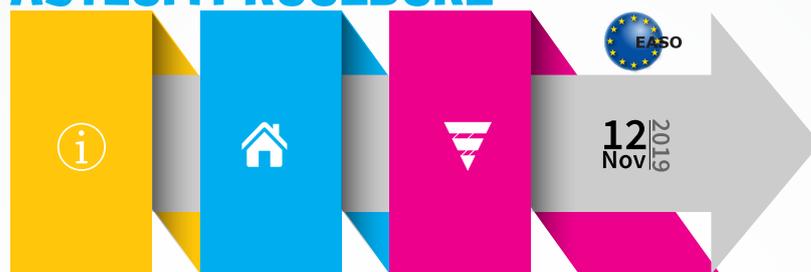


# INITIAL STEPS IN THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE

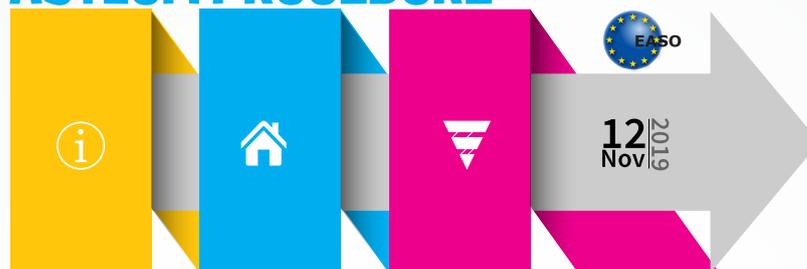


9th Consultative Forum Plenary Meeting  
The Blue Point, Brussels

## Agenda

08:30-09:00	<i>Registration and welcome coffee</i>
09:00-09:15	<b>Opening Statements by EASO's Executive Director, Ms. Nina Gregori</b>
09:15-09:30	<b>Keynote opening address by Mr Michael Shotter, Director for Migration, Protection and Visa at DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission</b>
09:30-10:45	<p><b>Expert Panel Debate: Registration</b></p> <p>This session will examine the registration procedure, reviewing what role Member States, civil society and EASO play during this first crucial step in the asylum procedure. In particular, the session will consider what information is collected at the point of registration and will review the importance of correct registration of the different types of information for the overall status determination process. The session will review challenges with the registration process including in times of a sudden increased influx of applicants and will consider some of the measures and tools introduced by Member States to streamline the registration procedure, reviewing their impact on applicants and their access to procedural guarantees. This session will finally also consider the role of CSOs in providing information and legal counselling to applicants during the registration procedure.</p> <p><i>Introduction and facilitation of the debate by: Migration Policy Institute, Dr. Hanne Beirens, Director</i></p> <p><b>Panellists</b></p> <p><b>Federal Office for Migration and Refugees in Germany (BAMF), Mr. René Böcker, Head of Group International tasks and migration policy</b></p> <p><b>EASO, Ms. An Buys from the Department of Operations and Mr. Jeroen Jans from the Department of Asylum Support</b></p> <p><b>Dutch Council for Refugees, Ms. Daniëlle Castricum, Senior Staff Member Department Asylum</b></p>
10:45-11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15-12:30	<p><b>Expert Panel Debate: Channelling and Referral</b></p> <p>This session will examine the concept of “triaging”, i.e. the channelling of cases into different processing streams and the extent to which this contributes to efficient asylum processing. The session will also consider vulnerable persons and the early identification of their special needs, reviewing the extent to which the early identification of vulnerable persons can contribute to putting in place the necessary procedural guarantees.</p> <p><i>Introduction and facilitation of the debate by: EASO, Mr. Jamil Addou, Principal Head of Department a.i.</i></p> <p><b>Panellists</b></p> <p><b>Ministry of Justice and Security in the Netherlands, Mr Johan van der Bruggen, Senior Policy Advisor International Affairs, Immigration and Naturalisation Service</b></p> <p><b>UNHCR, Ms. Sophie Magennis, Head of Policy and Legal Support at UNHCR's Regional Representation for EU Affairs in Brussels</b></p> <p><b>ECRE, Mr. Minos Mouzourakis, Head of Legal and Policy Research a.i</b></p>

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## Agenda

12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-13:40	<b>Keynote address by the Director of the Fundamental Rights Agency, Mr Michael O'Flaherty</b>
13:40-15:45	<p><b>Action-oriented parallel participatory workshops</b></p> <p>During the workshops participants will examine, in detail, three initial steps of the asylum procedure. The workshops will be based on participatory methods with ample opportunity for discussion amongst participants. The main aim of each workshop will be to identify the challenges and good practices related to each topic and to formulate recommendations addressed to Member States, NGO counterparts, and EU institutions/Agencies.</p> <p><b>Workshop 1: Outreach and information provision during the initial steps of the asylum procedure</b></p> <p><b>Workshop 2: Registration procedure</b></p> <p><b>Workshop 3: Channelling based on the profile of the applicant and the identification of special needs</b></p>
15:45-16:15	Coffee break
16:15-17:10	<p><b>Reporting on the results of the workshops - Led by a team of professional experts and supported by the workshop leads</b></p> <p>In this session, the workshop leads will report back to the plenary group on main issues and recommendations discussed. Participants will have the opportunity to review the main findings and recommendations for each workshop, complement them, and will then engage in an exercise to prioritise key recommendations that they would want to put forward to the EASO Network on Asylum Processes.</p>
17:10-18:00	<p><b>Closing Spotlight Debate</b></p> <p>The final spotlight debate will review main issues discussed throughout the day including the prioritised key recommendations. Panellists will engage in a lively interview to cast their insights on how these issues and recommendations can be taken forward.</p> <p><b>Interviewer: Migration Policy Institute, Dr. Hanne Beirens, Director</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <p><b>EASO, Ms. Nina Gregori, Executive Director</b></p> <p><b>European Commission, Mr. Henrik Nielsen, Head of Unit on Asylum</b></p> <p><b>ECRE, Ms. Catherine Woollard, Director</b></p>