Federal Council adopts position on Council of States report on distribution of asylum seekers

The Federal Council adopted its position regarding the report by the Council of States Control Commission (CdG-E) on the distribution of asylum seekers among Swiss cantons.

The Federal Council agrees with the CdG-E's overall positive assessment of the distribution system managed by the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM). It accepted the recommendation to reexamine the current distribution criteria and to review the principle of annual allocation, noting that any ad hoc measures must be implemented in close collaboration with the cantons.

The Council sees no need for further action regarding the implementation of SEM guidelines by Federal Asylum Centers or the quality of data in the distribution process, as they correctly apply the directives and the data are of high quality. Additional transparency in the allocation algorithm or responses to long assignment or departure delays was also deemed unnecessary, given SEM's regular communication with the cantons.

Finally, the Council acknowledged the recommendation to prioritise renewal of IT tools, noting that ad hoc measures are already being planned. The CdG-E based its report on an evaluation by the Parliamentary Control of Administration (CPA), which found SEM's practices generally adequate but suggested some improvements.

Source(s)

- Federal Council | Der Bundesrat | Conseil fédéral | Consiglio federale (23 May, 2025), Répartition des requérants d'asile entre les cantons : le Conseil fédéral se prononce sur le rapport de la CdG-E [Distribution of asylum seekers among the cantons: Federal Council gives its opinion on the report of the CoG-E], https://www.news.admin.ch/fr/newnsb/cWjBfM3AWs-lGAfhJmK7p

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