p>
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	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	<p>1. OTHER: the only experience in these matters is related to the EU emergency relocation programme when persons in clear need of international protection in 2016-2017 were relocated from Greece and Italy, but 46 persons were resettled from Turkey.</p> <p>2. During the above mentioned time – families with children was the main preference. On the basis of files provided by the UNHCR, cases according to the priorities were selected, personal interviews were carried out and after a positive decision a transfer of persons to Latvia was organized with the support of IOM.</p> <p>3. No.</p> <p>4. No.</p> <p>5. No.</p> <p>6. N/a</p> <p>7. N/a</p> <p>8. According to the Asylum Law participation in resettlement is competence of the Parliament (Saeima) and the Cabinet of Ministers:  Section 69. Competence of the Saeima and the Cabinet on Asylum Issues The Cabinet shall take decisions on issues, which are related to reception of asylum seekers to the Republic of Latvia from other Member States or third countries, in reaction to an emergency influx of asylum seekers at external borders of the European Union, within the scope of the established mechanisms for relocation and resettlement of asylum seekers, and also within the scope of development of such mechanisms and express the national position of Latvia (also at institutions of the European Union), on the basis of a decision of the Saeima.  Section 70. Measures Within the Scope of the Mechanisms for Relocation and Resettlement</p>
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			<p>(1) A person admitted within the scope of the mechanisms for relocation and resettlement shall be considered an asylum seeker from the day he or she has been admitted in the Republic of Latvia and has submitted an application for granting refugee or alternative status until the moment the administrative proceedings regarding his or her application have ended.</p> <p>(2) The person's application for granting refugee or alternative status referred to in Paragraph one of this Section shall be examined in accordance with the procedures determined in this Law.</p> <p>9. Permanent residence permit is issued to person who receives refugee status (registration every 5 years); Temporary residence is issued to person who receives alternative status – subsidiary form of protection (prolongation every 2 years).</p> <p>10. Holders of both types of residence permits have the right to reunite with family members (the only difference – those who receive alternative status (subsidiary protection) and temporary residence permit have such right, if he or she has resided in the Republic of Latvia for at least two years after acquisition of such status) as well as there are differences in time period for financial allowances (10 or 7 months). Holders of both types of residence permits have free access to the labour market. Education, health services – are provided to the same extent as for residents.</p> <p>11. N/a</p> <p>12. N/a</p>
	EMN NCP Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. Yes.</p> <p>According to Article 87<sup>1</sup> of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners, decisions regarding the resettlement of foreigners to Lithuania are made by the Government. Therefore, all resettlement programs are initiated by Government resolutions.</p>

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			<p>In its Resolution No. 628 of 22 June 2015 Regarding the Resettlement of Foreigners to the Territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the Government approved the resettlement of up to 250 foreigners in need of international protection from EU Member States or third countries by 30 June 2018. The resolution was subsequently amended to expand the resettlement quota to 1077 and to extend the scheme until 31 December 2021. According to the data of the Migration Department, by 10 November 2021, Lithuania resettled 699 individuals, who were nationals of Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Eritrea, Senegal, Nigeria, Bissau Guinea, Afghanistan, as well as stateless persons. The key stakeholders in this resettlement program (and others that are listed as humanitarian admission schemes in Q3) are state institutions. The Government makes resolves regarding a resettlement program; the Migration Department implements resettlement, decides on the legal status of each resettled individual, and issues documents; the Ministry of Social Security and Labor deals with the integration of the resettled persons into the society, including their initial accommodation at the Refugee Reception Center and the facilitation of access to the labor market by the Employment Service. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a significant role in the implementation of those resettlement programs that are classified in Q3 as humanitarian admission schemes.</p> <p>2. The procedure for resettlement under the resettlement program mentioned in the answer to Q1 is outlined in Section 5 of Order No. 1V-131 of 24 February 2016 of the Minister of the Interior Regarding the Approval of the Description of the Procedure for Granting and Revoking Asylum in the Republic of Lithuania. The Migration Department is responsible for carrying out resettlement. In the case of resettlement from third countries, resettlement is implemented in cooperation with the UNHCR.</p> <p>Persons for resettlement are selected in accordance with Commission Recommendation (EU) 2015/914 of 8 June 2015, Conclusions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States No. 11130/15 of 22 July 2015, and Article 2(a) of Regulation (EU) No. 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014.</p> <p>3. Yes.</p> <p>On 26 April 2019, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania passed <b>Law No. XIII-2077</b> On the Resettlement of Persons to the Republic of Lithuania, which came into effect on 1 June 2019. The law regulates the resettlement of <u>citizens</u> of the Republic of Lithuania, <u>persons of Lithuanian origin</u>, <u>persons who have the right to restore citizenship</u>, and their family members from a foreign state (or its part) afflicted by a humanitarian crisis (e.g., a war, a terrorist attack,</p>
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		<p>mass riots, an epidemic, famine, a state of emergency, etc.). According to this law, eligible persons may apply to the Migration Department to obtain the status of a resettled person, which ensures a number of rights and privileges, including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to enter Lithuania within 3 years of obtaining the status;</li> <li>• The right to have their travel expenses (e.g. tickets, the transportation of personal belongings, insurance, etc.) covered within 3 months of obtaining the status;</li> <li>• Various payments and benefits to help them to move, settle in, rent housing, start school, get their qualifications recognized, learn the Lithuanian language, etc.</li> <li>• The right to free health insurance;</li> <li>• The right to use the services of the Employment Services;</li> <li>• Access to education for both children and adults;</li> <li>• The right to take up permanent residence in Lithuania.</li> </ul> <p>The first program implemented under this law was the resettlement of persons from Venezuela. Government <b>Resolution No. 928</b> of 11 September 2019 allowed for the <u>resettlement of persons from Venezuela</u> due to the difficult security and humanitarian situation and set 1 October 2020 as the deadline for applications for the status of a resettled person. Subsequently, the deadline was extended to 1 October 2021. By October 2022, a total of 118 persons were successfully resettled.</p> <p>The second program implemented under this law was the <u>resettlement of persons from Ukraine</u>, in accordance with Government <b>Resolution No. 327</b> of 6 April 2022. The order set 31 December 2022 as the deadline for the submission of applications to obtain the status of a resettled person. Applications can be submitted from Ukraine through the Lithuanian embassy or from within Lithuania directly to the Migration Department.</p> <p>The beneficiaries of this program may be accommodated at the Refugee Reception Center for up to 4 months, sign an agreement on the provision of financial support for integration for up to 18 months, and receive a permanent residence permit.</p> <p>In 2022, there were 2185 citizens of the Republic of Lithuania residing in Ukraine, and about 500 persons were eligible to apply for Lithuanian citizenship. On the basis of this data, it was predicted that some 500 persons could be resettled under this program. Currently, no data is available on the number of persons resettled so far.</p> <p>On 25 August 2021, the Government passed <b>Resolution No. 682</b> Regarding the Resettlement of Citizens of the</p>
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		<p>Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the Republic of Lithuania, whereby it was decided to resettle up to 200 citizens of Afghanistan who had cooperated with the Lithuanian and other NATO countries' armed forces, as well as their family members. The Ministry of Defense was assigned to organize their transportation to Lithuania and accommodation. 179 persons (51 men, 43 women, and 85 children) were resettled to Lithuania in August 2021. An additional 20 Afghanistan nationals were transferred from Kosovo on 25 March 2022.</p> <p>table_-_resettlement.pdf</p> <p>4. The persons who are eligible for resettlement under Law No. XIII-2077 (and thus, Government <b>Resolutions No. 927 and No. 328</b>) are limited to the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. citizens of the Republic of Lithuania;</li> <li>2. persons of Lithuanian origin who have the appropriate certificate or can submit the documents required to confirm their Lithuanian origin;</li> <li>3. persons who have the document allowing to restore Lithuanian citizenship or can submit the documents required to restore the Lithuanian citizenship;</li> <li>4. the family members of categories 1, 2, and 3;</li> <li>5. minors who are under the guardianship of persons who belong to categories 1, 2, and 3;</li> <li>6. legal representatives of persons who belong to categories 1, 2, and 3.</li> </ol> <p>The persons transferred under Government Resolution No. 682 were limited to a specific group – nationals of Afghanistan, who cooperated with the NATO armed forces, and their family members.</p> <p>5. No. There are no plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7. According to Article 87<sup>1</sup> of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners, decisions regarding the resettlement of foreigners to Lithuania are made by the Government. Government resolutions regarding resettlement typically contain either a timeframe, a quota, or both.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution No. 628, as amended (EU resettlement) – the quota was 1077, and the timeframe for</li> </ul>
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			<p>resettlement was from 22 June 2015 to 31 December 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution No. 928, as amended (from Venezuela) – no quota; the time frame for applications to obtain the required status was from 11 September 2019 to 1 October 2021 (however, the program is ongoing).</li> <li>• Resolution No. 327 (from Ukraine) – no quota; the timeframe for applications was from 6 April 2022 to 31 December 2022.</li> <li>• Resolution No. 682 (from Afghanistan) – the quota was up to 200, with no timeframe.</li> </ul> <p>8. No, there is no mechanism that would apply in all cases. Estimates are made during the proposal stage of the legislative process on the number of persons that could/would benefit from a resettlement program and the expected costs of the program. However, these estimates do not determine whether or not a quota is applied.</p> <p>9. The Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners does not specify the type of residence permit that is granted to beneficiaries of resettlement or humanitarian admission. The legal status that is granted to resettled persons depends on their individual circumstances. However, according to Article 53 of the Law on the Legal Status, permanent residence permits are issued to persons who 1) have the right to restore Lithuanian citizenship; 2) are of Lithuanian origin; 3) have been granted the status of a refugee in Lithuania. Thus, in practice, resettled persons typically obtain a permanent residence permit for 5 years.</p> <p>10. Typically, resettled persons get a different package of rights and privileges, exceeding the ones that derive from the possession of any type of residence permit. For example, persons resettling from Ukraine under Government Resolution No. 327 are entitled to a permanent residence permit (valid for 5 years) and the following rights/benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compensation of expenses incurred while preparing application documents (e.g. translation and legalization of documents)</li> <li>• Transportation of property (or compensation for property that could not be transported);</li> <li>• Lump-sum payment for settling in (currently, 294 € per adult, 147 € per accompanied child, and 1617 € for unaccompanied child);</li> <li>• The right to reside in the Refugee Reception Center or the premises offered by it for up to 4 months upon arrival, where they receive basic household equipment, furniture, and bedding</li> </ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Free-of-charge Lithuanian language course at the Refugee Reception Center</li> <li>○ The Center's assistance with opening a bank account, various consultation services</li> <li>• Partial compensation of a rental fee (monthly; depends on municipality, but can go to 210 €);</li> <li>• Financial support for integration (18 months; depends on the family size; currently, 588 € per month during the first 6 months for a family of 3);</li> <li>• Employment without a work permit and self-employment;</li> <li>• Full access to the services of the Employment Service;</li> <li>• Emergency medical services, pregnancy services, and other basic necessary medical services;</li> <li>• Prescription medicines;</li> <li>• Vaccination for minors and COVID vaccines for everyone;</li> <li>• Access to pre-schools and schools;</li> <li>• Access to vocational training;</li> <li>• Child benefits;</li> <li>• Monetary social support (social benefits, compensation of the cost of utilities);</li> <li>• Support for children attending school (e.g. free lunch, lump-sum payment to purchase school supplies at the beginning of the school year);</li> <li>• Compensation of preschool education costs for 6 months (i.e., part of the cost of a private kindergarten);</li> <li>• Social services;</li> <li>• Determination of disability and support, payment, and services to persons with disability;</li> <li>• Lump-sum payment in case of a funeral;</li> <li>• Food stamps;</li> <li>• Packages containing hygienic products for adults and children;</li> <li>• Support for newborns and mothers.</li> </ul> <p>11. Available statistics indicate that the majority of persons resettled under Resolution No. 628 (EU resettlement program) tend to leave the country. For example, out of 468 persons who were resettled under this program in 2015-2018, 344 persons left Lithuania, 21 were returned, and 7 returned voluntarily.</p>
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			<p>Resettlement under Government Resolution 928 (from Venezuela) ran into difficulties due to the difficult circumstances in Venezuela, particularly the difficulty in obtaining passports. In October 2022, about 40 persons were still awaiting resettlement, unable to move due to a lack of travel documents, bureaucratic or physical obstructions in Venezuela, or health issues. The main issue for those who were successfully resettled was the language barrier and, consequently, employment below the level of the qualification. Due to the absence of a bilateral agreement between Venezuela and Lithuania, there is the issue of pensions for elder resettled persons (Lithuania cannot obtain information about the pensions of the resettled persons and awards minimal social assistance pensions).</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. Since 2016, 328 refugees were resettled to Luxembourg, from Turkey, Lebanon and Niger.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. JHA Council of 20 July 2015: During the Justice and Home Affairs Council of 20 July 2015, which decided to resettle 22.504 displaced people stemming from outside of the EU who are in clear need of international protection, Luxembourg committed to resettle 30 people. In the end, 28 individuals were resettled from Lebanon as well as Turkey in 2017 in the context of this commitment: 23 Syrians, two stateless people, two Iraqis and one Iranian.[i]</li> <li>2. EU-Turkey agreement: Following the agreement of 18 March 2016 between the EU and Turkey, Luxembourg committed to resettle 190 persons in total. Overall, 206 refugees were resettled in 2016 and 2017 under this framework.</li> <li>3. EU Joint Resettlement programme (2017-2019)[1]: 48 refugees were resettled from the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) from Niger.</li> </ol> <p>The costs stemming from organising the missions preceding the resettlements are eligible for European co-financing through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.[ii] A Luxembourgish delegation composed by representatives of the Grand Ducal Police, Directorate of Immigration and the OLAI (now ONA) went to Niamey, Niger from the 7 to 20 October 2019 to conduct interviews with refugees who were preselected by the UNHCR.</p> <p>EU resettlement and humanitarian admission programme launched for 2021 and 2022: Under this framework and in</p>

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			<p>the context of humanitarian admission, 60 Afghan nationals have been admitted to Luxembourg between August 2021 and October 2022.</p> <p>[1] Commission Recommendation (EU) 2017/1803 of 3 October 2017 (9 Dec 2017-12 April 2019)/ '50 000 scheme'</p> <p>[i] Directorate of Immigration, Bilan de l'année 2017 en matière d'asile et de migration, p.16 [ii] Idem.</p> <p>2. Luxembourg conducts selection missions in the first countries of asylum, following referrals by UNHCR. The referrals are based on the UNHCR resettlement submission categories: 1. Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs of the refugee in the country of refuge (this includes a threat of refoulement); 2. Survivors of Torture and/or Violence; 3. Medical Needs; 4. Women and Girls at Risk; 4. Children and Adolescents at Risk, where a best interests determination supports resettlement; 5. Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solution.</p> <p>3. See answer to Q1.</p> <p>4. Humanitarian admission focussed on Afghans at immediate risk.</p> <p>5. No. Not at the moment.</p> <p>6. N/A.</p> <p>7. Yes. At it was mentioned in the answer to Q1, Luxembourg foresees a fixed quota in the context of EU Resettlement</p>
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			<p>schemes.</p> <p>8. Quotas are currently determined in response to pledging exercises at the EU or international level, by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, who is in charge of implementing resettlement activities. Relevant migration and asylum developments at national level, such as housing capacities, are duly taken into account.</p> <p>9. Quotas are currently determined in response to pledging exercises at the EU or international level, by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, who is in charge of implementing resettlement activities. Relevant migration and asylum developments at national level, such as housing capacities, are duly taken into account.</p> <p>10. This residence permit grants the individual the right to access the labour market (without access to the public sector), access to housing in the same conditions as legally residing third country nationals, access to healthcare in the same conditions as nationals, the right of family reunification (they have six months to apply for family reunification without complying with the conditions of adequate housing, financial support and health insurance coverage for the family member and for the applicant), and access to education. If the beneficiary is aged 25 or older, s/he can benefit of the REVIS as a financial aid.</p> <p>11. The COVID-19 pandemic had severely disrupted resettlement activities in 2020. Member States, UNHCR and IOM suspended all resettlement operations between mid-March 2020 and June 2020 due to the pandemic. In the end of 2020, nearly 9,500 refugees were resettled in 2020 to the EU (and associated countries). Due to the situation, the Commission Recommendation of 23 September 2020 on legal pathways to protection in the EU transformed the initial 2020 resettlement scheme (30,000 places) into a two-year scheme, covering the period 2020-2021. In this context, Luxembourg resettled 49 persons and thereby fulfilled its commitment in the end. However, due to operational challenges linked to travel restrictions in 2020, the transfer of a</p>
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			second group of selected resettlement beneficiaries had to be postponed from March to October 2020.																								
			12. No.																								
	EMN NCP Malta	No																									
	EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. Yes, the Netherlands has implemented resettlement programs in the period 2016-2022. Since 1999 the Netherlands implement resettlement in the context of a multiannual policy framework, with an annual national quota of 500 resettled refugees.</p> <p>The period 2016-2022 covers the multiannual policy frameworks 2016-2019 and 2020-2023.</p> <p>In 2018 coalition agreements led to an initial increase of the annual quota from 500 to 750, followed in 2019 by a reinstatement of the annual quota of 500.</p> <p>As of 2017, resettlement from Turkey has been disconnected from the national multi-annual policy framework and as of 2018, in addition to the national quota, the category 'resettlement based on (EU) migration cooperation with third countries' has been introduced. This category harbours the resettlement efforts in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016. The magnitude of this resettlement effort is determined for the duration of an EU resettlement program and the execution is conditional to the mutual implementation of the cooperation and the spontaneous asylum influx resulting from that.</p> <p>Note that all resettlement to the Netherlands takes place upon referral by UNHCR (prerequisite).</p> <p>The actual number of persons resettled per year is as follows<sup>[1]</sup>:</p> <table> <tr> <th colspan="2">National multiannual policy framework<sup>[2]</sup></th><th colspan="2">Resettlement in framework of EU-Turkey Statement</th></tr> <tr> <td>2016<sup>[3]</sup></td><td>260</td><td></td><td>470</td></tr> <tr> <td>2017</td><td>150</td><td></td><td>2.130</td></tr> <tr> <td>2018</td><td>520</td><td></td><td>700</td></tr> <tr> <td>2019</td><td>720</td><td></td><td>1.180</td></tr> <tr> <td>2020</td><td>300</td><td></td><td>128</td></tr> </table>	National multiannual policy framework <sup>[2]</sup>		Resettlement in framework of EU-Turkey Statement		2016 <sup>[3]</sup>	260		470	2017	150		2.130	2018	520		700	2019	720		1.180	2020	300		128
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			2021	84	391
			<p>Under the multiannual policy framework 2016 – 2019 refugees were resettled during missions to : Lebanon (mostly Syrians), Jordan (mostly Syrians), Uganda (mostly Congolese and Southern Sudanese), Egypt (mostly nationals from various sub-Saharan countries), Kenya (mostly sub-Saharan Africans), Niger (mostly Eritreans), and urgent dossier referrals of individual refugees from all over the world.<sup>[4]</sup> During this period the Netherlands also resettled Syrian refugees in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement.</p> <p>From 2020-2022 under the multi-annual policy framework (2020-2023) refugees were resettled out of Lebanon (mostly Syrians), Jordan (Syrians, Yemeni), Egypt (mostly nationals from various sub-Saharan countries, Niger (mostly Eritreans), Kenya (mostly Congolese), Rwanda (mostly Congolese) urgent dossier referrals of individual refugees from all over the world.-Besides, the Netherlands continued to resettle Syrian refugees in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement. The covid-19 pandemic resulted in many challenges and delays in the implementation of resettlement. The aftermath of the pandemic, when travel movements and spontaneous asylum influx resumed, combined with evacuations of Afghans and arrivals of Ukrainians fleeing the war in Ukraine, lead to an unprecedented shortage in reception places which resulted in the government's decision on 26 August 2022 to temporarily pause resettlement selections out of Turkey (evaluation moment of the measure is set at 1 July 2023).<sup>[5]</sup></p> <p>Involved stakeholders in the multiannual national resettlement policy framework are: the ministry of Security and Justice, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) (including the Bureau Medical Advisors (BMA) of the IND), the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) local Dutch diplomatic representations abroad, Dutch municipalities, and Civil Society Organisations (e.g. Dutch Refugee Council).<sup>[6]</sup> With regard to resettlement in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement until 2021 the National Police - Foreign Nationals Identification and Human trafficking Unit (AVIM) and the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR) were also involved.<sup>[7]</sup></p> <p><sup>[1]</sup> The data in this table is based on the Rapportage Vreemdelingenketen of the Ministry of Justice and Security and the Asylum Trends from the Immigration and Naturalisation Service. For the data on 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, information is used from the Rapportage Vreemdelingenketen. For the data on 2020 and 2021 data is used from Asylum Trends. Please note that the mentioned numbers refer to the arrivals of resettled refugees in the</p>		

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		<p>Netherlands.</p> <p>[2] Please note that mentioned numbers do not necessarily correspond with the national quota. Family members arriving in the Netherlands to reunite with refugees resettled under the multiannual national framework do count towards the national quota, but are not included in the reported numbers. Furthermore, until 31 December 2019 the calculation model for the multiannual policy framework was based on the number of refugees selected for resettlement, instead of arriving in the Netherlands (several months after their selection). As of 2020 the calculation model of the multiannual policy framework is based on the number of arrivals in the Netherlands of resettled refugees.</p> <p>[3] Please note that in 2016 the resettlement in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement was counted towards the national multiannual policy framework (total arrivals in 2016 being 730). For the purpose of this chart to provide an overview the number is split up also for 2016.</p> <p>[4] Parliamentary Papers II, 2019-2020, 19637/30573, no. 2608.</p> <p>[5] Parliamentary Papers II, 2022-2023, 19637, no. 2992.</p> <p>[6] NL EMN NCP, 'Hervestiging en humanitaire toelating in Nederland: beleid en praktijk', December 2016, <a href="https://www.emnnetherlands.nl/onderzoeken/hervestiging-en-humanitaire-toelating-nederland">https://www.emnnetherlands.nl/onderzoeken/hervestiging-en-humanitaire-toelating-nederland</a>, last accessed on 07 November 2022.</p> <p>[7] Information provided by the IND on 24 November 2022.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>The national resettlement quota is part of the multiannual policy framework and is established for a four-year period by the Government (currently 2020-2023). The quota applies to refugees that arrive in the Netherlands and are individually submitted by UNHCR either in connection with selection missions or on a dossier basis. Family members arriving in the Netherlands to reunite with resettled refugees also count towards the national quota.</p> <p>The Netherlands reserves the right to assess all aspects of resettlement, including the determination of refugee status, on the basis of its national policies. The Netherlands uses a country based asylum policy and a resettlement submission must fit in that policy. Furthermore the UNHCR considerations and the resettlement profile used by COA are taken into account.</p> <p>Mission destinations are determined on the basis of the UNHCR Projected Global Resettlement Needs, EU priorities,</p>
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		<p>national strategic priorities, and operational considerations (e.g. security situation). Overall the Netherlands aims at a diverse caseload.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>Yes, in the context of the 2021-2022 EU Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Program, the Netherlands has pledged humanitarian admission of Afghans with respect to three ways in which Afghan nationals are transferred to the Netherlands: 1. transfer on the basis of the arrangement for former Afghan interpreters, 2. evacuation prior to the Taliban take-over of power in Afghanistan in the Summer of 2021, 3. (post-evacuation) transfer of certain groups of Afghans (mentioned below).<sup>[1]</sup> Between 15-26 August 2021 Dutch nationals<sup>[2]</sup>, local embassy staff and Afghan interpreters who worked for the Netherlands as part of an international military or police mission were evacuated. During this evacuation phase, on 18 August 2021, this scope was broadened to include other groups in response to a motion adopted by Parliament (motie-Belhaj)<sup>[3]</sup>, with a special focus on employees of Dutch development projects, human- and women's rights defenders and (fixers of) journalists. On 26th August 2021 the evacuation phase ended in which 1.860 persons have been transferred to the Netherlands<sup>[4]</sup>.</p> <p>The Netherlands continued the transfer of people on the basis of letters to Parliament of 11 October 2021<sup>[5]</sup> and of 30 March 2022<sup>[6]</sup>. This transfer-phase is still ongoing. As of 30 November 2022, 2.591 persons have been transferred from Afghanistan, while another 156 persons eligible for transfer to the Netherlands still remain in Afghanistan.<sup>[7]</sup> In the Netherlands, the stakeholders are the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Security, and Defence.<sup>[8]</sup></p> <p>There have been no other humanitarian admission schemes.</p> <p><sup>[1]</sup> Note that these transfers are not considered humanitarian admission schemes as such at the national level, but are operated in such a way that they fall within the definition of 'humanitarian admission' under the EU 2021-2022 Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Program. The Netherlands has pledged a number of 3.159 transfers in total, which the Netherlands has fulfilled entirely.</p> <p><sup>[2]</sup> Evacuation of Dutch nationals and Afghans with a Dutch permit is not considered humanitarian admission and falls outside the scope of the EU 2021-2022 Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Program.</p> <p><sup>[3]</sup> Letter from the Ministers for Migration, Foreign Affairs and Defence to parliament of 18 August 2021, Min-</p>
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		<p>BuZa.2021.464, <a href="https://open.overheid.nl/repository/ronl-bac7188b-81a6-43e6-ba86-3a6a2be07ea0/1/pdf/Kamerbrief%20Afghanistan%2018%20augustus%202021.pdf">https://open.overheid.nl/repository/ronl-bac7188b-81a6-43e6-ba86-3a6a2be07ea0/1/pdf/Kamerbrief%20Afghanistan%2018%20augustus%202021.pdf</a>, last accessed on 7 November, 2022.</p> <p>[4] Letter from the Ministers for Migration and Foreign Affairs to parliament of 30 March 2022, <a href="https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-892.html">https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-892.html</a></p> <p>[5] Letter from the Ministers for Migration, Foreign Affairs and Defence to parliament of 11 October 2021, <a href="https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-860.html">https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-860.html</a></p> <p>[6] Letter from the Ministers for Migration and Foreign Affairs to parliament of 30 March 2022, <a href="https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-892.html">https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/kst-27925-892.html</a></p> <p>[7] Letter to Parliament, 6 December 2022, <a href="https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2022Z...">https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2022Z...</a>, last accessed on 7 December, 2022.</p> <p>[8] Letter from the Ministers for Migration, Foreign Affairs and Defence to parliament of 18 August 2021, Min-BuZa.2021.464, <a href="https://open.overheid.nl/repository/ronl-bac7188b-81a6-43e6-ba86-3a6a2be07ea0/1/pdf/Kamerbrief%20Afghanistan%2018%20augustus%202021.pdf">https://open.overheid.nl/repository/ronl-bac7188b-81a6-43e6-ba86-3a6a2be07ea0/1/pdf/Kamerbrief%20Afghanistan%2018%20augustus%202021.pdf</a>, last accessed on 7 November, 2022.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>Categories of persons eligible for the humanitarian admission scheme as described under Q3 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dutch passport holders, their core family members and Afghans with a Dutch residence permit.</li> <li>1. People who were called to the airport in Kabul by the Netherlands during the evacuation phase, but who were not able to get on the flight.</li> <li>1. Employees of Dutch development projects.</li> </ol> <p>A special provision was created for two groups (cat.3 and 4). Ngo's registered in the Netherlands, who received budget from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (BHOS) for projects in Afghanistan in the area of social development, peace and security or sustainable development, were invited. These Ngo's could register employees who worked for these projects for at least one year after 1 January 2018, in a function with public</p>
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			<p>visibility.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Employees who worked for the Netherlands as part of an international military or police mission.</li> </ol> <p>For this second group of the special provision, people were eligible if they worked for the Netherlands in a military or police mission in the last 20 years, for at least one year in a function with public visibility.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interpreters who worked for the Netherlands as part of an international military or police mission.</li> </ol> <p>This group is accommodated under a special immigration procedure for interpreters and other high profile staff, that existed already.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local staff of the Dutch Embassy directly employed by the Dutch embassy and their core family members</li> <li>1. Local staff of international organisations. Based on lists of EU, UN and NATO.</li> <li>1. Additional effort for (fixers of) journalists and human rights defenders. Based on EU-list.</li> <li>1. Core family members of; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. people who were registered with the Dutch authorities and evacuated between 15-26 August 2021.</li> <li>b. unaccompanied Afghan minors who arrived in the Netherlands since the fall of Kabul.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5.</li> </ol> <p>No. The Netherlands has not implemented Sponsorship schemes in the period 2016-2022 nor are there any government plans to establish such a scheme in the foreseeable future.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.</li> </ol> <p>Not applicable.</p>
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		<p>7.</p> <p>Yes, since 1999 the Netherlands implement resettlement in the context of a multiannual policy framework with an annual national quota of 500 resettled refugees. The period 2016-2022 covers the multiannual policy frameworks 2016-2019 and 2020-2023. In 2018 coalition agreements led to an initial increase of the annual quota from 500 to 750, followed in 2019 by reinstatement of the annual quota of 500.</p> <p>As of 2017, resettlement from Turkey has been disconnected from the national multi-annual policy framework and as of 2018, in addition to the national quota, the category 'resettlement based on (EU) migration cooperation with third countries' has been introduced. This category harbours the resettlement efforts in the framework of the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016. The magnitude of this resettlement effort is determined for the duration of an EU resettlement program and the execution is conditional to the mutual implementation of the cooperation and the spontaneous asylum influx resulting from that.</p> <p>Please refer to Q1 and Q2.</p> <p>8.</p> <p>Yes, the resettlement efforts are determined by the Dutch cabinet and the Minister for Migration.</p> <p>9.</p> <p>A third-country national who is resettled to the Netherlands via the schemes mentioned in Q1 receives a temporary asylum residence permit for a period of five years. This residence permit can be granted on three different conditions: international protection, subsidiary protection and family reunification with a beneficiary of international protection.<sup>[1]</sup> In general, after the five year period naturalisation is possible if certain conditions are met.<sup>[2]</sup> There are some exceptions to this rule where persons may be eligible for naturalisation after a three year period, for example in the case of statelessness.<sup>[3]</sup> In case of humanitarian admission, all persons who meet the requirements as outlined under Q4 will also receive a temporary asylum residence permit which is valid for five years.</p> <p><sup>[1]</sup> Article 29 of the Aliens Law (Vw) 2000.</p> <p><sup>[2]</sup> IND, 'Becoming a Dutch national through naturalisation', <a href="https://ind.nl/en/dutch-citizenship/becoming-a-dutch-national-through-naturalisation">https://ind.nl/en/dutch-citizenship/becoming-a-dutch-national-through-naturalisation</a>, last accessed on 14 November 2022.</p>
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			<p><a href="#">[3]</a> Information provided by the Ministry of Justice and Security on 24 November 2022.</p> <p>10. The temporary asylum residence permit provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○</li> <li>▪                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Right to family reunification.<a href="#">[1]</a></li> <li>• Access to services such as financial allowances, education and health services equal to Dutch nationals.<a href="#">[2]</a></li> <li>• Access to the national labor market is equal to Dutch nationals.<a href="#">[3]</a></li> <li>• Access to (subsidised) housing.<a href="#">[4]</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="#">[1]</a> Rijksoverheid, 'Mogen gezinsleden van statushouders naar Nederland komen?', <a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/vraag-en-antwoord/mogen-familieleden-van-asielzoekers-naar-nederland-komen">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/vraag-en-antwoord/mogen-familieleden-van-asielzoekers-naar-nederland-komen</a>, last accessed on 14 November, 2022.</p> <p><a href="#">[2]</a> Kennisplatform Integratie &amp; Samenleving, 2017, <a href="https://www.kis.nl/sites/default/files/2022-08/factsheet-rechten-plichten-asielzoekers-vluchtelingen.pdf">https://www.kis.nl/sites/default/files/2022-08/factsheet-rechten-plichten-asielzoekers-vluchtelingen.pdf</a>, last accessed on 14 November 2022.</p> <p><a href="#">[3]</a> Article 3 of the Aliens Employment Act 1994.</p> <p><a href="#">[4]</a> Article 12 of the Housing Act 2014.</p> <p>11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>•             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Biometric data is required for issuing residence permits, however it remains a challenge to obtain adequate quality of the data before arrival in the Netherlands. This delays the follow-up resettlement process significantly, for example the ability to open a bank account, which in turn is a requirement to enter into a rental or health insurance contract for receiving services such as housing or health</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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			<p>care.[1] This problem also occurs in regular asylum applications cases. However, in resettlement cases municipalities are directly responsible for providing suitable housing (next to other services) for the resettled refugees. This means specific and urgent complications arise when the quality of biometric data is insufficient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Some beneficiaries of resettlement programmes have a significant distance from Dutch society. Supporting these resettled persons in bridging the gap can take up a considerable amount of effort and (extra) resources from municipalities and local civil society organizations that provide the individual guidance upon arrival.[2]</li> <li>○ A general lack of adequate and available housing is a major challenge for housing asylum permit holders in the Netherlands and increasingly a major challenge for direct housing of resettled refugees under the multiannual policy framework.</li> <li>○ In general the current housing shortage results in an increased challenge to provide adequate housing to certain refugees (such as medical cases, large families, unaccompanied minors).</li> <li>○ As regards humanitarian admission: The transfer of Afghans from Afghanistan to the Netherlands is challenging, amongst other reasons due to lack of flights and travel documents in Afghanistan and the closing of the Dutch diplomatic representation in Afghanistan after 26 August 2021.</li> </ul> <p>[1] Information provided by the IND on 24 November 2022. [2] Ibid.</p> <p>12.</p> <p>In terms of resettlement, currently no formal evaluations are planned or have been performed. However, the progress of the multiannual policy framework is being monitored and Parliament is informed at the end of each framework. There is an ongoing evaluation on the humanitarian admission scheme mentioned in Q3. The committee evaluating the evacuation operation from Afghanistan is expected to publish its report before 31 May 2023.[1]</p> <p>[1] Minutes of the meeting of the permanent parliamentary committee on Foreign Affairs on 3 November 2022.</p>
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	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	1. No 2. N/a. 3. No 4. N/a. 5. No 6. N/a. 7. N/a. 8. N/a. 9. N/a. 10. N/a. 11. N/a. 12. N/a.
	EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	1. Yes. Under the Resettlement Program 2018 – 2019, 930 refugees were resettled in Portugal, from Türkiye (555) and Egypt (369). 468 Syrians were resettled from Türkiye in the framework of the EU-Turkey Declaration (1:1 mechanism) between 04/04/2016 and 31/12/2021. OIM gives support to the operation.


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			<p>2. During the selection missions, the refugees are interviewed in order to see if they are willing to go and to adapt to Portuguese culture. Presence of family members in Portugal are taken into consideration. Security checks are performed to avoid any inadequate candidate, from National security point of view.</p> <p>3. Yes. The initial pledging exercise was for 450 evacuees from Afghanistan, following the Taliban takeover on 15 August 2021. However, in December 2021, the Portuguese government's commitment increased to 800 Afghans (150 for standard admissions and 650 for admissions from vulnerable groups). Currently, more than 900 Afghans citizens have been evacuated to Portugal</p> <p>4. Following the 15/08/2021 coup d'état perpetuated by the Taliban movement, several evacuation operations were carried out for all those Afghan citizens and their families who collaborated with international forces. Portugal supported the departure of collaborators who had worked with the Portuguese Armed Forces, and members of the Music Institute of Afghanistan (ANIM) and the women's football team and journalists. Countries of first asylum: Georgia 309 Qatar 279 Pakistan 206 United Arab Emirates 47 Madrid (EU Quota - Afghanistan) ) 27 Serbia 7 Iran 22 Türkiye 4</p> <p>5. No.</p> <p>6. n/a</p> <p>7. For the coming years, Portugal's pledge for Humanitarian Admission is 100 per year and for Resettlement is 300 (150 Egypt and 150 Türkiye.</p> <p>8. Housing capacities determine the quotas.</p> <p>9. For beneficiaries of international protection an European Union uniform model residence permit is granted for 5 years (refugees) and for 3 years (subsidiary protection). If no international protection status is granted, asylum</p>
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			<p>applicants fall under the Immigration law and they can get a residence permit for humanitarian reason (3 years), when applicable.</p> <p>10. Foreigners have equal rights of National citizens.</p> <p>11. Lack of housing; Drop-out quota in favor of countries with better social support and standard of living.</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. No.</p> <p>2. NA</p> <p>3. No. In 2015, the Slovak Republic admitted within a humanitarian reception 149 internally displaced persecuted Christians from Iraq on a voluntary basis. They arrived to the Slovak Republic in December 2015. More information is provided in the EMN thematic study from 2016 "<a href="#">Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – What works?</a>"</p> <p>Based on the trilateral treaty between the Government of the Slovak Republic, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) the Slovak Republic organized from 2009 so called humanitarian transfer of refugees through the Slovak territory.</p> <p>For this purpose an Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) was opened, located in the asylum facility of the Slovak Ministry of Interior in Humenne (eastern Slovakia). ETC serves to provide a temporary shelter to refugees whose situation in a refugee camp where they are staying is no longer sustainable and who have been chosen for resettlement to a third country. The Slovak Republic provides these refugees with a temporary shelter for a period of maximum 6 months. The capacity of ETC is fixed, currently being 250 refugees.</p>

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			<p>Based on the agreement partners have the following roles within the humanitarian transfer of refugees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government of the SR is responsible for granting the national visas prior to the entry of refugees to the territory of the Slovak Republic and during their stay it provides them with accommodation, food and basic sanitary supplies.</li> <li>• UNHCR ensures issuing of travel documents to refugees and during their stay in Slovakia it covers the costs of indispensable and urgent health care and provides social services to refugees.</li> <li>• IOM is responsible for international transport of refugees from a refugee camp to the Slovak Republic and from the Slovak Republic to the final country of resettlement. IOM further provides services related to resettlement – cultural orientation and/or language training, medical examinations for the purpose of resettlement, series of vaccinations against hepatitis, measles, diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus and other diseases as well as fit to travel medical examinations prior to departure to the country of resettlement.</li> </ul> <p>From 2009 altogether 1,026 refugees to the ETC in Slovakia from camps in Africa, Asia and the Middle East were transferred. The refugees were from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia and Sudan. During the same time IOM resettled 1,034 refugees from the ETC in Slovakia to countries that gave them a new home. Most of them were admitted by the US, some by Canada, Norway and Sweden.</p> <p>4. NA</p> <p>5. No. The 2015 humanitarian admission described in question 3 can be considered a combination of a humanitarian admission and a sponsorship programme, as the humanitarian admission was funded by a third party/sponsor. Thanks to the sponsoring partner, the security check of the entire group and the group's arrival in the Slovak Republic were financially secured. The relevant civic association had financial resources available from this sponsor to ensure accommodation and complex services within the framework of the integration project in the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>6. NA</p> <p>7. NA</p>
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			<p>8. NA</p> <p>9. In the case described in question 3, the persons concerned had to apply for asylum, which was granted to them. A person granted asylum is considered a person with permanent residence in the Slovak Republic based on the Act on Asylum, Article 24.1.</p> <p>10. Permanent residence on the basis of granted asylum gives the asylum seeker the same rights and obligations as any other person granted permanent residence in the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>11. The experiences and related challenges of the Slovak Republic in this regard can be based only on the humanitarian admission described in question 3.</p> <p>In December 2015, 149 persons of Iraqi nationality were admitted by Slovakia. At that time, as Christians living in Iraq, they faced threats related to the offensive of the militant terrorist organization Islamic State. After their stay in the refugee camp in Humenne, they were granted asylum in 2016 and subsequently started with their integration. The integration programme was funded by a sponsor from the USA. The official contractual partners of the project were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Migration Office (methodical guidelines and supervision)</li> <li>• Roman Catholic Church, Diocese of Nitra (responsible person)</li> <li>• Pokoj a dobro – pomoc utečencom o.z. (Peace and goodness – assistance to refugees, civic association)</li> </ul> <p>The duration of the project was agreed for 3 years. During the duration of the project, the refugees lived in Nitra and nearby villages. The official integration was completed on 1 February 2019. A total of 54 people living in ten households remained in Slovakia, a third of the original community. The reasons for returning to the homeland were various: adaptive, cultural, economic, often combined or connected to personal family experiences. The families that</p>
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			<p>remained confirmed their interest in permanent life in Slovakia. Adults go to work, children to school, they have their own ideas and plans, they are included and accepted by the majority society. Considering their individual possibilities and the nature of family life, which belongs to their culture, they have made progress in the integration process in all areas of life and are ready for life in the Slovak or European environment.</p> <p>There were number of challenges (apart of the human factor described above) - the improvement occurred after the change of the project manager and the limitation of interference in the implementation of the project by the management of the civic association or other charitable organizations and a private funder without the actual experience of the needs from practice also the basic knowledge of psychology was called into question. Challenge was also the politicization of the problem before the parliamentary elections, the influence on other asylum seekers (inappropriate communication regarding Christian vs. Muslim communities by the church), lack of dedicated funds for the Migration Office despite existing responsibility for the process (reliance on the aforementioned foreign funders).</p> <p>12.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic was able to conduct evaluation of only one humanitarian admission programme which was realized as described in question 3.</p> <p>The Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, as the responsible state institution, internally evaluated the project during its duration and at the end of the project by means of final evaluation interviews with the families of Iraqis who remained in the Slovak Republic, the project manager and the project's social workers. The project was an important experience for the Migration Office, especially regarding the cooperation of the state, the non-governmental sector and the Roman Catholic Church in the integration of asylum seekers from Iraq.</p> <p>Based on experience, it is necessary in the future to clearly define the mutual competences of all partners in the project in a timely manner, as well as to make mutual expectations realistic, namely among the project contractual parties themselves, but also between refugees and project workers. The goal is uniform and clear communication from all sides.</p> <p>Out of 149 Iraqis who were resettled to Slovakia in December 2015, during the three-year implementation of their integration into Slovak society, 72 people gradually went back to Iraq, probably 11 people to other countries in</p>
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			<p>Europe (the SR has no information about their whereabouts). Three children were born in Slovakia and one woman died after a serious illness.</p> <p>11 families remained in Slovakia, which at the time of the evaluation (2018) consisted of a total of 29 adults capable to work, of whom 13 worked full-time, 5 worked part-time. There were six persons on maternity leave. Five were engaged in the production of handicrafts that were sold over the Internet.</p> <p>Schools were attended as follows: 9 children in kindergarten, primary school 12 children, secondary school 8 and 2 students were at university.</p> <p>As for the level of command of the Slovak language, in general, children, especially school-aged children, were the best, followed by women. Men, despite the fact that they worked and therefore had wider opportunities for social interactions with society, paradoxically had the weakest command of Slovak (in several families, the wives also had to translate).</p> <p>Everyone who was interviewed at the end of the project demonstrated a relatively large degree of independence and an effort to solve their problems independently, without assistance. The parents continued to feel the desire to return to Iraq, which several declared verbally, but they were aware that their children had better opportunities in Slovakia.</p> <p>As of February 2019, the civic association kept in operation one office financed from non-project sources, with two part-time workers, which clients could visit if necessary.</p> <p>The termination of the project took place gradually over several weeks and the refugees were ready for it. It was made sure that all families had sufficient information about the method of ending the project.</p>
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. 2015 – EU resettlement scheme, decision to resettle 20 person from Turkey, Lebanon or Jordan. 2016 – EU–Turkey agreement, decision to resettle 40 persons from Turkey. In 2018, the above decisions were implemented together. 34 persons, all Syrians, were resettled from Turkey. Stakeholders involved included responsible national authorities (the Police, Ministry of the Interior, Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants), as well as IOM and UNHCR.</p> <p>2. According to Article 2 of the International Protection Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 16/17 –</p>

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			<p>official consolidated text and 54/21), the quota of persons who may be granted refugee status shall be determined by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the proposal of the Ministry of the Interior. The Government shall also determine the tasks of individual ministries, government services, and other state bodies concerning the accommodation and integration of persons in the Republic of Slovenia. In drawing up the proposal, Ministry of the Interior shall take into account global migration trends, crisis areas in the world, the integrational capacity of the Republic of Slovenia, and other important circumstances. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall issue a decision laying down the manner of settling persons admitted to the Republic of Slovenia.</p> <p>Furthermore, Article 2 of the Decree on the relocation of persons admitted to the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a quota and burden sharing among Member States of the European Union (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, no. 24/17 and 167/21) stipulates that in its decision, the Government shall also determine the country or part of the country from which the persons will be admitted to the Republic of Slovenia, and determine the number and the category of admitted persons.</p> <p>According to Article 74 of the International Protection Act, based on determined quota, the persons may be granted refugee status if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- they fulfil the conditions to be granted refugee status under International Protection Act, and</li> <li>- they are present in a country where they are safe from persecution, but where the living conditions are inappropriate for their integration into society.</li> </ul> <p>Finally, according to Article 75, in the procedure for granting refugee status, the competent authority shall take into account the report prepared for each individual by an official from the competent authority or UNCHR or other international organisation in the country referred to in indent two of the preceding article. The report shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an opinion on the requirements for integration in the country referred to in indent two of the preceding article, and</li> <li>- an opinion on the fulfilment of the conditions to be granted refugee status pursuant to International Protection Act.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the above mentioned provisions, for the implementation of resettlement in 2018, it was decided to prioritise Syrian nationals – if possible, families – from Turkey.</p>
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			<p>3. No. No such plans in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. No. No such plans in the foreseeable future.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>7.</p> <p>Yes. As explained above, the quota of persons who may be granted refugee status shall be determined by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on the proposal of the Ministry of the Interior. In drawing up the proposal, Ministry of the Interior shall take into account global migration trends, crisis areas in the world, the integrational capacity of the Republic of Slovenia, and other important circumstances. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall issue a decision laying down the manner of settling persons admitted to the Republic of Slovenia.</p> <p>8. See replies to Q2 and Q7.</p> <p>9.</p> <p>The decision granting refugee status in the Republic of Slovenia shall at the same time serve as a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Slovenia as of the day of service. A residence permit card shall be a separate public document identifying a person under international protection and confirming his or her international protection status. A refugee shall be issued a residence permit as a separate document with a ten-year validity period.</p> <p>10.</p> <p>Resettled persons are given the status of a refugee, and accordingly, they are entitled to the rights of persons with international protection according to the International Protection Act. In 2018, persons with refugee status had the following rights: right to obtain information about the status; residence in the Republic of Slovenia; monetary</p>
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			<p>compensation for private accommodation; healthcare; social security; education; employment and work, and help with integration into the environment. Resettled persons were provided with an introduction period of three months, which was intended for learning the basics of the Slovenian language, help in handling documents and getting practical knowledge about everyday life in the Republic of Slovenia.</p> <p>11. No.</p> <p>12. No.</p>
	EMN NCP Spain	Yes	<p>1.</p> <p>Yes, Spain has implemented resettlement programmes in the period 2016 – 2022.</p> <p>The <u>name</u> of the schemes is always “Programa Nacional de Reasentamiento (PNR)” followed by the year in which the agreement is signed. For instance, “PNR 2021”.</p> <p>Among the stakeholders involved we can find three ministries (Inclusion, Social Security and Migration; Foreign matters and ministry of Interior), the UNHCR, the IOM (international organization of migration) and several NGO's that are the one who take care of the hosting side of the program.</p> <p>Scheme:</p> <p>2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name: PNR 2016</li> <li>• Period of implementation: 1st of January 2018 – 31th December 2018.</li> <li>• Number of persons resettled: 584</li> <li>• Places from which they were resettled: Turkey and Lebanon.</li> </ul> <p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name: PNR 2017</li> <li>• Period of implementation: 1st of January 2019 – 31th December 2019.</li> <li>• Number of persons resettled: 825</li> <li>• Places from which they were resettled: Turkey and Jordan</li> </ul>

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			<p>2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name: PNR 2018</li> <li>• Period of implementation: 1st of January 2020 – 31th December 2020.</li> <li>• Number of persons resettled: 361</li> <li>• Places from which they were resettled: Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan</li> </ul> <p>2019-2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name: PNR 2019-2020 (due to covid situation)</li> <li>• Period of implementation: 1st of January 2021 – 31th December 2021.</li> <li>• Number of persons resettled: 526</li> <li>• Places from which they were resettled: Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey.</li> </ul> <p>2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name: PNR 2021</li> <li>• Period of implementation: 1st of January 2022 – 31th December 2022.</li> <li>• Number of persons resettled: 1137 people (199 pending for transfer on 13th and 14th December 2022)</li> </ul> <p>Places from which they were resettled: Lebanon, Israel, Morocco, and Turkey.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Our selection priorities are those which facilitate that, after the resettlement program ends, the families have achieved a proper local integration in our community and they can have an autonomous live.</p> <p>Elegibility criteria: Not families with the two illiterate adult members; No families with more than 10 % of their members with special needs; Not people with serious mobility problems or mental illnesses who require institutional care or caregivers; Families consisting of a maximum of 6 members; With any of the following qualifications: 9 years of education, experience in construction, electricians, carpenters, plumbers or people working in the industry, families who speak Spanish, who have lived in Spain or who have family or social ties in our country and families linked to others who have been previously resettled in our country and who have shown an interest in being resettled together. We usually work with the same countries of first asylum, this is: Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. But we are studying to open this to other countries where the Spanish language is used, such a Centre-American countries. However,</p>
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			<p>sometimes we received very special cases of people very vulnerable, from Camerun or Marrakech for instance, and we resettle this people also after their case has been studied.</p> <p>3. Yes</p> <p>Among the special programs carried out during the last five years that could be included in the humanitarian admission framework, it is worth highlighting the program aimed at welcoming Afghan citizens after the Taliban took power in August on August 15, 2021, which triggered a humanitarian crisis to which Spain responded through Operation Antigone.</p> <p>On August 18, 2021, the first flight of evacuees from Afghanistan landed at the Torrejón de Ardoz Air Base. Since then, a total of 21 flights have been destined to evacuate 2,770 nationals from Afghanistan belonging to various contingents: Spain, European Union Foreign Service and NATO.</p> <p>Operation Antigone has so far taken place in three phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Operation Antigone I took place during the month of August 2021. Seventeen flights landed at the Torrejón de Ardoz Air Base and 2,169 people arrived over 9 days, evacuated directly from Kabul airport.</li> <li>- Operation Antigone II took place on 11 and 12 October 2021. During these days, two flights were received with 244 people who managed to flee to Pakistan and were evacuated to Spain from this country bordering Afghanistan.</li> <li>- Finally, the recent Operation Antigone III took place in July and August 2022, continuing with Spain's commitment to evacuate people collaborating with the Spanish government and institutions in Afghanistan. Thus, 357 people have been able to arrive in these two flights from the Islamabad airport to the Torrejón de Ardoz Air Base in Madrid.</li> </ul> <p>At the same time, more than a thousand Afghans have been arriving in Spain by their own means and with the support of the Spanish Embassies in third countries such as Pakistan, Iran or India.</p> <p>Currently, 1,531 people evacuated within the framework of Operation Antigone are still in the reception system. In addition, 804 of those who have arrived in Spain through the Embassies are occupying a place in the International Protection System.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>The people who were evacuated from Afghanistan in the framework of Operation Antigone belonged to contingents</p>
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		<p>of collaborators from Spain, the European Union Foreign Service and NATO. The Spanish Embassy in Kabul, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Defense, among other organizations, participated in determining the criteria for integrating the lists of evacuees. The collaboration and services rendered by these persons to the Spanish Government, the European Union and NATO were considered.</p> <p>Regarding persons who have gained parallel access with the support of the Spanish Embassies in countries such as Pakistan, Iran or India, in accordance with the provisions of Article 38 of Law 12/2009, the Spanish Ambassadors, after studying the application, consider the transfer to Spain formulated by the nationals of Afghanistan to make it possible to submit an application for international protection upon arrival in Spain. This procedure may be applied when the applicant is not a national of the country where the diplomatic representation is located, and his physical integrity is at risk.</p> <p>5.</p> <p>Since 2019, the Secretariat of State for Migration (SEM) has acquired and signed agreements with different Autonomous Communities (Basque Country, Valencian Community and Navarre), social entities (with extensive experience in the field of solidarity and social justice, including refugees among the beneficiaries of their action) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to implement pilot community sponsorship programmes in Spain.</p> <p>The SEM, mainly through the Subdirectorate-General for International Protection Programmes (SGPPI) as a responsible body and expert in the reception of refugees, has played an important role in the implementation of community sponsorship in Spain. The SGPPI has supported all the actors involved in the community sponsorship programme: regional governments, local sponsorship groups, sponsoring entities, etc.</p> <p>The three pilot initiatives of community sponsorship complement the National Reception System for asylum seekers and refugees; those agreements have a period of validity of two years, which could be extended for an equal period.</p> <p><u>1. Pilot Project with the Basque Country (Auzolana Community Sponsorship Pilot Experience II)</u></p> <p>Date of signature Agreement: 20 June 2019. The extension was signed on 21 July 2021</p> <p>Stakeholders: General Administration of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), social entities (Caritas Diocesana of Bilbao, Caritas Diocesana de Vitoria, Caritas Diocesana de San Sebastián and Fundación Social Ignacio Ellacuría).</p>
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			<p><u>Participants:</u> First pilot experience: 29 Syrian people resettled in Spain on 26 March 2019 and 2 people on 30 November 2020 from Jordan (first pilot experience). Host municipalities: Arrigorriaga and Portugalete, in Biscay; Andoain, in Guipúzcoa and Vitoria-Gasteiz.</p> <p>Second pilot experience (extension of the agreement): 27 Syrian people resettled in Spain on 6 May 2022 and 5 July 2022 from Lebanon. Host municipalities: Bilbao, Tolosa, Vitoria, San Sebastian and Zalla (2 families).</p> <p><u>2. Pilot project with the Generalitat Valenciana</u></p> <p>Date of signature Agreement: 8 March 2021</p> <p>Stakeholders: Generalitat Valenciana, through the Vice-Presidency and Conselleria of Equality and Inclusive Policies, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Spain (UNHCR), social entities (Jesuit Service to Migrants Spain, Caritas Diocesana Orihuela-Alicante, Caritas Diocesana Segorbe-Castellón and Caritas Diocesana Valencia).</p> <p><u>Participants:</u> 23 Syrian people resettled in Spain on 24 September 2020 from Lebanon.</p> <p>Host municipalities: Alaquàs, Almassora, Calp, Cocentaina and Valencia.</p> <p><u>3. Pilot project with the Autonomous Community of Navarre</u></p> <p>Date of signature Agreement: 12 November 2021</p> <p>Stakeholders: Government of Navarre, through the Department of Migration Policies and Justice, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Spain (UNHCR), Tudela City Council, San Francisco Javier Civil Foundation.</p> <p>Participants: 11 people of Syrian origin arrived in Spain on 6 April 2021 from Turkey, 5 people from Lebanon on 24 February 2022 and 4 people on 5 July 2022 from Lebanon.</p> <p>Host municipality: Tudela.</p> <p>6.</p> <p>In Spain, community sponsorship projects have been developed linked to the National Resettlement Programme. Therefore, participants in the sponsorship programmes are selected from those who take part in the resettlement programme. They are identified and proposed by UNHCR, according to the vulnerability criteria for resettlement, and selected by the Spanish authorities according to the criteria established for the selection of resettled persons. Subsequently, the national authorities forward some shortlisted files to the regional governments, who make the final selection of the persons participating in the programmes. It is a voluntary participation, always having as alternative to be hosted in the National Reception System.</p>
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			<p>7. Last years, the established quota for the PNR has been 1200 people. However, this number of people has not been always the same, as for example, in 2016 was 725, or in 2017 was 1000, and it has been being incremented with time until we have reached 1200 people and we are maintaining this now since 2019. The times frames for this quota to be implemented is, nowadays, the natural year. This is from 1st of January to 31st of December. However, this might change if other events are involved, as it happens with the PNR 2019 and 2020 because of the covid situation. Not pre-established quota for humanitarian admission.</p> <p>8. Our country has a mechanism to determine the quotas that are offered for the resettlement program. They are limited by our housing capacities, which are currently quite crowded because of the high demand that exists in our country from asylum seekers.</p> <p>9. The type of protection granted in Spain to resettlement people, also for people participant in sponsorship programmes as they come through the resettlement programme, is the refugee status. Subsequently, they obtain a permanent residence and work permit.</p> <p>10. The rights are mainly regulated in Law 12/2009, which establishes the right to asylum and subsidiary protection. A personal identification document will be issued as well as a travel document. The refugee status implies the possibility to ask for the Spanish citizenship five years after arrival in Spain. Once the international protection is granted, the beneficiary will be able to apply for a familiar extension of his/her international protection, under the requirements enshrined in national law. After the extension is consequently granted, they can join the resettled person in Spain. Also they can access the labor market, and they can have access also to public education and health care as any Spanish citizen.</p>
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			<p>11.</p> <p>The national resettlement programme is based on providing the necessary support to resettled persons to enable them to live independently at the end of the programme.</p> <p>During the life of the programme, the main challenge we have had faced is related to the adjustment of expectations.</p> <p>In recent years, we have noticed a higher degree of involvement of the people in the resettlement programme within their pathway in the reception system.</p> <p>Nowadays, the resettled people are really involved in language learning.</p> <p>In the selection missions, the pre-departure Orientation sessions as well as in their pathway within the reception system, we highlight to the resettles the importance of language learning as a tool to get a job and an independent life in Spain.</p> <p>The main challenge of sponsorship programmes is how to continue and scale initiatives, so that it can be extended to more participants, since to date only three pilot programs have been developed.</p> <p>And the reception system is under a big pressure, as the number of asylum and temporary protection applicants has been and is growing very fast.</p> <p>12.</p> <p>UNHCR Spain has among its priorities the monitoring of the situation of resettled refugees. To this aim, it has made</p>
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			<p>regular assessments in coordination with the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration.</p> <p>At the same time, the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, in coordination with NGOs, has started to follow up on the situation and achievements of the resettled people in the different phases of their itinerary in the reception system.</p>
	EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>Sweden has been receiving resettled refugees for many years, indeed since the 1950s, and is thus one of the most experienced EU Member States in terms of resettlement. The legal basis for resettling refugees to Sweden is the Swedish Aliens Act, which foresees that a residence permit shall be given to an alien who is to be received in Sweden within the framework of a decision that the Government has issued on the transfer to Sweden of persons in need of protection.</p> <p>Every year, the Swedish Parliament decides on the budget to be allocated for resettling refugees to Sweden. Following the Parliament's decision, the Swedish Migration Agency is instructed by the Government to select and transfer persons to be resettled to Sweden. The selection of individuals is based on referrals by the UNHCR. In recent years, the annual resettlement quota has been set at 5,000 people but the new rightwing government has announced that this will be reduced to 900 in 2023.</p> <p>On the overarching planning of the Swedish resettlement programme, consultation is carried out between the Swedish Migration Agency (which organises and administers the programme), the UNHCR and the Ministry of Justice. Geographical priorities are decided on an annual basis by the Swedish Migration Agency in consultation with the UNHCR.</p> <p>When a person is selected to be resettled to Sweden, a residence permit is issued either on the ground that the individual is considered to be a refugee or because the person is otherwise in need of protection. According to the Aliens Act, Convention refugees are those who have left their country of nationality and have a well-founded fear of persecution in that country due to their race, their nationality, their religious or political beliefs or on grounds of gender, sexual orientation or other membership of a particular social group.</p> <p>Also in accordance with the Aliens Act, individuals who are not Convention refugees may also qualify for asylum (also</p>

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			<p>referred to as subsidiary protection). One category of individuals in need of subsidiary protection are those who have left their country of nationality and have a well-founded fear of suffering the death penalty or execution; or torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Furthermore, subsidiary protection is applicable to civilians in need of protection due to a serious and individual threat to his or her life or person by reason of indiscriminate violence in situations of international or internal armed conflict. This subsidiary protection status is internationally recognised and is based on EU rules.</p> <p>Thus, resettled individuals can be refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. The decision by the Swedish Migration Agency indicates which category a resettled person belongs to. In either case, the individual will receive a permanent residence permit. Convention refugees may however have a somewhat stronger legal status than beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. For example, resettled persons with refugee status have quicker access to Swedish citizenship than beneficiaries of subsidiary protection.</p> <p>The programme is administered and organised by the Swedish Migration Agency, upon instruction from the Ministry of Justice, and in cooperation with the UNHCR. The Migration Agency is the sole responsible body on the national level planning the programme and performing all the operational tasks until the refugees arrive on Swedish territory.</p> <p>2. The annual Swedish resettlement quota includes flexibility components, which means that different geographical priorities can be made each year, according to where the need to offer protection to refugees is greatest. A number of places are reserved for emergency cases. Sweden carries out resettlement through selection missions, which means that potential beneficiaries of resettlement are interviewed in the country where they have found (preliminary) refuge, and by dossier selection in Sweden. Dossier selection entails that the Migration Agency examines individual files submitted by the UNHCR. When a person is selected to be resettled to Sweden, a residence permit is issued either on the ground that the individual is considered to be a refugee in accordance with the Geneva Convention, or in need of subsidiary protection. Residence permits granted to resettled individuals are permanent. Geographical priorities are decided on an annual basis by the Swedish Migration Agency in consultation with the UNHCR.</p> <p>The initial planning of the resettlement quota for 2021 encompassed 5,000 individuals, and the distribution of places focused on the largest and most intense refugee situations identified by the UNHCR, as well as vulnerable groups. The distribution of places aimed to mirror the global needs of resettlement. In addition, the Swedish government</p>
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			<p>decided on 11 February 2021 to transfer the 1,401 quota refugees who could not be transferred in 2020, due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the resettlement program. The areas neighboring Syria accounted for the largest share of places (41 percent), of which about half were individuals who should have been resettled after delegations in the host countries by 2020. Selection of 2,600 people of predominantly Syrian origin was planned from Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. In addition, bearing in mind the immense need of resettlement in some African countries, 1,700 places were reserved for refugees stranded in countries along the so called Central Mediterranean route, and 1,550 places were reserved for resettlement from host countries that are the focus of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). The remaining 550 spots were earmarked for persons in need of urgent resettlement within the Prioritized Global Quota (PGQ).</p> <p>In 2021, a total of 6,270 individuals were granted refugee status and 302 were granted subsidiary protection. In August 2021, the government decided to temporarily remove the requirement that person of concern must be in a third country in order to be resettled to Sweden. The decision meant that Afghans could be evacuated directly from Afghanistan and resettled to Sweden. In total during 2021, Sweden received approximately 1 300 Afghan nationals who were evacuated from Afghanistan.</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. Not applicable</p> <p>5. No</p> <p>6. Not applicable</p> <p>7. The quota is determined yearly and applied by the Swedish Migration Agency in accordance with instructions from the Swedish Government, after financial allocation by the Swedish Parliament, and in consultation with UNHCR. In all cases the Swedish Migration Agency makes an individual assessment on the need for protection. When selecting persons for resettlement, Sweden follows proposals by the UNHCR as a main principle. The UNHCR uses a number of eligibility criteria and prioritises cases. Sweden has not set its own criteria, and does not prioritise certain</p>
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		<p>cases over others.</p> <p>As stated above the yearly quota has been 5 000 refugees but from 2023 this will be reduced to 900 per calendar year. The quota is a mixture of geographical priorities and emergency cases.</p> <p>8. The quota is determined and applied by the Swedish Migration Agency in accordance with instructions from the Swedish Government, after financial allocation by the Swedish Parliament, and in consultation with UNHCR.</p> <p>9. According to the Swedish Aliens Act resettlement is applicable for persons who are considered to be refugees or persons otherwise in need of protection according to the Chapter 4 of the Swedish Aliens Act (2005:716). Resettled persons are granted permanent residence permits</p> <p>10. As soon as a resettled refugee has received a residence permit and settled in Sweden, he/she has the same rights and obligations as all other residents. Those with a permanent residence permit are entitled to e.g. childcare, education, healthcare and social security. The same obligation to try to work and support oneself, to ensure that children attend school, and to follow the laws, applies to everyone who resides in Sweden. After their arrival, the responsibility for resettled refugees lies with the Swedish municipalities, the regional governments and all other authorities and agencies that are involved in the functioning of Swedish society.</p> <p>11. There is an ongoing work to develop the cooperation between the Swedish Migration Agency and the municipalities concerning the reception of resettled refugees. There is a national working group focusing on better planning for housing in the municipalities, more information in the case of refugees with special needs, development of the preparatory information and better national coordination in order to assure a similar reception in all municipalities.</p> <p>In 2020 resettlement was hugely affected by the global Covid-19 pandemic. The corona pandemic continued to affect all stages of the resettlement process in 2021. Local restrictions in host countries, in combination with Swedish travel restrictions, made selection missions impossible during the first part of 2021. In March, however, the Swedish Migration Agency decided to conduct selection missions through video link for Syrian cases that had been presented in 2020. Five video selection missions were conducted in the spring of 2021, in</p>
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			<p>Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. The delegation to Turkey had to end prematurely due to an increased spread of infection and closures in the country that prevented refugees from entering the investigation facilities. A plan for the resumption of regular delegation activities from September through December was carried out. Of the six delegation missions planned, three could be carried out, two in Turkey and one in Jordan</p> <p>12. No, not lately</p>
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