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EMN France

EMN France

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- Site of the EMN at European level: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/index_en.htm (in English)
- Site of EMN France: <https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2> (in French)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

- AME : State medical assistance
- C2I: Inter-ministerial Committee on Integration
- CESEDA: Code on Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and Right of Asylum (*Code de l'entrée et du séjour des étrangers et du droit d'asile*)
- CIR : Republican Integration Contract (*Contrat d'intégration républicaine*)
- CNCDH: National Consultative Commission for Human Rights (*Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme*)
- CNDA: National Court of Asylum (*Cour nationale du droit d'asile*)
- DA : Directorate of Asylum within the Ministry of the Interior (*Direction de l'asile*)
- DAAEN: Directorate for Reception and Support for Foreign Nationals and Citizenship (*Direction de l'accueil, de l'accompagnement des étrangers et de la nationalité*) within the Ministry of the Interior replaced in October 2020 by the DIAN: Directorate for Integration and Access to Citizenship (*Direction de l'intégration et de l'accès à la nationalité*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DIRECCTE: Regional Directorate for Enterprise, Competition, Consumer Affairs, Labour and Employment (*Direction Régionale des Entreprises, de la Concurrence, de la Consommation, du Travail et de l'Emploi*)
- DCI: Department of International Cooperation (*Direction de la Coopération Internationale*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DCPAF: Central Directorate of the French Border Police (*Direction Centrale de la Police aux Frontières*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DEFDI : Document and Identity Fraud Expertise Division (*Division de l'expertise en fraud documentaire et à l'identité*)
- DZPAF : Zonal Directorate of the Border Police (*Direction zonale de la police aux frontières*)
- DiAir : Inter-Ministerial Delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (*Délégation interministérielle à l'accueil et à l'intégration des réfugiés*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DGEF: General Directorate for Foreign Nationals in France (*Direction générale des étrangers en France*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DGM: General Directorate for Globalisation, Development and Partnerships (*Direction générale de la mondialisation, développement et des partenariats*)
- DGPN : General Directorate of the National Police (*Direction générale de la Police nationale*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- DGT: General Labour Directorate (*Direction générale du travail*) within the Ministry of Labour
- EASO: European Asylum Support Office
- MEAE: Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (*Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères*)
- MESRI : Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (*Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur, de la Recherche et de l'Innovation*)
- MIPROF: Inter-ministerial Mission for the Protection of Women against Violence and the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings (*Mission interministérielle pour la protection des femmes contre les violences et la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains*)
- OCLTI: Central Office for Combating Illegal Employment (*Office central de lutte contre le travail illégal*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- OCRIEST: French Office for the Repression of Unauthorised Immigration and the Employment of Foreign Nationals without Residence Permits (*Office Central pour la Répression de l'Immigration irrégulière et de l'Emploi d'étrangers Sans Titre*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- OCRTEH: Central Office for the Repression of Human Trafficking (*Office central pour la répression de la traite des êtres humains*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- OFII: French Office for Immigration and Integration (*Office français de l'immigration et de l'intégration*)
- OFPRA: French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (*Office français de protection de réfugiés et des apatrides*)
- OQTF: Order to leave French territory
- OSCE: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- PAF: Border police within the Ministry of the Interior
- SDLII: Sub-Directorate for Combatting Irregular Migration (*Sous-Direction de la lutte contre l'immigration illégale*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- SDV: Sub-directorate for visas (*Sous-direction des visas*) within the Ministry of the Interior
- SDST : Sub-directorate for residence and employment (*Sous-direction du séjour et du travail*)
- THB: Trafficking in Human Beings
- UAM: Unaccompanied minors
- UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- VIS: Visa Information System (*Système d'Information des Visas*)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following an introduction presenting the methodology and contributions to this report, a **summary** and an **overview of main asylum and migration policy developments in France in 2020**, the first section of this report **is dedicated to developments in legal migration** and more specifically the measures related to simplified and digitalized process in order to favour the attraction of international talents and students, the measures implemented in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the on-line service for UK citizens' residence permit applications and for their family members.

Section 2 addresses **main changes related to international protection and asylum** especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and related to the increased housing capacity for asylum seekers and the implementation of a national plan for the reception of asylum seekers and the integration of refugees in 2021-2023.

Section 3 is dedicated to **unaccompanied minors and vulnerable groups** with specific attention to the implementation of the system set up by the decree of 31 January 2019 on the modalities for assessing individuals that claim to be minors as well as to the dissemination of an inter-ministerial guide dedicated to UAMs.

Section 4 describes new measures related to the **integration policy** with a specific attention to the continuation of the assessment of measures aimed at strengthening the integration of foreign nationals newly arrived in the framework of the Pathway for Republican Integration and the improvement on how qualifications and professional experiences of foreign nationals are taken into account as well as the promotion of the access to internet and digitalized services.

While section 5 treats the question of **citizenship and statelessness**, section 6 deals with **borders, Schengen and visa** issues.

Section 7 presents action plans for the **fight against irregular migration and migrant smuggling** and especially the creation of a French-British Operational Research Unit against migrant smuggling. Section 8 deals with policy to combat **trafficking in human beings (THB)** and especially the implementation of the second national action plan to fight trafficking against human beings and the project to set up a national identification and orientation mechanism for victims of THB.

Lastly, section 9 is devoted to **return and readmission**, in particular on the impact of the COVID-19 on returns and the cooperation with Frontex, while section 10 is dedicated to the links between **migration and development** especially in the framework of the French Presidency of the Rabat process.

INTRODUCTION

Objectives and methodology of this political report

The 2020 Annual Report on migration and asylum aims to **cover changes to immigration and asylum policy and legislation** which have taken place throughout the year.

EMN France, the French EMN National contact point, contacted the relevant departments and services in order to provide information relating to legislative and regulatory provisions as well as statistics about events which had marked 2020.

Contributions to this report

Thus, the Sub-Directorate for Residence and Employment (*Sous-direction du séjour et du travail - SDST*) as well as the Sub-Directorate for Visas (*Sous-direction des visas - SDV*) in the General Directorate for Foreign Nationals in France (*Direction générale des étrangers en France - DGEF*) within the Ministry of the Interior contributed towards questions relating to **legal migration** for aspects relating to residence, employment and visa policy.

The General Labour Directorate (*Direction générale du travail - DGT*) within the Ministry for Labour provided information related to social dumping and labour exploitation.

Contributions on **integration** were made by the Directorate for Reception and Support for Foreign Nationals and Nationality (*Direction de l'accueil, de l'accompagnement des étrangers et de la nationalité - (DAAEN)*), replaced in October 2020 by the Directorate for Integration and Access to Citizenship (*Direction de l'intégration et de l'accès à la nationalité - (DIAN)*) in the DGEF.

The Sub-Directorate for Combatting Irregular Migration, (*Sous-Direction de la lutte contre l'immigration illégale - SDLII*) within the DGEF addressed the issue of **Borders and Schengen area** as well as **irregular migration and return of migrants** in collaboration with the Directorate of International cooperation (*Direction de la coopération internationale - DCI*) and the Central Directorate of the French Border Police (*Direction centrale de la Police aux Frontières - DCPAF*). The French Office for Immigration and Integration (*Office français de l'immigration et de l'intégration - OFII*) also contributed to the issue of voluntary return.

The section on **international protection and asylum policy** was prepared by the Asylum Directorate (*Direction de l'asile - DA*) of the DGEF within the Ministry of the Interior as well as the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (*Office français de protection des réfugiés et des apatrides - OFPRA*).

The Ministry for Justice (Department for the Legal Protection of Young People / *Direction de la protection judiciaire de la jeunesse*) contributed with material on **unaccompanied minors**, in addition to information provided by the OFPRA and the SDST in the DGEF. The issue of **vulnerable groups** was also dealt with by the SDST in the DGEF.

Several ministerial directorates and bodies participated in drafting the section on **trafficking in human beings**: the Interministerial Mission for the Protection of Women Victims of Violence and the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings (*Mission interministérielle pour la protection des femmes contre les violences et la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains - MIPROF*), the French Office for the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings (*Office central pour la repression de la traite des êtres humains - OCRTEH*), the Central Office for Combatting Illegal Employment (*Office central de lutte contre le travail illégal - OCLTI*), the Delegation for Victims within the General Directorate of the National Police (*Direction générale de la police nationale - DGPN*) and the National Consultative Committee on Human Rights (*Commission nationale consultative des droits de l'homme - CNCDH*).

The mission for Democratic Governance of the General Directorate for Globalisation, Development and Partnerships (*Direction générale de la globalisation, du développement et des partenariats- DGM*) and the Sub-Directorate for Higher Education and Research within the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (*Ministère de l'Europe et des affaires étrangères - MEAE*) were also asked for information on the sections relating to **legal migration routes and diasporas as well as migration and development**. The department of international and European affairs (*Service des affaires internationales et européennes -*

SAIE) in the DGEF within the Ministry of the Interior also contributed to sections related to **international agreements and circular migration**.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION AND ASYLUM SYSTEM IN 2020

KEY POINTS:

1. Attraction of talents and international students as well as the integration of foreign nationals are the main key points for the French migration policy in 2020 with several actions in favour of simplification and digitalization of process related to residence permit applications.
2. The French government increased the housing capacity for asylum seekers and implemented a national plan for the Reception of Asylum Seekers and for the Integration of Refugee for 2021-2023 aiming at an improved breakdown of asylum seekers on the national territory.
3. France has continued to implement its second national plan to fight THB especially with dedicated measures for identification and information provision to victims and the creation of a working group dedicated to child prostitution. It also launched discussions aiming to set up a national identification and orientation mechanism for victims of THB.

OVERARCHING CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION AND ASYLUM SYSTEM IN 2020

Legal Migration

- ✓ Attraction of talents and international students as well as the integration of foreign nationals are the main key points for the French migration policy in 2020 with several actions in favour of simplification and digitalization of process related to residence permit applications.
- ✓ Several measures were also implemented in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic to prevent foreign nationals from losing their rights to stay and work in France.
- ✓ In relation with the attractiveness policy of France for international students, an online residence permit applications for international students was set up in order to simplify the process for first and renewal applications.
- ✓ A dedicated online service for residence permit applications for British nationals and their family members was created.

International Protection

- ✓ Main measures were related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the extension of the time frame for asylum applications.
- ✓ The French government also increased the housing capacity for asylum seekers and implemented a national plan for the Reception of Asylum Seekers and for the Integration of Refugees for 2021-2023, which aims at an improved breakdown of asylum seekers on the national territory.
- ✓ France has continued its engagements for relocation and resettlement but also participated actively in the European solidarity especially with Greece and after sea rescue operations.

Minors and Other Vulnerable Groups

- ✓ The system set up by the decree of 31 January 2019 on the modalities for assessing individuals that claim to be minors and temporarily or definitively deprived of their family's protection,

providing for the creation of individual data processing, was gradually deployed in 2020 in order to better guarantee child protection and avoid transfers between departments.

- ✓ Several protective measures dedicated to UAMS have been implemented during the health crisis to protect this public.

Integration

- ✓ France has continued to evaluate measures to strengthen integration of foreign nationals newly arrived and priority was given to increasing the training of French language during the republican pathway.
- ✓ An action plan was launched especially on improving how qualifications and professional experience of foreign nationals is taken into account and promoting the access of foreign nationals to internet and digitalized services.

Citizenship and Statelessness

- ✓ The level of language required for citizenship application was increased.
- ✓ Moreover, the French government implemented a specific simplified process for foreign nationals who were particularly concerned during the COVID-19 crisis and willing to apply for French citizenship.

Borders, Schengen and Visas

- ✓ Main measures were related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessity to implement some travel restrictions as well as harmonised practices related to non-restriction of travels within the EU Member States.
- ✓ Main changes concerned the non-reciprocity regime with the USA, the enforcement of the new visa code and the UK departure from the EU which led to the implementation of several action plans.

Irregular Migration including Migrant Smuggling

- ✓ In July 2020, a French-British Operational Research Unit against migrant smuggling (URO) was created which, jointly, will carry out the mission of collecting and centralising all information obtained by the different partners as part of the fight against migrant traffickers, analysing and using the information for operational purposes.
- ✓ France and Kosovo started discussions on a cooperation on the fight against irregular migration, international terrorism and organized crime.
- ✓ France participated in the implementation of two joint operational partnerships in Ivory Coast and Guinea in order to strengthen border controls, fight against documentary fraud, migrant smuggling and irregular migration.

Trafficking in Human Beings

- ✓ France has continued to implement its second national plan to fight THB especially with dedicated measures for identification and information provision to victims (training, interministerial guide) and the creation of a working group dedicated to child prostitution.
- ✓ In 2020, France launched discussions aiming to set up a national identification and orientation mechanism for victims of THB.

Return and Readmission

- ✓ France launched a cooperation with Frontex in order to organize flights for returnees and mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and on the number of return flights.
- ✓ Two reintegration programmes south-south were implemented from Tunisia and from Morocco and dedicated to some countries (Mali, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Cameroon).
- ✓ The reintegration programme with Moldova for assisted voluntary returns was cancelled.

Migration and Development Cooperation

- ✓ The health situation obliged France to delay several events related to its presidency of the Rabat Process (2019-2020) whose priorities were to reinforce capabilities in countries of origin in the fight against trafficking in migrants and human beings; promote diasporas commitment to development in the countries of origin, specifically through money transfers; explore issues related to return and reintegration.

OVERARCHING CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL MIGRATION AND ASYLUM SYSTEM IN 2020 IN FRANCE

1. Were there any overarching legal or policy developments in the national migration and asylum system in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The decree of 6 July 2020 appointed M. Darmanin as Minister of the Interior and Ms Schiappa as Minister Delegate in charge of citizenship, attached to the Minister of the Interior.</p> <p>The decree no. 2020-972 of 31 July 2020 defined the duties and responsibilities of the Minister Delegate attached to the Minister of the Interior; acting for the Minister of the Interior, she is notably responsible for dealing with issues related to citizenship and for promoting the exercise of the rights and respect for the duties related to citizenship. She takes part in defining the policy for access to citizenship. She is responsible for ensuring respect for the principle of secularity (<i>laïcité</i>). She monitors compliance with the right to asylum. She prepares and implements actions related to the policy of integrating foreign nationals in France.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Through this appointment, the Government confirms its intention to consider the policy of integrating foreign nationals as a priority.</p>

1. LEGAL MIGRATION

1.1. Overarching strategic policy changes in legal migration

2. Were there any overarching <u>legal or policy</u> developments in relation to legal migration in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The briefing note of 31 December 2019 on the redesign of the tax system related to the issuance of residence permits and travel documents to foreign nationals.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>The 2020 finance law modified the tax regime and rates that must be paid by foreign nationals when residence permits and movement documents are issued. It sets a uniform general tariff of €200 (instead of €250) for the issuance and renewal of residence permits and a single lower tariff of €50 for certain categories of foreign nationals (notably students, interns, young people admitted for family reunification). It lowers the tax on regularisation visas required for the issue of an initial residence permit for illegally staying foreign nationals that benefit from the regularisation of their administrative situations to €200 (instead of €340). Lastly, tax exemptions are maintained for protected foreign nationals or those that come under international agreements (refugees, sick people).</p>
<p>The instruction INTV1933107J of 27 December 2019 presents the 2020 directions for the reception and integration of foreign nationals in France.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>In this instruction, the Minister of the Interior asks the Prefects to strengthen partnerships with local authorities for the reception and integration of newly arrived foreign nationals. With regard to refugees, he mentions the on-going contracting process with the cities, which he wants to extend to mid-sized towns.</p> <p>Lastly, the circular recalls the 2020 action priorities which are in line with the integration policy carried out by the Government. These include actions to promote employment (notably through vocational language training and the facilitated standard right to</p>

2. Were there any overarching <u>legal or policy</u> developments in relation to legal migration in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
		employment and training), the "Open up schools to parents in order to promote success for children" system, specific measures for refugees (in particular through regional calls for projects to integrate refugees).

1.2. Work-related migration

Admission policies for specific categories of third-country nationals

HIGHLY SKILLED/QUALIFIED WORKERS

3. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to highly skilled/qualified workers in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
Information (INTV1936324J) of 17 December 2019 on measures to promote France's attractiveness presents provisions applicable to the dealing with "talent passports" applicants by the Prefecture departments.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other In order to meet the Government's priority for promoting France's attractiveness, this instruction encourages the departments responsible for receiving foreign nationals at the Prefectures to implement measures to allow immediate access to counters and fast file processing for "talent passport" applicants.

INTRA-CORPORATE TRANSFEREES

4. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to intra-corporate transferees in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

SEASONAL WORKERS

5. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to seasonal workers in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
The law no. 2020-734 of 17 June 2020 on various measures related to the health crisis, other urgent measures and the United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the European Union enabled the implementation of a temporary measure for seasonal workers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other During the period of health emergency declared by article 4 of the law no. 2020-290 of 23 March 2020, the period of residence and work in France for a foreign national holding a multi-annual “seasonal worker” residence permit and present in France on 16 March 2020 was extended, by way of derogation, from six to nine months.

LOW AND MEDIUM SKILLED WORKERS (OTHER THAN SEASONAL WORKERS)

6. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to low and medium skilled workers, other than seasonal workers, in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

ENTREPRENEURS, START-UPS, AND INVESTORS

7. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to entrepreneurs, business start-ups and investors in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
The decree no. 2020-283 of 20 March 2020 amended the criteria qualifying an innovative company under the meaning of 1° of article L. 313-20 of the CESEDA for the issuance of a “talent passport” to foreign employees recruited by companies recognised as innovative by a public organisation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other In order to reinforce France’s attractiveness, this decree amended the modalities for the recognition of the innovative nature of these companies: it extends the criterion of presence

		<p>in the capital to all innovation investment structures and deletes the criterion relating to unlisted securities.</p> <p>It also removes the obligation to set the list of these financing and investment structures through an order from the Minister for Economic Affairs.</p>
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TRAINEES, AU-PAIRS AND VOLUNTEERS

8. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to trainees, au-pairs and volunteers in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

OTHER REMUNERATED WORKERS

9. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments in relation to other remunerated workers in 2020?.		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

SATISFYING LABOUR MARKET NEEDS

10. Were there any <u>new legal or policy</u> developments to satisfy labour market and skill needs/shortages in relation to the employment of third-country nationals (which were not already covered in question 1.2.1 above) in 2020? (e.g. use of instruments/tools to forecast labour shortages and the need for labour migration).		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

SOCIAL DUMPING¹ AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

11. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at tackling labour exploitation and/or social dumping of third-country national workers legally residing in your (Member) State in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The decree no. 2020-916 of 28 July 2020 on posted workers and the fight against unfair competition aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - transpose the provisions of Directive (EU) 2018/957 of the European Parliament and Council of 28 June 2018 amending Directive 96/71/EC concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services; - take up the application provisions of Order no. 2019-116 of 20 February 2019 transposing Directive (EU) 2018/957; - improve the clarity of the provisions of the labour code applicable to posted workers. <p>These regulatory measures, which are included in the labour code, entered into force on 30 July 2020.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p>X Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>In order to guarantee the exercise of the free provision of services within a fair framework, the decree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explains the principle of “remuneration” to be paid to the posted worker for their posting period by clarifying the principle of “posting allowance” and by providing the modalities under which the employer that posts the employees pays the professional costs for transport, meals or accommodation, separately from the remuneration. This is a new right guaranteed to posted workers, in respect of the core applicable protective rules. - provides for a measure to derogate from the application of long-term posted worker status, which applies after 12 months of posting. This derogation, which may not exceed six months (posted worker status thus applies over 18 months), only applies when the provision of services justifies it, and requires a motivated statement to be sent to the competent Regional Directorate for Enterprise, Competition, Consumer Affairs, Labour and Employment Direction (DIRECCTE). - provides that the DIRECCTE has the possibility of prohibiting a new provision of service to a company in default of payment for an administrative posting fine, without waiting for a new service to be completed.

SOCIAL DUMPING¹ AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

11. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at tackling labour exploitation and/or social dumping of third-country national workers legally residing in your (Member) State in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The ministerial decision of 28 July 2020² establishing the list of information indicated in IV of article L.1262-2-1 of the labour code guarantees new rights for posted workers. This system will enable better monitoring by the labour inspectorate.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>The Order no. 2019-116 of 20 February 2019 had reinforced the obligations of companies using temporary posted workers provided by temporary employment agencies (ETT) abroad.</p> <p>To guarantee the application of French legislation to these employees, user companies located abroad that carry out services in France must now inform the ETT of the applicable rules on posting in France. This order lists the information concerned by this obligation.</p>

¹ While there is no definition of the concept of "social dumping" in EU law, the term is generally used to point to unfair competition due to the application of different wages and social protection rules to different categories of worker (Parliamentary questions, 27 May 2015, E-008441-15). The EMN Glossary (Version 7.0) defines social dumping as "The practice whereby workers are given pay and / or working and living conditions which are sub-standard compared to those specified by law or collective agreements in the relevant labour market, or otherwise prevalent there." See: https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/glossary_search/social-dumping_en

² Ministerial decision of 28 July 2020, <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000042165263/>

SOCIAL DUMPING¹ AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

11. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at tackling labour exploitation and/or social dumping of third-country national workers legally residing in your (Member) State in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>National Action Plan against Trafficking in Human Beings 2019-2021</p> <p>The labour inspectorate’s actions to fight against labour exploitation and/or the social dumping of third-country nationals residing and working legally in France come under the National Plan for the Fight against Illegal Work 2019-2021 and the National Action Plan against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) 2019-2021 under the section dealing with labour exploitation.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>In the field of combatting trafficking in human beings in the form of labour exploitation, the Labour Inspectorate is mostly active in the framework of inter-institutional cooperation, for example, by participating in the EUROPOL Joint Action Days, which are coordinated in France by the OCLTI. During the 2021 edition, five situations characterising the trafficking in human beings were identified, and around twenty substandard accommodation situations gave rise to the immediate relocation of the employees by their employers or ordering customers as part of their duty of vigilance.</p> <p>In order to better identify situations of labour exploitation, the labour inspectors take part in inter-institutional training sessions with support from the OCLTI. For 2020, two training sessions were carried out, bringing together around twenty agents from the labour inspectorate and the gendarmerie.</p> <p>Lastly, in 2019, the Regional Directorate for Enterprise, Competition, Consumer Affairs, Labour and Employment Direction (DIRECCTE) encouraged the appointment of a THB referent, in order to ensure the smoothest possible information flow with the THB referents in the prefectures, labour inspection officers observing potential THB situations in the form of economic exploitation, employee trade union organisations and professional employer organisations confronted with such situations, and to contribute both to the protection and guidance of victims and the prosecution of perpetrators.</p>

SOCIAL DUMPING¹ AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

11. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at tackling labour exploitation and/or social dumping of third-country national workers legally residing in your (Member) State in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>Action to check substandard accommodation within the framework of the health crisis</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous checks of collective workers' accommodation were organised by the Labour Inspectorate, mainly in the agricultural sector. These took place in coordination with other administrations, often as part of the departmental anti-fraud operational committees (<i>Comités opérationnels départementaux anti-fraude - CODAF</i>), in association with the <i>agencies regionals de santé - ARS</i> (Regional Health Agency), Gendarmerie, Departmental Fire and Safety Services, in order to check compliance with measures to prevent the pandemic in workplaces and worker accommodation premises.</p> <p>These checks, carried out from April 2020 onwards, specifically targeted a Spanish temporary employment agency specialising in providing posted workforce for the agricultural sector in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and Occitanie regions. Almost thirty inspections were organised in these three regions over a short time period, giving rise in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Occitanie regions to formal notices with regard to prevention measures and administrative closure orders (two in PACA with obligation to rehouse 80 employees; two in Occitanie). Four accommodation checks led to the rehousing of workers due to significant non-compliance, and criminal proceedings were also started for the undignified accommodation of vulnerable people.</p> <p>In the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, three formal notices were given to the company and two reports prepared for administrative fines.</p> <p>Several accommodation premises had significant deficiencies in terms of COVID-19 pandemic prevention measures, due notably to the absence of physical distancing measures (accommodation of several workers in the same room, or the provision of a dining room shared by a large number of workers). The health risk related to the spread of COVID-19 was not taken into account in most cases.</p>

CIRCULAR MIGRATION

12. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding circular migration³ in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

BILATERAL LABOUR MIGRATION AGREEMENTS⁴

13. Were there any new developments regarding bilateral labour migration agreements between your (Member) State and third countries in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other No bilateral agreements on residence and work entered into force in 2020. However, two agreements are currently being ratified: the French-Indian partnership agreement for migration and mobility of 10 March 2018 and the French-Kenyan agreement to promote and exchange talents of 13 March 2019.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN WORK-RELATED MIGRATION

14. Were there any other new legal and / or policy developments in the area of work-related migration in 2020 (for example, in the simplification of procedures etc)?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

³ Circular migration: A repetition of legal migration by the same person between two or more countries. https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/glossary_search/circular-migration_en

⁴ According to the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), bilateral labour migration agreements are "formal mechanisms concluded between States, which agreements are essentially legally binding commitments concerned with inter-state cooperation on labour migration. The term is also used to describe less formal arrangements regulating the movement of workers between countries entered into by States as well as a range of other actors, including individual ministries, employer organizations, etc.". (Source: https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iml25_1.pdf).

14. Were there any other new legal and / or policy developments in the area of work-related migration in 2020 (for example, in the simplification of procedures etc)?

Development	Nature	Major Development

1.3. Students and researchers

15. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to a) Students and b) Researchers in 2020?

a) STUDENTS	Nature	Major Development
Opening of an online residence permit application service for students	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other The measure to open an online residence permit application service for foreign students simplifies the procedure for initial applications and the renewal of residence permits. It contributes to France’s attractiveness for this group and to the simplification of their procedures as part of the Welcome to France (<i>Bienvenue en France</i>) plan implemented by the Government in Autumn 2018.
b) RESEARCHERS (<i>please describe</i>)	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

1.4. Family reunification⁵ including family formation

⁵ This refers to family reunification under the Family Reunification Directive ([2003/86/EC](#)).

16. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding family reunification including family formation in 2020 (excluding persons within the asylum procedure, which is covered in section 2, and family reunification for unaccompanied minors, which is covered in section 3)?

Development	Nature	Major Development
The instruction of 9 July 2020 on family reunification specifies the procedures for processing incomplete and inadmissible applications with the aim of improving and simplifying the processing procedure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other This instruction aims to improve the efficiency of State departments in the processing of family reunification applications (notably for incomplete and inadmissible applications), reduce the time between the filing of the application at OFII and the Prefect's decision and avoid risks of litigation.

1.5. Information on routes to and conditions of legal migration

17. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to improve the provision of information on the routes to and conditions of legal migration for third-country nationals?

Development	Nature	Major Development
One of the aims of the 'Welcome to France' attractiveness strategy is to simplify visa procedures.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other In order to provide appropriate information to candidates on visa procedures, communications materials have been produced in several languages.
Deployment of the France visa portal	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other France visa is a new teleservice which enables applicants to file visa applications and upload all updated information online.
Decrees on border health controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other In the context of the pandemic, certain categories of people, notably students and researchers, were authorised to enter French territory from areas in which the virus was actively circulating, subject to compliance with the established health protocol. The Campus France agency carried out

		intensive communication actions to keep students in their study programmes in France.
ANEF (Digital Administration for Foreign Nationals in France)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other Digital service for residence permit applications (initial requests and renewals). This service is part of the simplification of administrative formalities intended by the 'Welcome to France' strategy.

1.6. Other measures regarding legal migration

18. Were there any <u>other new legal or policy</u> developments regarding legal migration in 2020?	
Development	Nature
The multi-year programming law on research (article 7) provides for the creation of a research stay.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other The creation of a research stay safeguards the status of doctoral fellows and researchers from French and foreign governments hosted in research laboratories, and provides greater attractiveness for this status through the issue of a talent passport along with an increase in living allowances.
BREXIT The decree no. 2020-1417 of 19 November 2020 introduced the provisions of the agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU with regard to the right to residence, access to work and social rights of British citizens and other foreign family members living in France into national law. The provisions of this decree are supplemented by the Decision INTV2029220A du 20 November 2020 which lists the documents that must be provided for the issue of the residence permit or movement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other British nationals that benefit from the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement (i.e. those living in France or that came to live in France before 1 January 2021, with the exception of family members) must apply for a residence permit online on this site before 1 July 2021. It will be mandatory for all persons that benefit from this agreement, aged over 18 years, to hold a residence permit from 1 October 2021. Up to that

document indicating "EU-UK Withdrawal agreement".	date, residence and employment rights as well as full social rights are maintained.
Opening of an online residence permit service for British nationals and their family members, whether British nationals or third country nationals, residing in France or who moved to France before 1 January 2021. http://invite.contacts-demarches.interieur.gouv.fr/BREXIT	
MEASURES RELATED TO THE HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY TO FIGHT AGAINST THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC	
<p>Order no. 2020-328 of 25 March 2020 extending the duration of validity of residence documents (amended by Order no. 2020-460 of 22 April 2020). LAW no. 2020-734 of 17 June 2020 on various provisions related to the health crisis, other urgent measures and the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>In accordance with the Order no. 2020-328 of 25 March 2020 (amended by Order no. 2020-460 of 22 April 2020), the validity of residence permits expiring between 16 March and 15 June 2020 was extended by six months. Holders of these permits retain their right to stay, their right to exercise a professional activity and the benefit of their social rights. This extension concerns the holders of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-stay visas ("D" visas) • All residence permits (except for special permits issued to diplomats) • Receipt of request for residence permits • Temporary residence permits <p>The validity extension is automatic and does not require any formalities. The holder of a residence permit that expired on or after 16 March 2020 is able to justify their situation by presenting the expired permit.</p> <p>The right to work along with all social rights are extended in the same way.</p> <p>As had already been laid down, the law no. 2020-734 of 17 June 2020 on various provisions related to the health crisis, other urgent measures and the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union also provides for the issue of a temporary residence permit to holders of short-stay visas that could not return to their countries of origin.</p>
	<p>Since the beginning of the health crisis, the Government has aimed to safeguard the situation of legally staying foreign nationals in France.</p> <p>As of 11 May, residence permit applications at the prefecture could only be submitted by appointment or by mail. The possibility of physically filing applications at the counters was gradually made possible at certain prefectures and generalised by</p>

	<p>15 June. Holders of permits expiring after 15 June were given priority.</p> <p>As of 15 June, an online service was opened for simple requests (renewals of receipts, copies, movement documents for foreign children and changes of address), enabling these requests to be carried out electronically.</p> <p>Lastly, interviews for access to citizenship restarted on 15 June.</p>
<p>The information INTV2013313J of 2 June 2020 on the impact of adapting administrative rules and litigation deadlines applicable during the health state of emergency on entry, stay, removal and asylum procedures</p>	<p>To deal with the health crisis, the Government took measures to adapt the rules and deadlines applicable to administrative and litigation matters. These adaptations, covered by orders no. 2020-304, no. 2020-305 and no. 2020-306 of 25 March 2020 had an impact on administrative and litigation procedures.</p>

2. INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

2.1. Legislative and Policy developments related to international protection in the EU member states and Norway

ACCESS TO THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE

19. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to access to the asylum procedure (i.e. making, registering and lodging an application)⁶ in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The emergency law no. 2020-290 of 23 March 2020 to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic (1) aiming to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and its application decree no. 2020-314 of 25 March 2020 which supplemented the decree no. 2020.293 of 23 March 2020 prescribing the general measures required to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic as part of the health state of emergency provided for a 90-day extension to the validity of asylum application certificates (proof of registration of the asylum application) which expired between 16 March and 15 May 2020.</p> <p>The Order no. 2020-305 of 25 March 2020 adapting the rules applicable before the administrative order jurisdictions postponed the departure point for appeals against OFPRA decisions.</p> <p>The Order no. 2020-306 of 25 March 2020 on the extension to missed deadlines during the health emergency period and the adaptation of procedures during this period modified the deadlines for administrative procedures, and notably for OFPRA procedures.</p> <p>The Decision INTV2011008A of 5 May 2020 amending the order of 9 October 2015 taken in application of article L. 741-1 of the CESEDA (Official Journal of 12 May 2020) amended the duration of validity of asylum application certificates in order to reduce the procedures for the renewal of the certificates for both applicants and the prefectures. This extension was particularly useful because of the consequences of the COVID-19</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>This law aimed to allow asylum seekers to remain in France during the state of emergency. It also aimed to avoid extremely precarious situations for asylum seekers and extend the rights related to holding this certificate.</p> <p>Thus, asylum applications were not considered to be late and placed under the accelerated procedure due to the fact that the applicant has been in France for over 90 days if this deadline expired between 12 March and 23 June 2020.</p> <p>Similarly, the 21-day deadline for filing an asylum application with the OFPRA that expired between 12 March and 23 June 2020 was suspended during the lockdown period. The departure point for the 21-day application filing period was delayed until 24 June 2020. Asylum seekers had until 15 July 2020 to file their applications with the OFPRA.</p> <p>The departure point for appeal time periods against OFPRA decisions was postponed to 24 May 2020. As this appeal period is one month, OFPRA decisions for which appeals would have been filed between 12 March and 24 May can, as a result, be appealed up to 24 June 2020.</p> <p>The durations of validity of the asylum application certificates, which were issued from 11 May, have changed: for normal procedures, the first asylum application certificate has a validity of ten months, and subsequent ones six months; for</p>

⁶ As per the Asylum Procedures Directive 2013/32/EU: **Making an application:** during this phase the person expresses the intention to apply for [international protection](#); **registering an application:** the applicant's intention to seek protection is registered, which may be done by an authority not competent for the asylum procedure itself, such as the border police; **lodging an application:** the asylum application is formally lodged at the competent authority for the asylum procedure.

pandemic on the time limit for asylum applications.▸		accelerated procedures, the first asylum application certificate has a validity of six months, the same as subsequent ones.
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RECEPTION OF ASYLUM APPLICANTS

20. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to reception of applicants for international protection in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
The law no. 2020-734 of 17 June 2020 on various measures related to the health crisis, other urgent measures and the United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the European Union enabled the extension to the benefit of the asylum seekers allowance (ADA) due to the health crisis; this is a temporary measure taken as part of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Information INTV1937814J of 27 December 2019 on the management of accommodation for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection.	<input type="checkbox"/> Législation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Politique	<input type="checkbox"/> Majeur <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Autre This information aims to set the guidelines for the year 2020 concerning the accommodation of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection, to improve their reception and accommodation conditions and to set the challenges of territorial governance.
An instruction published on 24 August 2020 and jointly signed by the Ministers responsible for Housing and Citizenship set new regional targets to promote access to housing for beneficiaries of international protection .	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other The instruction set the guidelines and recommendations to the territories in terms of access to housing for refugees in 2020. It updates the guidelines in the previous instruction of 4 March 2019 with a target of 10,000 housing units for 2020, in view of the urgency to organise the removal of refugees from the different accommodation facilities and house resettled refugees. Amongst the priorities are a more active policy of contracting with the local authorities, entrusted to

		the prefects, which should enable them to meet the challenges posed by the crisis in terms of fluidity of the housing stock and more generally a mobilisation of regional housing capacities.
The 2021 finance law no 2020-1721 of 29 December 2020 plans to finance the creation of 4,500 new accommodation places for asylum seekers including 3,000 places in reception centres for asylum seekers (<i>centre d'accueil pour demandeur d'asile - CADA</i>) and 1,500 places in the Reception and Situation Assessment Centres (<i>centre d'accueil et d'examen des situations - CAES</i>) ⁷ (500 of which are indicated in the "relaunch plan" credits).	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>The reduction in time periods for processing asylum applications and the improvement of reception and integration conditions for foreign nationals are presented as the main objectives.</p> <p>This reinforcement of the accommodation facilities should make it possible to improve the implementation of the directive orientation policy directive, which aims to optimise the orientation of asylum seekers between the different regions.</p>

21. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding detention of applicants for international protection in 2020?⁸

Development	Nature	Major Development
Information NOR: INTV2017993J of 31 July 2020 relating to the modalities for resuming the removal of rejected asylum seekers following the end of the state of health emergency aims to resume the efforts undertaken to meet the removal targets set by the legislator.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Due to the health crisis in France since the beginning of 2020, there has been a sharp slowdown in both voluntary and forced returns of rejected asylum seekers, particularly nationals from safe countries of origin.</p>

⁷ The Reception and Situation Assessment Centres (CAES) are an integral part of the National Reception System (DNA) managed by the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII). They offer temporary reception with accommodation and are dedicated to assessing the social and administrative situation of persons wishing to apply for asylum or are in the process of applying for asylum (all procedures combined).

⁸ Detention in the context of return is covered in Chapter 9.

22. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to types of asylum procedures in 2020 under the following headings?

Development	Nature	Major Development
a) Dublin procedure (e.g. policies relating to suspension of transfers)		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Border Procedure		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Safe country concepts (e.g. introducing concept into law; creating or revising safe country of origin lists)		
The decision of 29 September 2020 by the OFPRA Board of Directors suspends the inscription of the Republic of Benin on the list of safe countries of origin for a period of 12 months.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other This suspension is related to the prevalent situation in the country and not to the health crisis.
d) Other procedures (e.g. admissibility procedures; accelerated procedures)		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

23. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to operational aspects of the asylum procedure in 2020 under the following headings?

Development	Nature	Major Development
a) Access to information and legal counselling/representation		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Provision of interpretation		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Timeframes and case management (including backlog management, caseload management tools e.g. prioritisation procedures) for i) first instance determinations and ii) appeals/judicial review		
<p>Due to the health crisis that has significantly affected the flow of asylum seekers due, amongst other factors, to border closures, the overall number of asylum applications filed with the OFPRA decreased by 28% between 2019 and 2020. However, whilst the number of incoming applications decreased strongly compared to 2019, the lockdown period and the health safety measures that followed also had an impact on the number of decisions made by the OFPRA and the CNDA. The number of decisions made by the Office decreased by 26% over the period compared to 2019, whilst the number of CNDA decisions declined by 37%.</p> <p>The health crisis also slowed down the recruitment of officers that were intended to reinforce both the OFPRA and the CNDA's decision-making in 2020 (150 investigating officers at the OFRPA and 32 at the CNDA). They were only able to produce a limited number of decisions in 2020.</p> <p>This decrease in activity had a consequential impact on the stock of applications awaiting processing within the two establishments, as the number of decisions was lower than the number of incoming applications. The processing timeframes at both the OFPRA and the CNDA increased.</p> <p>The number of decisions at both the OFPRA and the CNDA should increase significantly in 2021 with the effective recruitment of the officers at the end of 2020. They will be able to process the stock of</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and related measures on the time taken to process asylum applications at first instance and on appeal and on staff recruitment.</p>

<p>applications that built up in 2020 in order to reduce processing times for asylum applications.</p> <p>The average time for processing asylum applications at the OFPRA for all procedures reached 262 days at the end of 2020 due to the health crisis.</p> <p>Due to the health constraints related to the lockdown to fight against COVID-19, the OFRPA and the CNDA modified their practices in order to continue to examine the asylum applications received before the pandemic. The OFPRA indicates that it made 13,000 decisions during the first lockdown, compared to 20,000 during a normal period. This was made possible, despite the cessation of interviews, by ruling on applications for which interviews had taken place before the lockdown. The CNDA modified its hearings: some took place via video conference and the study of files was accelerated.</p>		
<p>d) Country of origin information (policy level developments in methodology)</p>		
<p>No development in 2020</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
<p>e) Digitisation of the procedure/Data management elements</p>		
<p>At the OFPRA, electronic notification is gradually becoming the standard procedure: an individual digital user account system was deployed in two regions from mid-July, on which asylum seekers received their notification for the individual interview at the OFPRA and the notification of the OFPRA's decision on their asylum application. This deployment should be gradually extended throughout the national territory during 2021.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>This modernisation complies with the provisions of decree no. 2018-1159 of 14 December 2018 taken in application of the law no. 2018-778 of 10 September 2018. It provides for the notification of asylum seekers about their individual interview at the OFPRA and the notification of decisions by the General Director of the OFPRA by all means that guarantee confidentiality and personalised reception of the applicant.</p>

FAMILY TRACING AND MAINTAINING FAMILY UNITY FOR ADULT BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

24. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the availability of family tracing for adult beneficiaries of international protection in 2020?⁹

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

25. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to maintaining family unity for adult beneficiaries of international protection in 2020?¹⁰

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

WITHDRAWAL OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

26. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to withdrawal (both revocation and cessation) of international protection in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

27. Were there any other new legal and policy developments in the field of asylum in 2020 which were not covered above?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

⁹ Please note that family tracing for unaccompanied minors is covered in Chapter 3.

¹⁰ Please note that family tracing for unaccompanied minors is covered in Chapter 3.

2.2. Relocation and resettlement

RELOCATION¹¹

National relocation mechanisms

28. Were there any developments in 2020 with regard to relocation activities organised under national schemes including ad hoc relocation resulting from search and rescue disembarkations.				
Breakdown: Please breakdown as set out below				
Name of National Relocation Programme	State Bilateral/multilateral agreement/ad hoc mechanism, if applicable (e.g. Malta Declaration, a particular vessel)	Number relocated	Country of disembarkation from which relocation took place	Top 3 countries of origin of persons relocated
Relocation programme from Greece	Bilateral agreement	Target: 1,000 people to be relocated (400 vulnerable people, 500 unaccompanied minors, 100 beneficiaries of international protection) 406 people relocated in 2020	Greece	Afghanistan, Syria, DRC
Relocation programme after sea rescue operations	Valletta Declaration formally applicable in first quarter 2020 only. In practice, the procedure standards adopted by all Member States are applied.	384 people relocated in 2020	Italy and Malta	Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Somalia

¹¹ Relocation: The transfer of persons having a status defined by the Geneva Refugee Convention and Protocol or subsidiary protection within the meaning of Directive 2011/95/EU (Recast Qualification Directive) from the EU Member State which granted them international protection to another EU Member State where they will be granted similar protection, and of persons having applied for international protection from the EU Member State which is responsible for examining their application to another EU Member State where their application for international protection will be examined. In the context of the EU emergency relocation programme, the transfer of persons in clear need of international protection, as defined in Council Decision 2015/1601 and 2016/1754, having applied for international protection from the EU Member State, CH or NO which is responsible for examining their application to another EU Member State, CH or NO where their application for international protection will be examined (see EMN Glossary V6).

Legal and policy changes in relation to national relocation programmes in the boxes below.¹²

29. Were there any new legal or policy changes in 2020 in relation to national relocation programmes?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>In January 2020, during the visit of Laurent Nunez, Secretary of State, to Athens, France announced that it was committed to receiving 1,000 asylum seekers as a sign of solidarity with Greece.</p> <p>As at 23 December 2020, 406 people have been relocated, including 129 unaccompanied minors, with a schedule disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

RESETTLEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMMES¹³

EU-sponsored Resettlement Programmes and national resettlement programmes

30. Please report on quotas and/or pledged and actual numbers resettled in 2020 under resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes by filling in the table below.						
	Type of programme	Name of national programme	Resettlement quota/pledge for 2020	Number of resettlements carried out in 2020	Country resettled from (e.g. Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Libya, Niger etc)	Top 3 countries of origin of persons resettled (e.g. Syria, Iraq etc)
EU – sponsored resettlement	European resettlement programme (this covers national UNHCR programmes which implement pledges made for EU-	1. HAP programme commitments (selection missions) 2. Framework agreement with the HCR (according to profile)	1. HAP programme commitments (with selection missions) -Lebanon: 1,500 Turkey: 155 -Jordan: 100 -Niger: 450 -Chad: 750	1. HAP : 1,094 2. Framework agreement: 116	Lebanon: 379 Turkey: 283 Jordan: 109 Niger: 1 Chad: 140 Egypt: 98 Rwanda: 84	In numerical order: Syrians, Sudanese, Congolese from the Democratic Republic of Congo

¹² Please note that relocation and resettlement activities specifically related to unaccompanied minors are covered in Chapter 3.1.14.

¹³ Resettlement: In the EU context, the transfer, on a request from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and based on their need for international protection, of a third-country national or a stateless person, from a third country to an EU Member State, where they are permitted to reside with one of the following statuses:

(i) refugee status within the meaning of Art. 2(d) of Directive 2011/95/EU (Recast Qualification Directive), (ii) a status which offers the same rights and benefits under national and EU law as refugee status (see EMN Glossary V6).

	sponsored resettlement)		Egypt: 500 Rwanda: 200 2. Framework agreement: (annual commitment to submit around one hundred files processed without mission)			
	EU-Turkey Statement Please indicate if your MS' resettlements under the EU-Turkey statement are counted separately or as part of the overall EU pledge for your Member State.		They are included in our overall commitments			
National programmes	National Resettlement programme (covers resettlement under national programmes other than EU pledges above)	None				
	National Humanitarian Admission Programme					
	Private/community Sponsorship programme/scheme. Please indicate in the	Humanitarian corridors from Lebanon: the figures for arrivals are not recorded in resettlement	Target of 500 agreements since March 2017 (agreement signature) -	556 agreements issued and 520 arrivals in		

	table whether these figures are already counted previously under resettlement or humanitarian admission programmes.	programmes but in our statistics for the asylum visa programme	from Lebanon	2020 since the start of the programme in 2017 (100 agreements in 2020)		
	Ad-hoc special programmes (national or international initiatives)	Asylum visa provisions	No quotas		Agreements since the start of the programme (Syrian nationals, since 2012 and Iraqi nationals since 2014) Agreements: Syrians : 7,934 (including 348 in 2020) Iraqis: 7,756 (including 47 in 2020)	Main countries for asylum requests, in numerical order: -Turkey -Lebanon -Iraq - Jordan

Legal and Policy Developments in relation to resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes¹⁴

31. Were there any new legal or policy changes in 2020 in relation to resettlement (e.g. pledges made in 2020 for future years; new national programmes introduced; new policy approaches to resettlement, e.g. community sponsorship) in the boxes below.

Development	Nature	Major Development
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¹⁴ Please note that relocation and resettlement activities specifically related to unaccompanied minors are covered in Chapter 3.1.14.

No development in 2020

Legislation

Major

Policy

Other

3. MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

3.1. Minors

Policy developments may be applicable specifically to third-country national unaccompanied minors or minors accompanied by family members.¹⁵

IDENTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

32. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to identification and registration of (unaccompanied) minors (including the collection of biometric data, identification of special needs)?

Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
The system set up by the decree of 31 January 2019 on the modalities for assessing persons declaring themselves to be minors and temporarily or definitively deprived of their family's protection, providing for the creation of individual data processing system relating to these persons, was gradually deployed in 2020 in order to better guarantee child protection and avoid transfers between departments (repetition by adults of protection requests that have already resulted in refusal decisions).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
The decree no. 2020-768 of 23 June 2020 amending article R. 221-12 of the Social Action and Family Code (CASF) introduced (i) the possibility for the department and the State to sign an agreement to set the modalities according to which, if the president of the Departmental Council decides to call on the assistance of the Prefect, the action of their services is coordinated notably with regard to the implementation of the –Minority Assessment Support File (AEM) file and (ii) the possibility of modulating the share of the flat-rate financial contribution from the State for the assessment of persons claiming to be UAMs when the department is not bound to the State by a standard agreement.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other Full effectiveness of the Minority Assessment Support File (AEM) system depends on its deployment throughout the territory. The modulation of the State's financial contribution is an incentive for the few departments

¹⁵ Within the meaning of the definitions provided by Article 2 of the Qualifications Directive ([2011/95/EU](#)).

			that are still reluctant to use it departments (which alone account for around 40% of the assessed young people).
The regulatory provision was supplemented by the order of 23 October 2020 which provides for financial modulation, and by the order of 16 October 2020 on the standard agreement between the departments and the prefectures provided in article R. 221-12 of the Social Action and Family Code.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

33. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to the identification, detection and housing of third-country national minors who are (potential) victims of human trafficking?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

RECEPTION FACILITIES

34. Were there any new legal or policy developments at the national level in relation to the reception of (unaccompanied) minors (including changes in policies/legislation regarding safeguards, minimum standards, facilities adapted to unaccompanied children and families with children, policies on the availability of staff trained in child protection, availability and use of alternative care system, monitoring of the facilities)?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
See Q.32 on Decree no. 2020-768 of 23 June 2020 ¹⁶ amending the modalities for the flat-rate contribution from the State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

¹⁶ Publication in the French Republic Official Journal (JORF) no.0156 of 25 June 2020, NOR: SSAA2003353D.

<p>for the protection and the assessment of the situation of persons claiming to be minors and deprived of their family's protection.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<p>The decree of 23 June 2020 creates the possibility for the State to modulate the amount of the flat-rate participation in expenses related to minority assessment and isolation (flat-rate amount of 500 euros since the decision of 28 June 2019) depending on whether the Departmental Council has signed a convention with the State services to implement the Minority Assessment Support File (AEM) procedure from the decree no. 2019-57 – allowing the consultation of the Minority Assessment Support file (AEM), the national database for visa applications (VISABIO) or the national database for residence permits (AGDREF 2) automated (file) processing at the prefecture.</p>
<p>In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the first general lockdown of the population and the restrictions limiting movements to strictly essential travel, the Secretary of State for child protection decided, in a letter sent on 21 March 2020 to interrupt transfers of minors between departments, and to avoid putting on the streets all sheltered persons (including people assessed as being adults). Thus, between 16 March and 28 June 2020 (authorisation date for restarting orientations, i.e. several weeks after the lockdown), the national referral and judicial decision support unit only proposed to the judicial authority, when the latter requested it, that individuals remain in the assessing departments. .</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>A COVID-19 ministerial guideline "Phase 3 of lifting the lockdown - Methods for hosting young children" was published in June 2020 and updated in December 2020 by the Ministry for Solidarity and Health to support the</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors	

departments and childhood protection actors in their missions when the lockdown was lifted.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	
Several educational assistance provisions notably concerning unaccompanied minors were also taken under the health state of emergency: - Law no. 2020-290 of 23 March 2020 prevented the ending of child welfare measures for young adults or persons that became adults during the health state of emergency. As a result, it was prohibited to remove childhood protection measures for young people that became adults during this period. - The Order no. 2020-304 of 25 March 2020 taken in compliance with the approval provided by the law no. 2020-290 of 23 March 2020 provided for the extension to the measures that expired during a so-called "legally protected" period in order to avoid breaks in reception due to the slower operations in the jurisdictions.		<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	
The decision of 2 July 2020 sets targets for the year 2020 for the proportionate distribution between the departments of accommodation for minors temporarily or definitively deprived of their family's protection.		<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	Targets for the proportionate distribution of minors temporarily or definitively deprived from their family's protection are set each year by the Minister for Justice using an allocation key for each department for the current civil year.

GUARDIANSHIP

35. Were there any new legal or policy developments at the national level in relation to guardianship of minors (including changes to the policies regarding training of guardians and policy changes regarding the number of minors in their care)?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS IN THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE

36. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to improving the procedural safeguards for minors in the asylum procedure (For example child-friendly methods of providing information, fast tracking procedures of (unaccompanied) minors)?

Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
In January 2020, the OFPRA updated and published the guide to asylum for unaccompanied minors in France.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other This information document on the right to asylum in France and the asylum application procedure is destined for UAM asylum seekers and people that support them during the procedure, in order to help them with their applications. The OFPRA intends to disseminate the guide as widely as possible in order to make it easily accessible to all institutional and associative actors involved in child protection.

AGE ASSESSMENT

37. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to age assessment or in the methods of age assessment?

Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
At the end of December 2019, a guide on best practices in assessing minority status and isolation of persons declaring themselves to be minors and temporarily or definitively deprived of their family's protection was published. This guide was prepared as part of a multi-partner working group, with support from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry for Solidarity and Health, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry for Regional Cohesion and Relations with Territorial Communities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other This guide aims to be a practical tool made available to actors involved in assessing the minority and isolation status of persons claiming to be minors. It aims to improve and harmonise the Departmental Council practices in this area. It recalls the applicable legal framework, and identifies the best practices to ensure that all components of the indicator range for

			assessing the person's situation are taken into account including the criteria for minority and isolation that determine access to the child protection system and orientation for appropriate care.
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FAMILY TRACING AND MAINTAINING FAMILY UNITY

38. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to family tracing and maintaining family unity?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

DETENTION DURING THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETURN

39. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to the (alternatives to) detention of (unaccompanied) minors or families with minors for the purpose of return?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

40. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to the (alternatives to) detention of (unaccompanied) minors or families with minors during the asylum procedure?			
Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

VOLUNTARY AND FORCED RETURN

41. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national/regional level in relation to voluntary/forced returns of (unaccompanied) minors?

Development	Nature	Category	Major Development
On 7 December 2020, France and Morocco signed in Rabat a statement of intention designed to facilitate the return of minor migrants to their country of origin.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other This legal understanding aims to set up “tangible tools” for the care of unaccompanied minors from Morocco. The aim is “to provide youth magistrates with the components required to take the most suitable measures in the interest of these children, including return” to Morocco. Over the long term, it aims to allow French judges to order returns based on placement decisions pronounced by Moroccan judges “in the interest” of the minors in France.

INTEGRATION

42. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national/regional level in relation to the integration of TCN minors in the host society?

No development in 2020	Nature	Category	Major Development
Basic skills and language training			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Early childhood education and care			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major

<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Primary and secondary education		
<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Informal and non-formal learning		
<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

ACCESS TO SERVICES/RIGHTS FOR MINOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

43. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 at national level in relation to the services/rights for minor asylum seekers in 2020, including new national level programs and/or initiatives to improve access to these services?

No development in 2020	Nature	Category	Major Development
a) Access to healthcare			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Access to psychological support			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Access to education			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
d) other			

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors | <input type="checkbox"/> Major |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

ACCESS TO SERVICES/RIGHTS FOR IRREGULARLY STAYING MINORS

44. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 at national level in relation to the services/rights for irregularly staying minors in 2020?

No development in 2020	Nature	Category	Major Development
a) Access to healthcare			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Access to psychological support			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Access to education			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
d) Other			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanied minors <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minors	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

TRANSITION INTO ADULTHOOD

45. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in the type of support (e.g. housing, education, employment, psychological support) available for the transition to adulthood of TCN unaccompanied minors legally residing in your Member State?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The purpose of the instruction INTV2012657J of 21 September 2020 on the early examination of requests for residence permits by foreign minors entrusted to the departmental child welfare services is to generalise the early examination of the right to stay of foreign minors entrusted to the child welfare services (ASE) in order to avoid breaks in rights when they become adults, while they are engaged in a vocational training programme.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>The right to stay for UAMs will only be assessed, in principle, when they become adults, which may lead to an end to their vocational training programmes if this right is refused. It is, therefore, in the minor's interest to begin the formalities they will have to carry out on reaching majority several months before the date in order to clarify the issue of the right to stay as fast as possible.</p> <p>This circular aims to make the practice of partnerships with the department's child welfare services systematic.</p>

RESETTLEMENT AND RELOCATION

46. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level in relation to resettlement and/or relocation of unaccompanied minors to your Member State in 2020 (including prioritisation e.g. through quotas, fast-track procedures)?

No development in 2020	Nature	Major Development

STATELESSNESS

47. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the prevention of children being born stateless in your Member State in 2020?

	Nature	Major Development
<p>No development in 2020</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>

48. Were there any legal or policy developments in relation to the protection of children recognised as stateless in your Member State in 2020?

	Nature	Major Development

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major
	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

3.2. Other vulnerable groups

Other vulnerable groups include disabled people, elderly people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) people, pregnant women, persons with serious illnesses, persons with mental disorders and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, such as victims of female genital mutilation, following the specific headings outlined below.

Please note that this subsection covers other vulnerable groups excluding victims of human trafficking, which group is covered in Section 7.

49. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level regarding vulnerable groups (excluding victims of trafficking in human beings) in the asylum procedure?

a) Special reception facilities for vulnerable groups

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

b) Identification mechanisms/referrals

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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c) Applicable procedural safeguards

<p>The order of 8 July 2020 on the characteristics and technical requirements of the electronic process indicated in article R. 723-19 of the CESEDA (NOR: INTV2016677A) considers, in article 1, the principle of two assumptions (exceptions) for exiting the paper-free notification system provided in paragraph 5 of I. of article R. 723-19 of the CESEDA: one of these assumptions concerns the</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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vulnerability or the personal situation of the asylum seeker.		
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d) **Other**

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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50. Were there any new legal or policy developments at national level regarding vulnerable groups (excluding victims of trafficking in human beings) outside of the asylum procedure?

a) **Special reception facilities for vulnerable groups**

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

b) **Identification mechanisms/referrals**

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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c) **Applicable procedural safeguards**

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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d) **Other**

No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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4. INTEGRATION

Please note that this section refers to the integration of **adults**; measures related specifically to the integration of minors are already addressed in Chapter 3.

4.1. National integration strategy

51. Were there any developments in or changes to the national integration strategy?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
<p>The project to assess measures designed to reinforce the integration of newly arrived persons which was adopted by the Interministerial Integration Committee (C2I) of 5 June 2018 began in 2020 and covers the key areas of integration policy: language and civic values lessons on the one hand and support towards employment on the other hand. Particular attention is paid to the integration of refugees.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <p>The results of this assessment are expected for mid-2021.</p>
<p>Without waiting for the findings of the assessment of the integration policy implemented following the decisions of the Interministerial Integration Committee of 5 June 2018 (see above), two priorities, focusing on professional integration, were identified within measure 14 of the 20 measures for immigration, asylum and integration set by the Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee of 6 November 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving how the qualifications and professional experience of foreign nationals is taken into account. - Specific actions to promote access to the labour market for newly arrived women. <p>These two projects were started in 2020 with the different ministries concerned (see 4.3 below) and these lines of action were included in the instruction of 27 December 2019 to prefects for the local</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific <p><i>If specific, please indicate the target group</i></p> <p>Newly arrived women</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>These strategic directions are part of the process of continuous improvement of the integration policy. The reinforcement of support for the recognition of the professional experience and qualifications obtained by foreign nationals in their countries of origin responds to the challenge of fast access to employment and also the fight against professional and social declassification.</p> <p>Moreover, the more specific mobilisation for access to employment for newly arrived women aims to lift multiple</p>

implementation of integration policies in 2020. They will also be reflected in the instruction on the same subject for 2021.			obstacles that they are likely to encounter: weak mastery of the language, absence of qualifications, mobility difficulties, childcare difficulties, stereotypes of the country of origin...
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52. Were there any changes in the distribution of responsibilities for integration policy between national, regional, and local authorities?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
<p>The decree of 6 July 2020 on the composition of the Government appointed Ms Marlène Schiappa as Minister Delegate to the Minister of the Interior responsible for citizenship.</p> <p>The decree no. 2020-972 of 31 July 2020 set the responsibilities of the Minister Delegate. In this respect, she promotes the exercise of the rights and the respect for the duties related to citizenship. She takes part in defining the policy for access to citizenship. She is responsible for ensuring respect for the principle of secularity. She monitors compliance with the right to asylum. She prepares and implements actions related to the policy of integrating foreign nationals in France. She contributes to the prevention of delinquency, the prevention of radicalism and the fight against sectarian aberrations. As part of the strategy to fight against separatism, she ensures that the values of the Republic are defended and reinforces national cohesion. Along with the Minister for Education, Youth and Sports, she takes part in defining educational actions in schools for all of her responsibilities. She accomplishes all other missions entrusted by the Minister of the Interior, notably on the role of women within the Ministry.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Through this appointment, the Government confirms its intention to consider the policy of integrating of foreign nationals as a political priority.</p>
<p>The central administration directorate at the Ministry of the Interior responsible for integration changed its name on 7 October 2020: the Directorate for Integration and Access to Citizenship (DIAN) now replaces the Directorate for Reception, Support for Foreign Nationals and Citizenship (DAAEN).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other

4.2. Education of Adults

53. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ regional level targeting the integration of third-country nationals through education?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
a) Basic skills and language training			
<p>The decree of 30 December 2019 taken after the last Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee (6 November 2019) increased, as of 1 April 2020, the level of language required for foreign nationals who wish to acquire French citizenship through naturalisation, reintegration or declaration of citizenship due to their marriage with a French spouse.</p> <p>From 1 April 2020, the notifier or applicant must justify a knowledge of written and spoken French language at least equal to level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). (See below section 5.1 Acquisition of citizenship).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other See section 5.1 Acquisition of citizenship
<p>As part of the Republican Integration Contract (CIR), newly arrived foreign nationals may benefit from up to 600 hours of language training provided by the OFII. Given the importance of these training sessions, a continuous training programme for trainers and educational coordinators for the language training provided by the OFII has been defined. The training is divided into face-to-face classes and virtual classes and is carried out by an external service provider and an educational team with expertise in language teaching.</p> <p>An online platform completes the system. It also enables educational resources to be consulted, registration for training and the following of virtual classes. Thematic forums have been opened on the platform and a newsletter is published every month with useful content on language training and, more generally, the integration of foreign nationals.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other

b) Informal and non -formal learning ¹⁷ (e.g. associations, culture and sport)			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Other			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

4.3. Labour market and skills

54. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ regional level targeting the labour market integration of third-country nationals (in general or targeting specific groups)?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
<p>For 2020, the DIAN launched a national annual call for projects to support actions under the policy for the reception and integration of newly arrived foreign nationals.</p> <p>Following the Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee of 6 November 2019, the priorities set for 2019 were extended, with one new one: specific attention to projects to promote women’s employment. More emphasis has been placed on structural, innovative projects that supplement training in the Republican Integration Contract (CIR) with a national or interregional scope.</p> <p>Given the health state of emergency situation, the time limit for project filing was extended to 29 May 2020.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>In order to roll-out measure 14 of the 20 measures from the Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee of 6 November 2019 (see 4.1 above), an action plan to promote recognition of the skills of newly arrived foreign nationals and access to employment for foreign women was prepared.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific <i>If specific, please indicate the</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>This action plan places integration through employment and</p>

¹⁷ According to CEDEFOP, non-formal learning is “learning which is embedded in planned activities not explicitly designated as learning (in terms of learning objectives, learning time or learning support). Non-formal learning is intentional from the learner’s point of view. (Source: Terminology of European education and training policy- a selection of 100 key terms. CEDEFOP, Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2008, <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/13125.aspx>)

<p>The two main lines of work of this plan are subdivided into four actions each:</p> <p>Focus 1: Promote the recognition of professional experience and qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be better aware of the recognition provisions for qualifications and skills. - Inform about the validation of prior experience (VAE) system, comparability of qualifications and the support methods that can be used. - Facilitate access to previously indicated common law provisions for foreign nationals. - Organise a training for integration actors on the recognition of skills and qualifications. <p>Focus 2: Promote access to employment for foreign women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better understand the professional integration situation for women in general and foreign women in particular. - Improve the orientation of women towards employment. - Provide information directly to foreign women. - Mobilise the integration actors for this priority. 		<p><i>target group</i></p> <p>Women</p>	<p>specifically that of foreign women as a priority theme at the interministerial level, and also at the national and local levels.</p>
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55. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ regional level targeting the access to vocational training and other types of training for third-country nationals?

No development in 2020	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
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56. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ regional level targeting the validation of skills and recognition of qualifications for third-country nationals?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
<p>Improving how qualifications and professional experience of foreign nationals is taken into account is one of the two main priorities of the action plan rolled-out following measure 14 decided by the Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee of 6 November 2019 (see Q54).</p> <p>The certification and validation of prior experience is particularly complex in France, notably due to its fragmentation across a number of actors and the complexity of applicable procedures. The work carried out aims to provide foreign nationals with better information and support with these schemes in order</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Specific</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>

to improve the employment rate of foreign nationals and reduce the incidence of downgrading.			
<p>In terms of skills recognition, the Ministry of the Interior has set up two collaborations:</p> <p>1. With the Ministry of Education to extend the experimental "Experience without borders" action carried out in 2016-2018 to validate prior experience (VAE) for migrants in the priority neighbourhoods of the city policy of eastern Lyon.. The aim is notably to roll out a national VAE scheme in each academy suited for the specificities of newly arrived foreign nationals.</p> <p>2. With the Labour Ministry, to continue the "1,000 paths to VAE for newly arrived foreign nationals" scheme implemented by the National Agency for Adult Professional Training (AFPA). This operation deployed in 24 AFPA centres, excluding Île de France, aims to adapt the access procedure to VAE certifications to the specificities of these people. The AFPA, identified as a "trustworthy third party", positions candidates following an interview or a workshop on a technical platform, which serves as the basis for acceptance of the file in the absence of proof of at least one year's experience. Three types of paths are offered depending on the beneficiary's profile (vocational and language skills) with the aim of obtaining: a professional permit, a certificate of vocational skills or recognition of vocational know-how.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>These experiments meet one of the priority focuses of the integration policy. They have a shared aim of partially compensating for the frequent lack of documents attesting skills acquired by foreign nationals, which is an obstacle that keeps them away from common law procedures.</p>

4.4. Basic services

57. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ regional level targeting the integration of third-country nationals through access to basic services?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
a) Access to housing			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Access to healthcare including in relation to mental health			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

c) Access to social security			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
d) Other			
<p>As a result of the COVID-19 crisis and the publication of the decree no. 2020-1310 of 29 October 2020 recommending the general measures required to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic as part of the health state of emergency, new actions were undertaken:</p> <p>1. Creation on the Ministry of the Interior's internet site www.integration.gouv.fr of a COVID-19 : Information translated for foreign nationals tab which is regularly updated: it includes translated pages on the measures taken within the framework of the health crisis and on various themes on everyday life, work, health, The tab is available in English, Arabic, Mandarin, Pashto, Dari, Albanian, Georgian and Russian and was enriched with an 'easy to read and understand in French' tab.</p> <p>2. Moreover, the DIAN collaborated with the Interministerial Delegation for the Reception and Integration of Refugees (DIAIR) as part of the call for projects to fight against the digital divide launched by the DIAIR to promote access for newly arrived foreign nationals to digital technologies and specifically the use of the digital service to access rights or the virtual language and civic courses provided during the COVID-19 crisis..</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other

4.5. Active participation

58. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/ /regional level targeting the integration of third-country nationals through active (civic/social) participation? (Note: please only include overarching programmes/developments and not individual projects)

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
a) Migrant participation in local democratic structures			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic	<input type="checkbox"/> Major

	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Organising civic orientation programmes			
<p>The Interministerial Integration Committee (C2I) considerably reinforced the mandatory civic training programme provided as part of the Republican Integration Contract (CIR). Since March 2019, newly arrived foreign nationals benefit from a mandatory civic training course (FC) given by the OFII service providers. The training lasts four days spread over five months after the signature of the CIR.</p> <p>To support the deployment of this training, an initial training offer has been defined to prepare educational coordinators, trainers and interpreters for this new teaching kit.</p> <p>This support continues through a continuous training system, in order to guarantee the full assimilation of training methods and content and their correct transmission to newly arrived people. A two-day "foundation" module was designed.</p> <p>This continuous training system is part of a broader civic training community coordination project which also includes regular information/events for coordinators and trainers, an annual discussion day and mobilisation of a group of expert trainers to continuously update the teaching kit for the civic training.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Other			
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

4.6. Fighting racism and discrimination

59. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national or regional aimed at fighting discrimination of third-country nationals, racism etc.? (Note: please only include overarching programmes/developments and not individual projects)			
Development (Nature	Target Group	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

4.7. Pre-departure/arrival programmes

60. Were there any new policy/legislative developments targeting the integration of third-country nationals through pre-departure/arrival programmes?

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

4.8. Involvement of non-government stakeholders

61. Were there any new policy/legislative developments at the national/regional level targeting the involvement of non-government stakeholders in promoting the integration of third-country nationals (e.g. civil society organisations, diasporas, migrant communities, faith-based organisations)? (Note: please only include overarching programmes/developments and not individual projects)

Development	Nature	Target Group	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Generic <input type="checkbox"/> Specific	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

5. CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

5.1. Acquisition of citizenship

62. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the <u>acquisition of citizenship</u> (prerequisites and conditions) <u>for legally residing third-country nationals</u> in your Member State in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>The raising of the level of French language required for applicants for French citizenship, from level B1 oral to level B1 oral <u>and written</u> of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), validated in the regulatory plan by decree 2019-1507 of 30 December 2019 amending the decree of 30 December 1993 on citizenship declarations, naturalisation decisions, reintegration, loss, forfeiture and withdrawal of French citizenship, entered into force on 1 April 2020.</p> <p>In addition to the raised level of French language, a reorganisation of the system of exemptions other than that provided by law (no language test for refugees over 70 years who have been resident in France for over 15 years) has been implemented which has considerably simplified the system. Thus the remaining exemptions apply to people holding a diploma issued by the authorities of an officially French-speaking country on the one hand, and persons whose disability or chronically deficient state of health makes it impossible to carry out any linguistic assessment, proven by a medical certificate, on the other. Older candidates, who previously benefited from an exemption, may be directed to the declaration reserved for ascendants of French people aged over 65 years who can prove residency of at least 25 years in France, which does not require a language level.</p> <p>The following application texts apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information of 10 March 2020 on the application modalities of the decree no. 2019 of 30 December 2019 INTV2002873J; - Order of 12 March 2020 setting the list of diplomas and certifications attesting the level of mastery of French required of applicants for French citizenship in application of the decree no. 93-1362 of 30 December 1993 as amended; - Order of 12 March 2020 setting the list of States provided in 10° of article 14-1 and 9° of article 37-1 of the decree no.93-1362 of 30 December as amended; - Order of 17 July 2020 setting the model of medical certificate provided in b of 10) of article 14-1 and b) of 9° of article 37-1 of the decree no.93-1362 of 30 December as amended. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>As announced by the Prime Minister on 21 March 2019, during the ceremony to welcome people to French citizenship organised at the Panthéon, this raising of the language requirement, in line with the levels of language expected at the previous stages of the integration path, i.e. level A2 oral</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

<p>and written to obtain the 10-year residence permit, is one of the twenty measures from the Interministerial Immigration and Integration Committee of 6 November 2019.</p>		
<p>In addition to raising the language requirement for access to French citizenship, the amended decree no. 2019-1507 of 30 December 2019 aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prepare the transition to the digitalisation of the naturalisation procedure to obtain French citizenship; - safeguard the procedures; - standardise the drafting of the provisions on the citizenship declaration procedures under the responsibility of the Ministries of Justice and the Interior; - include the changes from law no. 2016-297 of 14 March 2016 on child protection; - require that adults produce a clean foreign criminal record for nationality declarations under the competency of the Ministry of Justice. <p>The first three objectives concern more specifically the procedures to obtain French citizenship that fall under the competency of the Ministry of the Interior; the latter is also concerned, but less directly, with ensuring consistency in the wording of provisions common to procedures for declaring citizenship.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
<p>The State wishes to recognise the commitment of people that have exercised a particularly exposed activity during the health emergency period by facilitating and by accelerating the processing of their application for French citizenship: The Telegram of 15 September 2020 from the Minister Delegate responsible for citizenship to the Prefects on the recognition of the commitment of foreign nationals during the COVID-19 crisis.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>This is a political measure to recognise foreign nationals that have taken an active role in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic which not only enables support for their citizenship application procedures by facilitating and accelerating the procedures, and also to send a message to the entire French society acknowledging the participation of foreign nationals in the national effort and the life of the Nation.</p>

5.2. Statelessness

63. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the <u>ratification of international conventions on statelessness in 2020?</u>		
	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
64. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to a <u>dedicated statelessness determination procedure (SDP)¹⁸ or any other procedures or mechanisms by which statelessness can be identified or the status can be determined in 2020?</u>		
	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
65. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the <u>issuance of a residence permit for recognised stateless persons in your Member State in 2020?</u>		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
66. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the rights (access to the labour market, access to education, access to health care and social aid, access to citizenship, etc.) granted to recognised stateless persons in your Member State in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

¹⁸ A statelessness determination procedure is a mechanism for determining whether an individual is stateless. Source: EMN (2020) Statelessness in the European Union, p.4. EMN Inform. Brussels: European Migration Network.

6. BORDERS, VISA AND SCHENGEN

6.1. Enhanced border management at the external borders

BORDER CONTROL MEASURES/MANAGEMENT

67. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to border control measures/ management implemented in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development*
<p>Extension of eligibility to the “Parafe” system to third-country nationals.</p> <p>Decree no. 2020-1735 of 29 December 2020 on various provisions related to the automated processing of personal data, known as PARAFE, was published in the Official Journal of 30 December 2020.</p> <p>This decree enables British, American, Canadian, New Zealand, Australian, South Korean, Japanese and Singaporean third-country nationals to use the Parafe gates (fast, automated passage of external borders), with stamping of the travel documents and verification of the conditions for stay by a border guard after the Parafe gate.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>This measure should improve the smooth passage at the external borders.</p>
<p>Measures related to COVID-19:</p> <p>In response to the accelerated circulation of the SARS-CoV2 virus on a global level, France, along with its European partners, implemented a regime of restrictions on entry to its national territory at all of its borders from 17 March 2020. In force up to 15 June for the internal borders and lifted in a differentiated way from 1 July for external borders (for ten countries outside of the EU/Schengen as at 21 August 2020¹⁹), these measures supplemented the usual migration and safety checks at our borders.</p> <p>The main exemptions concern the following categories: European citizens and equivalent (and their spouses and children), foreign nationals holding a French or European residence permit and returning to their homes (and their spouses and children), foreign nationals carrying out the international transport of goods via the establishment of dedicated corridors, navigating and maritime personnel, foreign health professionals coming to fight against the spread of COVID-19, diplomatic mission and consulate personnel, and staff from international organisations with their head office in France.</p> <p>French nationals were always authorised to enter the territory. Transit for less than 24 hours of foreign nationals holding travel documents to their final destination, without entering the national territory, was also authorised. These instructions were supplemented by specific rules for European seasonal agricultural</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

¹⁹ Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia and Uruguay. **Order of 10 July 2020 amended from the Ministry of Health identifying the zones of circulation of the SARS-CoV2 virus infections. Morocco was removed from the list on 14 August.**

workers and posted European workers. Persons with professional or personal ties (family, medical) on either side of the French-German border benefited from a derogatory movement regime from 30 May to 15 June to facilitate essential cross-border travel.

Each situation was assessed on an individual basis using statements and supporting documents, presented to the carrier before departure and to the border guard. People authorised to enter French territory from a country outside the Schengen area were invited to comply with a 14-day isolation period at their home or a designated location, except for imperious and urgent travel situation exemptions. Persons with symptoms of a COVID-19 infection on arrival were subject to a quarantine decision under the authority of the prefects.

Faced with the increased circulation of the virus worldwide, reinforced health measures for arrivals from countries where the circulation of the virus was particularly active were also introduced. Results from a negative test taken less than 72 hours before departure are required before embarking for countries where access to testing does not cause difficulties. For countries where access to testing laboratories is difficult or even impossible within the required time periods, the people admitted to enter the national territory based on the exemptions provided, but who are unable to produce the results of a biological test at the border check, will be taken to be tested on arrival, and if they refuse, will be subject to a prefectural order to quarantine or isolation.

List of relevant texts:

- Instruction n°6149/SG of 18 March 2020;
- Instruction of 15 April 2020 n° 6156/SG;
- Instruction of 12 May 2020 n°6167/SG;
- Instruction of 20 May 2020 n°6171/SG;
- Instruction n°6179/SG du 14 juin 2020 ;
- Instruction n°6187/SG of 1 July 2020;
- Decree no. 2020-860 of 10 July 2020 laying down the general measures required to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic for countries located in the areas of circulation of the SARS-CoV-2 virus;
- Instruction n°6204/SG of 15 August 2020;
- Decree no.2020-1257 of 14 October 2020;
- Decree no. 2020-1262 of 16 October 2020;
- Decree no.2020-1310 of 29 October 2020;
- Law no.2020-1379 of 14 November 2020;
- Instruction n°6239/SG of 29 December 2020.

68. Were there any new legal or policy developments to ensure more effective control of the external borders, such as policy decisions to reinforce border control staff, providing training, increasing overall resources, introducing action plans or protocols, etc. in 2020 under the following headings?

Development	Nature	Major Development*
a) General issues		
<p>To deal with the changes related to the end of the United Kingdom transition period, several crisis management plans were adopted.</p> <p>A “plan to reduce checks by border guards in the Hauts-de-France” was diffused on 25 November 2020.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Entry/Exit System (EES)		
<p>The COVID-19 crisis had an impact on the readiness of Member States to implement the “Entry/Exit” system, which aims to register by 2022 all entries, exits and entry refusals of all third-country nationals that enter the Schengen area for a short stay, using their biographical, biometric and documentary data.</p> <p>The delays in the implementation of the EES declared by Member States due to the health crisis led the Justice and Home Affairs Council of 14 December 2020 to postpone the entry into service of the EES from February 2022 to April 2022.</p> <p>France approved this postponement, given that it was not supposed to result in the system coming into force during the busy summer period, and that this delay is not likely to modify the schedule for entry into force of the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)		
<p>No development in 2020</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
d) the European Interoperability Framework (EIF)		
<p>No development in 2020</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

e) Local Border Traffic Regime		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
f) the European integrated border management (IBM)		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

REINFORCED COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES IN THE AREA OF BORDER MANAGEMENT

69. Please list any agreements, and other forms of bilateral and multilateral cooperation with third countries that were completed or signed/ entered into force in 2020 with an objective to strengthen operational capacity in combatting irregular migration and control of external borders.

Title of agreement or Working Group (where relevant)	Third country (countries) with whom the cooperation exists	Description (e.g. provision of border equipment, training of border guards, etc.).
Four-party agreement of 7 July	France, Belgium, United Kingdom, Netherlands	<p>When the rail traffic between the United Kingdom and the European mainland returns to "normal" (in the context of the health crisis), Eurostar intends to set up a direct route between London and Amsterdam. This route may also include commercial stops at Brussels, and aims to increase the flows on the existing direct route between London and Brussels. These trains will therefore extend the current London-Brussels link (with possible stops at Lille and Calais). This link is governed by an international agreement between Belgium, France and the United Kingdom signed on 15 December 1993, which, in principle, provides that the Belgian authorities are responsible for trains from the United Kingdom without commercial stops in French territory.</p> <p>This new agreement explicitly states that the State in which the first commercial stop in the Schengen area is made is responsible for carrying out the checks on entry to the Schengen area (and vice versa with regard to the United Kingdom's territory, outside of the Schengen area), although it also provides for the possibility of carrying out</p>

		<p>joint checks with another contractual party which applies to Schengen acquis in its entirety.</p> <p>On the other hand, it provides for opt-in clauses, which enable various levels of police powers to be granted to the authorities of the arrival State to exercise checks within the different control zones in the State of stay. As France had opted for the narrowest and least extensive option (and according to the legal analysis made by the Directorate of Legal Affairs (DAJ) of the Quai d'Orsay, the one that least affects France's state sovereignty), it now aims to sign a bilateral agreement with the United Kingdom in accordance with the text of the protocol in the annex. Discussions with the British side are also scheduled for the beginning of 2021.</p>
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70. Did your (Member) State take any new policy decisions to deploy or remove liaison officers to particular regions or countries in 2020 (ILO/²⁰EMLO²¹)?

On 16 December 2020, the General Director for Foreign Nationals in France sent his Belgian counterpart a letter on the reception of a liaison officer in France to promote exchanges and contacts between their authorities.

6.2. Visa Policy

71. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the implementation of Visa Policy (both short-stay and long-stay visa) in 2020 under the following headings?

Development	Nature	Major Development*
a) Visa reciprocity mechanism		
<p>Non-reciprocity regime with the USA: Following Poland's accession to the American visa waiver programme in November 2019, the European Commission actively continued its dialogue with the American authorities to support the bilateral negotiation efforts undertaken by the four Member States still subject to short-stay visas for the USA, namely Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Cyprus.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
b) Other Visa related developments		

²⁰ According to the EMN Glossary Version 7.0, an Immigration Liaison Officer (ILO) is a "A representative of one of the EU Member States, posted abroad by the immigration service or other competent authorities in order to establish and maintain contacts with the authorities of the host country with a view to contributing to the prevention and combating of irregular migration, the return of irregular migrants and the management of legal migration". An European Migration Liaison Officer.

²¹ According to the EMN Glossary Version 7.0, a European migration liaison officer (EMLO) is "A specialised liaison officer seconded in EU Delegations in third countries tasked to coordinate and represent EU interests in the field of migration with the aim of maximising the impact of EU action on migration in third countries and enhancing the engagement of key countries of origin and transit on the entire spectrum of migration".

<p>New visa code: Entry into force in February 2020 (Regulation (EU) 2019/1155 2019/1155), the recast of the Community Visa Code introduces an increase in visa fees (€60 to €80), the domino issuance of visas (gradual increase in the duration of stay and validity for legal travellers), as well as a visa-readmission leverage providing for incentive or penalty measures depending on the cooperation of third-countries on readmission.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>Brexit: the United Kingdom left the European Union and has been transferred as of 1 January 2021 to Annex II of Regulation 2018/1806 listing the third countries whose nationals are exempt from the short-stay visa requirement within the Schengen area (Regulation (EU) 2019/592).</p>		

6.3. Schengen governance

72. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to Schengen governance during 2020 under the following headings?		
Development	Nature	Major Development*
a) Internal borders (including temporary suspension of Schengen)		
<p>Coordination in the fight against COVID-19: A European response to the COVID_19 pandemic (Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/1475 of 13 October 2020 on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic) enabled the harmonisation of Member States' practices on travel restrictions for non-essential travellers to the EU and then on the gradual reopening of the external borders (classification of third countries into green or red zones based on epidemiological data).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>In response to the accelerated circulation of the SARS-Cov2 virus on a global level, France, along with its European partners, implemented a regime of restrictions on entry to its national territory at all of its borders as of 17 March 2020. The restrictions at the internal borders were lifted on 15 June 2020.</p> <p>(For more details, see the answer to question 67)</p>		
b) new Schengen acquis (including Schengen Information System (SIS))		

<p>Political agreement on the recast of the VIS Regulation: The latest technical trilogue meetings on a compromise package with regard to the draft recast of the VIS Regulation were held on 16 December 2020. A finalised version will be sent to the COREPER for adoption under Portuguese Presidency.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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c) Schengen Evaluation missions

<p>Closure of the 2016 Schengen evaluation on visa policy: In August 2020, the European Commission announced the end to the action plan undertaken by France following the 2016 Schengen evaluation mission. The next evaluation, planned for autumn 2021, will pay specific attention to the resolution of outstanding recommendations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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<p>Adoption of the European Commission's recommendation following the unexpected evaluation of France in Rabat in 2019: The evaluation of France in Rabat on the application of the common visa policy did not highlight any serious shortcomings on the part of France. Following the adoption on 1 December 2020 of the European Commission's recommendations, France has three months to prepare an action plan to address the shortcomings noted during the unexpected evaluation of France in Rabat in 2019, including reducing times for appointments, improving monitoring of visa stickers, protecting the personal data of applicants by external service providers or the increased control of access to the SIS by officials.</p>		
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d) Other Schengen governance related developments

<p>No development in 2020</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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7. IRREGULAR MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRANT SMUGGLING

7.1. Preventing and tackling of misuse of legal migration channels

IRREGULAR MIGRATION AS A RESULT OF VISA LIBERALISATION

73. Were there any new legal or policy developments introduced in 2020 to prevent irregular migration as a result of visa liberalisation?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
.There were no legal changes in this area, but France continues to apply its action plans for Albania and Georgia.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Publication in July 2020 of the third monitoring report on visa liberalisation: The publication of this report enabled Member States to share their data on entry refusals and unfounded asylum applications. The figures remain worrying for Albania, Georgia and Moldova.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

74. Were there any new legal or policy developments to monitor the effects of visa free regimes in your (Member) State in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

MISUSE OF LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS BY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL WORKERS

75. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to tackle misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national workers (e.g. overstay, misuse of rights granted by a permit)?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

MISUSE OF LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS BY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

76. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to tackle misuse of legal migration channels by third-country national students and researchers (e.g. overstay, misuse of rights granted by a permit)?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

MISUSE OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION MIGRATION CHANNELS

77. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to tackle misuse of family reunification migration channels?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

MISUSE OF OTHER LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS

78. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to tackle misuse of other legal migration channels?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

FALSE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

79. Were there any new legal, policy or practice ²² developments in 2020 to prevent, identify and/or investigate fraudulent acquisition and use of false travel documents?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major

²² Developments related to practices are more common in relation to false travel documents than legislative or policy developments. Thus, information on new practices in this area is requested here.

	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
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MISUSE OF FREE MOVEMENT RIGHTS BY THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

80. Were there any new legal or policy developments in 2020 to prevent the fraud and misuse of free movement rights?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

7.2. The fight against facilitation of irregular migration ('smuggling') and prevention of irregular stay

COMBATTING FACILITATION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION (SMUGGLING)

81. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at preventing and combatting facilitation of irregular migration (smuggling), including facilitation of unauthorised entry in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>Creation of a French-British Operational Research Unit against Migrant Smuggling (URO)</p> <p>On 12 July 2020, the French and British interior ministers approved the creation of a unit bringing together French and British police officers who, jointly, will be responsible for collecting and centralising all information obtained by the different partners as part of the fight against migrant smugglers, analysing and using the information for operational purposes and preparing summaries for transmission to the investigating authorities.</p> <p>Objective: To neutralise migrant smugglers on both sides of the Channel, by identifying and locating them, characterising their operational methods and providing all of these elements to the judicial police services for criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Organisation and location of the unit: The French-British unit is placed under the joint leadership and control of the head of the French Office for the Repression of Unauthorised Immigration and the Employment of Foreign Nationals without Residence Permits (OCRIEST) and the Zonal Directorate of the Border Police - North (DZPAF-Nord) for the French part and and for the British part, of an official of the National Crime Agency and an official from Immigration Enforcement. It comprises agents belonging</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Confronted with the shared threat of irregular immigration and faced with the unprecedented boom in the so-called "Small Boats" phenomenon - small boats that travel to England over water - France and the United Kingdom have reinforced their cooperation to end these very lucrative transnational networks which</p>

<p>to the operational services in charge of the fight against smuggling of migrants at central and local levels. Permanent staff: three people from OCRIEST, five people from DZPAF NORD, five British staff (IE, NCA, UKBF...). This unit can be reinforced if needed (staff from OCRIEST as well as the judicial units from the zonal directorate Nord).</p> <p>Location: The unit is located at the Joint Coordination and Information Centre (JCCC) in Coquelles, but is not attached to this structure.</p> <p>Functioning: - <u>a joint management committee</u>: comprising the head of OCRIEST and the Zonal Director of the Northern Border Police for the French side. The guidelines are defined jointly by the French and British parties (meetings twice a month). - <u>a joint weekly steering committee</u> organised under the leadership of OCRIEST and the interdepartmental direction of Calais, which analyses the results obtained over the previous week and sets the targets for the coming week. - <u>an operational research unit</u> that collects, centralises and analyses the operational intelligence enabling the identification of individuals likely to carry out criminal acts related to smuggling of migrants. The targets concern the entire spectrum of organised crime from the simple smuggler to the network organiser.</p> <p>The unit is mobile and must be able move between the two States to obtain operational intelligence. The unit's officers will be able to take part as observers in debriefings organised when migrants arrive on British soil, with a reciprocal arrangement on French soil. The creation of this unit is based on the law established by the bilateral police cooperation between France and the United Kingdom, notably the Treaty of Sandhurst signed on 18 April 2018.</p>		pose significant risks to migrants.
<p>JOT DOC FRAUD Project - Political cycle action by the EU/EMPACT</p> <p>Action 5.1 created in 2018 and carried out by the Document and Identity Fraud Expertise Division (DEFDI) as part of its Illegal Immigration and Document Fraud priorities, became fully operational in 2020. Belgium is joint leader alongside France, 16 countries are participating (AT, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, FI, IE, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, UK, CH, NO). The agencies Europol, Frontex and Cepol support the project. The JOT DOC FRAUD project has been working on the creation of a document fraud profiling tool, called ProfID for "Profiling False Identity Documents".</p> <p>It is a secure web database designed to store fake documents (counterfeit and falsified) and to profile them with a view to systematically comparing them in an automated manner in order to identify and dismantle the networks responsible for their production and dissemination. A first test phase was carried out between France and Switzerland between July 2019 and May 2020, with convincing results. The second test phase was extended to five other countries: Netherlands, Germany, Finland, Norway and Belgium joined the experimental phase from end October 2020. In order to test the basic capabilities, it was decided that ProfID should be fed with documents from on-going investigations (the project became a Joint Operational Team - JOT). As a result, five networks were dismantled in 2020, one common investigation team was signed, 120,000 euros of operational budget were granted to the participating investigation units.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

<p>JOT DUNQETT Project - Political cycle action by the EU/EMPACT</p> <p>Update to 2020 data: - Three networks were dismantled as part of the JOT Dunqett project; - 40,000 euros were spent for operational groups.</p> <p>Note that these figures represent a decrease compared to 2019, due to the health context.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	
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PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION

82. Were there any new developments in legislation, policy or practice²³ responding to the objective of prevention of irregular migration from third countries of origin and transit (e.g. policy decisions to undertake new information campaigns launched, websites, new projects with grass-roots NGOs or involving the diaspora, etc., with the exception of cooperation activities with third countries to be reported in section 7.2.4) in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR STAY

83. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at preventing irregular stay and combatting facilitation of irregular stay, including disincentives and sanctions in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES TO PREVENT IRREGULAR MIGRATION

84. Did your (Member) State establish any NEW cooperation activities with new or existing partner third countries in 2020 to prevent irregular migration in relation to the specific regions outlined below?

a) The Western and Southern Mediterranean countries (i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania Palestine*, Syria and Tunisia);

²³ Developments related to practices are more common in relation to prevention of irregular migration than legislative or policy developments. Thus, information on new practices in this area is requested here.

b) The Eastern Partnership countries (i.e. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine);

c) The Western Balkans countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia);

A virtual meeting at technical level was held between the French and Kosovo authorities on 27 November 2020. It is part of the beginning of the implementation of a declaration of intent signed by France and Kosovo in July 2019, to fight against illegal immigration, international terrorism and organised crime. The French and Kosovar authorities had agreed earlier in the year to give new impetus to the bilateral relations between the two countries. This meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on all aspects of the migratory relationship and the parties notably committed to exchange information and to carry out technical cooperation work in the area of prevention and control of departures from Pristina.

d) Countries in the African Atlantic coast (e.g. Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast etc.).

A joint operational partnership (POC SMUGG) has been implemented since September 2020 in Côte d'Ivoire by the Civipol operator, with European funding, to reinforce the institutional and operational capabilities of the interior security services in border control, the fight against document fraud and against the smuggling of migrants.

Another joint operational partnership has been implemented since November 2020 in Guinea by Civipol, with European funding, with the aim of refocusing the Border Police Directorate on its missions, supporting the police and gendarmerie services in border control, developing their capacity to detect document fraud, safeguarding the issuance of permits, and reinforcing the judicial investigations in the fight against irregular migration.

MONITORING AND IDENTIFYING IRREGULAR MIGRATION ROUTES

85. Were there any new developments in legislation, policy or practice,²⁴ with regard to identifying and/or monitoring irregular migration routes in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

²⁴ Developments related to practices are more common in relation to identifying and/or monitoring irregular migration routes than legislative or policy developments. Thus, information on new practices in this area is requested here.

8. TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

This Section should address key developments in the migration context with regard to **third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings**. Please note that developments related to the trafficking of minors are covered in Chapter 3.

8.1. National strategic policy developments

86. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding the prevention and/or the fight against trafficking in human beings of third-country nationals (e.g. national action plans or national strategies introduced) during 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>Under the guidance of the Inter-ministerial Mission for the Protection of Women against Violence and the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings (MIPROF), France has continued to implement the second national action plan to fight against trafficking in human beings. This plan covers 45 measures based on six axes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informing and communicating to better prevent the phenomenon; • defining a strategy to identify victims of trafficking; • protecting and supporting victims of trafficking; • intensifying repression of perpetrators; • coordinating public action in the fight against trafficking in human beings; • reinforcing cooperation on the European and international levels. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Amongst the measures in this plan, some specifically concern migrant victims:</p> <p>ACTION NO. 6: GUARANTEE VICTIMS AN EFFECTIVE RIGHT TO RESIDENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 20: Reinforce the role of the Prefectures. • Measure 21: Recall the conditions for issuing residence permits and the need to appoint “trafficking in human beings” reference contacts. <p>ACTION NO. 7: GUARANTEE VICTIMS A RIGHT TO ACCOMMODATION AND HOUSING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 22: Reinforce the Ac.Sé system. • Measure 23: Mobilise existing accommodation places. • Measure 24: Specialise accommodation structures in the national reception system for asylum seekers.

8.2. Improving identification of and provision of information to third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings

PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL VICTIMS

87. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the provision of information and assistance to third-country national victims (including child victims and applicants for asylum) in 2020?

Development	Nature	Major Development
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a) Training and awareness raising

<p>The above-mentioned second action plan to fight against trafficking in human beings and currently being implemented provides for specific measures to improve the identification and dissemination of information to third-country nationals who are victims of THB.</p> <p>Over several years, the OCLTI has trained investigators at the gendarmerie, police and customs services on the themes of illegal employment, social fraud and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation, through two training sessions (ETIF and ESTIF²⁵). In the interests of efficiency, the ESTIF session will last two weeks from 2021 with two days dedicated exclusively to the fight against THB/labour exploitation.</p> <p>In the area of the fight against trafficking in human beings, the OCLTI, in collaboration with the <i>Institut National du Travail de l'Emploi et de la Formation Professionnelle</i> - INTEFP (National Institute for Labour, Employment and Vocational Training) of the General Labour Directorate, has prepared a training module on the offence of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of economic exploitation, integrating the investigation and intervention methodologies, legislative and administrative measures, various partnerships and how to deal with victims. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 health crisis, only two sessions were organised in Lille and Marcy l'Étoile.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>The actions concerned are as follows:</p> <p>ACTION NO. 16: PROMOTE FRANCE'S ACTIONS AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME WITH REGARD TO THE TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IN MULTILATERAL BODIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 41: Participate in campaigns and mobilisation actions on an international level.
<p>In terms of training, an interministerial guide "From the identification to the protection of THB victims" for professionals is currently being finalised. This guide notably stipulates the protection measures for victims of trafficking, including victims' access to rights and care, and the specificities with regard to the identification and care of child victims.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

b) Measures on cooperation between national authorities

<p>No development in 2020</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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c) Measures on cooperation between (Member) States

<p>See measures indicated under point a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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25 Illegal labour investigator and illegal labour specialist investigator.

<p>In order to better fight against child prostitution, a working group was launched in September 2020 to propose actions aimed at better preventing, identifying and supporting the, and improving the judicial processing of these cases. Following this work, in which MIPROF, and the Collective "Together against trafficking in human beings", which brings together 28 associations are involved, prevention and awareness raising tools were prepared for professionals, minors and parents.</p>		
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IDENTIFICATION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

88. Were there any new legal or policy developments in relation to the identification of third-country national victims (including child victims and applicants for international protection) in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
a) Training and awareness raising		
<p>National benchmark mechanism to detect, identify, direct and support victims of suspected or proven trafficking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - November 2019: the CNC DH adopts an opinion on the second plan to fight against THB and recommends as a priority the creation of a national benchmark mechanism; - February 2020: during the MIPROF Coordination Committee, the CNC DH presented the European expectations (GRETA + OSCE) on the establishment of such a mechanism, which led to the decision by the MIPROF to create a working group dedicated to this objective; - March 2020: first meeting of the Mechanism Working Group. - April 2020: the CNC DH adopts its opinion on the creation of the mechanism, which presents the objectives and planned stages. - October 2020: second meeting of the Mechanism Working Group. <p>https://www.cncdh.fr/sites/default/files/avis_2020_-_5_-_200424_avis_mecanisme_national_de_reference_teh.pdf</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>Steered by the MIPROF, in 2020, France launched discussions aiming to set up a national identification and referral mechanism (MNIO) for victims of THB.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>This is a mechanism for cooperation between the State and civil society, designed to guarantee the protection and effective referral to suitable services for victims. It is based on the application of shared identification criteria and the division of</p>

		<p>competencies between the different actors.</p> <p>The MNIO is generally under the control of an anti-trafficking policy coordinator. With regard to its organisation, it is a flexible mechanism, which should adapt to the existing national structures.</p>
<p>The MIPROF brought together a working group twice in 2020, bringing together institutional and associative partners, qualified experts, the national rapporteur, and the CNCDH with a view to creating a national identification and referral mechanism for victims of THB, to be implemented on a local level.</p> <p>Two essential stages for creating such a mechanism emerged: training of professionals along with a list of common indicators, and the identification of existing actions and good practices on a local level in order to define a national framework.</p> <p>These two stages are currently being implemented. In terms of training, an interministerial guide "From the identification to the protection of THB victims" for professionals is currently being finalised.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	

b) Measures on cooperation between national authorities

<p>The above-mentioned working group to better fight against child prostitution (see 73 b) proposes actions to better prevent, identify and support victims.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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c) Measures on cooperation between (Member) States

<p>The above-mentioned second action plan to fight against trafficking in human beings and currently being implemented provides for specific measures on cooperation between Member States.</p> <p>Efforts have begun to reinforce operational cooperation in the area of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation, notably at Europol level. The fight against trafficking in human beings is one of the ten European operational priorities for the 2018-2021 period. The OCLTI is a stakeholder within the framework of EMPACT THB (trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation) as leader of two actions: one strategic action to better understand the flows and paths taken by the exploited people, and the second operational action dedicated to THB for the purpose of labour exploitation in the agriculture sector. In addition, the Office</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>The actions in question are the following:</p> <p>FOCUS 6: REINFORCE COOPERATION ON THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS</p> <p>ACTION N° 16: PROMOTE FRANCE'S ACTIONS AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME WITH REGARD TO THE TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IN</p>
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<p>is also the European co-leader for three other operations (with the Netherlands for an action week to fight against THB in economic sectors other than agriculture, with Spain for an operation to exchange good practices, and information with third countries, notably South America, and lastly with the Netherlands on a programme to fight against THB-related money laundering). Through the success of these different actions, the OCLTI has consolidated its position as an expert on the issue and has become an essential international actor in the fight against THB for the purpose of labour exploitation.</p> <p>Furthermore, in order to extend the scope of countries, the OCLTI has developed its capabilities in order to intervene as an expert within the framework of regional seminars to fight against THB organised by the OSCE in collaboration with the UNODC.</p> <p>In this way, the Office intends to develop new partnerships in order to better fight and coordinate actions between countries of origin and destination of the exploited workforce.</p>		<p>MULTILATERAL BODIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 40: Promote the ratification of international instruments to fight against trafficking in human beings • Measure 41: Participate in campaigns and mobilisation actions on an international level • Measure 42: Promote the abolitionist model through French diplomacy <p>ACTION N° 17: INTENSIFY BILATERAL COOPERATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 43: Reinforce training of practitioners via judicial training schools • Measure 44: Continue international initiatives for multi-actor training • Measure 45: Continue bilateral cooperation projects
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COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

89. Were there any new legal, policy or practical ²⁶ developments involving cooperation with third countries on the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
a) Training and awareness raising		
<p>The above-mentioned second action plan to fight against trafficking in human beings, which is currently being implemented, provides for specific measures on cooperation with third countries for the prevention and the fight against THB.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legislation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Practice</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Major</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>ACTION N° 16: PROMOTE FRANCE'S ACTIONS AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME WITH REGARD TO THE TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IN MULTILATERAL BODIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure 40: Promote the ratification of international instruments to fight against trafficking in human beings • Measure 42: Promote the abolitionist model through French diplomacy

²⁶ Developments related to practices are very common in relation to the fight against trafficking in human beings. Thus, information on new practices in this area is requested here.

<p>Publication of an awareness raising guide for all professionals likely to encounter exploited children.</p> <p>Publication of the Guide “Better support for minors forced to commit offences” by the association <i>Hors la Rue</i>. Guide for interventions with minors that are victims of trafficking in human beings.</p> <p>Specialist associations, educators, staff at the Judicial Youth Protection service, social workers, doctors, healthcare workers, psychologists, lawyers, police officers, gendarmerie...: all these professionals may meet children that are victims of trafficking and forced to commit offences. But the lack of awareness of this type of exploitation may lead to a failure to identify exploited minors and to recognise their status as victims.</p> <p>The first part of the guide aims to describe the trafficking phenomenon, and the way in which people are forced to commit crimes, and to describe the mechanisms to overcome the knowledge gap on this issue. It answers the questions: who are these minors? How are they recruited? What crimes do they commit? Why are they exploited?</p> <p>The second part of the guide aims to improve support for trafficked minors by the professionals around them. It starts by considering the issue of how to detect and identify the exploited minors, by providing a set of indicators, shared by several professionals, in order to recognise exploitation situations.</p> <p>https://horslarue.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/MIEUX-ACCOMPAGNER-LES-MINEURS-CONSTRAINTS-A%CC%80-COMMETTRE-DES-DE%CC%81LITS-FR.pdf</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Joint investigation teams		
<p>Around 15 joint investigation teams participating in investigations of trafficking in human beings have been identified with EU-Member States: Romania (6), Belgium (4), Bulgaria (2), Spain (1), Hungary (1), and a country that is a candidate for EU-membership: Bosnia-Herzegovina (1).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Information and prevention campaigns		
<p>See point a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Measure 41: Participate in international campaigns and mobilisation actions</p>

9. RETURN AND READMISSION

Main national developments in the field of return

GENERAL POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA OF RETURN

90. Were there new legal or policy developments in relation to return of irregular migrants and rejected asylum seekers in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
No legislative changes occurred in 2020. However, the relevant code was recast during 2020, for application during 2021. It should enable better accessibility and clarity of the applicable law.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Information INTV2017993J of 31 July 2020 on the modalities for removing rejected applicants for international protection at the end of the health state of emergency.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Due to the health crisis period in France since the start of 2020, there has been a sharp slowdown in both voluntary and forced removals of rejected applicants for international protection, notably nationals from safe countries of origin. This information aims to restart the efforts undertaken to meet the removal targets intended by the legislator.</p>

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN

91. Were there any new legal or policy developments with regard to (assisted) voluntary return in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>In order to address the decline, and even the absence of commercial flights to certain destinations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2020 a cooperation was launched by the OFII with the European Frontex agency for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the organisation and financing of six voluntary return charter flights by Frontex, if applicable with other Member States; - the financial coverage by Frontex of the voluntary return tickets on commercial flights booked by the OFII on the "FAR" application. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

REINTEGRATION MEASURES

92. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding reintegration measures in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
Suspension then closure of the OFII's reintegration programme in Moldova for voluntary return aid applications filed from 1 January 2020.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Instruction no. 05-2020 of 17 June 2020 authorising the payment of additional aid to national reintegration projects weakened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Implementation of two south-south reintegration programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From Tunisia to OFII representations in Mali, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire; - From Morocco to the countries covered by OFII representations in Mali, Senegal, Cameroon. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

FORCED RETURN AND DETENTION

93. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding forced return, detention, alternatives to detention of irregular migrants and rejected asylum seekers in 2020?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
a) Forced Return		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
b) Detention		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major

	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
c) Alternatives to detention		
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major
	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND TRANSIT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EU READMISSION AGREEMENTS

Cooperation with third countries of origin and transit on return management and reintegration

94. Were there any new legal or policy developments regarding cooperation with third countries in 2020 on return and reintegration management?		
Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>On a legal level, draft law no. 3055 authorising approval of the partnership agreement for migrations and mobility between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of India is currently being examined by the National Assembly.</p> <p>With regard to the fight against illegal migration, it presents the conditions for the forced or voluntary return of illegally staying migrants, and recalls both parties' commitment to accepting the return of their illegally staying nationals from the other country.</p> <p>Moreover, with regard to reintegration, an order stipulating the conditions for the grant of reintegration aid in Mayotte was published on 30 December 2020.</p> <p>On a political level, the year was marked by the health crisis. Whilst discussions started at the beginning of the year with Algeria, Iraq and the DR Congo to determine or improve consular cooperation frameworks, these exchanges could not be concluded. Intense dialogues took place with countries of interest to continue removals during the health context.</p> <p>Lastly, follow-up meetings on cooperation were held throughout the year (Morocco, Senegal, Congo Brazzaville...).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

Implementation of EU Readmission Agreements

95. Please report on activities undertaken at national level to support the implementation of EU readmission agreements in 2020 (implementing protocols, cooperation with third countries to encourage implementation) by completing the table and providing any additional relevant information:

EU Readmission agreement (country)	National development (i.e. implementing protocol, cooperation) in 2020 only.
Armenia	Legislative approval (law no. 2020-47) for the application protocol of the EU Readmission agreement

CROSS-CUTTING DEVELOPMENTS IN RETURN AND REINTEGRATION RELATED TO OTHER THEMATIC CHAPTERS OF THE ARM (BORDERS, IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING)

96. In previous chapters, cooperation with third countries in the field of border management, visa policy, irregular migration and return were addressed. These policies are often interlinked, also with return and reintegration. If applicable, please highlight any links between these dimensions and return and reintegration policy. Please also highlight any links with sustainable development policies.

Development	Nature	Major Development
No development in 2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other

10. MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

National Actions in the field of migration and development cooperation

97. Were there any new legal or policy developments aimed at facilitating synergies between migration and development in third countries?

Development	Nature	Major Development
<p>As part of its presidency of the Rabat Process (2019-2020) the priority themes carried by France were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce capabilities in countries of origin in the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote diasporas' commitment to development in the countries of origin, specifically through remittances; • Explore issues related to return and reintegration. <p>The health situation obliged France to delay several events related to its programme, which will now take place in 2021 (see schedule here). However, the Rabat Process and France were able to ensure continued dialogue thanks to virtual meetings of members, and these meetings will continue in a virtual format in 2021.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>There were no major political changes in 2020 on migration and development issues in France, as the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (PACICID) action plan is still on-going (2018-2022). The 20 recommendations from the national debate on migration at the beginning of November 2019 and its action 2 are encouragements to refocus France's policies (Public Development Aid as a driver for migratory dialogue) and to better apply them.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Other