

REFORMING THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM:

WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL REFORMS WOULD CHANGE AND WHY WE NEED THEM NOW

While compromise is still needed on some elements of the EU's asylum reform, enormous progress has been made on the overall set, with 5 out of the Commission's initial 7 proposals ready for adoption. Though part of a far-reaching reform, each individual proposal has a clear added value on its own and their swift finalisation would make a difference on the ground.

1 Qualification Regulation

December 2018



Strong added value

The new Qualification Regulation will ensure greater convergence of recognition rates across the EU, guarantee the rights of recognised refugees and discourage Schengenendangering secondary movements



Ready to be concluded

Broad agreement found between co-legislators. Adoption is possible in early 2019.

THE NEW QUALIFICATION REGULATION WILL ENSURE:



Greater convergence of recognition rates

Harmonised criteria for protection will ensure applicants have the same chance of getting asylum under the same conditions wherever they apply in the EU. This will result in greater convergence of recognition rates which still vary greatly amongst Member States and help put a stop to asylum shopping.



Protection when and as long as it's needed

Member States will be obliged to withdraw the protection status when protection is no longer needed. Before deciding on an asylum application possible internal protection alternatives in countries of origin will have to be assessed.



Firmer rules sanctioning secondary movements

The new rules will discourage secondary movements by introducing sanctions. For example, the clock will be restarted when calculating the required continuous legal residence for EU long-term resident status each time the refugee is found in a Member State where he/she does not have the right to stay or reside.



Stronger integration incentives

The new rules will help strengthen integration prospects by clarifying rules on social security and social assistance and allow Member States to link certain social benefits to compulsory integration measures.



Better protection for families and minors

Families formed in transit countries will now also be able to benefit from a right to family unity and the best interest of minors will be strengthened in decisions relating to asylum applications and family unity rights.



Improved internal security

The new rules introduce an obligation to withdraw a refugee status in cases where a person commits criminal acts or poses a threat to national security.

RECOGNITION RATES CONTINUE TO VARY GREATLY AMONG MEMBER STATES, 2017

