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# Status Report 2022

European Migration  
Network

October 2023

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# CONTENTS

<b>SUMMARY OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN MIGRATION NETWORK (EMN) IN 2022</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2. EMN OUTPUTS IN 2022</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1. Annual Report on Migration and Asylum 2021 and 2022	7
2.2. Report on the progress in 2022 of the European Commission communication on the protection of children in migration from 2017	8
2.3. EMN Studies	8
2.4. EMN Informs and EMN Flashes	10
2.5. EMN Ad Hoc queries	12
2.6. EMN Quarterly	13
2.7. EMN Glossary	14
2.8. EMN Educational Tool 'Destination Europe'	14
<b>3. EMN EXPERT GROUPS</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1. EMN Return Expert Group (REG)	15
3.2. EMN Information and Awareness-raising Campaigns (INFO) Expert Group	16
3.3. Statelessness Platform	16
3.4. Expert group for operational IT tools	17
<b>4. EMN EVENTS</b>	<b>18</b>
4.1. EU-level events	18
4.2. EMN national events	20
4.3. EU-level capacity-building workshops	21
<b>5. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1. EMN Steering Board and NCP meetings	22
5.2. Functional EMN working groups and advisory groups	23
5.3. Cooperation with non-EU countries	24
5.4. Collaboration with EU and non-EU entities	24
<b>6. ENHANCING EMN VISIBILITY</b>	<b>25</b>
6.1. EMN and national websites	25
6.2. Communication toolbox and packages	25
6.3. EMN Information leaflet	26
<b>7. MANAGEMENT OF THE EMN</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>ANNEX</b>	<b>28</b>



# SUMMARY OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN MIGRATION NETWORK (EMN) IN 2022

In line with the EMN Work Programme 2021/2022, several key developments took place in 2022.

- The EMN **responded to emerging needs for information on the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive (2001/55/EC) (TPD)**, triggered in response to the mass displacement of people from Ukraine into the European Union (EU) after Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine began on 24 February 2022.
- **The Rapid Information Collection (RIC) Working Group was established** in 2022 to collect information more effectively on the implementation of the TPD. The Group formalised the EMN's procedures on the use of its ad hoc query (AHQ) tool, which is used to quickly gather specific and timely information from EMN Member and Observer Countries. AHQs are an essential tool for obtaining comparative information and the Working Group improved coordination in response to emerging needs.
- **65 AHQs were launched** throughout 2022, ranging from the implementation of the TPD to international protection, return, and residence.
- The EMN continued to increase its strategic role through high-level strategic partnerships and **expansion of its membership. Ukraine, Montenegro and Armenia** officially joined the EMN as Observer Countries in August, September and October 2022, respectively, and exploratory consultations began with Serbia. Norway, Georgia and Moldova continued to participate as EMN Observer Countries throughout 2022.
- The EMN focused significantly on the development of three major operational IT tools: the **EU Talent Pool**, the **EU Transfer Tool**, and the **EU Monitoring Tool for the Employers' Sanctions Directive (2009/52/EC)**.
- At least **40 national events** and **five capacity-building workshops** were organised, with active participation from EMN National Contact Points (EMN NCPs) to support policy-making and implementation in different migration areas. They also sought to improve and disseminate publications and other EMN outputs, such as the EMN Glossary, to national stakeholders, increasing the EMN's visibility and policy support at national level.
- Five EU-level events were held: two conferences within the framework of the **French and Czech Presidencies of the Council of the European Union** on 'Assisted voluntary return and reintegration' and 'EU and Labour Migration,' respectively; the **Annual Report on Asylum and Migration (ARM) launch event** with a focus on 'Flexibility in migration management'; a **joint EMN-Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Roundtable** on 'Digitalisation and AI [artificial intelligence] in Migration Management'; and **EMN Youth Day**, as 2022 marked the European Year of Youth.
- **Three studies were completed:** 'Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures', 'Third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: detection, identification and protection', and 'Integration of migrant women in the EU Member States and Norway. **Two studies** were initiated: 'Integration of asylum applicants in the labour market' and 'Contingency planning and preparedness in EMN Member and Observer Countries' (full results will be for restricted circulation).
- In total, **33 EMN informs** and **six EMN flashes** were finalised or initiated. Eleven ad hoc informs were produced under the leadership of the RIC Working Group to provide information on the implementation of the TPD, eight of which were for restricted circulation, with three available to the public at large.
- **A new classification system was introduced in the EMN Glossary**, making it easier to search for terms and term relations. The presentation of the EMN Glossary was also redesigned, featuring an updated platform.
- The EMN continued to disseminate information on migration and asylum to a wider audience, including the general public, through the **EMN Bulletin and flash** (now the EMN Quarterly), **events**, the **website**, and **social media** (e.g. LinkedIn, Twitter).
- Work continued on the **EMN Educational Tool 'Destination Europe'**. Activities included the production of a promotional and instruction video to increase awareness and accessibility of the tool, online facilitator training in April 2022, and a kick-off event in September 2022. Many EMN NCPs translated 'Destination Europe' into their respective national language(s) and it is now available in more than 10 languages.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The EMN Status Report 2022 is the fifteenth such report.<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Article 4(5c) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC, it provides a succinct overview of progress by the EMN in 2022. It briefly presents the outputs produced during the year, summarises the networking activities at EU and national level, and describes the dissemination and communication activities promoting the work of the EMN to policymakers and wider audiences,

as well as other relevant developments. It also provides information on how the EMN was managed. The EMN Status Report 2022 presents the EMN's expert groups in a stand-alone section, reflecting the expansion of their work, particularly on operational IT tools. Finally, it includes the EMN Quarterly under outputs rather than communication packages.

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1 As required by Article 4(5c) of Council Decision 2008/381/EC.

# 2. EMN OUTPUTS IN 2022

This section presents an overview of the main EMN outputs and impacts within the framework of the EMN Work Programme 2021/2022. It focuses on the activities

undertaken to respond to and anticipate policymakers' needs, including the collection and analysis of information and statistics in various formats (see below).

**Figure 1: Overview of EMN outputs in 2022**



## 2.1. ANNUAL REPORT ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM 2021 AND 2022

In the first half of each year, the EMN produces its ARM, presenting the key European and national developments in migration and asylum the previous year, providing a rich source of information to inform policymakers and the wider public. It synthesises and analyses legislative and policy changes, as well as new practices and projects to identify key trends. Findings were gathered by EMN NCPs from the EU Member States (except Denmark), Norway and – for the first time – Georgia.

ARM 2021<sup>2</sup> reported on several key national developments: (1) the **COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact migration and asylum systems** across EMN Member and Observer Countries (albeit to a lesser degree than in 2020), travel restrictions and health measures continued but began to ease, **first-time asylum**

**applications in EU Member States and Norway increased** by 28.2% compared to 2020, and **the number of voluntary and enforced returns increased significantly**; (2) political unrest, namely the **Belarus border crisis and the fall of Afghan government**, created sudden (in)flows that put pressure on asylum and reception systems in several countries; (3) **progress on long-term priorities and strategic commitments continued** – one year after the New Pact on Migration and Asylum was adopted, the European Commission published a report on key developments; (4) **the protection of vulnerable groups remained a key legislative focus at national and EU level** (e.g. EU Strategy on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2021-2025), EU Action Plan Against Migrant Smuggling (2021-2025), EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2022-2027)); (5)

<sup>2</sup> EMN, 'Annual Report on Migration and Asylum, 2021, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/31458674-0e1b-4d68-b303-01c48e796813\\_en?file-name=EMN\\_Annual-report\\_Migration\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/31458674-0e1b-4d68-b303-01c48e796813_en?file-name=EMN_Annual-report_Migration_report_final.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

**migration management improved through innovation**, simplification of processes, and digitalisation of certain areas; (6) **attracting and retaining highly skilled and qualified workers to meet labour market needs** was a key priority for legislation and policy developments (e.g. the Skills and Talents Package, revised EU Blue Card Directive (2009/50/EU)).

The report was published in June 2022, with contributions from 27 EMN NCPs,<sup>3</sup> and was presented at an EMN virtual webinar on 15 June 2022 (see section 4.1.2). As in previous years, the publication was accompanied by a Statistical Annex and a series of country factsheets developed by each of the EMN NCPs, outlining the key national developments in migration and asylum in 2022. Preparations for the ARM 2022 began in the fall, to be prepared in 2023.



## 2.2. REPORT ON THE PROGRESS IN 2022 OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION COMMUNICATION ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN MIGRATION FROM 2017

The EMN began to compile its report on 'The state of progress in 2022 of the European Commission communication on the protection of children in migration from 2017', following the initial report in 2021.<sup>4</sup> The Directorates-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) and Justice (DG JUST) invited the EMN to work on this report in 2019, given its experience in collecting and synthesising comparative information. The report covers

different categories of minors, including accompanied minors/families with children, separated children, and unaccompanied minors. An inform<sup>5</sup> and flash<sup>6</sup> summarising the major findings to 2020 was published in January 2022, featuring information from 25 EMN NCPs<sup>7</sup> and relevant non-governmental organisations (NGOs).<sup>8</sup> The second report is due to be published in 2023 and will cover progress in 2021 and 2022.



## 2.3. EMN STUDIES<sup>9</sup>

In 2022, the EMN completed three studies that started in 2021:

- 'Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures'. The study was originally part of the 2020 Work Programme, but was suspended until late 2021. It was published in May 2022;
- 'Third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: detection, identification and protection', published in March 2022;
- 'Integration of migrant women in the EU Member States and Norway', published in September 2022.

The EMN also began two new studies:

- 'Integration of international protection applicants in the labour market', published in October 2023;
- 'Contingency planning and preparedness in EMN Member and Observer Countries,' which is for restricted circulation. A public summary of the study will be published (likely autumn 2023).

Communication packages were published on the EMN website and disseminated through social media channels (e.g. Twitter, LinkedIn), the EMN Quarterly, and the EMN's external mailing list. The communication packages were also shared with EMN NCPs to promote the wider circulation of EMN outputs, for example press releases that were published on EMN NCP national websites or translated into national languages.

As in previous years, EMN studies were developed in collaboration with policymakers, experts and practitioners across the EU and contributed (or are expected to contribute) directly to the policy-making process. EU-level studies are developed from national contributions based on desk analysis of secondary information including existing legislation and policy documents, reports, academic literature, and internet resources, as well as reports and information from national authorities and civil society stakeholders. Statistics were sourced from Eurostat, national authorities and other (national) databases.

The various reports are available on the EMN website under EMN Publications.<sup>10</sup>

3 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PT, PL, SE, SK, SI and NO, GE.

4 European Commission, 'Children in Migration', 2021, [https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/sites/default/files/2021-06/EMN-2019-Children-in-migration\\_synthesis-report\\_final.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/sites/default/files/2021-06/EMN-2019-Children-in-migration_synthesis-report_final.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

5 EMN, 'EMN Inform on the state of progress in 2020 of the European Commission communication on the protection of children in migration from 2017', January 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-02/EMN\\_Children\\_in\\_migration\\_2020\\_inform.pdf](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-02/EMN_Children_in_migration_2020_inform.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

6 EMN, 'Children in Migration: how do EU Member States and Norway ensure their care and protection?', Flash #1, 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1c91c8a8-0b33-413a-bf9e-885a1d1c7038\\_en?filename=EMN\\_Children\\_in\\_migration\\_2020\\_report\\_flash.pdf](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/1c91c8a8-0b33-413a-bf9e-885a1d1c7038_en?filename=EMN_Children_in_migration_2020_report_flash.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

7 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK and NO.

8 Child Circle, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), Missing Children Europe, Terre des Hommes.

9 The various reports are available on the EMN website under "EMN Publications", last accessed on 5 September 2023.

10 EMN website, n.d., [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-publications\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-publications_en), last accessed on 5 September 2023.



## Figure 2: Overview of EMN studies during 2022

**EMN study 2020:**  
**Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures**  
 (published in May 2022)

**EMN study 2021:**  
**Integration of migrant women in the EU and Norway (published in September 2022)**  
 (published in September 2022)

**EMN study 2022:**  
**Integration of asylum applicants in the labour market**  
 (published in September 2023)



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.

The studies are described in greater detail below.

### EMN Study 2020: detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures

The study identifies similarities, differences, practical challenges and best practices in the use of detention and its alternatives by EU Member States and Norway in the framework of international protection and return procedures.<sup>11</sup> It took the 2014 EMN study, 'The use of detention and alternatives to detention in the context of immigration policies' as a starting point. Major findings include legislative changes expanding the alternatives to detentions, most frequently used alternatives (e.g. reporting obligations, obligation to surrender a passport or identity document, requirement to communicate an address, release on bail), practical difficulties in implementing alternatives, and the limited data to measure the impact of detention or alternatives to detention on the effectiveness of return policies and international protection procedures.

The common template was developed in 2020 and the study was published in May 2022. It featured contributions from 27 EMN NCPs,<sup>12</sup> outlining and comparing developments between 2015 and 2020.

### EMN study 2021: third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: detection, identification and protection

This study examines how EMN Member and Observer Countries tackle trafficking of third-country nationals.<sup>13</sup> It maps the institutional, legislative and policy

frameworks at EU and national level for the detection, identification and protection of (presumed) victims. Given its clandestine nature, trafficking in human beings remains underreported. The study highlights the importance of cooperation at national and international level as a crucial element in early detection and identification to ensure prompt assistance and protection for victims, as well as prosecution and conviction of traffickers. In addition to previous EU treaties and directives (e.g. EU Charter on Fundamental Rights, Anti-Trafficking Directive (2011/36/EU), Victims' Rights Directive (2012/29/EU)), the study assesses the contribution of the EU Strategy on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2021-2025).

The report was published in March 2022 and featured contributions from 26 EMN NCPs.<sup>14</sup> It was presented at an online launch on 31 March 2022, with speakers including Diane Schmitt, EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, DG HOME, and Valiant Richey, Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

### EMN study 2021: integration of migrant women in the eu and norway: Policies and measures

This study documents whether and to what extent EMN Member and Observer Countries consider the distinct situation of migrant women in their integration policies and measures.<sup>15</sup> It focuses on the integration of migrant women in the main sectoral areas covered by the EU Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027, including education and training, employment and skills, health and housing. The report provides an overview of measures, the impact of COVID-19 on policy development, and new policies or changes to existing policies that could support the integration of migrant women into

11 EMN, 'Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures', 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-05/EMN\\_Study\\_on\\_detention\\_0.pdf](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-05/EMN_Study_on_detention_0.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

12 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK and NO, UK.

13 EMN, 'Third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: detection, identification and protection', 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/5defd438-065d-43c7-a31b-89a71d6130b2\\_en?filename=EMN\\_report2022\\_trafficking-in-human-beings\\_updated\\_final.pdf](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/document/download/5defd438-065d-43c7-a31b-89a71d6130b2_en?filename=EMN_report2022_trafficking-in-human-beings_updated_final.pdf), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

14 AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK and NO, GE.

15 EMN, 'Integration of Migrant Women', 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-emn-study-published-integration-migrant-women-2022-09-07\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-emn-study-published-integration-migrant-women-2022-09-07_en), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

society. The report was published in September 2022, with contributions from 25 EMN NCPs.<sup>16</sup>

### EMN study 2022: Integration of international protection applicants in the labour market

This study maps the legal and policy landscape across EMN Member Countries that promote the integration of international protection applicants.<sup>17</sup> It looks at ongoing debates in the EU, the conditions, restrictions and procedures for accessing the labour market, work permits, labour market tests, and available policies and strategies. It also assesses the measures available in different areas of integration (e.g. language acquisition, vocational education and training (VET), skills assessment) and key labour market integration challenges. The report is scheduled to be published in September 2023, with contributions from 24 EMN NCPs.<sup>18</sup>

### EMN Study 2022: contingency planning and preparedness in EMN Member and Observer Countries (limited)

This study examines existing or planned strategies and measures on contingency planning and resilience to deal with mass arrivals of people in mixed migration flows through air, land and sea borders. These assessments reflect the New Pact on Migration and Asylum's call for increased efforts in predicting and addressing migration crises. Increased attention to planning strategies is seen in the development of the Migration Preparedness and Crisis Blueprint Network in response to the European Commission's Recommendation to coordinate efforts across EU Member States and other stakeholders. The study is highly relevant, as climate change, regional and global impacts on the war in Ukraine, global conflicts, political and economic developments in third countries are likely to trigger rapid changes in migration patterns for which the EU, its Member States and EMN Observer Countries need to be prepared. While the circulation of the full-length study will be limited, a summary will be made available to the public in autumn 2023.



## 2.4. EMN INFORMS AND EMN FLASHES

EMN informs are succinct summaries of key findings on a specific topic that are publicly available through the EMN website and the national websites of the EMN NCPs. They specifically target policymakers but aim to be accessible to wider audiences. They may be stand-alone outputs developed through the collection of information via the EMN AHQ tool, or summarise the findings of an EMN report or study.

Introduced in 2018, EMN flashes provide a one-page overview of each EMN study. They are used to reach a wider public and media, with the aim of increasing awareness of their respective topics.

Some EMN informs and flashes, as well as some studies, have been translated by EMN NCPs into their respective languages to aid accessibility in national contexts. EMN

NCPs that share national languages often collaborate on or share translated works to make the publications available to national audiences.

In total, **33 EMN informs** and **six EMN flashes** were finalised or initiated in 2022, 11 of which were ad hoc informs (or equivalent).<sup>19</sup> In 2022, their focus was directed at ad hoc informs on the implementation of the TPD in order to address emerging needs. These were produced under the leadership of the EMN RIC Working Group. Eight of the informs were for limited circulation, with the remaining three publicly available on the EMN website. More information on the informs on the implementation of the TPD is provided below.

A complete list of the informs finalised or initiated in 2022 are presented in the table below.

**Table 1: List of studies, informs and flashes finalised or initiated in 2022**

#### Informs and flash reports linked to other publications



EMN study, inform and flash: **Annual Report on Migration and Asylum 2021** (finalised in June 2022)



EMN inform and flash: **On the state of progress in 2020 of the European Commission Communication on the Protection of Children in Migration from 2017/Children in migration: How do EU Member States and Norway ensure their care and protection** (finalised in February 2022)



EMN study, inform and flash: **Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures** (finalised in May 2022)

<sup>16</sup> AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK.

<sup>17</sup> EMN, 'Integration of applicants for international protection into the labour market', 2022, [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/whats-new/publications/integration-applicants-international-protection-labour-market\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/whats-new/publications/integration-applicants-international-protection-labour-market_en), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

<sup>18</sup> AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK.

<sup>19</sup> Ad hoc informs address a given need for information that arises outside of the planned programme for publications. During 2022, priorities shifted to address information needs due to the war in Ukraine and the activation of the TPD.

   EMN study, inform and flash : **Third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: Detection, identification and protection** (finalised in March 2022)


   EMN study, inform and flash: **Integration of migrant women in the EU and Norway: Policies and measures** (finalised in September 2022)

   EMN study, inform and flash: **Integration of international protection applicants in the labour market** (to be finalised in September 2023)

### Informs published in 2022

 EMN inform: **State of Progress in 2020 of the European Commission Communication on the Protection of Children in Migration from 2017** (finalised in January 2022)

 EMN-OECD inform: **The use of digitalisation and AI in migration management** (finalised in February 2022)


 EMN inform: **Preventing, detecting and tackling situations where authorisations to reside in the EU or the purpose of study are misused for other purposes** (finalised in March 2022)

 EMN-OECD inform 2022: **Skills mobility partnerships exploring innovative approaches to labour migration** (finalised in March 2022)

 EMN inform: **Attracting and retaining international researchers** (finalised in April 2022)

 EMN inform: **Mapping of mental health policies for third-country national migrants** (finalised in July 2022)

 EMN inform: **Incentives and motives for voluntary departure** (finalised in July 2022)

 EMN inform: **Secondary movements of beneficiaries of international protection** (finalised in September 2022)

 EMN inform: **Bilateral Readmission Agreements** (finalised in October 2022)

 EMN inform: **Inventory of Bilateral Readmission Agreements** (finalised in October 2022)

### Informs started in 2022, for publication in 2023

 EMN inform: **Organising flexible housing for reception and housing in the context of international protection** (finalised in January 2023)

 EMN inform: **Prospects for displaced persons in non-EU first reception and transit countries** (finalised in February 2023)

 EMN inform: **Resettlement, humanitarian admission and sponsorship schemes** (finalised in June 2023)


 EMN inform: **Accompanied children's right to be heard in international protection procedures** (finalised in April 2023)

 EMN inform: **Displacement and migration related to disasters, climate change and environmental degradation** (finalised in May 2023)

 EMN inform: **Anasysis of irregular migratory routes to the EU** (to be finalised in 2023)

### Ad hoc informs, published or initiated in 2022

 EMN inform: **Application of the Temporary Protection Directive (scope and registration)** (published in July 2022)

 EMN inform: **Arrangements for accommodation and housing for beneficiaries of temporary protection** (published in November 2022)

 EMN inform: **Access to services for beneficiaries of temporary protection** (published in January 2023)

### Ad hoc informs for restricted circulation, produced in 2022



EMN inform: **Scope of the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in April 2022)



EMN inform: **Registration under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in April 2022)



EMN inform: **Family reunification under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in April 2022)



EMN inform: **Access to employment under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in May 2022)



EMN inform: **Access to accommodation under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in May 2022)



EMN inform: **Access to social welfare under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in May 2022)



EMN inform: **Access to education under the Temporary Protection Directive** (for restricted circulation only, finalised in May 2022)



EMN inform: **Private housing under the Temporary Protection Directive** (restricted circulation, finalised in May 2022)

### Series of EMN Informs On the application of the TPD

This series of informs developed by the EMN cover a breadth of topics on the application of the TPD following Russia's military invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 and the subsequent activation of the TPD on 4 March 2022.<sup>20</sup> The TPD provides for access to a harmonised set of rights for beneficiaries of temporary protection, and the European Commission published Operational Guidelines for the implementation of Council Decision 2022/382 to support EU Member States in applying the TPD and other applicable EU law.<sup>21</sup> The EMN launched

queries to EMN Member and Observer Countries (through the RIC Working Group) to gather and assess responses and developments at EU and national level in order to support knowledge sharing and coordination efforts. The informs assess various aspects of the TPD, such as its scope, registration of persons fleeing the war in Ukraine, access to education and employment, family reunification, and accommodation.

The informs on TPD represented a reliable source of information on practices in EMN Member and Observer Countries.



## 2.5. EMN AD HOC QUERIES

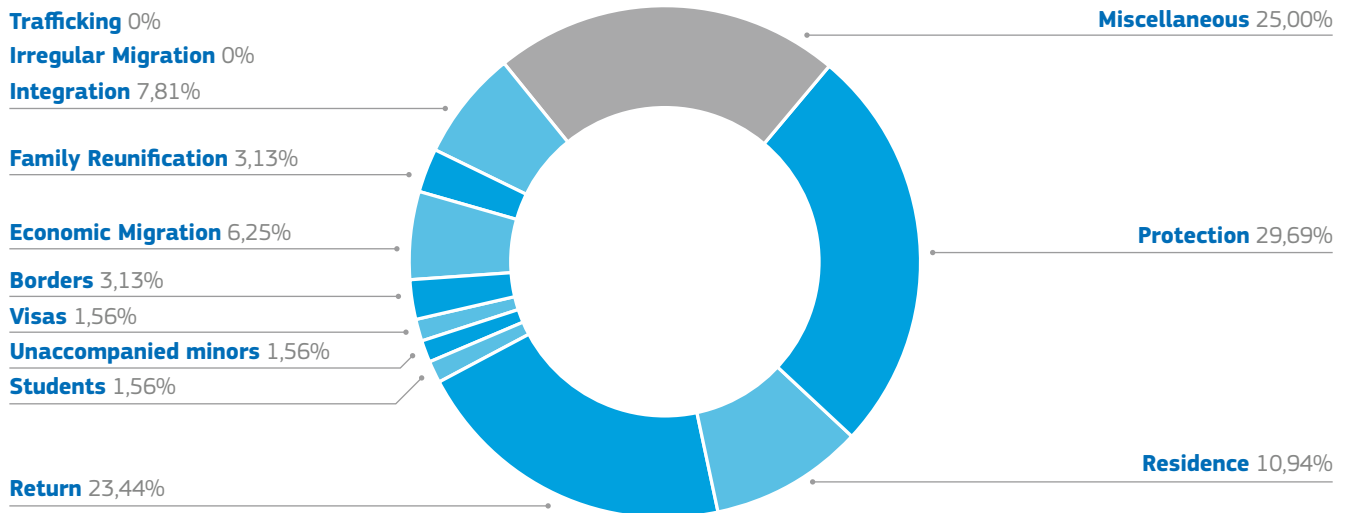
The EMN Ad Hoc Queries (AHQ) tool operated throughout 2022 to quickly obtain comparative information from EMN Member and Observer Countries on specific topics. The European Commission has reaffirmed the tool's usefulness in addressing immediate information needs by coordinating effectively with EMN NCPs. Each year, the queries increasingly form the foundations for the EMN informs. In 2022, the Rapid Information Collection (RIC) Working Group was created to formalise procedures within the EMN in light of the activation of the TPD and to enable increased coordination on related AHQs (and

their resulting informs). In 2022, **65 EMN AHQs** were launched,<sup>22</sup> including 22 by the European Commission. Popular topics for AHQs included: 'Protection' (29.7%), 'Return' (23.4%), and 'Residence' (10.9%). The highest number of AHQs were launched by EMN NCP Luxembourg, which leads the EMN AHQ Working Group and monitors the quality of the questions launched (9), EMN NCP the Netherlands (7), EMN France (6) and EMN NCPs Finland and Belgium (at 5 each). No AHQs were launched on irregular migration or trafficking in human beings.

20 Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC, and having the effect of introducing temporary protection, OJ L 71, pp. 1-6.

21 Communication from the Commission on operational guidelines for the implementation of Council implementing Decision 2022/382 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC and having the effect of introducing temporary protection, OJ C 1261, pp. 1-16.

22 Includes individual AHQs; however, because of their length, several count as equivalent to two or three AHQs, giving a total of 83 AHQ launched in the year.

**Figure 3: EMN AHQ topics, 2022**

Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.

AHQs were used by EMN Member and Observer Countries to feed into a range of policies and processes. In 2022, AHQs on the application of temporary protection were particularly useful in providing information and support for national governments and legislative amendments. For example, in the Czech Republic, local stakeholders were interested in other EU Member States' good practices on temporary protection. The AHQs and resulting informs were used by the legislation unit of the Ministry of the Interior in the Czech Republic in its process of drafting amendments to *Lex Ukraine (Lex Ukrajina)*, special national legislation designed as a tool to manage the migration wave from Ukraine) and helped to enhance the effectiveness of the Czech Republic's measures by applying lessons from other countries. EMN Cyprus shared the information received from EMN NCPs to an AHQ on the extension of certificates/residence permits for beneficiaries of temporary protection with colleagues in the Civil Registry, Migration Department and asylum services working with beneficiaries of TPD. The same AHQ confirmed policymakers' ideas for further extension certificates/residence permits in Latvia, resulting in amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians.<sup>23</sup>

Other AHQs informed legislative and policy proposals and internal processes on topics ranging from border

procedures to legal migration and integration measures. For example, EMN Finland launched an urgent AHQ on border procedures on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior. The query was particularly important given the volatile geopolitical situation and the government's need to present a legislative proposal to the Finnish Parliament as soon as possible. That gathering of information through the AHQ is mentioned in the government proposal.<sup>24</sup> EMN Finland also launched two AHQs on citizenship, one on the use of automation in citizenship processes and another on the minimum period of residence needed to obtain citizenship. These queries were launched at the request of the Finnish Immigration Service and the Ministry of the Interior. The information was very well received and used in internal policy and procedural discussions.

Other AHQs filled information gaps. For example, to bolster its readiness for issuing temporary residence permits to foreigners living abroad, Lithuania initiated an AHQ to glean insights from other EMN Member or Observer Countries' experiences. EMN Latvia launched an AHQ to gather information on a one-stop-shop for integration of third-country nationals, which helped the officials of the Society Integration Foundation of Latvia to develop its own one-stop-shop for third-country nationals.



## 2.6. EMN QUARTERLY

The EMN Quarterly<sup>25</sup> is designed to provide quarterly updates to policymakers on major EU and national developments in migration and asylum policy, judgments from the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), and statistical trends. New developments are presented under broad thematic headings that can be accessed

through links from the top menu. Editions 37 through 40 were published in 2022, each accompanied by its more succinct flash format. The EMN Quarterly is distributed to approximately 1 200 external contacts in addition to the internal EMN mailing lists and is promoted widely on the EMN's social media channels.

<sup>23</sup> Latvia, Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians, Latvijas Vēstnesis No 240A, 12.12.2022 [entered into force on 13.12.2022], 2022, <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/337915-grozijumi-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-atbalsta-likuma>, last accessed on 5 September 2023.

<sup>24</sup> Government proposal, available in Finnish, [https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/vaski/HallituksenEsitys/Sivut/HE\\_103+2022.aspx](https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/vaski/HallituksenEsitys/Sivut/HE_103+2022.aspx), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

<sup>25</sup> EMN, EMN Quarterly, n.d., [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-quarterly\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-quarterly_en), last accessed on 5 September 2023.





## 2.7. EMN GLOSSARY

The EMN Glossary<sup>26</sup> provides a common definition of up-to-date terms and concepts in migration in all EU Member States and Norway. It is widely regarded as a useful tool that improves comparability and thus supports policy discussions at EU and national level.

During 2022, the EMN Glossary focused on a smooth transition to the updated online platform (Drupal 8). The website was redesigned, in cooperation with the Glossary and Thesaurus Working Group and ICF, with a new interface and new classification system to facilitate searches. A promotional video for the EMN Glossary is available on the website, and the Glossary continues to be distributed through national newsletters, distributed at events, and the EMN's social media channels. Several EMN NCPs reported distributing paper versions at the EMN Youth Day and/or other public events.

The EMN Glossary app was transferred from EMN Italy to the European Commission to ensure centralisation of updates and maintenance of contents. New language

versions are envisioned for both the online and app versions of the Glossary.

2022 saw strengthened cooperation with external partners (e.g. European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) and the Translation Centre For the Bodies of the EU (CdT)) on establishing smooth processes for sharing information in line with changing legislation and finding comprehensive definitions that are applicable in different migration contexts. That collaboration supports the identification of incongruencies in terminology and helps to provide explanations on the different legislative and practical contexts within which terms can take on different meanings. These efforts minimise differences in definitions in migration, benefiting end-users.

EMN also continued to update and introduce terms to the Glossary. A thorough revision of the contents of the entire Glossary was provided by EMN Georgia, as it worked on a full national translation of the terms. In addition, EMN Luxembourg translated the EMN Glossary into Ukrainian as a sign of solidarity to Ukraine.



## 2.8. EMN EDUCATIONAL TOOL 'DESTINATION EUROPE'

The work on the EMN Educational Tool 'Destination Europe' continued in 2022. Developed in 2018 by the EMN in partnership with the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the tool has been centrally coordinated by EMN Luxembourg since August 2021. Various developments took place in 2022, including the production of a promotional and instruction video to increase awareness and accessibility of the tool. Both videos are available in English on the Destination Europe website,<sup>27</sup> including subtitles in various languages.

Online facilitator training was organised in April 2022 to train EMN colleagues to organise and facilitate Destination Europe sessions. In September 2022, EMN Luxembourg organised a kick-off event to raise awareness of the tool, its target audience, how it works and its

uses, and to explore the possibilities of implementing the tool in different educational settings. It featured various perspectives on the educational tool, including a talk with the developer, a walk-through, and insights from some of the Destination Europe pilot countries. Destination Europe also played an integral role in the EMN Youth Day on 16 November 2022 (see section 4.1.3).

Many participating EMN NCPs have started or finalised the translation of Destination Europe into their respective national language(s). In many cases, they produced printed copies to facilitate in-person sessions, mostly in educational settings. The tool is currently available in more than 10 languages, most of which are available on the Destination Europe website as 'Print-and-Play' versions. More language versions are expected to be produced in 2023.

<sup>26</sup> EMN, EMN Glossary, n.d., [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-asylum-and-migration-glossary\\_en](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/european-migration-network-emn/emn-asylum-and-migration-glossary_en), last accessed on 5 September 2023.

<sup>27</sup> EMN and University of Luxembourg, 'Destination Europe', n.d., <https://destinationeurope.uni.lu/>, last accessed on 5 September 2023.

# 3. EMN EXPERT GROUPS

The EMN's expert groups continued to meet during 2022. These groups include the Return Expert Group (REG), the Information and Awareness-Raising Campaigns (INFO)

Expert Group, the Statelessness Platform, and an Expert Group on Operational IT Tools. The activities of each during 2022 are outlined below.

**Figure 4. Overview of EMN expert group meetings in 2022**



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.



## 3.1. EMN RETURN EXPERT GROUP (REG)

The EMN REG comprises national practitioners, representatives of EMN NCPs and other stakeholders. In 2022, it produced a series of outputs focusing on issues relating to return.

The EMN REG met three times in 2022 (31<sup>st</sup>-33<sup>rd</sup> EMN Plenary REG meetings) in both its constituencies, the EMN REG Practitioners and the EMN REG Wider Group.

During the REG Wider Group meetings, key topics included:

- Identifying return-related priorities for 2022;
- Implementing the EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration (2021);
- Developing a quality monitoring framework for return and integration;

- Developing and using the Return and Reintegration Assistance Inventory (RRAI) and the Return Integration Assistance Tool (RIAT);
- Mapping return-related coordination;
- Identifying return-related policy priorities for 2023.

Policy priorities in 2022 were detention, returning vulnerable individuals (with a focus on medical cases), cooperation with third countries on readmission, return and reintegration, alternatives to detention, and return counselling.

Stakeholders were able to share and validate the information collected with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), EUAA and the European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN), and with a broad range of international organisations and NGOs active in the field of return. These organisations included: Caritas International, the International Organization for Migration

(IOM), International Returns and Reintegration Assistance (IRARA), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The EMN REG continued to support DG HOME to develop a non-binding quality framework for EU Member States to apply when collaborating with implementing partners in their assisted return and reintegration programmes in third countries.

## Limited REG publications



EMN REG inform: **Return of third-country nationals who committed crimes** (restricted circulation, finalised in January 2022)



EMN REG inform/document: **Non-binding compilation paper for policy-makers and practitioners on select data protection aspects to take into account in return-related issues** (restricted circulation, finalised in January 2022)



EMN REG inform/document: **Mapping document on Member States' approaches to assess and address vulnerabilities in return procedures** (restricted circulation, finalised in February 2022)



## 3.2. EMN INFORMATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGNS (INFO) EXPERT GROUP

The EMN INFO Expert Group was established in November 2018 to support knowledge exchange and provide enhanced coordination between EU Member States, EU bodies and external experts (e.g. UNHCR, IOM). The working group was co-chaired by EMN Austria and the European Commission in 2022.

The Working Group met twice in 2022. On 6 May 2022, the 8<sup>th</sup> EMN INFO Working Group workshop discussed social media communications on current experiences dealing with displaced persons from Ukraine and components of a technical toolkit to optimise interventions. Presentations were made by the Polish Office for Foreigners and Seefar<sup>28</sup> to discuss learnings (e.g. FAQ sections on websites to consolidate information requests) and useful communication models seen in practice (e.g. the conversation paradigm that is interactive and effective in creating proactive links with other hubs of influence).

On 13 December 2022, the 9<sup>th</sup> EMN INFO Working Group workshop was used to exchange experiences on information campaigns in the Silk Road region among members and local stakeholders. The ICMPD presented its experience of implementing the PARIM project in Pakistan, which raised awareness among (potential) migrants of the dangers of irregular migration (e.g. false job advertisements, trafficking) and provided information on legal pathways. The different levels of awareness raising (community engagement, mass media, capacity-building) were noted, as was the importance of tailoring information campaigns to specific needs.

At the December meeting, EMN Cyprus was elected to co-chair the Working Group alongside the European Commission.



## 3.3. STATELESSNESS PLATFORM

The EMN Statelessness Platform hosted a technical workshop through EMN Luxembourg and EMN Estonia on 'Children's right to nationality' in December 2022. It continued to work with the Council of Europe and to provide information to EU Member States and the general public on statelessness. Preparations for the EMN inform on Statelessness in the EU were launched in 2022, with a view to gathering inputs from EMN NCPs in early

2023. In October 2022, the EMN Statelessness Platform briefed the European Commission to ensure successful participation of the European Commission representative in the event 'Stateless Journeys: Improving protection for stateless refugees,' organised by the European Network on Statelessness. The Platform continued to be chaired by EMN Luxembourg.

28 Seefar is a non-profit social enterprise that works with vulnerable groups by delivering social media campaigns, strategies and projects. Its themes include migration, trafficking in human beings, and social inclusion, <https://seefar.org/>, last accessed on 21 August 2023.





## 3.4. EXPERT GROUP FOR OPERATIONAL IT TOOLS

The EMN Information Exchange System (IES) continues to be updated to ensure relevant material is maintained and exchanged. It was expanded to host new workspaces and operational initiatives, such as the Return and Reintegration Assistance Tool. The organisation of workspaces was reviewed to accommodate Georgia and the Republic of Moldova joining as EMN Observer Countries, while preserving the security of sensitive information. Significant developments in IT tools are described below.

### EU Talent Pool

During 2022, the EMN was asked to support the accelerated development and pilot of the EU Talent Pool, given the urgent emerging needs resulting from the war of aggression against Ukraine and the millions of people fleeing to seek refuge in the EU. Announced in the 2020 New Pact on Migration and Asylum,<sup>29</sup> the Skills and Talent Package<sup>30</sup> sets out the key features of the EU Talent Pool, which is the first EU-wide platform that matches EU-based employers struggling to find qualified workers locally with skilled third-country nationals wishing to move legally to the EU to work. The European Commission established a working group to begin preparations on the pilot in April 2022, which met six times throughout the year with the support of ICF. Participation in the initiative is voluntary and all nominations are recorded in a dedicated members' list. The working group comprises representatives of:

- Immigration and employment authorities nominated as NCPs to support the initiative and coordinate national networks for the purposes of the EU Talent Pool;
- Social partners;
- EU institutions, including the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) and DG HOME, the European Labour Authority (ELA), the European Parliament and the Council of the EU.

The EU Talent Pool pilot was officially launched at a high-level conference in October 2022, accompanied by a communications campaign. It was developed on a dedicated portal through the European Employment Services (EURES) IT platform, enabling faster access to over 4 500 registered employers and reducing the burden on national administrations.<sup>31</sup>

As emphasised by its Chair, the EMN can provide analytical support to future activities to ensure continuity. For

example, dissemination activities can be supported by EMN NCPs. EU Member States can also use their EMN grants to channel specific activities related to the EU Talent Pool. As Ukraine has become an EMN Observer Country, its participation in dissemination activities could be very valuable. In parallel with the ongoing efforts on the pilot, the EU Talent Pool Group began to develop the EU Talent Pool proper, considering the lessons of the pilot and adjusting the project to fit aim of attracting third-country nationals not already residing in the EU.

### EU Transfer Tool

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the new Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism agreed by a number of EU Member States, the EU Transfer Tool was introduced in 2022. An expert group was established to support the development of an online platform, hosted on the EMN IES, to facilitate voluntary relocations. While the European Commission has supported voluntary relocations for several years, the EU Transfer Tool would allow a more structured system for providing operational support, improving efficiency and accountability. Meeting twice over the course of 2022, the expert group worked to develop coordination and operational modules, including on voluntary transfers of beneficiaries of temporary protection from Moldova to EU Member States and other Schengen-Associated Countries (SACs) pledging to welcome them, and on voluntary relocation of applicants for international protection, particularly those belonging to vulnerable groups. Concerns on data protection were addressed to ensure that data are transferred securely and EU rules and standards upheld. Cooperation with EU agencies and international organisations, such as the EUAA, IOM and UNHCR, were foundational to the development of the EU Transfer Tool.

### EU monitoring tool for the Employers' Sanctions Directive

An expert group was established to support EU Member States to report on the implementation of the Employers' Sanctions Directive (2009/52/EC),<sup>32</sup> which provides minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of irregularly staying third-country nationals. The working group developed a data collection tool, hosted on the EMN IES, and guidelines for EU Member States. Experts collaborated to develop focused questions to gather relevant and topical information from EU Member States. Training was provided on using the new online tool to facilitate data collection and analysis.

29 Communication on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum, COM(2020) 609 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A609%3AFIN>, last accessed on 21 August 2023.

30 Communication on Attracting skills and talent to the EU, COM(2022) 657 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A657%3AFIN&qid=1651223944578>, last accessed on 21 August 2023.

31 EURES, EU Talent Pool Pilot, n.d., [https://eures.ec.europa.eu/eu-talent-pool-pilot\\_en](https://eures.ec.europa.eu/eu-talent-pool-pilot_en), available in English, Ukrainian and Russian, last accessed on 21 August 2023.

32 Directive 2009/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 providing for minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of illegally staying third-country nationals, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32009L0052>, last accessed on 5 September 2023.

# 4. EMN EVENTS



## 4.1. EU-LEVEL EVENTS

The EMN organises annual EU-level events, including two conferences within the framework of the Presidencies of the Council of the EU, a launch event for the ARM covering legal and policy developments for the previous year, and roundtables. EMN Luxembourg provided the webinar platform and technical support to at least 7 EU and national level events. The 2022 events are described below.

### EMN Presidency conferences

In 2022, two EMN conferences took place within the framework of the French and Czech Presidencies of the Council of the EU. The annual conferences proved an important occasion to showcase new EMN outputs and to bring the EMN to the attention of high-level stakeholders.

EMN France organised the **EMN French Presidency Conference on 'Assisted voluntary return and reintegration: Strategy of EU Member States and European coordination'** on 21 June 2022 under the framework of the French Presidency of the Council of the EU. It shared knowledge, experience and views among representations from the EU Member States, EU institutions and international organisations on the challenges and solutions to promote assisted voluntary return in an effort to better manage migration in the EU. European and national stakeholders were brought together, such as Michael Shotter (Director, Directorate for Migration and Asylum, DG HOME), Claude d'Harcourt (General Director for Foreign Nationals in France, French Ministry of the Interior), Jean-Christophe Dumont (Head of the International Migration Division, OECD), Dider Leschi (General Director, OFII), Mari Juritsch (Return Coordinator, DG HOME), Jeroen Vandekerckhove (Project Officer, International Unit, Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (Fedasil), Belgium), Michele Anne Vennat (Senior Programme Manager, Seefar), Svetlana Velimirovic (Deputy Commissioner, Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, Republic of Serbia), and Nehed Rajhi (General Director, Office for Tunisian nationals abroad (OTE)). The event stressed that return is a pivotal component of migration management, ensuring the credibility and predictability of the migration system. Focus was placed on harmonisation of practices across EU Member States and cooperation with ERRIN and Frontex on voluntary return.

EMN Czech Republic hosted the **EMN Czech Presidency Conference on 'EU and Labour Migration: Needs, Strategies and Challenges'** on 5 and 6 October 2022 under the framework of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU. The event brought together policymakers from Member States and EU institutions, international organisations, NGOs, economic and social partners, the private sector and non-EU countries to foster exchange of information and awareness, while sharing best practices and gaining new perspectives. Speakers included Vít Rakušan (Minister of the Interior, Czech Republic), Ylva Johansson (Commissioner for Home Affairs, DG HOME), António Vitorino (Director-General of the IOM), Michael Spindelegger (Director General, ICMPD), Stefano Scarpetta (Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD), Michelle Leighton (Chief of Labour Migration Branch for the ILO), Anita Vella (Head of Unit for Legal Pathways and Integration, DG HOME) and Marina Brizar (UK & Europe Director, Talent Beyond Boundaries). Topics included labour migration management, cooperation with non-EU countries, assistance and challenges relating to migrant workers already present in the host country, attraction of talent, and the changes caused by new technologies and digitalisation. Special attention was paid to the impact of persons fleeing the war in Ukraine on the EU labour market.

### Annual report on asylum and migration (ARM) Launch event

The launch of the EMN ARM<sup>33</sup> took place on 15 June 2022. ICF supported the conceptualisation of the event, in coordination with the Communication and Dissemination Working Group and the ARM Working Group. Building on the key trends identified in the 2021 ARM, the event focused on 'Flexibility in migration management'. It placed the developments of 2021 in the wider context of the war of aggression against Ukraine and the situation of the beneficiaries of temporary protection in EU Member States. Attendees included representatives from EMN Georgia and EMN Moldova.

33 In 2022, the ARM launch event was rebranded, having previously been known as EMN Day.

## EMN roundtables

### EMN-OECD roundtable on digitalisation and AI in migration management

On 10 February 2022, the joint EMN-OECD Roundtable built on lessons from previous migration-related crises, highlighting how they became catalysts for innovation and showcasing emerging practices on the development of AI and digital technologies in migration policy. The event reflected the New Pact on Migration and Asylum and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), which emphasise the importance of digitalisation and data management, placing particular importance on early warning and forecasting of migration flows. EMN Luxembourg provided the technical support needed to make the event hybrid and more accessible to the public by providing the online platform. Policymakers and public services use smart digital services frequently, from forecasting migration patterns and using video conferencing to conduct remote interviews, to providing services using chatbots and supporting identification processes. At the same time, safeguarding privacy and ethical standards remain a critical challenge as technology develops. The use of blockchain to securely transfer information was discussed, as was the central issue of protecting human rights and the importance of maintaining a human element in decision-making processes.

The event brought together international stakeholders, practitioners, academics and NGOs to share their perspectives. The first half of the event was open to all those looking to understand applications of digital systems, AI and blockchain in migration from a non-technical perspective. The second part of the event was restricted to EU Member State practitioners, enabling discussion of sensitive materials and gaining further insights into best practices.

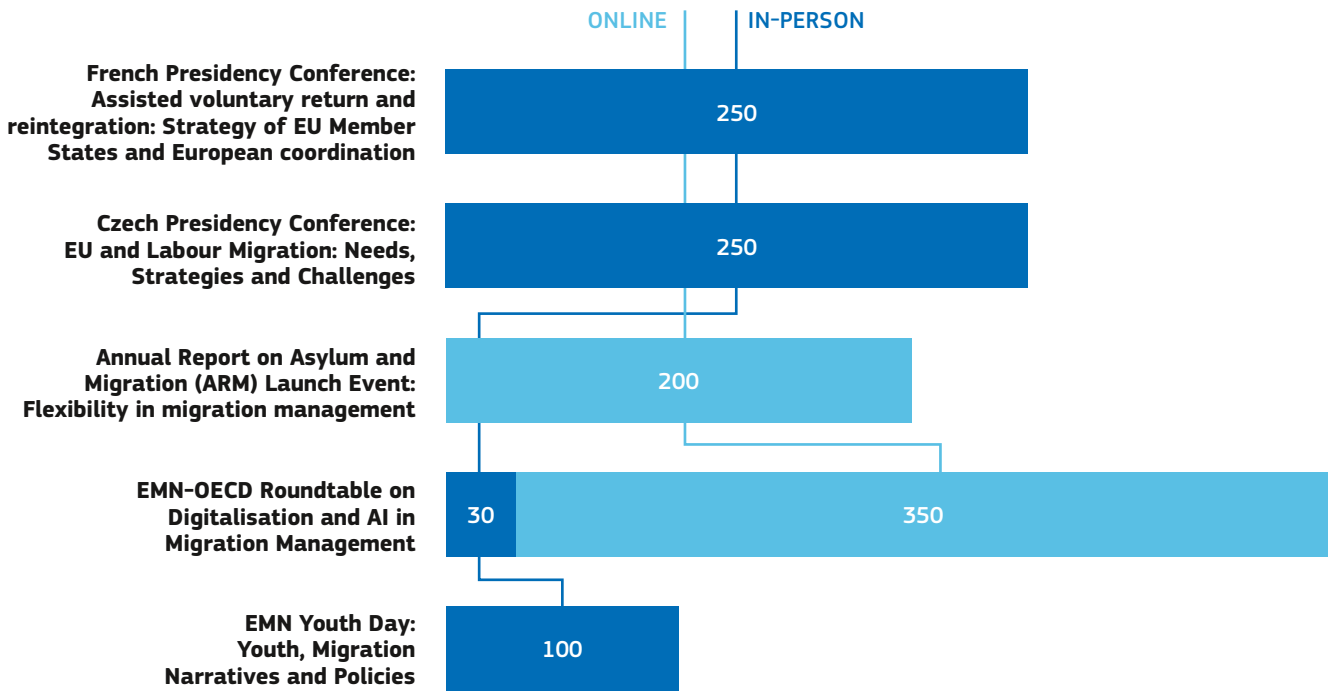
### EMN youth day: youth, migration narratives and policies

As 2022 was the European Year of Youth, EMN highlighted the importance of young people's futures in policy priorities by organising a Youth Day Roundtable on 'Migration narratives and policies' on 16 November 2022. It consisted of in-person national events hosted by EMN NCPs in Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Spain, all linked together at an EU-level online event, hosted by EMN Luxembourg. Each national event gathered 9-25 participants aged 18-24, including students, young workers, youth representatives or activists, young people with an interest in migration, young people with a migrant background, and young migrants, including asylum seekers with legal migration status. A diverse mix of high-level speakers joined the event (via Webex) and participants had the opportunity to engage in the EMN Educational Tool '[Destination Europe](#)', an interactive learning tool, based on role-play, that stimulates nuanced discussions on migration policies. The session stimulated reflections on the challenges and opportunities of migration. Participants formed small groups for discussion that were later included in reporting. The feedback that it was useful and educational to experience different points of view on migration stood out."

Overall, the event received substantial feedback from participants, successfully collecting young people's reflections on the benefits and challenges of migration and a possible EU-level awareness campaign addressing the issue of disinformation. Each EMN NCP gathered key takeaways from their in-person event, with common findings highlighting participants' increased awareness of the complexities of policy-making and the importance of youth engagement.

Figure 5 presents the EMN EU-level events in 2022, together with attendance data.

**Figure 5. Audience attendance at EMN events and roundtables**



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.



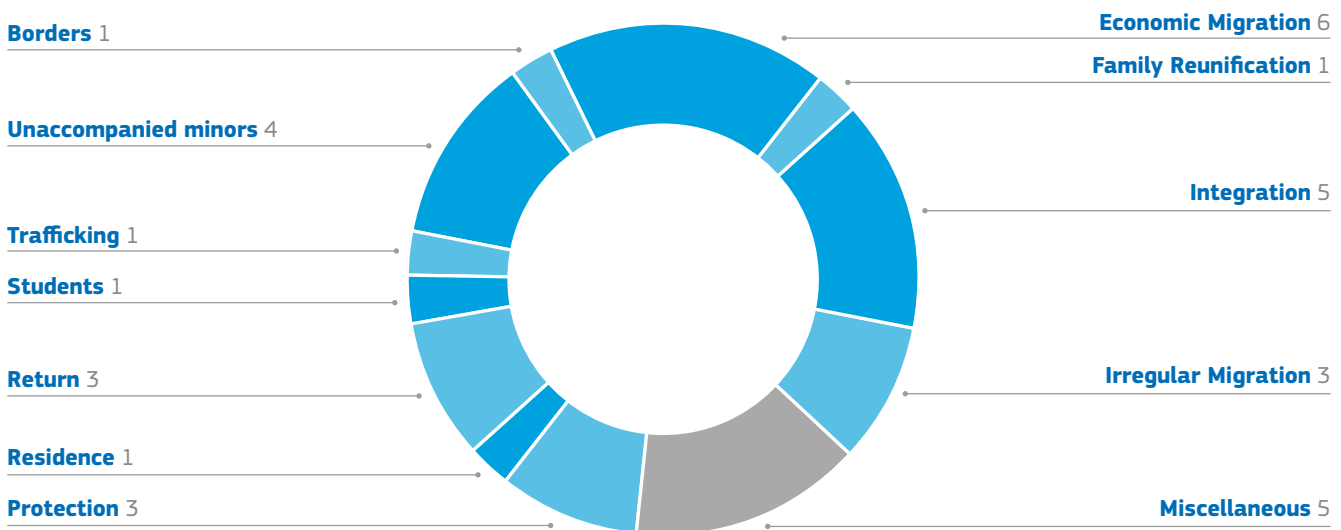
## 4.2. EMN NATIONAL EVENTS

EMN NCPs organised a wide range of activities and outputs in 2022, including national events. They animated their national networks of stakeholders working

in migration and asylum and facilitated the exchange of information and to achieve common goals.

Figure 6 presents the topics covered in national events during the year (see complete list in Annex 1).

**Figure 6: Topics covered in EMN national events, 2022**



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.



### 4.3. EU-LEVEL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS

The EMN conducted **seven capacity-building workshops** in 2022. These were planned based on requests for training and emerging needs. Topics covered included:

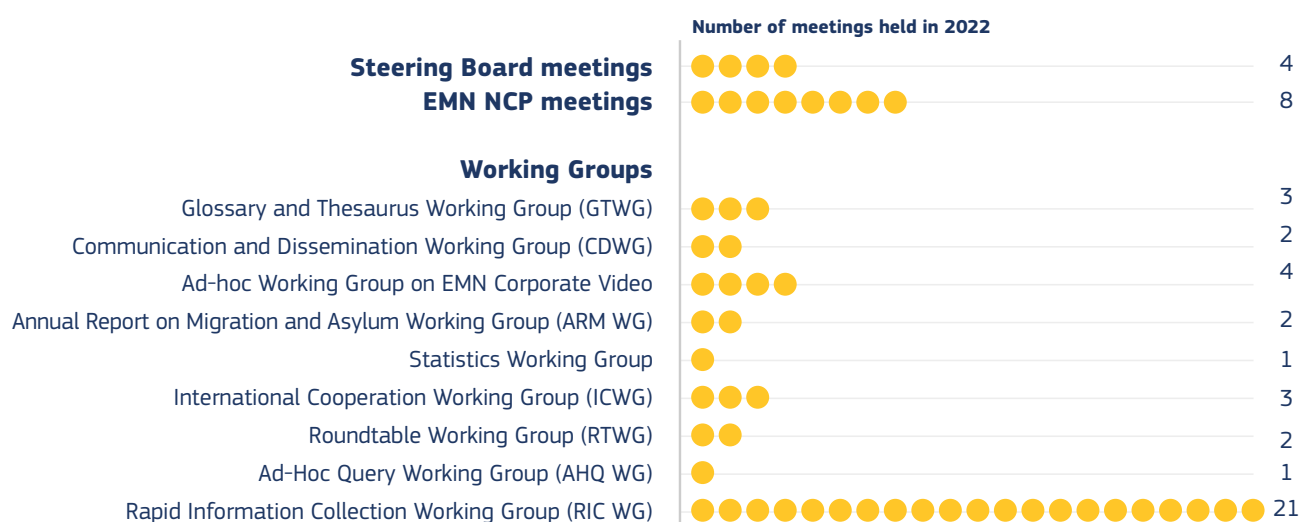
- Training on the TPD, held on 17 June 2022, to ensure that those working within the EMN were aligned and up-to-date with the latest developments;
- Induction training of new EMN Observer Countries, to introduce the way the network functions, was held on 5-6 July 2022 Croatia;
- A online facilitator training on Destination Europe, an educational tool developed by the EMN with the aim to support learning on migration processes, was held online on 29 April 2022;
- An in-person workshop on financial training and reporting for Work Programme 2021-2022 was held on 14 October 2022;
- A workshop on maximising the role of Observer Countries in EMN outputs (publications and events), held on 13 December 2022. The workshop focused on how EMN Member and Observer Countries could work together on outputs to ensure that the network as a whole benefits from its increasingly diverse composition;
- A workshop for Advisory Group Leads on planning 2023 publications, held on 13 December 2022, to support EMN NCPs to learn/review the processes;
- A second workshop on financial training on final report for Work Programme 2021-2022 was held in hybrid format on 6 December 2022.

# 5. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

The EMN continued to hold regular meetings with its Steering Board and EMN NCPs, as well as functional EMN working groups and advisory groups throughout 2022.

These meetings and major developments are described briefly below.

**Figure 7. Overview of EMN organisational and working group meetings**



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.



## 5.1. EMN STEERING BOARD AND NCP MEETINGS

**Four Steering Board Meetings were held** (31<sup>st</sup> to 34<sup>th</sup>) on 17 March, 16 May, 25 May, and 27 October 2022. The Steering Board is chaired by the European Commission and comprises at least one representative from all EMN Member Countries; representatives from EMN Observer Countries and relevant EU agencies may also attend. The key issues discussed in these meetings were the EMN's role in undertaking situational awareness activities for the rapid collection of information related to emerging issues. Examples include the implementation of the TPD following the outbreak of war in Ukraine, contributions to the operational IT tools of the Employer Sanctions Directive, the EU Talent Pool and the EU Transfers Tool, as well as future collaborations with

new EMN Observer Countries (Armenia, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine).

**Eight EMN NCP Meetings were held** (118<sup>th</sup> to 125<sup>th</sup>) on 26 January, 25 March, 25 April, 22 June, 7 September, 6 October, 23 November, and 14 December 2022. These meetings advanced EMN outputs and provided a forum to discuss upcoming national developments and issues.

Management structures were used to facilitate the EMN's flexibility to respond to changing priorities by refocusing current activities and reflecting on strategic changes, thereby increasing its added value.





## 5.2. FUNCTIONAL EMN WORKING GROUPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

EMN working groups met regularly to provide operational support and guidance on the implementation of key EMN activities.

### **EMN Glossary and Thesaurus Working Group**

The EMN Glossary and Thesaurus Working Group (GTWG) met three times in 2022 (55<sup>th</sup>-57<sup>th</sup> meetings), on 28 February and 8 April in virtual WebEx meetings and on 30 November 2022 in Bratislava, Slovakia. The GTWG was chaired by EMN Germany and EMN Sweden. The group continued its collaboration with external partners and oversaw developments in the Glossary (see section 2.6).

EMN Georgia continued to translate the glossary into Georgian and contributed substantially to a comprehensive review of the EMN Glossary.

### **EMN Communication and Dissemination Working Group**

The EMN Communication and Dissemination Working Group (CDWG) was co-chaired by EMN Finland and EMN France throughout 2022. It met twice, on 25 January 2022 and 19 September 2022. Work continued to update the EMN Communications and Dissemination Strategy, enhancing EMN visibility and coordinating the introduction of national communication plans. Significant efforts were made to support the website reconstruction and transition.

### **Ad hoc Working Group on EMN Corporate Video**

This focus group was created to prepare an updated corporate video to explain the work, growth and evolution of the EMN. Work began on the video in 2021, with four meetings in 2022, on 14 January, 25 January, 17 February and 9 March. The Ad hoc Working Group supported the writing of the concept, copyright script, visuals, and filming, together with a professional production company that previously supported the EMN with videos. The video is available on the EMN website, with subtitles translated into 12 different languages by EMN NCPs.

### **EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum Working Group**

The Annual Report on Migration and Asylum (ARM) Working Group, co-chaired by EMN Ireland and EMN Netherlands, held two virtual meetings on 14 September and 1 December 2022. They discussed revised templates and changes to the report to improve its analytical content, including making the report more visual with graphics for a wider readership. The ARM template was revised to include a section on Ukraine.

### **EMN Statistics Working Group**

The EMN Statistics Working Group was co-chaired by EMN Norway and EMN Latvia and was consulted regularly in 2022. It continued to focus on improving the comparability of migration and asylum statistics for use in EMN studies, reports and other outputs, and to ensure greater consistency. The Group met once virtually, on 18 October 2022.

### **EMN International Cooperation Working Group**

The EMN International Cooperation Working Group (ICWG) was chaired by EMN Cyprus. The guidance on cooperation with third countries, developed by the ICWG and endorsed by the European Commission and EMN Steering Board in 2020, continued to be implemented. Georgia and Moldova were supported in joining as EMN Observer Countries, while Ukraine, Montenegro and Armenia officially joined the EMN with observer status, under the Group's guidance. Fact-finding missions and evaluations continued in order to establish cooperation with Serbia, which will officially join as an EMN Observer Country on 16 March 2023.

### **EMN Roundtables Working Group**

The Roundtables Working Group was co-chaired by EMN Austria and met twice (virtually), on 5 April and 10 November 2022. It supported the delivery of an EU-level event as part of the EMN Roundtables 'AI and Digitalisation' and 'AI in Migration Management.' It also became a point of reference for conceptualisation and identification of high-quality speakers for EMN events (e.g. for the EMN Czech Presidency Conference), developing an expert repository of high-quality speakers for internal use at national and EU-level EMN events.

The roundtables organised by the Working Group bring together innovative thinkers to clarify viewpoints and offer a space for different perspectives to be discussed on challenging issues under the Chatham House rules.

### **EMN Ad Hoc Query Working Group**

The EMN Ad Hoc Query Working Group (AHQ WG), co-chaired by EMN Luxembourg, met virtually on 17 February 2022 and continued to actively look for ways to improve the use of AHQ as a comparative research tool. The co-chairs of the AHQ WG worked with EMN Member and Observer Countries and ICF to guarantee the quality of the AHQs launched.

### **EMN RIC Working Group**

The emerging need for information on the implementation of the TPD, activated following the war in Ukraine, offered an opportunity for the EMN to contribute to situational awareness efforts undertaken within the EU migration preparedness and crisis management network (Blueprint Network) and thus develop a methodology for quickly collecting information on pressing issues. The EMN RIC Working Group was established for this purpose. ICF and the EMN NCPs adapted their work plan and mobilised resources to produce a series of analytical reports on the TPD within a very short timeframe. To ensure the effective use of resources without interference with other EMN activities, ICF worked closely with the RIC Working Group and DG HOME to establish clear drafting, consultation and validation processes and standards. The group was consulted in at least 21 advisory meetings between March and December 2022.



### 5.3. COOPERATION WITH NON-EU COUNTRIES

Cooperation with third countries intensified in 2022 and provided valuable insights to the whole network. Collaboration with **EMN Norway** as an EMN Observer Country continued to be fruitful. **EMN Georgia** and **EMN Republic of Moldova**, which officially became Observer Countries in March and April 2021, respectively, contributed to EMN outputs, including publications and events. EMN Georgia also contributed substantially to a comprehensive review of the EMN Glossary, reviewing all

terms, definitions and notes while translating them into Georgian.

EMN membership continued to expand in 2022. **Ukraine**, **Montenegro** and **Armenia** officially became Observer Countries in August, September and October 2022, respectively. Exploratory consultations continued for **Serbia** to join in 2023. Methods of cooperation and strategies for collecting practical information continued throughout the year, including through an EMN capacity-building workshop (see section 4.3).



### 5.4. COLLABORATION WITH EU AND NON-EU ENTITIES

During 2022, the EMN maintained its strategic collaboration with international organisations and NGOs and remained flexible to adapt its work programme to emerging needs in response to the war in Ukraine. It worked particularly closely with the OECD and EUAA.

The EMN continued to work regularly with representatives of relevant entities (e.g. Council of Europe, European Parliament, ICRC, Eurostat, EUAA, Frontex, European Union

Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD), IOM) on inputs to EMN conferences, events, studies and other outputs. Its strong working relationship ensured smooth exchanges of information with civil society and practitioners.



# 6. ENHANCING EMN VISIBILITY

The EMN continued to increase its visibility, not only through strengthening strategic partnerships (e.g. OECD, EUAA) and expanding its membership and collaboration with EMN Observer Countries, but also through enhanced communication and dissemination activities. The communications packages established in 2018 to launch new EMN studies and informs (e.g. press releases, social media posts) supported EMN NCPs to boost outreach capabilities throughout 2022. Continuing the work undertaken in 2021 by the CDWG, templates were updated and shared with all EMN NCPs, supporting a common visual identity and branding. The EMN Communication and Dissemination Roadmap and EMN Toolbox continued to guide

central communication activities and the development of events.

All main EU-level outputs continued to be made available to the wider public, mainly through the EMN website and EMN NCPs' national websites. Outputs were also made public on social media channels, presented at workshops, seminars, meetings and conferences at EU and national levels. EMN NCPs undertook to prepare video graphics, use national EMN social media accounts, and engage with national media for specific events. Several EMN NCPs also implemented other measures to increase the EMN visibility, such as translating publications.



## 6.1. EMN AND NATIONAL WEBSITES

The EMN website is where the EMN makes its outputs publicly available and is updated on a regular basis. EMN NCPs also maintain their own national websites, which are linked to the EMN website. The EMN website

underwent significant restructuring following its transfer to the European Commission, aided by EMN NCPs, particularly CDWG co-chairs and the GTWG.



## 6.2. COMMUNICATION TOOLBOX AND PACKAGES

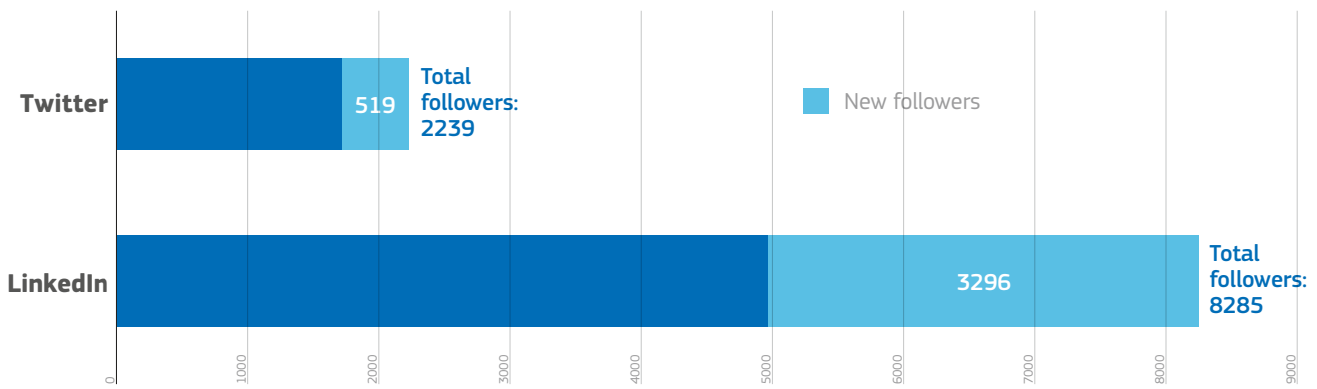
Implementation of the **Communication and Dissemination Roadmap** developed in 2019 continued in 2022, guiding the EMN social media strategy and application of the EMN visual identity. The **EMN Toolbox**, available on the EMN IES, also includes guidance such as the Webinar toolkit, templates for the organisation of roundtables, and the national EMN logos. EMN communication packages are circulated among EMN NCPs (to the extent possible) before their publication to allow EMN NCPs to translate the material into their national language(s).

Following a decision at the 124<sup>th</sup> EMN NCP meeting, EMN informs will feature a cover image and adopt the same structure as the studies. This will enhance their aesthetic appeal and, most importantly, ensure consistency. This change was officially implemented in January 2023.

Owing to the continuous expansion of the network, the official EMN disclaimer was substantiated on multiple occasions. Finally, the EMN Style Guide was updated to ensure consistency across all visuals.

Dissemination via social media was developed in 2022. Figure 8 presents an overview of the EMN social media activity.

**Figure 8: Growth of followers on EMN social media accounts, 2022**



Source: Authors' elaboration, 2023.



### 6.3. EMN INFORMATION LEAFLET

After a comprehensive evaluation of the EMN visual identity, the text and visuals of the information leaflet were thoroughly revamped in 2022. The finalised version of the leaflet was made available for distribution

in 2023. As with previous editions, it summarised the aims, objectives and key outputs of the EMN and offered a list of all EMN NCPs, organisational data and contact details.

# 7. MANAGEMENT OF THE EMN

The EMN Work Programme 2021-2022 was adopted on 7 May 2021 and underpinned the EMN's activities in 2022. As the timeframe for its discussion and approval was postponed so as to align with the EU multi-annual financial framework (MFF), many 2021 publications were launched late, including some moving into the 2022 publications pipeline. Most were completed within the year. Management of the EMN was coordinated by the European Commission, with the support of the EMN service provider, ICF.

Given the outbreak of war in Ukraine and the mass displacement that followed, the management structures of the EMN were used to support the flexibility of the EMN to respond to changing priorities by refocusing current activities and reflecting on strategic changes to increase its added value.

# ANNEX

## National events organised by EMN NCPs in 2022

Date	Organiser (EMN NCP)	Title of the event
8 March 2022	EMN AT	EU Migration Talks: Integration of migrants in Austria
17 March 2022	EMN AT	EMN National Conference: Innovative solutions to create sustainable perspectives for displaced populations
18 March 2022	EMN AT	EMN National Workshop: Success factors to create sustainable perspectives for displaced populations
31 March 2022	EMN FR, EMN NL	EMN Joint National Conference: Launch event for the study on third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings: detection, identification and protection
11 April 2022	EMN AT	EMN National Conference: Global skills partnerships in Austria
2 May 2022	EMN FI	EMN National Conference: Anti-trafficking webinar: Detecting trafficking in human beings in Finland: How to lower the threshold for victims to report trafficking crimes and seek assistance
1-2 June 2022	EMN BE	EMN National Conference: Skills mobility partnerships
14 June 2022	EMN LT	EMN National Conference: Initiatives to support integration of refugees from Ukraine
23 June 2022	EMN HR	EMN National Conference: Women in migration
12-14 September 2022	EMN SK	EMN Slovakia's Thematic Meeting: Legislative changes and procedures related to the Act on Residence of Foreigners
2 July 2022	EMN LV	Participation in conversation festival LAMPA and promotion of the discussion tool 'Destination Europe'
20 September 2022	EMN GE, EMN EE	EMN Joint National Conference: Advancing data-driven decision-making in migration management
20 September 2022	EMN NL	EMN National Conference: Webinar on alternatives to detention
22 September 2022	EMN LU	EMN Luxembourg: Forecasting models in migration: State of play and new developments
27-28 September	EMN LU	EMN National Event: Hosting and organising the 4 <sup>th</sup> Workshop of Representatives of Detention Centers in the EU (in-person)
5-6 October 2022	EMN SK	EMN Slovakia's Thematic Meeting: <a href="#">Legislative changes in the area of employment of third-country nationals in relation to the application practice</a>
12-13 October 2022	EMN SK	EMN Slovakia's Thematic Meeting: <a href="#">Intercultural work of helping professions in asylum facilities and in integration of people from Ukraine</a>
13 October 2022	EMN CY, EMN LU	EMN Joint National Conference: Six months into applying the Temporary Protection Directive
20-21 October 2022	EMN HU, Budapest Process	EMN Joint National Conference: Trafficking in persons
21 October 2022	EMN AT	EU Migration Talks: Trendbarometer Migration und Asyl 2022 – Integration within the framework of temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine

Date	Organiser (EMN NCP)	Title of the event
28 October 2022	EMN MT	EMN National Conference: The new geopolitical challenges in migration: Tackling cultural and religious diversity
16 November 2022	EMN BE, EMN CY, EMN CZ, EMN ES, EMN FR, EMN LT, EMN LV, EMN LU, EMN SI, EMN SK	EMN National Youth Day Events (in connection with the EU-level EMN Youth Day, see Annex 2)
23-25 November 2022	EMN SK	EMN Slovakia's Thematic Meeting: Legislative changes and procedures related to regular and irregular migration in the Slovak Republic
25 November 2022	EMN FI	EMN National Conference: Diversity of migrant women – how to improve labour market integration of migrant women
29 November 2022	EMN DE	EMN National Conference: Participation of migrant women: Language, work and political involvement
30 November 2022	EMN ES	EMN National Conference: The recognition of skills in the migration process
30 November 2022, 6 December 2022	EMN AT	EMN moderation training
1 December 2022	EMN SK	EMN National Conference: <a href="#">Dignified labour conditions as a tool to fight modern slavery</a> (with podcasts available <a href="#">here</a> )
7 December 22	EMN EE, EMN LU	EMN Joint National Technical Meeting: Children's right to nationality
15 December 22	EMN IT	EMN National Conference: Countering human trafficking in Europe: Learning from best practices and designing joint interventions

## EU-level EMN events in 2022

Date	Title of the event
10 February 2022	<b>EMN-OECD Roundtable:</b> AI and digitalisation in migration management
21 June 2022	<b>French Presidency of the Council of the EU, EMN Conference:</b> Assisted voluntary return and reintegration: Strategy of EU Member States and European Coordination
15 June 2022	<b>Annual Report on Asylum and Migration (ARM) launch:</b> Flexibility in migration management
5-6 October 2022	<b>Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU, EMN Conference:</b> EU and labour migration: Needs, strategies and challenges
16 November 2022	<b>EMN Youth Day:</b> Migration narratives and policies



## For more information

EMN website: <http://ec.europa.eu/emn>

EMN LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-migration-network>

EMN Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/emnmigration>

EMN YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@EMNMigration>

## EMN National Contact Points

Austria [www.emn.at/en/](http://www.emn.at/en/)

Belgium <https://emnbelgium.be>

Bulgaria [www.emn-bg.com](http://www.emn-bg.com)

Croatia <https://emn.gov.hr/en>

Cyprus [www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/emnncpc.nsf/home/home?opendocument](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/emnncpc.nsf/home/home?opendocument)

Czechia [www.emncz.eu](http://www.emncz.eu)

Denmark [www.justitsministeriet.dk/](http://www.justitsministeriet.dk/)

Estonia [www.emn.ee/](http://www.emn.ee/)

Finland <https://emn.fi/en/>

France [www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2](http://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2)

Germany <https://www.bamf.de/EN/Themen/EMN/emn-node.html>

Greece <http://emn.immigration.gov.gr/en/>

Hungary [www.emnhungary.hu/en](http://www.emnhungary.hu/en)

Ireland [www.emn.ie/](http://www.emn.ie/)

Italy [www.emnitalyncp.it/](http://www.emnitalyncp.it/)

Latvia [www.emn.lv/en/home/](http://www.emn.lv/en/home/)

Lithuania [www.emn.lt/en/](http://www.emn.lt/en/)

Luxembourg <https://emnluxembourg.uni.lu/>

Malta <https://emn.gov.mt/>

The Netherlands <https://www.emnnetherlands.nl/>

Poland <https://www.gov.pl/web/europejska-siec-migracyjna>

Portugal <https://rem.sef.pt/>

Romania <https://www.mai.gov.ro/>

Spain <https://www.emnspain.gob.es>

Slovak Republic <https://emn.sk/en/>

Slovenia <https://emnslovenia.si>

Sweden <http://www.emnsweden.se/>

Norway <https://www.udi.no/en/statistics-and-analysis/european-migration-network---norway>

Georgia [https://migration.commission.ge/index.php?article\\_id=1&clang=1](https://migration.commission.ge/index.php?article_id=1&clang=1)

Republic of Moldova <http://bma.gov.md/en>

Ukraine <https://dmsu.gov.ua/en-home.html>

Montenegro <https://www.gov.me/en/mup>

Armenia <https://migration.am/?lang=en>

Serbia <https://kirs.gov.rs/cir>