











The Steps to obtain Refugee/Asylum Status in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey – Summarized version

Steps	Bulgaria 	Cyprus 	Greece 	Italy 	Portugal 	Romania 	Slovakia 	Turkey 
Notes:	<p>LAW ON ASYLUM AND REFUGEES - Chapter VI, Art. 58 – 76</p> <p>Procedure for the acquisition of refugee status</p> <p>The proceedings take place before the chairman of the State Agency for Refugees (SAR), and the stages are conditionally the following:</p>	<p>The Asylum Service gives priority to the examination of asylum applications in two cases: cases that are likely to be unfounded because of the country of origin of the applicant and countries that are going through a political or humanitarian crisis and are likely to be well-founded.</p> <p>In cases of asylum seekers from countries that are going through a political or humanitarian crisis, the examination of their asylum applications are usually put on hold initially until the authorities decide the policy that will be followed in these cases.</p>	<p>Every person who comes illegally to Greece has the right and the obligation to apply for asylum to the Police and/or the Reception and Identification Service authorities. Access to international protection (asylum) procedure system is free of charge. A person seeking international protection is any alien or stateless person who declares to any Greek authority, orally or in writing, that he/she is seeking asylum or requests not to be deported because he/she is in fear of persecution because of his/her race, religion, nationality, participation in a particular social group or his/her political beliefs, or because he/she is in danger of</p>	<p>Submission of asylum requests</p> <p>Asylum requests must be submitted to the border police or to the office of the respective head of the provincial police with jurisdiction according to the requester’s residence. Requesters must reveal all pertinent facts to the authorities and must produce all necessary documentation.</p> <p>When unaccompanied minors are involved, these authorities must immediately inform the System for the Protection of Asylum Seekers and Refugees (SPRAR) and the respective tribunal of minors for the adoption of appropriate measures.</p> <p>Temporary residence permit</p> <p>The competent questore of the territory issues a temporary residence permit valid until the conclusion of the recognition procedure. The Ministry of the Interior may legally grant to persons who have obtained refugee status a basic subsistence</p>	<p>This procedural steps come from the Asylum requirer guide, issued by the Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras (Border and Foreigners Service)</p>	<p>Asylum applications are submitted personally by foreigners who find themselves in Romania or at a checkpoint for crossing the state border.</p> <p>If the foreigner is a minor, the asylum application can be submitted by the legal representative. Minors having attained the age of 14 can apply for asylum in their own name.</p> <p>If a foreigner addresses an application / memorandum / petition stating that they want some form of protection in Romania, they will be informed in writing that it is necessary to submit his demand personally to the competent authorities.</p>	<p>Citizen and State</p> <p>The Slovak Republic provides asylum to foreigners persecuted for various reasons such as crossing political rights and freedoms. Asylum can be denied to those who have acted in violation of fundamental human rights and freedoms.</p> <p>Asylum means the protection of a foreigner from persecution for reasons stated in the Convention on the Status of Refugees or in the Constitution of the Slovak Republic. The asylum procedure starts with an foreigner's declaration to the relevant police department that he / she asks for asylum or subsidiary protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic , if he Asylum Act does not stipulate otherwise. For a foreigner who has</p>	<p>(Most information here is not concerning Syrians! There is a specific section for Syrians called “Temporary Protection”. This section explains seeking international protection in Turkey for non-Syrians)</p> <p>Syrian nationals, as well as stateless persons and refugees from Syria, who came to Turkey due to events in Syria after 28 April 2011 are provided with temporary protection (TP) by the Government of Turkey. The Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) is the responsible governmental body for all asylum procedures in Turkey, including the temporary protection regime. As part of the temporary protection regime, Syrian nationals, refugees and stateless persons arriving from Syria who seek protection from the Turkish authorities under normal</p>



			<p>suffering serious harm in his/her country of origin or country of previous residence, especially because he/she is in danger of facing the death penalty or execution, torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or his/her life or physical integrity is in danger because of an international or civil war. Also, any foreigner who is transferred to Greece by a European state which implements "Dublin III" Regulation is regarded to be a person seeking international protection (asylum).</p>	<p>stipend for a period not to exceed forty-five days. Refugees who lack their own means of subsistence or accommodations in Italy may receive assistance as well.</p> <p>National commission and territorial commissions</p> <p>The law creates the National Commission for the Right of Asylum and the Territorial Commissions for the Recognition of International Protection. The National Commission's role is to guide and coordinate the Territorial Commissions, update their composition, and gather statistical information. A delegate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Italy has a right to participate in the National Commission's meetings.</p> <p>The Territorial Commissions' role is to grant recognition of refugee status to a requester. They are administratively placed within the respective police prefecture and operate in coordination with the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of Interior. They are composed of representatives of the national police and local authorities, and a UNHCR representative.</p> <p>Exclusions</p> <p>The law prohibits the entry into the national territory of foreigners when the border police</p>			<p>not reached the age of majority, the declaration is filed by his legal representative or a court appointed administrator.</p> <p>The procedure for granting asylum would not be commenced if the foreigner has already made the declaration or the declaration is made by the minor.</p> <p>Practical advice: Additional protection is the protection against serious harm in the country of origin.</p> <p>The person responsible for accepting a declaration under the preceding paragraph is,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> if it is a foreigner, who asks for the granting of asylum or for providing additional protection upon entering the territory of the Slovak Republic, the police department at the border crossing point, <input type="checkbox"/> in case of a foreigner, who requests asylum or supplementary protection upon entry into the territory of the Slovak Republic, a police unit established in the asylum facility, 	<p>circumstances are admitted to Turkey, and thereafter can seek and receive temporary protection from the Government of Turkey. They are under normal circumstances not sent back to Syria unless they themselves request to do so.</p>
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				<p>have determined that the requester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has already been recognized as a refugee in another country; • comes from a state other than his/her own that has adhered to the Refugee Convention, and in which he/she has resided for a period of time • is suspected of committing a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity; • has committed a serious nonpolitical crime outside Italy prior to his/her admission to Italy as a refugee; • has been convicted in Italy for a crime established in the Code of Criminal Procedure; • is considered as dangerous for the security of the state; • or belongs to a mafia organization, an organization dedicated to narcotics trafficking, or to a terrorist organization. 			<p><input type="checkbox"/> in the case of a foreigner who is flying to the territory of the Slovak Republic and does not fulfill the conditions for entry to the territory of the Slovak Republic, the police department in the transit area of an international airport,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> if he is a foreigner, who is placed in a facility for foreigners, a police department in this facility,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> if he is an alien, who is in institutional health care, a police department according to the place of a constitutional health facility,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In the case of an alien who is in custody or serving a custodial sentence, a police department according to the place of the institution for the execution of the custody or the institution for the execution of a sentence of imprisonment,</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> if it is an alien who is placed in a facility for the social protection of children and social guardians, the police department according to the location of this facility.</p>	
1	1. One shall submit a request for protection in person to the Agency When illegal passage / residence is detected, law	Status evaluation so that the process will be started	The asylum procedure starts with the declaration. The request is	Procedural steps Within two days after receiving the requester's documentation, the questore transfers it to	Collection of fingerprints and pictures to the older than 14 y.o.	Ordinary procedure - the administrative stage	The declaration shall be recorded by the police department	- If you come into the country with the officially necessary documentation, like passport



<p>enforcement officers must inform of the possibility to apply for refugee status. There is no requirement for the form of the application - it may be written or oral. Within 15 days of filing, one get clarified about his/her rights and obligations in the procedure, as well as the organizations providing legal and social assistance to refugees.</p>		<p>immediately referred to the Asylum Office. In order to submit the asylum application, the assistance of an interpreter is provided by the authorities. Any person, who submits an application for international protection, will be photographed and be fingerprinted (if he/she is above the age of 14). The fingerprints will be entered into the European Central Database EURODAC and if the conditions are met, the application might be examined by another EU member state (see "Dublin III"). If the person that applies for asylum has arrived on the Greek islands after the 20th March 2016, the procedure varies. Depending on the Project Erasmus+ KA2 2016-1-CY01-KA219-017309 nationality, the Greek Asylum Service may, in some cases, examine first whether Turkey is a safe country for him/her. If this applies, the person is deported to Turkey.</p>	<p>the respective Territorial Commission, which must schedule a hearing to take place within thirty days.</p>		<p>Distribution of the application to the officer for resolution</p>	<p>on the official form, a specimen of which is given in Annex no. 1 of the Asylum Act, and shall immediately send it to the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>A copy of the documents withheld together with the documentation necessary for the examination of the application for asylum shall be sent to the Ministry without delay; if the applicant is an alien who has temporary or permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic, the identity papers shall not be retained and the police department shall send to the Ministry only a copy of these documents. The police department shall also ensure the removal of the dactyloscopic</p>	<p>and/or visa, ("legally"), then you go to the Provincial Migration Management Directorate in the city you are staying, when you decide to seek asylum.</p> <p>- If you have no papers and you want to seek asylum, you must apply at the nearest place to where you enter Turkey.</p> <p>- If you are not a citizen of Council of Europe (CoE) countries and you want to apply for asylum, you can apply for international protection in Turkey but you will never get refugee status as Turkey has a geographical limitation on giving the refugee status. then you can also apply to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNCHR). The UNHCR carries out resettlement to 3rd safe countries for citizens of non-CoE countries.</p> <p>If you are a citizen of CoE country and your asylum application is accepted, you will receive the refugee status. Everybody else who applies for asylum in Turkey and whose application is accepted will get one of these 2 statuses: <u>conditional refugee</u> and <u>subsidiary protection</u></p>
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							imprints to the applicant. Upon completion of the asylum procedure, the police unit on request in returns the foreigner's documents.	
2	<p>2. Collection and processing of personal data No later than 3 days following the filing of the application pass through registration and a personal case is opened. SAR has the right to collect information from Bulgarian and foreign authorities, individuals and organizations. With a view to collect the necessary information to rule on my request, the following procedural actions are also carried out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the identity document is retained and stored by SAR until pronouncement; - searching and checking my possessions; - taking a photograph and taking fingerprints. <p>Appraisal may be appointed to establish age, psychiatric expertise or medical examination with consent. Important! A written statement from the State Agency for National Security is also required, which is taken into account when pronouncing it.</p>		<p>The Asylum Service determines a date for an examination interview and gives an asylum seeker a card (full registration). The date of the interview and the expiry date of the card will be printed on it.</p>	<p>A Territorial Commission may forgo setting up a hearing if there are sufficient grounds to accept the request for the recognition of refugee status.</p>	<p>The refugees makes delarations at the Asylum and refugees' Cabinet. At that moment it has the duty to present the documents he/she may have in what concerns: identity, Nationality, Family, Previous residences/adresses, Previous asylum requests; Itinerary; Report on the circumstances or facts that ground the asylum request. Others</p>		<p>After the submission of the declaration, the authorized employee of the Ministry can enter an interview with the applicant. The applicant should be obliged to provide truthfully and completely all the data required for the decision on the application for asylum during the interview. The Ministry willll issue to the applicant more than 15 years of age the proof of asylum at the time of the asylum procedure. The Ministry will grant the asylum, unless this Act stipulates otherwise, which:</p>	<p>To register with the UNHCR, you have to approach ASAM office in Ankara. - Registering only with the UNHCR will not regularize (legalize) your situation in Turkey. The principle institution to register in Turkey is the Provincial Migration Management Directorate in the city you are in. -Please be aware that the quota for resettlement is very low which means that many people will never get the chance of resettlement. Also the process of resettlement usually takes many years.</p>



							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Has justified reasons of persecution for racial, national or religious reasons in the country of origin for reasons of holding certain political opinions or belonging to a particular social group, and cannot or don't want to return to that state in view of these concerns, or ▪ He is persecuted in the country of origin for the exercise of political rights and freedoms. The Ministry may grant asylum on humanitarian grounds, even though the reasons under the previous paragraph are not ascertained 	
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							<p>in the proceedings.</p> <p>The Ministry shall reject an application for asylum as inadmissible if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The applicant has been granted asylum by a state which is not a Member State of the European Union and the applicant can effectively use this protection; this does not apply if the applicant cannot effectively return to that state, ▪ the applicant comes from a safe third country; this does not apply if in its case it cannot be considered a safe third country or if the applicant cannot effectively 	
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							<p>return to a safe third country,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the other State concerned is in the asylum procedure, ▪ The applicant has been granted asylum by a Member State of the European Union or ▪ Applicant is a citizen of a Member State of the European Union; this does not apply if the facts set out in the Asylum Protocol for nationals of the Member States of the European Union occur. 	
3	<p>3. Conducting an interview</p> <p>The interview is conducted in a language chosen by the refugee, and if it is impossible to find a translator/interpreter - in a language that he/she understands. An audio or audio-visual recording is made. the interview may be attended by a lawyer. One have to present all the evidence in support of his/her request. If necessary, follow-up interviews are conducted.</p>		<p>It is obligatory to present in person to the asylum office on the date of the examination, otherwise the case examination will be interrupted and the card will no more be valid. It is possible to present at the interview accompanied by a lawyer or other counsellor (legal</p>	<p>If the request is declared admissible for review, the respective Territorial Commission must make a decision recognizing refugee status or affording the requester the status of subsidiary protection. To make a decision, the Territorial Commission must consider the eventual consequences of repatriation in relation to Italy's international treaty obligations,</p>	<p>After the audition it is issued a written report, notifying the requirer, the requirer can pronounce him/herself for the next 5 days on the report.</p> <p>Disclosure of a declaration stating that the asylum request has been made: Issued until 3 days after the request;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewing of the asylum seeker 	<p>The Ministry shall take a decision on the asylum procedure within 90 days of the opening of the proceedings. During the asylum procedure, the applicant is entitled</p>	



			expert, doctor, psychologist or social worker).	including those under the European Union Treaty on Human Rights.	Valid until final decision on the request; It doesn't reassure the identity or nationality; It doesn't allow access to the Labor Market; It doesn't assure residence right; It is a guarantee on the access to the Education System (requirers non of age); Juridic Support by the Portuguese Council for Refugees.		to stay in the territory of the Slovak Republic unless the Asylum Act or other special regulation stipulates otherwise. After completing a stay in a host camp, the applicant will be placed in a residence camp or allowed to stay away from the camp. The Ministry may place the applicant for the necessary time at the integration center. The applicant is provided, free of charge, during the stay in the asylum facility or the integration center unless otherwise provided in this Act	
4	. Pronouncement on the application Within 4 months from the start of the proceedings, the interviewing body shall prepare an opinion, which together with the personal case shall be submitted to the chairman of the SAR for taking a decision. Within a period of 6 months from the commencement of proceedings, the President shall take a decision granting refugee status or refusal. In case one is not granted refugee status, the need to provide humanitarian status		After the interview, the Asylum Service decides about the application; whether to grant refugee status, subsidiary protection, or to reject the application.	The respective Territorial Commission must make a decision whether to grant recognition of refugee status within three days. The Territorial Commission's written decision is communicated to the requester jointly with information about his/her right to appeal the decision.	20 days passed on the notification, a first decision is disclosed by the National Director of the SEF (Border and Foreigners Services) If the request is made on a border Bureau the deadline is of 5 days concerning the first decision: If it is positive National Territory – Passes to the instruction phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzing the reasons given by the asylum seeker based on data from the file and by relating them to information from the country of origin 	Foreign nationals who have been granted a short-stay or long-stay visa, or who are exempt from the visa requirement upon entry, are obliged to inform, within	



	<p>is considered. When deciding, all collected documents and established facts relating to the personality, country of origin or the opportunity to benefit from the protection of another state the citizenship of which one would be able to acquire, shall be taken into account; the absence of an interview without valid reasons is also taken into account.</p> <p>In complex factual and / or legal matters, the time limit for pronouncing may be extended by 9 months, and when a large number of foreigners simultaneously seek international protection, making it difficult to make a decision within the time limit.</p> <p>The maximum time limit for the application is 21 months from the date of filing. One receives the decision against a signature, and has the right to familiarize with the personal case on which the decision was based.</p>				<p>Borderpost – Passes to the instruction phase and determines the entry in National Territory.</p> <p>If it is Negative</p> <p>National Territory – Country’s abandoning in 20 days. There is the possibility of Judicial Appeal in the Administrative Courts With deadline of 8 days for so, with suspension effect.</p> <p>Borderpost – Determines the return of the requester to the point where he/she initiated the trip or in case of being impossible to the State where the travelling document, with which travelled, was issued or to other place where he/she can be admitted, namely, a third country. There is the possibility of Judicial Appeal in the Administrative Courts With deadline of 72 hours for so, with suspension effect.</p>		<p>three days of their arrival, a competent police department of the commencement, place and anticipated length of their stay.</p> <p>It is possible, in exceptional cases, to extend a short-stay visa for a maximum of another 90 days over a period of six months.</p>	
5	<p>5. Appeal against the decision</p> <p>If one is refused refugee status, he/she can appeal within 14 days in front of the administrative court. It shall pronounce within a one-month period, and may issue binding instructions to SAR and return the application for reconsideration. The decision of the administrative court can appeal to the Supreme Administrative Court (SAC).</p>				<p>The decision on admitting the request for instruction determines the issuing of na authorization for temporary residence valid for 4 months, renewable for equal periods.</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Positive – attribution of <u>refugee estatute</u>, Emission of the residence permit. Grant of the <u>subsidiary protection estatute</u> for humanitarian reasons.</p>			



					<p>Negative – Asylum refuse and of subsidiary protection. Susceptible of Judicial appeal having a 15 days deadline, with suspension effect.</p> <p>The requerer that has is requirement for asylum refused can appeal, maintaining meanwhile he/she waits decision on it, the same rights and duties inherents to the procedure phase he/she is.</p>			
6			If the application is rejected, there is the possibility to submit an appeal to the Appeals Authority.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The decision / The motivated decision 		
7						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice of the decision within 30 days after taking over the case 		

