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2025.77 Planning policy for international protection accommodation centres

**European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query**

February, 2026

AD-HOC QUERY ON 2025.77 PLANNING POLICY FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION ACCOMMODATION CENTRES

REQUESTED BY EMN NCP IRELAND ON 16 DECEMBER 2025

COMPILATION PRODUCED ON 23 FEBRUARY 2026

Exported for: Unrestricted Dissemination

Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, 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 Poland, EMN NCP Serbia, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden, EMN NCP Ukraine **(22 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The provision of international protection accommodation centres in Ireland has historically been demand-led, and prior to 2020, the system operated at or near capacity. When Ireland experienced cyclical surges in applications and need for accommodation, in the 1990s and very significantly, from 2022-2024, the impact on the system, the State and communities was pressured and corrosive. Due to the urgent need to shelter large numbers of people, temporary legislative measures were established to support urgent provision. These included provision for exempted developments for change of use of a building, or direct Ministerial Orders which allow emergency disapplication of the domestic planning code.

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Ireland is actively progressing the development of more State-owned accommodation in line with the Comprehensive Accommodation Strategy. The Department of Justice, Home Affairs aim to explore mechanisms to develop appropriate accommodation centres through the statutory town planning framework and process. We would be grateful to receive feedback from other countries regarding how accommodation centres are established from a town planning perspective. When responding it would be appreciated if you can please provide a link to documentation, policy, guidelines, legislation etc where publicly available and possible.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **21 January 2026**.

1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.
2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.
3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.
4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.
5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.

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6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.

RESPONSES

	Unrestricted Dissemination ?	
 EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>In Austria, matters relating to spatial planning and building codes (building regulations) fall within the responsibility of the respective provinces. The relevant regulations also cover accommodation centers for international asylum seekers. The regulations in selected provinces are presented below as examples. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>There are no exceptions in connection with a significant increase in applications for</p>

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international protection. However, some provinces have different provisions in their building regulations for the construction of accommodation centers (e.g. Art. 16a para. 4 in conjunction with Art. 20 para. 1 subpara. 1 and 2 of the Lower Austrian Building Regulation 2014 or Art. 54 of the Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022). Art. 54 of the Tyrolean Building Regulation, for example, stipulates that temporary accommodation centers for the purpose of providing basic care and accommodation for displaced persons are exempt from the regular approval or notification requirement and are instead subject to an accelerated building notification procedure. If the execution of the construction project is not prohibited within a four-week period, or if the authority expressly approves its execution with conditions or otherwise, it may be carried out and used as an accommodation center for the period specified in the building notification.

Source: Ministry of the Interior

3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.

There are no exceptions in connection with a significant increase in applications for international protection. However, some provinces have different provisions for the construction of accommodation centres in their building regulations. This applies, for example, to the province of Tyrol, where, according to Art. 54 para. 7 of the Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022, construction projects are not subject to the provisions of the zoning plan, development plans, and corresponding textual provisions in the local spatial planning concept, nor to the building regulations of Art. 4 to 12 of the Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022. Furthermore, they are only subject to the structural requirements of mechanical strength and stability, fire protection for residential buildings, hygiene, safety of use and, unless exempted from this under Art. 22, overall energy efficiency. In doing so, the authority shall refrain from enforcing compliance with certain building regulations if it is ensured that other measures

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- a) adequately meet the relevant structural requirements and
- b) adequately protect the interests protected by these regulations, in particular the protection of human life and health.

Source: Ministry of the Interior

4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.

In general, environmental protection aspects are taken into account within the framework of the "general requirements" (e.g., Art. 43 Styrian Building Act, Art. 18 Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022, Art. 43 Lower Austrian Building Regulation 2014). According to the Tyrolean Building Regulation, there is an exception in this case, as only mechanical strength and stability, fire protection for residential buildings, hygiene, safety of use, and possibly overall energy efficiency need to be taken into account with regard to structural requirements (Q3). Environmental protection is not included for accommodation centers under Art. 54 Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022.

Source: Ministry of the Interior

5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.

Building permits generally entitle the holder to commence construction work and lose their validity if, for example, the approved building project is not started within two years – or, in the case of Styria, within five years (Art. 30 of the Styrian Building Act) – from the date of the final decision by the authority, or if it is not completed within five years of its commencement

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(e.g. Art. 24 of the Lower Austrian Building Regulation 2014). In some provinces, the completion of the building project must be reported, and in some circumstances a usage permit is subsequently issued (e.g. Art. 38 of the Styrian Building Act). Use is then usually permitted without any time restrictions. In some cases, there are deviating regulations for accommodation centers for international asylum seekers, for example in accordance with the Lower Austrian Building Regulation 2014 or the Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022.


In Lower Austria, according to Art. 16a para. 5 of the Lower Austrian Building Regulation 2014, once the period of need has expired, the contract term has expired, or the contract has been terminated or canceled prematurely, the operator or its legal successor must close the accommodation center and remove the structural measures within six months and, in the case of changes to existing buildings, restore them to their last lawful condition.

In Tyrol, according to Art. 54 of the Tyrolean Building Regulation 2022, the building notification (Q2) must specify, among other things, the duration for which the notified building project is to exist. This may not exceed 5 years. If the accommodation center in question is still needed, an extension of up to two years may first be requested on the basis of a new building notification. Further extensions of the authorization based on the building notification are permissible if the accommodation center in question is still needed, on the basis of a renewed building notification, for a maximum of one year after the expiry of the period for which displaced persons are granted a temporary right of residence by order of the Federal Government pursuant to Art. 62 para. 1 of the Asylum Act 2005, as amended.

After the expiry of the period specified or extended in the building notification, the holder of the permit must, depending on the type of building project on which the building notification is based, remove the building in question in whole or in part, restore it to its former condition, or return it to its former use, insofar as this is necessary to restore a condition that complies with building and spatial planning regulations.

Source: Ministry of the Interior

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			<p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>No. ---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Belgium</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>In Belgium, spatial planning is a regional competence. In all three regions – the Flemish Region, the Brussels-Capital Region and the Walloon Region- international protection reception centres are subject to general spatial planning and urban planning regulations. These regulations are of a general nature and do not specifically target reception centres as a distinct category of use.</p> <p>In the Flemish Region, reception centres are assessed under the notion of a building’s main function pursuant to the Flemish Spatial Planning Code [1]. A change of function- such as converting a building into a community facility or reception centre- may require an urban planning permit, depending on whether the change is listed as permit-required in the regulation [2].</p> <p>In the Brussels-Capital Region and the Walloon Region, an urban planning permit may be required when the establishment of a reception centre involves a change in the destination or function of a building [3].</p>

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			<p>[1] Article 4.2.1, 6° Vlaamse Codex Ruimtelijke Ordening (VCRO)</p> <p>[2] Article 2, 1, Decree of the Flemish Government of 14/04/2000 determining which changes of function require an urban planning permit - Besluit van de Vlaamse Regering van 14/04/2000 tot bepaling van de vergunningsplichtige functiewijzigingen (Functiewijzigingenbesluit).</p> <p>[3] (Brussels-Capital Region: Article 1, 1° Decree of the Brussels-Capital Regional Government listing acts and works of public utility for which urban planning certificates and permits are issued, Arrêté du Gouvernement de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale du 12/12/2002 déterminant la liste des actes et travaux d'utilité publique pour lesquels les certificats d'urbanisme et les permis d'urbanisme sont délivrés par le fonctionnaire délégué; Walloon Region: Articles D.IV.4, 7° C and R.IV.4-, 1° Walloon territorial development code, Code du développement territorial).</p> <p>Source: Fedasil</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>There are no general exemptions from spatial and urban planning regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in response to significant increases in asylum applications. Newly constructed buildings are, in principle, required to comply with existing spatial and urban planning legislation, irrespective of fluctuations in the number of applicants for international protection.</p> <p>Source: Fedasil</p>
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3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.

Yes, but it depends on the region.

In the Flemish Region, a specific exemption from the urban planning permit requirement is provided for emergency accommodation (noodopvang) [1].

A change of building's main function to emergency accommodation does not require an urban planning permit where the following cumulative conditions are met:

Group accommodation of asylum seekers, homeless persons or displaced residents;

Unforeseen circumstances creating an urgent need;

Humanitarian necessity; and

Temporary duration of a maximum of three years.

In the Brussels-Capital Region, limited exceptions also exist. Temporary changes of use or destination for the purpose of providing free accommodation to applicants for international protection may be exempted from permit requirement for a maximum period of one year, provided that [2]:

The occupation does not exceed one year;

No derogation from zoning plans or urban regulations is involved;

No structural works or volume changes are planned;

The property is restored to its original condition at the end of the authorised period.

In the Walloon Region, no exceptions currently apply. As from 1 May 2025, a new provision of the Code du Développement territorial introduces a permit exemption for a temporary change of destination and/or the placement of containers for a maximum duration of three years, triggered only following a formal declaration of a humanitarian or sanitary crisis by the Walloon Region [3].


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			<p>This exemption is subject to multiple conditions relating to location (for example, absence of a high flood risk) and procedural requirements, including: Restoration of the property to its original conditions at the end of the authorised period; and Consultation of the municipalities concerned, with the absence of a response deemed favourable.</p> <p>This exemption is not currently in use, as the Walloon Region has not formally declared a humanitarian or sanitary crisis.</p> <p>[1] Article 2, §3 Functiewijzigingenbesluit [2] Article 2/6, 3° Arrêté du Gouvernement de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale du 13 novembre 2008 déterminant les actes et travaux dispensés de permis d'urbanisme [3] Article R.IV.1-1 Code du Développement territorial</p> <p>Source : Fedasil</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Source: Fedasil</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>It depends on the required permit and the decision of the competent licensing authority. Construction and operative permits may be either permanent or time-limited. In practice,</p>
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			<p>permits are often granted for a limited duration.</p> <p>Source: Fedasil</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes, but not at the federal regulatory level.</p> <p>Belgium does not have formal, legally binding federal building standards specifically governing the establishment of accommodation centres for applicants for international protection. However, Fedasil (the Federal Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers) has developed operational standards that apply in practice.</p> <p>Since 2018, Fedasil has implemented a set of minimum reception standards, including specific provisions for vulnerable persons. These standards were developed by the Quality Unit of Fedasil, in close collaboration with reception centres and reception partners. They are based on relevant European directives, national legislation and established good practices. The minimum standards cover, inter alia, material aid, social, legal, daily, medical and psychological accompaniment, infrastructure, household effects and safety.</p> <p>Source: Fedasil</p>
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	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>There are no special spatial planning regulations regarding international protection accommodation centres.</p> <p>In the Law on Asylum and Refugees, which determines the conditions and procedure for granting protection to foreigners on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as their rights and obligations, Article 46, paragraph 3 states that "Transit and registration and reception centres are opened and closed by the Council of Ministers upon a proposal by the Chairman of the State Agency for Refugees, in coordination with the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Labour and Social Policy, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, the Chairman of the State Agency for National Security and the mayor of the respective municipality."</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p>
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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>The State Agency for Refugees adheres to the EASO Guidance on Reception Conditions: Operational Standards and Indicators, a key EU framework developed by EASO to standardise dignified reception for asylum seekers.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Reception / Accommodation Centres for applicants of International Protection (i.e. Centers) per se are not specifically included (as a distinguished type of development use) in the spatial planning regulations, since it is not feasible to define in detail the policy of every type of development for which an application may be submitted. Therefore, these Centers are</p>


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			<p>addressed and examined as special-type developments. With regard to development control, a planning permit is not required for developments implemented by the Central Government. However, such developments must be consistent with the aims and the objectives of the Development Plan. To this end, a formal procedure is followed whereby the Owner of the development (the relevant Ministry/ Department) is required to consult with the Director of the Department of Town Planning and Housing of the Ministry of Interior. This procedure may also require consultation with other relevant authorities. For special government projects which justify a deviation from the provisions of the respective Development Plan, and in order to serve the public interest, the Council of Ministers decide accordingly, with the primary objective of ensuring the implementation of projects of national or regional importance and the unimpeded exercise of the Government's development policy.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Where necessary, the decision shall be taken by the Council of Ministers.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>
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			<p>No, these projects are reviewed under environmental regulations, as are all other projects.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>The duration of operation of a Centre shall be determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers, according to needs.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. European standards, as developed by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), are applied within the framework of the national regulatory system</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. We have no special regulation for international protection accommodation centres.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p>

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			<p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. There are no specific spatial planning regulations dedicated to international protection</p>

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			<p>accommodation centres; general planning and construction rules apply.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation</p>
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			<p>centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>No. There are no specific standards exclusively for international protection accommodation centres. General requirements derive from the Estonian Building Code and the regulation "Requirements for the Living Environment in the Provision of Social Services". In practice, EUAA and UNHCR guidance is also taken into account.</p>
<p>+ EMN NCP Finland</p>		<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Generally, no. Establishing detention centres requires a land use agreement with the city/municipality in question.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. The Finnish Immigration Service procures reception services, including accommodation, mainly through public tenders. In order to maintain preparedness/contingency, the contracts of the service providers include plans for expanding the accommodation units and for provision of emergency accommodation - should there be a sudden change in the situation, such as a rapid increase in the number of applicants, these plans are taken into use as a first step of expanding the overall capacity. The reception system is built in a way that enables rapid scalability.</p>

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			<p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. The environmental impact of reception centres is assessed based on average environmental load and number of customers in different types of accommodation.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>Construction permits are usually permanent. In situations that require rapid expansion of accommodation units, contracts are time-limited.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. The Finnish Immigration Service directs, plans and supervises the practical operations of all reception centres. All reception centres operate according to the same principles. The Reception Services Department has operational guidelines for reception centres for adults and families, as well as for units housing unaccompanied minors. According to the guidelines, the premises must be suitable for housing asylum seekers and they need to be approved by</p>
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			<p>different authorities, such as fire and health inspectors and the building supervision authority.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. Accommodation centres for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection, such as reception and assessment centres (CAES), reception centres for asylum seekers (CADA), emergency accommodation for asylum seekers (HUDA) and temporary accommodation centres (CPH) are included in the national reception system (DNA), which is subject to enhanced governance in order to balance the flow and reception of asylum seekers in need of accommodation in mainland France.</p> <p>This governance is based on a regional orientation established in its current form by Law No. 2018-778 of 10 September 2018 and is based on a national reception scheme for asylum seekers and refugees (called SNADAR), which sets every two years by decree the proportion of asylum seekers received in each region and the distribution of accommodation places intended for them. This national plan is broken down into regional plans for the reception of asylum seekers and refugees. The SNADAR decree and the regional orientation, overseen by the Directorate-General for Foreigners in France, aim to 'better organise territorial solidarity by putting an end to the fact that nearly half of all asylum applications registered in France are in the Ile-de-France (Paris) region alone' and are based on the setting of territorial reception objectives and a reinforced and reorganised national reception system. The SNADAR states that "in practical terms, the distribution of asylum seekers takes into account the population; gross domestic product per capita; unemployment rate; and regional reception capacities within the DNA (excluding CPH).</p> <p>In practice, it is up to the decentralised services of each region (territorial directorates of the</p>

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French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) in conjunction with the Prefectures) to manage all the accommodation available for asylum seekers in their territory in order to accommodate, on the one hand, asylum seekers registered at the single point of entry in their territory and, on the other hand, asylum seekers referred to their reception and assessment centres (CAES).

Furthermore, pursuant to Article L. 551-2 of the Code on the Entry and Stay of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum (CESEDA), the regional plan for the reception of asylum seekers takes into account the departmental action plan for the housing and accommodation of disadvantaged persons, to which it is also appended. This departmental plan is a strategic steering document that adapts housing policy to the economic situation and analysis of the territory concerned.

It is a programmatic and operational tool that guarantees rehousing and accommodation measures for disadvantaged people and has been developed to incorporate changes in the ALUR (Law on Access to Housing and Urban Renewal) and ELAN (Law No. 2018-1021 of 23 November 2018 on housing, urban planning and digital development) laws.

In addition, pursuant to Article 4 of Decree No. 2017-1565 of 14 November 2017 on departmental action plans for housing and accommodation for disadvantaged persons, the departmental action plan for housing and accommodation for disadvantaged persons is adopted in particular after consultation with the regional committee for housing and accommodation committee, which also gives its opinion on draft local housing programmes, draft local inter-municipal urban development plans insofar as they serve as local housing programmes, and the draft metropolitan housing and accommodation plan , thus ensuring consistency between housing and accommodation policies across the territory.

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			<p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. The regional orientation of asylum seekers was established in order to adapt reception and accommodation policy to the migration context. Thus, in the event of a significant increase in asylum applications, the national scheme for the reception of asylum seekers and the integration of refugees provides for regional rebalancing, in accordance with the regulations mentioned above. Furthermore, Article L.551-4 of the CESEDA provides that when the proportion of asylum seekers residing in a region exceeds the proportion set for that region by the SNADAR and its reception capacity, an applicant may be referred to another region where they will be required to reside for the duration of their asylum application.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. An exception to the standard zoning rules for the creation of accommodation for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection requiring a building permit, planning permission, prior declaration or any other land use is set out in Article L. 114-4 of the Urban Planning Code. Thus, by way of derogation from Article L. 111-3 of the Urban Planning Code, which stipulates that 'buildings may only be authorised in urbanised areas of the municipality', Article L. 114-4 establishes the principle that 'the measured extension of existing buildings and facilities may be authorised outside urbanised areas of the municipality'.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>
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			<p>No. The creation of accommodation places by state operators, requiring a building permit, planning permission, prior declaration or any other land use, is subject, in accordance with Article R. 111-1 of the Town Planning Code, to national town planning rules, in particular Article R. 111-26 of the Urban Planning Code, which establishes the principle of compliance with the environmental concerns defined in Articles L. 110-1 and L. 110-2 of the Environmental Code. Thus, the project may only be accepted subject to compliance with special requirements if, due to its size, location or purpose, it is likely to have harmful consequences for the environment.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>The duration of building and operating permits granted for accommodation centres for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection depends on whether or not they are social and medico-social establishments and services (ESSMS) governed by the Social Action and Families Code (CASF), which strictly regulates their operation and funding. For accommodation centres with ESSMS status (reception centres for asylum seekers (CADA); temporary accommodation centres (CPH)), places are created through calls for projects, for a period of 15 years, with renewal subject to an assessment of the quality of the services provided. These establishments must sign a multi-year contract of objectives and means with the regional prefect.</p> <p>For accommodation centres that are classified as emergency facilities and do not fall under the ESSMS status (such as CAES, HUDA and Pradha), the opening of places is subject to prior declaration to the prefect of the department. They are financed by public procurement or by subsidies based on an annual budget estimate, with payment made according to the rule of service rendered.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.77 Planning policy for international protection accommodation centres

			<p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. The standards governing the creation of accommodation places are specified in the specifications for national reception facilities (DNA) published by order of the Minister responsible for asylum, in accordance with Article R. 552-2 of the Code on the Entry and Stay of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For reception centres for asylum seekers (CADA), the specifications set by order of 19 June 2019;• For emergency accommodation for asylum seekers (HUDA), the specifications set by order of 19 June 2019;• For reception and examination centres (CAES), the specifications set by order of 13 January 2021 . <p>Common provisions relating to accommodation standards have thus been established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• furnished accommodation, suitable for accommodating residents and allowing for privacy, i.e. a minimum of 7.5 m² per adult living alone in a shared or single room and a surface area guaranteeing sufficient privacy for the household and maintaining family unity;• the premises made available to residents shall include living areas equipped with sanitary facilities, furniture, communal or individual kitchens and, if possible, communal areas. In the absence of kitchens, the manager of the reception centre for asylum seekers shall provide catering services;• The buildings used for accommodation may consist of collective buildings with shared living spaces, such as bathrooms, kitchens and communal rooms, or scattered houses or flats, or modular structures.• Administrative offices and equipment for professionals providing social, administrative and health support to residents. In this regard, the specifications governing reception centres for asylum seekers (CADA) stipulate that offices must be accessible to residents.
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.77 Planning policy for international protection accommodation centres

			<p>For information, the aforementioned CADA standards are currently being revised to bring them into line with HUDA standards (transformation of HUDA into CADA from 2026). Furthermore, the specifications set out in the decree of 13 January 2021 for reception and assessment centres (CAES) specify that CAES must be located in areas served by public transport in order to ensure their accessibility for asylum seekers and their proximity to public services, in particular one-stop shops.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. Local authorities have always been able to designate suitable areas for the accommodation of refugees and asylum seekers by drawing up local development plans. An amending or supplementing of existing development plans is also possible. In addition, local authorities can also provide suitable areas for the accommodation of refugees and asylum seekers under Article 34 (4) of the German Building Code (BauGB). This article allows an integrated development without a new formal plan, provided it is consistent with the existing type and size of building uses and construction methods.</p> <p>For many German municipalities, the significant increase of refugees and asylum seekers since 2015 has led to major challenges in terms of temporary and long-term accommodation, integration and care. The federal government responded by adapting specific regulations within the planning law. For example, provisions for emergency shelters have been explicitly implemented in the Building Code (BauGB) since 2014 and 2015.</p> <p>The German Federal Building Code is available here (in german): https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bbaug/</p>

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			<p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. There have been exceptions and exemptions for refugee accommodation since 2014. These exceptions are: The Act on Measures in Building Planning Law to Facilitate the Accommodation of Refugees, which came into force on November 26, 2014 (Federal Law Gazette 2014 I: 1748) and the 2015 "Refugee Amendment" (Article 6 of the Asylum Acceleration Act) of October 24, 2015.</p> <p>Special provisions were implemented into the German Building Code (BauGB) with the aim of facilitating the construction of accommodation for refugees or asylum seekers and allow the building of refugee accommodation without corresponding urban development plans, even in commercial areas. This includes the provision of accommodation and (social) services for refugees, like childcare, education or health care. New regulations for permanent and temporary developments can be used until December 31, 2027.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. With the 2014 amendment, special provisions were implemented into the German Building Code (BauGB) to facilitate the construction of refugee accommodation. The measures of Article 31 (2) No. 1 BauGB are permanent, while three measures are limited until the end of 2027 (Article 246 (8) to (10) BauGB).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exemption in favour of housing refugees and asylum seekers (Article 31 (2) No. 1 BauGB) <p>The new regulation emphasizes the special public interest and public welfare in the creation of facilities for housing refugees and asylum seekers and allows the exemptions from a</p>
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			<p>development plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accommodation in unplanned inner areas (Article 34 (3a) BauGB in conjunction with Article 246 (8) BauGB) Until the end of 2027, Article 34 (3a) sentence 1 BauGB will enable the transformation of land uses of existing commercial, office, or administrative buildings into accommodations for refugees or asylum seekers. The regulation supports projects that aims to accommodate refugees or asylum seekers in unplanned inner areas in accordance with § 34 BauGB.• Accommodation in outer areas (Article 35 (4) sentence 1 BauGB) The new Article 35 (4) sentence 1 BauGB can be used until the end of 2027. The new regulation expands the catalogue of projects that are permitted in outer areas (such as agricultural, forestry, or wind energy installations) to include buildings that serve to accommodate refugees or asylum seekers.• Accommodation in commercial areas through exemptions (Article 8 BauNVO in combination with Article 246 (10) BauGB) According to Article 246 (10) BauGB, commercial areas (Article 8 BauNVO) may be excluded from the regulations of the development plan for reception facilities, shared accommodation, or other accommodation for refugees or asylum seekers. This regulation is in place until the end of 2027.• Special clause: If the temporary special provisions and other orders of the BauGB are not sufficient to meet the accommodation needs of refugees, deviations from all building planning regulations of the BauGB and the BauNVO may be made, not only with regard to the type of use, but also, and above all, with regard to the dimensions of the respective building (Article 246 (14) BauGB).
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The new articles in the BauGB confirm that the accommodation of refugees or asylum seekers is of public interest that may justify granting an exemption from the provisions of a development plan for the new construction and expansion or the change of use of existing facilities for the accommodation of refugees or asylum seekers. These regulations ensure, on the one hand, the special public interest in creating facilities for refugees. On the other hand, the law amendment provides a framework for handling different public interests.

More information:

<https://www.dstgb.de/themen/asyl-und-fluechtlinge/aktuelles/fluechtlingsunterbringung-aktuelle-hinweise-zur-bauplanungsrechtlichen-beurteilung/fk-staedtebau-hinweise-fluechtlingsunterbringung-15.12.2015.pdf?cid=8ub>

4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.


Yes. Under Article 246 (12) of the German Building Code (BauGB), exemptions from development plans may be granted for the construction of mobile accommodations for refugees or for the change of use of legally constructed buildings in commercial, industrial, or special areas.

The maximum duration of use is limited to six years (three years plus a further three years on the basis of an application). Unlike exemptions for permanent accommodation under Article 246(10) BauGB, for example, the environmental impact of mobile accommodation can be given less priority. The construction of mobile accommodation is subject to a dismantling obligation for the newly initiated construction measures.


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			<p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>A construction permit is required for refugee accommodation if it is located in buildings which are not intended for overnight stays. These can be temporary or permanent.</p> <p>If minimum material standards for hazard prevention are fulfilled, temporary tolerance of use without a formal construction permit procedure is also possible. Personal safety, in particular rapid evacuation, has the highest priority.</p> <p>A temporary permit is generally valid for a period of three months. If it is not foreseeable that the use will end after six months, a building permit procedure must be initiated.</p> <p>In both cases (approval and tolerance), the operators of refugee accommodations are responsible for compliance with building regulations. They must consider the special linguistic, cultural, and psychological disposition of refugees. Operational and organizational measures (such as fire protection) are also specified in the building permits.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. The standard building regulations are also valid for the planning and construction of new buildings for refugees or asylum seekers. There are generally no further requirements.</p> <p>Building regulations in Germany are governed by state law, which means that different regulations apply in each federal state. The Federal States may through law or ordinance define standards for accommodation facilities that complement the regulations set out in the</p>
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			<p>federal building code. For example, the Bavarian State Building Regulations classify refugee accommodation as “other facilities for accommodating persons and residential homes” and define explicit standards for this purpose.</p> <p>You can find more information on this topic here, for example: https://www.stmb.bayern.de/assets/stmi/buw/baurechtundtechnik/25_baurechtl-hinweise-zu-unterkuenften-f%C3%BCr-fluechtlinge-u-asylbegehrende.pdf</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Hungary</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. There is no specific provision under national, regional or local spatial planning regulations governing international protection accommodation centres. However, such centres are established in accordance with the guidelines and professional standards developed by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), and in compliance with the relevant EU directive (Reception Conditions Directive/Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council).</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>

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			<p>No</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. The requirements are set out in Section 36/D of Government Decree No. 301/2007 (of 9 November) on the implementation of the Asylum Act, which prescribes minimum standards, including the size of detention rooms in accommodation facilities.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Ireland</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No: There is currently no policy or guidelines in forward planning (strategic planning) documents that control and influence the spatial planning criteria of accommodation centres</p>

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			<p>at; National (National Planning Framework) Regional (3 x regional spatial economic strategies) Local (city & county development plans). Therefore, international protection accommodation centres in Ireland are assessed on their merit. We are currently looking to other countries to explore how this is captured and what type of policy exists.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. The majority of accommodation centres in Ireland do not have full planning permission. Instead, Ireland has relied on the use of exempted development which permits the temporary change of use of buildings and Ministerial Orders (MO's) which do not provide longevity due to time limited constraints. Ireland intends to provide more state-owned accommodation centres with full planning permission and move away from these temporary measures;</p> <p>Exempted development - temporary change of use This effectively permits certain classes of existing development (buildings) to have its use changed to provide accommodation for IPAs without the need to seek full planning permission from the local planning authority via exempted development. Ireland has relied on this form of Exempted Development introduced under various Statutory Instruments (S.I.) to temporarily exempt the requirement to obtain change of use planning permission for the use of providing the necessary facilities for accommodating IPA's; S.I. No. 582/2015 - Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2015 (Class 14)</p>
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			<p>S.I. No. 605/2022 - Planning and Development (Exempted Development) (No. 4) Regulations 2022 (Class 20F) S.I. No. 376/2023 - Planning and Development (Exempted Development) (No. 4) Regulations 2023 (Class 20F updated)</p> <p>These Statutory Instruments are time limited. While they can provide a quick response to market conditions they don't provide a sustainable solution to providing accommodation in long term.</p> <p>Ministerial Order's (MO's) - Development by state authorities Accommodation Centres established under MO's in 2024 in response to the 2023/2024 surge in IPAs were time limited to 5 years as it was seen to be taking measures to deal with emergency situation at the time only. This was development that did not require domestic planning law to be fully adhered to rather, EU law still had to be complied with.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. Zoning criteria sits within local government and is designated in each City and County Development Plan. There is currently no zoning that permits, prohibits or states that accommodation centres can be considered in certain zoned lands. To that end, there is no provision for accommodation centres in any land use zoning in Ireland. Each proposal is assessed on its merits irrespective of which land use zoning it lies within.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>
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			<p>No. All proposals must comply with EU law and demonstrate that they will not impact any Natura 2000 site including special protection areas (SPAs) and special areas of conservation (SACs) irrespective of what type of development is proposed and who is undertaking it.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>Full planning permissions for accommodation centres are not time limited by Planning Authorities. However, statutory planning pathways to establish accommodation centres mentioned above (exempted development - temporary change of use and Ministerial Orders) are time limited.</p> <p>Building control legislation ensures that the construction of centres is compliant with the building regulations. This entails notification to the Building Control Authority (each local authority) prior to commencement of the works with a design which is compliant to the current building regulations as provided for in the technical guidance documents A-M. A Process is in place to ensure the construction of the property is in compliance with its design and the products used are compliant with European regulation.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>To date the only document that any proposed accommodation centres need to take into consideration is the National Standards. Ireland is currently reviewing the National Standards and developing new accommodation guidelines. As part of this, we are looking to other countries to explore what criteria exists and how this is captured in accommodation centres.</p>
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			<p>This will capture items such as proximity to schools, health services, urban centres, policy on regional centres and transport and parking along with the typical room sizes for each type of rooms in a typical etc. In addition to capturing spatial requirements of the development, this guidance will also serve to set preferred proximity to services such as education, health and public transport.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Italy</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A Reception centres in Italy are identified within existing facilities, whether privately or publicly owned, already located within the territory, the use of which is converted in order to host such centres. For these reasons, they are not covered by legislation on territorial (spatial/land-use) planning.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p>

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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Within the Ministerial Decree approving the standard tender specifications for public procurement contracts concerning the supply of goods and services related to the management and operation of reception centres, Article 9 provides that, where a centre is set up in a property owned by or available to the Ministry of the Interior, or, in any case, in state-owned property, such property is granted on a free loan for use (comodato d'uso) for the duration of the contract, without any costs being borne by the managing entity awarded the public procurement contract for the supply of reception goods and services. Utility costs remain the responsibility of the granting Administration where this is expressly provided for in the call for tender. The handover of the property to the managing entity and its return to the Administration are preceded by the drafting of a condition report on the property and by an inventory of the existing assets and equipment. The managing entity is required to ensure that the assets are maintained in the condition in which they were delivered.</p>
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			<p>Where properties owned by the Administration, forming part of the state domain, or otherwise available to the Administration are not available, the managing entity shall make available premises for reception purposes that comply with the requirements laid down by the applicable legislation on town planning, construction, fire prevention, habitability and occupancy, hygiene, and safety, and shall ensure that the necessary maintenance works are carried out in accordance with the legislation in force. The Prefecture reserves the right to verify, at any time, the suitability, capacity, and logistical compatibility of the location of the properties in which the services are to be provided. The assessment of suitability falls within the exclusive competence and unquestionable discretion of the Prefecture. In particular, where hygienic-sanitary or safety anomalies are reported in relation to the properties used as centres and facilities, the Prefecture may initiate inspections through all competent bodies. In the event of a negative outcome of such inspections, the Prefecture may require the replacement of the properties and, failing such replacement, shall proceed with the termination of the contract.</p> <p>In all cases, it is always required that the facilities covered by the standard tender specifications ensure adequate hygienic-sanitary, housing, and safety standards, as provided for by the legislation in force for facilities of a similar type. The standard tender specifications are based on the provisions set out in Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, transposing Directive 2013/33/EU, which requires Member States to ensure adequate qualitative standards in the field of reception.</p> <p>In particular, Article 10 on reception arrangements provides that reception facilities must ensure adequate hygienic-sanitary, housing, and safety standards, as well as appropriate prevention, control, and monitoring measures with regard to participation in or active propaganda in favour of international terrorist organisations {...}. It is also provided that, in addition to material reception services, healthcare assistance, social assistance, and linguistic-cultural mediation shall be provided, including through organisational arrangements based on a territorial approach, in accordance with the detailed provisions set out in the tender</p>
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			<p>specifications referred to in Article 12. Furthermore, respect for private life, including gender differences, age-related needs, protection of the physical and mental health of applicants, the unity of family units composed of spouses and relatives up to the first degree, and the adoption of the necessary measures for persons with specific needs are ensured. Appropriate measures are adopted to prevent all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, and to guarantee the safety and protection of both applicants and staff working in the centres. In implementation of Article 10, a Decree of the Minister of the Interior, in agreement with the Minister of Health, entitled "Establishment of hygienic-sanitary, housing and safety standards for migrant reception centres", was adopted and published in the Official Gazette No. 214 of 7 September 2021.</p> <p>The aforementioned decree, with regard to hygienic-sanitary, housing, and safety standards, has a declaratory nature, providing that the current regulatory framework must be complied with in properties used as reception centres, with particular reference to: the standards laid down by the legislation in force on town planning, construction, fire prevention, habitability, hygiene, and safety, as certified by appropriate documentation; the structural, technical, and organisational standards laid down by the applicable national and regional legislation governing authorisation for the provision of healthcare services, with regard to the premises in which healthcare activities are carried out, where the type of assistance provided falls, under such legislation, within the cases subject to an authorisation procedure, as well as, more generally, good technical practice standards relating to microclimate and lighting. The monitoring role carried out by the Prefectures is also reiterated, as they verify compliance with the aforementioned standards, including through the inspections provided for under Article 20 of Legislative Decree No. 142/2015, also in cooperation with the territorially competent local health authorities.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>In Latvia, accommodation centres for asylum seekers are included in general spatial planning and construction regulations adopted by the government. The establishment and construction of such centres must comply with national and regional plans, as well as local zoning requirements. In Latvia accommodation centres for asylum seekers have been created on the basis of old buildings, which have been reconstructed or technically improved and so adopted to the accommodation of asylum seekers.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. General rules are applicable.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. General rules are applicable.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. General rules are applicable.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.77 Planning policy for international protection accommodation centres

			<p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>In Latvia, construction and operative permits for international protection accommodation centres are granted as permanent, not time-limited. Construction or reconstruction permits for a specific building project are issued under the national regulations and remains valid after the construction or reconstruction works are completed. There are no time-limited operative permits foreseen for asylum seekers accommodation centres. The operation of accommodation centre must correspond to the lawful use of the building according to the designated purpose and function.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>There are no specific guidance or building standards for establishing accommodation centres in Latvia.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes. In Lithuania, international protection accommodation centres are covered by the general spatial planning and construction regulation framework, rather than by a dedicated, asylum-</p>


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			<p>specific planning regime.</p> <p>At national level, spatial development principles and land-use categories are established by the Law on Territorial Planning and related secondary legislation. The Law on Territorial Planning establishes the overall system of national, regional and municipal spatial planning, including land-use categories, planning documents and procedures for approving development. This law is complemented by secondary legislation adopted by the Government and competent ministries, which regulates the preparation, content and approval of territorial planning documents at different levels. The most relevant secondary legislation includes Government resolutions on the organisation of territorial planning processes, rules on comprehensive and detailed territorial planning documents, and technical construction regulations that define building categories, permitted uses and development requirements. Together, these legal acts determine how public infrastructure buildings, including accommodation centres for applicants for international protection, may be planned and developed within national, regional and municipal planning frameworks.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p>
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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>In Lithuania, construction and operative permits for international protection accommodation centres are generally granted as permanent, not time-limited, authorizations. Construction permits are issued under the Law on Construction for a specific building project and, once the construction is completed in accordance with the approved design and legal requirements, the permit itself does not expire. After completion, the building is registered and may be used on a permanent basis, provided that its use corresponds to the approved purpose and complies with applicable safety, hygiene and technical regulations. Similarly, there is no asylum-specific regime of time-limited operative permits for accommodation centres. The operation of such centres is linked to the lawful use of the building according to its designated function (typically public infrastructure). As long as the building continues to meet legal requirements and is used in line with the approved purpose, its operation is not subject to a predefined time limit.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>No</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2025.77 Planning policy for international protection accommodation centres

	EMN NCP Luxembourg	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>There are no spatial planning regulations specifically dedicated to international protection accommodation centres. In practice, such centres are subject to the general spatial planning framework, in particular municipal planning instruments such as the Plan d'aménagement général (PAG) and, where applicable, Plans d'aménagement particulier (PAP).</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. There are no specific exemptions from standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres as such. In principle, all projects must comply with the applicable zoning and land-use provisions set out in municipal planning instruments (PAG/PAP). In this context, accommodation projects are preferably developed in areas designated for public or collective purposes, such as BEP zones, where this use is explicitly foreseen or permitted by the municipalities concerned.</p>
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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. In principle, there are no specific exemptions from environmental impact assessment (EIA) requirements for international protection accommodation centres. Where applicable, projects must comply with the relevant national environmental and sustainability legislation.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>In the context of negotiations with municipalities, and in particular for newly developed structures, the State systematically seeks unlimited or at least time-limited authorizations with a minimum duration of 15 years. This approach aims to balance long-term planning certainty with municipal planning considerations, while maintaining flexibility regarding the future use of the sites. The exact duration and conditions of the permits are defined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of the project, local planning instruments, and agreements reached with the municipalities concerned</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. Luxembourg applies formal building and planning standards to the establishment of accommodation centres. For State-led projects, reference is made to the technical and sustainability standards applied by the Administration des bâtiments publics (ABP), which</p>
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			primarily apply to newly constructed buildings. These standards are complemented by general national regulations (e.g. safety and health).
	EMN NCP Poland	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>In Poland, the application of spatial planning regulations to international protection accommodation centres depends on the legal status of the facility.</p> <p>Accommodation centres operated directly by the Office for Foreigners are typically located on areas designated as closed areas under national legislation. In such cases, local municipalities do not have planning power over those areas, and local spatial development plans do not apply in the standard manner. Competences related to land-use planning and construction decisions for facilities located in closed areas lay at the regional level.</p> <p>Accommodation centres that are not under the permanent administration of the Office for Foreigners are not established through construction by the authority. Instead, they are chosen through public procurement procedures for the provision of social services, namely accommodation and catering for applicants for international protection. These facilities are operated on the basis of contracts concluded for a fixed period. Contractors are required to hold a valid legal title to the property enabling the lawful provision of accommodation services and to inform the competent local authorities of the intended use of the facility as an accommodation centre.</p> <p>The contracting authority does not impose specific requirements regarding entries in local spatial development plans; the decisive factor is that the legal status and characteristics of the property allow the contracted services to be provided in compliance with applicable law.</p>


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			<p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No specific exceptions are foreseen. In practice, the Office for Foreigners has not constructed new accommodation centres. Facilities managed directly by the Office have been obtained from the State Treasury's property resources, while other centres have been secured through public procurement procedures for accommodation services.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. No specific derogations from standard zoning rules have been established for this purpose, as described above.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. There are no specific exemptions from environmental impact assessment or environmental impact report requirements established specifically for international protection accommodation centres under Polish law.</p> <p>In practice, however, accommodation capacity is predominantly secured through public procurement procedures for social services, namely the provision of accommodation and</p>
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			<p>catering services for applicants for international protection, rather than through construction of new facilities by the Office for Foreigners.</p> <p>As these procedures concern the delivery of social services in existing facilities, and do not involve construction works or investment projects initiated by the contracting authority, environmental impact assessments are not required within the procurement process itself. Environmental aspects are therefore not subject to separate assessment at this stage.</p> <p>Where construction works or significant modifications of facilities are planned, including in closed areas, the standard environmental legislation applies, and any obligation to prepare environmental impact documentation arises in accordance with general national rules, without dedicated derogations for this category of accommodation.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>This depends on the legal status of the facility: For centres not under permanent administration of the Office for Foreigners, accommodation services are provided on the basis of contracts concluded for a fixed period (typically up to 48 months). Contractors must hold a legal title to the property (e.g. ownership, lease, tenancy or lending agreement) for the duration of the contract. For centres under permanent administration, properties are obtained from State Treasury resources on an indefinite basis. For facilities located in closed areas, permitting competences related to construction and land-use decisions rest with the regional governor (voivode) rather than local authorities.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to</p>
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			<p>the document, if available publicly. Yes. Accommodation centres qualify as collective accommodation facilities and must comply with general national regulations concerning residential premises, common areas, equipment, and services.</p> <p>Detailed technical and operational requirements are specified in the Terms of Reference (Description of the Subject Matter of the Contract) used in public procurement procedures for accommodation and catering services for applicants for international protection. These documents are publicly available via the Office for Foreigners' procurement platform. In addition, Poland applies Directive 2013/33/EU on reception conditions, and Guidance and standards developed by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), including operational standards and indicators on reception conditions.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Serbia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>There are no legally prescribed provisions regulating this matter, and situations vary from center to center.</p> <p>State-owned centers designated to the reception authority and intended for permanent use as reception/asylum centers must be included in spatial plans if construction works requiring the issuance of appropriate building permits are planned (such as the construction of new facilities or capital maintenance of existing ones). In this way, all facilities are incorporated into the spatial plans of the local self-government territory in which they are located no later than the time when works requiring building permits are carried out.</p>

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			<p>In cases where a facility is rented for the purpose of establishing a centre, the facility remains classified according to its original intended use, as such contracts are always time-limited.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>After the completion of construction works, and confirmation that all works are performed in accordance to the project and construction standards, the competent authority issues a usage permit, which is of a permanent nature.</p>
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			<p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>There are no formal guidelines or building standards for establishing accommodation centres. Therefore, both general construction standards and specific EUAA standards apply to the preparation of building designs for such facilities.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovakia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p>

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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>Permanent. In the Slovak Republic the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (as the responsible body for international protection issues) is currently only using its own accommodation facilities for applicants, and this capacity is sufficient for the time being. If a higher number of applicants is received, the capacity of the asylum facilities can be temporarily increased.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>In the Slovak Republic the Migration Office applies the same formal guidance and building standards to the establishment of accommodation and reception centres (e.g. room sizes and site location, etc.) as to any other buildings. All formal guidance and building standards must comply with the Building Act. All standards that are legally required under EU law must be observed during the building approval process, as well as the legally required hygiene standards[1]. The government decides on the location of accommodation and reception centres in line with the state's capacity and generally binding EU regulations.</p>
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			<p>[1] https://www.slov-lex.sk/ezbierky/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2008/259/20161001.html https://www.slov-lex.sk/ezbierky/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2007/355/</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No, they are not specifically included, they are subject to the same legislation as other facilities/buildings, without exceptions. This means that accommodation centers, like other facilities, must comply with spatial implementation acts and spatial planning regulations, and must meet the requirements of building regulations and other related requirements.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>

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			<p>No. If, in accordance with the applicable rules on environmental protection and the rules on environmental interventions for which an environmental impact assessment must be carried out, such an assessment should also be carried out, then this would apply also for the accommodation center and such an assessment would be made - the applicable rules do not include any exceptions that would apply to the accommodation centers.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>The rules regarding building permits for accommodation centers are the same as for other facilities, there are no exceptions or different rules. This area is governed by regulations in the field of building construction.</p> <p>When it comes to the construction of a new building in accordance with the regulations in the field of building construction, it generally applies that the building permit ceases to be valid if the investor does not start construction within five years of its finality, and in the case of a change of purpose, if the investor does not carry out the change of purpose within five years of its finality. Before starting to use a building for which a building permit has been issued, except for a non-demanding building, a use permit must be obtained.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>No. Like other facilities, accommodation centers must comply with spatial implementation acts and spatial planning regulations, and must meet the requirements of building, technical and</p>
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			other regulations. As far as possible, EUAA guidelines regarding accommodation capacities are also followed.
	EMN NCP Spain	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>Yes, International Reception Centres are subject to local regulations regarding urban planning. Therefore, they must have the relevant authorisation to carry out their activities. This regulatory framework does not derive from a specific national regulation applicable to the centres themselves. All other applicable regulations relating to their activity as social service centres are exclusively state regulations. The State, within the framework of the International Reception System, may establish general conditions related to funding mechanisms, standards, content of action programmes, coordination, and the overall functioning of the programmes.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>NO</p>


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			<p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>In Spain, there are no specific technical guidelines that regulate in detail the construction criteria for international protection accommodation centres, such as the size of the facilities, the dimensions of the rooms, or similar requirements.</p> <p>In accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 220/2022 of 29 March, regulating the International Reception System, the centres integrated within said system comply with the conditions laid down in the applicable European Union acquis on reception, in particular Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, establishing standards for the reception of applicants for international protection.</p> <p>This Regulation provides, in general terms, that the location, dimensions, and capacity of the centres shall be determined on the basis of geographical proximity to those areas of the</p>
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			<p>territory receiving the highest migratory flows. Moreover, Article 29 of the aforementioned Regulation governs international protection reception centres, establishing general criteria regarding their operation and organisation, without setting out specific guidelines on the architectural design or construction of the facilities.</p>
 <p>EMN NCP Sweden</p>		<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain. No.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain. No.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain. No.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>

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			<p>No.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>The SMA does not own any property but rents them from contractors. There are no particular construction and operative permits for IP accommodation. The required permits are to be in place by the time the SMA rents the property.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>Yes. There is an internal instruction for the SMA for this; the instruction describes all types of work flows at the centres, all types of centres and their functions, the functions of the different types of rooms in relation to each other (for example, bathrooms and toilets should be close to bedrooms whereas laundry rooms can be located further away). However, the instruction is not available publicly and it is in Swedish. Some of EUAA:s guidance documents are used as a base for the internal instructions. The SMA has separate documents for technical requirements such as room size, ventilation rules, fire safety, etc.; most of these technical elements are regulated by national legislation. There is also a separate description for administrative requirements (offices, support materials, security, etc.) as well as a national plan for site locations and where the SMA accommodation centres are to be located geographically.</p>
	EMN NCP Ukraine	Yes	<p>1. Are your international protection accommodation centres included in your spatial planning regulations (national/regional/local)? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p>

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			<p>No.</p> <p>2. Are there exceptions to these regulations for the construction of international protection accommodation centres in times of significant increases in asylum applications? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>3. Are there exceptions to standard zoning rules for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No. International protection accommodation centres are typically located in places with the highest concentration of asylum seekers.</p> <p>4. Are there exceptions to requirements for environmental impact reports for international protection accommodation centres? Yes/no. If yes, please explain.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>5. Are construction and operative permits granted for international protection accommodation centres permanent or time-limited? Please explain.</p> <p>Permits for the construction and operation of international protection accommodation centres are permanent.</p>
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			<p>Permits for the construction of specific centers are not limited in time.</p> <p>6. Does your country have formal guidance/building standards for establishing accommodation centres (e.g. room sizes, site location). Yes/no. If yes, please provide details and/or a link to the document, if available publicly.</p> <p>No. There are no special regulations for accommodation centers. Only the state building regulations apply.</p>
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