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Ad-Hoc Query on 2023.30 Use of real-time speech translating devices in the asylum process

Requested by EMN Czech Republic on 26 July 2023

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia (21 in Total)

Disclaimer:

*The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*

## **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Czech police is currently testing devices that can translate speech in real-time. The Ministry of Interior is currently looking at the possibilities of how to utilize these devices during the asylum procedure, especially during the interviews. If the system is viable it would facilitate and expedite the asylum procedure. As the Ministry of Interior is in a preliminary phase, they would like to know if the Member States are using this type of system in the asylum procedure.

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

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1. Does your Member State use real-time speech translating devices during the asylum procedure, especially during the asylum interviews? YES/NO. If you answer yes, please explain how it works and in which stages of the process it is used.
2. If you answer yes to Q1, how does your national legislation regulate the use of this devices?
3. If you answer yes to Q1, which is the authority that authorize and certify the reliability of these devices?
4. If you answer yes to Q1, does the applicant after the interview receives a transcript of the interview so s/he can verify that his/her purposes were clearly translated? YES/NO. If you answer YES, can you please indicate if there are recourses for the applicant in case s/he does not agree with the translation.

We would very much appreciate your responses by **6 September 2023**.

## 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are not aware of the use of such devices in the asylum procedure.</li> <li>2. n/a</li> <li>3. n/a</li> <li>4. n/a</li> </ol>
	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. N/A</li> <li>3. N/A</li> <li>4. N/A</li> </ol>
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No</li> <li>2. N/A</li> <li>3. N/A</li> </ol>



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			4. N/A
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	1. No. 2. N/a 3. N/a 4. N/a
	EMN NCP Cyprus	Yes	1. No 2. 3. 4.
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A
	EMN NCP Estonia	Yes	1. No.



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			<p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. NO.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p>
	EMN NCP France	Yes	<p>1. NO</p> <p>2. n/a</p> <p>3. n/a</p> <p>4. Under the normal procedure, the interview record is sent, if the applicant so requests, before a decision is taken on the application, in accordance with Article L. 531-19 of the Ceseda (French code of the entry and stay of foreign nationals and right to asylum). At the end of the interview, the applicant and, where applicable, the third party attending the interview are informed of the applicant's right to have the transcript communicated before a decision is taken (Article R.531-14 of the Ceseda). If the request is made at the end of the interview, it shall be recorded in the record. The minutes shall be sent by post as soon as possible. If the request is made after the day of the interview and before the decision is taken, the minutes shall be sent immediately.</p>





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			<p>In any event, in the absence of a request for prior dispatch under the normal procedure, the minutes shall be sent to the applicant together with the decision rejecting or granting subsidiary protection.</p> <p>Under an accelerated procedure, including for detained applicants, the transcript is sent to the applicant together with the decision pursuant to Article L. 531-19 (3) of Ceseda.</p> <p>The interviews are also sound recorded. The applicant shall be informed at the beginning of the interview. At the end of the interview, the applicant shall be informed of his or her right to access the recording. Such access may be requested only in the case of a negative decision or an admission under subsidiary protection, after notification of that decision and for the purposes of an appeal, in accordance with Article L. 531-20 of the Ceseda.</p> <p>In the case of asylum applications submitted in detention or at the border (with the exception of Roissy airport), or more generally if the Office has conducted the interview using an audiovisual means of communication, the sound recording shall be made available to the applicant, upon his or her request, in a secure manner within the time limit for appeal against the negative decision. The sound recording is also transmitted by secure means to the National Asylum Court or to the Administrative Court in the context of an appeal.</p>
	EMN NCP Germany	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No, Germany does not use real-time speech translating devices during the asylum procedure.</li> <li>2. n/a</li> <li>3. n/a</li> <li>4. n/a</li> </ol>
	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No, real-time speech translating devices are not used during the asylum procedure, and especially during the asylum interviews, nor their use is foreseen.</li> <li>2.</li> </ol>




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			3. 4.
	EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	1. No 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A
	EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A
	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	1. No, so far we do not have plans or possibilities to introduce real-time speech translating devices. 2. N/a 3. N/a 4. N/a
	EMN NCP	Yes	1. No.

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	Lithuania		2. N/A. 3. N/A. 4. N/A.
	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A. 3. N/A. 4. N/A.
	EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	1. No 2. NA 3. NA 4. NA
	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	1. NO 2. N/A 3. N/A



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			4. N/A
	EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	1. NO 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	1. No. The Slovak Republic uses only interpreters. 2. NA 3. NA 4. NA
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	1. No. 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A

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