



## **Ad-Hoc Query on Unaccompanied Minors – updated facts and statistics**

**Requested by SE EMN NCP on 23 January 2012**

**Compilation produced on 24 april 2012**

**Responses from [Austria](#), [Belgium](#), [Estonia](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [Germany](#), [Hungary](#), [Italy](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Netherlands](#), [Portugal](#), [Sweden](#), [United Kingdom](#) plus [Norway](#) (16 in Total)**



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### **1. Background Information**

The number of asylum seeking unaccompanied minors has been increasing in Sweden during the last couple of years. Against this background, the Ministry of Justice has requested the following ad-hoc-query. Unaccompanied minors has been an area of expertise of the EMN since 2009 when the study “Reception, Return and Integration Policies for, and numbers of, unaccompanied minors” was conducted. This ad-hoc-query has the purpose of collecting updated statistics and practice concerning unaccompanied minors. Since this ad-hoc query is particularly policy-relevant, we kindly ask you to provide your answers, especially the statistical parts, as soon as possible and no later than **16 February 2012**.

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**2. Responses<sup>1</sup>**

		<b>Wider Dissemination?<sup>2</sup></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a) Number of asylum applications of unaccompanied minors (UAM) in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively (top five nationalities, others and total). b) The total number of asylum applications from these nationalities (a) c) The share of the UAM (percentage) in comparison with the total numbers (b)</li> <li>2. a) Number and b) percentage of unaccompanied minors granted (first instance decisions) permanent/temporary residence permits respectively (and in total) in 2008, 2009 and 2010.</li> <li>3. Concluded asylum cases (first instance), number and percentage of unaccompanied minors granted protection (residence permits) and grounds for the decision (international protection according to directive 2004/83/EC or national grounds for protection), number and percentage of rejections, transfers to other Member State according to Dublin regulation and other decisions.</li> <li>4. a) Number of unaccompanied minors that have returned voluntarily in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States. b) Number of enforced returns of unaccompanied minors in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States.</li> <li>5. What difference does it make in terms of protection, reception conditions or benefits if an asylum seeker is above or below 18 years of age? Are any other age limits relevant in these contexts?</li> <li>6. Entry procedures, age determination, reception/accommodation/benefits, and detention/return are all covered by the 2009 EMN-study on UAM. Have there been any major changes to your Member State's policy in these areas? If yes, please describe briefly!</li> <li>7. To what extent is detention being used concerning unaccompanied minors in asylum procedures and return procedures respectively?</li> </ol>
	<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>	Note: Total under b) is referring to the Total number of asylum applications (cases); and not to the total number of persons.

<sup>1</sup> If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

<sup>2</sup> A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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Conclusion: The number of asylum applications has increased since 2008 until 2010; but has remained stable in comparison with the total number of applications. (+/- 4,4% of the total). The increase of asylum applications in the year 2011 however was significant (+85% compared to 2010, and 6,5 % of the total). Obviously Afghanistan is by far the most important country of origin for unaccompanied minors.

**1.**

<b>2008</b>	a)	b)	c)	<b>2009</b>	a)	b)	c)	<b>2010</b>	a)	b)	c)
	UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%
Afghanistan	120	879	13,7	Afghanistan	239	1659	14,4	Afghanistan	234	1411	16,6
Guinee	90	661	13,6	Guinee	140	1099	12,7	Guinee	225	1398	16,1
DR Congo	35	579	6,0	Iraq	50	1368	3,6	Iraq	54	1769	3,1
Iraq	28	1070	2,6	DR Congo	45	670	6,7	DR Congo	52	786	6,6
Russia	27	1620	1,7	Kosovo	22	1539	1,4	Somalia	40	294	13,6
Others	221	7443	3,0	Others	258	10833	2,4	Others	291	14283	2,0
Total	521	12252	4,3	Total	754	17186	4,4	Total	896	19941	4,5

<b>2011</b>	a)	b)	c)
	UM	Total	%
Afghanistan	762	2758	27,6
Guinee	284	2134	13,3
DR Congo	55	1007	5,5
Iraq	50	1948	2,7
Somalia	38	483	7,9
Others	460	17149	2,7
Total	1649	25479	6,5

**2.**

An asylum application leads to a residence permit when the refugee status or subsidiary protection status is granted. Recognition of refugee status entitles the refugee to unlimited residence in Belgium. Subsidiary protection status entails the right to stay in Belgium, at first for a limited period of time. The municipal authorities of the place of residence deliver a 'Certificate of registration in the aliens register' to beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. This certificate is valid 1 year and can be extended or renewed. After 5 years from the introduction of his/her asylum application, a beneficiary of subsidiary protection is entitled to stay for an unlimited period of time.

<i>First instance asylum decisions</i>	2008 a)	% b)	2009 a)	% b)	2010 a)	% b)
Refugee status	250	91	246	86	290	70

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Subsidiary protection status	26	9	41	14	123	30
total	276	100	287	100	413	100

Besides the asylum procedure, there can also be granted a residence permit to unaccompanied minors on several other grounds: by fulfilling the legal entry conditions (with valid travel documents), as a victim of human trafficking, if the guardian applies for a residence permit on the basis of a specific procedure or on the basis of regularisation on medical or humanitarian grounds.

**3.**

<i>First instance decisions</i>	2010	%
<b>Concluded asylum cases</b>	802	100
<b>Granted</b>	413	51,5
Refugee according to dir 2004/83/EC	290	36,2
Persons eligible for subsidiary protection according to dir 2004/83/EC	123	15,3
Persons otherwise in need of protection		
Humanitarian ground (exceptionally distressing circumstances)		
<b>Rejected</b>		
<b>Dublin decisions Dublin regulation (reg. 2003/343/EC)</b>		
<b>Other decision</b>		

In Belgium a humanitarian status can not be granted as a result of an asylum application. There are specific procedures for people applying for a residence permit (regularisation) on humanitarian or medical grounds.

**4.**

In principle there are no forced removals of unaccompanied minors in Belgium. The number of voluntary returns is also quite limited.

<b>Return</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Total</b>
a) Voluntarily	Dublin				
	Country of Origin	9	11	11	31
	Unspecified				
	Third Country				
<b>Voluntarily total</b>					
b) Enforced	Dublin				
	Country of Origin				
	Unspecified				

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	Third Country				
<b>Enforced total</b>					
<b>Total</b>					
<p>5. The age limit is 18 years of age. UM's who turn 18 without being in the possession of a valid residence document could be subject to removal from the territory, as they will become illegal residents. As adults they will lose the support of the guardian and other protective measures. UM's who turn 18, but are still in the asylum procedure, will be transferred to the general reception facilities.</p> <p>All financial support for those who do not have a residence permit before turning 18; they will only be entitled to urgent medical assistance. The person theoretically has to leave the accommodation facility where he has been staying up till then. Sometimes it is extended until the end of the school year.</p> <p>The support from community services for the assistance of minors will end. If the UM is still vulnerable, assistance can be extended until the age of 20 or 21, but an official request has to be made before turning 18.</p> <p>6. On September, 12, 2011, an Act regarding the granting of residence permits to unaccompanied minors has been adopted. This Act is amending the Aliens Act and provides greater legal certainty for unaccompanied minors who are no asylum seekers. This law became enforceable on December 8, 2011. The Act is fixing the stipulations regarding residence applications and is providing guidance on the search for durable solutions. Previously, this was settled by a circular which has now been repealed.</p> <p>On August, 18, 2010 a new royal decree on the functioning of the Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons prescribed that protection officers who interview the asylum applications of UM's need to have the knowledge that is acquired to deal with the special needs of UM's. The royal decree is further stipulating that the guardian is allowed to intervene during the interview and that the interest of the child should be decisive during the examination of the asylum application.</p> <p>7. Since the law of 12 January 2007 unaccompanied minors can no longer be held in a closed centre. In every stage of the asylum procedure, there are specific reception facilities for Unaccompanied minors. When arriving, the first reception for UM's occurs in the so-called Observation and Orientation Centres (OOCs) where a test aimed at age determination will take place. Besides unaccompanied minors who applied for asylum, also other unaccompanied minors can stay in these Observation and Orientation Centres. After this first period from two to four weeks in this Centre; the unaccompanied minors are referred to a second, collective reception facility. These reception facilities are specific structures for unaccompanied minors, with a specialised team of coaches and educators.</p>					


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	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p><b>1. Unaccompanied minors vs. all asylum seekers 2008-2010</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2008</th> <th>Nationality</th> <th>Unaccompanied</th> <th>All asylum seekers</th> <th>Percentage UAM</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>1.</b></td> <td></td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>353</td> <td>1181</td> <td>30 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>2.</b></td> <td></td> <td>Iraq</td> <td>210</td> <td>1255</td> <td>17 %</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>3.</b></td> <td></td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>63</td> <td>254</td> <td>25 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2008	Nationality	Unaccompanied	All asylum seekers	Percentage UAM	<b>1.</b>		Somalia	353	1181	30 %	<b>2.</b>		Iraq	210	1255	17 %	<b>3.</b>		Afghanistan	63	254	25 %
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4.	Angola	12	21	57 %
5.	Russia	10	209	5 %
<b>Others</b>		58	1116	5 %
<b>Total</b>		706	4035	17 %

2009	Nationality	Unaccompanied	All asylum seekers	Percentage UAM
1.	Somalia	201	1180	17 %
2.	Iraq	151	1195	13 %
3.	Afghanistan	66	461	14 %
4.	Bulgaria	23	739	3 %
5.	Angola	12	43	28 %
<b>Others</b>		85	2370	4 %
<b>Total</b>		538	5988	9 %

2010	Nationality	Unaccompanied	All asylum seekers	Percentage UAM
1.	Somalia	117	571	20 %
2.	Iraq	64	575	11 %
3.	Afghanistan	43	265	16 %
4.	Ghana	19	78	24 %
5.	Russia	11	436	3 %
<b>Others</b>		75	2093	4 %
<b>Total</b>		329	4018	8 %

2. Unaccompanied Minors granted first instance permanent or temporary decisions 2008-2010

Year	Permanent	Temporary	Total
2008	156 (99%)	1 (1%)	157
2009	247 (100%)	0	247
2010	262 (100%)	0	262



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<b>3. Concluded asylum cases of unaccompanied minors</b>							
<b>2008</b>	<b>Positive</b>						<b>Neg</b>
<b>Decision</b>	<b>Convention Status</b>	<b>Rp. need for prot.</b>	<b>Compassionate grounds</b>	<b>Temp.permit</b>	<b>Total pos.</b>		<b>Reje</b>
	3 (1%)	130 (57%)	23 (10%)	1 (0,4%)	157 (69%)		9 (4)
<b>2009</b>	<b>Positive</b>						
<b>Decision</b>	<b>Convention Status</b>	<b>Rp. need for prot.</b>	<b>Humanitarian protection</b>	<b>Subsidiary prot.</b>	<b>Compassionate grounds</b>		<b>Tota</b>
	1 (0,1%)	54 (13%)	61 (14%)	103 (24%)	28 (6%)		247
Residence permits on the basis of humanitarian protection and subsidiary protection have been granted from 1.6.2009.							
Resident permits on the basis of need for protection were granted until 31.5.2009.							
<b>2010</b>	<b>Positive</b>						
<b>Decision</b>	<b>Convention Status</b>	<b>Subsidiary prot.</b>	<b>Humanitarian protection</b>	<b>Compassionate grounds</b>	<b>Other reason</b>		<b>Tota</b>
	6 (2%)	120 (36%)	68 (21%)	63	5 (1,5%)		262
<b>4a. Number of Unaccompanied Minors that have returned voluntarily</b>							
<b>Year</b>							
<b>2008</b>	3 (Russia)						
<b>2009</b>	2 (Iraq)						
<b>2010</b>	0						

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**4b. Enforced Returns of Unaccompanied Minors**

No cases

**5. The monthly spending allowance for the unaccompanied minor asylum seekers from 1 January 2012**

	Meals at the reception centre
an unaccompanied minor under 16 years	26,05 euros*
an unaccompanied minor between 16 and 18 years	46,89 euros*

\*A spending allowance may also be a lesser amount if considered reasonable in view of the minor's age and level of development.

An unaccompanied minor living in private accommodation or a support housing unit intended for those over 16 years of age will be paid a reception allowance instead of a spending allowance. This will equal the allowance of an adult living alone, that is, 302,16 euros, or 88,57 euros if in a reception centre that provides meals.


**The basic component of the monthly reception allowance from 1 January 2012**

	No meal service	Meals at the reception centre
A single parent, living alone	302,16 euros	88,57 euros
Other persons over 18 years	255,28 euros	72,94 euros
A child who lives with his or her family	192,76 euros	57,31 euros

UAMs's accommodation is provided in special group homes or family group homes.

6. In 2010 new sections 6a and 6b were added to the Aliens Act to reduce ambiguity related to the determination of the age of asylum seekers who are unaccompanied minors. Under the new section 6b, the authorities have a legal right to determine an asylum seeker's age by forensic means. However, forensic testing may only be used to determine age where there are special grounds to do so. In the past, the authorities have been unclear on who can request the use of a forensic test to determine the age of a foreign national and what organisation can conduct such tests reliably. Under the newly amended Act, a forensic test to determine the age of a foreign national applying for a

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			<p>residence permit or the sponsor of a family reunification process can be requested by the police, the Border Guard or the Finnish Immigration Service. The tests are conducted based on the request of the authorised parties by the forensic department of the Hjelt Institute under the University of Helsinki.</p> <p>7. Finland does not detain unaccompanied minors.</p>																																																																																																																																								
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3.

<i>First instance decisions</i>	2010	%
<b>Concluded asylum cases</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Granted</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>21%</b>
Refugee according to dir 2004/83/EC	89	<b>18%</b>
Persons eligible for subsidiary protection according to dir 2004/83/EC	13	<b>3%</b>
<b>Rejected</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Dublin decisions</b>	<i>Not available</i>	
<b>Other decisions</b>		

4.


Return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	Total
Voluntarily	Dublin	not available			
	Country of origin				
	Non specified	not available			
	Third country	not available			

According to French law, UAM are not subject to a removal order. Therefore, there is no data on enforced returns of UAM.

5. Whereas there is no specific asylum procedure for UAM, they cannot benefit from the general reception conditions for asylum seekers. Currently, ad hoc administrators assist UAM without legal representation and represent them in court and administrative procedures at the border and in their asylum application. Once admitted to the territory, they are supported by child welfare services (aide sociale à l'enfance = ASE). UAM are exempt from residence permit (Article L. 311-1 of the Code on Entry and Residence of Foreigners and Right of Asylum, CESEDA) and cannot be subject to a removal order (articles L. 511-4 and L. 521-4 of the

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			<p>CESEDA).</p> <p>All minors who apply for asylum in France (including UAM) have to go to school between the ages of 6 and 16.</p> <p>The fingerprints of UAM are collected in the prefecture when they reach the age of 14 years. Even if the care by child welfare services does not vary according to the age of UAM, the prefecture should directly notify the Public Prosecutor of the situation of UAM under 14 years to organize their care.</p> <p>6. In May 2010, Senator Isabelle Debré published a report on UAM in France. Her proposals were focused on two major objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coordinate actions relating to UAM around a local inter-organizational scheme;</li> <li>• improve reception and return conditions of UAM.</li> </ul> <p>According to the law n°2011-672 of 16 June 2011 on immigration, integration and nationality, UAM of 18 years who had been supported by child welfare services between the ages of 16 and 18 years can be <b>exceptionally</b> granted an “employment” or a “temporary worker” temporary residence permit, under certain conditions (Article L. 313-15 of the CESEDA). Before this law, only UAM of 18 years who had been supported by child welfare services before age 16 were <b>automatically</b> granted a temporary residence permit “private and family life” (Article L-313-11-2bis of the CESEDA).</p> <p>In June 2011, the Secretary General for Immigration and Integration of the Ministry of Interior, Overseas French Territories, Local Collectivities and Immigration announced the future development of a specific area dedicated to the reception of UAM in the waiting areas.</p> <p>7. When they enter French territory, UAM may be detained in a waiting area and are subject to the same conditions of procedure than asylum seekers under age 18 years. However, except this case, according to French law, UAM cannot be detained as they cannot be subject to a removal order.</p>
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	Germany	Yes	1. Number of asylum applications of unaccompanied minors in 2008/ 2009/ 2010, resp. top five nationalities											
				a)	b)	c)	2009	a)	b)	c)	2010	a)	b)	c)
				UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%
			Iraq	228	6 836	3,3	Afghanistan	453	3 375	13,4	Afghanistan	802	5 905	13,5
			Vietnam	68	1 042	6,5	Iraq	223	6 538	13,4	Somalia	253	2 235	11,3
			Afghanistan	61	657	9,2	Vietnam	61	1 115	5,4	Iraq	200	5 555	3,6
			Guinea	48	199	24,1	Guinea	48	237	20,2	Syria	57	1 490	3,8
			Ethiopia	36	183	19,6	Ethiopia	45	220	20,4	Ethiopia	46	289	15,9
			Others	322	13168	2,4	Others	474	16164	2,9	Others	590	25958	2,2
			Total	763	22085	3,4	Total	1 304	27649	4,7	Total	1 948	41332	4,7


EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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2. first instance decisions						
	2008	%	2009	%	2010	%
permanent	102	92	195	59	140	31
temporary	9	8	135	41	308	69
total	111	100	330	100	448	100
3. first instance decisions 2010						
			2010	%		
<b>1. Concluded asylum cases</b>			<b>1 260</b>	<b>100</b>		
<b>Granted</b>			<b>448</b>	<b>36</b>		
3. Refugees according to German Art. 16a Basic Law			6	0,5		
4. Refugees according to dir. 2004/83/EC			134	11		
5. Persons eligible for subs. prot. acc. to dir 2004/83/EC (incl. no.7)			33	2,5		
6. Persons otherwise in need of protection (nat. subs. prot.)			275	22		
7. Humanitarian ground (except. distressing circumstances)			---	---		
<b>8. Rejected</b>			<b>752</b>	<b>60</b>		
<b>9. Dublin decisions acc. to Dublin reg. 2003/343/EC</b>			*	*		
<b>10. Other decisions</b>			<b>60</b>	<b>4</b>		
* for unaccompanied minors there are no statistics available						
4. Returns						
a) As far as the Foreigners' Authorities (Federal States) are responsible for returns (the Federal Office is not in charge of this issue) according to the REAG-/GARP program IOM provided numbers of voluntary return as following:						
2008: 19						
2009: 20						
2010: 22						
b) We are not provided with statistics of enforced returns in cases of unaccompanied minors by the Foreigners Authorities. According to the remarks to No. 7. this number will be quite low, because enforced removals are only carried out in cases in which, following earlier examination, it has been shown that the appropriate care will be ensured in the home country and that the returning minor is picked up by family members or Youth Welfare organisations already at the airport and will be accompanied to his/ her family members or future care institutions (according to § 58, 1a Residence Act) .						
5. In Germany, in comparison to other European countries, there is one peculiarity in respect of how unaccompanied minors are dealt						

**EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics**

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			<p>with. Unaccompanied minors who lodge an application for asylum are considered to be capable of taking part in procedures and to have reached the age of legal capacity not merely at the age of 18 but, in accordance with § 12, par.1 of the German Asylum Procedure Act and §80, par.1 of German Residence Act, once they have reached the age of 16. This means that 16 and 17-year-olds have the legal capacity to act in matters of legal proceedings relating to asylum and residence without the presence of any legal guardian. In a clearing procedure the Youth Welfare Office decides according to the individual needs of an 16- or 17-year-old whether he will be accommodated in a youth-welfare institution or in a communal center for asylum seekers.</p> <p>6. No changes of policies in this area are to mention. But in general, the aspect of being a minor (up to the age of 18) has been brought in the focus more than before, as well as the topic of child specific flight reasons.</p> <p>7. The responsibility concerning the procedure of return (voluntary or enforced) is in the sphere of the Foreigners Authorities (Federal States). Between the Federal Government and the Federal States there is mutual agreement that specific groups of asylum applicants - like UNAM's under the age of 16 – should not, as a rule, be taken into detention for the purpose of removal. Therefore the Foreigners' Authority has to contact the responsible Youth Welfare Office in order to regulate their accommodation until their removal. Within the framework of these general guidelines, practice differs from one Federal State to the next, like no detention at all, or exceptions, like in cases of delinquency or repeatedly avoiding enforced removal, when they are at least 16 years old. The maximum permitted duration of such detention is three months.</p>																																																																																																																																								
	<p><b>Hungary</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Yes</b></p>	<p><b>1.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2008</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2009</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2010</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Citizenship</th> <th>UM</th> <th>Total</th> <th>%</th> <th>Citizenship</th> <th>UM</th> <th>Total</th> <th>%</th> <th>Citizenship</th> <th>UM</th> <th>Total</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pakistan</td> <td>54</td> <td>246</td> <td>22</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>195</td> <td>1 194</td> <td>16</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>85</td> <td>702</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Somalia</td> <td>39</td> <td>185</td> <td>21</td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>16</td> <td>75</td> <td>0,73</td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>11</td> <td>51</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kosovo</td> <td>27</td> <td>27</td> <td>2</td> <td>Kosovo</td> <td>13</td> <td>1 786</td> <td>2,1</td> <td>Kosovo</td> <td>9</td> <td>379</td> <td>2,3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West Bank and Gaza Strip</td> <td>5</td> <td>41</td> <td>12</td> <td>Serbia</td> <td>10</td> <td>536</td> <td>6</td> <td>Morocco</td> <td>5</td> <td>14</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangladesh</td> <td>4</td> <td>35</td> <td>11</td> <td>Moldova</td> <td>8</td> <td>35</td> <td>23</td> <td>Algeria</td> <td>4</td> <td>35</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sri Lanka</td> <td>2</td> <td>12</td> <td>17</td> <td>Turkey</td> <td>7</td> <td>114</td> <td>1,9</td> <td>Iran</td> <td>3</td> <td>62</td> <td>4,8</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>176</b></td> <td><b>3 118</b></td> <td><b>5,6</b></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>271</b></td> <td><b>4 672</b></td> <td><b>5,8</b></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>150</b></td> <td><b>2 104</b></td> <td><b>7,1</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>2.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>First instance decisions</i></th> <th>2008 a)</th> <th>% b)</th> <th>2009 a)</th> <th>% b)</th> <th>2010 a)</th> <th>% b)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>permanent</td> <td>N.a.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>temporary</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2008	a)	b)	c)	2009	a)	b)	c)	2010	a)	b)	c)	Citizenship	UM	Total	%	Citizenship	UM	Total	%	Citizenship	UM	Total	%	Pakistan	54	246	22	Afghanistan	195	1 194	16	Afghanistan	85	702	12	Somalia	39	185	21	Somalia	16	75	0,73	Somalia	11	51	22	Kosovo	27	27	2	Kosovo	13	1 786	2,1	Kosovo	9	379	2,3	West Bank and Gaza Strip	5	41	12	Serbia	10	536	6	Morocco	5	14	36	Bangladesh	4	35	11	Moldova	8	35	23	Algeria	4	35	11	Sri Lanka	2	12	17	Turkey	7	114	1,9	Iran	3	62	4,8	<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>3 118</b>	<b>5,6</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>4 672</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>2 104</b>	<b>7,1</b>	<i>First instance decisions</i>	2008 a)	% b)	2009 a)	% b)	2010 a)	% b)	permanent	N.a.						temporary							total						
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## 3.

<i>First instance decisions</i>	2010	%
<b>Concluded asylum cases</b>	<b>2 204</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Granted</b>		
Refugee according to dir 2004/83/EC		
Persons eligible for subsidiary protection according to dir 2004/83/EC		
Persons otherwise in need of protection		
Humanitarian ground (exceptionally distressing circumstances)		
<b>Rejected</b>		
<b>Dublin decisions Dublin regulation (reg. 2003/343/EC)</b>	<b>370*</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Other decision</b>		

\* Total number of decisions

## 4.


Return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	Total
a) Voluntarily	Dublin <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0
	Country of Origin				
	Unspecified				
	Third Country				
<b>Voluntarily total</b>					
b) Enforced	Dublin <sup>2</sup>	1	2	5	8
	Country of Origin				
	Unspecified				
	Third Country				
<b>Enforced total</b>		1	2	5	8
<b>Total</b>					

<sup>1</sup> The voluntary and enforced return distinction cannot be applied in Dublin cases, therefore 'voluntary dublin return' is regarded as a **transfer at the request of the asylum seeker by a certain specified date** according to Art. 7 Para. 1. Subp. (a) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1560/2003.

<sup>2</sup> The voluntary and enforced return distinction cannot be applied in Dublin cases, therefore 'enforced dublin return' is regarded either as a **transfer by supervised departure** according to Article 7 1. (b) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1560/2003, or as a **transfer under escort** according to Article 7 1. (c) of the same regulation.



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			<p><b>5-6.</b>                  In 2011 some laws regulating unaccompanied minors were modified. In cases of asylum-seeker unaccompanied minors the modifications affect three main areas: the place of accommodation, examination of the principle of non-refoulement and the appointment of a guardian. According to the new provisions having entered into force on 1 May 2011 unaccompanied minors shall be placed in a child protection facility, instead of a reception centre. Unaccompanied minor applicants may also be placed with adult relatives if the latter undertake in writing to house, care and provide for the minor and from the personal relationship with the minor it becomes obvious that such an arrangement shall be in the interest of the unaccompanied minor applicant.</p> <p>Concerning the principle of non-refoulement the modification further clarified the notion of appropriate care in relation to unaccompanied minors.</p> <p>Under the Act LXXX of 2007 on Asylum if the person seeking recognition is an unaccompanied minor, the refugee authority shall, without delay, provide for the appointment of a guardian serving to represent the minor. In connection with the appointment of a guardian to unaccompanied minors the modification transposes the provision of the Asylum Procedures Directive allowing for the omission of the appointment of a guardian in case the asylum seeker is close to reach the age of eighteen under the asylum procedure.</p> <p>In cases of unaccompanied minors who are not asylum-seekers, Hungary collects separate statistical data on the number of residence permits issued for non-asylum-seeker unaccompanied minors from April 2011.</p> <p>Since 1 September 2011, a complex age assessment procedure is being initiated in case of minor asylum seekers who claim themselves to be under 18, but this is disputed by the refugee authority. The complex age assessment includes an anthropological, a dental and an X ray examination as well and is conducted by qualified medical professionals. From 1 September 2011 on, the Buda Health Centre has been appointed responsible to conduct age assessment examination in case of asylum seekers. The more up-to-date examination is faster, the results are ready within 8 days. A margin of error is envisaged for each exam applied, if the range includes the minor age, the person is considered to be a minor.</p> <p><b>7.</b>                  According to Article 56 (2) of Act II of 2007 on the Admission and Right of Residence of Third-Country Nationals, unaccompanied minors shall not be detained.</p>																								
	<b>Italy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>8. a) Number of asylum applications of unaccompanied minors (UAM) in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively (top five nationalities, others and total).                  b) The total number of asylum applications from these nationalities (a)                  c) The share of the UAM (percentage) in comparison with the total numbers (b)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="987 1315 1709 1422"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>2008</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Position</th> <th>Country</th> <th>UM</th> <th>Total</th> <th>%</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st main</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>200</td> <td>1.730</td> <td>11,6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd main</td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>70</td> <td>4.865</td> <td>1,4</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			2008	a)	b)	c)	Position	Country	UM	Total	%		1st main	Afghanistan	200	1.730	11,6		2nd main	Somalia	70	4.865	1,4	
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EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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3rd main	Nigeria	65	5.670	1,1
4th main	Eritrea	50	2.935	1,7
5th main	Ghana	35	1.815	1,9
	Others	130	13.125	1,0
	Total	575	30.145	1,9

	2009	a)	b)	c)
Position	Country	UM	Total	%
1st main	Afghanistan	90	615	14,6
2nd main	Nigeria	70	3.710	1,9
3rd main	Eritrea	40	865	4,6
3rd main	Somalia	40	1.490	2,7
4th main	Gambia	30	280	10,7
5th main	Côte d'Ivoire	20	575	3,5
5th main	Ghana	20	845	2,4
	Others	90	9.295	1,0
	Total	420	17.670	2,4


	2010	a)	b)	c)
Position	Country	UM	Total	%
1st main	Afghanistan	125	875	14,3
2nd main	Turkey	25	855	2,9
3rd main	Eritrea	15	180	8,3
3rd main	Côte d'Ivoire	15	235	6,4
3rd main	Guinea	15	165	9,1
3rd main	Pakistan	15	930	1,6
4th main	Nigeria	10	1.385	0,7
4th main	Bangladesh	10	220	4,5
4th main	Iraq	10	380	2,6
5th main	Bosnia Herz.	5	815	0,6
5th main	Kosovo	5	300	1,7
5th main	Somalia	5	85	5,9
5th main	Algeria	5	90	5,6
5th main	Ghana	5	280	1,8
5th main	Mali	5	65	7,7
5th main	Senegal	5	160	3,1
5th main	Ecuador	5	10	50,0
5th main	Iran	5	270	1,9
	Others	0	2735	0,0
	Total	305	10.050	3,0

9. a) Number and b) percentage of unaccompanied minors granted (first instance decisions) permanent/temporary residence permits respectively (and in total) in 2008, 2009 and 2010.


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			<p><i>These data are not available. Nevertheless, all UAMS are normally granted a form of protection and the principle of non-refoulement is recognised (except for reasons of public order and State security, in which case the Juvenile Court will enforce the expulsion).</i></p> <p>10. Concluded asylum cases (first instance), number and percentage of unaccompanied minors granted protection (residence permits) and grounds for the decision (international protection according to directive 2004/83/EC or national grounds for protection), number and percentage of rejections, transfers to other Member State according to Dublin regulation and other decisions.</p> <p><i>Data are unavailable (as per answer no. 2).</i></p> <p>11. a) Number of unaccompanied minors that have returned voluntarily in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States.  b) Number of enforced returns of unaccompanied minors in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States.</p> <p>a) <i>The voluntary return of unaccompanied minors is an extremely limited phenomenon. Official figures provided by the National Protection System for asylum applicants and refugees refer to the voluntary return of asylum seekers as a whole and report very few cases (i.e. 1% in 2010). No disaggregated data for UAMS are provided but such cases are likely to be close to 0.</i>  b) <i>This kind of disaggregated data are not available. However, Italy does not carry out forced return of unaccompanied minors, who are generally granted a form of protection.</i></p> <p>12. What difference does it make in terms of protection, reception conditions or benefits if an asylum seeker is above or below 18 years of age? Are any other age limits relevant in these contexts?</p> <p><i>In terms of protection and reception conditions, asylum applicants considered to be UAMS are a vulnerable category and are entitled to be hosted at ad hoc accommodation centres. The condition of “unaccompanied minor asylum applicant” in the Italian context is considered separately, and its jurisdiction is not assigned to the Committee for Foreign Minors, but to the National Commission for the Right of Asylum and, through it, to the competent Territorial Commissions. In case an unaccompanied foreign minor applies for international protection, the authority receiving the application immediately suspends the usual procedure followed by the Committee for Foreign Minors for the time being; the asylum application is then brought to the attention of the Juvenile Courts having territorial jurisdiction; and finally the application itself is confirmed by a guardian, who is appointed by the Tutelary Judge and who will provide assistance during the whole procedure of examination of the application (Legislative Decree no. 25/2008). At the same time, the minor is reported to the Committee for Foreign Minors, which would be responsible for him/her in case of a negative response to the application for asylum.</i></p> <p><i>No other age limits are relevant in the context of asylum.</i></p> <p>13. Entry procedures, age determination, reception/accommodation/benefits, and detention/return are all covered by the 2009 EMN-study on UAM. Have there been any major changes to your Member State’s policy in these areas? If yes, please describe briefly!</p>
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			<p>No changes have been introduced in these areas since the 2009 EMN-study on UAM was published.</p> <p>14. To what extent is detention being used concerning unaccompanied minors in asylum procedures and return procedures respectively?</p> <p>Asylum applicants in Italy are not placed under detention. Furthermore, the detention of unaccompanied foreign minors is strictly prohibited. UAMS receive protection and assistance from the Protection System for Asylum Applicants and Refugees (SPRAR). If for some reason the SPRAR is temporary unable to host the minor, in this case s/he is hosted and assisted by the social services of the Municipality where s/he currently resides (sometimes in accommodation facilities owned or managed by the so-called "third sector", when a specific agreement has been set).</p>																																																																																																																																																																																																			
	<b>Latvia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p><b>1.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2008</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2009</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2010</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total amount of UM</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>5</td> <td>10</td> <td>50</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>4</td> <td>23</td> <td>17,4</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Guinea</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>2.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>First instance decisions</th> <th>2008</th> <th>a)</th> <th>%</th> <th>b)</th> <th>2009</th> <th>a)</th> <th>%</th> <th>b)</th> <th>2010</th> <th>a)</th> <th>%</th> <th>b)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Refugee status (permanent residence permit)</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subsidiary form of protection (temporary residence permit)</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>total</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>3.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>First instance decisions</th> <th>2008</th> <th>%</th> <th>2009</th> <th>%</th> <th>2010</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Concluded asylum cases</b></td> <td>5</td> <td>100</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>5</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Granted</b></td> <td>1</td> <td>20%</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refugee status</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subsidiary form of protection</td> <td>1</td> <td>20%</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Rejected</b></td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Dublin decisions Dublin regulation (reg. 2003/343/EC)</b></td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Other decision</b></td> <td>4</td> <td>80%</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>4.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Return</th> <th>Destination</th> <th>2008</th> <th>2009</th> <th>2010</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">c) Voluntarily</td> <td>Dublin</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Country of Origin</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unspecified</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Third Country</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2008	a)	b)	c)	2009	a)	b)	c)	2010	a)	b)	c)	Total amount of UM	5			-				5					UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%	Afghanistan	5	10	50	-	-	-	-	Afghanistan	4	23	17,4									Guinea	1	1	100	First instance decisions	2008	a)	%	b)	2009	a)	%	b)	2010	a)	%	b)	Refugee status (permanent residence permit)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Subsidiary form of protection (temporary residence permit)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	80%	total	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	80%	First instance decisions	2008	%	2009	%	2010	%	<b>Concluded asylum cases</b>	5	100	-	-	5	100	<b>Granted</b>	1	20%	-	-	4	80%	Refugee status	-	-	-	-	-	-	Subsidiary form of protection	1	20%	-	-	4	80%	<b>Rejected</b>	-	-	-	-	1	20%	<b>Dublin decisions Dublin regulation (reg. 2003/343/EC)</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>Other decision</b>	4	80%	-	-	-	-	Return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	Total	c) Voluntarily	Dublin	4	-	-	-	Country of Origin	-	-	-	-	Unspecified	-	-	-	-	Third Country	-	-	-	-
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	<p><b>Lithuania</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p data-bbox="613 1034 2096 1091">1. a) Number of asylum applications of unaccompanied minors (UAM) in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively (top five nationalities, others and total).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="613 1123 1924 1362"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Citizenship</b></th> <th><b>2008</b></th> <th><b>2009</b></th> <th><b>2010</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Congo DR</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Russian Federation</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Georgia</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vietnam</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>1</b></td> <td><b>3</b></td> <td><b>9</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Citizenship</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	Congo DR	1	-	-	Afghanistan	-	2	3	Russian Federation	-	1	-	Georgia	-	-	2	Vietnam	-	-	4	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>											
<b>Citizenship</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>																																							
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Russian Federation	-	1	-																																							
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<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>																																							

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b) The total number of asylum applications from these nationalities (a)

Citizenship	2008	2009	2010
Congo DR	4	-	-
Afghanistan	16	16	37
Russian Federation	415	243	113
Georgia	9	76	249
Vietnam	1	3	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>411</b>

c) The share of the UAM (percentage) in comparison with the total numbers (b)

Citizenship	2008	2009	2010
Congo DR	1 %	-	-
Afghanistan	0%	12.5 %	8.11 %
Russian Federation	0%	0.41 %	0%
Georgia	0%	0%	0.80 %
Vietnam	0%	0%	33.33 %

2. a) Number and b) percentage of unaccompanied minors granted (first instance decisions) permanent/temporary residence permits respectively (and in total) in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Citizenship	2008	2009	2010
Congo DR	0%	-	-
Afghanistan	-	2 (100%)	2 (66.67%)
Russian Federation	-	0%	-
Georgia	-	-	0%
Vietnam	-	-	1 (25%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>


3. Concluded asylum cases (first instance), number and percentage of unaccompanied minors granted protection (residence permits) and grounds for the decision (international protection according to directive 2004/83/EC or national grounds for protection), number and percentage of rejections, transfers to other Member State according to Dublin regulation and other decisions.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>4 unaccompanied minors (30.77%) granted subsidiary protection</u>: for 2 citizens of Afghanistan in 2009 and for 2 citizens of Afghanistan in 2010;</li> <li>- <u>2 unaccompanied minors (15.38%) were not granted asylum in Lithuania</u>: one citizen of Congo DR in 2008 (decision was taken after she became 18 years old); one citizen of Vietnam in 2010 (he received a temporary residence permit since he could not be expelled);</li> <li>- In 2009 one unaccompanied minor from Russian Federation was transferred to Austria in accordance with Dublin II Regulation, since his father had been granted asylum in Austria.</li> <li>- In 2012 5 unaccompanied minors (38.46%) from Afghanistan, Vietnam and Georgia absconded from the Refugee Reception Centre and therefore their asylum procedure was terminated.</li> </ul> <p>4. a) Number of unaccompanied minors that have returned voluntarily in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States. b) Number of enforced returns of unaccompanied minors in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States.</p> <p>In 2008-2010 there were no unaccompanied minor asylum seekers who have been expelled or returned.</p> <p>5. What difference does it make in terms of protection, reception conditions or benefits if an asylum seeker is above or below 18 years of age? Are any other age limits relevant in these contexts?</p> <p>Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are attributed to the group of particularly vulnerable persons. Comparing the procedures for granting asylum to adult asylum seekers and to unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, the key differences are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an unaccompanied minor asylum seeker may not be refused entry to the territory of the Republic of Lithuania even if (s)he arrives from a safe third country, meanwhile asylum seekers over the age of 18 years may be refused entry to the territory of Lithuania;</li> <li>- unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are placed under temporary guardianship (curatorship) during their period of stay irrespectively of the lawfulness of their stay in the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, the temporary guardian (curator) represents the interests of an unaccompanied minor;</li> <li>- the Migration Department, on receipt of information about an unaccompanied minor asylum seeker and in co-operation with representatives of non-governmental organisations of the Republic of Lithuania or international organisations as well as the temporary guardian (curator) of the unaccompanied minor, must forthwith organise the search for his/her family members (the institutions of the country of origin of the asylum seeker are not referred to) in order to establish the location of these family members or close relatives, unless this is in contradiction with the interests of the child;</li> <li>- unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are provided with accommodation at the Refugee Reception Centre (hereinafter – the “Centre”), which also provides accommodation for the persons who have been granted asylum in the Republic of Lithuania. Other asylum seekers are provided with accommodation at the Foreigners’ Registration Centre. The Centre provides all necessary social, educational and medical services, minors are able to study at general education and vocational schools, they are taught to cook, clean rooms. From 5 p.m., the section accommodating unaccompanied minors is locked, all persons entering the premises must pass a duty officer thus</li> </ul>
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EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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			<p>ensuring the security of minors;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- unaccompanied minor asylum seekers may be subject to detention only in exceptional cases. The law provides for measures alternative to detention: entrusting the supervision of an unaccompanied minor alien to an appropriate social care institution; entrusting the supervision of the alien to a citizen of the Republic of Lithuania or to an alien lawfully residing in the Republic of Lithuania and related to the alien, pending the resolution of the issue of detention, provided that this person undertakes to take care of and support the alien;</li> <li>- applications of unaccompanied minors for asylum are usually examined within a time period shorter than the established time limit of 3 months;</li> <li>- an interview of an unaccompanied minor asylum seeker is attended by his guardian (curator), and if (s)he is not appointed yet – by an employee of the children’s rights protection agency and/or a lawyer. The interview is usually conducted through an interpreter, who may also be in another country using video equipment. Interviews of unaccompanied minors should be conducted by specially trained persons working exclusively with minors, however Lithuania receives only several applications of unaccompanied minors per year, hence the interviews are conducted by most experienced employees trained abroad for work with unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. In Lithuania, such trainings are not organised. A lawyer participates in the interview of asylum seekers over the age of 18 years only at the request of an alien (the interview is often conducted in a language spoken by the alien in the absence of an interpreter).</li> <li>- unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in Lithuania are most often granted subsidiary protection, i.e., a residence permit in Lithuania for a period of one year with the possibility of extension. During 2008-2010, the status of a refugee was not granted to any unaccompanied minor.</li> <li>- an unaccompanied minor asylum seeker, irrespectively of whether (s)he has been granted asylum in Lithuania or his/her application for asylum is being examined, is allocated a monthly allowance in the amount of LTL 245 for food and minor expenses. The allowance is paid in two instalments per month to the minor, who is taken to shopping by the guardian and decides together with him/her on the way of spending this amount. The same amount is allocated to single persons. Other aliens who are granted asylum are allocated LTL 210 per person on a monthly basis. Asylum seekers over the age of 18 years and children who enter the country together with their parents and file applications for asylum are allocated the monthly payment of LTL 35.</li> </ul> <p>6. Entry procedures, age determination, reception/accommodation/benefits, and detention/return are all covered by the 2009 EMN-study on UAM. Have there been any major changes to your Member State’s policy in these areas? If yes, please describe briefly!</p> <p>There have been no major changes.</p> <p>7. To what extent is detention being used concerning unaccompanied minors in asylum procedures and return procedures respectively?</p> <p>See above.</p>
	<p><b>Luxembourg</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. a) Number of asylum applications of unaccompanied minors (UAM) in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively (top five nationalities, others and total)  b) The total number of asylum applications from these nationalities (a)  c) The share of the UAM (percentage) in comparison with the total numbers (b)</p>



**EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics**

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2008	a)	b)	c)	2009	a)	b)	c)	2010	a)	b)	c)
	UAM	total	%		UAM	total	%		UAM	total	%
Kosovo	3	201	1%	Kosovo	3	132	2%	Afghanistan	5	15	33%
Afghanistan	1	4	25%	Afghanistan	2	10	20%	Algeria	3	30	10%
Congo	1	6	17%	Albania	2	26	8%	Congo	3	10	30%
Somalia	1	10	10%	Ethiopia	2	4	50%	Irak	3	95	6%
				Autres	4			Autres	5		
Total	6	221	3%	Total	13			Total	19		

19

2. a) Number and b) percentage of unaccompanied minors granted (first instance decisions) permanent/temporary residence permits respectively (and in total) in 2008, 2009 and 2010. **Statistics not available.**
  
3. Concluded asylum cases (first instance), number and percentage of unaccompanied minors granted protection (residence permits) and grounds for the decision (international protection according to directive 2004/83/EC or national grounds for protection), number and percentage of rejections, transfers to other Member State according to Dublin regulation and other decisions. **Statistics not available.**
  
4. a) Number of unaccompanied minors that have returned voluntarily in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States. **NONE**  
 b) Number of enforced returns of unaccompanied minors in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively to countries of origin/other third countries/other Member States. **NONE.**
  
5. What difference does it make in terms of protection, reception conditions or benefits if an asylum seeker is above or below 18 years of age? Are any other age limits relevant in these contexts?  
 The Law on Asylum and other complementary forms of protection of 5 May 2006 considers as unaccompanied minors third country nationals or stateless persons that are younger than 18 years old that enters in the territory without been accompanied by an adult that is responsible for themselves, by law or by costume, and that these persons do not take charge effectively of the minors. This definition covers also the minors that are left alone after they have entered the territory.  
  
**Assistance during the international protection procedure**  
 Article 12 of the Law of Asylum contains certain procedural guarantees for un-accompanied minors. In example, article 12 (1) says that an unaccompanied minor applicant will be assigned as soon as possible an ad-hoc administrator (ad-hoc guardian) so that the minor will be assisted during the procedure. The ad-hoc administrator has the possibility of Informing to inform the minor about the interview and the consequences that derives from such interview and help him/her prepare for it. The ad-hoc administrator (guardian) has the right to assist to the Interview to ask questions and to make comments inside the scope that the responsible minister's agent had fixed. However, the unaccompanied minor shall be present even if the ad-hoc administrator is present.  
 Article 12 (2) establishes that the interview has to be conducted by an agent with sufficient knowledge in the especial needs of minors.


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		<p><b>Rights given to the un-accompanied minor once the international protection is granted</b></p> <p>Article 52 of the Asylum Law establishes that:</p> <p>(1) As soon as possible, after the international protection is granted (refugee or subsidiary protection), the legal representation of the minor is assured by an ad-hoc administrator (guardian) or if necessary by the institution that must take charge of the minor and guarantee his/her well-being, or of any other proper form of representation.</p> <p>(2) To implement this law, the needs of the un-accompanied minors must be duly taken into consideration by the ad-hoc administrator (guardian).</p> <p>(3) The unaccompanied minors are lodged:</p> <p>a) with adult relatives; or</p> <p>b) within a foster family ; or</p> <p>c) in a specialized center for lodging minors; or</p> <p>d) in other places that adapted for lodging minors.</p> <p>(4) In the measure that is possibly brotherhoods will not be separated, taking into consideration the superior interest of the child and specially the age and his/her maturity. The changing of residence for unaccompanied minors must be reduced to a minimum.</p> <p>(5) To ensure the best interests of the unaccompanied minor, the family members will be look for as soon as possible. In cases where the life or physical integrity of a minor or his family would be threatened, especially if they have remained in the country of origin, it will ensure that the collection, processing and dissemination of information concerning those persons is confidential.</p> <p>(6) The personal working with unaccompanied minors shall have had or receive appropriate training concerning their needs.</p> <p><b>Right to family reunification of unaccompanied minor who is beneficiary of international protection:</b></p> <p>Article 70 (4) of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration allows the entry and residence for purposes of family reunification to direct ascendants in the first degree of unaccompanied minor benefiting from international protection status, without having to fulfill the requirements of article 70 (5)(a).</p> <p><b>Reception conditions and Social Aid</b></p> <p>The Grand Ducal Regulation of 1 September 2006 lays down the terms and conditions for granting a social aid to international protection applicants. This regulation foresees a structure for unaccompanied minors. Social aid must take into account the needs of vulnerable people (such as minors, unaccompanied minors - Article 4 (1)). The regulation also establishes that among the recipients of the monthly allowance are the unaccompanied minor aged 16 to 18 years (Article 5).</p> <p>Article 7 deals with the accommodation of unaccompanied minors under and over 16 years. This article states:</p> <p>Unaccompanied minors aged under 16 are accommodated:</p> <p>a) with adult family members,</p> <p>b) within a host family,</p> <p>c) in a specialized center for the reception of minors,</p>
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<p>d) in other accommodation suitable for minors.</p> <p>In principle the minor aged 16 or less is placed in a reception center for minors by a decision of the juvenile court. The minor housed in a state structured center is offered a tutor from the Social Service of the Luxemburgish Reception and Integration Agency.</p> <p>Unaccompanied minors aged 16 or older can be placed in shelters for adult asylum seekers normally managed by an NGO (Caritas and Red Cross). The minor housed in such a state structure center is offered a tutor from the NGO's staff.</p> <p><b>Return and retention</b></p> <p>Article 103 of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration stipulates that:          "No return decision may be taken against a minor not accompanied by a legal representative, except if it is based on reasons of public security, unless the expulsion is necessary in its own interest. The unaccompanied minor is assisted by an ad hoc administrator as part of administrative and legal procedures for entry and residence in the territory. "</p> <p>The new Article 125a (2) of the amended law of August 29, 2008 notes that "During the period in which the removal has been postponed, the alien is entitled to a humanitarian aid as defined in Article 27 of the Law of 18 December 2009. Minors have access to the basic education system based on the duration of their stay. The family unit with family members present in the country is maintained as far as possible. The specific needs of vulnerable people, including minors, and unaccompanied minors, are taken into account.</p> <p>The Grand Ducal Regulation of 17 August 2011 modifies the Grand Ducal Regulation of 26 September 2008 laying down the rules of conduct to be applied by officers executing an order of removal, states that before the removal of an unaccompanied minor from territory, the Minister shall ensure that in the State where the minor is going to be expelled he/she will be awarded to a member of his family, a designated guardian or to adequate reception facilities.</p> <p>Article 120 (a) of the amended law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration indicates that an unaccompanied minors can be placed in detention in a suitable center adapted to the needs of his/her age. For doing so, the authorities must consider the best interest of the child. It should be noted that in practice, unaccompanied minors are not placed in detention facilities.</p> <p>Article 7 (2) of the Law of 28 May 2009 establishing and organizing the Retention Center (Holding facility) states that "particular attention is paid to the situation of vulnerable people, namely minors, and unaccompanied minors, ..."</p> <p><b>6. Entry procedures, age determination, reception / accommodation / benefits, and detention / return are all Covered by the 2009 MNE-study is UAM. Have There Been Any Major exchange to your Member State's policy in thesis areas? If yes, please describe briefly!</b></p> <p>The Law of 1 July 2011 amending the Law of 5 May 2006 on asylum and complementary forms of protection introduced the institution of the ad-hoc administrator in the scope of the procedure for examining international protection applications (Article 12, see above)</p> <p>The same law introduced the institution of the ad-hoc administrator in the administrative and judiciary proceedings on entry and residence in the territory (Article 103). It also specifies the conditions for retention of minor, having the discretion to place him/her in facilities</p>
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			<p><b>7. To what extents is Being Used detention Regarding Unaccompanied Minors in asylum procedures and return procedures respectively?</b></p> <p>Retention of an unaccompanied minor whose application for international protection had been rejected is not been applied at the moment.</p>																																																																																																																																																						
	Netherlands	Yes	<p><b>1.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2008</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2009</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2010</th> <th>a)</th> <th>b)</th> <th>c)</th> <th>2011</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> <td></td> <td>UM</td> <td>Total</td> <td>%</td> <td>UAM</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Somalia</td> <td>198</td> <td>3 958</td> <td>5,0</td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>357</td> <td>6 027</td> <td>5,9</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>246</td> <td>1 584</td> <td>15,5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Iraq</td> <td>184</td> <td>5 312</td> <td>3,5</td> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>322</td> <td>1 400</td> <td>23,0</td> <td>Somalia</td> <td>119</td> <td>3 671</td> <td>3,2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Afghanistan</td> <td>94</td> <td>703</td> <td>13,4</td> <td>Iraq</td> <td>67</td> <td>2 165</td> <td>3,0</td> <td>Guinea</td> <td>33</td> <td>250</td> <td>13,2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>China</td> <td>49</td> <td>601</td> <td>8,2</td> <td>Guinea</td> <td>45</td> <td>265</td> <td>17,0</td> <td>Iraq</td> <td>32</td> <td>1 904</td> <td>1,6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guinea</td> <td>33</td> <td>195</td> <td>17,0</td> <td>Eritrea</td> <td>39</td> <td>486</td> <td>8,0</td> <td>Eritrea</td> <td>26</td> <td>410</td> <td>6,3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others</td> <td>168</td> <td>4 506</td> <td>3,7</td> <td>Others</td> <td>209</td> <td>5 820</td> <td>3,6</td> <td>Others</td> <td>245</td> <td>7 329</td> <td>3,3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>total</td> <td>726</td> <td>15 275</td> <td>4,8</td> <td>Total</td> <td>1 039</td> <td>16 163</td> <td>6,4</td> <td>Total</td> <td>701</td> <td>15 148</td> <td>4,6</td> <td>484</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. no data available 3. no data available</p> <p><b>4.</b> Due to a change in in the registration system, DT&amp;V can only provide the numbers of enforced returns of unaccompanied minors starting from 2009. For 2008 these numbers are not available. Therefore the numbers from 2009 to 2011 are listed in the following table.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Return</th> <th>Destination</th> <th>2008</th> <th>2009</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2011</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">e) Voluntarily</td> <td>Dublin</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Country of Origin</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unspecified</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Third Country</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Voluntarily total</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>21</b></td> <td><b>26</b></td> <td><b>16</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2008	a)	b)	c)	2009	a)	b)	c)	2010	a)	b)	c)	2011		UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%		UM	Total	%	UAM	Somalia	198	3 958	5,0	Somalia	357	6 027	5,9	Afghanistan	246	1 584	15,5		Iraq	184	5 312	3,5	Afghanistan	322	1 400	23,0	Somalia	119	3 671	3,2		Afghanistan	94	703	13,4	Iraq	67	2 165	3,0	Guinea	33	250	13,2		China	49	601	8,2	Guinea	45	265	17,0	Iraq	32	1 904	1,6		Guinea	33	195	17,0	Eritrea	39	486	8,0	Eritrea	26	410	6,3		Others	168	4 506	3,7	Others	209	5 820	3,6	Others	245	7 329	3,3		total	726	15 275	4,8	Total	1 039	16 163	6,4	Total	701	15 148	4,6	484	Return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	2011	e) Voluntarily	Dublin					Country of Origin					Unspecified					Third Country					<b>Voluntarily total</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	
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EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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				Approx. 5	Approx. 5	Approx. 25
				Approx. 25	Approx. 30	Approx. 15
			<p>5) The age of 15 is relevant. For further details see the answer on question 6.</p> <p>6. The Dutch asylum procedure changed in July 2010 and this also affected unaccompanied minors. In general asylum seekers have a rest and preparation period for at least 6 days, to prepare for the asylum procedure. During this period, documents can be investigated, the asylum seeker receives medical screening and a check on TBC, the Dutch Refugee Council informs the asylum seeker about what he might expect in the asylum procedure. Also the asylum seeker can contact a lawyer to prepare for the interviews. In practice this period for unaccompanied minors will take about three weeks. When no further investigation is needed for the decision on the application, the asylum seeker receives his decision in 8 days. This also applies for unaccompanied minors.</p> <p>Age determination in the Netherlands is no longer possible for determining the age of 15. The possibility for determining the age of 18 remains (see EMN-report 2009).</p> <p>Already in the end of 2009 a change in policy in the issuing of a residence permit to an unaccompanied minor was announced. This change in policy will enter into force at some point during 2012. Unaccompanied minors, whose asylum application are rejected, will no longer be issued a residence permit as an unaccompanied minor (this residence permit was granted to unaccompanied minors, whose asylum application was rejected, but for who no adequate reception was thought to be available in their country of origin. This permit was granted until the age of 18). When the policy is changed, only unaccompanied minors who applied for asylum before the age of 15 can be granted another type of residence permit instead. If certain conditions are met a residence permit can be granted this is called a residence permit for reasons that they cannot return to their country of origin beyond their own fault.</p> <p>7. In March 2011 the policy for detention of unaccompanied minors was changed. Although the possibilities for detention of unaccompanied minors was already restrained, detention is now only possible if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the minor is a threat for public order</li> <li>- the return of the minor can be achieved within 14 days (after the start of the detention)</li> <li>- the minor has been disappeared before without giving notice</li> <li>- entry is refused at the border (detention is possible until the age of minority is determined)</li> </ul>			
	<b>Portugal</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			

EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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4.		Return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
f)	Voluntarily	Dublin		14	35	70	60	179
		Country of Origin		16	31	51	70	168
		Unspecified		29	17	5	4	55
		Third Country		1	3	9	3	16
<b>Voluntarily total</b>				<b>60</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>415</b>
g)	Enforced	Dublin		2	1	10	12	25
		Country of Origin			3	2	6	11
		Unspecified		1	1		1	3
		Third Country			2		1	3
<b>Enforced total</b>				<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>63</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>460</b>

5.  
There is no age limit other than 18 years of age. If the asylum seeker is below 18 years of age an unaccompanied he or she will be taken care of by the social welfare in the municipals and The Swedish board of Migration will pay the municipal for the caretaking. If the child then turns 18 and the social welfare decides that the caretaking must continue The Swedish board of Migration will continue to pay the municipal for the caretaking, maximum until he or she turns 21 year.

6.  
There have not been any major changes to policies concerning unaccompanied minors in Sweden. However, possible policy changes are considered.


7.  
According to the Swedish system, the only ground for detaining children or families with children is related to return procedures. In other words; children are never detained for border security or immigration purposes, or in other premises than the Migration Board's detention centres. A child may not be detained for more than 72 hours or, if there are exceptional grounds, for a further 72 hours. As an alternative to detention the authorities may decide to place the child or the family under supervision.

Approximately 60-70 children per year are detained for removal purposes. This number includes unaccompanied minors, but it is not common that unaccompanied minors are detained. A child may not be separated from both its custodians by detaining either the child or its custodian.

Alternatives to detention, for example regular reporting (supervision), are very seldom used concerning unaccompanied children, since they are accommodated in housing with attendance by responsible staff.


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	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	1. Table as.08: Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children applications received, excluding dependants, in the United Kingdom, by sex and age at time of application.											
			2008				2009				2010			
			Country of nationality	UM	Total	%	Country of nationality	UM	Total	%	Country of nationality	UM	Total	%
			Afghanistan	1,800	3,503	51.4%	Afghanistan	1,629	3,330	48.9%	Afghanistan	547	1,596	34.3%
			Iraq	485	1,852	26.2%	Eritrea	242	1,349	17.9%	Iran	202	1,866	10.8%
			Iran	391	2,270	17.2%	Iran	212	1,834	11.6%	Eritrea	138	711	19.4%
			Eritrea	370	2,257	16.4%	Iraq	160	847	18.9%	Vietnam	122	449	27.2%
			China	202	1,396	14.5%	Somalia	126	932	13.5%	Somalia	72	587	12.3%
			Others	1,037	14,654	7.1%	Others	805	16,195	5.0%	Others	636	12,707	5.0%
			TOTAL	4,285	25932	16.5%	TOTAL	3174	24,487	13.0%	TOTAL	1717	17916	9.6%
			2. Table as.09: Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, excluding dependants, initial decisions, by age at initial decision.											
			Year	Total initial decisions	Total initial decisions made on applicants aged 17 or under	Total initial decisions made on applicants aged 18 and over								
			2008	3,377	2,673	704								
			2009	3,479	2,700	779								
			2010	2,359	1,688	671								
			The UK do not collect data on residence permits as defined by the Migratory Statistics Regulation EC No 862/2007. The UK can provide estimates of such 'residence permits' for third country nationals who are granted permission to reside in the UK by reason, mainly by using National Statistics data on passengers given permission to enter the UK (supplemented with other management information such as visas issued and asylum granted). However this data is not collected separately for UAMs.											



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			<p>3.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="622 288 1496 635"> <thead> <tr> <th>2010</th> <th>Aged 17 or under</th> <th>Aged 18 or over</th> <th>TOTAL</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concluded asylum cases</td> <td>1,688</td> <td>671</td> <td>2,359</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>1,371</td> <td>81</td> <td>1,452</td> <td>62%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grants of asylum</td> <td>264</td> <td>63</td> <td>327</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grants of HP</td> <td>11</td> <td>1</td> <td>12</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grants of DL</td> <td>1,096</td> <td>17</td> <td>1,113</td> <td>47%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total refusals</td> <td>317</td> <td>590</td> <td>907</td> <td>38%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>HP: Humanitarian Protection DL: Discretionary Leave</p> <p>4. The UK do not publish data on voluntary or enforced returns of unaccompanied asylum seeking children.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child (UASC) is a person under 18, or who, in the absence of documentary evidence establishing age, appears to be under that age, is applying for asylum on his or her own right and has no relative or guardian in the United Kingdom.</li> <li>- Figures exclude cases that were age disputed at the time of extract.</li> <li>- Data taken from 'asylum excel tables volume 2' of Immigration Statistics July-September 2011, published by Home Office. Accessible here: <a href="http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q3-2011">http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q3-2011</a></li> </ul>	2010	Aged 17 or under	Aged 18 or over	TOTAL	%	Concluded asylum cases	1,688	671	2,359	100%	Granted	1,371	81	1,452	62%	Grants of asylum	264	63	327	14%	Grants of HP	11	1	12	1%	Grants of DL	1,096	17	1,113	47%	Total refusals	317	590	907	38%
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<b>3. UAM decisions by type of decision, 2008 - 2010</b>								
First instance UAM decisions	2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total decisions</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1226</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>100</b>
Total granted	334	85	836	71	955	78	562	74
Refugee	26	7	65	6	111	9	172	23
Subsidiary protection	221	57	626	53	718	59	285	38
Humanitarian grounds	87	22	112	10	84	7	75	10
Otherwise granted	0	0	33	3	42	3	30	4
Rejected	41	10	91	8	92	8	45	6
Dublin	2	1	195	17	149	12	107	14
Other decision	14	4	50	4	30	2	44	6
<b>4. UAM returned by type of return and destination, 2008 - 2010</b>								
Note that these numbers only include those who were minors at the time of return								
Type of return	Destination	2008	2009	2010	2011			
a) Voluntarily								
	Country of origin	4	4	5	4			
	Unspecified							
	Third country	1						
<b>Voluntarily total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>			
b) Enforced								
	Dublin	5	54	153	99			
	Country of origin			2	1			
	Unspecified			3				
	Third country							

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			<p><b>Enforced total</b></p> <p><b>Total returns</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>54</b></p> <p><b>58</b></p>	<p><b>158</b></p> <p><b>163</b></p>	<p>100</p> <p>104</p> <p><b>5.</b> Protection: When we assess claims from unaccompanied minors we take into account age, maturity, mental health, educational/family background and difficulties with remembering events/time-lines. There is also lower threshold for harm feared. There are focus on child-specific forms of persecution. We also give benefit of the doubt. When lack of adequate care is the main argument for asylum we consider if there are sufficient grounds for a residence permit on humanitarian grounds.</p> <p><b>Reception conditions:</b> Unaccompanied minors who apply for protection in Norway are offered accommodation in asylum reception centres. The Norwegian Directorate for Immigration (UDI) has care responsibility for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers between 15 and 18 years. They stay in separate reception units adapted to their age and needs. UDI has prepared strict requirements for the reception centres work with unaccompanied minors. UDI has different types of reception centres all over Norway; transit reception centres and ordinary centres for UAM asylum seekers aged between 15 and 18. The national child welfare service is responsible for UAM asylum seekers under 15 years of age.</p> <p><b>6.</b></p> <p>There have not been any major changes to policies concerning unaccompanied minors in Norway. However, in autumn 2009 there were some changes in procedures for age examination. A radiological examination of the wrist was added to the dental examination. The medical assessment now consists of: a dental examination on the basis of x-ray of molar development, a radiological examination of left wrist and a final conclusion on age made by a paediatrician using the results of both. The medical assessment report will state: the probability that the given age is correct, the probability that the applicant is under 16 or 18 years of age (by indicating categories A-I), and the most probable age based on the medical assessment. A presentation of the medical assessment results for use by non medical personnel is given in the form of categories expressing levels of certainty in the results. Applicants with results in category A and B are as a general rule considered as adults. Until autumn 2009 applicants in the B category were as a general rule accepted as minors.</p> <p><b>7.</b></p> <p>Norway detains children in connection with asylum procedures and forced returns from Norway. However, we look for other options before resorting to detention, such as regular reporting to the police. At the National Police Immigration Service Holding Centre at Trandum, there are special sections for families and children. An unaccompanied minor shall not be detained at the centre for more than 48 hours. Determining identity and forced return of a minor shall, if possible, be carried out without the use of actual force. In extraordinary cases, unaccompanied minors between 16 and 18 years of age, have been brought before the court and the police have argued that that the court cannot give decisive importance to the stated age, because that age has not been documented through identity papers and that age examination results indicate that they are more than 18 years and/or that they have claimed to be over 18 years in other states in the Schengen Area. The district court has in several of these cases based the decision on the stated age, but still concluded that it is not disproportionate to keep the minor in custody until the departure from Norway. The district court will appoint a guardian for the period a minor remand in custody. There will also be established a contact between the holding centre and concerned authorities such as</p>
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EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Unaccompanied minors – updated facts and statistics

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			Child Welfare Services. We do not, unfortunately, have statistics on the number of minors detained as the database where this information is registered is not adapted to statistical purposes.
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