

AIDA 2017 UPDATE: ITALY

[COMPARATIVE REPORTS \(/COMPARATIVE-REPORTS\)](#) [COMPARATOR \(/COMPARATOR\)](#)
[BRIEFINGS \(/LEGAL-BRIEFINGS\)](#) [RESOURCES \(/USEFUL-DOCUMENTS-AND-LINKS\)](#) [NEWS \(/NEWS\)](#) [SEARCH \(/\)](#)


Source (<https://www.newsdeeply.com/refugees/articles/2018/02/19/living-on-mafia-leftovers-life-in-italys-biggest-refugee-camp>)

21/03/18

The updated AIDA Country Report on Italy documents developments in the asylum procedure, reception conditions, detention of asylum seekers and content of international protection throughout 2017.

The year 2017 has been characterised by media, political and judicial crackdown on non-governmental organisations (NGOs) saving lives at sea, and by the implementation of cooperation agreements with African countries such as Libya, while barriers to access to the territory have also been witnessed at the northern borders of the country, against the backdrop of increasing arrivals from Austria.

Asylum procedure

Severe obstacles continue to be reported with regard to access to the asylum procedure in Italy. Several Police Headquarters (*Questure*) in cities such as Naples, Rome, Bari and Foggia have set specific days for seeking asylum and limited the number of people allowed to seek asylum on a given day, while others have imposed barriers on specific nationalities. In Rome and Bari, nationals of certain countries without a valid passport were prevented from applying for asylum. In other cases, *Questure* in areas such as Milan, Rome, Naples, Pordenone or Ventimiglia have denied access to asylum to persons without a registered domicile, contrary to the law. Obstacles have also been reported with regard to the lodging of applications, with several *Questure* such as Milan or Potenza unlawfully refusing to complete the lodging of applications for applicants which they deem not to be in need of protection.

Since December 2017, Italy has established a specific Dublin procedure in *Questure* in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region bordering Austria and Slovenia, with support from EASO. According to that procedure, as soon as a Eurodac 'hit' is recorded, *Questure* move the lodging appointment to a later date and notify a Dublin transfer decision to the persons concerned prior to that date. Applicants are therefore subject to a Dublin transfer before having lodged their application, received information on the procedure or had an interview.

A new law on the protection of children adopted in 2017 has laid down rules on age assessment of unaccompanied children. Currently, however, the new law is not properly applied. Age assessment is conducted only by wrist X-ray, the margin of error is not written on the report and the decision is notified many months later or not even adopted. Moreover, the applicant is often treated as an adult pending the age assessment, contrary to the principle of the benefit of the doubt.

Reception conditions

Despite a continuing increase in the capacity of the SPRAR system, which currently counts over 35,000 funded places, the vast majority of asylum seekers are accommodated in temporary reception centres (CAS). CAS hosted around 80% of the population at the end of 2017. In Milan, for example, the ratio of SPRAR to CAS is 1:10.

Tags

[ASYLUM PROCEDURE \(/TAGS\)](#)
[RECEPTION CONDITIONS \(/T](#)
[ITALY \(/TAGS/ITALY\)](#)

Quick links

[ABOUT AIDA \(/ABOUT-AIDA\)](#)
[ECRE \(HTTP://WWW.ECRE.ORG\)](http://www.ecre.org)
[EDAL \(HTTP://WWW.ASYLUMLAWDATABASE.EU\)](http://www.asylumlawdatabase.eu)

Destitution also remains a risk of asylum seekers. At least 10,000 persons are excluded from the reception system, among whom asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection. Informal settlements with limited or no access to essential services are spread across the entire national territory. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has also reported an increase in Dublin returnees among the homeless migrants they assisted in Rome in 2017.

Throughout 2017, both due to the problems related to age assessment and to the unavailability of places in dedicated shelters, there have been cases of unaccompanied children accommodated in adults' reception centres, or not accommodated at all. Several appeals have been lodged to the European Court of Human Rights against inappropriate accommodation conditions for unaccompanied children.

Detention of asylum seekers

Five pre-removal centres (CPR) are currently operational, while a new hotspot has been opened in Messina. However, substandard conditions continue to be reported by different authorities visiting detention facilities, namely the hotspots of Lampedusa and Taranto and the CPR of Caltanissetta and Ponte Galeria.

The hotspots of Lampedusa and Taranto have been temporarily been closed as of March 2018.

Content of international protection

As part of the implementation of the Qualification Decree, the Ministry of Health published on 22 March 2017 the Guidelines for the planning of assistance and rehabilitation as well as for treatment of psychological disorders of refugees and beneficiaries of international protection victims of torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence. At the moment, the guidelines seem to be applied in Rome and Parma, while an operating protocol is about to be signed in Trieste and Brescia.

Read the full report here (/sites/default/files/report-download/aida_it_2017update.pdf)

0

20

24

G+

Related Content

Netherlands: Processing times increase length of asylum procedures (</news/12-09-2018/netherlands-processing-times-increase-length-asylum-procedures>)

NEWS

The duration of asylum procedures is significantly increasing in the Netherlands, despite steady numbers of asylum seekers arriving in the country.

France: Asylum and immigration reform codifies stricter conditions (</news/11-09-2018/france-asylum-and-immigration-reform-codifies-stricter-conditions>)

NEWS

Law n. (<https://bit.ly/2QfUSat>)

Hungary: Asylum seekers denied food following inadmissibility decisions (</news/17-08-2018/hungary-asylum-seekers-denied-food-following-inadmissibility-decisions>)

NEWS

Following the entry into force of the latest asylum reform in Hungary, asylum seekers have their claims dismissed under a new inadmissibility ground introduced in Section 51 (2)(f) of the Asylum Act, according

Bulgaria: Developments in the treatment of asylum claims from Afghanistan (</news/06-08-2018/bulgaria-developments-treatment-asylum-claims-afghanistan>)

NEWS

Bulgaria introduced new policies concerning the treatment of claims from Afghanistan following a riot in the reception centre of Harmanli (<https://bit.ly/2KwZnZV>) on 24 November 2016.

[Explore](#)
[About AIDA](#)
[Funders](#)

Home (/)

Country Reports (/reports)

Comparative Reports
(<http://www.asylumineurope.org/annual-reports>)

Comparator (/comparator)

Fact-Finding Visits (/fact-finding-visits)

Briefings (/legal-briefings)

News (/news)

Subscribe to News (/news/rss)

The Asylum Information Database (AIDA) is a database managed by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), containing information on asylum procedures, reception conditions, detention and content o

[Read more... \(/about-aida\)](#)

[EPIM \(http://www.epim.info/\)](http://www.epim.info/)

[European Union \(AMIF\)](#)

(https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/financing/fundings/migration-asylum-borders/asylum-migration-integration-fund/union-actions_en)

[European Union \(Horizon 2020\)](#)

(http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/212376_en.html)

[Gulbenkian Foundation](#)

(<https://gulbenkian.pt/en>)

[ACM \(http://www.acm.gov.pt/acm\)](http://www.acm.gov.pt/acm)

Copyright © 2018, all rights reserved.

Map data © 2013 Basarsoft, Google, INEGI, MapLink, ORION-ME - [Terms of Use \(http://www.google.com/intl/en-GB_US/help/terms_maps.html\)](http://www.google.com/intl/en-GB_US/help/terms_maps.html)