

# DUBLIN II

## Regulation & Asylum

### In Slovakia

#### Guide for asylum seekers - 2012

You are now in Slovakia. The capital is Bratislava, and the official language is slovak.

Slovakia has 5.4 million inhabitants, and is a member of the European Union.



European  
Refugee Fund

forumréfugiés  
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HUMAN  
RIGHTS LEAGUE  
LIGA ZA ĽUDSKÉ PRÁVA

This guide provides practical information  
about the Dublin II procedure, asylum seekers' rights,  
asylum proceedings and protection statuses.

It is written directly for asylum seekers under a Dublin process.  
It will also be useful for people working in the asylum sector.

# The Dublin regulation – European Union

**You cannot choose the country in which you wish to apply for asylum.**

According to the Dublin regulation, **you can only apply for refugee status in one member state. Usually, this is the first member state which you reach. In practice this normally means that any subsequent country where you apply will return you to the appropriate state.**

This might happen when:

- your fingerprints were taken in another country (and stored on a common European database called EURODAC)
- you admit that you have been to, or travelled through, another country, even if you didn't give your fingerprints
- it can be shown by some other source of evidence that you have been to, or travelled through another country
- it can be shown that you were previously issued a visa for an EU country
- you tell the authorities that you wish to join your spouse, who is an asylum seeker or a refugee in another country

Alternatively, if your husband, wife or child is an asylum seeker or a recognised refugee in another member state, that country should be responsible for your asylum application only if you so desire. If you are an unaccompanied minor, the member state where your parent or parents reside is responsible for your asylum application.

## Article 3.4 Dublin regulation

**The asylum seeker shall be informed in writing in a language that he or she may reasonably be expected to understand regarding the application of this Regulation, its time limits and its effects.**

*The Dublin Regulation applies in the following countries Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.*

## The Regulation in Operation

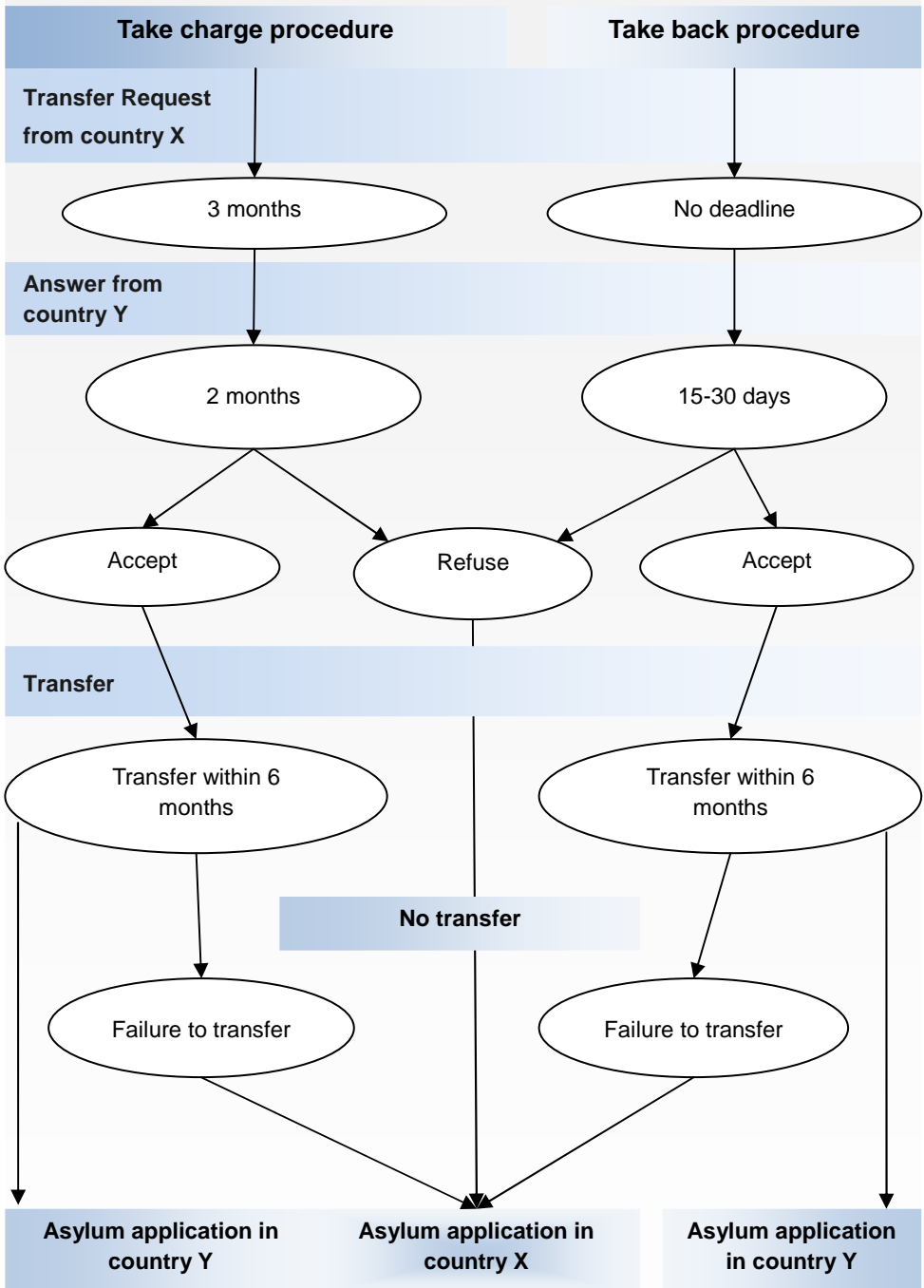
### The Take Charge Procedure

Where another member state is designated responsible under the criteria in the Regulation, that state is approached to take charge of you and to examine your application.

### The Take Back Procedure

Where a member state has already examined or begun to examine your application, it may be requested to take you back, if you have left that member state.

## You are in country X



# **Implementation of the Dublin regulation in Slovakia**

## **What happens if Slovakia wants to send me to another country under the Dublin II Regulation?**

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### **I am asking for asylum in Slovakia, why does Slovakia want to send me to another member state under the Dublin Regulation?**

When you asked for asylum in Slovakia, the respective police authority took your fingerprints and photographed you. Your personal data was sent to the EURODAC database. EURODAC collects information from asylum applications, information about instances of irregular crossing of an external border, and the unauthorised presence of persons within the European Union. All member states have access to this database. In your case, the EURODAC database showed a hit. That means that you have already asked for asylum or you were previously in other member state as an irregular migrant.

Another member state may be responsible for the examination of your asylum application if you were issued a visa or a residence permit by other member state or if you are an unaccompanied minor and your family members are in another member state or if your family members live in another member state.

Based on these facts, the Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior (Migration Office) may start a process of determination as to whether or not another member state is competent to act in your asylum procedure. Without delay the Migration Office should provide you with this information.

### **How does the Dublin procedure work?**

If another member state agrees to take charge for your asylum application or does not answer within the Dublin Regulation deadline, you will receive an 'inadmissible' rejection decision for your asylum application in Slovakia. The member state responsible for your asylum application will be specified in this decision.

### **What happens to my asylum application in Slovakia during the determination process?**

During the process of determining the member state responsible for examining your asylum application, the authorities' time limit for making a decision regarding your asylum procedure in Slovakia is not running. If your case is not accepted by another member state, your asylum application will be examined in the Slovakian asylum procedure.

### **What can I do if I do not agree with the decision?**

If you do not agree with the decision made by the Dublin Unit of the Migration Office rejecting your application as 'inadmissible' you may submit an appeal against this decision within 20 days of the delivery of the decision.

You must submit the appeal in Bratislava's Regional court or to Košice's Regional Court (depending on where you are staying the day you submit the appeal - for more information on this subject, contact the Human Rights League).

However, submitting an appeal does not have a 'suspensive' effect. You may ask the court to adjudicate the 'suspensive' effect to the appeal. However, until the court decides to grant the suspensive effect, you may be transferred to the responsible member state.

### **Will I be detained?**

The police are entitled to detain you in order to assure that you are transported to the responsible member state. However, in most cases, asylum seekers remain at the asylum seeker accommodation centres until the transfer day.

### **What rights do I have while waiting to be transferred?**

If you are placed in an asylum seeker accommodation centre you are provided, for free, with accommodation, board, basic sanitary products and other things necessary for living. The Migration Office will pay for urgent health care or for health care in cases worthy of special attention. Also, you are entitled to have pocket money.

## **What to do when transferred to Slovakia under Dublin II**

### **Why was I sent to Slovakia under the Dublin Regulation while I was asking for asylum in other member state?**

When you asked for asylum in another member state, the state's respective authority took your fingerprints and found out that you had previously asked for asylum in Slovakia or that you fulfilled other criteria established by the Dublin Regulation (for example, you were issued a residence permit by Slovak authorities). Subsequently, the Slovakian Migration Office agreed to take you back to Slovakia and to take charge of your asylum application.

### **What should I do about my asylum application after my transfer to Slovakia?**

When you are transferred to Slovakia you will be received by the respective police authority of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police. They are located either at the international airport or at the border. You may ask for asylum during your interview with the Alien Police. Your asylum application will be accepted unless your previous application is still not finished. If you've already applied for asylum before, ask the police authority about the stage of your asylum procedure.

**You should ask for asylum immediately after your return to Slovakia**, otherwise you may be issued an administrative expulsion decision and placed in detention.

## **What should I do if I have previously applied for asylum in Slovakia and my procedure was finished?**

You may submit a new asylum application if you are transferred back to Slovakia and your previous asylum application is finished. You should submit a new asylum application as soon as possible! It is possible that your previous asylum application would finish if you received a final negative decision that became valid (for example, if you missed the appeal deadline) or if you left Slovakia and your procedure was stopped.

**In your new application, you must present new facts or circumstances that were not mentioned in your previous asylum procedure** (for example, if your personal situation changed or the situation in your country of origin changed since the previous procedure). Without new facts or circumstances your asylum application may be stopped.

## **What should I do if I have never applied for asylum in Slovakia before?**

If you have never applied for asylum in Slovakia before, upon your transfer to Slovakia you may submit your asylum application. You can submit the asylum application at the airport or to the respective police authority. The police will conduct a first interview with you. You should provide your personal data and briefly explain the reasons for your asylum application.

## **What should I do if I have applied for asylum in Slovakia before and my procedure is not finished?**

In this situation, you will be sent directly to the **Reception centre in Humenné** or to the **Accommodation centre in Rohovce or Opatovská Ves**. The police will provide you with more information.

## **Where will I stay after my transfer back to Slovakia?**

After your transfer and interview with the police, in the event that you ask the police for asylum you will go to the **Reception centre in Humenné**. The police will give you a document for transportation to the reception centre. You have to exchange the document for a ticket at the train or bus station.

You may also ask for '**tolerated stay**' in Slovakia (this is a ban of your expulsion or due respect of your private and family life). If you do not fulfil any condition for being granted any kind of residence permit in Slovakia, you may be detained and placed at the **detention centre in Medveďov or Sečovce**.

# The Asylum procedure in Slovakia

## Every foreigner has the right to apply for asylum in Slovakia

### What is asylum?

**Asylum** is a form of international protection which will be provided to you by the Slovak Republic if you can, in plausible way, establish that you have a well – founded fear of persecution on the grounds of:

- race
- religion
- nationality
- political opinion or
- membership of a particular social group

... and because of this fear you are unable or unwilling to return to your country of origin.

“**Persecution**” usually means a serious human rights violation, such as torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, slavery, physical or sexual violence or very serious discrimination.

If you experience problems because you are a woman, or because of your gender identity or sexual orientation or for having any other special characteristic that cannot be changed (or that you do not want to hide), you may fall under the “particular social group” category.

## What forms of protection can I get in Slovakia

### **Asylum (azyl):**

If you are granted asylum in Slovakia, that means that the Slovak government recognized you as a 'refugee' – a person having well-founded fear of persecution because of one of the above mentioned grounds in your country of origin. This is the highest form of international protection that you can get in Slovakia.

### **Subsidiary protection (doplnková ochrana):**

If you are not granted asylum, but there is a real risk that you would be exposed to serious harm upon your return to the country of origin, you will be granted subsidiary protection for one year (with the possibility of prolongation) in Slovakia.



Serious harm that you may suffer in your country of origin include:

- Death penalty
- Torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Serious threat to a civilian's life or person because of indiscriminate violence in an armed conflict (for example there is a civil war in your home country).

### **Tolerated stay permit (tolerovaný pobyt):**

This kind of stay permit is not considered to be a form of international protection (you are just "tolerated" on the Slovak territory) and falls under the foreigner's regime (covered by the Act on Stay of Aliens no. 48/2002 Coll.) not under the refugee regime. This status helps you temporarily legalize your stay in Slovakia in case you do not fulfill the conditions for asylum or subsidiary protection, while taking into consideration the fact that you believe there are serious reasons why you cannot return to your country of origin and you want to prevent your deportation. Based on the Foreigner's Act you can be granted tolerated stay permit for these reasons:

- If there is a hindrance for your administrative expulsion (in case your life or personal liberty could be endangered upon your return to your country of origin or the country where you are going to be deported to; this includes the risk of death penalty sentence)
- If you have been granted temporary shelter
- If your travel out of Slovakia is not possible and your detention would not be effective
- If you are a minor child found on the territory of Slovakia
- If you have been a victim of the crime of human trafficking and you are at least 18 years old
- If this is necessary to respect your private and family life (for example, if you have a partner or minor child in Slovakia),

... and you do not represent a threat to Slovak national security and public order and you do not fulfill the requirements to apply for a permanent or temporary residence permit.

#### **REMEMBER:**

Bad economic or environmental conditions in your country of origin usually do not entitle you to any of these forms of protection.

# **Procedure for claiming asylum**

## **Who is responsible for making a decision about my application?**

The Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic is responsible for examining your asylum application and for making the decision. The Migration Office is required to come to a decision in a three months period (exactly 90 days) from the moment you have submitted your asylum application at the police department. However, the law allows prolongation of this period in case the decision-maker needs more time to collect all the necessary evidence.

**There is no separate procedure for subsidiary protection.** Consideration of subsidiary protection is an obligatory part of every asylum procedure. Once the decision-maker of the Migration Office concludes that you do not fulfill the requirements to be granted asylum, they are obliged to assess whether or not the conditions to grant subsidiary protection are satisfied in your case. It is therefore, **ONE PROCEDURE** and consequently **ONE DECISION**. The only time subsidiary protection is not considered is if you are granted asylum.

## **How should I submit my asylum application?**

You shall be recognized as an asylum seeker from the moment you submit your asylum application at the police department in the Slovak Republic. You will retain this status until you obtain the legal, hence final, decision of the Migration Office regarding your application.

**You should submit the asylum application as soon as possible** after your arrival on the territory of Slovakia. Ideally you should submit the asylum application immediately when crossing the border or arriving at the airport.

There are two specialized police departments called “asylum departments” responsible for accepting asylum applications:

- Adamov – Gbely in the Western part of Slovakia
- Humenne in the Eastern part of Slovakia.

You can also submit your application in the international area of the airport. If you are detained in the detention centre for foreigners, you can apply for asylum in the detention centre.

**At the police station, a police officer will take your fingerprints and add them to the EURODAC database.** EURODAC is the European system of registration of asylum seekers and undocumented migrants staying in one of the EU member states. **The police officer MUST accept your asylum application even if they find out that your fingerprints have already been taken in another EU country.** They are required to accept your asylum application because the Migration Office is responsible for determining if another EU state could be responsible for your asylum application if there is a reason to start the Dublin procedure in your case (for more information about the Dublin procedure please see above).

### **ADVICE:**

If you are afraid that the officer will not understand your asylum application, clearly say the word **“UTEČENEC”** (refugee) or **“AZYL”** (asylum) in Slovak.

## Interview at the police department

Your asylum application will be taken in the form of an interview with a police officer. During this interview you will be asked basic questions concerning your identity, your journey to Slovakia and your reasons for claiming asylum in Slovakia. You will also be asked whether you have already applied for asylum in another EU country.

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not know the response to any of the interview questions, **say clearly that you do not know and do not invent responses!**

If you applied for asylum anywhere else in Europe, **clearly state that** - your fingerprints will be found in the EURODAC database. It will NOT help you to change your name, date of birth or nationality.

The police officer should not ask in detail about your reasons for seeking asylum. If you do not want to explain in detail what happened to you in your home country, you do NOT have to. If the police officer asks for too many details, you can say that you will explain the details to the Migration Office during your asylum interview. HOWEVER, remember that the decision-maker at the Migration office will read notes from your interview at the police department, so tell the TRUTH about your asylum reasons to the police officer (otherwise, your credibility could be undermined).

The minutes of your interview at the police department will be taken by the interviewing police officer. You will sign the minutes and the 'Statement of the asylum seeker'. The asylum procedure starts upon the asylum statement.

**REMEMBER:** You have the right to have an interpreter to/from the language you understand during all interviews, including when you submit your asylum application.

**You also have the right to receive written information about the asylum procedure and about asylum seekers' rights and obligations in a language you understand properly.**

## Where will I be accommodated during the asylum procedure?

After your application for asylum has been recorded, you will receive a document for your transportation to the Reception centre for asylum seekers from the Migration Office in Humenné (direction Košice, in the Eastern part of Slovakia). This document entitles you to free bus or train transportation to the given address of the Migration Office facility. The document is valid for 24 hours from the time it is issued.

This means **you must go to the Reception centre within 24 hours**. Feel free to ask a police officer for detailed directions or a map that may help you on your trip to the Migration Office facility.

**REMEMBER:** If you do not arrive to the Reception centre within 3 days, the Migration Office will stop your asylum procedure!

- **Reception centre in Humenné**

The reception centre is a Migration Office facility. You will be placed in the reception center in order to undergo complex medical screening to determine your medical condition. It is a quarantine camp; this means that you have to stay there until you have undergone all the medical examinations. The procedure usually takes two to four weeks.

- **Accommodation facilities for asylum seekers**

After the results of your medical screening have been established, you will be transferred to an accommodation camp (in Rohovce or in Opatovská Nová Ves), where you may stay until the final decision concerning your asylum application. In case you would like to leave the centre, you need a permit issued by the centre authorities. If you leave the asylum centre without permission and you are missing for more than 7 days, your asylum procedure will be stopped.

## **Your interview during your stay at the reception center**

A Migration Officer (a decision-maker) will arrange an interview with you during your stay at the reception centre. In a language you understand, you will receive a written notice stating the time and location of the interview. During your asylum procedure, **you have the right to have a lawyer**. If you choose to be represented by a lawyer, the interview should not be conducted without your lawyer.

The interview conducted by the decision-maker of the Migration Office is the most important act of your asylum procedure. During this interview, it is necessary to honestly state all the reasons for your asylum application.

During the interview, there will be an interpreter present who will interpret in your mother tongue or another language you understand. If you have difficulties understanding the interpreter, or if you prefer to express yourself in a different language, you need to state this and ask for another interpreter at the beginning of the interview or immediately after you recognize this is a problem.

It is of utmost importance **to express all the reasons for which you left or cannot return to your country of origin**. The entire decision making process regarding your asylum application is derived from these interview recordings.

During the interview all of your statements are recorded. At the end of the interview the entire contents of the transcript should be translated for you by the interpreter before you are asked to sign the record. Before you sign the record, make sure you verify that everything you stated was correctly recorded.

**You have the right to have photocopies** of all the documents in your case's file, including the interview transcript. However, to obtain the copies, you might be obliged to pay administrative fees.

**If you possess any documents supporting your asylum application or any other relevant statements**, you should present them to the Migration Office worker during your interview.

If you do not have any documents in your possession, but you can provide them later, immediately tell the decision-maker about this.

If, during the asylum procedure, you become aware of any new reasons or facts which can be important to the outcome of your case or if you have any new evidence, which you would like to present and explain to the decision-maker, **you have the right to apply for a complementary interview**.

## **In case I have problems or difficulties, who should I seek assistance from?**

If you encounter any difficulties regarding your stay in the centre, do not hesitate to go to the head of the facility, to social workers who are present, or to security guards.

If you encounter any problem regarding your asylum procedure, contact the decision-maker of the Migration Office who is responsible for your case, or a non-governmental organization lawyer.

## **What are my rights during the asylum procedure**

### **You are entitled to :**

- the right to accommodation free of charge, board and emergency health care provided at the asylum facility;
- the right to emergency health care provided by the doctor or the nurse stationed in the Migration Office facility (reception centre and accommodation camp);
- the right to social or psychological counseling provided at the facility of the Migration Office by NGO workers;
- the right to free legal counsel provided either by the state authorities (Legal Aid Centre) or by NGO lawyers;
- the right to be informed about your rights and obligations during the asylum procedure no later than 15 days after the day you submitted your asylum application in a language you understand;
- the right to use your mother tongue or any other language you understand during your testimony/interview conducted by state authorities and at the court's oral hearings;
- the right to see your asylum administrative file before the decision on the merits of your case is issued. You will be informed about this right at the end of your interview. When informed about this right, you have to state whether or not you would like to use this right;
- the right to attach documents supporting your asylum claim as evidence to your administrative file;
- the right to ask the Migration Office for the stay of proceedings due to relevant reasons (for example a serious illness);
- the right to make an appeal if the Migration Office does not grant you asylum or subsidiary protection or rejects your asylum case;
- the right to live or to stay outside the asylum facility during your asylum procedure if you can prove that you possess sufficient financial resources to provide yourself with food and accommodation, or if you can prove that someone in Slovakia will provide you with food and accommodation;
- the right to receive an allowance ("pocket money") during your stay in the asylum facility. If you do not abide by the rules of asylum law or the asylum facility, your pocket money will be reduced or not given to you. If you leave the territory of the Slovak Republic during your asylum procedure, apply for asylum in another European Union country and then return to the Slovak Republic your pocket money will not be given to you;
- the right to attend a Slovak language course free of charge. If you are under 16 years of age or you have children between the ages of 6 and 16, this language course is mandatory.

# **What are my obligations during the asylum procedure**

During your asylum procedure you are obliged to respect the law and other legal acts that are valid in the Slovak Republic;

- To undergo a primary medical examination and a quarantine of the Migration Office;
- To be photographed and have your fingerprints taken;
- To stay at the asylum facility and respect the internal directions and rules of that facility;
- Not to leave the accommodation centre without having a permit issued;
- If you are staying outside the centre you are obliged to register at the local police department in the place of your stay within three days;
- You are obliged to announce the birth of a child to the Migration Office within 20 days;
- To document your identity for the concerned state authorities;
- To protect your asylum seeker card from loss, theft, damage, destruction or misuse;
- To immediately inform the Migration Office of the loss, theft, damage, destruction or misuse of your card;
- To return your asylum seeker card as soon as your asylum procedure is over;
- To undergo an interview at the request of a Migration Office decision-maker in order to clarify and explain the reasons for your asylum application;
- Minors up to 16 years of age are obliged to attend school regularly;
- During the asylum procedure, you are not allowed to work or to enterprise. However, if your asylum procedure takes more than 1 year, you have the right to work.

## **Procedure outcomes and consequences**

### **If you are granted protection**

If you plausibly establish that your fear of persecution is well-founded on grounds of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group, the Migration Office may decide to grant you asylum in Slovakia. The Migration Office may also grant you asylum based on humanitarian reasons, for example, for persons who are aged, gravely ill or traumatized etc.

If you are granted asylum you have the right to obtain a permanent stay permit in the Slovak Republic. You will receive a residence card and a refugee travel document. Initially, you will receive help and support from the Migration Office and non-governmental organizations. By means of integration projects, they will help you become a member of Slovakian society. Integration projects mainly focus on providing help with language skills, finding accommodation and a job. As a recognized refugee you can work without a work permit in Slovakia as well as run your own business.

### **Asylum can also be granted for the purpose of family reunification to:**

- the spouse of an asylum seeker if the couple were married before the asylum seeker's departure from the country of the origin and the couple is still married;
- the unmarried minor children of the asylum seeker;
- or to the parents of a minor asylum seeker.

**If you are not granted asylum, you can be granted subsidiary protection** (for more information regarding the reasons you may be granted subsidiary protection please see above).

If the Migration Office grants you subsidiary protection, **you will receive a temporary one-year-period residence permit on the territory of the Slovak Republic**. During the period of your temporary residence you have the right to receive a work permit. Accommodation and meals are not provided regularly, this depends on NGO projects at the time.

Before your subsidiary protection time period expires you have the right to ask for a prolongation if the reasons for which you were granted subsidiary protection still persist. Your request for prolongation must be submitted no earlier than 90 days and no later than 60 days before the last day of your protection status.

### **If you are not granted protection**

If the Migration Office does not grant you asylum neither subsidiary protection, you have the right to make an appeal to the regional court **within 30 days since the delivery of the negative decision to you or to your legal representative**.

The judicial review of the asylum administrative decisions is done by two regional court – by the Regional Court in Košice (if you are registered in the Reception centre in Humenné or in the Accommodation camp in Opatovská Nová Ves) and the Regional Court in Bratislava (if you are registered in the Accommodation camp in Rohovce).

**During the appeal procedure, you are still recognised as asylum seeker;** therefore, you still have to abide by the rights and obligations of an asylum seeker and you still have the right to be provided with the accommodation and food by the Migration Office.

Based on the Asylum Act the regional court should decide within 90 days since submitting the appeal, however there is a possibility for the judge to prolong this period. You have the right to be heard at court at the public oral hearing. If you agree, the court can decide without an oral hearing.

### **There are three possible outcomes of the judicial review procedure:**

- the decision of the Migration Office is cancelled in its entirety and it is returned to the Migration Office for further consideration (Migration Office then have to conduct new examination of your case and issue a new decision; most probably you will have another interview);
- the decision of the Migration Office in part on non-granting asylum is confirmed, but it is cancelled in part on non-granting subsidiary protection and the case is returned to the Migration Office for further consideration (in such a case Migration Office makes further examination only with regards to the subsidiary protection status);
- the decision of the Migration Office is confirmed by the court. In such a case you can appeal to the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic within 15 days since the delivery of the decision and in accordance with the Asylum Act the Supreme Court has 60 days to issue a decision. The trial at the Supreme Court usually takes place without an oral hearing.

In case you receive a decision from the Migration Office that your asylum application has been rejected as clearly unfounded or inadmissible, you shall contact your lawyer as soon as possible because the appeal period is limited to a 20 day period. The same applies if your asylum procedure was stopped – in such a case the appeal period is either 20 or 7 days since the delivery of the decision!

**If the Migration Office does not grant you asylum neither subsidiary protection, you can apply for tolerated stay permit for one of the reasons stated above.** If the police grants you tolerated stay permit, you cannot be expelled from Slovak territory. You are allowed to stay at Slovak territory, however you have no right to be accommodated in any of the Migration office facilities neither you have the right to obtain work permit (only in some cases prescribed by law).

If you do not know how to resolve your legal status or what your possibilities are after your asylum procedure is finished, you should immediately contact a lawyer. If you do not have sufficient financial resources to pay for legal advice, you can contact an organisation that provides legal counsel to foreigners free of charge (see below).

## **Detention**

In accordance with Slovakian alien laws, you will be regarded as an illegal or undocumented migrant:

- if you enter Slovakia without the legally required visa and/or without valid travel documents
- or if you remain in Slovakia after your residence permit expired
- or if your asylum procedure finished with a final decision against which you cannot appeal.

If you do not voluntarily leave the territory or you do not legalize your stay (for example by applying for a tolerated stay permit), **there is a risk that you may be detained and deported.**

Once an administrative expulsion decision is issued against you, you no longer have a time period in which you can voluntarily leave the territory. You will be issued the decision regarding your detention in one of the detention centers for foreigners (in Medvedov or Sečovce). It is possible that you can be detained for up to 6 months with the possibility of prolongation of your detention for another 12 months (the maximum period of detention is 18 months in order to enforce your deportation order).

Once you are in detention if you fear persecution or serious harm (please see above information) upon deportation to your country of origin, you have the right to apply for asylum directly IN the detention centre. You have to tell any police officer in the centre that you want to submit an asylum application. Then you will be given a short form, which you should fill out - write your name and that you want to apply for asylum. Within a few days of returning your filled-out form to a police officer or social worker in the centre, asylum police officers will come to the centre with an interpreter (if necessary) in order to record your asylum statement (the asylum statement comes from your interview – more information is provided above).

**You should know that your asylum application is not a reason to release you from detention! Regardless of whether or not you submitted an asylum application, you should file an appeal against your detention decision and against your administrative expulsion decision.**



You have 15 days from the delivery of the decision (expulsion and detention) to appeal it.

- If you receive an administrative deportation decision, you should send your appeal to the foreigner's police department that issued the decision (superior administrative authority will decide on your appeal).
- If you received a detention decision, you should send an appeal to the regional court (to the Regional Court in Trnava if you are detained in Medvedov or to the Regional Court in Košice if you are detained in Sečovce). Contact lawyers visiting the detention centers to help you to appeal.

**IMPORTANT:** Do not sign any papers at the police station or in the detention centre that are not written in a language you understand or that are not translated for you. Do not sign papers with contents that you do not fully understand. Do not sign documents if you are not sure about the legal consequence of your signature on such a document.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **The Human Rights League**

Hurbanovo námestie no. 5  
811 03 Bratislava  
Tel: 00421 (0)2 544 35 437  
Fax: 00421 (0)2 546 42 439  
Mobil: 00421 (0)918 682 457, 0918 857 715  
e-mail: [hrl@hrl.sk](mailto:hrl@hrl.sk)



## **Office in Žilina**

Makovického 15  
010 01 Žilina  
Tel/Fax: 00421 (0)41 56 24 502

## **Office in Košice**

Hlavná 68  
040 01 Košice  
Mobil.Tel: 00421 (0) 918 366 968

## **UNHCR National Office in the Slovak Republic:**

Štúrova 6  
811 02 Bratislava  
Tel: 02/ 529 27 875  
e-mail: [svkbr@unhcr.sk](mailto:svkbr@unhcr.sk)

## **The Migration Office of the Slovak Republic:**

Pivonková ul. č. 6  
812 72 Bratislava  
Tel: 02/ 43414768  
e-mail: [mu@minv.sk](mailto:mu@minv.sk)

## **Other organizations providing social, psychological and legal counseling to asylum seekers:**

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### **Slovak Humanitarian Council,**

Páričkova ul. č. 18, 821 08 Bratislava

Tel: 02/ 502 00 513, Mobil.Tel: 0918 688 508

### **Goodwill Society,**

Mäsiarska ul. č. 13, 040 01 Košice

Tel/Fax: 055/ 62 54 513, Mobil.Tel: 0915 992 876

e-mail: [goodwill@sldv.sk](mailto:goodwill@sldv.sk)

# Transnational Dublin Project

## European network for technical cooperation on the application of the Dublin II regulation

In order to overcome the shortcomings of the Dublin II Regulation, the French association Forum Réfugiés coordinates a 18-month project which aims to develop tools for comprehensive information and training on the procedure of the Dublin Regulation and the asylum national systems and monitoring tools for asylum seekers placed under the Dublin procedure.

The main objective of this project is to create a European network of associations providing follow-up and assistance to asylum seekers in their charge, finding themselves under the Dublin procedure.

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***Dublin II Regulation: Council Regulation No.343/2003 of 18 February 2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member States responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national.***

### European partner organizations:

Asyl in Not (Austria), Italian Council for refugees (Italy), Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado (Spain), Danish Refugee Council (Denmark), Dutch Council for Refugees (Netherlands), Forum Réfugiés (France), France terre d'asile (France), Hungarian Helsinki Committee (Hungary), Jesuit Refugee Service (Romania), Organisation Suisse d'Aide aux Réfugiés (Switzerland), Refugee Council Hessen (Hessischer Flüchtlingsrat, Germany), AITIMA (Greece), The Human Rights League (Liga za ľudské práva, Slovakia), Legal Clinic For Refugees and Immigrants (Bulgaria), ECRE (European Council on Refugees and Exiles).

<http://www.dublin-project.eu>