Ministry submits proposed amendments on detention and return for public consultation

The Ministry of the Interior submitted a proposal for amendments of the Aliens Act for public consultation until 16 October 2026. The amendments provide that detention may continue when a person applies for international protection for the first time at the return stage. This is the case when the person applied for international protection merely to delay or frustrate return. According to current legislation, continued detention is only possible for subsequent applications.

The amendments align provisions on requests for a review of a refusal of entry of third-country nationals at external borders with the Schengen Borders Code.

The proposed amendments are in line with the government's programme which aims to make the asylum system more efficient and to tighten asylum policy.

The proposal includes changes related to the return procedure, specifically on the assessment of the risk of absconding, in line with the EU Return Regulation. The aim is to better identify a risk of absconding and to prevent absconding. The Aliens Act will provide for grounds not included in the Return Regulation, within the scope of national discretion.

Source(s)

- Ministry of the Interior | Sisäministeriö (18 September, 2026), Säilöönottoon ja pääsyn epäämiseen liittyviä ulkomaalaislain muutoksia lausuntokierrokselle [Amendments to the Aliens Act related to detention and refusal of entry circulated for views], https://intermin.fi/-/sailoonottoon-ja-paasyn-epaamiseen-liittyvia-ulkomaalaislain-muutoksia-lausuntokierrokselle?languageId=en_US

Date of development
18.09.2026
Country
Finland
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Development type
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