

EU asylum reform: Parliament's stance on Dublin regulation

The refugee crisis has stretched the EU's asylum system to breaking point. Learn about Parliament's proposals to create a fairer, more effective European asylum policy.

Since 2015, the largest influx of refugees and migrants into Europe since World War II has exposed flaws in the EU's asylum system. Parliament is calling for an overhaul to ensure a robust, fair system for the future. Ahead of the European Council summit on 28-29 June, MEPs are urging EU governments to reach a common position on the [revamp of the Dublin system](#) to allow for negotiations with Parliament to begin immediately. Parliament [adopted its position](#) in November 2017.

“Results rather than grandstanding”

Speaking ahead of World Refugee Day on 20 June, [Cecilia Wikström](#), Parliament's lead MEP on asylum reform, said: “Time is quickly running out if we want to find a solution to the Dublin regulation in this legislature and citizens expect results rather than grandstanding from our leaders.”

In a speech in Vienna on 19 June, President [Antonio Tajani](#) said: “Migration is our biggest challenge. It is putting at risk the very future of the European Union.”

In a [debate in Parliament](#) a week earlier, MEPs called on EU leaders to press ahead with overhauling the Dublin rules.

What are the Dublin rules?

The cornerstone of the EU asylum system, the Dublin regulation determines which EU country is responsible for processing applications for international protection. Parliament's position is that:

- The country in which an asylum seeker first arrives would no longer be automatically responsible for processing the asylum application.

- Asylum seekers with a “genuine link” to a particular EU country should be transferred there.
- Those without a genuine link to an EU country should be shared fairly among all member states. Countries refusing to participate in the transfer of asylum seekers could lose EU funds.
- Security measures should be stepped up, and all asylum seekers must be registered upon arrival with their fingerprints checked against relevant EU databases.
- Provisions on minors should be strengthened and family reunification procedures accelerated.

Learn more about Parliament's position in the infographic above and in this [background note](#).

16.2 million

The number of new people forced to flee their home in 2017

According to the [UN Refugee Agency](#), 16.2 million people were forcibly displaced in 2017 due to persecution, conflict or violence. It brings the total worldwide population of forcibly displaced people to a new high of 68.5 million. 85% of the world's refugees are hosted by developing regions.

[Find out about Parliament's other initiatives to improve the common European asylum system.](#)

Find out more

[Parliament's work in reforming Europe's asylum system](#)

[68.5 million people displaced worldwide: MEPs' statement for World Refugee Day](#)

REFORM OF THE EU ASYLUM SYSTEM

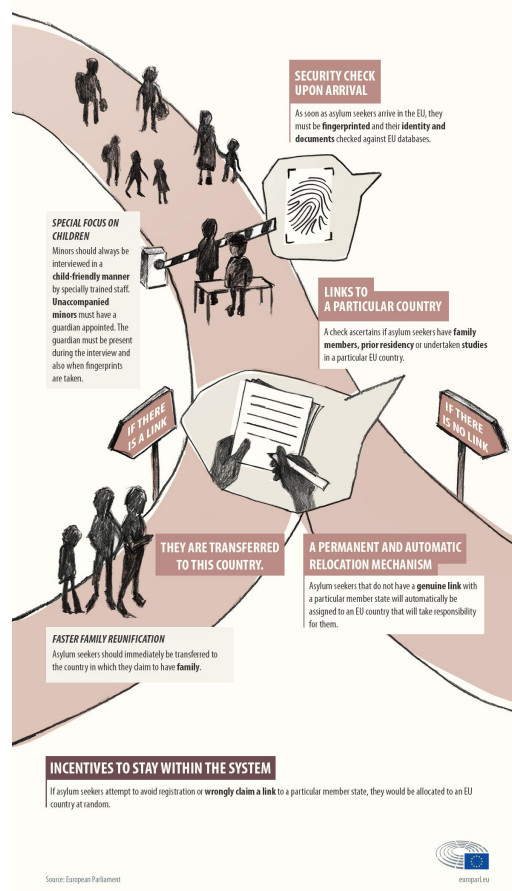
Parliament is fighting for a well functioning system based on **solidarity**

ENSURE FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL MEMBER STATES

All member states should **share responsibility** for asylum seekers.
 "Frontline" countries that fail to register applicants would see relocations from their territory stop.
 Member states refusing to accept the relocation of applicants to their country could face limitations on their access to EU funds.

ADJUSTMENT TO THE NEW SYSTEM

Member states will have a **three-year transition period**.
 During this period, they will automatically see the share of applicants they are required to accept move towards a **fair share** determined on the basis of GDP and population size.
 The **EU Agency for Asylum** will support and monitor member states.



Check out the facts in our infographic



Young Rohingya refugees look out over Palong Khali refugee camp, near the Myanmar border in south-east Bangladesh.©

UNHCR/Andrew McConnell