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2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

**European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query**

January, 2026

AD-HOC QUERY ON 2025.70 RECOGNITION OF PALESTINE AS A STATE

REQUESTED BY EMN NCP LUXEMBOURG ON 21 NOVEMBER 2025

Exported for: Unrestricted Dissemination

Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, 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 Hungary, EMN NCP Ireland, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Norway, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden **(23 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On behalf of EMN Norway:

On May 28, 2024, Norway formally recognized Palestine as an independent state. The recognition means that Norway relates to Palestine as a state with the rights and obligations that this entails.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion issued Instruction AI-3/2024 on October 17, 2024. According to the instruction, those who are considered citizens of Palestine will no longer be able to become Norwegian citizens under the less strict rules that apply to stateless individuals. Those who are registered in the civil register in West Bank, Gaza or East Jerusalem, and are assigned a nine-digit personal identification number, are considered to be Palestinian citizens. In order to recognize a person as a Palestinian

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

citizen, the decisive factor in individual cases is whether the person has got a Palestinian passport with a nine-digit identification number that does not begin with 00, or in exceptional cases has got a Palestinian identification card.

In October 2025, UNHCR published "Statelessness in Norway – 10 Facts", which presents ten key recommendations for action. UNCHR recommends that Norway revises Instructiton AI-3/2024 4 to ensure compliance with Norway's international obligations under the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. UNHCR refers to article 1 of the Convention and that statelessness must be assessed according to whether an individual is considered a national by any State under the operation of its law, not on the basis of state recognition or administrative registration. Palestine does not have a law of citizenship.

The situation in Palestine has continued to evolve since the issuance of the Instruction. Consequently, the Norwegian Government has requested the Directorate of Immigration (UDI) to urgently gather updated information in order to assess whether the practices of the Palestinian authorities still meet the definition of what can be considered the application of law under the 1954 Convention.

In this regard, the Government is urgently in need for updated information from EMN Member States that have formally recognized Palestine as a State.

The co-chair of the Ad-hoc query working group has agreed following the request of the UDI to reduce the deadline of the ad-hoc query to two weeks due to the urgency explained by EMN Norway.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **5 December 2025**.

1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State


2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.

3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?

4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.

5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.


RESPONSES

		Unrestricted Dissemination ?	
	EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No, Austria does not recognize the Palestinian territories bilaterally as a state, but supports a</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>negotiated two-state solution in the Middle East peace process (https://www.bmeia.gv.at/themen/aussenpolitik/naher-osten-und-nordafrika/naher-osten).</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>amended.</p> <p>n/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Belgium</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>In September of 2025, the Belgian government pledged to recognise Palestine as a sovereign State conditionally, with the conditions being: The release of all Israeli hostages held in Gaza The removal of Hamas from government The Belgian government pledged to start diplomatic relations (opening of an embassy, etc.) as soon as Hamas has handed in its weapons and democratic elections have been held.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>In Belgium, statelessness status is granted or refused by the six Family Courts, who interpret independently whether Palestinians are to be considered stateless or not. Consequently, current Belgian case law does not offer a clear answer to the recognition of statelessness status for Palestinians in Belgium.</p> <p>Until 2016, persons of Palestinian origin who could demonstrate that they had no other nationality were considered stateless. However, the Public Prosecutor's position changed in 2016, and since then it has systematically issued a negative opinion on the grounds that</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

Palestine is a state. This position was subsequently adopted by many of the competent Courts of Appeal. Nevertheless, the Public Prosecutor's position is also facing resistance. Several judges in first instance still hold that Palestine is not a sovereign state and that Palestinian applicants are therefore stateless. In its cassation judgment of 19 November 2021, the Court of Cassation ruled that it is up to the courts and tribunals to determine whether Palestine should be considered a state within the meaning of Article 1.1 of the Statelessness Convention. This ruling resulted in a jurisprudence which is not uniform. As the highest court, the Court of Cassation cannot bring uniformity to these decisions, as it cannot rule on the application of the criteria of the Montevideo Convention to Palestine. (1)

Additionally, since no right of residence is automatically granted following the recognition as a stateless person by a court, most Palestinians in Belgium apply for international protection, and many qualify to receive refugee status. In its assessment of the need for international protection, the Office of the Commissioner-general for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS) considers Palestinians de facto to be stateless, although this consideration is not argued de iure in its asylum decisions. (2) In general, the Council for Alien Law Litigation (CALL) has followed this CGRS assessment.

(1) See Clara van Thillo, "Palestijnen: wel of niet staatloos? De verenigbaarheid van de Belgische rechtspraak met het Staatloosheidsverdrag van 1954", KU Leuven Working Paper, 2022.

Relevant case-law on Palestinian statelessness will be published by Nansen in its "Guide on statelessness" (EU/BE case-law until 2022).

(2) The CGRS is the decision-making authority in the international protection procedure. Despite its name, the CGRS is not competent in determining statelessness status.

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?


YES, sometimes, in the case of children born to Palestinian parents in Belgium. As is the case for Q.2, there is no clear-cut answer because the law is not interpreted uniformly among competent authorities.

Belgium has incorporated Article 1 of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in the Belgian Nationality Code (BNC) (Article 10, §1). The provision states that "A child born in Belgium who, at any time before the age of 18 or emancipation prior to that age, does not possess any other nationality, is Belgian." This article is applied in some cases to children born to Palestinian parents in Belgium.

The competent authorities are the civil registrar of the municipality of the child's birthplace and, in the event of disagreement over the decision, the Courts of Appeal under Article 10 of the BNC. This exclusive competence of the civil registrar to grant nationality was amended by the law in 2022 and reiterated by the Federal Ombudsman in a recommendation of January 2024. In case of doubt, the civil registrar must ask the advice of the Public Prosecutor's Office in the form of a non-binding opinion. (1) As stated under Q.2, the Public Prosecutor's position is that Palestine is a state. Children whose parents have Palestinian passports (excluding the passports beginning with 00), are considered to have Palestinian nationality.

Thus, the decision to grant a child to Palestinian parents born in Belgium the Belgian nationality, depends firstly on the assessment of the civil registrar of the municipality of the birthplace whether the child is considered a Palestinian national. Secondly, it depends on the interpretation of the courts (see Q.2). This has led to a practice where some municipalities grant Belgian nationality to the child, and others refuse to do so.


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>It should be noted that neither children nor their parents are required to have been recognised as stateless by a family court for the application of Article 10 of the CBN.</p> <p>(1) See Nansen Note 2024-1, “Palestinian origin or nationality? The case of minors in Belgium”</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>N/A. Belgium does not recognise Palestine as a state (see answer to Q1).</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Bulgaria</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>Yes. Bulgarian government has recognised the State of Palestine since 1988.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>Those persons who are in possession of valid identification documents issued by Palestinian authorities are considered as Palestinian nationals and are not eligible to apply for the status of statelessness.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>No. Palestinians acquire citizenship under the general procedure.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>The possession of national identification document issued by Palestinian authorities is sufficient. Thus, the general rules applicable to other third-country nationals are applicable to the Palestinian nationals as well.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			No
	EMN NCP Croatia	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

		<p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p> EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>Cyprus has recognised the State of Palestine in 1988</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>Yes, based on the Refugee Convention</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>No</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>According to our national law, individuals from Palestine, they are required to present documents such as passport, documents from UNWRA, birth certificate and any other documents relevant to his nationality.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No. CZ does not recognize Palestine as a sovereign State nor Palestinian citizenship. Consequently, individuals from these territories are regarded as persons without a nationality (statless) under our national framework.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>assessment.</p> <p>Yes. Individuals originating from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem are considered stateless persons, similarly to Palestinians residing in countries such as Jordan, Syria, or Egypt who have not been granted citizenship there.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>Persons considered stateless, including Palestinians, are subject to the same conditions as other stateless applicants. They neither benefit from preferential treatment nor face additional restrictions. While certain procedural requirements for stateless persons may be simplified—such as reduced documentation obligations or the absence of a requirement to renounce previous citizenship—they must still fulfil the general conditions, including a prior period of lawful residence in the Czech Republic, typically permanent residence or asylum for at least five years, in accordance with the Czech Citizenship Act.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>As indicated above, our Member State does not recognize Palestinian nationality. Therefore, individuals identifying as Palestinians are considered stateless for the purposes of our national legislation.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>NO. There have been no changes in legislation or administrative practice in this regard. Our Member State does not currently plan to revise its position on Palestine; therefore, there is no basis for altering the applicable procedures.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No, Estonia has not extended recognition to Palestine as a sovereign state, as the current situation on the ground, including the continued Israeli presence, constrains Palestine’s capacity to fully assume the responsibilities and functions associated with independent state.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If</p>



Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>n/a</p>
<p>+ EMN NCP Finland</p>		<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s</p>



Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			assessment. N/A
			3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless? N/A
			4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain. N/A
			5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended. N/A

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

	EMN NCP France	No	Response is marked as EMN Sensitive
	EMN NCP Germany	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>n/a</p>
	EMN NCP Hungary	No	Response is marked as EMN Sensitive
	EMN NCP Ireland	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>Yes. In May 2024 Ireland formally recognised the State of Palestine (https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-taoiseach/press-releases/ireland-recognises-the-state-of-palestine/).</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>No</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>No</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>For the purpose of the examination of their international protection claim under the International Protection Act 2015, any identity documents submitted by an applicant would be considered, along with UNRWA registration. The applicant would also be asked questions with regard to where they resided and daily life, and other relevant questions which could be examined against country of origin information to verify their nationality.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>Decision makers are directed to use recent and relevant country of origin information in the examination of international protection applications from Palestine.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

	<p>EMN NCP Italy</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>With regard to applicants for stateless status who identify themselves as Palestinians, the assessment of their status is carried out under the ordinary procedure, with an individual case-by-case evaluation.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>With regard to applicants for stateless status who identify themselves as Palestinians, the assessment of their status is carried out under the ordinary procedure, with an individual case-by-case evaluation.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>The assessment is carried out on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>N/a</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>N/a</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>N/a</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>N/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>No</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>assessment.</p> <p>Lithuania considers individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem as stateless unless they possess another recognized State's nationality. Lithuania determines statelessness based on the definition established in the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners, which incorporates the 1954 Statelessness Convention definition, namely that a stateless person is someone who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>Yes. According to the Law on Citizenship, stateless persons may acquire Lithuanian citizenship in two situations. First, a child born to stateless parents who lawfully reside in Lithuania becomes a Lithuanian citizen automatically, provided that the child does not acquire another nationality at birth; this also applies when one parent is stateless and lawfully residing in Lithuania and the other parent is unknown. These rules ensure that children do not remain stateless. Second, stateless adults may be granted Lithuanian citizenship by exception, which means that the usual naturalisation conditions are not applied and the decision is taken individually when the person is considered sufficiently integrated into Lithuanian society.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>Since Palestine is not recognized, Lithuanian authorities have no legal basis to treat a person as having "Palestinian nationality," regardless of the travel document they hold.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>No</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxembourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>YES. Luxembourg officially recognises the State of Palestine on 22 September 2025.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>No information available.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>YES. In the past, Palestinian applicants for Luxembourg nationality were granted nationality as</p>



Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>stateless persons. If the Palestinian applies for international protection and it is granted refugee status, they can apply for nationality under the simplified option procedure that applies to adults with stateless status, with refugee status or with subsidiary protection status. In order to apply through this procedure the applicant must proof: a) they have legally resided in Luxembourg for at least 5 years. The final year of residence immediately preceding the option declaration must have been uninterrupted; b) they have knowledge of the Luxembourgish language, as evidenced by a Luxembourgish language test pass certificate; c) they have taken the "Vivre ensemble au Grand-Duché de Luxembourg" course or passed the test covering the topics taught in this course.</p> <p>The period between submission of the application for international protection or the application for recognition as a stateless person and the granting of refugee status, subsidiary protection status or stateless person status is deemed a period of usual and lawful residence.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>No information available.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>No information available.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

	<p>EMN NCP Netherlands</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>NO.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>N/A.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A.</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>N/A.</p>
	EMN NCP Norway	No	Response is marked as EMN Sensitive
	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>YES</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State’s assessment.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>NO. Foreigners who are deemed citizens of another state are excluded from the provisions stipulating less stringent conditions of acquiring Polish citizenship (applicable to stateless persons)</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>Due to small number of Palestine cases there are not special criteria for those individuals. They are treated as other TCNs.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>NO</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovakia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>YES</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.

NO. Nationality is proven by presenting a Palestinian travel document. The Slovak Republic recognizes passports issued by the Palestinian Authority and grants entry visas into those passports. Holders of those passports are considered nationals of Palestine.


3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?

NO. Citizens of Palestinian Authority are treated as citizens of any other country. Citizens of the Palestinian Authority are not considered stateless persons and are therefore not subject to any special provisions or procedures in proceedings for granting citizenship. Act No. 40/1993 of the National Council of the Slovak Republic on Slovak citizenship, as amended, applies.



4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.

The fact that the individual is a national of Palestine is determined by presenting proof of identity – travel document or other document proving nationality. The individual must meet the criteria of national law, the holder of a passport issued by the Palestinian Authority is a

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>national of Palestine.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>NO</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>Yes, on June 4, 2024, Slovenia formally recognized Palestine as an independent state.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>NO. A stateless person is a person who is not recognized as a citizen by any state.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>No, nationals of Palestine are excluded from the scope of such provisions.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>If a person holds a Palestinian passport, he/she is considered a citizen of Palestine.</p> <p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State’s application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>NO.</p>
	EMN NCP Spain	No	Response is marked as EMN Sensitive
	EMN NCP Sweden	Yes	<p>1. Has your Member State formally recognized Palestine as a sovereign State? YES/NO. Note: If you answer YES to Q.1, please respond to Q1 to Q.5.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>2. Are individuals from Gaza, the West Bank, or East Jerusalem still considered stateless</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>persons in your Member State? YES/NO. Please provide the basis for your Member State's assessment.</p> <p>No not by default. Legally it is considered that Palestine has citizens even if the state lacks a citizenship law. The basis is a Legal Position Paper from the Swedish Migration Agency 2021, regarding the consequences of the recognition of Palestine as a sovereign state for the examination in cases the following is stated.</p> <p>3. Do persons who are considered nationals of Palestine acquire citizenship in your Member State pursuant to special, less stringent provisions applicable to stateless persons? YES/NO. If you answer NO, are nationals of Palestine excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless?</p> <p>No, and the reason for this is that citizens of Palestine are excluded from the scope of such provisions on the grounds that they are not deemed stateless.</p> <p>4. What criteria (e.g. national law, international instruments, etc) must the individual has to meet to determine that s/he is a national of Palestine rather than stateless person in your Member State? Please explain.</p> <p>Persons who are registered in the West Bank, Gaza strip or East Jerusalem and can make it probable will registered as citizen in Palestine. Possession of Palestinian passport with identification number or Palestinian identity card issued by the Palestinian Authority usually proves the citizenship. Others with Palestinian nationality will be registered as stateless persons.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.70 Recognition of Palestine as a State

			<p>5. Seeing the current events in the Palestinian territories, has your Member State's application of these criteria changed since the time of recognition of Palestine as a State? YES/NO. If you answer YES, please explain the changes and if the legislation or administrative practice was amended.</p> <p>No.</p>
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