



Input by civil society organisations to the Asylum Report 2025

Dear Colleagues,

The production of the Asylum Report 2025 is currently underway. The annual Asylum Report presents an overview of developments in the field of international protection in Europe.

The report includes information and perspectives from various stakeholders, including experts from EU+ countries, civil society organisations, researchers and UNHCR. To this end, we invite you, our partners from civil society, academia and research institutions, to share your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2024 by topic as presented in the online survey (**'Part A' of the form**).

We also invite you to share with us any publications your organisation has produced throughout 2024 on issues related to asylum in EU+ countries (**'Part B' of the form**).

These may be:

- reports;
- articles;
- recommendations to national authorities or EU institutions;
- open letters and analytical outputs.

Your input can cover information for a specific EU+ country or the EU as a whole. You can complete all or only some of the sections.

Please note that the Asylum Report does not seek to describe national systems in detail but rather to present <u>key developments of the past year</u>, including improvements and challenges which remain.

All submissions are publicly accessible. For transparency, contributions will be published on the EUAA webpage and contributing organisations will be listed under the Acknowledgements of the report.

All contributions should be appropriately referenced. You may include links to supporting material, such as:

- analytical studies;
- articles;
- reports;
- websites;
- press releases;
- position papers.

Some sources of information may be in a language other than English. In this case, please cite the original language and, if possible, provide one to two sentences describing the key messages in English.





The content of the Asylum Report is subject to terms of reference and volume limitations. Contributions from civil society organisations feed into EUAA's work in multiple ways and inform reports and analyses beyond the Asylum Report.

NB: This year's edition of the Asylum Report will be significantly revamped to achieve a leaner, more analytical report with streamlined thematic sections. The focus will be on key trends in the field of asylum rather than on individual developments. For this reason, information shared by respondents to this call may be incorporated in the Asylum Report in a format different than in the past years.

Your input matters to us and will be much appreciated!

Please submit your contribution to the Asylum Report 2025 by Friday, 10 January 2025.







Contact details

Name of organisation: Greek Council for Refugees (GCR)

Name and title of contact person: Alkistis Agrafioti Chatzigianni, Advocacy Officer

Email: a.agrafioti@gcr.gr

× I accept the provisions of the EUAA Legal and Privacy Statements

General Observations

Before sharing information by thematic area, please provide your general observations on asylum developments as indicated in the following three fields:

- 1. What areas would you highlight where important developments took place in the country/countries you cover?
- 2. What are the areas, where only few or no developments took place?
- 3. Would you have any observations to share specifically about the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum in the national context of the country/ countries you cover?

PART A: Contributions by topic

Please share **your reporting on developments in asylum law, policies or practices in 2024 by topic.** Kindly make sure that you provide information on:

- ✓ <u>New</u> developments and improvements in 2024 and new or remaining challenges;
- ✓ <u>Changes</u> in legislation, policies or practices, or institutional changes during 2024.







1. Access to territory and access to the asylum procedure (including first arrival to territory and registration, arrival at the border, application of the *non-refoulement* principle, the right to first response (shelter, food, medical treatment) and issues regarding border guards)

See: GCR Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, Greece's State Party Report, 142nd Session, 14 October – 7 November 2024, September 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR written-contrubution_HRC_142nd-session.pdf</u>

GCR, At Europe's Borders: Pushbacks Continue as Impunity Persists, November 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/EN-GCR_-Pushback-Report.pdf</u>

GCR Information Note on interventions and on interim measures granted by the ECtHR in cases regarding pushbacks, Updated on the 31st of December 2024, available at: https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/1984-information-note/

- 2. Access to information and legal assistance (including counselling and representation)
- **3.** Provision of interpretation services (e.g. introduction of innovative methods for interpretation, increase/decrease in the number of languages available, change in qualifications required for interpreters)
- 4. Dublin procedures (including the organisational framework, practical developments, suspension of transfers to selected countries, detention in the framework of Dublin procedures)
- **5. Special procedures** (including border procedures, procedures in transit zones, accelerated procedures, admissibility procedures, prioritised procedures or any special procedure for selected caseloads)







6. Reception of applicants for international protection (including information on reception capacities – increase/decrease/stable, material reception conditions – housing, food, clothing and financial support, contingency planning in reception, access to the labour market and vocational training, medical care, schooling and education, residence and freedom of movement)

See: GCR Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, Greece's State Party Report, 142nd Session, 14 October – 7 November 2024, September 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR written-contrubution_HRC_142nd-session.pdf</u>

GCR and SCI, "It Does Not Feel Like Real Life": Children's Everyday Life in Greek Refugee Camps, December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/Children-in-Greek-refugee-camp-report-online-1.pdf</u>

https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/2242-not-again-in-2024-call-for-upholding-human-rights-in-the-samosclosed-controlled-access-centre/

7. Detention of applicants for international protection (including detention capacity – increase/decrease/stable, practices regarding detention, grounds for detention, alternatives to detention, time limit for detention)

See: GCR and ECRE, GCR/ECRE observations on the effectiveness of judicial review of administrative detention of returnees and asylum seekers: COMMUNICATION In accordance with Rule 9.2. of the Rules of the Committee of Ministers regarding the supervision of the execution of judgments and of terms of friendly settlements by the Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) & the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) GROUP OF CASES OF MD V. GREECE Application No. 60622/11, November 2024, available at: https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR-ECRE COMMUNICATION 6062211.pdf

GCR Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, Greece's State Party Report, 142nd Session, 14 October – 7 November 2024, September 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR written-contrubution HRC 142nd-session.pdf</u>

- 8. Procedures at first instance (including relevant changes in: the authority in charge, organisation of the process, interviews, evidence assessment, determination of international protection status, decision-making, timeframes, case management including backlog management)
- **9. Procedures at second instance** (including organisation of the process, hearings, written procedures, timeframes, case management including backlog management)







10. Issues of statelessness in the context of asylum (including identification and registration)

See: <u>https://index.statelessness.eu/country/greece</u>

11. Children and applicants with special needs (special reception facilities, identification mechanisms/referrals, procedural standards, provision of information, age assessment, legal guardianship and foster care for unaccompanied and separated children)

See: GCR and SCI, "It Does Not Feel Like Real Life": Children's Everyday Life in Greek Refugee Camps, December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/Children-in-Greek-refugee-camp-report-online-1.pdf</u>

GCR and SCI, Child migrant and refugee arrivals in Greece double in 2024, as children report alarming camp conditions, 11 December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/diplasiastikan-oi-afixeis-paidion-metanaston-kai-prosfygon-stin-ellada-to-2024-eno-katagrafontai-anisychitikes-synthikes-stis-prosfygikes-domes/</u>

- **12. Content of protection** (including access to social security, social assistance, health care, housing and other basic services; integration into the labour market; measures to enhance language skills; measures to improve attainment in schooling and/or the education system and/or vocational training)
- 13. Return of former applicants for international protection
- **14. Resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes** (including EU Joint Resettlement Programme, national resettlement programme (UNHCR), National Humanitarian Admission Programme, private sponsorship programmes/schemes and ad hoc special programmes)
- **15. National jurisprudence on international protection in 2024** (please include a link to the relevant case law and/or submit cases to the EUAA Case Law Database)







GCR, HIAS, RSA, Greek Asylum Case Law Report Issue 1/2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/2304-dimosieythike-to-teyxos-1-2024-tou-deltiou-nomologias-asylou/</u>

GCR, HIAS, RSA, Greek Asylum Case Law Report Issue 2/2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/dimosieythike-to-teychos-2-2024-toy-deltioy-nomologias-asyloy/</u>

16. Other important developments in 2024

GCR, **CJEU Ruling on the concept of safe third country**, 4 October 2024, available at: https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/%CE%B1%CF%80%CF%8C%CF%86%CE%B1%CF%83%CE%B7-%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85-%CE%B4%CE%B5%CE%B5-%CF%83%CF%87%CE%B5%CF%84%CE%B9%CE%BA%CE%AC-%CE%BC%CE%B5-%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD-%CE%AD%CE%BD%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%B9%CE%B1-%CF%84/

GCR Press Release, **Greece Condemned by the ECtHR for the degrading living conditions and illegal detention of minors**, 4 October 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/press-</u> releases/item/%ce%ba%ce%b1%cf%84%ce%b1%ce%b4%ce%b4%ce%ba%ce%b7-%cf%84%ce%b7%cf%82-%ce%b5%ce%bb%ce%b5%ce%b4%ce%b1%cf%82-%ce%b1%cf%80%cf%8c-%cf%84%ce%bf-%ce%b5%ce%b4%ce%b4%ce%b1-%ce%b3%ce%b9%ce%b1-%cf%84%ce%b9/

GCR PR, Judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of H.T. v. Germany and Greece: The return of an asylum seeker from Germany to Greece breached the ECHR, <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/press-</u>

<u>releases/item/%ce%b1%ce%bd%cf%84%ce%af%ce%b8%ce%b5%cf%84%ce%b7-</u> %cf%83%cf%84%ce%b7%ce%bd-%ce%b5%cf%85%cf%81%cf%89%cf%80%ce%b1%cf%8a%ce%ba%ce%ba%ce%ae-%cf%83%cf%8d%ce%bc%ce%b2%ce%b1%cf%83%ce%b7-%cf%84%cf%89%ce%bd-%ce%b4/

GCR Press Release, **ECtHR Judgment v. Greece - Greece condemned for the first time by the European Court of Human Rights for a pushback in Evros**, 7 January 2025, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/press-releases/item/katadiki-tis-elladas-gia-proti-fora-gia-pushback-ston-evro-apo-to-eyropaiko-dikastirio-dikaiomaton-toy-anthropoy/</u>

Part B: Publications

1. If available online, please provide links to relevant publications produced by your organisation in 2024:







GCR Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee, Greece's State Party Report, 142nd Session, 14 October – 7 November 2024, September 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR written-contrubution HRC 142nd-session.pdf</u>

GCR, At Europe's Borders: Pushbacks Continue as Impunity Persists, November 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/EN-GCR_-Pushback-Report.pdf</u>

GCR Information Note on interventions and on interim measures granted by the ECtHR in cases regarding pushbacks, Updated on the 31st of December 2024, available at: https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/1984-information-note/

GCR and SCI, "It Does Not Feel Like Real Life": Children's Everyday Life in Greek Refugee Camps, December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/Children-in-Greek-refugee-camp-report-online-1.pdf</u>

GCR and ECRE, GCR/ECRE observations on the effectiveness of judicial review of administrative detention of returnees and asylum seekers: COMMUNICATION In accordance with Rule 9.2. of the Rules of the Committee of Ministers regarding the supervision of the execution of judgments and of terms of friendly settlements by the Greek Council for Refugees (GCR) & the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) GROUP OF CASES OF MD V. GREECE Application No. 60622/11, November 2024, available at: https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR-ECRE_COMMUNICATION_6062211.pdf

GCR, Third Party Intervention before the European Court of Human Rights in the case Muhammad v. Greece, Application no. 34331/22, 29 November 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/submissions-to-international-bodies/item/paremvasi-tritoy-enopion-toy-eyropaikoy-dikastirioy-dikaiomaton-toy-anthropoy-toy-esp-stin-ypothesi-muhammad-kata-elladas-arithm-prosfygis-34331-22/</u>

GCR, News from the field, October 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/nea-apo-to-pedio-</u>2/

GCR, News from the field, November 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/nea-apo-to-pedio-3/</u>

GCR, News from the field, December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/nea-apo-to-pedio/</u>

GCR and Border Criminologies, Access to Justice for Refugees in Greece, December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/Report_Access-to-Justice-1.pdf</u>

GCR and WWF, "Climate Refugees: Addressing climate-induced massive migration before it happens",July2024,availableat:https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/ClimateRefugees-GCRWWFgr_policy_report2024.pdf

GCR, Information regarding the situation for recognized refugees in Greece, April 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/wp-content/uploads/GCR_feedback_24.04.24_1.pdf</u>





GCR and SCI, Child migrant and refugee arrivals in Greece double in 2024, as children report alarming camp conditions, 11 December 2024, available at: <u>https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/diplasiastikan-oi-afixeis-paidion-metanaston-kai-prosfygon-stin-ellada-to-2024-eno-katagrafontai-anisychitikes-synthikes-stis-prosfygikes-domes/</u>

https://gcr.gr/el/news/item/peratosi-prokatarktikis-exetasis-apo-tin-eisaggelia-toy-naytodikeioy-peiraia-gia-to-nayagio-tis-pyloy/

GCR/ECRE, AIDA 2023 Asylum Report for Greece, <u>https://asylumineurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AIDA-GR 2023-Update.pdf</u>

https://gcr.gr/en/news/item/2259-i-ellada-se-thesmiki-ypoxorisi-enimerosi-60-imeron/

- **2.** If not available online, please share your publications with us at: <u>Asylum.Report@euaa.europa.eu</u>
- **3.** For publications that due to copyright issues cannot be easily shared, please provide references using the table below.

	Title of publication	Name of author	Publisher	Date
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

