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EMN launch event

EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum 2021

Flexibility in migration management

15 June 2022, 10:00-12:55 CEST

Webex

The EMN acknowledges that currently, the migration and asylum agenda is being heavily impacted as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 and the subsequent large flow of Temporary Beneficiaries of Protection from Ukraine into the EU and Moldova. That said, 2021 also brought unforeseen developments, challenges and opportunities in the area of migration and asylum across [EMN members and observers countries](#).¹ While the COVID-19 pandemic continued to shape policies, this was no longer the defining element of responses to on-going challenges in this area. Digitalisation remained a priority, as well as attempts to simplify procedures in the area of legal migration and protection.

Two decisive political developments emerged as defining themes in 2021. Firstly, the crisis along the Belarus-EU border in July, caused by the orchestrated instrumentalisation of migrants by the Belarus regime for political purposes. This situation was further aggravated after the rapid Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in mid-August which led to increased migration flows from Afghanistan. Both events created additional strains on the EU migration and asylum system.

This EMN event will mark the launch of the EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum 2021 (ARM), which outlines the most significant legislative and policy developments in the EMN member and observer countries in 2021 and identifies a number of common trends. However, the launch of the report will also offer an opportunity to reflect on how legal and policy changes have been driven by the need for more flexible responses to emerging needs. The event will put 2021 developments into the wider context to reflect on how lessons learnt from previous years were applied for a faster response and on the necessary changes to address migration challenges in the future.

The event is hosted online via Webex and available to a broad range of audiences including EU and national policy makers, EU agencies, experts and practitioners, academia, civil society and NGOs, as well as to the wider public.

If you would like to join, we kindly invite you to register [here](#).

For any questions regarding the event, please contact the EMN Service Provider at emn@icf.com

¹ EMN members: AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK. EMN observers: NO, GE, MD.

AGENDA

15 June 2022	
09:00 - 10:00	Log-in and technical testing
10:00 - 10:15	Keynote speech <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Pawel Busiakiewicz, Head of Unit, Migration Management Preparedness, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission</i>
10:15 - 10:35	EMN Annual Report on Migration and Asylum (ARM) 2021 – <i>This session will present key trends concerning policy and legal changes and related drivers, identified in the 2021 EMN ARM report.</i> Moderator: <i>Rafael Bärlund, Head of EMN Finland</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Developments and drivers in the area of asylum and migration in 2021 – <i>Anne Sheridan, Senior Policy Officer, EMN Ireland and Hans Lemmens, National Coordinator, EMN Netherlands</i>
10:35 - 10:45	Official European statistics – how the national data become European <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Ani Todorova, Head of Unit, Population and Migration, Eurostat, European Commission</i>
10:45 - 11:45	Panel 1: National solutions to improve flexibility in migration management – <i>The first panel will present country examples of measures to improve national authorities' flexibility to respond to emerging situations in the areas of reception, prevention of trafficking in human beings, and managing relocations in case of sudden political crisis.</i> Moderator: <i>Rafael Bärlund, Head of EMN Finland</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Spain – <i>Amparo Gonzalez Ferrer, Deputy Director General for Migratory Analysis, Secretary of State for Migration</i>▪ Belgium and EUAA – <i>Thomas Vancraeynest, Head of the International Unit, Fedasil and Geert Knockaert, Head of Asylum and Reception Cooperation and Guidance Unit, European Union Agency for Asylum</i>▪ Georgia – <i>Ana Ivanishvili, Deputy Head of Public International Law Department, Ministry of Justice of Georgia</i> Questions and Answers
11:45 - 12:45	Panel 2: Beyond 2021 – <i>The second panel will place the developments of 2021 into the wider context of the war in Ukraine and the situation of the beneficiaries of the Temporary Protection Directive in the EU and Moldova. The aim is to understand the context and specificities of the application of the Temporary Protection Directive.</i> Moderator: <i>Esther Pozo Vera, Head of Unit, Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Temporary protection and the scope of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 – <i>Esther Pozo Vera, Head of Unit Asylum, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission</i>▪ Mobilizing support for large number of refugees from Ukraine entering the country: Moldova – <i>Tatiana Ciomas, Head of Unit, Bureau for Migration and Asylum, Ministry of Internal Affairs</i>▪ Mobilizing support for large number of refugees from Ukraine entering the country: Poland – <i>Anna Zygo, Chief Specialist, Department for International Affairs and Migration, Ministry of the Interior and Administration</i> Questions and Answers
12:45 - 12:55	Concluding remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Magnus Ovilius, Head of Sector Forecasting, Preparedness and Policy Monitoring, Chair of the EMN, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission</i>