Forms of protection - Slovakia

Overview

Content updated and validated on: 8/04/2025

Relevant EU legislation

Slovakia is bound by the recast Qualification Directive (Standards Qualification Regulation) and has transposed its provisions through the:

20 June 2002: Act No 480/2002 of 20 June 2002 on Asylum and on changes and amendments of some other acts | ZÁKON č. 480/2002 Z. z. z 20. júna 2002 o azyle a o zmene a doplnení niektorých zákonov.

21 October 2011: Act No 404/2011 on Residence of Foreigners | ZÁKON č. 404/2011 Z. z. z 21. októbra 2011, o pobyte cudzincov a o zmene a doplnení niektorých zákonov.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

National legislation

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

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Refugee status	**Asylum:** Refugee status on the basis of the Geneva Convention, Protocol of 1967 and the recast Qualification Directive of 2011 for third-country nationals who, due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or unwilling due to the fear to avail of the protection of that country. **Constitutional asylum:** on the basis of the Slovak Constitution and the Act on Asylum for applicants who are persecuted in their country of origin for the assertion of their political rights and freedoms.
Subsidiary protection	On the basis of the recast Qualification Directive of 2011 for applicants who do not qualify as refugees but there are substantial grounds to believe that the person would face a real risk of suffering serious harm if returned to the country of origin.
Temporary protection	On the basis of the Temporary Protection Directive of 2001, which was transposed into national legislation. By a resolution no. 93 of 26 February 2025, the Government extended the provision of temporary protection to displaced persons from Ukraine until 4 March 2026. The resolution allowed for the protection to be extended repeatedly if the Council of the European Union decides so by means of an implementing decision.
National forms of protection	Asylum for the purpose of family reunification. Subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification. Asylum on humanitarian grounds, which may be granted to the elderly, traumatised or seriously ill individuals whose return to their country of origin might lead to considerable physical or psychological suffering or death.

Competent authority and stakeholders

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Refugee status	The Ministry of Interior
Subsidiary protection	The Ministry of Interior
Temporary protection	The Ministry of Interior
National forms of protection	The Ministry of Interior

Renewal and withdrawal of international protection and national forms of protection

Refugee status

Legal provisions relating to review, renewal and withdrawal of refugee status: Procedure is regulated by the Act on Asylum. Asylum withdrawal procedure shall commence on the initiative of the Ministry of Interior.

Length of the first and subsequent residence permits: According to Art. 24 of the Act on Asylum, a person who is granted asylum is considered to be a foreigner who was granted permanent residence. Asylum shall be granted for an indefinite period of time.

Review of the status: Information is currently not available.

Withdrawal of the status: The withdrawal procedure starts on the initiative of the Ministry of Interior.

Grounds for withdrawal of the status: The Ministry of Interior can withdraw refugee status if (Section 15 Act on Asylum):

- the person granted asylum has voluntarily availed of the protection granted to him/her by the country of citizenship;
- the person granted asylum voluntarily re-acquired his/her original citizenship after its previous loss;
- the person granted asylum acquired citizenship and accepted the protection of the new country of citizenship;
- the person granted asylum rejects without any grounds to avail of the protection granted by the country of his/her citizenship despite the fact that

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circumstances for which he/she was granted asylum ceased to exist; this does not apply if the person granted asylum proves serious reasons based on previous persecution on grounds of which he/she refuses the protection of the country of citizenship;
- the person granted asylum is capable of returning to the country of residence because the circumstances under which asylum was granted ceased to exist; this does not apply if the person granted asylum proves serious reasons based on previous persecution on grounds of which he/she refuses to return to the country of residence;
- the person granted asylum is again voluntarily staying in the country he/she had left for A fear of persecution;
- there is well-founded suspicion that the person granted asylum committed or participated in the commission of crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity, or serious, non-political crimes outside of Slovakia prior to applying for asylum or subsidiary protection or has been found guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations;
- the person granted asylum can avail of the protection or assistance provided by bodies or agencies of the United Nations, such as the UNHCR;
- the applicant is recognised by the competent authorities of the country in which he/she has taken up residence as having the rights and obligations which are attached to the possession of the nationality of that country; or rights and obligations equivalent to those; or
- asylum was granted on the basis of false data or forged documents or on the grounds that the person concealed facts significant for a reliable establishment of the facts of the case.

Cessation of the asylum procedure: The Ministry of Interior can cease the asylum procedure if (Section 19 Act on Asylum):

- the applicant fails to appear at the reception centre without serious reasons within 3 days from the lodging of the application, terminating the placement in the transit centre or being released from the facility for foreigners under a special regulation, the healthcare facility, prison or from the custody facility;
- legal representative failed to provide an authorised employee of the Ministry of the Interior with all truly and in full requested information necessary for a decision on the application for granting asylum to be made within 180 days from the day of birth of the child and this information should be recorded in the questionnaire;

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- a party to the procedure withdrew the application for granting asylum;
- the grounds on which the Ministry of Interior had commenced the procedure ceased to exist or if it is determined that there were no grounds for commencing the procedure;
- a party to the procedure died;
- the applicant stayed outside the asylum facility without a permit for more than 7 days or stayed outside the facility for social and legal protection of children and social curatorship for more than 7 days without the consent of this facility;
- the applicant left the territory of the Slovak Republic;
- the person who applied for asylum does not constitute a party to the procedure;
- the applicant fails to meet the obligation to cooperate with the Ministry of Interior pursuant to the Act on Asylum, in particular if he/she repeatedly and without serious reasons fails to appear for the interview and, by which he/she makes the assessment of the application impossible; or
- the deadline for suspending the proceedings has passed in vain due to the fact that another state is responsible for assessing the asylum application.

Consequences of the withdrawal of the status: Once the procedure concerning withdrawal of asylum has begun, protection will last until a decision on termination is issued. If the Ministry of Interior decides to withdraw asylum, it shall also decide whether to grant the foreigner subsidiary protection.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Subsidiary protection status

Legal provisions relating to review, renewal and withdrawal of subsidiary protection: According to Art. 27 of the Act on Asylum, a foreigner granted subsidiary protection is considered to be a foreigner who has been granted temporary residence; this does not apply if he/she has been granted permanent residence in Slovakia.

Length of the first and subsequent residence permits: Subsidiary protection is granted for 1 year, after which subsidiary protection is renewed by 2 years upon request (if the conditions are met and there are no grounds for its denial or revocation).

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Review of the status: If the reasons for subsidiary protection subsist and there are no grounds for its denial or its revocation, a foreigner can file an application for its renewal.

Renewal of the status: A foreigner is obliged to file an application at the earliest 90 days before the elapse of the time limit for which protection was granted and on the last day of this period at the latest. Subsidiary protection lasts until the decision on the application is made. The application must be filed on an official form and personally at a police department according to the foreigner's place of residence. The police department sends the completed application to the Ministry of Interior immediately.

Withdrawal of the status: The revocation process for subsidiary protection starts on the initiative of the Ministry of Interior.

Grounds for the withdrawal of the status: The Ministry of Interior can revoke subsidiary protection if (Section 15b Act on Asylum):

- the circumstances on the grounds of which subsidiary protection was granted ceased to exist or changed to such extent that its further provision is not necessary. This does not apply if the beneficiary proves serious reasons based on previous serious harm for which he/she refuses the protection of his/her country of origin;
- there is a well-founded suspicion that the beneficiary of subsidiary protection committed or participated in the commission of crimes against peace, war crimes, crimes against humanity, a particularly serious crime or has been found guilty of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations;
- constitutes a danger to the security of Slovakia or danger to the community;
- prior to entering Slovakia, the applicant has commited an act other than listed above, which pursuant to a separate regulation, constitutes a crime punishable by a minimum of 5 years' imprisonment and if the applicant has left the country of origin only to avoid criminal prosecution; or
- the foreigner was granted subsidiary protection based on false data or forged documents or on the grounds that the foreigner granted subsidiary protection concealed fact significant for a reliable establishment of the facts of the case.

Cessation of asylum procedure

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The Ministry of the Interior can cease the asylum procedure if (Section 19 Act on Asylum):

- the applicant fails to appear at the reception centre without serious reasons within 3 days from the lodging of the application, terminating the placement in the transit centre or being released from the facility for foreigners under a special regulation, the healthcare facility, prison or from the custody facility;
- the legal representative failed to provide an authorised employee of the Ministry of the Interior with all truly and in full requested information necessary for a decision on the application for subsidiary protection, to be made within 180 days from the day of birth of the child and this information shall be recorded in the questionnaire;
- a party to the procedure withdrew the application for granting subsidiary protection;
- the grounds on which the Ministry of the Interior had commenced the procedure ceased to exist or if it is determined that there were no grounds for commencing the procedure;
- a party to the procedure died;
- the applicant stayed outside the asylum facility without a permit for more than 7 days or stayed outside the facility for social and legal protection of children and social curatorship for more than 7 days without the consent of this facility;
- the applicant left the territory of the Slovak Republic ;
- the person who applied for subsidiary protection does not constitute a party to the procedure;
- the applicant fails to meet the obligation to cooperate with the Ministry of the Interior pursuant to the Act on Asylum, in particular if he/she repeatedly and without serious reasons fails to appear for the interview and, by which he/she makes the assessment of the application impossible;
- the deadline for suspending the proceedings has passed in vain due to the fact that another state is responsible to assess the asylum application; or
- in the course of the procedure on the renewal of subsidiary protection, the subsidiary protection has ceased.

Consequences of the withdrawal of the status: Once the procedure for the revocation of subsidiary protection has commenced, the subsidiary protection granted lasts until the decision on its revocation is made.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

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National forms of protection

Legal provisions relating to the review, renewal and withdrawal of national forms of protection: Asylum on humanitarian grounds and asylum for the purpose of family reunification are granted for an indefinite period of time. Asylum for the purpose of family reunification is granted for 3 years, after which the status is granted for indefinite period of time upon request (if the conditions are met). Subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification is granted for 1 year, after which subsidiary protection is renewed by 2 years upon request (if the conditions are met).

Length of the first and subsequent residence permits: A person granted asylum on humanitarian grounds or for family reunification is considered to have been granted permanent residence. A foreigner granted subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification is considered to have been granted temporary residence.

Asylum for the purpose of family reunification is granted for 3 years, after which the status is granted for indefinite period of time upon request (if the conditions are met).

Review of the status: Information is currently not available.

Renewal of the status:

Regarding asylum for the purpose of family reunification (a status that is initially granted for 3 years), a foreigner is obliged to file an application at the earliest 90 days before the elapse of the time limit for which the status was granted and on the last day of this period at the latest. Asylum for the purpose of family reunification lasts until the decision on the application is made.

Subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification is granted for 1 year, after which such subsidiary protection is renewed by 2 years upon request. The conditions under which the application for renewal of subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification can be filed are the same as for subsidiary protection status (see Subsidiary protection).

Withdrawal of the status: The asylum withdrawal procedure shall commence on the initiative of the Ministry of the Interior.

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Grounds for the withdrawal of the status: Asylum granted on humanitarian grounds or for family reunification can be withdrawn on the same grounds as refugee status (see Refugee status), for example:

- the beneficiary of protection can be reasonably considered to constitute a danger to the security of Slovakia;
- the beneficiary of protection has been convicted of a particularly serious crime and constitutes a danger to the community; or
- the beneficiary of protection has been granted residence without a time limit by another state.

The Ministry of the Interior can also withdraw protection which has been granted on humanitarian grounds when the reasons for which it was granted have ceased to exist and the third-country national can return to the country of origin.

Subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification shall be revoked on the same grounds as subsidiary protection (Section 13a Act on Asylum) (see Subsidiary protection section above).

The Ministry of the Interior can also revoke subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification if the beneficiary has been granted residence without a time limit by another state.

Consequences of the withdrawal of the status: Once the procedure for withdrawing protection on humanitarian grounds or for family reunification has begun, the protection lasts until a decision on the termination comes into effect.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Content of protection

Overview

20 June 2002: Act No 480/2002 of 20 June 2002 on Asylum and on changes and amendments of some other acts | ZÁKON z 20. júna 2002 o azyle a o zmene a doplnení niektorých zákonov

21 October 2011: Act No 404/2011 on Residence of Foreigners | ZÁKON z 21. októbra 2011, o pobyte cudzincov a o zmene a doplnení niektorých zákonov

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Provision of information on the content of protection

Beneficiaries of international protection receive detailed information about their rights and obligations associated with their protection status on the day their decision to grant international protection becomes legally effective.

The information provided is regarding legal rights such as access to social services, healthcare, education, and the obligation to comply with local laws. It is delivered by an employee of the Migration Office both orally and in written form through a document referred to as the "Material for PGIP" (Instruction of the Asylum Seeker on the Rights and Obligations), provided in a language the beneficiary understands. Beneficiaries are required to sign a statement confirming they have understood the information.

A staff member of the Migration Office also informs beneficiaries about integration projects on the same day the decision becomes legally effective. The integration-related information covers services such as social counselling, social assistance, employment counselling, legal counselling, psychological support, language courses, and cultural orientation. These details are provided in the Material for PGIP. Further guidance and personalised assistance are offered through meetings with an "integration office", which is run by a non-governmental organization contracted by the Ministry of Interior. Basic information on employment and the labour market is provided in the Material for PGIP. Additional and more detailed guidance is given during a meeting with the integration office. Beneficiaries can schedule this meeting at their discretion, either in person or online. The information typically includes creating a CV, job counselling, assistance with finding a suitable job, preparing for job interviews, and other tailored advice based on the beneficiary's circumstances. Counselling is provided orally by NGO staff during the meeting.

Basic information about education is included in the Material for PGIP and expanded upon in a meeting with the integration office. The guidance generally addresses how to enrol in school, the Slovak school system, and other education-related issues specific to the beneficiary's circumstances. Initial basic information is provided by Migration Office staff, while detailed counselling is provided orally by NGO staff during personal meetings.

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Healthcare-related information is also introduced in the Material for PGIP and further clarified during the integration office meeting. This information includes an overview of Slovakia's healthcare system, health insurance details, and other healthcare-related topics relevant to the beneficiary. Basic information is provided by the Migration Office, while NGOs offer additional counselling orally in personalised meetings.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Residence permits

Refugees:

Authority responsible for delivering the residence permit: Ministry of the Interior

Length of first and subsequent residence permits: Asylum on the basis of the 1951 Refugee Convention is granted for an indefinite period of time. Persons granted asylum are equated to third-country nationals with permanent residency (Section 8 Act on Asylum).

Procedure for delivering the residence permit:

The relevant department of the Foreign Police, based on a person´s place of residence, will issue a residence permit valid for 10 years upon a request. Beneficiaries are instructed to protect a residence permit from loss, theft, damage, or misuse, and if any of these occur, a person must report it to the police department (based on place of residence) within five days of the date a person became aware of it.

A person is required to report any change in first name, last name, marital status, nationality, travel document details, or place of residence to the police department within 5 business days of the date the change occurred, as well as any replacement of a travel document.

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection:

Authority responsible for delivering the residence permit: Ministry of the Interior

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Length of first and subsequent residence permits: First residence permit is valid for 1 year.

Upon its expiry, and upon application , a new residence permit is valid for 2 years.Subsidiary protection is granted for 1 year, and can be renewed for 2 years, provided that the conditions stipulated in the Act on Asylum are met and there are no grounds for its denial or revocation. Beneficiaries need to file an application at least 90 days before the expiration of subsidiary protection. Applications for renewal are filed in person at the police department according to the beneficiary’s place of residence.

Beneficiares of subsidiary protection are equated to third-country nationals with temporary residence. After 5 years of uninterrupted stay, they can apply for long-term residence (as a form of permanent residence).

Procedure for delivering the residence permit:

On the basis of a person´s application, a relevant foreign police department will issue a residence permit. This residence permit is valid for 1 year. Upon its expiry, a person must apply for a new residence permit, which is valid for 2 years.

Beneficiaries are instructed to protect the residence permit from loss, theft, damage or abuse and, if this occurs, he/ she must notify the police department at your place of residence within 5 days from the day a person became aware of it.

If subsidiary protection is ceased for reasons stated in the Asylum Act, a person must return the residence permit to relevant police department.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Travel documents

Refugees:

Authority responsible for delivering the travel document: Ministry of the Interior

Validity period of the travel document: In line with the 1951 Refugee Convention, the travel document is valid for 2 years.

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Procedure for delivering the travel document:

If a person does not possess a travel document, he/ she may apply for a foreigner's travel document valid for two years at the relevant Foreign Police department in a place of residence. This is a travel document issued under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. Only within the Schengen Area do the same conditions apply as to citizens of the Slovak Republic.

A person is instructed that according to Article 6 of the Schengen Borders Code, the duration of a stay in another country may not exceed 90 days within a 180-day period. A person may exceed the 90-day limit only if he/ she obtains the appropriate permit in that country. If a person exceeds the permitted length of stay or fail to meet the conditions of stay, he/ she risks administrative expulsion from that country.

At the same time, a person is required to notify the police department in the Slovak Republic in writing that he/ she will be staying outside the territory of the Slovak Republic for more than 180 consecutive days.

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection:

Authority responsible for delivering the travel document: Ministry of the Interior.

Validity period of the travel document: A passport for foreigners may be issued for 1 year to beneficiaries of subsidiary protection (Article 74 Act on Residence of Foreigners).

Procedure for delivering the travel document: If a person does not possess a travel document, he/ she can apply for a foreigner´s passport valid for 1 year at relevant Foreign Police department according to place of residence. Upon requesting again, the foreigner´s passport is issued for 2 years.

If subsidiary protection is ceased or revoked for reasons stated in the Asylum Act, a person is required to return the foreigner´s passport to relevant police department.

A person is instructed that according to the Article 6 of the Schengen Borders Code, the duration of a stay in another country may not exceed 90 days within 180 days. A person may exceed the 90-day limit only if he/ she obtains the appropriate permit in that country. If a person exceeds the permitted length of stay or fail to meet the conditions of stay, he/ she risks administrative expulsion

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from that country.

At the same time, a person is required to notify the police department in the Slovak Republic in writing that he/ she will stay continuously for more than 90 days outside the territory of the Slovak Republic.

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Freedom of movement

No limitation in place for beneficiaries of international protection in place.

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Access to employment and employment-related education

Refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection have free access to the labour market with the exception of employment in positions where Slovak citizenship is required.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Access to education

Refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are provided with training and education, accommodation and meals in schools, under the same conditions as citizens of Slovakia.

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Access to procedures for recognition of qualifications and validation of skills

Center on Recognition of Diplomas may recognise a person´s diploma or other evidence of formal education, training, or the professional qualification he/ she may have acquired in the past. More information available at

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https://www.minedu.sk/recognition-of-foreign-diplomas/.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Social security and social assistance

Refugees:

The Ministry of Interior provides refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection with social and psychological counselling and a cultural orientation course based on their individual needs within 12 months from when their status was granted.

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection:

The Ministry of Interior provides refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection with social and psychological counselling and a cultural orientation course based on their individual needs within 12 months from when their status was granted.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Healthcare

Refugees: The Ministry of Interior will provide beneficiaries of asylum with social and psychological counselling and a cultural orientation course based on their individual needs within12 months from when asylum was granted.

A person granted asylum is included in the public health insurance system. The state covers public health insurance premiums for a period of 6 months of the grant of asylum. The coverage under the public health insurance system will start on the date the decision on granting asylum becomes final and effective.

A person is required to register at the branch of a public health insurance company (*Všeobecná zdravotná poisťovňa/Zdravotná poisťovňa Dôvera/ Zdravotná poisťovňa* Union) within eight days of the start of the public health insurance coverage, i.e. eight days after the decision on granting asylum becomes final and effective.

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Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection: An amendment to the Act on Health Insurance entered into force on 1 January 2021, which allows beneficiaries of subsidiary protection to have healthcare costs reimbursed when they do not have public health insurance in Slovakia or any other EU Member State (Article 9h Health Insurance Act). The amendment transferred the obligation to pay for the healthcare of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection from the Ministry of Interior to the health insurance company.

Healthcare is covered by the State through the health insurance company with the largest number of policy holders (currently "*Všeobecná zdravotná poisťovňa*") to the extent covered on the basis of public health insurance for the period of provision of subsidiary protection. However, the above shall only apply provided that a person has no health insurance in the Slovak Republic or another Member State.

In the provision of healthcare, a person proves his/ her identity by a healthcare entitlement card of a foreign national, the so-called entitlement card, which will be issued by the health insurance with the largest number of policy holders on the basis of an application.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Access to accommodation

Refugees:

Beneficiaries of international protection may request the Migration Office for accommodation in the integration centre in Zvolen, which is designed as a temporary accommodation facility.

Upon written request, the Ministry of the Interior can place asylum beneficiaries in an accommodation centre for a necessary period of time. Beneficiaries will have to adequately cover expenses related to their stay.

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection:

Beneficiaries of international protection may request the Migration Office for accommodation in the integration centre in Zvolen, which is designed as a temporary accommodation facility.

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Upon written request, the Ministry of the Interior can place asylum beneficiaries in an accommodation centre for a necessary period of time. Beneficiaries will have to adequately cover expenses related to their stay.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Access to integration measures

Refugees:

A person will be provided with social counseling, psychological counseling, or other counseling, as well as a cultural orientation course, based on his/ her individual needs, generally for a period of 12 months from the date subsidiary protection is granted.

Upon request, the Ministry of the Interior will provide beneficiaries of international protection a one-time allowance in the amount of 1.5 times the amount of the subsistence minimum for one adult.

The Ministry of the Interior will also provide, upon written request, an integration contribution in the amount of 1.75 times the amount of the subsistence minimum for a period of 6 consecutive months from the delivery of the request. The integration contribution is provided by the Ministry of the Interior, if it is not already provided by an NGO. A written request can be submitted to the Ministry of the Interior no later than 60 days after the granting of asylum; if the request is submitted after this deadline, the integration contribution will not be provided. This contribution can only be requested once.

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection:

A person will be provided with social counseling, psychological counseling, or other counseling, as well as a cultural orientation course, based on his/ her individual needs, generally for a period of 12 months from the date subsidiary protection is granted.

After consulting with a person, he/ she will also be provided with assistance in finding suitable housing.

Upon a person´s written request, the Migration Office will provide a one-time allowance equal to 1.5 times the subsistence minimum for one adult natural

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person, in accordance with a special regulation. The organization implementing the integration project during that period or the Migration Office will also provide upon a written request, with an integration allowance equal to 1.75 times the subsistence minimum under a special regulation for a period of 6 consecutive months from the receipt of the request. A person must apply for both forms of the allowance separately. A written application for the integration allowance must be submitted no later than 60 days after the grant of subsidiary protection.

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

Family reunification for beneficiaries of international protection

Refugees

Right to family reunification for refugees: Family members of asylum beneficiaries can either be granted asylum for the purpose of family reunification in accordance with the Act on Asylum or temporary residence for the purpose of family reunification in accordance with the Act on Residence of Foreigners.

Time period for which exceptions apply for refugees: Information is currently not available.

Eligible family members: Asylum for the purpose of family reunification can be granted to (Section 10 Act on Asylum):

- The spouse of a person granted asylum if their marriage continues, and continued, also at the time when the person granted asylum left the country of origin and provided that the person granted asylum has given prior written consent to the reunification;
- Underage, unmarried children of beneficiaries of asylum or their spouse;
- Parents or custodians of an underage, unmarried asylum beneficiary, provided the beneficiary has given prior written consent to the reunification.

Conditions for family reunification: The Ministry of the Interior can grant asylum for the purpose of family reunification to the categories of people mentioned (Section 8 Act on Asylum).

Brief description of the procedure to follow: If a family member does not meet the conditions for obtaining asylum for family reunification purposes, they may apply to the relevant police department for the granting of temporary

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residence for family reunification purposes, or for the granting of tolerated stay on grounds of respect to their private and family life under the Act on the Residence of Foreigners. A family member can be granted such residence as soon as the relevant legal conditions are met.

Reunified family members' rights:

Asylum for the purpose of family reunification is granted for 3 years, after which the status is granted for indefinite period of time upon request (if the conditions are met).

A beneficiary is obliged to file an application at the earliest 90 days before the elapse of the time limit for which the status was granted and on the last day of this period at the latest. Asylum for the purpose of family reunification lasts until the decision on the application is made.

Conditions related to residence permits are regulated by Act on the Residence of Foreigners

Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection

Right to family reunification for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection: Family members of a beneficiary of subsidiary protection can either be granted subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification in accordance with the Act on Asylum or temporary residence for the purpose of family reunification in accordance with the Act on Residence of Foreigners.

Time period for which exceptions apply for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection: Information is currently not available.

Subsidiary Protection for the Purpose of Family Reunification is granted for 1 year. It can be renewed for 2 years, provided the conditions in the Act on Asylum are met and there are no grounds for its denial. Beneficiaries must apply for a renewal at least 90 days before time limit elapses. A beneficiary is obliged to file an application at the earliest 90 days before the elapse of the time limit for which the status was granted and on the last day of this period at the latest. Applications for a renewal are filed in person at the police department according to the beneficiary's place of residence.

Eligible family members: Subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification can be granted to (Article 13b Act on Asylum):

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- The spouse of a beneficiary if their marriage continues, and continued, also at the time when the foreigner left the country of origin and the foreigner has given prior written consent to the reunification;
- Unmarried, underage children of beneficiaries of subsidiary protection;
- Parents or custodians of an underage, unmarried beneficiary of subsidiary protection, provided the beneficiary has given prior written consent to the reunification.
- Persons granted subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification are equated to third-country nationals with temporary residence, unless they are granted permanent residence.

Conditions for family reunification: Information is currently not available.

Brief description of the procedure to follow: If a family member does not qualify for subsidiary protection for the purpose of family reunification, he/she may apply for a temporary residence permit for the purpose of family reunification or a tolerated stay on grounds of respecting family and private life in accordance with the Act on the Residence of Foreigners at the relevant police department. Once the legal conditions have been met, a family member may be granted such a permit.

Reunified family members' rights: Conditions are regulated by Act on the Residence of Foreigners

Following the entry into force of the reformed EU asylum acquis, a new law on international protection will take effect in June 2026.

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