



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Top-line “Factsheet”

This study aims to offer an overview of the current status of the national mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement and solutions regarding the implementation of the resettlement scheme. It provides information about the legal framework on international protection in the Republic of Bulgaria. Currently, Bulgarian legislation do not contain a separate regulation for resettlement. The resettlement issues will be solved in the scope of the Law on Asylum and Refugees (LAR) (promulgated, State Gazette No. 54/31.05.2002, the latest amendment was from 26 April 2016). LAR provides for the conditions for access of all applicants to the respective procedure for granting protection, for the rights and obligations of the persons seeking protection and for the rights and obligations of the refugees and of the persons granted humanitarian status, for implementation of a fair and effective procedure. The Law is strictly observed, the requirements of the Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees and the principle of non-refoulement are implemented.

On 12 April 2016 the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria took a decision to approve the Framework of a National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement, adopted by the National Council on Migration and Integration.

The Council of Ministers also approved the number of persons who will be resettled in Bulgaria, as follows:

- a) Under the Conclusions of 20 July 2015 of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on resettling through multilateral and national schemes 20 000 persons in clear need of international protection: 50 persons - 20 in 2016 and 30 in 2017;
- b) Under the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Turkey of 18 March 2016: 20 persons in 2016 and 20 in 2017;
- c) Under the multiannual National Programme for Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund – 20 persons after 31 December 2017.

Executive Summary

The Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement was developed with a view to implementing the commitments of Bulgaria under the Conclusions of 20 July 2015 and under the 1:1 mechanism set out in the EU - Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016, adopted as a response to the unprecedented numbers of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe.

The State Agency for Refugees with the Council of Ministers (SAR) is the national contact point for relocation and resettlement and the responsible authority for implementation of these mechanisms, for coordination between the various actors and for the overall management of the



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processes.

The State Agency for Refugees is the authority responsible for conducting the procedure for international protection – refugee status or humanitarian status. The Agency is also competent to register applicants for international protection, issue temporary documents to such applicants, and ensure accommodation, food and medical care for them while their application in Bulgaria is being examined. The Agency has four registration-and-reception centres (one in the capital of Sofia - in three different locations, and three more - in the country) where applicants for international protection are accommodated while their applications are being processed.

Two liaison officers have been appointed in relation to the mechanism. One from the State Agency for Refugees, the other one is the representative of the Bulgarian Ministry of Interior in Turkey.

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 team reviews the files received from UNHCR and performs the necessary identity and security checks. The team also prepares a written report with a proposal regarding the admission of the persons in Bulgaria. The representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Consular Relations Directorate) and of the Ministry of Interior provide all necessary assistance to the selection team on the spot.

The candidates admitted will be transferred to Bulgaria. They will be accommodated in a registration and reception centre of the State Agency for Refugees. They will be registered as asylum seekers and a procedure in compliance with the Law on Asylum and Refugees will be carried out for them. Social adaptation support will be provided.

After receiving international protection status an integration agreement will be offered to the resettled person. The agreement will list the services that the host municipality can offer – education, health care, housing, employment, etc.

Section 1: Overview of national context

i. General overview of the legal framework on resettlement or humanitarian admission in your Member States. Please also include any recent changes in the legal framework.

Currently, Bulgarian legislation do not contain a separate regulation for resettlement. The resettlement issues will be solved in the scope of the Law on Asylum and Refugees (LAR) (promulgated, State Gazette No. 54/ 31.05.2002, the latest amendment was from 26 April 2016).

In compliance with the Law on Asylum and Refugees, the Republic of Bulgaria provides the following types of protection:

1. Asylum – it is granted by the President of the Republic of Bulgaria; Asylum is the protection provided by the Republic of Bulgaria to foreigners persecuted because of their convictions or



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activity in defense of internationally recognised rights and freedoms. LAR stipulates that the President of the Republic of Bulgaria provides asylum including in the cases where the national interest or special circumstances necessitate that.

2. Temporary protection – it is granted by the Council of Ministers in the event of mass influx of foreigners who are forced to leave their country of origin due to armed conflict, civil war, foreign aggression, violation of human rights or heavy violence in the territory of the respective state or in an individual region thereof, and who because of this cannot return there.

3. International protection - it includes refugee status and humanitarian status. In the Law on Asylum and Refugees, subsidiary protection within the meaning of the *Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted* is called “humanitarian status”.

International protection is granted on the basis of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951 Geneva Convention), the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 1967, the international human rights instruments and the Law on Asylum and Refugees.

Refugee status in the Republic of Bulgaria is granted to a foreigner who has a well-founded fear of persecution due to his race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside his/her country of origin and who for these reasons is unable or unwilling to avail of the protection of that country or to return thereto.

Refugee status is also granted to a foreigner finding himself in the territory of Bulgaria and recognised as a refugee under the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (Art. 10 LAR).



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For the purposes of granting refugee status, it shall not matter whether the alien belongs to such race, religion, nationality, social group, whether he/she expresses such political opinion or professes such political belief which is at the root of persecution. It shall be sufficient that the persecuting authority or organisation considers such foreigner belongs thereto.

The members of the family of a foreigner, who has been granted refugee status, insofar as this is compatible with their personal status, or where no circumstances under Article 12, paragraph (1)¹ have been established, are considered refugees. Where a foreigner who has been granted refugee status marries another foreigner, he/she may obtain refugee status only on the basis of his/her own merits.

Humanitarian status is granted to a foreigner who does not meet the criteria for granting refugee status and who cannot or does not wish to get protection by his country of origin, because he/she can be exposed to a real risk of heavy encroachments, such as:

1. sentence to death or execution, or
2. torture, inhuman or humiliating attitude or punishment, or

¹ Art. 12. (prev. Art. 12; amend – SG 52/07) Status of a refugee shall not be granted to a foreigner:

1. for whom enough evidence exists to suppose that he has committed an act which, according to the Bulgarian laws and the international agreements party to which is the Republic of Bulgaria, is determined as a war crime or as a crime against the peace and mankind;
2. for whom there are enough reasons to suppose that he has committed a severe crime of non-political nature outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. for whom serious grounds exist that he is committing or rousing to actions contradicting the goals and the principles of the United Nations Organisation;
4. (suppl. – SG 52/07; amend. – SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) who uses the protection or the aid of bodies or organisations of the United Nations Organisation different from the High Commissioner of the United Nations for the refugees; where this protection or aid have not been suspended and person's situation has not been determined according to the respective resolution of the United Nation Organization, this person can enjoy the privileges arising out of the Convention relating status of refugees of 1951 ;
5. (amend. – SG 52/07) regarding whom the competent bodies in the state of his permanent residence have acknowledged the rights and obligations, ensuing from the citizenship of this state;
6. (new – SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) about whom there are serious reasons to assume that they are a threat to national security;
7. (new – SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) who has been sentenced once with an enforced sentence for a heavy crime and is a threat to society.



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3. heavy threat to their life or personality as a civilian due to indiscriminate violence in case of internal or international armed conflict.

Applications for status determination are considered by the State Agency for Refugees, and in that, an assessment for the purposes of granting refugee status is made first. In case refugee status cannot be granted, the need to grant humanitarian status is considered.

Humanitarian status may also be granted for other humanitarian reasons, as well as on the grounds listed in the Conclusions of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (Art. 9 (8) LAR).

Humanitarian status is granted also to the members of the family of a foreigner who has been granted humanitarian status, insofar as this is compatible with their personal situation, or where no circumstances under Article 12, paragraph (2)² have been established.

Where a foreigner who has been granted humanitarian status marries another foreigner, he/she may obtain humanitarian status only on the basis of his/her own merits.

Rights of individuals who are granted refugee status or humanitarian status.

Refugees acquire the rights and obligations of Bulgarian nationals with the exception of:

1. the right to participate in general and municipal elections, in national and regional referenda, as well as to participate in the establishment of political parties and be a member of such parties;
2. to hold positions for which Bulgarian nationality is required by law;
3. to be a member of the armed forces;
4. other restrictions explicitly laid down by law.

Those, who have been granted humanitarian status, have the same rights and obligations as a foreigner, holding a permanent residence permit.

² 2) (new – SG 52/07; amend. – SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) Humanitarian status shall not be granted to a foreigner:

1. about whom there are substantial grounds to anticipate that he/she has committed any of the acts under par. 1, item 1 and 3;
2. about whom there are substantial grounds to anticipate that they have committed a heavy crime;
3. who has committed outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria a crime, for which Bulgarian laws provide confinement, and he/she has left the state of origin with the sole purpose to avoid prosecution, unless this prosecution endangers his/her life or it is inhuman or humiliating;
4. about whom there are substantial grounds to anticipate that they are a threat to society or to national security.



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Every foreigner seeking or provided with protection has the right to profess a religion in compliance with the Constitution and the legislative acts.

Individuals with granted refugee status in the Republic of Bulgaria have the right to acquire real estates on the territory of the country under the conditions and regulations provided for foreigners.

Foreigners granted protection are entitled to the following documents:

- Refugee's card – it is issued to persons who have been granted either refugee status or asylum. The term of validity of the card is from 3 up to 5 years;
- Refugee's certificate for travelling abroad – it is issued to persons who have been granted either refugee status or asylum. The term of validity of the certificate is up to 5 years, however, it cannot exceed the term of validity of the refugee's card;
- Card of a foreigner with humanitarian status – it is issued to persons who have been granted humanitarian status. The term of validity of the card is up to 3 years;
- Certificate for travelling abroad of a foreigner with humanitarian status – it is issued to persons who have been granted humanitarian status. The term of validity of the certificate is up to 3 years; however, it cannot exceed the term of validity of the card of the foreigner with humanitarian status;

The refugee foreign travel certificate of a foreigner who has been granted asylum or refugee status gives the holder the right to leave and enter the Republic of Bulgaria within the term of its validity under the conditions and by the order for Bulgarian citizens, inasmuch as the state to which he travels does not stipulate other requirements.

The foreign travel certificate of a foreigner benefiting from humanitarian status gives the holder the right to leave and enter the Republic of Bulgaria within the term of its validity, under the conditions and procedure applicable to foreigners permanently residing in the Republic of Bulgaria.

A foreigner who has been granted refugee status or humanitarian status may acquire Bulgarian citizenship under the terms and the conditions of the Law on Bulgarian Citizenship. Foreigners, who had been granted refugee status, may become Bulgarian citizens in three years after the corresponding status has been granted to them. Beneficiaries of humanitarian status may become Bulgarian citizens in five years after the status has been granted to them.

A foreigner who has been granted refugee or humanitarian status has the right to reunite with his family in the territory of Bulgaria. It should be noted that the family reunification system of refugees is extended also to the beneficiaries of humanitarian status. The Chairperson of the State Agency for Refugees grants permissions for family reunification. The State Agency for Refugees facilitates the reunification of separated families by assisting foreigners with the issuance of travel documents, visas and in obtaining access to the territory of the country.



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Individuals with granted protection have the right to employment without any special permit. Refugee status holders or humanitarian status have the right to work under equal conditions with Bulgarian citizens. They have the right to register at the Employment Offices and to equal access with Bulgarian citizens to the offered services. Their labour relations are regulated by the effective labour legislation in the country.

The Law on Health Insurance treats refugee and humanitarian status holders as a group that enjoys the same rights to medical services as Bulgarian nationals. The health-insured aliens who have been granted refugee or humanitarian status are entitled to medical assistance within the package of health activities guaranteed with the budget of the National Health Insurance Fund.

The minor and under age foreigners seeking or having received international protection are entitled to primary and secondary education, including vocational education and professional training under the terms and conditions and following the procedure applicable to Bulgarian citizens.

Refugee and humanitarian status holders are entitled to primary and secondary education, including vocational education and professional training under the conditions and following the procedure applicable to Bulgarian citizens.

Access to education system for minor and underage foreigners, seeking or having received international protection cannot be delayed by more than three months as of the date of filing of the application for international protection.

Refugees and persons with granted humanitarian status who are not able to submit documents certifying their qualification and wishing to exercise a regulated profession in Bulgaria, can gain access to practicing such profession according to the provisions of Law on Recognition of Professional Qualifications.

Foreigners, having obtained protection, are entitled to vocational training under the conditions and following the procedure applicable to Bulgarian citizens. The Agency provides Bulgarian language courses on its premises.

Recent changes in the legal framework:

In 2015 the Law on Asylum and Refugees was amended and supplemented twice in order to transpose Directive 2011/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted, Directive 2013/33/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection and Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection.

With the Law on Amendment and Supplement to LAR, in force as from 16 October 2015, Directive 2011/95/EU and Directive 2013/33/EU were transposed. With the transposition of the



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Qualification Directive, the concept of “international protection” was introduced. The grounds for granting international protection were made more precise as well as the concepts of subjects of persecution, actions of persecution, subjects of protection, subsequent application for international protection, best interest of the child and family members. Changes were made in relation to the representation of unaccompanied minor foreigners – a representative is appointed from the municipal administration, determined by the mayor of the respective municipality.

In relation to the transposition of the reception directive special attention was paid to the provisions regarding reception conditions, rights and obligations of asylum seekers, access to the labour market, the concept of vulnerable group. The possibility was envisaged to open up closed centres.

With the Law on Amendment and Supplement to LAR, which is in force as from the end of December 2015, Directive 2013/32/EU was transposed. Amendments to the procedure for granting international protection were made. It is no longer obligatory to conduct the Dublin procedure; It is implemented only in the presence of indications of the competence of another EU Member State to examine the application for international protection. An admissibility procedure for subsequent applications was introduced. The deadline for refusing manifestly unfounded applications in the accelerated procedure was extended from 3 calendar days to 10 working days. The procedure for granting international protection was also extended – from 3 to 6 months. The provisions regarding the rights of foreigners, the access to the personal file and the conducting of an interview were made more precise.

With these legislative changes the quality and efficiency of the procedure for granting international protection were increased.

ii. General overview of specific policies in resettlement or humanitarian admission in your Member States. Please also include any recent changes in the policy framework (i.e., as a result of the refugee situation in 2015-2016)

In June 2015 the Bulgarian government adopted a five-year national strategy on migration, asylum and integration, taking into account the changed situation after the refugee crisis. The document brings together three strategies adopted in the period 2008-2014, including the National Strategy on Migration, Asylum and Integration (2011 - 2020), a priority of which was the development of National programme for resettlement.

The main objective of the new strategy is to create a political framework for building comprehensive and sustainable legal and institutional basis for successful management of legal migration and integration as well as for preventing and counteracting illegal migration, identifying and providing the necessary care to persons seeking and receiving international protection in Bulgaria.

It is of importance to develop an asylum system corresponding to the growing number of applicants for international protection, to successfully integrate into society of persons received international protection.



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In 2015 Bulgaria assumed responsibility for 1302 of the applicants for whom Italy and Greece would have been responsible in accordance with Dublin III Regulation. In order to start the implementation of the Bulgarian commitments, a National mechanism was established for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria under Decision 2015/1523/EU and Decision 2015/1601/EU, adopted with Decision of the National Council on Migration and Integration dating from 30 October 2015 and approved by the Council of Ministers with a Decision № 858 on 4 November 2015.

iii. Brief overview of national debate on resettlement in the Member State. Please indicate key points of discussion and players involved in this debate. It is suggested the debate also covers the discussion on resettlement following the refugee situation in 2015-2016 and the resettlement scheme proposed in the EU-Turkey negotiations. Sources of national debate to include may be national media reports, parliamentary debates, and statements of NGO/civil society organisations or International Organisations (IOs).

Only before 2013, when the number of asylum seekers increased significantly and due to the high increase in the influx of asylum seekers, Bulgaria's asylum and reception system has come under serious pressure, refugee issues have been off the focus of the public interest. Issues regarding asylum and international protection most often were of concern to experts working in this area. The continued high pressure on the asylum and reception systems raised an unprecedented interest about refugee issues. Main discussions in the National Assembly, the government and society were related to relocation and resettlement of persons in need of international protection determined in the EU Council decisions and conclusions of the representatives of governments of Member States.

A national opinion poll was conducted by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation for a new analysis 'Impact of the Refugee Crisis on Bulgarian Society and Politics: **Fears But No Hatred**'³. It demonstrates that, in Bulgaria, the attitude towards refugees is ambivalent and strongly influenced by public messages. The Bulgarian society is charged with a number of fears with respect to the refugees but for the vast majority of the population (with the exception of 5%), these fears have not transformed into hatred against foreigners and are free from the ideological burden of xenophobia, reports the author. Most Bulgarians believe that refugees represent a threat to the national security by virtue of difficulties with integration, fear of foreign religion, ethnicity, and culture; but above all, due to the concern that the country is in dire straits economically. The prevailing opinion is that the solution to the crisis should be common for all countries within the EU.

³Lyubomir Kyuchukov - 'Impact of the Refugee Crisis on Bulgarian Society and Politics: Fears But No Hatred'

<http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/sofia/12570.pdf>

<http://news.bnt.bg/bg/a/ima-strakhove-nyama-omraza-km-bezhantsite>



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Section 2: Overview of the national resettlement and/or humanitarian admission programme

2.1 NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT AND/OR HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMME

Q1a. Does your Member State have a resettlement programme, humanitarian admission programme or other similar programme in place, or did your Member State have one in the past?

Yes, currently.

Yes, previously. In June 2012 the establishment of a Pilot Resettlement Programme for refugees who were recognised under the UNHCR mandate in third countries was formally announced but the programme was not implemented.

Q1b. Is it a resettlement programme, humanitarian admission programme or another programme?

It is a resettlement programme.

Q1c. Is it a permanent (programme-based) or temporary (ad-hoc) programme?

The Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement will be carried out in 2016, 2017 and after 31 December 2017.

Q2. Please indicate what the main objectives of the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme are

The Mechanism was developed with a view to implementing the commitments of Bulgaria under the Conclusions of 20 July 2015 and under the 1:1 mechanism set out in the EU - Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016, adopted as a response to the unprecedented numbers of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe.

Q3. How has your Member State set up the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme?

The Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement was developed by a team of experts from the State Agency for Refugees. The draft was discussed with UNHCR and other partners and was open for consultations with ministries, including the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior (the Border Police Directorate and the Migration Directorate), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Finance, the State Child Protection Agency, the State Agency for National Security, the National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the National Association of Municipalities. On 1 April 2016 the Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the



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Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement was adopted by the National Council on Migration and Integration. On 12 April 2016 it was approved by the Council of Ministers.

The programme provides general information with regard to resettlement as one of the durable solutions, it defines the stages of the resettlement process and the competences of the bodies involved in it at national and local level. The programme foresees conclusion of an integration agreement; the funding sources are defined; information campaigns are foreseen to be carried out.

Q4. Please provide the main characteristics of the resettlement or humanitarian admission programme by completing the table below.

Question	Answer					
When did your Member State start the resettlement programme and/or humanitarian admission programme?	<p>It was approved in April 2016.</p> <p>A pledge to resettle 40 Syrians from Turkey was made on 20 May 2016. Till 17 June 2016 no files from UNHCR have been received.</p> <p>In 2016 resettlement will be carried out applying the procedure, the steps and the timeframe, defined in the Fast-track Standard Operating Procedures for the implementation of the resettlement part of 1:1 scheme set out in the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016.</p>					
Does your Member State set geographical priorities in resettlement or humanitarian admission during the 2011-2016 period?	<p>Yes. The common Union resettlement priorities in ANNEX III, point 7.: Syrian refugees in the region.</p>					
<i>Have nationals of countries in the following regions been included in resettlement or humanitarian admission for the years 2011-2016?</i> <i>Yes/No</i>	North Africa ⁴	Sub-Saharan Africa ⁵	Middle East ⁶	Other parts of Asia	Americas	Other, please specify
	No	No	Yes	No	No	No

⁴ See UN geographical division at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#africa>.

⁵ All of Africa, except Northern Africa as per UN geographical division (see previous footnote).

⁶ Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.



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Question	Answer					
<p>Does the resettled/admitted person need to have been recognised as refugee by UNHCR or a third country?</p> <p>Can the person be a beneficiary of subsidiary protection?</p>	<p>According to the Fast-track Standard Operating Procedures for the implementation of the resettlement part of 1:1 scheme set out in the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016, endorsed on 28 April 2016, the target group is Syrian nationals who have been displaced by the conflict in Syria and who are prima facie in need of international protection, without having a profile that could bring them under the scope of the exclusion clauses, as set out in EU or international law, registered by the Turkish authorities.</p> <p>Yes</p>					
<p>Does your Member State reassess the recognition of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission by UNHCR?</p>	N/A	If yes, when is this done?	If yes, where is the reassessment carried out?	If yes, how is the reassessment carried out?		
<p>Does your Member State set an annual or multi-annual quota for resettlement/humanitarian admission?</p>	Yes					
<p><i>If applicable, please indicate the <u>regular</u> quota per year</i></p>	2011 N/A	2012 N/A	2013 N/A	2014 N/A	2015 N/A	2016 40 The number for 2017 is different.
<p><i>If applicable, please indicate the</i></p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A



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Question	Answer
<i>emergency quota per year</i>	
<p>How are the above quota determined and applied? (please indicate who determines the quota, how they are set and what are the quota for both regular and emergency resettlement)</p>	<p>The quota is proposed by SAR based on the actual reception capabilities. The quota is adopted by the National Council on Migration and Integration (NCMI) and approved by the Council of Ministers.</p>
<p>In the period 2011-2015, have quota differed significantly from the actual number of persons resettled/admitted? If so, how (much) and why?</p>	<p>N/A</p>

2.2 PRE-DEPARTURE AND DEPARTURE PHASE

Q5. Please indicate in the table below which authority/actor is responsible for each of the actions/measures indicated and briefly explain their responsibilities.

Action/measure	Authority/actor responsible	Explanation of responsibilities (when, how and what)
<p>Policymaking on national resettlement or humanitarian admission programme/strategy (including objectives, geographical focus,</p>	<p>NCMI and SAR</p>	<p>The State Agency for Refugees is the authority responsible for conducting the procedure for international protection. The Agency is also</p>



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<p>priorities, etc.)</p>		<p>competent to register applicants for international protection, issue temporary documents to such applicants, and ensure accommodation, food and medical care for them while their application in Bulgaria is being examined.</p> <p>NCMI is responsible for formulation and coordination of the government policy in the area of asylum, migration and integration of foreigners, who have received international protection in Bulgaria.</p>
<p>Identification of the candidate for resettlement/humanitarian admission</p>	<p>General Directorate for Migration Management (DGMM), UNHCR and the selection team, which includes experts from the State Agency for Refugees, the State Agency for National Security and interpreters/translators.</p>	<p>Initial referral by Turkey, General Directorate for Migration Management (DGMM), assessment by UNHCR, assessment by the selection team.</p> <p>The team reviews the files received from UNHCR and performs the necessary identity and security checks. The team also prepares a written report with a proposal regarding the admission of the persons in Bulgaria. The representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Consular Relations Directorate) and of the Ministry of Interior provide all necessary assistance to the selection</p>



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		team on the spot.
First selection of the candidate for resettlement/humanitarian admission	General Directorate for Migration Management (DGMM)	Provision of the list to UNHCR
Security screening	The selection team	The team reviews the files received from UNHCR and performs the necessary identity and security checks. The team also prepares a written report with a proposal regarding the admission of the persons in Bulgaria.
Interviews with pre-selected persons	UNHCR and the selection team.	UNHCR makes contact with people from the list to confirm their interest and to collect key data.
Health checks		
Decision on the final selection of a candidate for resettlement/humanitarian admission	The selection team	The team performs the necessary identity and security checks. The team reviews the files received from UNHCR and performs the necessary identity and security checks. The team also prepares a written report with a proposal regarding the admission of the persons in Bulgaria.
Pre-departure assistance/measures		



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Departure and travel		
Provision of information to the selected person (<u>before departure</u>)	UNHCR, the selection team.	<p>What information is provided? When is it provided? How is it provided?</p> <p>The information is provided in writing by SAR to UHNCR in advance.</p> <p>About the process, the rights and obligations and additional general information, including information that there is a well-organized Syrian community in Bulgaria</p>
Provision of cultural orientation to the selected person (before departure)	UNHCR, the selection team. (A decision will be taken about IOM’s involvement).	<p>What orientation is provided? When is it provided? How is it provided?</p> <p>SAR has prepared information about Bulgaria as a host country for relocation and resettlement.</p>

Q6. How does your Member State approach the identification of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission in terms of first steps and relations with key stakeholders (such as UNHCR and third countries)?

UNHCR provide lists of referrals to the selection team. The selection team assesses the applications for resettlement on the basis of the national procedure for status determination.

Q7. Please indicate which methods are used for the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission



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Method	Existence of a defined method (Yes/No)	Further explanation The procedure and the steps defined in the Fast-track Standard Operating Procedures for the implementation of the resettlement part of 1:1 scheme set out in the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March 2016 will be applied.
<u>Selection missions.</u>		
Selection missions to the third country	Yes	
<i>If selection missions are carried out, a) how often? b) Are they carried out to all countries from which persons are resettled?</i>	a) When the files from UNHCR will be received. b) In 2016 Bulgaria will resettle persons from Turkey only.	
Personal on-site interviews with candidates	Yes	The selection team.
Dossier-based selection	Yes	The selection team.
Video/telephone interviews with candidates	Yes	UNHCR
Consultations with UNHCR/IOM (tripartite consultations)	Yes	
Consultations with EASO	Whenever necessary	
Consultations with civil society/NGOs on criteria for selection of candidates	Whenever necessary	
Consultations with authorities of the country where the resettled person is present	N/A	N/A
Arrangement of interpreters for interviewing candidates	Yes	The selection team.



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Q8a. Does your Member (State) use criteria to prioritise the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission (either official or in practice)? These criteria should be understood as additional ones to the key requirement of being eligible for international protection and those applied by UNHCR in its selection.

No.

If yes, please see questions 8b and 8c. If no, please go to question 9.

*The Synthesis Report will highlight that the selected person must be eligible for international protection, therefore the Member State will verify that there are no exclusion clauses under Article 12 of the Qualification Directive 2011/95/EU, which reads as follows:

“Exclusion

1. A third-country national or a stateless person is excluded from being a refugee if: (a) he or she falls within the scope of Article 1(D) of the Geneva Convention, relating to protection or assistance from organs or agencies of the United Nations other than the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. When such protection or assistance has ceased for any reason, without the position of such persons being definitely settled in accordance with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, those persons shall ipso facto be entitled to the benefits of this Directive; (b) he or she is recognised by the competent authorities of the country in which he or she has taken up residence as having the rights and obligations which are attached to the possession of the nationality of that country, or rights and obligations equivalent to those.

2. A third-country national or a stateless person is excluded from being a refugee where there are serious reasons for considering that: (a) he or she has committed a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity, as defined in the international instruments drawn up to make provision in respect of such crimes; (b) he or she has committed a serious non-political crime outside the country of refuge prior to his or her admission as a refugee, which means the time of issuing a residence permit based on the granting of refugee status; particularly cruel actions, even if committed with an allegedly political objective, may be classified as serious non-political crimes; (c) he or she has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set out in the Preamble and Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations.

3. Paragraph 2 applies to persons who incite or otherwise participate in the commission of the crimes or acts mentioned therein.”

Q8b. If yes, who sets such criteria and how?

N/A

Q8c. If yes, please indicate the relevant criteria to prioritise the selection of persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission.



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Criterion	Please comment on the degree of priority attributed to the criteria and explain the circumstances when this one is applied
Assessed degree of vulnerability of the person(s)	
<i>Survivors of violence and/or torture</i>	N/A
<i>At risk of violence and/or torture and people at serious risk of violence and/or torture due to persecution</i>	N/A
<i>Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions</i>	N/A
<i>Internal displacement inside the country of origin is not possible</i>	N/A
<i>Persons in need of medical assistance, including critical illness, treatment for genital mutilation</i>	N/A
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to their sexual orientation or gender identity</i>	N/A
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to Religion/beliefs (also specific focus on non-believers)</i>	N/A
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to political beliefs</i>	N/A
<i>Persons at serious risk of persecution due to belonging to specific ethnic group, social group or belonging to minority, indigenous group, nationality</i>	N/A
<i>Legal and/or physical protection needs of the refugee in the country of refuge (this includes a risk of refoulement);</i>	N/A



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Criterion	Please comment on the degree of priority attributed to the criteria and explain the circumstances when this one is applied
<i>Other criterion, please specify Please add more rows where necessary</i>	N/A
Other criteria	
<i>Sex (men, women)</i>	N/A
<i>Age (i.e. adults, children, elderly)</i>	N/A
<i>Religion / (non-) religious group</i>	N/A
<i>Family unit: preference to resettle entire family groups.</i>	N/A
<i>Presence of family members in the Member State</i>	N/A
<i>nationality/ethnic group he/she belongs to</i>	N/A
<i>Integration potential or assessed/expected motivation of integrate</i>	N/A

Q9a. Does your Member State use criteria to exclude/deprioritise certain persons for resettlement/humanitarian admission? Such criteria are those which lead to the exclusion or postponement of the transfer once the pre-selection has been concluded.

We will use criteria set in the endorsed Standard Operating Procedures.

- Families with complex or unclear profiles are not eligible;
- The person does not constitute a threat to public policy, internal security and public health;
- A candidate who has refused admission to a particular Member State is no longer eligible;

Q10a. What is the overall procedure followed in the immediate aftermath of the decision to resettle/admit?

According to the Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement, the organisation and coordination of the transfer will be carried out by the National contact point in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Interior.



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Q10b. Is there a formal agreement signed by both the resettled/admitted person and Member State after selection and before departure? If yes, what is covered by such an agreement? For instance, how are dependent children dealt with?

N/A

Q11a. How is the person actually transferred to the Member State?

It depends on the mode of transport. Two possibilities exist - transportation may take place by air or land. A decision will be taken about IOM's involvement.

Q11b. Are there specific services available for vulnerable persons when they are being transferred to the Member State? (Special pick-up from the place of stay, at the airport, during the flight).

Yes, there are. The services provided are adapted to the person's needs.

2.3 POST-ARRIVAL AND INTEGRATION PHASE

Q12a. Is policy and law for the integration of resettled refugees different than integration policy/law for recognised refugees after an asylum application? If yes, briefly mention on what aspects.

No.

Q12b. Who are the key players/actors and which are their responsibilities in the post-arrival and integration phase? This concerns national, regional and local state actors, NGOs, schools and education providers, health care providers, private sector entities, religious institutions, etc.

Player	Responsibilities
Example: Ministry of {}, NGO {name}, Office for {}, individual tutors and counsellors, etc.	Example: responsible for pick-up on arrival, responsible for organising housing, responsible for assisting the resettled person, etc.
The National contact point	Informs the Chief Directorate "Border Police", Ministry of Interior, about the date, the time and the border crossing point of entry into the territory of Bulgaria.
The National contact point	Informs the respective unit in the Ministry of Interior about the route to the final destination – a territorial unit of SAR.



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Ministry of Interior	Provides escorts along the route and to the final destination
Host municipalities	Provide different types of services that the host municipalities can offer – education, housing, health care, employment, etc.

Q13. What is the immediate support available upon arrival (presumably by plane) for resettled/admitted persons? This concerns only the immediate support on arrival, most likely within the first hours or day. Please fill in the table below and add extra rows if necessary.

Measure	Yes/No	Further explanation
Airport pick-up	Yes	
Provision of (temporary) documentation	Yes	In a registration and reception centre of SAR
Food	Yes	In a registration and reception centre of SAR
Lodging (<i>more detailed questions below</i>)	Yes	In a registration and reception centre of SAR
Clothing	N/A	
Medical examination	Yes	In a registration and reception centre of SAR
Other form of health care	Yes	
Interpretation upon arrival	Yes	

The following questions regard the permit granted to the person admitted under resettlement or humanitarian admission.

Q14a. What status is granted to the person resettled or admitted under humanitarian admission? Does it differ from the status given to persons granted international protection for ‘regular’ asylum applications? Please indicate the duration and other relevant details (extension, etc.).



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Resettled persons may be given a refugee status or humanitarian status (subsidiary protection). No difference with the status given to persons granted international protection for “regular” asylum applications. (See Section 1: Overview of national context, i.)

Q14b. If the person is not granted the ‘standard’ international protection status and related residence permit upon arrival, what legal title is granted? If there are multiple types of resettlement or humanitarian admission, please add more rows or clearly distinguish this information.

Type of programme	Permit/residence title granted	Initial duration of the permit (in months)	If applicable, extensions possible for the permit	Please provide further details where necessary/applicable
Resettlement Programme	N/A			
Humanitarian Admission Programme	N/A			

Q15a. Do resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission have the right to family reunification?

Yes. A foreigner who has been granted refugee or humanitarian status has the right to reunite with his family in the territory of Bulgaria. It should be noted that the family reunification system of refugees is extended also to the beneficiaries of humanitarian status. (See Section 1: Overview of national context, i.).

Q15b. If yes, to what extent is the right to family reunification for resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission different than for others persons granted refugee status?

No difference. (See Section 1: Overview of national context, i.)

Q15c. Do resettled persons or persons admitted under humanitarian admission have access to naturalisation/citizenship?

Yes. A foreigner who has been granted refugee status or humanitarian status may acquire Bulgarian citizenship under the terms and the conditions of the Law on Bulgarian Citizenship. (See Section 1: Overview of national context, i.)

Q15d. If yes, to what extent is access to naturalisation/citizenship for the resettled person or person admitted under humanitarian admission different than for other persons granted refugee status?



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No difference. Foreigners, who had been granted refugee status, may become Bulgarian citizens in three years after the corresponding status has been granted to them. Beneficiaries of humanitarian status may become Bulgarian citizens in five years after the status has been granted to them. (See Section 1: Overview of national context, i.)

The following set of questions describe the geographical distribution of resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission and the allocation of (different types of) accommodation. The aim is to better understand the specific practices in Member States in the physical resettling of persons immediately upon arrival and the period straight after.

Q16a. Is there geographical distribution in the Member State of the resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission? Geographical distribution is the placement of resettled persons in different areas/provinces/municipalities of the Member State according to national priorities.

There is no geographical distribution. Foreigners who are granted refugee or humanitarian status are allowed to reside where they choose.

If no, go to question 17. If yes, please answer 16b.

Q16b. Who decides on geographical distribution and how does it work in practice? (in terms of funding allocated to municipalities taking in resettled persons, availability of accommodation, access to schools and employment, preferences of the person)?

N/A

Q17a. Please indicate which types of accommodation are available to resettled persons or admitted under humanitarian admission upon arrival, and how accommodation is arranged in your Member State by indicating the maximum duration and who provides the accommodation.

Accommodation for resettled person(s)	Yes-always Yes-Often Yes-Seldom/rarely Not used	Maximum duration (months/permanent)	Who provides the accommodation? (e.g., government, NGOs, resettled person, religious institutions)	Further explanations
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Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Accommodation for resettled person(s)	Yes-always Yes-Often Yes-Seldom/rarely Not used	Maximum duration (months/permanent)	Who provides the accommodation? (e.g., government, NGOs, resettled person, religious institutions)	Further explanations
Accommodation in reception centres	Yes-always upon arrival	For the duration of the procedure. The administrative procedure may last up to 6 months.	SAR	
Accommodation in temporary shelter/housing (tents, converted buildings such as schools)	N/A			
Accommodation in social/council housing	N/A			
Accommodation in hotels or other types of housing (formerly) foreseen for tourists	N/A			
Accommodation in regular/private housing	N/A		.	
Other, please specify	After receiving refugee or humanitarian status, the person will be helped with regard to accommodation.			

Q17b. Is a resettled/admitted person allowed to freely move elsewhere within the Member State after his/her arrival or once accommodation has been allocated?

Yes.



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Q17c. Is a resettled person allowed to freely travel to another Member State once housing has been allocated?

Not allowed to travel outside of Bulgaria during the procedure for status determination.

Q18. Please indicate in the table below which integration measures are available specifically to persons admitted under resettlement and/or humanitarian admission, and who provides them.

The EMN Focussed Study “Integration of beneficiaries of international/humanitarian protection into the labour market: policies and good practices” covers labour market migration and elements covered at length in that study do not need to be repeated here if they are exactly the same as for resettled persons. However, if the services available and integration measures provided are different for resettled persons than for other persons granted refugee status, please fill out the entire table below.

The integration measures provided to “regular” beneficiaries of international protection are the same as for resettled persons.

Service measure	or	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
Weekly or monthly allowance (please indicate the amount per person)						
In-kind support (food, clothing, transportation, furniture, household supplies, and other basic needs)						
Initial medical check-up (including screening, vaccinations)						
Full access to healthcare (for specialised care, etc.)						



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Service measure or	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
<p>Access to specialised services for survivors of violence and victims of torture, women or girls at risk, children at risk, refugees with disabilities, elderly, persons not likely to enter the labour force (including counsellors, psychologists, mental health checks, etc.)</p>					
<p>Education support ((a)school registration for children, (b) recognition of qualifications)</p>					
<p>Social support (family reunification, legal support, advocacy and community outreach)</p>					
<p>Availability of interpreters/translation for reception and orientation sessions and appointments with service</p>					



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Service measure	or	Available (Yes/No)	Who provides the service?	For how long is it available? (weeks, months, years)	Please explain the type of service available and how it works in practice	Are these services different than for other persons granted refugee status (not under resettlement)?
providers						
Other, please specify						
Please add more rows where necessary						

Q19a. What funding is made available specifically for resettlement or humanitarian admission, to whom is it made available, and how is this allocated?

All expenses during the procedure, including accommodation, health insurance, medical care, social adaptation, etc. are financed entirely from the State Budget. After receiving status, persons granted humanitarian status have the rights of a foreigner, holding a permanent residence permit and refugees acquire the rights of Bulgarian nationals with some exceptions. Resettled persons enjoy the rights defined in different laws. Funding is also provided from the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund.

Q19b. Please indicate the annual funding available for resettlement or humanitarian admission (only resettlement activities until the arrival in the (Member) State, not including the budget/funding for after-arrival services). If funding is allocated as a fixed sum per resettled person please consider all funding that were allocated for all resettled persons. Please also indicate what the funding includes.

<i>If yes, please indicate the quota</i>	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Budget for resettlement						
What does it include?						

Q20a. To what extent is information and cultural orientation provided to resettled persons/admitted under humanitarian admission programmes upon arrival?



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What information/cultural orientation is provided	When is the information/cultural orientation provided	Who provides the information/cultural orientation?	How is the information/cultural orientation provided	Is the information/cultural orientation different from what is provided to other persons granted international protection (not under resettlement)?
About the process, the rights and obligations and additional general information.	After arrival	Expert from SAR, social workers in cooperation with NGOs.	Oral/ written/ information brochures	SAR has prepared information about Bulgaria as a host country for relocation and resettlement.

Q20b. How is the receiving community at local level prepared for the arrival of the resettled/admitted person(s) through the provision of information?

N/A

Q20c. How are government officials, municipalities, local NGOs, citizens and other people at local level informed/trained on how to deal with the arrival of resettled/admitted persons? Who provides and who receives this information/training, how is it provided and what qualification/background does the training staff have?

Information campaigns are foreseen to be carried out.

2.4 MEMBER STATES WITHOUT OR CURRENTLY SETTING UP A RESETTLEMENT OR HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMME

Member States that currently do not have a resettlement or humanitarian admission programme might be interested in having such a programme or have specific reasons why they currently are not able or do not wish to set up such a programme. The questions below will explore in further details Member States' considerations.

Q21. Are there any plans to establish such a programme in the foreseeable future?

The Framework of the National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement was adopted. Liaison officers have been appointed. A selection team, which includes experts from the State Agency for Refugees, the State Agency for National Security and interpreters/translators, has been set up. The representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Consular Relations Directorate) and of the Ministry of Interior provide all necessary assistance to the selection team on the spot. A pledge to resettle 40 Syrians from Turkey was made on 20 May 2016. Till 17 June 2016 no files from UNHCR have been received.



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The candidates admitted will be transferred to Bulgaria. They will be accommodated in a registration and reception centre of the State Agency for Refugees. They will be registered as asylum seekers and a procedure in compliance with the Law on Asylum and Refugees will be carried out for them. Social adaptation support will be provided.

After receiving international protection status, an integration agreement will be offered to the resettled person. The agreement will list the services that the host municipality can offer – education, health care, housing, employment, etc. In compliance with art. 37⁷ a of the Law on Asylum and Refugees a Draft Ordinance establishing the terms and conditions for the conclusion, implementation and termination of the integration agreement is prepared. The Draft is in the final stage of consultations by all interested parties. This will be our first experience with resettlement. There is no practice in this regard.

Q22. Is there a debate in your Member State about whether to set-up a resettlement programme? Please indicate the pros and cons presented whether or not to have a national resettlement programme

N/A

Q23. Please indicate what the current status of your resettlement programme is, what is the time-frame for carrying out the first resettlement activities and what are the challenges/obstacles/difficulties in setting up a resettlement programme?

N/A

⁷ Art. 37a. (new - SG 80/15, in force from 16.10.2015) (1) Foreigners provided with asylum or international protection in Republic of Bulgaria shall be offered to conclude an integration agreement, regulating their rights and obligations, and also the rights and obligations of the respective governmental or municipal authorities.

(2) The terms and conditions and the procedure of conclusion, implementation and termination of the agreement under par. 1 shall be determined by an ordinance adopted by the Council of Ministers.



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Section 3: National legislation and policies on private sponsorship programmes

In light of the discussion on safe and legal ways for refugees to reach EU territory, private sponsorship is often not considered in the EU.

Private sponsorship programmes shift primary responsibility for assisting refugees (pre-departure and post-arrival) from the government to private actors (including International Organisations, NGOs, etc.). These private sponsors usually accept a degree of responsibility, either financial, material or other, for the resettled person, for a certain period of time. Often they are able to select or indicate the persons they would like to sponsor for resettlement, but decision-making remains the exclusive competence of the relevant government authorities. Private sponsorship in this Study therefore only concerns those programmes where final decision-making lies with relevant government authorities.

Note: in some Member States, Humanitarian Admission Programmes may contain an element of private sponsorship (e.g., by a family member). These elements should be reported primarily in section 2 and, where applicable, can be cross-referred here in section 3.

Q24. Does or did your Member State have a private sponsorship programme for enabling resettlement of third country nationals? If yes, are they permanent programmes or rather ad-hoc?

No

Q26a. Is your Member State considering to set up/repeat a private sponsorship programme? Please indicate what are reasons for having or not having/repeating such a programme.

The setting up of such a programme is not considered yet.

Q26b. If your Member State is interested in setting up such a programme for the first time, what is of particular importance to consider in setting up a private sponsorship programme?

N/A

Q27. Please indicate what are or were the main *objectives* of the private sponsorship programme?

N/A

Q28. Please indicate the main *characteristics* of the private sponsorship programme by completing the table below.

Question	Answer
When was the sponsorship programme started/when	N/A



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Question	Answer
did it run?	
Who can sponsor a resettled person?	N/A
Who can be sponsored?	N/A
Were (international) organisations involved in setting-up the programme?	N/A
How does the selection/preference process work?	N/A
Does the sponsored person need to be recognised as refugee by UNHCR or a third country?	N/A
Does the sponsored person need to be in their country of origin or can they also be somewhere else (another third country)?	N/A
Can only one person be sponsored at a time or more than one (family)?	N/A
Which persons can or cannot be sponsored through the programme?	N/A
Is the sponsorship programme permanent or temporary?	N/A
How does the sponsored person enter the Member States? (directly, indirectly)	N/A
Is a family link with the sponsor needed?	N/A
Duration of obligations of sponsorship (in months or years)?	N/A



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Question	Answer
What status is granted to the sponsored resettled person or family?	N/A
Is there an annual quota for persons that can be resettled through a private sponsorship programme?	N/A
Is the quota in addition to the resettlement quota?	N/A

Q29. What are the obligations of the sponsor?

Question	Answer (Yes/No)	Amount in euro, and further details
Is there a minimum income requirement for the sponsor?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the visa fee?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the airfare/travel to the Member State?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover the cost of medical exams and other medical costs?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover housing expenses?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover household expenses?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to provide other types of economic/social support?	N/A	
Does the sponsor need to cover administrative fees or costs? (Registration,	N/A	



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Question	Answer (Yes/ No)	Amount in euro, and further details
contributions to ensure access to the health care system, social security, education).		
Other obligations of sponsor	N/A	
If other, please specify Please add more rows where necessary	N/A	

Q30a. Are there consequences for a private sponsor not being able to meet support requirements? Can the sponsor turn to the government for support?

N/A

Q30b. Do persons resettled through private sponsorship have access to the same (integration) support actions and measures available to persons resettled under the government resettlement programme?

N/A

Q31a. What happens when the sponsorship programme ends? Is there a minimum timeframe established by national legislation to maintain the sponsorship?

N/A

Q31b. How is the private sponsorship programme monitored and evaluated?

N/A



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Section 4: Evaluations and identified challenges, good practices and lessons learnt

In principle only those Member States that have or have had resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes are asked to fill out this Section.

Q32. Are you aware of any evaluations at national, regional or local level of resettlement programmes and/or humanitarian admission programmes in your Member State from 2011? If so, what were the main findings?

N/A

Q33. In your Member State, have any practical challenges/obstacles related to designing, implementing and running resettlement /humanitarian admission programmes been identified?

N/A

Phase	Challenges (if any)
<i>Pre-departure and departure (including identification and selection)</i>	N/A
<i>Arrival and post-arrival (including integration)</i>	N/A
Others, please specify.	N/A

Section 4.2: Good practices and lessons learnt

Q34a. If there are specific examples of good practices or lessons learnt of the resettlement programme in your Member States worth highlighting, please fill in the box below.

N/A

Q34b. If there are specific examples of good practices or lessons learnt of the humanitarian admission programme in your Member States worth highlighting, please fill in the box below.

Conclusions



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

LIST OF REFFERENCES AND SOURCES

- Constitution of the Republic of Bulgaria; Prom. SG. 56/13 Jul 1991, amend. SG. 85/26 Sep 2003, amend. SG. 18/25 Feb 2005, amend. SG. 27/31 Mar 2006, amend. SG. 78/26 Sep 2006, amend. SG. 12/6 Feb 2007, amend. and suppl. SG. 100/18 Dec 2015;
- Law on Asylum and Refugees, Prom. SG. 54/31 May 2002 , amend. SG. 31/8 Apr 2005, amend. SG. 30/11 Apr 2006, amend. SG. 52/29 Jun 2007, amend. SG. 109/20 Dec 2007, amend. SG. 82/16 Oct 2009, amend. SG. 39/20 May 2011, amend. SG. 15/15 Feb 2013, amend. SG. 66/26 Jul 2013, amend. SG. 98/28 Nov 2014, amend. and suppl. SG. 80/16 Oct 2015, amend. and suppl. SG. 101/22 Dec 2015, amend. SG. 33/26 Apr 2016;
- Law on Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria (State Gazette 153/23.12.1998), last. amend. SG. 33/26 Apr 2016;
- Law on Bulgarian Personal Documents (TITLE AMEND. – SG 82/09) Prom. SG. 93/11 Aug 1998, last suppl. SG. 33/26 Apr 2016;
- Law on Recognition of Professional Qualifications, (State Gazette 13/8 February 2008);
- Law on Health Insurance Prom. SG. 70/19 Jun 1998, last amend. SG. 20/15 Mar 2016;
- Law on Bulgarian Citizenship, Prom. SG. 136/18 Nov 1998, last amend. SG. 22/24 Mar 2015;
- Law on Social Assistance, Prom. SG. 56/19 May 1998, last amend. and suppl. SG. 8/29 Jan 2016;
- Council Decision (EU) 2015/1523 of 14 September 2015 establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and of Greece.- Official Journal, No L 239. 15.09.2015.;
- Council Decision (EU) 2015/1601 of 22 September 2015 establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and Greece.- Official Journal, No L 248. 24.09.2015.;
- Conclusions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on resettling through multilateral and national schemes 20,000 persons in clear need of international protection. Available at: <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11130-2015-INIT/en/pdf>;
- Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, amending Council Decision 2008/381/EC and repealing Decisions No 573/2007/EC and No 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decision 2007/435/EC; available at <http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home->



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

affairs/financing/fundings/pdf/overview/regulation_eu_no_5162014_of_the_european_parliament_and_of_the_council_en.pdf;

- National Strategy on Migration and Integration, available at: http://nsmp.mvr.bg/NR/rdonlyres/4F4021BC-F595-482C-A701-370EBBE864FD/0/National_strategy_migration_integration_20152020.pdf;

http://nsmp.mvr.bg/Dokumenti/Nacionalen_mehanizum_prezaselvane.htm;

- Framework of a National mechanism for implementation of the commitments of the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to resettlement, available at:

http://nsmp.mvr.bg/Dokumenti/Nacionalen_mehanizum_prezaselvane.htm;

- Decision N 858 on 4 November 2015, available at: <http://www.aref.government.bg/?cat=12>;

- http://www.standartnews.com/english/read/bulgaria_insists_on_revision_of_migrant_quotas-8721.html

- <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/sofia/12570.pdf>;

- <http://news.bnt.bg/bg/a/ima-strakhove-nyama-omraza-km-bezhantsite>;

- Lyubomir Kyuchukov - 'Impact of the Refugee Crisis on Bulgarian Society and Politics: Fears But No Hatred';

- http://nsmp.mvr.bg/Za_nas/default.htm;

- Национална стратегия в областта на миграцията, убежището и интеграцията 2011-2020 г., 23.02.2011, available at: www.mvr.bg/NR/rdonlyres/EBCD864F-8E57-4ED9-9DE6-B31A0F0CE692/0/NationalStrategyinthefieldofMigrationAsylumandIntgrationENG.pdf;

- UNHCR Resettlement Handbook, Geneva, revised edition, July 2011;

- UNHCR (2014) Bulgaria as a Country of Asylum: UNHCR Observations on the Current Situation of Asylum in Bulgaria, available at: www.unhcr-centraleurope.org/pdf/where-we-work/bulgaria/bulgaria-as-a-country-of-asylum.html;

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<http://www.az.government.bg/>.



Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Europe – what works?

Annex 1 Statistics

Statistics on resettlement available on Eurostat will be used for the synthesis report. However, for humanitarian admission programmes no such data is available and for those Member States that have such programmes, data would need to be collected at national level.

Table A.1: National Statistics

Indicator	Year					Source	Method used to reach the estimates, as well as any caveats as to their likely accuracy
	2011 (total)	2012 (total)	2013 (total)	2014 (total)	2015 (total)		
Total number of persons resettled under the humanitarian admission programme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Total number of persons resettled by country of transit	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Total number of persons resettled under the private sponsorship programme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		