Government extends restrictions to apply for asylum at the Polish-Belarusian border until 21 March 2026

The Polish Government has extended the restriction on the right to submit applications for international protection for persons crossing the Polish-Belarusian border, which has been in place since 27 March 2025. The extension was approved by a regulation of the Council of Ministers of 16 January 2026 (Journal of Laws, item 58), and remains in force for an additional 60 days.

The Asylum Act provides exceptions to the restriction. Unaccompanied minors; pregnant women; persons requiring special treatment due to age, health or other needs; individuals at real risk of serious harm in Belarus; and Belarusian nationals may still apply for international protection at the border.

Source(s)

- Office for Foreigners | Urząd do Spraw Cudzoziemców (20 January, 2026), Ograniczenie prawa do złożenia wniosku o ochronę międzynarodową [Restriction of the right to apply for international protection], https://www.gov.pl/web/udsc/ograniczenie-prawa-do-zlozenia-wniosku-o-ochrone-miedzynarodowa

Related development(s)
Limitation of the right to request asylum at Belarusian border and new grounds for revocation of status
Date of development
20.01.2026
Country
Poland
Thematic area(s)
Access to procedures and non-refoulement, Access to territory, Applicants with special needs, Unaccompanied minors, Victims of torture, inhuman/degrading treatment, Victims of trafficking, Victims of GBV, LGBTIQ, Persons with disabilities
Development type
Legislation

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