



## Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2015

- Summary of all changes [mid-September 2015]: [https://helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/HHC\\_Hungary\\_Info\\_Note\\_Sept-2015\\_No\\_country\\_for\\_refugees.pdf](https://helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/HHC_Hungary_Info_Note_Sept-2015_No_country_for_refugees.pdf)

In details:

- Serbia becomes a safe third country, changes to judicial review [beginning of August 2015]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/new-asylum-rules-endanger-access-to-protection/>
- Related legislation in English: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/latest-text-of-asylum-law-and-related-rules-august-2015/>
- Criminalisation of irregular entry [September 2015]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/tightening-criminal-rules-targeting-refugees/>

## Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2016

- Summary of all changes [published in May 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/under-destruction/>

In details:

- Changes to the integration system [June 2016]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-recent-legal-amendments-further-destroy-access-to-protection/>
- Legalisation of extrajudicial push-backs (so-called '8 km-rule') [July 2016]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-latest-amendments-legalise-extrajudicial-push-back-of-asylum-seekers-in-violation-of-eu-and-international-law/>
- Monitoring report on the visit to the pre-transit zones [April 2016]: [https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/HHC\\_R%C3%B6szke\\_Tompa\\_pre\\_transit\\_zone\\_22April2016.pdf](https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/HHC_R%C3%B6szke_Tompa_pre_transit_zone_22April2016.pdf)
- Statistics for 2016: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-key-asylum-figures-as-of-1-january-2017/>

## Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2017

- The largest overhaul of the asylums system since 2015 [in effect since 28 March 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-governments-new-asylum-bill-on-collective-push-backs-and-automatic-detention/>
- Full text of the adopted amendments in English: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/the-english-translation-of-the-adopted-bill-on-amendments-to-the-asylum-and-state-border-act/>
- Statistics for 2017: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-key-asylum-figures-for-2017/>

## Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2018

- Changes that entered into force on 1 July as part of the so-called 'Stop Soros' package:
  - Criminalisation of assistance to asylum-seekers: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/HUNGARIAN-GOVERNMENT-MARKS-WORLD-REFUGEE-DAY-BY-PASSING-LAW-TO-JAIL-HELPERS-20June2018En.pdf>
  - New ground for inadmissibility: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/denial-of-food-inadmissible-claims/>

- The implementation in practice – 1 year after [July 2019]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/one-year-after/>
- Full texts of the above changes in English:
  - Criminalisation of assistance to asylum-seekers and the introduction of a new ground for inadmissibility: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/T333-ENG.pdf>
  - Changes to the Fundamental Law of Hungary affecting the right to seek asylum: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/T332-Constitution-Amendment-29-May-2018-ENG.pdf>
- The text of the 25% special tax on immigration: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/Special-immigration-tax-as-adopted-20-July-2018.pdf>

### Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2019

*No significant legal changes were introduced in 2019 to the Hungarian asylum system.*

Results of strategic litigation affecting key areas of the asylum system:

- Preliminary ruling of the CJEU on whether Hungarian courts not having the right to change decisions of the asylum authority and grant protection during appeals constitute an effective remedy: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/the-man-who-defeated-the-hungarian-asylum-system/>

### Changes affecting the asylum system introduced in 2020

- A new asylum system: the introduction of a compulsory precondition to make an asylum application in Hungary (“the embassy system”) [August 2020]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/new-Hungarian-asylum-system-HHC-Aug-2020.pdf>

Results of strategic litigation affecting key areas of the asylum system:

- Preliminary ruling of the CJEU on the inadmissibility ground introduced in 2018 [March 2020]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/asylum-seekers-arriving-through-serbia-cannot-be-rejected-automatically/>
- Preliminary ruling of the CJEU on whether placement in the transit zone qualifies as detention [May 2020]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-unlawfully-detains-people-in-the-transit-zone/>

Infringement procedure initiated by the European Commission against Hungary in 2015:

- CJEU judgment in C-808/18 on key elements of the Hungarian asylum system, including compulsory placement in the transit zones and the legalisation of push-backs [December 2020]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungarys-legalisation-of-push-backs-in-breach-of-eu-law-according-to-the-court-of-justice-of-the-european-union/>

### Selected thematic reports/summaries:

- On asylum-related infringement procedures against Hungary [continuously updated]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/asylum-related-infringements-against-Hungary-2015-2020-1.pdf>
- On the starvation of detainees in the transit zones between 2018 and 2020 [April 2019]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/Starvation-2019.pdf>; Summaries of starvation cases [continuously updated]: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10V84xAVREKSScFwz4ME\\_2kfpBRV\\_CPqCr7SUKitE2o8/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10V84xAVREKSScFwz4ME_2kfpBRV_CPqCr7SUKitE2o8/edit#gid=0)

- On push-backs [January 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/pushed-back-at-the-door/>
- On unaccompanied children [May 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/best-interest-out-of-sight-the-treatment-of-asylum-seeking-children-in-hungary/>
- On Dublin returns to Hungary [May 2018]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/hungary-update-on-dublin-transfers-2/>
- On Interim measures of the ECtHR ignored by Hungary [May 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/interim-measures-granted-in-cases-against-hungary-until-may-2017/>
- On the dismantling of the asylum system between 2015 and 2017: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/two-years-after/>
- On the termination of cooperation agreements between various authorities and the HHC [October 2017]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/authorities-terminated-cooperation-agreements-with-the-hhc/>
- On Gender-based vulnerability in the Hungarian asylum-system [June 2018]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/en/safety-net-torn-apart/>
- On the presence of Frontex in Hungary and the effectiveness of the Agency's human rights compliance mechanisms [January 2021]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/Frontex-human-rights-mechanisms.pdf>
- On the growing use of national security arguments in expulsion cases [November 2020]: <https://www.helsinki.hu/wp-content/uploads/National-Security-Risk.pdf>

You can find all our asylum-related news here: [http://www.helsinki.hu/en/refugees\\_and\\_migrants/news/](http://www.helsinki.hu/en/refugees_and_migrants/news/)