

DUBLIN III REGULATION



WHAT IS THE DUBLIN REGULATION?

The fact that you have submitted an application for asylum in Portugal does not ensure the examination of your application here.

The country which will analyse your application is assigned through a process established by a European Union legislation known as Dublin Regulation.

According to this law, only one country is responsible for examining your application.



THESE ARE THE 28 MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION APPLYING THE DUBLIN REGULATION

Austria (AT), Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Croatia (HR), Cyprus (CY), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Estonia (ET), Finland (FI), France (FR), Germany (DE), Greece (EL), Hungary (HU), Ireland (IE), Italy (IT), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Malta (MT), The Netherlands (NL), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovakia (SK), Slovenia (SI), Spain (ES), Sweden (SE), United Kingdom (UK) and four other “associated” countries: Norway (NO), Iceland (IS), Switzerland (CH) and Liechtenstein (LI).

These countries are to be named as “Dublin countries” henceforth.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DECIDE WHICH COUNTRY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINING MY APPLICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION?

If another Member State is considered responsible for examining your application for international protection, we will do our best to transfer it as soon as possible in order for your application for international protection to be immediately examined, which might take about six months.



HOW IS DECIDED WHICH COUNTRY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXAMINING MY APPLICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION?

As provided in the Dublin Regulation, there are several factors establishing the responsibility of a certain Dublin country, in descending order, in particular the existence of family members, the issue of a Visa or Residence Permit, the previous regular or irregular stay, or if an application for international protection has already been previously submitted in one of those countries.

WHAT IF I DO NOT WISH TO GO TO ANOTHER COUNTRY?

You have the option of not agreeing with the decision of being transferred to another Dublin country. Therefore, you may challenge the decision within a court, and you may stay in the country until the decision is taken by the court.

However, from the moment you submit an application for asylum in Portugal and you are to be found illegally staying in another Dublin country, you will be transferred to Portugal and the process for establishing the Dublin country responsible continues.

VERY IMPORTANT



Once the application for International Protection is submitted in Portugal, you must remain in Portugal until which Dublin country is responsible for examining your application for International Protection is decided, or until Portugal examines your application for International Protection.

Attention should be considered as follows: if you leave Portugal or if you are in our country at unknown whereabouts with the purpose to not be transferred, you may be detained and led to a Temporary Facility Centre.



WHY ARE MY FINGERPRINTS TAKEN?

When you apply for the international protection, and if you are 14 years-old or more, your fingerprints will be taken and sent to EUROVAC database.

VERY IMPORTANT: this procedure is provided by law and, therefore, mandatory.

Your fingerprints are checked within EUROVAC and, in case of a previous application for asylum, this procedure will help find the Dublin country responsible for the examination of your application.

Your fingerprints may be checked at the VIS (VISA INFORMATION SYSTEM) as well, meaning that if you have or had a visa for another Dublin country, you may be transferred to the country where your application for international protection will be examined.