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Ad-Hoc Query on 2024.14 Financial contribution of applicants for international protection

Requested by EMN NCP Ireland on 6 March 2024

Compilation produced on 3 May 2024

Responses from EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Ireland, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Malta, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Portugal, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden (24 in Total)

Exported for: Wider Dissemination

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Given the large numbers of international protection applicants currently being accommodated in the Republic of Ireland, Ireland is exploring options for introducing financial contributions from residents in its international protection reception centres under certain circumstances (e.g. if they have salaried employment), as provided for under Article 17(4) of the Reception Conditions Directive (2013/33/EU) and at a national level provided for in s.5(2) of the European Communities (Reception Conditions) Regulations 2018 (SI No. 230/2018).

As part of this process, the International Protection Accommodation Service in Ireland is seeking to better understand other EMN countries' approaches to financial contributions in the context of reception for international protection applicants.

We would like to ask the following questions:

- 1. Do you require financial contributions from international protection applicants accommodated in reception centres in certain situations? Y/N. If you answered yes, under what circumstances are financial contributions requested?**
- 2. If there are income-related requirements, what are the income limits/criteria used? (e.g. if there is a minimum income threshold or other criteria)**

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3. If there are income-related requirements, how is the income determined? (e.g. self-declaration, linked to tax system, means test, etc.)

4. If you answered YES to Q.1, what are the rates of financial contributions requested?

5. If you answered YES to Q.1, who collects the contribution and how? (e.g. through the revenue system, centre management, reception agency)

6. If you answered YES to Q.1, what happens if somebody does not pay the financial contribution?

We would very much appreciate your responses by **3 April 2024**.

2. RESPONSES


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² A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed

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	EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Yes. The Belgian Reception Act states that applicants for international reception who are accommodated in the reception network must contribute to the material aid (reception) they receive, if they have a professional income (Art. 35/1). The applicants must inform their social workers of their reception place (reception centre or Local Reception Initiative), in writing of any element relating to their professional situation, their income and the evolution of this situation. Fedasil, the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers can, by a reasoned decision, terminate the material aid (= reception), with the exception of medical assistance, if an applicant has concealed financial resources and, as a result, unjustifiably claims material aid. If it is established that the applicant had sufficient means to meet basic needs when the material aid was provided, the applicant must reimburse the Agency for the material aid provided, excluding the medical assistance.</p> <p>2. Applicants for international reception must always indicate whether they have an income, regardless of the amount of this income. The required information includes, inter alia, the following elements: the conclusion of an employment contract, a copy of the employment contract, the full or partial amendment of the employment contract, the evolution of the employee's working hours or salary, data related to working hours. The requirements are laid down in a Royal Decree (Royal Decree of 12 January 2011 on the granting of material assistance to asylum seekers who have a professional income from activity as employees, LOI - WET (fgov.be)). According to this Decree, the contribution scheme applies to applicants who meet at least one of the following conditions:</p>
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and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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		<p>1° They have either a fixed-term employment contract with a duration of less than six months, or an employment contract for a specific job, the duration of which can be estimated at less than six months, or an open-ended employment contract for which the trial period is still running;</p> <p>2° The net monthly salary they receive is not higher than the living wage they could receive according to the category to which they would belong if they met the conditions to benefit from it.</p> <p>Applicants who have income through a student job or through dual learning are exempt from paying contributions (dual learning is available for pupils from 15 years who wish to combine learning and working).</p> <p>Fedasil can end the reception conditions for applicants, who meet both of the following conditions:</p> <p>1° They have either a fixed-term employment contract with a duration of at least six months, or an employment contract for specific work whose duration can be estimated at at least six months, or an open-ended employment contract whose probationary period has expired;</p> <p>2° The net monthly salary they receive is higher than the living wage they could receive according to the category to which they would belong if they met the conditions to benefit from it.</p> <p>When they no longer meet these conditions (if they lose their job), they can fall back on social assistance provided by the Public Centres for Social Welfare.</p> <p>The current 2011 Royal decree and the accompanying 2013 instruction of Fedasil (Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers) are inadequate in terms of control and sanctioning to obtain correct collection of contributions (see below). Moreover, there were major differences in the application of the instruction within the reception network. In collaboration with a working group consisting of representatives of some reception centres and reception partners (Red Cross), a new draft Royal Decree was developed. On 15 March 2024, the Council of Ministers approved the draft Royal Decree on the granting of material aid to applicants for international protection with professional income and other categories of income (such as unemployment benefits).</p>
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		<p>The new Royal Decree will shortly replace the one of 2011 with a view to a more effective and efficient collection of contributions. The contribution scheme itself will also be reformed. The new contribution scheme will provide the right incentives and complies with the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the contribution scheme is efficient/simple to enforce - the contribution scheme is applied uniformly across the reception network and to all working residents - the contribution scheme encourages the resident to self-declare employment and contribute voluntarily - the contribution must not inhibit activation - the contribution is fair and can be easily explained to the resident but is also defensible towards the general population. - controls are carried out at central level (Fedasil) <p>Residents who have been granted refugee or subsidiary protection status are exempt from contributions from the moment of the positive decision on their status. This exemption should enable people leaving the reception network to bear the costs they face (e.g., rent deposit, installation costs, etc.).</p> <p>Note: A preliminary draft law amending the 2007 Reception Act is also approved. Firstly, a paragraph will be added in Article 35/1 to give a stronger legal basis to the control mechanism and operationalisation of the contribution scheme. Then, to respond to the comments of the Council of State regarding Article 22 of the Belgian Constitution, a new article 35/3 will be added to the Reception Act which lays down the essential elements regarding the processing of personal data in this contribution scheme.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>In the first place by self-declaration. As mentioned above, applicants for international reception must always indicate whether they have an income, regardless of the amount of this income. The required information includes, inter alia, the following elements: the conclusion of an employment contract, a copy of the employment contract, the full or partial amendment of the employment contract, the evolution of the employee's working hours or salary, and data related to working hours.</p>
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		<p>Under the new Royal Decree (not yet in force), contributions may be lower for applicants who self-declare their income situation (see below).</p> <p>Since 2020, because of the reception crisis and the need to increase the outflow from the reception network, Fedasil has an exceptional cooperation with the Crossroads Bank for Social Security to exchange data (an ad hoc monitoring system of the professional activities and income of residents of the reception network). It concerns cases where the social worker at a reception centre suspects that a resident is working and refuses to provide information about it. The social worker can then transfer the social security identification number of the resident concerned to Fedasil headquarters where a staff member will conduct the necessary searches in the social security network and provide feedback to the social worker and the competent employee of Fedasil's Budget and Finance Department. However, this monitoring is not done systematically.</p> <p>With the new Royal Decree (not yet in force), the intention is for Fedasil to do more checks itself through the Crossroads Bank for Social Security in the future. Article 12 of the new Decree will stipulate that Fedasil carries out periodic checks on the professional situation of the residents in the reception network. To this end, the Agency shall obtain from the competent authorities the information necessary to verify whether applicants have validly fulfilled their obligation to contribute to material aid or whether they qualify for a waiver of the compulsory place of registration (end of the right to reception). In collaboration with these competent authorities, technical instruments will be introduced to carry out this data control. The Agency may have access to the technical resources necessary to carry out this task. The data checked includes wages and working hours.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>Under the current Royal Decree, applicants contribute progressively to material aid (reception), regardless of the total amount of their net monthly wage, in the following manner :</p> <p>1° For the wage bracket between 0 and 79.99 euro, no contribution is due;</p> <p>2° For the wage bracket between 80 and 149.99 euro, a contribution of 35% of the relevant wage bracket is due, without prejudice to the amounts due for the previous bracket;</p>
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		<p>3° For the pay bracket between 150 and 299.99 euro, a contribution of 50 % of the wage bracket concerned is due, without prejudice to the amounts due for the previous brackets;</p> <p>4° For the wage bracket between 300 and 499.99 euro, a contribution of 65% of the wage bracket concerned is due, without prejudice to the amounts due for the previous brackets;</p> <p>5° For the wage bracket from 500 euro, a contribution of 75% of the relevant wage bracket is due, without prejudice to the amounts due for the previous brackets.</p> <p>The amounts of the wage brackets are adjusted each year according to the index figure.</p> <p>According to the new Decree (not yet in force):</p> <p>When the contribution to material assistance is done spontaneous by the applicants concerned, they contribute progressively according to the amount of their net monthly salary, regardless of its total amount, as follows:</p> <p>In the first income bracket, i.e. up to €264,99, no contribution is due. This exemption is justified by a concern for consistency with the exemption provided for the social contribution.</p> <p>Then, for each of the four other income brackets, the applicant for international protection contributes a certain percentage: contribution of 35% of net salary for the wage bracket between €265 and €999,99 (€257,25 due if the total of the bracket is reached), contribution of 45% of net salary for the wage bracket between €1000 and €1499,99 (€482,24 due if the total of the bracket is reached), contribution of 50% of net salary for the wage bracket above €1500 (minimum €482,24 due).</p> <p>Applicants for international protection will have to make lower contributions than under the 2011 regulations, so they will not be discouraged from working. However, they will be subject to a higher differentiated contribution rate if they do not spontaneously report their income.</p> <p>This new Decree also aims to ensure equal treatment between beneficiaries of professional income, which may vary depending on whether they are employees or self-employed, and beneficiaries of unemployment benefits. The 2011 Royal Decree only takes into account earned income, allowing some to avoid the contribution altogether, causing unequal treatment.</p> <p>5.</p>
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			<p>Contributions are collected through the reception structure and forwarded to Fedasil through the reception structure's accounts, or the resident can also sort their contributions directly into Fedasil's account.</p> <p>6. Under the current Royal Decree, the sanctions contained in the Reception Act apply, such as the temporary removal or reduction of pocket money. Or, if the applicant concerned meets the conditions mentioned in question 2, the termination of the right to reception. However, as mentioned in question 2, the current 2011 Royal Decree is inadequate in terms of control and sanctioning to obtain the correct collection of contributions. The new Royal Decree will define the implementation modalities of Article 35/2 of the Reception Act by providing a control and sanction mechanism for applicants who have concealed their financial income intending to evade the compulsory contribution. Article 13 of the new Decree will provide a penalty mechanism for applicants who do not fulfill their contribution obligation. Residents who conceal their professional income to evade their contribution obligation or any resident who does not contribute according to the modalities will be given notice within 5 days. If the residents fail to carry this out within this period, the Agency may impose sanctions as provided in the Reception Act. The Agency may also decide to limit the benefit of certain rights. As a last resort, by a reasoned decision based on the specific situation of the person concerned, the Agency may limit material aid to medical assistance in accordance with Article 35/2 of the Reception Act (and thus terminating the right to reception).</p>
	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. No, no financial contributions are required from international protection applicants accommodated in reception centres. During the proceedings, one of the rights that the foreigner has, is the right to shelter and food.</p>

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			<p>When the foreigner has the means to satisfy his basic life needs, in the general procedure he can obtain a permit to be accommodated at his own expense at an address of his choice without receiving financial and material support from the State Agency of Refugees.</p> <p>2. There are no income-related requirements.</p> <p>3. There are no income-related requirements.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. No, we do not require financial contributions from international protection applicants accommodated in reception centres. However, due to the Rules on fulfillment of the material conditions of acceptance (Article 4), the Reception centre may, by decision, limit or deny the material conditions of acceptance.</p> <p>2.</p>


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			<p>According to the Rules on fulfillment of the material conditions of acceptance (Article 3), the applicant who has the right to stay in the Republic of Croatia and does not have an adequate standard of living is entitled to the material conditions of acceptance. It is considered that the applicant has an adequate standard of living if he has monthly income in the amount of 400% of minimum income in accordance with the regulations on social welfare. This amount increases if it involves family members.</p> <p>3. Income is determined in accordance with the regulations on social welfare.</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. No (residents in accommodation/reception centres are not allowed to work or receive other allowance, as they receive a monthly allowance in the center)</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3.</p>


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			<p>N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
	EMN NCP Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. Yes. Under Section 42(3) of the Asylum Act, an applicant staying in a reception centre is obliged to contribute to the costs of food and accommodation (only in the accommodation centre, not in the reception centre). Only funds above the subsistence minimum set for the Czech Republic may be used. The financial contributions are determined on the basis of a self-declaration, i.e. if someone admits that he or she has some financial means, the contribution is collected by the Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior and otherwise a fixed amount per day (approx. 600 CZK per day) is given for accommodation and meals, this is according to the decree of 2005. However, there is no sanction in case the financial contribution is not paid, in case the applicant declares no financial means.</p> <p>2. As has been already specified, only funds above the subsistence minimum may be used.</p> <p>3.</p>

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			<p>The financial contributions are determined on the basis of a self-declaration, i.e. if someone admits that he or she has some financial means.</p> <p>4. A fixed amount per day (approx. 600 CZK per day, EUR 24) is given for accommodation and meals, this is according to the decree of 2005.</p> <p>5. The contribution is collected by the Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior (which is a reception agency).</p> <p>6. If someone does not pay, even though, it is suspected that he or she has the money, there are no consequences. The Czech authorities are still obliged to accommodate the applicant and have no means to prove that fact.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. No.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4.</p>


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			<p>N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p>
+ EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Yes. Financial contributions are required in situations where applicants (later on clients) have regular income. A fee may be charged from the accommodation services or from health care services such as glasses or medicines. Instructions on healthcare fees are currently under development.</p> <p>2. When assessing the client's ability to pay, the reception centre must take into account that the client has enough money to live on and that working is also financially profitable for the client. The need to impose a fee and the client's ability to pay are always assessed on a personal or family basis. The Finnish Immigration Service has defined indicative income limits that reception centres can use to assess the imposition of the fee and the client's ability to pay. Fee from the accommodation must be equal to all clients, despite the amount of applicant's income. The fee is always family-specific. If there are several working persons in the family, the fee is imposed on only one person. Limits for the income (income threshold) are based on the size of the household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one adult – 1000e/month • one adult + one child - 1410e/month • two adults – 1550e/month • two adults + one child - 1960e/month etc. 	

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			<p>3. The decision to collect the fee is based on income and wealth reports requested from the client.</p> <p>4. The maximum fee from the accommodation services is 9 euros per day. If the reception centre also offers meals as reception services, the maximum fee charged for the meal is EUR 3 per meal. Meals include lunch and dinner. If the client does not actually eat at the reception centre, the fee for the meal will not be charged.</p> <p>5. The director of the reception centre is responsible for determining the fee and it's handed to the client as a written decision. In addition to the decision, the customer will be given a separate invoice for the payment.</p> <p>6. In a situation where a client refuses to pay the fee imposed on them or fails to pay the invoice, the reception centre must discuss the matter with the client. Other follow-up measures, such as enforcement measures, are currently under consideration.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes. When entering the accommodation facility for asylum seekers, the manager of this accommodation may require the person accommodated to pay a deposit (Order of 15 November 2016). This deposit may only be required for accommodation facilities defined by law, such as reception centres for asylum seekers, temporary asylum reception services and emergency accommodation for asylum seekers This deposit is returned on departure, after deduction, where applicable, of any sums</p>

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			<p>due in respect of their accommodation, in particular the costs incurred in restoring the premises to their original condition or replacing the equipment in the accommodation when it has been damaged by the persons accommodated or members of their families. This deposit is not refunded if the person leaves the accommodation facility after the expiry of the period for remaining in it.</p> <p>2. With regard to the deposit that all persons accommodated may be required to pay on entering the accommodation facility, the amount of this deposit is set by the manager and may not exceed an amount equivalent to 150 euros per adult and 75 euros per accompanying child (Article 2 of the Order of 15 November 2016). With regard to the financial contribution of persons accommodated in an accommodation facility for asylum seekers, the terms of the financial contribution of persons accommodated were defined by the Decree of 12 December 2023 relating to the financial contribution of persons accommodated in a place of accommodation for asylum seekers. This decree stipulates that people accommodated in an accommodation facility for asylum seekers whose monthly income is equal to or greater than an amount that ensures a minimum level of income for people without resources (an Active Solidarity Income), as defined in Article L. 262-2 of the Social Action and Family code), must pay a financial contribution towards their accommodation and maintenance costs (Article R. 552-4 of the Code on Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and Right of Asylum (CESEDA). As at 20 March, this amount, which varies according to the composition of the household, was 607, 75 euros for a single person.</p> <p>3. With regard to the financial contribution of persons accommodated in a place of accommodation for asylum seekers, the income of the persons accommodated in a place of accommodation for asylum seekers is determined, in accordance with Article R. 552-4 of the CESEDA, on the basis of the</p>
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resources received the previous month by the persons accommodated. Income received by members of the family accommodated, their spouses, their partner in a civil solidarity pact or their cohabiting partner is taken into account if these people are accommodated in the same place of accommodation and then each time the situation of the person accommodated changes.

The amount of the financial contribution takes into account in particular:

- 1°) the resources of the person or family being looked after;
- 2°) Expenses to be borne by the person or family during the period of reception.

4.


With regard to the amount of the deposit payable on entry to a reception centre for asylum seekers, this may not exceed an amount equivalent to 150 euros per adult and 75 euros per accompanying child (. With regard to the financial contribution of persons accommodated in an accommodation facility for asylum seekers, the contribution to accommodation and maintenance costs is set up by the Decree of 12 December 2023 relating to the financial contribution of persons accommodated in a place for accommodation for asylum seekers. For a single person or a couple, the contribution is set at 25 % for accommodation with meals or 15 % for accommodation without meals. For a single person with a child or a family of at least 3 people, the rate of the financial contribution is 20 % for accommodation with meals and 10 % for accommodation without meals. In addition, this decree provides for an increase of 10 points if the person stays in the accommodation beyond the authorised period. The director of the establishment may exempt the person from this increase.

5.

With regard to the deposit that persons accommodated may be required to pay on entering the accommodation, this deposit is paid to the accommodation manager on entering the accommodation, who issues a receipt stating the amount of the deposit and the date of payment (Order of 15 November 2016 implementing Article L. 744-5 of the CESEDA).

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			<p>With regard to the financial contribution that may be required from persons accommodated in the accommodation facility for asylum seekers, this contribution is paid directly to the manager of the place of accommodation, who issues a receipt (Article R. 552-4 of the CESEDA).</p> <p>6. The regulations governing the functioning of reception centres for asylum seekers set by the Decree of 19 June 2019, stipulates that any breach of these regulations may result in sanctions and, ultimately, may lead to an end to care and exclusion from the accommodation centre. In addition, the manager of the accommodation centre for asylum seekers reports, as soon as possible, any serious breach of regulations concerning the functioning of reception centres at the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) and at the Prefect of the Department, where the centre is located (Article R. 552-6 of the CESEDA).</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. The term "international protection" refers to recognition as a person entitled to asylum, as a refugee within the meaning of the Geneva Refugee Convention and as a person entitled to subsidiary protection. As long as such protection status has been applied for, the respective persons are subject to the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG). During the first 36 months, persons entitled to benefits under the AsylbLG can receive basic benefits to secure their livelihood. After 36 months of residence in Germany, persons entitled to benefits under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act can receive benefits in accordance with the regulations on social assistance (Twelfth Book of the Social Code - SGB XII) (so-called analogue benefits).</p> <p>If the protection status is recognised or granted, the people concerned switch to the legal sphere of SGB II (Second Book of the Social Code - Basic Security for Jobseekers, Citizens' Benefits) if they are in need of assistance and able to work, or to the legal sphere of SGB XII if they are fully disabled or</p>

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		<p>have reached retirement age.</p> <p>In addition to the aforementioned residence rights as persons entitled to asylum, GRC refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection, there are other humanitarian residence rights ("residence for reasons of international law, humanitarian or political reasons"), under which the holders of the corresponding residence titles can receive citizen's benefit under SGB II or social assistance under SGB XII, but without having previously applied for international protection (e.g. persons from federal admission programmes). Although they therefore already have a residence permit, they can also apply for "international protection". However, this means that the AsylbLG is not responsible for securing their livelihood; instead, they continue to receive benefits in accordance with SGB II or SGB XII.</p> <p>For these reasons, persons entitled to citizen's allowance and social assistance are mentioned both here in the document on persons who have filed an application for "international protection".</p> <p>Furthermore, accommodating applicants of international protection falls within the competence of the German Federal States (Bundeslaender). Hence, the implementation and application of federal law may vary in detail, especially, when the legislation gives room for practices tailored to the needs of the respective federal state. Some federal states report that no cases of financial contributions by applicants are known or that they do not demand it, whereas others report that contributions in accordance with Art 7 AsylbLG (available here: https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/asylblg/index.html#BJNR107410993BJNE002901116) are demanded. The latter means the examination of any funds or assets when checking the eligibility for welfare allowances of any kind and, in consequence, its consideration when assessing the needs for support.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Persons entitled to basic benefits under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG) must use up any income and assets that can be disposed of before receiving benefits under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act. In the case of accommodation in a facility, persons entitled to basic benefits under the AsylbLG must reimburse the cost bearer for the costs of accommodation, if income and assets are available. The federal states, which are responsible for the accommodation of the persons concerned,</p>
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		<p>can set lump sums for this (e.g. through fee regulations or statutes) or authorise the competent authority to do so.</p> <p>In the citizen's allowance and in social assistance, it is checked whether the need for subsistence (including the need for accommodation and heating) can be partially or fully covered by income. If the income fully covers the needs, no benefits are paid and therefore the accommodation requirements are not covered. If there is income that does not cover needs, this is offset against the assessed needs. The difference between the assessed need and the income is the amount of the benefit to be paid. When receiving citizen's allowance, income is first taken into account in the standard requirements (requirements for food, clothing, household electricity, etc.), then in any additional and special requirements and only finally in the accommodation and heating requirements.</p> <p>When receiving social assistance benefits, it can be assumed that in the aforementioned case constellation, the accommodation and heating requirements incurred for the accommodation are paid directly by the SGB XII provider to the operator of the accommodation up to the amount of the benefit to be paid (so-called direct payment).</p> <p>As a rule, however, it must be assumed that the group of people in question does not have sufficient income to cover their accommodation needs. There is no minimum income limit in the citizen's allowance or in social assistance. The decisive factor is the level of need determined in the individual case.</p> <p>The comments on social assistance apply accordingly to persons entitled to AsylbLG analogue benefits.</p> <p>3. Income is determined on the basis of a self-declaration (usually obtained upon registration), which must be complete and truthful, otherwise benefits may be denied. Any employers are also subject to an obligation to provide information and certification. Automated data comparisons are also carried out.</p> <p>4.</p>
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			<p>The amount of the corresponding financial contributions ("user fees") varies from region to region and depends on the number of family members, the area occupied and the furnishings of the premises. In some federal states, rates have been set, whereas in other federal states the financial contribution required is based on the operational costs of the facility (rent, utilities).</p> <p>5. If the person receives social welfare benefits, the benefit authority will directly transfer the respective amount to the accommodating entity or the in this respect competent authority. If the person has sufficient funds to sustain an independent livelihood and, therefore, does not receive social welfare benefits, the costs for accommodation (incl. utilities) and, if provided, for in-kind benefits (e.g. use of the on-site canteen) will be invoiced to said person.</p> <p>6. If the accommodation costs are covered by a benefit authority of the minimum security systems, there are practically no corresponding payment defaults vis-à-vis the beneficiaries. Claims for reimbursement against persons entitled to basic benefits under the AsylbLG can be enforced by the benefit authorities by way of administrative enforcement.</p>
	EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<p>1. No, the Greek legislation does not require financial contributions from international protection applicants. Asylum applicants are entitled to be accommodated in reception facilities in accordance with Article 59 of the Code of Laws 4939/2022. The competent Reception Authority, in collaboration with the relevant governmental agencies, international organizations, and certified social entities as appropriate, ensures the provision of material reception conditions to applicants through national, European, or other resources. Material reception conditions may be provided in kind or in the form of financial assistance, guaranteeing applicants an</p>

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adequate standard of living that ensures their subsistence and protects their physical and mental health, with respect for human dignity as the guiding principle.

2.

According to Article 59 para.3 of the Code of Laws 4939/2022, the provision of all or part of the material reception conditions is subject to the condition that the applicants are not working or that their work does not yield sufficient resources to ensure them an adequate standard of living, sufficient to safeguard their health and subsistence, corresponding to the income criteria of Article 235 of Law 4389/2016 (Government Gazette A' 94). According to Article 61 para.3 of the Law 4939/2022, the competent Reception Authority may terminate access to material reception conditions when it is found that the applicant has concealed financial resources and has consequently benefited unfairly from the material reception conditions.


Furthermore, according to the Joint Ministerial Decision no.2857 (GG 4496/B'/ 2021), by a decision of the Reception authority, the cash assistance may be terminated if the applicant is employed and the earnings from his/her work are equal to or exceed 50% of the proportional amount of the minimum guaranteed income, according to the provisions of Ministerial Decision Δ13/οικ./33475/1935 (Government Gazette B' 2281), taking into account that housing for beneficiaries is provided in kind. Beneficiaries of the program are required to inform the relevant Reception authorities on a case-by-case basis about any paid employment they may have. The cash assistance may be restricted for beneficiaries who are employed but whose work generates income that does not exceed 50% of the proportional amount of the minimum guaranteed income, according to the provisions of the Ministerial Decision Δ13/οικ./33475/1935 (Government Gazette B' 2281)

3.

According to Article 2 para.4 of the Joint Ministerial Decision 115202 (GG 3322/B'/2021), the start of payment of the cash assistance takes place upon request of international protection applicants before the authorities. The application for the provision of the cash assistance requires a formal declaration of

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			<p>the applicant that he or she is not employed or that their work does not bring sufficient resources to ensure them an appropriate standard of living, sufficient for the preservation of their health and subsistence, in accordance with the income criteria of article 235 of Law 4389/2016 (Government Gazette A' 94).</p> <p>4. please see answer to Q1.</p> <p>5. please see answer to Q1.</p> <p>6. please see answer to Q1.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Hungary</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. YES If the applicant's financial situation does not justify the provision of free reception conditions, including accommodation, the asylum authority may require financial contribution.</p> <p>2. Yes The minimum threshold is 28.000 HUF per month income for each applicant. If the applicant's or one of their family members' wealth can also provide an adequate level of income, it is also taken into account.</p> <p>3. self-declaration</p> <p>4. Financial contributions are determined by the asylum authority based on cost calculations.</p> <p>5. The asylum authority. The contributions may be paid in cash at the reception facility or by cheque.</p>


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			6. The provision of reception conditions may be ceased.
■	EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	1. No 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. N/A 6. N/A
■	EMN NCP Italy	Yes	1. No. <i>The Italian legislation provides that an applicant who has formalized the application and who lacks sufficient means to ensure an adequate standard of living for him/herself and his/her family members, has access to reception measures together with his/her family members. The assessment of the insufficiency of the means of subsistence is carried out by the Prefecture - Territorial Office of the Government, with reference to the annual amount of the social allowance (6,947.33 euros, INPS - National Institute for Social Security, circular no. 1 02/01/2024). Among the cases of revocation of reception measures, there is the establishment of the applicant's availability of sufficient economic</i>

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			<p><i>means, whereby the applicant is obliged to reimburse the costs incurred for the measures from which he/she has unduly benefited.</i></p> <p>2. NA</p> <p>3. NA</p> <p>4. NA</p> <p>5. NA</p> <p>6. NA</p>
	EMN NCP Latvia	Yes	<p>1. No. Asylum Law determines that if an asylum seeker does not have sufficient resources to ensure living arrangements conforming to his or her health condition and his or her residence during the asylum procedure, he or she shall be accommodated at the accommodation centre for asylum seekers. The asylum seeker submits an application to the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs that he does not have sufficient resources to ensure living arrangements during the asylum procedure and he wants to be accommodated in the accommodation centre for asylum seekers. Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs does not carry out any examination of asylum seekers financial condition.</p>

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			2. N/a
			3. N/a
			4. N/a
			5. N/a
			6. N/a
	EMN NCP Lithuani a	Yes	1. No
			2. N/A
			3. N/A
			4.



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			N/A
			5. N/A
			6. N/A
	EMN NCP Luxemb ourg	Yes	1. NO. 2. N/A. 3. N/A. 4. N/A. 5. N/A. 6. N/A.

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	<p>EMN NCP Malta</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Malta AWAS(Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers) does not collect any financial contributions. 2. n/a 3. n/a 4. n/a 5. n/a 6. n/a
	<p>EMN NCP Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes. According to Article 20 (2) of the Rva regulation of 2005 (<i>Regeling verstrekkingen asielzoekers en andere categorieën vreemdelingen 2005</i>) The Netherlands requires financial contribution from international protection applicants that are accommodated in reception centers if the applicant has an income or asset. This is the case if an asylum seeker or permit holder staying in a reception facility, including the enforcement and supervision location, or the permit holder referred to in article 3, paragraph 3, subsection c, has assets exceeding the asset limit referred to in article 34 of the Participation Act or has income other than child benefit pursuant to the General Child Benefit Act or this

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		<p>regulation, that asylum seeker or permit holder shall owe the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (<i>Centraal Orgaan opvang Asielzoekers</i>, COA) an allowance for the costs of his/her reception as well as the reception of his/her family members. The allowance shall amount per month to no more than the economic value of the benefits in kind actually provided to an asylum seeker or permit holder, on the understanding that the allowance shall not exceed the amount of the assets or income referred to in the first sentence.[1]</p> <p>[1] Article 20 (2) of Regeling verstrekkingen asielzoekers en andere categorieën vreemdelingen 2005, https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0017959/2024-02-01/#HoofdstukV_Artikel20, last accessed on 7 March 2024.</p> <p>2. If the applicant for international protection has an income he pays the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) his own contribution. He can keep 25% of his income until the maximum of 246,- euro in a month.[1]</p> <p>[1] Rijksoverheid, 'Mogen asielzoekers werken?', 'Eigen bijdrage asielzoeker', Mogen asielzoekers werken? Rijksoverheid.nl, last accessed on 7 March 2024.</p> <p>3. In line with Article 6 of 'Regulation of own contribution asylum seekers with income and assets 2008' (<i>Regeling eigen bijdrage asielzoekers met inkomen en vermogen 2008</i>) income is understood as resources to the extent that they:</p>
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			<p>1. relate to income from or in connection with employment, income from assets, social security benefits, subsistence benefits under Book 1 of the Civil Code, provisional refund or repayment of income tax, payroll tax, national insurance contributions, care allowance, study financing, or correspond by their nature to such income or benefits;</p> <p>1. relate to a period for which relief is claimed.[1]</p> <p>[1] Article 6 (1), of Regeling eigen bijdrage asielzoekers met inkomen en vermogen 2008, wetten.nl - Regeling - Regeling eigen bijdrage asielzoekers met inkomen en vermogen 2008 - BWBR0024733 (overheid.nl), last accessed on 7 March 2024.</p> <p>4. Twenty five percent of the financial contributions of the applicant for international protection is requested for the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA).[1]</p> <p>[1] Rijksoverheid, 'Mogen asielzoekers werken?', 'Eigen bijdrage asielzoeker', Mogen asielzoekers werken? Rijksoverheid.nl, last accessed on 11 March 2024.</p> <p>5. The contributions are transferred to the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA). The contribution is collected by an invoice that is sent to the applicant.[1]</p> <p>[1] Information provided by COA on 28 March 2024.</p>
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			<p>6. In line with Article 20 (3) of the Rva regulation of 2005 (<i>Regeling verstrekkingen asielzoekers en andere categorieën vreemdelingen 2005</i>), if it appears that a foreign national after his stay in a reception facility or the enforcement and supervision location had any assets or income during this stay, the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) may recover from him the costs of the reception of this foreign national as well as the costs of reception of his family members.[1]</p> <p>[1] Article 20 (3) of Regeling verstrekkingen asielzoekers en andere categorieën vreemdelingen 2005, https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0017959/2024-02-01/#HoofdstukV_Artikel20, last accessed on 11 March 2024.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Poland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. No. No financial contribution is required in Poland from applicants for international protection accommodated in reception centers.</p> <p>2. N/a</p> <p>3. N/a</p> <p>4. N/a</p>

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			5. N/a
			6. N/a
	EMN NCP Portugal	Yes	<p>1. NO.</p> <p>2. Under asylum law, reception conditions are only guaranteed to asylum seekers who do not have suficiente means to support themselves.</p> <p>3. Self-delaration and linked to tax system.</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. -</p>
	EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. Yes, pursuant to Article 23(5) of the Asylum Act, the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic may decide that the applicant is obliged to adequately cover the expenses related to his/her stay in an asylum facility or integration centre or the expenses for health care provided, if his/her financial or property situation is such that he/she may be required to reimburse at least partially the expenses related to this stay. Appeal against such a decision shall not have suspensive effect. The Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic as the responsible body in asylum proceeding</p>

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decides on the obligation to adequately reimburse expenses related to the stay of applicants for international protection placed in asylum facilities in the event of an employment relationship, if his financial circumstances are such that he can be required to reimburse at least partial expenses related to the stay.

2. The minimum limit of own funds is from € 100 up to the subsistence minimum (including). In this case, the applicant pays only for the accommodation in the symbolic amount of 1,-€ / day. If the applicant's income is above the subsistence minimum up to 1.5 times the amount of the subsistence minimum, the applicant is obliged also to adequately pay for the whole day meal. If the income is above 1.5 times the subsistence minimum, in this case the applicant pays for accommodation, food and hygiene supplies. The amount of the subsistence minimum in the Slovak Republic from 1 July 2023 until 30 June 2024 was set to 268.88 EUR for one adult person.


3. By self-declaration. In the event of the establishment of an employment relationship, the applicant is obliged to submit to the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic within 3 days from the date of establishment of the employment relationship a document establishing the employment relationship (contract) with the specified amount of salary.

4. Applicants pay a symbolic amount of 1,-€/day for their stay. The amount for all-day meals and hygiene supplies is calculated by the asylum facility based on costs. If the applicant is not interested in food and hygiene supplies, it is necessary to notify the Migration Office in writing.

5. The accommodated persons are sending the contributions to the Support Centre's bank account. (Support Centres are professional units of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic that manage the finances of asylum facilities).


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			6. Failure to pay for the stay is considered to be a violation of the accommodation centre's internal rules. In that case the Migration Office issues a written warning to the applicant or asks him to leave the centre.
	EMN NCP Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. In accordance with Article 82 of International Protection Act, an applicant who has sufficient means of subsistence equal to the amount of basic minimum income in the Republic of Slovenia shall not be entitled to food, clothing and footwear, and hygiene supplies. An applicant who has sufficient means of subsistence equal to the amount of the basic minimum income in the Republic of Slovenia shall bear the costs of accommodation themselves in the amount determined by a decision of an authorised official of the Government Office in accordance with the criteria laid down in the regulation.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the Republic of Slovenia is a transitional country for migrants, where applicants for international protection stay approximately 21 days. Furthermore, there is a small number of applicants who stay and a small number of applicants who stay and work. For these reasons, the Government Office is in the process of collecting information on the employment status and working contract of those applicants.</p> <p>2. Answered above. Basic minimum income in Slovenia from 1st of March 2024 is 484,88 EUR.</p> <p>3. self-declaration system.</p> <p>4.</p>

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			<p>Article 8 of the Regulation on the methods and conditions for granting rights to applicants for international protection lays down the criteria.</p> <p>Own means per person</p> <p>Equal to or higher than the basic amount of the minimum income up to 75 % of the net minimum salary</p> <p>Equal to or higher than 75% of the net minimum salary up to the net minimum salary</p> <p>Higher than the net minimum salary</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p> <p>Monthly reimbursement to cover the costs or a proportional share of material costs as a percentage</p> <p>50 % of the monthly cost of accommodation in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 6 of Regulation</p> <p>75 % of the monthly cost of accommodation in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 6 of Regulation</p> <p>100 % of the monthly cost of accommodation in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 6 of Regulation</p>
	<p> EMN NCP Spain</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. There can be two situations: — Recipients of the Reception System (applicants for international protection) who lack financial resources are entitled to remain in the system of reception of international protection without the need for financial contributions from the person.</p>

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— Recipients (applicants for international protection) who have their own financial resources (labour income or social assistance from other administrations) who do not exceed a fixed amount, may remain in the system and will be subject to the reduction or deduction of the financial aid provided for in the scheme, depending on the income.

2.

The amounts that will be taken into account to execute the reduction according to the income of the unit of coexistence are the following:

- Unit of cohabitation 1 member: EUR 911
- Unit of cohabitation 2 members: EUR 1.270
- Unit of cohabitation 3 members: EUR 1.426
- Unit of coexistence 4 members: EUR 1,583
- Unit of coexistence 5 members: EUR 1.739
- Unit of coexistence 6 members: EUR 1.806
- Unit of cohabitation 7 members: EUR 1.872
- Unit of coexistence 8 members: EUR 2.014
- Unit of coexistence 9 members: EUR 2.080

In case of exceeding these amounts, the persons/units of coexistence must leave the Spanish reception system.

Example of reduction:

If a member of a living unit composed of three persons receives a monthly income of EUR 300, this amount shall be deducted from the amount of the aid that this unit of coexistence should receive in the month following the receipt of this income.

- Unit of coexistence of 3 members: $758 - 300 = \text{EUR } 458$
- Unit of coexistence of 3 members: $1,426 - 300 = \text{EUR } 1.126$


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			<p>3. Given that participation in the reception system of international and temporary protection is provided for persons who lack the financial means to meet their basic needs and those of their family unit or cohabitation, it is necessary to maintain an adequate system of monitoring by the social institutions or entities on possible economic income of the recipients. For this purpose, the centre or entity must seek working life on a monthly basis from all persons who, having authorisation to work, participate in the reception system or are part of the family unit or coexistence of the persons participating in the System. This document checks whether the person works or not. In addition, the working life of persons in the family unit who are outside the system must be collected on a monthly basis. In the event that in the working life it appears that the person is carrying out a remunerated activity, he must provide the payroll. On the other hand, the person must sign a declaration responsible that he lacks his own financial means.</p> <p>4. If the person has his own financial income, there will be no contribution but a reduction of the financial amounts or aid provided for in the Spanish reception system. If they exceed the amount mentioned in question 2, they will leave the system.</p> <p>5. There are no charges but deductions from the aid to which applicants for international protection are entitled.</p>
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			<p>6. Since there are no charges but deductions, this situation cannot occur. The possession or access to public or private economic resources that may meet the full costs of the reception conditions, and the fact that they have concealed their existence or have the possibility of accessing them and rejecting the option unjustifiably shall be considered a very serious infringement and may be sanctioned with the mandatory and definitive withdrawal of all or some of the reception conditions, without prejudice to access to other social assistance that corresponds to it and that guarantees decent living conditions.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Sweden</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Yes, if they have sufficient financial resources of their own, such as income from work.</p> <p>2. The limit for when compensation for accommodation is charged is based on the national standard for income support, which takes into account whether the person lives together, has children, the age of any children, etc. If a person does not have own funds that exceed the national standard for income support plus the cost of accommodation, the person is not required to pay compensation for accommodation.</p> <p>3. Mainly through self-declaration.</p>

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			<p>4. Accommodation without food costs SEK 2,100 per month for adults and SEK 1,050 per month for children. They only have to pay for two children, even if there are more than two children in the</p> <p>5. The applicants are invoiced for the costs from the financial unit.</p> <p>6. Initially payment reminders are sent out, if it doesn't work the case will go to The Enforcement Authority for collection. This matter remains with them even after the application has been examined by the SMA. The persons' right to housing remains in place despite non-payment.</p>
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