# POLICY OF NON-RECEPTION Dashboard

















## Chronology

EARLY 2025 : Still a large number of people on the waiting list and exclusions for "M status"

As of 6 January, 2,947 asylum seekers<sup>1</sup> were waiting for a place in the Fedasil network.

While the Council of State suspended, at the end of 2024, the decision of the former Secretary of State for Asylum and Migration, Nicole de Moor, to no longer receive asylum seekers (single men) with protection status in another EU Member State ("M status"), Fedasil continues the practice by taking individual decisions to limit reception and removes people with "M status" from the waiting list. An action for annulment was therefore lodged by organizations<sup>2</sup> with the Council of State.

On 31 January, the new federal coalition "Arizona" concluded a government agreement<sup>3</sup>.

In this agreement, the fundamental rights of migrants are strongly impacted. Rather than resolving the situation of non-reception that has persisted for more than three years, the measures announced risk aggravating it and excluding more people from reception. JANUARY : "Arizona" Government Agreement

**APRIL:** The policy of nonreception continues, but the government agrees on measures that will aggravate it

### Easter agreement on "crisis measures"

On 11 April, the government agreed on a series of crisis measures in the areas of asylum and migration. Far from resolving the catastrophic humanitarian situation, this "Easter agreement"<sup>7</sup> provides for limiting the reception of certain categories of asylum seekers, but also for limiting the processing of subsequent applications for international protection and tightening the conditions for family reunification.

### **Amnesty International report**

On 3 April, Amnesty International published a report entitled "Unhoused and Unheard" on Belgium's persistent refusal to respect the right to reception of asylum seekers. In it, the organization documents the disastrous effects of the authorities' failures on the lives, dignity, and human rights of asylum seekers, as well as the discriminatory consequences on single male asylum seekers and violations of the rule of law.

### Dutch court blocks Dublin transfer to Belgium due to inadequate reception conditions

The Court of First Instance in The Hague ruled in a judgment on 11 April that single, non-vulnerable men seeking asylum run a real risk of being deprived of adequate reception conditions in Belgium, which could lead to inhuman or degrading treatment.

decision follows previous judgments by Dutch judges who found that Dublin transfers to Belgium could not be carried out due to insufficient guarantees regarding the provision of appropriate accommodation.5

This case law was then confirmed by the Dutch Council of State on 23 July<sup>6</sup>: the Council of State considers that there are systemic shortcomings in the Belgian asylum and reception system, due to the non-reception of single men who apply for asylum and which exposes them to a real risk of inhuman treatment. As a result, single male asylum seekers can no longer be transferred to Belgium from the Netherlands under the Dublin Regulation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In this report, we use the terms "international protection" and "asylum" in an equivalent manner. <sup>2</sup>This appeal was lodged by the CIRÉ, VwV, the ADDE, the LDH and the Samu social.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://www.belgium.be/fr/publications/accord\_de\_gouvernement\_du\_gouvernement\_federal\_bart\_de\_wever https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur14/9161/2025/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://emnbelgium.be/fr/nouvelles/un-tribunal-neerlandais-bloque-le-transfert-dublin-vers-la-belgique-en-raison-de <sup>6</sup>https://www.raadvanstate.nl/actueel/nieuws/juli/belgie-dublin-mannelijke-asielzoekers/ and https://emnbelgium.be/fr/ <u>nouvelles/le-conseil-detat-neerlandais-juge-que-les-hommes-celibataires-demandeurs-dasile-ne</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>https://news.belgium.be/fr/asile-et-migration-paquet-de-mesures-de-crise

### JUNE : Reception Bill tabled in the Federal Parliament

Following the Easter Agreement, a bill<sup>8</sup> providing for the limitation of the reception of "M status" applicants and certain accompanied minors is tabled in Parliament. Also, the text removes the possibility of obtaining social assistance from a CPAS for asylum seekers. This bill was passed on 10 July and came into force on 2 August.

As of 15 July, 1,836 asylum seekers were waiting for a reception place.

### Communication to the Council of Europe for a solution to the "reception crisis"

On 10 July, the Federal Institute for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (IFDH) and Myria (the Federal Migration Centre) published a report<sup>9</sup> stating that the new federal government lacks the will to solve the "reception crisis".

This analysis comes as part of the follow-up to the Camara judgment in which Belgium was condemned in July 2023 by the European Court of Human Rights, and which recognized the existence of a systemic problem and a clear refusal to execute court decisions on the reception of asylum

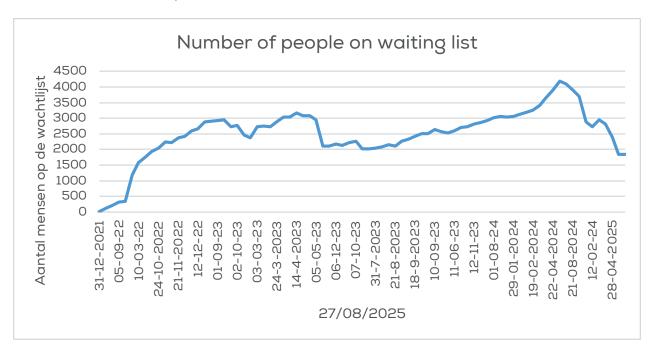
This report is communicated to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe responsible for monitoring convictions. Myria and the IFDH insist, once again, on the solutions that must be implemented - including the increase in reception places in the Fedasil network - and call on the federal government to abandon the announced reforms that jeopardize the reception of applicants for international protection

# EARLY JULY: A decrease in the number of people on the waiting list but a situation that is still problematic and is likely to get

worse

## Context

Despite a slight decrease in the number of people on the waiting list, the situation on the ground remains unchanged. The policy of non-reception is systematic: a single man who applies for asylum does not have access to the reception network on the day he submits his asylum application and must register on a waiting list<sup>10</sup>. Only after a waiting period of several weeks or months is an invitation to join a reception place sent by Fedasil. Fedasil continues to be condemned for its policy of non-reception by the labour courts and for not paying the penalty payments. The total number of convictions exceeds 10,000 cases.



Since the beginning of 2025, the total number of Fedasil shelter places has continued to decrease, from 36,205 places on 1 January 2025 to 35,322 places on 15 July 2025. In addition, asylum authorities continue to face a significant backlog in processing cases, which keeps the average length of an asylum procedure at a high level. This, combined with the Arizona government's budget savings plans and legislative changes, does not offer any prospects for improvement.



<sup>10</sup>https://www.fedasil.be/en/node/10676

# Arizona Government: A Policy of Exclusion and Deterrence to Accommodate Less

Following the June 2024 elections, the parties leading the formation of the so-called "Arizona" government reached an agreement on January 31, 2025. The new Minister for Asylum and Migration, Anneleen Van Bossuyt, announced as soon as she took office "the strictest migration policy ever applied in this country". 11

In terms of the reception of asylum seekers, the measures aim above all to dissuade migrants from coming to Belgium to seek asylum and to reduce arrivals. The government's objective is thus to be able, in a second phase, to significantly eliminate the reception places, which are already cruelly insufficient. In this process, the abolition of Local Reception Initiatives (ILAs) at the level of municipalities and emergency hotel places (for families) is announced. Rather than solving the situation of non-reception that has lasted for more than three years, the measures announced will worsen it and more people risk finding themselves on the street in total destitution.<sup>12</sup>

The budget forecasts of the asylum authorities, and particularly of Fedasil, which would see a significant reduction in its budget in the coming years (-83% by 2029), make us fear the worst in terms of cuts in the number of reception places and qualified staff.<sup>13</sup>

With the "Easter Agreement" of 11 April, the government quickly agreed on a number of "crisis measures", particularly in the areas of asylum and migration, which led to the proposal of several bills to the Federal Parliament (including one on reception). Far from resolving the humanitarian situation that has persisted for more than three years, the measures announced will, on the contrary, amplify it by further jeopardizing the right to reception of asylum seekers.

The text in question<sup>14</sup> thus provides for the amendment of the "reception" law of 12 January 2007 by limiting in future the reception of asylum seekers who benefit from a protection status in an EU Member State ("M status") and minors who submit an asylum application on their own behalf after a definitive refusal of the application for international protection of their parent(s). Also, the bridges between material aid and financial aid are abolished in the law. It will therefore no longer be possible for some asylum seekers (with a deletion of code 207 or a non-designation) to receive (financial) social assistance from the CPAS, without any other solution or alternative. However, there is a safety net allowing some asylum seekers not welcomed in reception centres to receive financial assistance allowing them to live in dignity during their asylum procedure.

Faced with the impact on the fundamental rights of the persons concerned, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has made observations to parliamentarians on this bill<sup>15</sup>. The UNHCR thus calls for: "guaranteeing all asylum seekers – regardless of the procedural framework in which their application is examined – immediate access, without discrimination, to quality reception throughout the duration of the procedure [...]". It also

 $<sup>{\</sup>it "https://www.lesoir.be/657123/article/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-lasile-et-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-la-migration-la-belgique-nest-particle/2025-02-21/anneleen-van-bossuyt-n-va-ministre-de-la-minis$ 

<sup>12</sup> https://www.cire.be/publication/decryptage-gouvernement-arizona-1-4-accueil-protection/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>https://www.knack.be/nieuws/belgie/politiek/rekenhof-kritiek-besparing-strengste-migratiebeleid-van-bossuyt/ ou https://www.ccrek.be/sites/default/files/Docs/2025\_13\_Budget2025.pdf, p. 63

<sup>14</sup> https://www.dekamer.be/kvvcr/showpage.cfm?section=flwb&language=fr&cfm=flwbn.cfm?lang=N&dossierID=914&legislat=56

<sup>15</sup>https://www.refworld.org/legal/natlegcomments/unhcr/2025/fr/150259?prevDestination=search&prevPath=/ search?keywords=belgium&order=desc&sm\_country\_name%5B%5D=Belgium&sort=score&result=result=150259-en

calls for: "ensuring that, as long as the worrying situation of reception persists in Belgium, no measures lead to the abolition of alternative solutions allowing applicants for international protection deprived of effective care to benefit from assistance, including financial assistance".

The Council of State, consulted on the draft text, had also issued an opinion, and issued criticisms. According to the Council of State, the envisaged reform could, among other things, lead to emptying of its substance the fact of being able to obtain any kind of assistance (in the material or financial form) for asylum seekers. He recalled that reception was intended to guarantee the right to lead a life in accordance with human dignity as referred to in article 23 of the Constitution and that this article contained an obligation to standstill. According to the Council of State, the measures would constitute a significant step backwards in the protection of this right.

Despite these significant criticisms, the text was finally adopted by the Federal Parliament on 10 July, then published in the Belgian Official Gazette on 23 July to enter into force on 4 August<sup>16</sup>.

At the same time, the arrivals of asylum seekers in Belgium are not decreasing. The government hopes to make Belgium less "attractive" with these exclusions from the right to reception and by drastically tightening the conditions of access to family reunification<sup>17</sup>. It is therefore deterrence that takes precedence over respect for the fundamental rights of migrants.

In September 2025, 1,945 people were on the waiting list for a reception, they were informed as soon as they applied for international protection that no place was available in the Fedasil network. This policy of non-reception, in contradiction with government declarations, continues, violating the right to reception and forcing people to sleep on the street.

Behind these figures are lives whose fundamental rights are being violated. The authors of this report denounce the normalization of this situation and reaffirm that a solution is possible, provided there is real political courage. This report documents the effects of non-reception on the living conditions of asylum seekers, their access to rights, as well as on the work of the associations that support them, and recalls the essential recommendations to end this humanitarian crisis.



16https://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi/article.pl?language=fr&sum\_date=2025-07-23&lg\_txt=f&caller=sum&s\_editie=2&2025005511=5&numac\_search=2025005511&view\_numac=

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>https://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi/article.pl?language=fr&sum\_date=2025-08-08&lg\_txt=f&caller=sum&s\_editie=182025005990=1&numac\_search=2025005990&view\_numac=et

# The impact of the policy of non-reception...

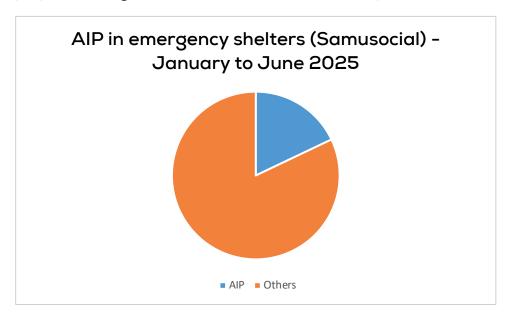
In the absence of state support, applicants for international protection (AIP) are forced to turn to civil society and humanitarian organizations for basic accommodation, care and protection. Despite its legal obligation to provide these services, the government refuses to organize them, a refusal that continues, and is even strengthened, with the new government.

This dashboard maps the impact of the policy of non-reception by providing concrete figures on the needs and services requested by people. The figures cover the period from January to June 2025.

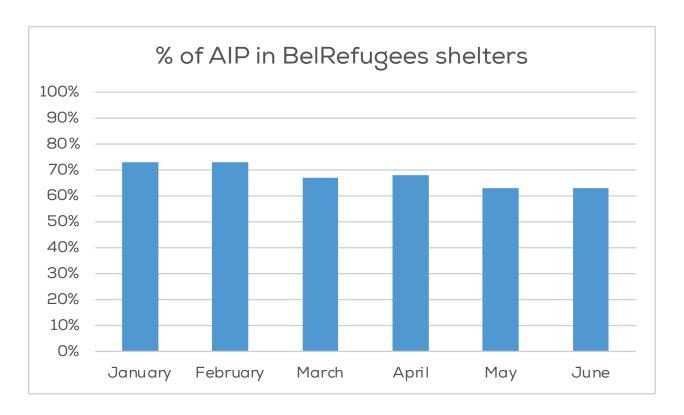
### ... ON ACCESS TO SHELTER AND BASIC NEEDS

In terms of accommodation, people excluded from the Fedasil network turn to emergency structures such as Samusocial and BelRefugees. In 2025, these centers have received an increasing number of applicants for international protection, with waiting times exceeding the duration of accommodation offered.

This is the case of Samusocial, which, in the first half of 2025, welcomed 1166 applicants for international protection in an emergency center, i.e. nearly 18% of the people accommodated. Among these AIP, the number of single women has doubled, although men remain in the vast majority (80%). This change in the profile of asylum seekers housed in social emergency centers underlines the growing precariousness of new categories of people and the competition between people that this generates for an insufficient number of places.

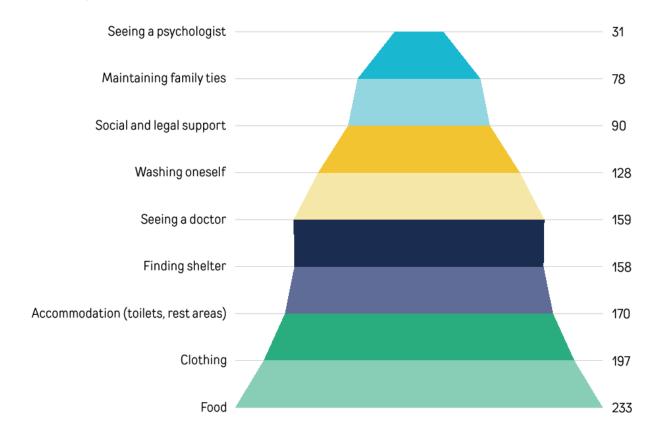


BelRefugees welcomed an average of 68% of applicants for international protection in the first half of 2025, across all its shelters and occupations. The waiting time to access a place in the emergency shelters varied between four and six weeks to receive 28 days of accommodation. The waiting time is therefore longer than the hosting time. Maintaining this rotation is essential to give access to moments of respite and basic humanitarian needs – hygiene, sufficient meals, a bed, and a roof over their heads – to as many people as possible – but it implies that a significant number of people (including AIP) do not have access to emergency shelter during this wait, due to a lack of available places.





The need for accommodation is observed every day in the field: at the Humanitarian Hub's day center, where the proportion of applicants for international protection has remained stable since 2023 and systematically exceeds 60% of users, accommodation is the first request made in each service by the AIP. If we consider that only 9% of them are accommodated in a Fedasil center, the right to accommodation was denied to 91% of the AIP hosted at the Hub. Indeed, only 21 people out of 233, among the AIP listed, 18 are accommodated in a federal center, as provided for by the Belgian reception law. The rest of the public in demand finds itself on the street (39.9%), in emergency accommodation with different lengths of stay (38.2%) or in squats (1%). Not having access to a place of accommodation also means that it is impossible to meet other basic needs, such as food and hygiene, which are essential for the survival and dignity of the person. At the Humanitarian Hub, the first reason for this public to come is precisely to satisfy these 3 basic necessities (food, hygiene and shelter), 19 which should be taken care of by the State as provided for in the reception law of 12/01/2007.



Graphic: Needs expressed by Humanitarian Hub users Source: Humanitarian Hub (2024). *Periodic survey at the day center.* July-August 2024

Doctors Without Borders (MSF) also visited a squat and the street with a mobile clinic. In the squat, 18% of the occupants were applicants for international protection and 23% of the people seen on the street were applicants for international protection.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>These data come from the fourth edition of the periodic survey of day centre users at the Humanitarian Hub, which took place from 7 to 11 April 2025. The purpose of the survey is to identify certain opinions, profiles and living conditions of the Hub's public. It was conducted in the day centre which, as a gateway to all the services organised at the Humanitarian Hub, allows us to capture the responses of the users of all the services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>idem (reference to the census)

### ... ON THE MEDICAL/ACCESS TO CARE,

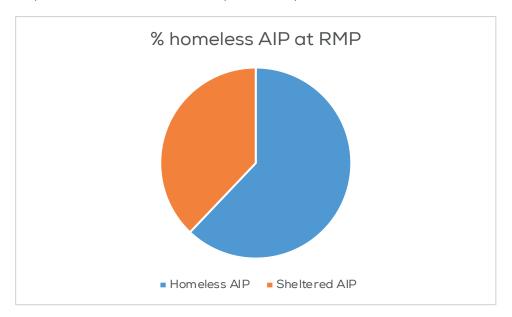
In MSF activities, the most frequently discussed topic is access to health care. This reflects the significant lack of information and support for people who, without accompaniment, do not know how to navigate the health system, including how to request a requisition from Fedasil to access medical care.

The lack of access to medical care for applicants for international protection remains a major and worrying issue. Waiting times to obtain a medical requisition from Fedasil are getting longer, forcing many people to turn to alternative structures such as the Health Service of the Humanitarian Hub, the Refugee Medical Point (RMP) or Doctors Without Borders (MSF). These services, although essential, are now saturated and must regularly refuse or postpone consultations.

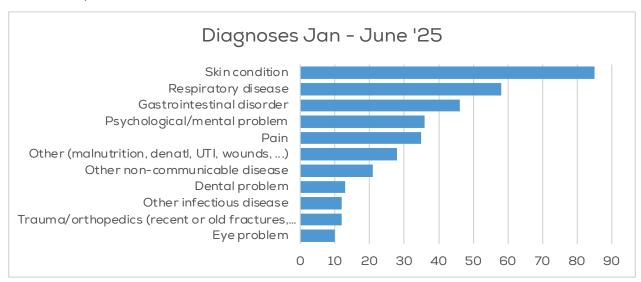


The findings of the three organizations converge: AIP face structural barriers that compromise their access to care. At the Humanitarian Hub, half of the patients seen in 2024 were in application for international protection. Despite efforts to redirect patients to other structures such as the RMP, the Hub's absorption capacity remains limited: only 80% of patients requesting a ticket can be treated during the day. The 88% of homeless AIP seen at the Hub have pathologies directly related to their precarious living conditions: dental, dermatological and respiratory conditions.

At the Refugee Medical Point, the situation is equally alarming. Of the 3533 patients welcomed, 93.8% were AIP, 62% of whom were homeless. The RMP team is faced with a saturation of the regular care network, making reorientation particularly difficult. The places available in Medical Centers are insufficient, and the increasing complexity of administrative procedures (multiplicity of requests, M status, etc.) hinders patient empowerment.



Doctors Without Borders, for its part, focused its local medical activities between January and June 2025 around a squat, a temporary occupation operationalized by BelRefugees, and a street patrol initiative in Brussels. In all three contexts, skin conditions – including scabies and fungal infections – as well as upper respiratory tract infections were frequently diagnosed. Pain, especially back and headache, is also very present, especially in temporary accommodation. These pathologies are directly linked to living conditions: unsanitary conditions, limited access to hygiene and sanitary facilities..



These shared findings highlight an alarming reality: AIP, often homeless and in very precarious situations, face multiple barriers in accessing care. There is an urgent need to strengthen the capacities of existing structures, streamline administrative procedures and ensure equitable access to care for all.

### ... ON MENTAL HEALTH,

The mental health of people seeking international protection is put to the test as soon as they arrive in Belgium. These people, often marked by a difficult and violent migratory journey, find themselves confronted with extreme precariousness, including a lack of housing and psychosocial support. This situation has serious and lasting consequences for their mental well-being.

In the mental health department of the Humanitarian Hub, two-thirds of patients consult for psychological disorders. However, the capacity of the service is largely insufficient to meet the growing demand. The saturation of second-line structures prevents any effective reorientation towards specialized care, leaving many people without appropriate support.

The Refugee Medical Point (RMP) confirms this alarming trend. In May and June alone, 209 treatments were carried out, several of which required referral to psychiatric emergencies, particularly in the event of suicidal crises or self-aggressive behaviour. The RMP team has observed an increase in these critical situations, often linked to a generalized feeling among patients that they are "on the edge". This climate of psychological urgency makes procrastination dangerous and underlines the glaring lack of resources in psychiatry.

The consequences of untreated post-traumatic stress are also visible in risky behaviours, including the use of psychotropic substances. This can exacerbate crises of aggression or cause withdrawal, making the support even more complex.

Faced with these findings, Doctors Without Borders has set up a collective psychosocial support model in the squats and in a center for unaccompanied minors. Between January and June 2025, 33 group sessions were organized, bringing together 257 participants. This format not only expands access to psychological support, but also identifies the most vulnerable people, who could benefit from more intensive individual follow-up.

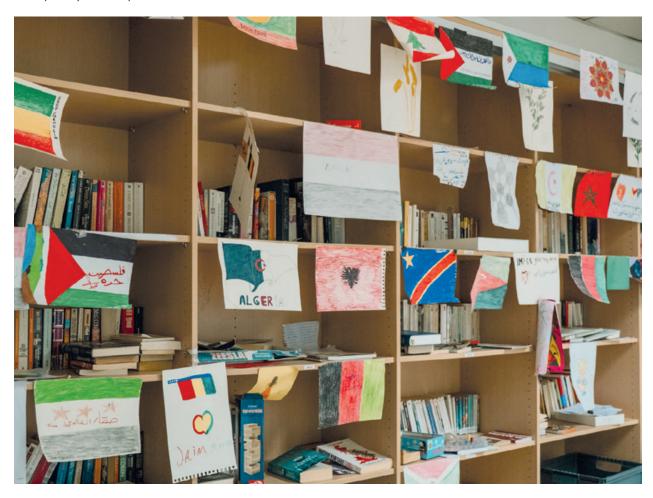
There are multiple disorders observed in patients: psychological distress (post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety) and social disturbances (loss of trust, isolation, breakdown of community ties). The group interventions offered by MSF promote both emotional relief and the rebuilding of social cohesion, a key lever for building resilience and promoting recovery.



#### ... AND ON SOCIO-LEGAL SUPPORT

From a legal and social point of view, the lack of reception compromises access to quality assistance. AIP must navigate a complex procedure on their own, often without a lawyer or information about their rights. Services such as the Legal Helpdesk of Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen or the SISA (BelRefugees) at the Humanitarian Hub try to fill these gaps, but their resources are limited.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the Legal Helpdesk of Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen welcomes applicants for international protection who do not have a place to stay, in search of legal assistance. Since April 2022, this service has already received 11,378 visitors. These people are often misinformed about their rights and obligations as applicants. After their application has been registered, they are generally summoned for a first interview at the Immigration Office in the following weeks. It is common for the beneficiaries of the Legal Helpdesk to be able to consult a lawyer only a few days before this interview, which compromises their preparation and undermines the quality of the procedure.



The socio-legal service at the Humanitarian Hub is frequented by a majority of applicants for international protection. Information on asylum and Dublin procedures, accommodation, and support in finding and monitoring with a lawyer are the first requests made to the SISA service. The complexity and many steps involved in international protection procedures make it extremely difficult for a person without the accompaniment of a legal aid or lawyer to follow-up. The language barrier and the difficulties of access to reliable and complete information further complicate access to the law for individuals.

Unhoused asylum seekers do not receive basic socio-legal information about their rights and obligations in Belgium, nor practical advice on how to access essential services.

# Unaccompanied minors

In Belgium, unaccompanied minors (UAMs) are systematically the responsibility of the state, whether or not they apply for international protection. Several reception options exist for these young people: they can be accommodated in Fedasil centres, provided they agree to be reported. There are also other alternative structures – run by BelRefugees and Samusocial, among others – where minors (boys) can stay for up to three months without being reported.

Many young people prefer these alternative structures due to the fact that the trauma they have experienced and the violence they have encountered during their migratory journey, has made them develop a deep mistrust of the authorities. This refusal to be reported leads to a saturation of the reception capacities of BelRefugees and Samusocial, although these structures respond effectively to their specific needs, they are unable to meet the demand and are regularly saturated.

At the beginning of 2025, the number of arrivals of unaccompanied minors in Belgium decreased. In 2024, the Guardianship Service recorded 4,068 initial reports. Between January and August 2025, 2,320 initial reports were recorded. However, occupancy rates in Fedasil's first and third phase reception facilities remained exceptionally high<sup>20</sup>. From March, arrivals began to increase again. Despite this increase, the government has decided to reallocate some of the places initially intended for unaccompanied minors to accommodate families and adults. Thus, about 40% of the capacity of the second-phase structures would have been converted into places for families.

While we understand the need for such decisions – no one wants to see people experiencing homelessness – it is critical to ensure adequate housing solutions for these young people. Initiatives to ensure sufficient buffer capacity for unaccompanied minors in the future remain unclear.

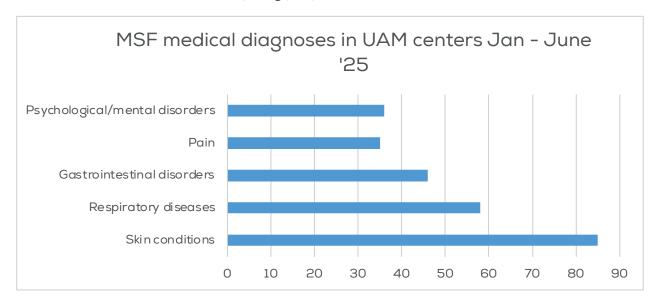


<sup>20</sup>The reception process for unaccompanied minors takes place in 3 phases: A first phase of observation in an Observation and Orientation Centre, a second phase in a collective centre or an adapted place and a third phase of support towards autonomy.

In addition, the reassignment of certain shelters is increasingly leading to the cohabitation of minors and adults in the same centers or neighbourhoods. This raises concerns about the necessary separation between the two groups and the safety of vulnerable youth. Ideally, unaccompanied minors should be housed in separate structures, with specialized supervision and adapted to their individual needs. The current reception corresponds neither to the life plan of the young people nor to their personal situation, which accentuates their precariousness and can put them in danger.

In addition, the reception centers for young people "in transit" are saturated. More and more young people are finding refuge in squats. They live with adults and are exposed to substance use and other risky behaviours. This situation is of great concern to field workers.

Medical consultations carried out in the two MENA centers outside the Fedasil network revealed three main diagnoses: skin conditions, respiratory diseases (including tuberculosis) and gastrointestinal disorders. These health problems are linked to a lack of access to hygiene, a stressful environment, and unsanitary and overcrowded living conditions. Blood tests also revealed a vitamin deficiency, due to a diet that was not very nutritious, as well as a body mass index of less than 17 in 13% of the young people.



## Conclusion

The policy of non-reception is entering a new phase of radicalization. Despite repeated convictions, alerts from national and international institutions, and calls from civil society, the federal government is pursuing a strategy of systematic exclusion of applicants for international protection. The Belgian reception system is not sufficiently prepared to deal with a fluctuating number of asylum applications. In the context of the European Pact on Asylum and Migration, this makes Belgium ineligible for solidarity.

The measures adopted in 2025, notably by the Arizona government, are not aimed at solving the humanitarian crisis but at institutionalizing it. The abolition of social assistance, the reduction in the number of reception places, and the exclusion of certain groups (M status, minors in subsequent proceedings) aggravate an already critical situation.

The consequences are dramatic: thousands of people on the street, a saturation of humanitarian services, an alarming deterioration in the physical and mental health of the people concerned, and a fragmentation of the asylum and integration pathway.

The continuation of this policy is unacceptable.

Solutions exist. The Council of State, the UNHCR, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, and the actors in the field have formulated them: sustainable increase in reception capacity, activation of the distribution plan, maintenance of bridges to social assistance, and respect for the right to a life in accordance with human dignity.

As long as the waiting list exists, as long as people sleep on the street, as long as the State refuses to execute court decisions, it is a deliberate policy of non-reception.

It is time to move away from the logic of deterrence and to implement a dignified, humane reception policy that is in line with Belgium's international commitments.



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