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2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

**European Migration Network
Ad-hoc query**

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AD-HOC QUERY ON 2026.9 MULTIDISCIPLINARY AGE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

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Responses from: EMN NCP Austria, EMN NCP Belgium, EMN NCP Bulgaria, EMN NCP Croatia, EMN NCP Cyprus, EMN NCP Czech Republic, EMN NCP Estonia, EMN NCP Finland, EMN NCP France, EMN NCP Germany, EMN NCP Greece, EMN NCP Hungary, EMN NCP Italy, EMN NCP Latvia, EMN NCP Lithuania, EMN NCP Luxembourg, EMN NCP Malta, EMN NCP Netherlands, EMN NCP Poland, EMN NCP Slovakia, EMN NCP Slovenia, EMN NCP Spain, EMN NCP Sweden **(23 in total)**

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Following up on EMN Poland's AHQ 2026.3, EMN Latvia would like to determine whether Member States are planning to revise their age assessment procedures to align with the multidisciplinary approach mandated by Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348. We are interested in examples of planned or existing approaches.

According to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, where, as a result of the applicant's statements, available documentary evidence or other relevant indications, there are doubts as to whether an applicant is a minor, the determining authority may undertake a multidisciplinary assessment, including a psychosocial assessment carried out by qualified professionals, in order to

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determine the applicant's age within the framework of the examination of the application. The age assessment shall not be based solely on the applicant's physical appearance or behaviour. For the purposes of the age assessment, available documents shall be considered genuine unless there is evidence to the contrary, and the statements of minors shall be taken into due consideration.

Furthermore, according to the EASO Practical Guide on Age Assessment, a multidisciplinary approach implies the examination of different aspects or factors, including physical, psychological, developmental, environmental and cultural elements. Conversely, an age assessment process based solely on medical methods cannot be considered multidisciplinary.

The above introduces a new approach and additional responsibilities regarding the age assessment procedure in Latvia. Currently, where the authority responsible for the identification of the applicant has doubts regarding the applicant's age, it may, upon receiving the consent of the representative of an unaccompanied minor, order a medical expert examination to determine the person's age. If, after the medical expert examination, doubts regarding the applicant's age persist, the applicant is considered a minor for the purpose of examining the application.

In order to implement a multidisciplinary approach to age assessment and to draft the necessary legislative amendments and procedural provisions in the context of the Migration Pact implementation, Latvia would like to explore other Member States' planned or existing approaches to multidisciplinary age assessment.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

We would very much appreciate your responses by **10 March 2026**.


1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.
2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service

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provider? Please explain your answer.

3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)
4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.
5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.
6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?

RESPONSES

	Unrestricted Dissemination ?	
 EMN NCP Austria	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes, Austria plans to make a minor adjustment to the process for assessing legal age. The plan is to supplement the process with a psychosocial assessment as an intermediate step prior to a medical age diagnosis (see AHQ 2026.3, Q9).</p> <p>---</p>


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			<p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The psychosocial assessment is carried out by qualified specialists. A pool of interested specialists from the fields of psychology, psychotherapy, social work and social pedagogy has already been established for this purpose. Payment will be made on a service contract basis. The medical age diagnosis will continue to be carried out by doctors, as before.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>If doubts arise during registration regarding the initial interview, the file will be reviewed and, if doubts remain, an interview will be conducted by a team responsible for determining age. If doubts remain, a psychosocial age assessment will be arranged. The qualified specialist will receive the transcript of the previous interviews and conduct a structured interview with the person concerned, with the assistance of interpreters.</p> <p>If minority cannot be plausibly confirmed in this step either, the final step is to initiate a medical age assessment.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
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			<p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>See Q.3. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>If the applicant's age of majority is confirmed at the time of application, his or her age of majority must be determined by means of a procedural order (during the hearing or in writing) and, at the same time, the legal representative must be released from his or her duties. The subsequent administrative decision must set out the reasons for the decision regarding the applicant's age and justify them accordingly. The procedural order regarding a declaration of majority can only be contested together with the administrative decision. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/a --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
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 EMN NCP Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES. Belgium is establishing a multidisciplinary age assessment procedure in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1348 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024. The new procedure will come into effect on 12 June 2026.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS, the decision-making authority in the procedure for international protection) will conduct the age assessment procedure concerning applicants for international protection. This is a new competence for the CGRS, starting 12 June 2026. Currently, the age assessment is conducted by the Guardianship Service (see below).</p> <p>The Guardianship Service, part of Federal Public Service of Justice, will conduct the age assessment for non-applicants for international protection and will change its procedures to align it with the procedure established for applicants for international protection and to avoid discrimination between these categories.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>Step 1: Immigration Office</p>
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			<p>The applicant registers at the Immigration Office and declares their age. The Immigration Office completes the administrative file (ID documents, database results, age determination by another Member State...). A first analysis is conducted by the Immigration Office, which can have 3 results: (1) there is no doubt that the applicant is a minor: the applicant is considered a minor during the procedure for international protection; (2) there is no doubt that the applicant is manifestly of age (APR art.23): the applicant is considered of age during the procedure for international protection; (3) there exists a doubt concerning the age of the applicant: the Immigration Office motivates its doubt, which starts the age assessment procedure at the CGRS.</p> <p>Step 2: Examination of doubt by the CGRS The CGRS conducts an interview of evaluation of age with the applicant, in the presence of a provisional legal guardian. The CGRS informs the applicant on the consequences of an age assessment, the importance of documentation and informed consent. The CGRS investigates the administrative file. The interview of evaluation of age (life overview) is conducted by a specialised CGRS protection officer (case worker), with attention to cultural particularities. Based on the interview, the CGRS protection officer decides: (1) the applicant is a minor: the CGRS makes an administrative decision with confirmation of the declared age; (2) there remains a doubt concerning the age of the applicant; (3) the applicant is presumed to be of age. In the second and third scenarios, the committee of experts intervenes.</p> <p>Step 3: Multidisciplinary investigation by a committee of experts The notes of the interview of evaluation of age are transmitted to a committee of experts composed of 3 members. These committees will consist of experts from different fields, such as ethnopsychologists, socio-cultural anthropologists, pedagogues, social workers, etc... The committee formulates an independent advice according to a code of ethics and based on consensus: (1) the applicant is a minor: the CGRS makes an administrative decision with confirmation of the declared age; (2) the applicant is of age: the CGRS makes a motivated decision, the Immigration Office registers the applicant as "of age"; (3) there remains doubt:</p>
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			<p>a medical examination is conducted.</p> <p>Step 4: Medical examination Medical examinations (triple test) will only be carried out as a last resort when other methods of determining age have not produced conclusive results.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>The CGRS will conduct the interview of evaluation of age face-to-face. During the multidisciplinary investigation, the committee of experts will not meet the applicant (face-to-face or remote) and will make its assessment based on the administrative file and the integral notes of the interview of evaluation of age.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>Drawing conclusions and notification of the applicant: see step-by-step overview in Q.3.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
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	EMN NCP Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes, the age determination procedure changed in 2024.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The procedure is conducted by State Agency for Refugees at the Council of Ministers (SAR) and State Agency for Child Protection (SACP).</p> <p>Currently, non-medical methods for assessing the age of persons claiming to be children (including unaccompanied minors) are regulated in the Instruction on the procedure and conditions for age assessment adopted by the State Agency for Refugees (SAR) and the State Agency for Child Protection (SACP), submitted in December 2023 and in force from March 1, 2024.</p> <p>According to the procedure, non-medical expertise/methods are applied: structured interview (conversation) for determining age according to an approved template, during which data on the development, life history and social environment of the person are collected and assessment of indirect written or material evidence, also according to an approved template, including available documents/data and other indirect indicators relevant to the stated age. The instruction provides that the assessment shall be carried out while respecting the best interests of the child and human dignity, with a medical expertise being undertaken only as a last resort after exhausting non-medical methods and in case of continuing doubts.</p>
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			<p>The employees of the State Agency for Child Protection who carry out the age assessment, according to the Instruction, have appropriate education and have undergone additional training organized by UNICEF-Bulgaria.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>When there is reasonable doubt about the accuracy of the application of the foreigner seeking protection that he is an adult or that he is an unaccompanied minor or a minor, the interviewing body of the SAR shall issue an order, appointing an age assessment expert, of which the SACP shall be immediately notified by e-mail or another bilaterally agreed manner. The order shall be communicated in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Code to the foreigner in a language that he/she understands and in a manner suitable for children, as well as to his representative and to the relevant Social Assistance Directorate at the child's location.</p> <p>The Chairman of the SACP or an official authorized by him shall immediately issue an order in accordance, specifying the employee to carry out the age assessment, the place of its performance in the relevant territorial division of the SAR, in which the foreigner is located, as well as the deadline for issuing the conclusion. A copy of the order shall be sent to the head of the relevant territorial division of the SAR by e-mail or in another bilaterally agreed manner.</p> <p>The date, time and place of the scheduled age assessment actions shall be agreed upon between the SACP employee designated to carry out the age assessment and the interviewing body of the SAR with the latter notifying the foreigner thereof in a language that he understands and in a manner suitable for children, as well as his representative, including the possible results of this procedure and the consequences related there to.</p>
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The foreigner and his representative have the right to receive information from the interviewing authority regarding the progress of the age assessment examination. The foreigner may request that the age assessment examination be conducted by an employee and a translator, respectively an interpreter, of the gender indicated by him/her.

In case of necessity to perform a medical expertise, the expert of the State Agency for Child Protection, carrying out the age assessment, shall inform the foreigner in a language understandable to him with the help of an interpreter about the method of the medical expertise, the right to refuse to give consent for its conduct and the impossibility in case of refusal of the State Agency for Child Protection and Welfare at the Ministry of Justice to accept his statements regarding age as credible, by taking his and his representative's explicit and written consent for its conduct, or stating his refusal in writing.

In case of consent, the foreigner, together with the declaration of consent, shall be sent to a medical institution where the medical expertise will be performed. The foreigner shall be accompanied to the medical facility by an employee of the SAR, who shall receive the medical report and send it by e-mail to the expert of the SACP carrying out the age assessment. Refusal to undergo a medical expertise is not an obstacle to issuing a conclusion for age assessment, but the interviewing body of the State Agency for Child Protection shall have grounds to consider it as an act of concealing the fact that he has reached the age of majority, if this does not contradict the results of the non-medical expertise performed.

When conducting an interview for determining age, an audio or audio-visual recording shall be made, and the recording shall be an integral part of the personal file of the foreigner. At the beginning of the interview, the foreigner shall be notified of the audio or audio-visual recording.

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4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.


The Chairman of the State Agency for Child Protection by order appoints two employees with competence to carry out the assessment and provide a conclusion on the age of the foreigner. The non-medical expertise under the Instruction for Age Assessment is conducted at the place where the foreigner is accommodated. During the assessment, an interpreter, a representative of the Child Protection Department of the relevant Social Assistance Directorate and a representative of the child appointed by the Republic of Bulgaria are present. Before starting the interview, the foreigner shall be informed in an accessible manner and in good faith of the purpose of the interview, and the principles of the best interest of the child under the Child Protection Act and respect for human dignity shall be taken into account when applying the Instruction. Until a conclusion on the age assessment is issued, as well as when, despite the assessment conducted, the age cannot be established, it shall be assumed for the purposes of the procedure for granting international protection that the foreigner is a child within the meaning of the law with the relevant applicable legal consequences.

5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.

The Chairman of the State Agency for Child Protection shall designate the officials competent to issue a conclusion on the age assessment for the purposes of proceedings conducted under the Asylum and Refugees Act.

Within thirty days of the order to appoint an age assessment expert, the employees designated by the SACP shall issue a conclusion indicating the age that is assumed to have been reached by the foreigner.

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			<p>Until a conclusion on the age, assessment is issued, and when, despite the age assessment, it shall be assumed for the purposes of proceedings for granting international protection that the foreigner is a child within the meaning of the law with the relevant applicable legal consequences.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Croatia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. Amendments to the Act on International and Temporary Protection are underway and will enter into force no later than 12 June 2026. The amendments to Article 18 of the Act provide for a reference to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, which will ensure that the age assessment procedure is carried out in accordance with the aforementioned Regulation.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The age assessment procedure will be carried out by the organizational unit of the Ministry of the Interior (police or organizational unit responsible for international protection) in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, with the involvement of relevant experts as appropriate. The detailed organisation (involvement of internal experts or external</p>


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			<p>service providers) will be regulated by the subordinate legislation and implementing acts of the competent authority.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>The age assessment will be carried out in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, which provides for a multidisciplinary approach. Similar to the current practice, this involves the cooperation of experts from different profiles (e.g. social workers, psychologists and medical experts), who jointly assess all relevant elements (applicant's statements, documentation, physical and psychosocial indicators). The experts act in a coordinated manner, exchange findings and jointly make a final assessment.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>The age assessment procedure is carried out in accordance with the guarantees set out in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, respecting the principle of the best interests of the child, in the presence of the parent, another adult responsible for the child, guardian or representative, with mandatory information about the procedure in a language that the child understands and in an age-appropriate manner.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>The conclusion on the age assessment is made by the competent authority based on the</p>
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		<p>findings and opinions of the experts involved. In accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, the applicant shall be informed of the outcome of the age assessment in a language that he or she understands and shall be informed of the consequences of the age assessment on the consideration of the application and the possibility of legal remedies if he or she disagrees with the results determined in the age assessment procedure.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>The Law on International and Temporary Protection is being coordinated by explicitly referring to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, which prescribes how the procedure for assessing the age of minors will be carried out.</p>
<p> EMN NCP Cyprus</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>CY is in the process of establishing a multidisciplinary committee for the purposes of age assessment as provided in the EU Pact and therefore, cannot provide further details at the moment.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>N/A</p>

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			<p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Czech Republic</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p>

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			<p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>No changes are currently planned, as the existing age assessment procedure is already in line with the requirements set out in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348. As described in our response to the previous ad-hoc query on age assessment, the procedure does not rely solely on physical appearance or medical methods. It takes into account the applicant's statements, available documentary evidence and other relevant indications, while respecting the principle of the benefit of the doubt. Therefore, the current framework is considered compliant with the multidisciplinary approach required by Article 25, and no revision is deemed necessary at this stage.</p>
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	<p>EMN NCP Estonia</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. As it is compulsory to use the new methodology there is a plan to amend the current age assessment procedure, which at the moment consists only of medical assessment (according to § 17 of the Act on Granting International Protection to Aliens).</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The Police and Border Guard shall organize the age determination procedure in cooperation with the Social Security Board and mainly with the Estonian Forensic Science Institute.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>Remains to be decided in cooperation between the agencies mentioned above.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>Remains to be decided in cooperation between the agencies mentioned above.</p>
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			<p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>Remains to be decided in cooperation between the agencies mentioned above.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>n/a</p>
+	EMN NCP Finland	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>It is planned that multi-disciplinary age assessment will be undertaken by the determining authority. As a last resort, Finnish Immigration Service submits a request for the medical age assessment to the Finnish Institute for Health and Wellness (THL), who will carry out the testing.</p>


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			<p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>All available information is assessed first, such as the foreigner’s statements, behavioural and psychosocial indicators, physical appearance, health data and information from state registers and other information systems.</p> <p>Where doubts persist, the procedure is carried out in clearly defined stages involving trained social workers and psychologists, with decisions taken collectively and without giving automatic priority to any single element of evidence. The experts (social workers, psychologists etc.) who participated in the multidisciplinary age assessment prepare a statement for the Immigration Service. After this, the applicant’s age may either be determined, or the assessment may continue and, as a last resort, a medical age assessment may be used to determine the applicant’s age.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>Most likely face-to-face meetings.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>The applicant will be informed of the result and also be heard regarding it. Any margin of error in age assessment is interpreted in favour of the applicant.</p>
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			<p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP France</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>No, to date. Discussions on the competent authority for conducting age assessments under the new border asylum procedure and the interpretation of Article 25 of the Procedure Regulation are still ongoing within the interministerial working group on the subject. However, the current procedure for assessing minority status and isolation in France, implemented by the departmental councils, already corresponds to a multidisciplinary procedure (Articles L. 222-2-4 and R. 221-11 of the Social Action and Families Code). For more details on the procedure, see France's responses to AHQ 2026.3 PO Member State practices regarding age assessment of third-country nationals.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p>

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			<p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Germany</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes, changes will be made in order to be compliant with Art. 25 APR.</p> <p>Currently, as a general rule, the local youth welfare offices are responsible for age</p>

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			<p>determination. In cases where no age determination procedure by the youth welfare office has been conducted or there are reasonable doubts about the determined age, specially trained case officers (Sonderbeauftragte) are tasked with clarifying the facts in close cooperation with the local youth welfare office. If doubts still persist, a medical age assessment by an external medical practitioner can be commissioned by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees.</p> <p>For the implementation of the multidisciplinary procedure, the Federal Office will establish new procedures, including new roles and functions for specially trained staff (see answer to question 3).</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The non-medical procedure will be conducted by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. Where a medical assessment is necessary, an expert appraisal is commissioned from a specialized medical doctor.</p> <p>In Germany, the age assessment process conducted by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees is closely aligned with the insights gained from the age assessment procedures carried out by youth welfare authorities. The expert appraisal ordered by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees must apply a staged procedure to determine the minimum age in accordance with the principles of proportionality. In line with the recommendations of the Study Group on Forensic Age Diagnostics (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Forensische Altersdiagnostik – AGFAD), the procedure combines the various methods of age assessment.</p> <p>The final decision on the method used for age determination lies with the relevant medical professionals. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees does not place any special requirements on the choice of method as long as the AGFAD recommendations are followed. Please note that due to this, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees is unable to provide</p>
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			<p>additional information regarding the conduction of age assessment.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>In general, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees appoints specially-commissioned case-officers, who are trained decision-makers for interview procedures involving particularly vulnerable groups of individuals, such as (unaccompanied) minors. Such a trained case officer will be responsible for the age assessment in the asylum procedure. In addition, and in order to implement Art. 25 APR, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees is recruiting new psychosocial experts (with a professional background in psychology, social work, pedagogy etc.).</p> <p>The multi-disciplinary age assessment consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a review of all available and verified identity documents and information gathered from EU databasesa psychosocial assessment by the psychosocial expert <p>The latter will be implemented as a psychosocial interview, conducted by the new psychosocial professionals.</p> <p>Furthermore, the above-mentioned age assessment takes the applicants' statements in their asylum interview - conducted by a specially trained case officer - into consideration.</p> <p>If there are still doubts regarding the applicants age after the non-medical assessment, a medical assessment will be commissioned by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>The psychosocial interview will be conducted face-to-face by the psychosocial expert. The position of Psychosocial Specialist will be created within the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees to carry out this new task. As this is a completely new task, many details are currently being developed.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>After completion of the steps mentioned in Q3, the case officer responsible for the asylum case will review all information and decide based on them on whether it considers the applicant to be a minor or not. The applicant will not be notified of this. If the case is otherwise ready to decide on the merits, the results of the age assessment procedure will be communicated to the applicant in the final written decision on its case. This decision can then be challenged with the usual legal remedies.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>n.a.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

 EMN NCP Greece	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>According to the contribution by the Directorate of Legal Support for Asylum and Reception of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, the Ministry of Migration and Asylum intends to conduct the age assessment procedure in cases of doubt in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348, which concerns the multidisciplinary approach. The exact procedure will be set out in detail in a legislative text following a recommendation by the General Secretariat for Vulnerable Citizens and Institutional Protection.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>Given that the process of determining the exact framework is still ongoing, as indicated in the answer to the first question, we will be able to provide precise information once it has been definitively adopted.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>Given that the process of determining the exact framework is still ongoing, as indicated in the answer to the first question, we will be able to provide precise information once it has been definitively adopted.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

		<p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>Given that the process of determining the exact framework is still ongoing, as indicated in the answer to the first question, we will be able to provide precise information once it has been definitively adopted.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>Given that the process of determining the exact framework is still ongoing, as indicated in the answer to the first question, we will be able to provide precise information once it has been definitively adopted.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>-</p>
 EMN NCP Hungary	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>No.</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>As the authorities already follow a multidisciplinary approach in their procedures, no change to the current approach is considered necessary.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

 EMN NCP Italy	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Where doubt exists as to the declared age, this shall primarily be ascertained by means of a civil status document. Where it is necessary in order to obtain the civil status document or elements relating to identity and citizenship, as well as to the countries in which the minor has resided or transited, access to electronic or digital devices or media in the minor’s possession shall be permitted. The data thus obtained may be used for the purposes of age assessment, subject to validation by the Juvenile Court (Tribunale per i minorenni).</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>Where well-founded doubts persist as to the age declared by an unaccompanied minor (UAM), it is provided that age assessment, about which both the minor and the representative exercising guardianship powers must be duly informed, may be ordered by the Public Prosecutor’s Office at the Juvenile Court (Procura della Repubblica presso il Tribunale per i minorenni), and carried out through social and health examinations, conducted by a multidisciplinary team composed of professionals serving within the National Health Service (SSN) and, in particular, a paediatrician with auxological expertise, a developmental (child) psychologist or a child neuropsychiatrist, and a social worker, in the presence of a cultural mediator.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>The procedure consists of three consecutive and progressively more intrusive stages: (i) a social interview (ii) a psychological or child neuropsychiatric assessment; (iii) an auxological paediatric examination, resorting to health assessments by using the least invasive methods possible, respectful of the presumed age, gender and sex, and of the person's physical and mental integrity, with safeguards for the presumed minor, including information on the procedure, also with the assistance of a cultural mediator and the possibility to appeal. Where, at the outcome of each phase or stage of the procedure, conclusive elements emerge as to minority, no further assessments shall be carried out. At the end of the procedure, an official record (verbale) of the activities performed shall be drawn up, which is served on the person, on the representative exercising guardianship powers, where appointed, and transmitted to the Public Prosecutor's Office at the Juvenile Court.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>The interview with the minor shall be held in the presence of the guardian and of a cultural mediator, according to child-friendly modalities, taking into account the UAM's age, cognitive abilities and emotional state. It shall also be conducted in appropriate settings. The designated practitioner must be a qualified professional: social worker, developmental (child) psychologist, professional or socio-pedagogical educator, or a pedagogue, assisted- where possible - by entities with recognised expertise in the protection of minors.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the interview, the practitioner shall provide the minor with a reconstruction/restatement of the account given, and shall then proceed to agree on the</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>subsequent steps.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A.</p>
 <p>EMN NCP Latvia</p>		<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>It is planned that multi-disciplinary age assessment will be undertaken by the determining authority.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>It is planned that, most likely, the multidisciplinary panel approach will be used.</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>There is no clear view on this issue yet, but most likely meeting will be face-to-face.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>Most likely the decision regarding the age assessment to the applicant will be included in the decision on merits and person will receive written decision.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/a</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Lithuania</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. Lithuania has recently changed its age determination procedure for unaccompanied minors in a way that is broadly aimed at compliance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348. Previously, the procedure for unaccompanied minors who were not asylum applicants was essentially medical and radiological in nature: once reasonable doubts arose, the competent institution had to refer the person within 48 hours to a health care institution for X-ray examination, and the radiographs were then sent to the State Forensic Medicine</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>Service for an age assessment opinion; if consent was refused, the person was considered an adult, and the main safeguard was that, where the expert conclusion contained an error margin of up to two years, the person was considered a minor. In other words, the earlier model relied primarily on radiological and forensic assessment rather than on a broader, staged evaluation.</p> <p>The current Lithuanian procedure is materially different and reflects the multidisciplinary logic of Article 25. Under the updated rules, age assessment is initiated only after all available information has first been examined, including the foreigner’s own statements, physical appearance, behaviour, data from any initial health check, and information from registers and other systems. The formal procedure is then carried out in stages: first, an age-assessment interview with two specially trained social workers; second, a psychological assessment by a psychologist if doubts remain; and third, a medical stage, which itself begins with a non-radiological examination by a doctor of the Reception and Integration Agency and proceeds to radiological tests only if doubts still persist. The Agency director forms an age-assessment commission, the conclusions of the social workers, psychologist and doctor are recorded, and the commission assesses all information without giving predetermined priority to any single element. The updated procedure also includes safeguards that are consistent with Article 25, such as provision of information in a language understood by the foreigner, participation of a representative and interpreter, consent requirements, treatment as a minor while doubts remain in principle, and interpretation of the margin of error in the foreigner’s favour. Since Article 25 and recital 39 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348 require a multidisciplinary assessment by relevant professionals and treat medical examination as a last resort, Lithuania can state that it has already changed its procedure in that direction and that the current model is broadly aligned with the multidisciplinary approach required by the Regulation.</p> <p>The current procedure is described in Section VII of the Description of the Procedure for the Accommodation of Unaccompanied Minor Foreigners, the Search for Family Members or Other Legal Representatives of Unaccompanied Minor Foreigners Who Are Not Asylum Applicants,</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>the Determination of Their Legal Status and Other Related Procedural Actions, and the Procedure for Determining the Age of Foreigners, approved by Order No. A1-229/1V-289/V-491 of the Minister of Social Security and Labour, the Minister of the Interior, and the Minister of Health, adopted on 23 April 2014, consolidated version in force from 27 May 2025.</p> <p>For asylum applicants, Lithuania's current procedure still relies on radiological examination and forensic assessment rather than on a staged multidisciplinary assessment involving social workers, psychologists and a doctor acting sequentially. Although the procedure includes safeguards, such as the rule that unresolved doubt is interpreted in favour of minority and that refusal does not block the asylum decision, it does not yet reflect the multidisciplinary model required by Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348.</p> <p>The procedure for asylum applicants is detailed in Section 3 of Description of the Procedure for Granting and Withdrawing Asylum in the Republic of Lithuania, approved by Order No. 1V-131 of 24 February 2016 of the Minister of the Interior, consolidated version in force from 19 September 2025 .</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>Yes. Under the current rules, the Reception and Integration Agency is the central authority responsible for organising the age assessment procedure. It initiates and coordinates the process, ensures the foreigner's arrival to the relevant unit, provides information about the procedure, ensures the participation of the representative and interpreter, obtains the required consents, and carries out the assessment through its own specially trained staff. The Director of the Reception and Integration Agency also establishes the Age Assessment Commission, which is composed of Agency employees, and adopts the final decision on the person's age on the basis of the Commission's recommendation.</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>At the same time, the procedure is not conducted entirely in-house. Where doubts remain after the psychosocial assessment and the Agency doctor's initial examination, the Reception and Integration Agency refers the person for radiological tests to a health care institution that has the necessary equipment. Once those tests are performed, the results are transmitted to the State Forensic Medicine Service in order to obtain an expert conclusion on age.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>In Lithuania, the multidisciplinary age assessment is conducted in stages, with the professionals acting individually at their respective stages, while the Age Assessment Commission acts collectively by reviewing the results after each stage and deciding whether the procedure should continue.</p> <p>First, the Director of the Reception and Integration Agency forms the Age Assessment Commission. The Commission is composed of specially trained Agency staff, including the social workers, psychologist and doctor involved in the assessment, as well as an Agency employee with higher legal education. The Commission itself does not carry out all assessment activities jointly from the outset; rather, it coordinates and evaluates the results produced at each stage.</p> <p>The procedure begins with Stage I, which is the interview with two specially trained social workers of the Agency. They conduct the interview and record their conclusions in the age assessment questionnaire. If, after this stage, substantiated doubts about the foreigner's age remain, the procedure moves to Stage II.</p> <p>Stage II is conducted individually by an Agency psychologist. The psychologist carries out the psychological assessment and records the conclusions in the same questionnaire. This stage is</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>therefore separate from the first stage and is not conducted jointly with the social workers. If substantiated doubts still remain after the psychological assessment, the procedure moves to Stage III, which is the medical stage. First, an Agency doctor individually carries out a medical examination without medical tests. The doctor assesses physical development, signs of puberty and relevant health-related data and records the conclusions in the questionnaire. If doubts still remain after this examination, the doctor refers the person for medical tests, such as hand, wrist, chest-clavicle or dental radiography. These tests are performed by a health care institution, and the results are then sent to the State Forensic Medicine Service for an expert conclusion on age.</p> <p>The collective element appears after each stage. After Stage I, after Stage II, and after the doctor's non-radiological examination in Stage III, the Age Assessment Commission reviews all information available at that moment. If the Commission finds that substantiated doubts remain, it decides to continue the procedure to the next stage and records this in the questionnaire. If the doubts are no longer substantiated, the Commission assesses the foreigner's age on the basis of all information gathered during the procedure, without giving predetermined priority to any single source of evidence, and prepares a reasoned recommendation.</p> <p>The final decision is not made by the multidisciplinary team itself, but by the Director of the Reception and Integration Agency, who adopts the decision on the foreigner's age on the basis of the Commission's recommendation.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>In Lithuania, meetings with applicants for age assessment are conducted in person. The legal framework does not provide for remote age-assessment meetings. The procedure is organized</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>either at the relevant unit of the Reception and Integration Agency or, in the case of a detained foreigner, at the place of detention, except for medical examinations, which are carried out in a health care institution. Before the assessment begins, Agency staff provide the foreigner, in a language he or she understands, with information on the age-assessment procedure, its purpose and the significance of its results, obtain the necessary consents for the assessment and, where relevant, for the medical examination, and explain the consequences of refusal. Throughout all stages of the age assessment, the foreigner is accompanied by his or her legal representative or representative and by an interpreter, unless the foreigner knows Lithuanian sufficiently to understand the information provided. The assessment itself is then carried out face to face in stages: first, an interview with two social workers of the Reception and Integration Agency; if doubts remain, a psychological assessment by an Agency psychologist; and, if doubts still remain, a medical examination by an Agency doctor, followed where necessary by radiological examinations in a health care institution. Accordingly, Lithuania would indicate that meetings in the age-assessment procedure are held in person and with the participation of the representative and interpreter throughout the process.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>In Lithuania, conclusions are drawn progressively by the Age Assessment Commission. After each stage of the procedure, the Commission reviews the information collected and decides whether substantiated doubts regarding the foreigner's age remain. If doubts remain, the procedure continues to the next stage. If doubts no longer remain, the Commission assesses the person's age on the basis of all information gathered during the assessment, without giving predetermined priority to any single source of evidence, and prepares a reasoned recommendation. The final decision on the foreigner's age is then adopted by the Director of the Reception and Integration Agency within 20 calendar days from the start of the procedure. The applicant is notified in writing within 3 working days after the decision is adopted. The</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>written notification indicates whether the person has been found to be a minor or an adult. The decision and the appeal procedure are explained to the applicant, and the applicant, his or her representative, or legal representative may appeal the decision to the Regional Administrative Court within 14 days of receiving the notification.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Luxembourg</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES. To ensure compliance with Article 25 of the Regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment, an additional step will be introduced prior to the medical examination. This medical examination will remain unchanged and will follow the procedure described below. Specifically, a psychosocial assessment will be conducted beforehand by a team of professionals specialized in age determination. Only after this assessment has been completed will it be decided whether a medical examination is necessary.</p> <p>In Luxembourg there will not be changes on the medical evaluation as it was described in 2026.03 that states as follows: "In this context, the National Health Laboratory (LNS) has developed such medical expertise. This examination is not carried out on all UAMs, but only on minors who are not in possession of an identity document and for whom a serious doubt about the indicated age exists.</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>The examination is based on a two-step exam, first an x-ray of the wrist and hand. If subsequently a minority can be assumed, a medical report is drawn up without carrying out additional examinations. Thus, doubt benefits the minor. On the other hand, if a serious suspicion on the majority of the person persists, a full physical examination will be carried out. This examination is completed by an x-ray of the collarbone and a dental panoramic.</p> <p>The photographs taken during this examination are strictly confidential and are only used for the report by the expert doctor. They therefore do not appear in the LNS expert report or in the administrative file of the applicant for international protection kept in the Directorate of Immigration.</p> <p>At the beginning of 2019, the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs announced that the authorities will stop with the inspection of genitals as a valid age assessment practice. A physical examination is conducted, excluding the genital areas.”</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The first stage, namely the psychosocial age assessment, is not outsourced. The second stage, namely the medical examination, will be conducted by the National Health Laboratory (LNS), while the collection and analysis of the documentation will be carried out by the case officer of the General Department of Immigration. All relevant documents will subsequently be transmitted to the Minister responsible for immigration and asylum, who will take the final decision.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>At this stage, we are not yet in a position to provide a definitive answer to this question, as the considerations regarding the best way forward, including the appropriate tools and the necessary training, are still ongoing.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>The psychosocial age assessment and the medical examination are conducted in person.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>As for question three, we are not yet in a position to provide a definitive answer to this question, as the considerations regarding the best way forward are still ongoing.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A.</p>
♦	<p>EMN NCP Malta</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes</p>


Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The procedure is conducted by the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers. In cases where a medical test is required, only as a last resort, it is carried out by the medical authorities in Malta.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>The Age Assessment is conducted by a multidisciplinary team of professionals which include social workers, welfare officers, assistant psychology officers, counsellors and in certain cases, also a psychologist. All staff undergo a period of Observation and Training before being part of the panel that carries out the age assessment. Staff receive continuous training in Malta, mainly from the EUAA. The panel usually consist of 3 professionals, and they all take different roles, one is the observer, another one asking questions and the third one typing the answers. All of them give their recommendations. The Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers had developed its own Age Assessment Tool which had lately also recently been updated with the support of the EUAA. The Assessment is a Psychosocial assessment which has three phases. The first phase consists of gathering the necessary information such as family history, education, employment, and description of journey to Malta. It also includes observations of the physical appearance, age indicative facial and body characteristics, voice, language, and demeanour. If the case cannot be closed at such phase a more in more in-depth assessment is carried out by different professionals. This assessment mostly focuses on gathering comprehensive information regarding the country of origin, cultural identity, childhood, likes/dislikes, and further information as required. In addition, this phase might include different professionals such as a professional child psychologist or counsellor. If</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>uncertainty remains after the psychosocial assessment, a skeletal assessment of the hand (wrist bone test) may be conducted. This medical examination is used strictly as a measure of last resort.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>It is always carried out face-to-face.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>After the Age Assessment is carried out, the panel provides its recommendations. The assessment is then discussed internally, and a decision is taken. If there are any doubts, another panel may conduct a further assessment. Once a final decision is reached, the applicant is notified by a letter by a professional and it is done face-to-face. Information about the right to appeal is also provided in the presence of an interpreter.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>NA</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

 EMN NCP Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>At this moment the current age determination procedure is being assessed to determine if parts of the current process need to be altered.</p> <p>According to article 25 of the regulation the age determination assessment needs to be done by qualified personnel. This is in line with the current process of the Immigration and Naturalisation service (Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst, IND), as personnel is trained in-house. The age determination procedure is expected to remain accommodated by the IND. Where needed the IND plans to provide its personnel with additional training regarding the age determination process.</p> <p>. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The process of adapting the age determination procedure is still ongoing, but in the current procedure the IND is responsible for the conclusion of the age determination [1]. However, the IND can include the opinion of medical experts. Moreover, the Netherlands Forensic Institute will be involved when medical experts are consulted, to monitor various steps in the age determination process, and to provide a physical anthropological report based on the findings of the experts. For a more detailed explanation of the current process, the answers of the Netherlands of Ad Hoc Query 2026.3 [2] can be consulted.</p> <p>^ Ministry of Asylum and Migration,</p>
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Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

https://wetgevingskalender.overheid.nl/Regeling/WGK026430/Download/c65bf1d5-8035-4d22-b9c2-3b34f515dc86_1.pdf, last accessed on 19 February 2026.

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Ad Hoc Query 2026.3 on Member States' practices regarding age assessment of third country nationals

3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)

The current age determination procedure is still under review.


4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.

The process of adapting the age determination procedure is still ongoing. A face-to-face meeting will remain part of the age assessment.

5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.

The process of adapting the age determination procedure is still ongoing. In the current procedure the applicant must be given the motivation and conclusion in writing. The IND is responsible for the communication with the applicant throughout the application process, including the age assessment.


Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Poland</p>	<p align="center">Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>NO</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p>

Ad-Hoc Query on 2026.9 Multidisciplinary Age Assessment Procedure

			<p>n/a</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>At this stage, Poland is analyzing various possibilities of non-medical methods that could be incorporated into a multidisciplinary approach to age assessment in accordance with Article 25 of the APR. It is crucial for us to ensure that any solutions adopted are proportionate, in line with the principle of the best interest of the child, and respectful to fundamental rights. One of the main challenges in the preparatory phase is the need to bring the requirements of the new regulations into line with the existing national framework and to ensure procedural consistency. In addition, organizational and training issues are important, including the development of uniform standards of conduct. In response to these challenges, we are conducting legal and operational analyses.</p> <p>Preliminary steps have been taken to identify the competencies necessary to carry out the age assessment procedure in a multidisciplinary format. Final decisions in this regard will be made after the procedural and organizational model and legal framework have been clarified. Poland is analyzing possible organizational solutions that will ensure adequate information and procedural support for persons undergoing age assessment. Any specific measures will be determined at a later stage of the implementation work.</p>
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 EMN NCP Slovakia	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>Yes. The draft Law on International Protection refers to Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1348 as follows: "if the Ministry of Interior has doubts as to whether an applicant for international protection is a minor, it shall ensure that age is assessed according to a special regulation". The Act on International Protection is currently in the legislative process. It is expected to take effect in June 2026.</p> <p>The need to assess age in the conditions of the Slovak Republic is also based on the National Implementation Plan of the Slovak Republic for the Reform of Asylum and Migration Policy. As part of the upcoming EU-funded projects, it is planned to create and implement a new process for assessing the age of applicants for international protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic. This process will be used to determine the age of applicants in cases where the Migration Office of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic, as the body responsible for the asylum procedure, has doubts about their age, while following the applicable legislation and taking into account the best interests of the child.</p> <p>In the first step, age assessment is carried out through a multidisciplinary assessment, which includes an interview to determine the age, as well as a psychosocial assessment carried out by qualified professionals with relevant knowledge in the field. If, after this first step, there are still doubts about the age of the applicant for international protection, the second step follows – a medical examination carried out by professional medical personnel. Various methods are used in the medical examination, ranging from less invasive procedures to more invasive methods if necessary.</p> <p>The mechanism establishes a specific procedure in case of doubts about the age of applicants</p>
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			<p>for international protection and ensures effective cooperation between the Migration Office and specialists from different/selected fields in order to ensure an expert and comprehensive assessment of the age assessment in compliance with the set deadlines for the processing of expert opinions.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>The Slovak Republic (Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior) is preparing a project from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, within which the assessment of the age of applicants for international protection will be carried out by an external partner.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>As the goal is to ensure maximum efficiency and compliance with new requirements, the Slovak Republic is currently analyzing and setting up processes and specific procedures.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>See response to question 3.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p>
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			<p>See response to question 3.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>NA</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Slovenia</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>YES.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>A multi-disciplinary age assessment is planned. The reception authority will conduct a psycho-social assessment while the determining authority will conduct an interview with the applicant in question. It is possible that external experts will be involved in the psycho-social assessment and/or final non-medical assessment. Details are still under development.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>Details are still under development.</p>

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		<p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>For now, face-to-face procedure is foreseen.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>Details are still under development.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>N/A</p>
 EMN NCP Spain	Yes	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>No. There is no register of any new development.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p>

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			<p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>We consider that our current procedure based on our Acts and Best Practices covers the requirements established on article 25.</p>
	<p>EMN NCP Sweden</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. Does your Member State plans to change/or had already change the age determination procedure to be compliant with article 25 of the regulation on multidisciplinary age assessment? YES/NO.</p> <p>At present, Sweden has established procedures in place for conducting age assessments in asylum cases (see input to AHQ 2026.3), and there is no formally adopted new procedure. However, in light of ongoing developments at EU level, including the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, the SMA is currently reviewing its existing processes to ensure that they remain legally sound, effective and aligned with forthcoming EU requirements. This work is currently in a preparatory and analytical phase. Certain aspects of the potential</p>

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			<p>adjustments concern actors outside SMA's direct mandate, and may require coordination with external authorities. As a result, no concrete changes have yet been adopted.</p> <p>2. If you answer YES to Q.1, is the procedure being conducted by a specific authority or by an outsourced/external service provider? Please explain your answer.</p> <p>see answer to Q1.</p> <p>3. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain how the multidisciplinary team conducts the age assessment? (please explain the steps indicating if they act together or individually)</p> <p>see answer to Q1.</p> <p>4. If you answer YES to Q.1, please describe procedure of meeting (face-to-face or remote) with applicants for age assessment.</p> <p>see answer to Q1.</p> <p>5. If you answer YES to Q.1, please explain procedure of drawing conclusions and how applicant is notified.</p> <p>see answer to Q1.</p>
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			<p>6. If you answer NO to Q.1, please elaborate why you are not planning to change the approach?</p> <p>see answer to Q1.</p>
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