

Brussels, 17 June 2026

Esteemed Mr. Bíró,

I am writing you on behalf of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), an alliance of 125 organisations across 40 European countries, which works on displacement in Europe and in Europe's external policies.

Among other activities, ECRE carries out research on EU asylum law, including management of the Asylum Information Database (AIDA), which contains information on asylum procedures, reception conditions, detention and the content of international protection in 27 countries. The AIDA database is an independent, authoritative source of information, used by EU policy-makers, courts, researchers, practitioners and the media across Europe. It is partially funded by the EU under the Asylum Integration and Migration Fund (AMIF).

ECRE is currently updating the country reports in the AIDA database to include factual information for the year 2025.

In this context, we would like to offer you the right of reply concerning the material in the AIDA report for the report on Slovakia before its publication in the AIDA database.

If you have any comments on the facts and/or legislative information presented in the report please feel free to contact ECRE within the next two weeks.

Please provide your comments in the attached template which follows the standard structure of the AIDA reports. ECRE will only be able to address comments provided in this format. All comments provided will be reviewed and taken into account by ECRE.

Should it be of interest to you, we would be pleased to publish your reply in a separate Annex to the country report, which will appear on the AIDA website. Please inform us if you are interested in taking up this option. If not, the comments will be treated as confidential and shared only with the national expert.

We kindly request that you submit your comments within two weeks from the date of this letter. Please note that ECRE will only be able to consider comments provided within this deadline, to avoid delays in publication. Thus, after two weeks from the date of the letter, we will proceed to publication.

You will find the AIDA Project Right of Reply Template below, and the draft country report on Slovakia attached to this letter.

We look forward to your reply and remain at your disposal should you have any questions or need further information.

Yours sincerely,
Julie Lejeune
Director, ECRE

The AIDA country reports are part of the Asylum Information Database (AIDA), partly funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF). The contents of this report are the sole responsibility of ECRE and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.



Member State Reply on the 2025 AIDA country report on Slovakia

The Asylum Information Database (AIDA) is managed by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE). It aims to provide up-to date information which is accessible to researchers, advocates, legal practitioners and the general public through the dedicated website www.asylumineurope.org.

AIDA covers 27 countries, including 21 EU Member States (AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, ES, FR, GR, HR, HU, IE, IT, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI and SK) and 6 non-EU countries (Egypt, Serbia, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine and the United Kingdom). Each report documents asylum procedures, reception conditions, detention and the content of international protection in the country concerned.

Based on the final draft for the AIDA country report on Slovakia, we would like to offer you the opportunity of a right of reply concerning the facts and legislative information presented in the report. ECRE will only be able to consider comments that are provided in the template below within two weeks from the date of receipt, to avoid delays in publication.

Upon the request of the Member State, the comments will be published in a separate annex to the country report on the AIDA website. Otherwise, they will be treated as confidential. The template reflects the chapters of the report.

Please ensure that responses remain within the scope of each section. Where possible, information provided should be sourced.

Reply

1. Statistics

Reference to statistics extracted from the country report	Page and section	Comments, corrections, or additional statistical information and updates
	8	Asylum (refugee status) granted in 2025: Afghanistan 14, Azerbaijan 1, Belarus 18, Unspecified (stateless persons) 1, Russia 5, Tajikistan 1, Turkey 1—Total 41 Of which, asylum granted on humanitarian grounds: Unspecified (stateless persons) 1, Russia 1. Yearly statistics of the Migration Office, MoI, available at https://www.minv.sk/?statistiky-20

Any additional remarks on the section on statistics:

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2. Asylum Procedure

Please comment using *either* the following structure *or* the table below.

Section, page number in the report

Text in the report (extract)

...

Comment

...

Extract from the country report	Page and section	Comments
Overview of the legal framework	10	<u>General remark:</u> This report describes the procedure before the new law on international protection came into effect, does not reflect the current state of play .
4. Determining authority	15	<i>Is there any political interference possible by the responsible Minister with the decision making in individual cases by the first instance authority?</i> Please change the answer to NO .
5. Short overview of the asylum procedure	17	Please amend the following sentence: <i>The cassation court examines only points of law.</i> To: Cassation proceedings before the Supreme Administrative Court cover only aspects of law.
B. Access to the procedure and registration	18	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police categorically rejects allegations of “pushback” practices at the Slovak-Ukrainian border. Under the bilateral agreement between the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, any foreign national apprehended after illegally crossing the external land border on the Slovak side is subject to a joint border meeting between Slovak and Ukrainian border authorities and, before February 24, 2, 2022, they were also subject to readmission following confirmation that they had entered Slovak territory from Ukraine. As of February 24, 2022, readmissions have been suspended, with the exception of a single case recorded in 2023 involving a “stranded” Ukrainian national who, after illegally crossing the external border from Ukraine and being detained by Slovak authorities, immediately wished to voluntarily return to Ukrainian territory, and it was agreed with the Ukrainian side that they would take him back under the readmission agreement.
B. Access to the procedure and registration	18	<i>Before 24 February 2022, people seeking to enter the EU from Ukraine were typically intercepted by border guards operating at the Slovak-Ukrainian border, who routinely ignored asylum requests...</i> Comment: The text gives the impression that the Slovak Republic has been carrying out readmissions to Ukraine even after February 24, 2022, as it lists 16 readmissions from the Slovak Republic to Ukraine for the years 2022 through 2025. In fact, 15 readmissions from the Slovak Republic to Ukraine took place before February 24, 2022, and there was one exceptional case of readmission in 2023, which we describe above.
B. Access to the procedure and registration	18	<i>Immediately after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, anyone coming from Ukraine could enter the Slovak territory through the Slovak-Ukrainian border crossings. ...</i>

		<u>Comment:</u> The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police has not recorded a single case in which a request for international protection was denied by police officers at the external borders. The situation in the aforementioned case involving a citizen of Belarus is entirely different. While the necessary procedures were being carried out during the border check, the foreign national in question applied for asylum in the Slovak Republic as soon as he arrived at the border crossing. Officers from the Ubl'a Border Control Unit of the Police Force conducted a search of the foreign national in accordance with Section 3(5) of Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum and on Amendments to Certain Acts. No items that could endanger the person's life or health were found. A Russian-language interpreter, whom the foreign national understands both verbally and in writing, was appointed. A statement was taken regarding political persecution by the Republic of Belarus and fear for his life. The Reception Centre of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic in Humenné was notified of the acceptance of the asylum application at the Ubl'a border crossing. The individual's travel document was seized pursuant to Section 3(4) of Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum, and he was transferred to the Medved'ov Detention Centre; the foreign national was issued a confirmation of detention. After completing the administrative procedures upon receipt of the asylum seeker's application for asylum in the territory of the Slovak Republic, the individual was handed over to a reception officer at the Reception Centre of the Migration Office in Humenné on September 5, 2023, at 5:10 p.m. The Belarusian national in question stated in the official record that the relevant authorities in Poland had refused to accept his asylum application and that, for this reason, he had travelled from Ukraine to the Slovak Republic.
1.3.1 Interpretation	26	<i>Generally, there are no available interpreters to/from Belarusian language... and the MO is unable to satisfy their requests</i> <u>Comment:</u> Interpreting is indeed done into Russian, but there hasn't been a request for a Belarusian interpreter yet. In case of a request we might be able to source a Belarusian interpreter.
1.3.1 Interpretation	26	<i>Applicants are usually reluctant to complain about the quality of interpretation because they fear it may alienate the caseworker and subsequently have a negative effect on their application. When a legal representative is present, they first notify the caseworker of the problematic interpretation. If the issue persists, the lawyer requests the termination of the interview and the replacement of the interpreter. Despite concerns about the quality of interpretation provided by certain interpreters, the MO generally continues to engage them in other cases.</i>

		<u>Comment:</u> The Migration Office requests stressing out it is a HRL subjective observation. In general, all of the applicant's comments during the interpretation are taken into account.
1.3.2 Recording and report	26	The interview transcript is not a verbatim transcript of the interview. The whole transcript is always interpreted to the applicant unless the applicant expressly objects it.
2.2.1 Individualised guarantees	35	Migration Office requests adding following sentence as the last sentence if the paragraph on guarantees: <i>Applicant/third country national or their legal representative has a right to submit a statement before Dublin Unit issues a decision, this statement must be taken into account in the decision.</i>
G. Information for asylum seekers and access to NGOs and UNHCR 1. Provision of information on the procedure	58	Indicators: Information on the Procedure <i>Is sufficient information provided to asylum seekers on the procedures, their rights and obligations in practice? With difficulty.</i> <u>Comment:</u> We do not see a reasoning to claim “With difficulty”. Applicants must be provided with information about the proceedings—including their rights and obligations

Any additional remarks on the section on the asylum procedure:

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3. Reception Conditions

Please comment using *either* the following structure *or* the table below.

Section, page number in the report

Text in the report (extract)

...

Comment

...

Extract from the country report	Page and section	Comments
Reception conditions	12	<i>„Only minor changes were introduced to reception conditions during the reporting period. Since June 2024, applicants for international protection are no longer entitled to receive basic hygiene items where they are engaged in employment or have another source of income amounting to at least the subsistence minimum for a single adult.”</i> Please rephrase and add important information that changes the meaning of the text.

		The applicant may enter into an employment relationship after six months from the commencement of the proceedings. If the applicant enters into an employment relationship after six months or has another source of income amounting to at least the subsistence minimum for a single adult, they are not entitled to basic hygiene items. <u>Reasoning:</u> Basic hygiene supplies are not provided to an applicant if the applicant is employed or has other income amounting to at least the subsistence minimum for one adult pursuant to Section 2(a) of Act No. 601/ 2003 Coll. on the Subsistence Minimum and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended, or if the Ministry has made a decision pursuant to Section 23(5) of Act No. 480/2002; pocket money is not provided from the date the decision is delivered to the applicant.
Reception conditions	12	Migration Office considers following sentence as inaccurate: <i>„The same restriction applies where the Ministry of Interior has determined that the applicant is required to contribute, in full or in part, to the costs of accommodation in an asylum facility or integration centre, or to the costs of healthcare, due to their financial or property situation. In such cases, applicants may be required to bear part of the expenses related to their stay or medical treatment.”</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> If the applicant enters into an employment relationship after six months or has another source of income amounting to at least the subsistence minimum for a single adult, the Ministry may decide that the applicant is obliged to adequately cover the costs of their stay in an asylum facility or integration centre if their financial or property circumstances mean they can be asked to cover at least some of these costs. Depending on the amount of his income, the applicant can pay a symbolic 1EUR per person/per day. Each applicant has access to necessary health care also in reception and accommodation centres. If applicant needs additional special health care, is sent by healthcare personnel to the nearest specialist clinic or hospital within public health care providers. Only healthcare that exceeds the standard necessary level is not covered.
2.1 Overall conditions	67	<i>„Nevertheless, some residents in Opatovská Nová Ves reported insufficient awareness of available activities and expressed a need for more organised group activities, particularly for children. The monitoring body identified physical separation between accommodation areas and staff offices as a possible factor affecting communication and recommended more proactive outreach by staff</i>

		<i>within residential areas.“</i> <u>Response:</u> As stated in the written response of the MO to the recommendations issued by the Public Defender of Rights following the monitoring visits to the reception centres in Rohovce and Opatovská Nová Ves in February 2025, staff are regularly instructed and reminded to actively inform residents about ongoing and planned activities, using both direct communication and visible information channels. At the same time, staff is encouraged to maintain a consistent presence within residential areas and to proactively engage with residents in their everyday environment.
2.1 Overall conditions	68	<i>„The monitoring also examined mechanisms for identifying vulnerable persons. Initial screening primarily takes place in the reception centre Humenné, with information recorded in an internal database accessible to staff across facilities. A structured “social profile” tool is used to document vulnerabilities and guide interventions. Nevertheless, the monitoring body recommended further staff training, particularly in line with the Istanbul Protocol, to improve identification of victims of torture and trauma.“</i> <u>Response:</u> Employees are regularly offered training courses provided by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). In addition, staff members who come into direct contact with applicants for international protection have completed specialized training focused on the identification of vulnerabilities, including the recognition of the specific needs of vulnerable persons. These trainings strengthen staff capacity to identify and respond appropriately to vulnerable applicants from the early stages of the asylum procedure.
2. Access to education	71	<i>„Asylum-seeking children are subject to compulsory schooling under the same conditions as Slovak nationals. Compulsory education applies from the age of 6 until the age of 16. In practice, however, access to education depends on the stage of the asylum procedure and the type of reception facility in which the child is accommodated. Children residing in the Reception Centre in Humenné do not attend school during their stay in the facility. Access to formal education is generally ensured only after transfer to the Accommodation Centre in Opatovská Nová Ves, where most families with children are accommodated.“</i> <u>Response:</u> While children do not attend school during their stay in the Reception Centre in Humenné, this period is limited to the duration of the mandatory quarantine. Following its completion, families with children are

		transferred to the Accommodation Centre in Opatovská Nová Ves, which in practice usually takes place within three weeks. Consequently, the vast majority of asylum-seeking children of the compulsory school age are enrolled in school within one month of their arrival, ensuring their timely access to education.
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Any additional remarks on the section on reception conditions:

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3. Detention of Asylum Seekers

Please comment using *either* the following structure *or* the table below:

Section, page number in the report

Text in the report (extract)

...

Comment

...

Extract from the country report	Page and section	Comments
B. Legal framework of detention	78	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police raises a <u>substantial objection</u> to the wording: <i>As regards the obligation to review the necessity of detention throughout its duration, there is limited evidence that such ex officio assessments are carried out systematically....</i> <u>Comment:</u> We consider the statements made by the HRL (League for Human Rights) to be misleading and untrue. The necessity of detention is reviewed regularly and systematically by the authorities throughout the entire duration of the detention. The obligation to review the purpose of detention is enshrined in Section 90(2)(e) of Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on the Residence of Foreigners and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter the “Act on the Residence of Foreigners” —this obligation is imposed on detention facilities. We are not aware of any instances where this review is not carried out systematically and regularly in practice. The legality of the detention of foreigners in police detention facilities is also reviewed by the prosecutor ex officio as part of oversight of compliance with the law pursuant to Section 18 of Act No. 153/2001 Coll. on the Public Prosecutor’s Office. The prosecutor therefore verifies, independently of any complaint

		filed by the detained person, whether the legal conditions for detention continue to be met and whether its continued duration corresponds to the purpose pursued by law. Pursuant to Section 18(1)(c) of Act No. 153/2001 Coll. on the Public Prosecutor's Office, the prosecutor supervises compliance with laws and other generally binding legal regulations in facilities where a third-country national is held on the basis of a detention decision pursuant to a special regulation. Pursuant to Section 18(3) of the Act on the Public Prosecutor's Office, in exercising such supervision, the prosecutor shall ensure, in particular, that persons are detained or held in the locations specified in paragraphs 1 and 2 only in accordance with the law and that laws and other generally binding legal regulations are observed in those locations. At any time during the period of detention, a detained national may file an administrative action seeking release from detention (e.g., if he or she is convinced that the purpose of his or her detention no longer exists). Such an administrative action may be filed repeatedly. However, if the administrative court has ruled to dismiss the action, another administrative action may be filed—without providing new grounds—only after a period of 30 days has elapsed from the date on which the administrative court's decision on the previous administrative action became final. At the same time, it is necessary to note that throughout the entire period of detention, it is always necessary to examine whether the conditions for imposing alternatives to detention have been met and whether there are grounds for releasing the third-country national from detention. We insist on correcting the text of the report in accordance with the above or on removing this statement from the report.
	78	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police requests to mark this as the answer the following question „<i>Are alternatives to detention used in practice? – as <u>"Rarely."</u></i> The last sentence on the same page follows: <i>In practice, the use of alternatives to detention appears to be limited. According to HRL's experience, detention remains the primary measure applied by the authorities, while alternatives such as reporting obligations or financial guarantees are used only <u>rarely</u>.</i>
C. Detention conditions	80	The table shown is not correctly organized, and it is also not clear from the text whether the "Occupancy at the end (2025)" column refers to the number of detained asylum seekers housed in individual Police Detention Centers for Foreigners at the end of 2025 or the total number of third-country nationals housed in individual Police Detention Centers for Foreigners at the end of 2025.

		If this refers to the number of detained asylum seekers housed in individual Foreigners' Detention Centers at the end of 2025, the data are as follows: Police Detention Center for Foreigners in Medved'ov - 3 Police Detention Center for Foreigners in Sečovce – 0 If this refers to the total number of third-country nationals held in individual police detention centers for foreigners at the end of 2025, the figures are as follows: Police Detention Center for Foreigners in Medved'ov - 11 Police Detention Center for Foreigners in Sečovce - 4
2. Conditions in detention facilities	80	Indicators: Conditions in Detention Facilities - please mark the answer No for question 2: "If yes, is it limited to emergency health care?" Health care in police detention facilities for foreign nationals is not limited to emergency health care.
2.1 Overall conditions	80	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police requests to replace specifically, "the Border and Foreign Police Directorate of the Ministry of Interior" with specifically, "Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force."
2.2 Health care and special needs in detention	86	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police objects the claim on non-availability of interpretation: Reasoning: Detention Centre for Foreigners: Interpretation services during medical consultations are available upon request by the center's medical staff, who assess the need for interpretation before each medical examination and, if necessary, arrange for an interpreter. Detention Centre for Foreigners Medved'ov: If necessary, an interpreter is called in for a medical examination, and the Medved'ov Detention Centre also has translation equipment that is routinely used in everyday communication.
3. Access to detention facilities	87	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police requests that the following statement be corrected: „<i>In practice, according to information available to the HRL, the first in-person meeting between detained applicants for international protection and their legal representative, prior to the signing of a power of attorney, is often treated by the authorities as a regular visit....</i> Reasoning: A visit by a legal representative prior to signing a power of attorney is not considered a regular visit at the Sečovce Detention Center and has never been counted toward the number of permitted in-person visits for a detainee.

		In-person meetings with a legal representative at the Medved'ov Detention Center have never been counted toward the number of permitted in-person visits and are not restricted in any way. Detained persons are informed, even before being placed in the accommodation facilities at the Medved'ov Detention Center, of the possibility to request legal assistance.
3. Access to detention facilities	88	<i>„Detained persons are granted access to their personal mobile phones once per day for approximately one hour. Where detainees do not possess a mobile phone, telephone contact with family members or other persons is typically facilitated through the social worker of the non-governmental organisation present in the facility.“</i> The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police requests to add: “A landline is available for detainees, on which they can receive calls 24/7.”
D. Procedural safeguards	88	The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police raises a <u>substantial objection</u> to the wording of the text: <i>“In practice, detained persons are informed of both the reasons for their detention and the possibility to challenge the detention decision before an administrative court exclusively through the written detention decision. The decision, including the instruction on available remedies, is interpreted into a language the person understands, which is also the language used during the detention proceedings preceding the issuance of the decision.</i> <i>However, at that stage, persons are not specifically informed about the possibility of being represented by the Centre for Legal Aid, a private lawyer or a non-governmental organisation. As a result, the right to an effective remedy may remain largely an abstract concept for detainees at the start of their detention period. Information about the Centre for Legal Aid is typically provided only after placement in the detention facility, while information about the availability of legal assistance from non-governmental organisations is generally not provided by the authorities. In practice, detainees often learn about the possibility of NGO representation informally from other detained persons.”</i> Comment: The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police considers the above statements by HRL to be misleading and untrue. The Slovak Republic has effective legislation regarding the provision of information to

	third-country nationals about legal assistance. Pursuant to Section 77(8) of the Act on the Residence of Foreigners, a third-country national is entitled to legal representation to the extent and under the conditions set forth in Section 3 of Act No. 327/2005 Coll. on the Provision of Legal Aid to Persons in Material Need and on Amendments to Act No. 586/2003 Coll. on the Legal Profession and on Amendments to Act No. 455/1991 Coll. on Trade Licensing (Trade Licensing Act), as amended by subsequent regulations, as amended by Act No. 8/2005 Coll., as amended by subsequent regulations (hereinafter referred to as the "Act on the Provision of Legal Aid"). The purpose of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid is to establish a system for providing legal aid to natural persons who, due to financial hardship, are unable to utilize legal services to properly exercise and protect their rights in proceedings concerning residence permits under the Act on the Residence of Foreigners, and to contribute to the prevention of legal disputes. The subject matter of this Act is to establish the conditions for the provision of legal aid, the procedures to be followed by natural persons and the competent authorities in proceedings concerning the entitlement to legal aid, and the institutional framework for the provision of legal aid. Pursuant to Section 3(1)(c) of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid, this Act also applies to the provision of legal aid in asylum matters, in proceedings concerning administrative expulsion, in proceedings concerning the detention of a third-country national, in proceedings concerning the detention of an asylum seeker, and, in these matters, also in proceedings before administrative courts and before the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic. In administrative expulsion proceedings, legal aid is provided under the conditions set forth in Section 24c of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid. In administrative expulsion proceedings, legal aid is provided under the conditions set forth in Section 24c of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid. This provision governs the conditions and requirements for an application for legal aid, which a third-country national may file at a Legal Aid Center or <u>directly at the police station where they were brought in</u>, or at the facility where the third-country national or asylum seeker is being detained. Pursuant to Section 4(1)(f) of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid, an eligible person is defined as a person who, after demonstrating compliance with the conditions set forth in this Act, has been granted the right to legal aid by a final decision of the Legal Aid Center. Pursuant to Section 5c of the Act on the Provision of Legal Aid, legal aid includes, among other things, the appointment of an interpreter and the translation
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		of documents necessary for a decision on the matter, if required. Furthermore, Section 6 of the Act sets forth the conditions for the provision of legal aid without financial contribution, thereby guaranteeing free legal aid to third-country nationals who lack the financial means to pay for it. It follows from the above that a third-country national is informed of the possibility of obtaining legal aid immediately <u>at the stage of being brought to the police station, and thus not only once inside the detention facility.</u> The Bureau of Border and Foreign Police insists on correcting the text of the report in accordance with the above or on removing this statement from the report.
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Any additional remarks on the section on detention of asylum seekers:

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4. Content of International Protection

Please comment using *either* the following structure *or* the table below:

Section, page number in the report

Text in the report (extract)

...

Comment

...

Extract from the country report	Page and section	Comments
Temporary accommodation protection-	13	Slovak Government Regulation No. 36/2025 of February 19, 2025 (effective as of March 1, 2025), reduced the period for which the housing allowance for beneficiaries of temporary protection from 120 to 60 days. The rationale behind the amendment was to reduce the financial burden on the state and to encourage beneficiaries of temporary protection to participate in active working and social life. The allowance shall be provided for the accommodation of a person who has left the country during 60 days from the first provision of temporary protection in the territory of the Slovak Republic, and to vulnerable person, as a household member who is a recipient of assistance in material need, a person with a serious disability who is provided with a subsidy to support humanitarian assistance to a

		person with a serious disability pursuant to a special regulation, a person who has reached the age of 65, and one of the parents (together with child) who takes care of a child under five years of age or a natural person who personally takes care of a child under five years of age based on a court decision.
Short overview of the reception system	62	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>Families are typically accommodated together, while single adults are housed separately <u>with other single men.</u></i>
Short overview of the reception system	62	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>They typically remain in this facility for approximately three weeks, until the completion of medical screening procedures aimed at excluding infectious diseases, <u>gaining the information regarding health status and the necessary treatment.</u></i>
A. Access and forms of reception conditions	63	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>In such cases, applicants spend the night in a designated waiting room before being assigned accommodation. <u>Waiting room has all the necessary equipment, including beds.</u></i>
A. Access and forms of reception conditions	63	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>As a general rule, material reception conditions are provided free of charge. However, the Ministry of the Interior may decide that an asylum seeker is required to contribute, in whole or in part, to the costs associated with accommodation in an asylum facility or integration centre, or to the costs of healthcare provided, where the applicant's financial or property situation indicates that such a contribution can reasonably be expected. The assessment is carried out on an individual basis and the law does not establish a specific financial threshold triggering such an obligation. Due, at least in part, to the relatively low number of asylum seekers in Slovakia, material reception conditions are generally provided to all asylum seekers without any assessment of their financial situation and without requiring contributions towards accommodation, subsistence or healthcare costs.</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> The Ministry may decide that the applicant is obliged to adequately cover the costs of their stay in an asylum facility or integration centre if their financial or property circumstances mean they can be asked to cover at least some of these costs. Depending on the amount of his income, the applicant can pay a symbolic 1EUR per person/per day. Number of asylum seekers in Slovakia does not affect providing of material reception condition

A. Access and forms of reception conditions	63	The Migration Office considers the following sentence as subjective observation: <i>Details concerning an applicant's financial resources are not routinely shared with the management or staff of reception facilities and do not appear to play a role in the day-to-day provision of reception conditions.</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> Provision of material reception conditions is in line with legislation.
A. Access and forms of reception conditions	63	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>„Amount of the monthly financial allowanceVouchers granted to asylum seekers as of 31 December 2025“.</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> Vouchers are not used in Slovakia.
3. Reduction or withdrawal of reception conditions	65	The Migration Office requests to amend the following sentence: <i>In 2024 and 2025, HRL recorded two one cases involving asylum seekers accommodated in the Accommodation Centre in Opatovská Nová Ves whose pocket money was withdrawn following alleged disputes with other asylum seekers and reception centre staff.</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> In 2024, no decision was issued in Opatovská Nová Ves regarding the withholding of pocket money.
3. Reduction or withdrawal of reception conditions	65	The mentioned judgment is from 2024, does not cover the period of relevance for this report, which is year 2025.
Indicators: Conditions in Reception Facilities	67	Please mark answer for the following question: <i>Are unaccompanied children ever accommodated with adults in practice?</i> <u>No.</u>
2.1 Overall conditions	68	Please reformulate the following sentence as this is a subjective opinion: <i>Healthcare is provided at <u>a basic level</u>, with visiting medical staff and referral to external specialists where necessary.</i> What is definition of basic level of healthcare?
2.1 Overall conditions	69	Please consider deletion of the following sentence, as this covers year 2024, which is not scope of this report. <i>A relevant judgment concerning the reception conditions was issued by the Administrative Court in Košice on 25 November 2024.</i>
Indicators: Health Care	72	Please mark the answer for the following question : <i>Is specialised treatment for victims of torture or traumatised asylum seekers available in practice?</i> <u>Limited.</u> - as they are entitled to necessary health care.
D. Health care	72	Please reformulate the following sentence:

		However, asylum seekers do not have the right to choose their healthcare provider and cannot generally request treatment by a medical professional of a particular gender. <u>Reasoning:</u> They have right to choose their healthcare provider and also medical professional of a particular gender. However, not all doctors accept them.
Indicators: Special Reception Needs	73	Please mark the answer for the following question : <i>Is there an assessment of special reception needs of vulnerable persons in practice?</i> <u>YES</u>
E. Special reception needs of vulnerable groups	74	The following sentence is incorrect: <i>“No specific safe spaces for women or children appear to be systematically established in all reception centres.”</i> <u>Reasoning:</u> The reception centre in Humenné and the accommodation centre in Opatovská Nová Ves are safe spaces for women and children.
G. Health care	110	<i>„The main challenges faced by the beneficiaries of international protection when accessing the health care are a language barrier, a lack of medical stuff, especially specialists in psychiatry and child psychiatry, long waiting times for examinations, poor awareness of health care providers about the ways in which medical procedures administered to holders of subsidiary protection are reimbursed and on the level of coverage for the administered procedures and the related lower level of willingness to treat them. Additionally, access to specialised health care is subject to the standard referral system, which requires a prior examination by a general practitioner and subsequent appointment with a specialist.“</i> <u>Response:</u> It should be noted that, as of 12 June 2026, the new Act on International Protection entered into force, introducing an important change for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. Under the new legislation, persons granted subsidiary protection are included in the general public health insurance system. As a result, they will no longer face the practical difficulties previously associated with the so-called entitlement certificates and the reimbursement of healthcare costs, which is expected to improve healthcare providers' awareness of their insurance status and facilitate access to healthcare services. The remaining challenges, such as language barriers, shortages of medical specialists and waiting times, are not specific to beneficiaries of international protection but affect the healthcare system more broadly.

Any additional remarks on the section on the content of international protection:

...

5. Additional remarks

In Annex II – EU Pact on Migration and Asylum please consider adding the following on page 114:

- Residence permits will be issued to beneficiaries of asylum and foreign nationals who have been granted subsidiary protection for a period of 4 years.