

Important information about asylum in Belgium

If you are in Belgium and fear prosecution or violence in your country, you have the right to submit a request for international protection to the Immigration Office in Brussels (see contact details below).

When submitting this application to the Immigration Office, your information is recorded and a photo and fingerprints are taken for identification purposes.

According to the Dublin Regulation, it will be determined which EU Member State is responsible for examining your asylum application.

In case Belgium is responsible for it, your application will be processed in Belgium.

The application will then be examined on its substance by the Office of the Commissioner General for the Refugees and Stateless Persons. This office independently takes decisions apart from other services.

During the examination of your first application for asylum in Belgium, and until a final decision has been reached about your asylum application, you are entitled to accommodation as well as to medical and psycho-social guidance in a reception center. The designation of a reception center is done by Fedasil (see contact details below).

Your asylum application can lead to the grant of refugee status, or of a subsidiary protection status, or to a refusal.

If you are an unaccompanied foreign minor (less than 18 years old), you are entitled to a special protection. The Guardianship Service will check if you are indeed an unaccompanied foreign minor. If there are doubts that you are really a minor, an age check will be conducted.

If you apply for asylum an unaccompanied foreign minor, you will be assisted by a guardian and a lawyer and you will receive an adapted accommodation and counseling.

Regarding the application of the Dublin procedure, other rules for minors exist, taking into account the higher interest of the child.

If you have any other additional questions about asylum, you can contact UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Organization who can assist you with your application (see contact details below).

If you wish to return to your country, you can apply for the voluntary return program. In that case, you can contact Fedasil to assist you.

If you do not apply for asylum, or if your asylum application is refused, you are in irregular stay on the territory and you have to leave the country. If you do not return on a voluntary basis, you may be returned by force.

Contact details :

<p>Immigration Office Tel. : +32 (0)2 793 90 20 <u>Registration</u> : Petit-Château Rue de Passchendaele 2, 1000 Brussels <u>First interview</u> : Pacheco Boulevard Pacheco 44, 1000 Brussels</p>	<p>Fedasil Return Desk Quai au Bois de Construction 7A 1000 Brussels Tel. : +32 (0)2 216 12 60 Mon to Fri, 9.30 – 12</p>	<p>UNHCR Brussels Avenue Louise 283 1050 Brussels Tel. : +32 (0)2 627 59 99</p>
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