Hungary is one of the main transit countries for migration toward other EU Member States. Asylum claims can only be submitted in the transit zones at the border, which have become the mandatory place of residence for all asylum seekers. These facilities can only be exited towards Serbia. Only 2 migrants are allowed to legally enter Hungary per day 5 days a week at Tompa and Röszke border crossing points, thus the waiting time outside the transit zones is on average more than 1 year. The construction of a second fence along the border with Serbia was completed in preparation for an expected increase in arrivals this year. As the barriers are getting more and more substantial, the share of children, families and women among people on the move is on the increase. The total number of migrants recognized by the asylum authorities as beneficiaries of international protection in 2017 are 1291. 249 people have received international protection since 1st January 2018. As of 4 April 2018 there are 188 asylum seekers in Hungarian facilities: 4 in open reception centres, 6 in asylum detention centres, and 178 in transit zones.

**Highlights**
- Hungary is one of the main transit countries for migration toward other EU Member States.
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**MAIN NATIONALITIES IN THE RECEPTION FACILITIES**

1. **AFGHANISTAN**
   - Afghani migrants usually arrive with their families to Hungary.

2. **IRAQ**
   - Iraqi migrants are usually families, with children and women.

3. **IRAN**
   - Iranian migrants tend to be families, with children and women.

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**Data on Transit Zones**

**Number of Asylum Seekers held in the Transit Zones**

- Röszke: 100
- Tompa: 78

**Asylum Seekers by Category (Röszke)**

- Unaccompanied Children: 12
- Single Men: 9
- Single Women: 0
- Families: 85

**Asylum Seekers by Category (Tompa)**

- Unaccompanied Children: 0
- Single Men: 16
- Single Women: 0
- Families: 62

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**Countries of Origin for Migrants (Röszke)**

- Afghanistan: 63
- Iran: 17
- Pakistan: 8
- Iraq: 8

**Countries of Origin for Migrants (Tompa)**

- Afghanistan: 6
- Iraq: 55
- Palsetina: 1
- Syria: 7

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**Data source for all graphs: Office of Immigration and Asylum**

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FACILITIES overview

In Hungary, different types of facilities accommodate migrants according to their status. These are managed and operated by different authorities of the Hungarian state. Migrants who claim asylum in Hungary are accommodated in one of the two transit zones and are detained there for the duration of their procedure. Tompa accommodates families from Syria, Iraq, and Arab-speaking countries and single men of various nationalities. Röszke hosts families from Afghanistan, Iran, as well as some African countries and unaccompanied children.

The reception centre in Vámosszabadi, operated by the Office of Immigration and Asylum (OIA) hosts beneficiaries of international protection. This is an open facility: migrants can leave the centre during the day, but a curfew time shall be observed. Under the current legislation, people accommodated in the Vámosszabadi centre are not entitled to state-provided pocket money, only to meals, and are allowed to stay in the facility for a maximum of 30 days.

Repeat asylum seekers or Dublin returnees are transferred into a closed asylum detention centre operated by the OIA. There are two facilities of this kind in Hungary as shown in the map above.

The fourth type of migrant facility is managed and operated by the Hungarian Police. These institutions accommodate migrants who enter Hungarian territory in an irregular manner and do not claim asylum. Moreover, if a person overstays in Hungary and has no identification documents, he/she is also transferred into an alien policing detention centre. These facilities are closed and a migrant can be kept there up to two years according to the latest changes in asylum law.

The last type of facility is the child protection centre. There is currently only one of these centres, managed by the Guardianship Office of Hungary in Fót. It is an open centre, which accommodates unaccompanied minors apprehended in Hungary, but is meant to close down by summer 2018.

Recent legislative changes

- Police are now authorized to apprehend foreigners unlawfully staying in the territory of Hungary. Apprehended migrants are escorted to the nearest border gate and advised on where they can submit an asylum claim.
- The “state of crisis due to mass migration” in Hungary has been extended until 7 March 2018.
- While the state of crisis remains in effect, asylum claims can only be submitted at transit zones. Asylum seekers are detained in such transit zones for the entirety of their asylum procedure.
- In accordance with amendments to the Child Protection Act, children above the age of 14 are no longer protected by the Act, and are instead qualified as adult asylum seekers. As asylum seekers, children between ages 14-17 are also detained in the transit zones for their asylum procedures.

NEWS

6 September 2017: The European Court of Justice dismissed the case launched by Hungary (and Slovakia) challenging the legality of the EU’s migrant relocation scheme.

23 January: The number of people who are allowed to enter the transit zones were reduced from 5 to 1 person/day at both Röszke and Tompa.

4 January: The European Court of Justice announced that it will hear the case against Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland regarding the infringement procedure for their refusal to abide by the decision on EU refugee quotas.

24 January: The Hungarian Ministry of Internal Affairs has withdrawn 13 out of the 22 calls published in early December under the national Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF).

VULNERABILITIES ALONG THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

In 4,771 Trafficking and Other Exploitative Practices Prevalence Indication Surveys conducted between mid-February and the end of August 2017, 10% of respondents claimed to have faced exploitation on the Eastern Mediterranean Route.

- These incidents primarily took place in Turkey (78%), Greece (14%), and Bulgaria (4%).
- The most reported exploitative practice was work without expected pay, while the second most reported was forced labour.
- Migrants with the highest positive response to human trafficking and exploitation indicators came from Central-Southern, Western, and Eastern Africa (66%, 61% and 52% respectively).