



## **European Migration Network**

### **Ad-Hoc Query on Georgian citizens applying for the refugee status**

**Requested by PL EMN NCP on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

**Compilation produced on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Responses from: AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, PL, SE, SI, SK, UK (20)**





















*Disclaimer: The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*















#### **1. Background Information**




There was a dramatic growth in number of Georgian citizens applying for the refugee status in Poland in May and June (807 applicants in the period of 1May- 25 June). The Ministry of Interior and Administration is looking for information on Georgian citizens applying for the refugee in EU MS. The PL EMN NCP would appreciate your reply by **2 July 2009**.














#### **2. Responses**






		<b>Wider Dissemination?</b>	<b>1.What was the number of Georgian citizens applying for the refugee status in 2008 and in the period of January – May 2009?</b>
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	<b>Austria</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.
	<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Asylum applications of Georgian citizens 2008: 222 2009 (period January-May) : 203
	<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>Yes</b>	In 2008 the applications from Georgian citizens were 109 concerning 122 persons. In 2009 (up to 31.08.2009), the applications from Georgian citizens were 36 concerning 44 persons.
	<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	There were 38 new applications in 2008 and 11 new applications from January to May 2009.
	<b>Estonia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008- 2 applicants, 2009 Jan- July- 2 applicants.
	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008: 10 applicants 2009/1-5: 3 applicants
	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008: 101 applicants from Georgia 01.01. - 31.05.2009: 172 applicants from Georgia
	<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The number of Georgian citizens applying for refugee status was 165 in 2008 and 36 in the period between January-May 2009.
	<b>Ireland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	In 2008 the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner received 181 applications from Georgian nationals. As at 31/05/2009, ORAC had received 47 applications in 2009.
	<b>Italy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	In 2008 Italy has received 60 asylum applications by Georgian citizens and 38 in the first half of 2009.
	<b>Latvia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 17 applicants, Jan-May 2009 – 1 applicant
	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 9 applicants; January-May 2009 – 6 applicants.
	<b>Malta</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.
	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 64 applicants, Jan-May 2009 – 49 applicants
	<b>Poland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 71 applicants, Jan-May 2009 – 167 applicants.
	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 115 applicants, Jan-May 2009 – 31 applicants
	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	1 Georgian citizen applied for international protection in 2008, while none applied in 2009.
	<b>Spain</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 62 applicants, Jan-May 2009 – 22 applicants.
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008 – 211 asylum applicants, January – May 2009 – 90 asylum applicants.
	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	2008- 65 applicants, Jan-March 2009 -20 applicants

		Wider Dissemination?	2. What was the rate of recognition in 2008?										
	<b>Austria</b>	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.										
	<b>Belgium</b>	Yes	0%. None of Georgian citizens was granted the refugee status in 2008.										
	<b>Czech Republic</b>	Yes	The rate of recognition in 2008 is 2% (1 asylum status granted, 100% = new applications + pending applications).										
	<b>Estonia</b>	Yes	The recognition rate in 2008 was 0%.										
	<b>Finland</b>	Yes	None of the Georgian applicants was granted refugee status in 2008. In 2008 4 cases out of 10 were Dublin cases, 1 application was found manifestly ill-founded and 5 cases became void.										
	<b>Germany</b>	Yes	0% - none of Georgian applicants was recognized as a refugee in 2008.										
	<b>Hungary</b>	Yes	In 2008 the recognition rate was 0.006 %, since 1 Georgian citizen was recognized as refugee, however 0.024 % of the applicants were granted the status of beneficiary of subsidiary protection (4 Georgian citizens). In the period between January-May 2009 the recognition rate was 0 % (none of the applicants was granted refugee status or subsidiary protection).										
	<b>Ireland</b>	Yes	The recognition rate for Georgian nationals in 2008 was 0.7%.										
	<b>Italy</b>	Yes	<p>During 2008 Italy has processed 84 applications submitted by Georgian citizens. These are the results:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="645 914 1632 1094"> <thead> <tr> <th>REFUGEE STATUS</th> <th>SUBSIDIARY PROTECTION STATUS</th> <th>HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION PROPOSAL</th> <th>NOT RECOGNIZED + UNTRACEABLE</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>11</td> <td>17</td> <td>46</td> <td>74</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	REFUGEE STATUS	SUBSIDIARY PROTECTION STATUS	HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION PROPOSAL	NOT RECOGNIZED + UNTRACEABLE	Total	0	11	17	46	74
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	<b>Lithuania</b>	Yes	0%. None of Georgian citizens were granted either refugee status or subsidiary protection.										
	<b>Malta</b>	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.										
	<b>Netherlands</b>	Yes	The rate of recognition in 2008 was 9,45 % (7 out of 74 decisions).										
	<b>Poland</b>	Yes	0%. None of Georgian citizens was granted the refugee status in 2008.										
	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	Yes	In 2008 0% - none of Georgian citizens was granted refugee status, neither subsidiary protection										

	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	0%.
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	In Sweden during 2008 9 Georgians were granted asylum which means 6 %
	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	0%

		<b>Wider Dissemination?</b>	<b>3. What is the most common reason Georgian citizens bring up when applying for the refugee status ?</b>
	<b>Austria</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.
	<b>Belgium</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The fear of being persecuted for reason of nationality. In most cases this is related to the conflict in South Ossetia; e.g. problems finding their origin in the mixed marriage (Georgia- South Ossetia) of their parents.
	<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	There is no common reason given by the applicants. Consequences of the 2008 Russia–Georgia war and discontent with the present political regime are cited in several cases. Kurd nationality is not invoked, although there were such cases some 5 years ago.
	<b>Estonia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	It is difficult to generalise due to very small number of applicants, but mainly the reason is to legalise their stay in Estonia because they have family members living in Estonia. One person has applied for asylum due to persecution because of his political views.
	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Georgian applicants have presented different claims for asylum – problems with state officials, member of a religious minority, conscientious objectors etc. These claims have, in general, proven to be false. See also above.
	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The most common reason is political persecution by the state, because of the nationality.
	<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Yes</b>	There are 4 typical reasons: ethnic origin (minority origin), conflicts arising from mixed (Ossetian-Georgian or Abkhaz-Georgian) marriages, armed conflicts and membership in an opposite group/or support for this group. In the last years the first three reasons were the most common; however, recently the fourth reason was referred to in a lot of cases.
	<b>Ireland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	In regards to the above-mentioned Georgian applications in 2008 & 2009 (31/05), the most common reason for Asylum is Political.
	<b>Italy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	This information is not available
	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>Yes</b>	General post-war situation (4); draft evasion (4); persecution on grounds of nationality (3).
	<b>Malta</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.
	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Poland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The fear of being persecuted for reason of nationality.

	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The most common reasons are usually: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- general unfavourable conditions in Georgia,</li> <li>- fear of personal safety because of the tense situation,</li> <li>- conflict in South Ossetia,</li> <li>- members of the opposition parties allegedly persecuted by the state authorities,</li> </ul> economic motives, connected often also with the reasons listed above
	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Spain</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The fear of being persecuted for reason of ethnicity.
	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	We have no data on this