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# **EASO Consultative Forum**

## **Synergies with civil society in the relocation process: the experience of Portugal**

**20 September 2016, 14.00, Lisbon**

**In collaboration with**

**SEF** SERVICO  
DE ESTRANGEIROS  
E FRONTEIRAS



**PLATAFORMA DE APOIO AOS  
REFUGIADOS**

**REFUGEE  
SUPPORT  
PLATFORM**

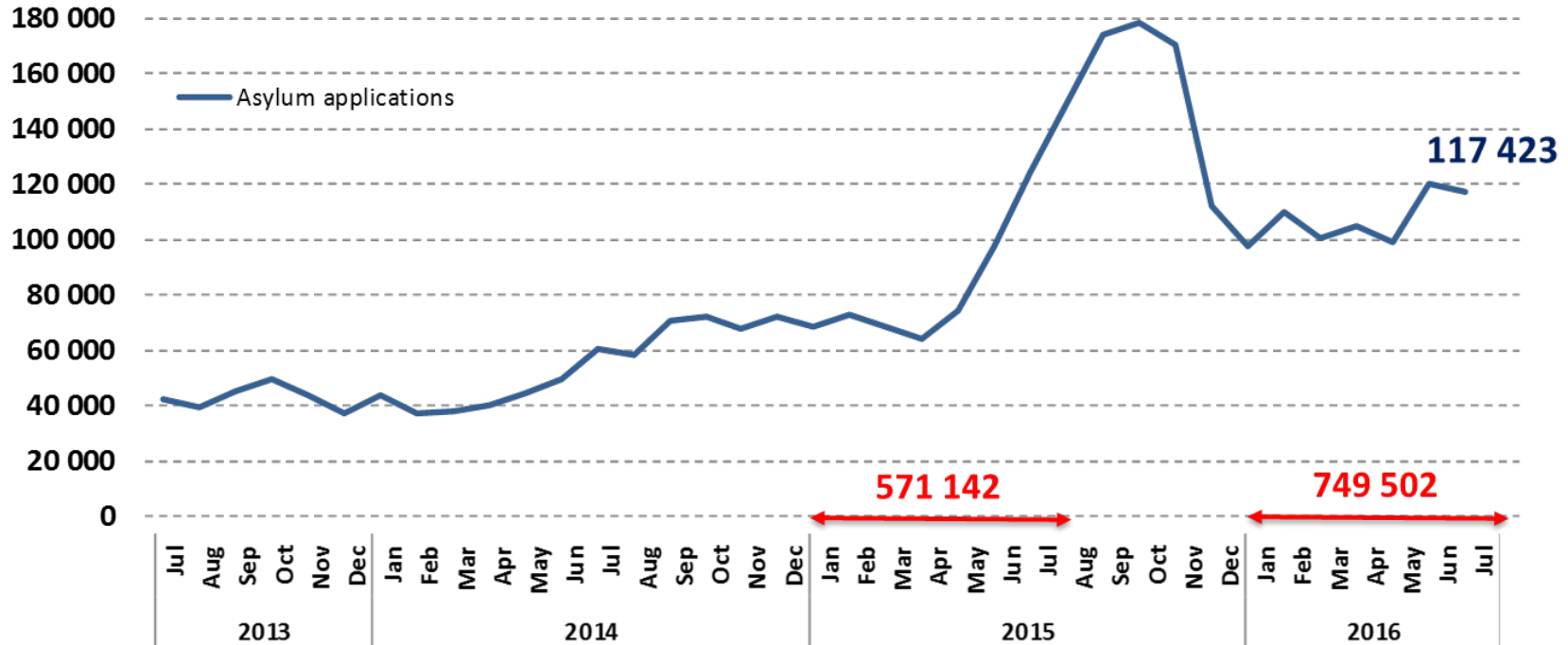


<b>Objective</b>	<b>Listen to the actors involved in the relocation process and discuss ways to promote synergies among institutional and civil society actors in the context of relocation</b>
<b>Format</b>	<b>EASO Consultative Forum framework Built on the experience of Portugal Participatory discussion</b>
<b>Participants</b>	<b>Portuguese, Greek, Italian asylum authorities EASO, IOM, UNHCR Civil Society from Greece, Italy, Portugal, EU+ Relocated applicants</b>

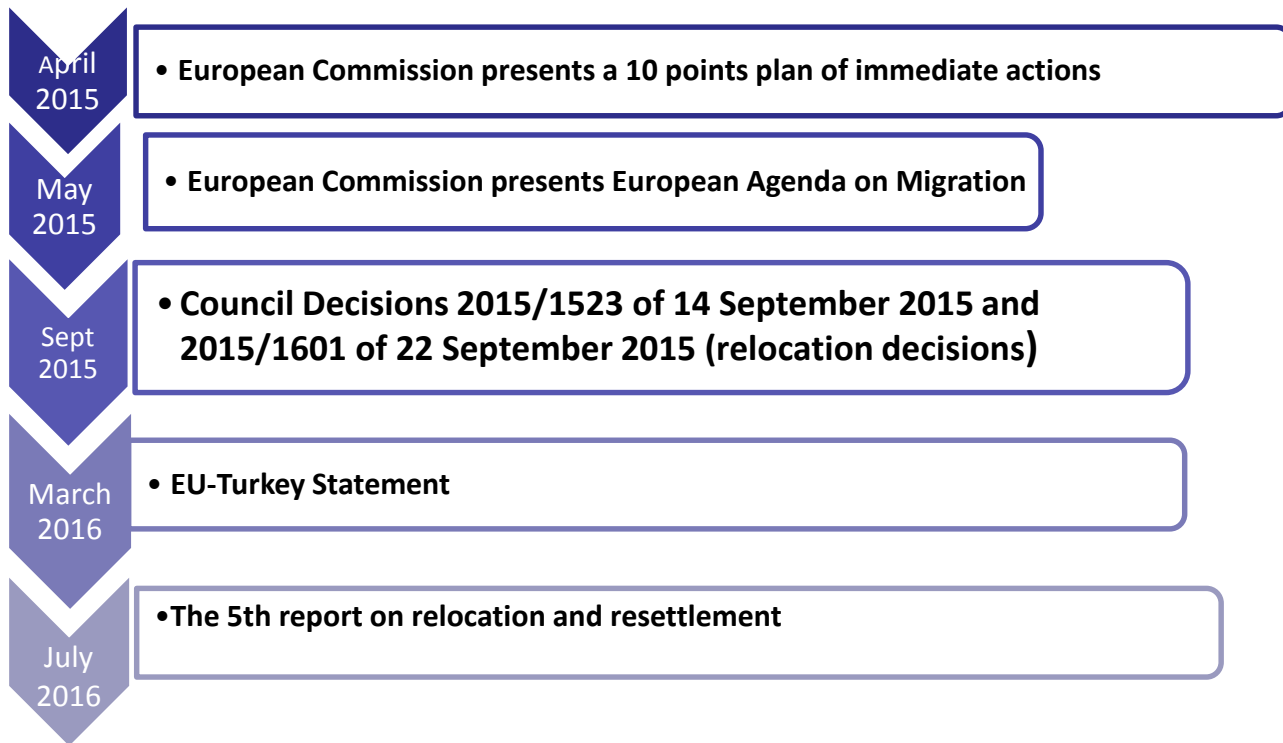




## Number of applications for international protection in EU+ countries 2013 - 2016



# The milestones of the EU relocation program





## What is relocation:

The transfer of asylum seekers who are in clear need of international protection from Greece and Italy to another European state. Their asylum application will only be examined once the relocation has taken place.

It's necessary to:

Be fingerprinted, identified registered in EL/IT

Apply for international protection in EL/IT

Arrived in IT/EL after 24.03.2015

**34.953**

to be relocated  
from Italy

**63.302**

to be relocated  
from Greece

**54.000**

initially placed in pool- COM now  
proposed to be allocated for  
resettlement of SYR from TUR



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# Eligible nationalities

Recognition rate for key nationalities for relocation equal to or over 75%:

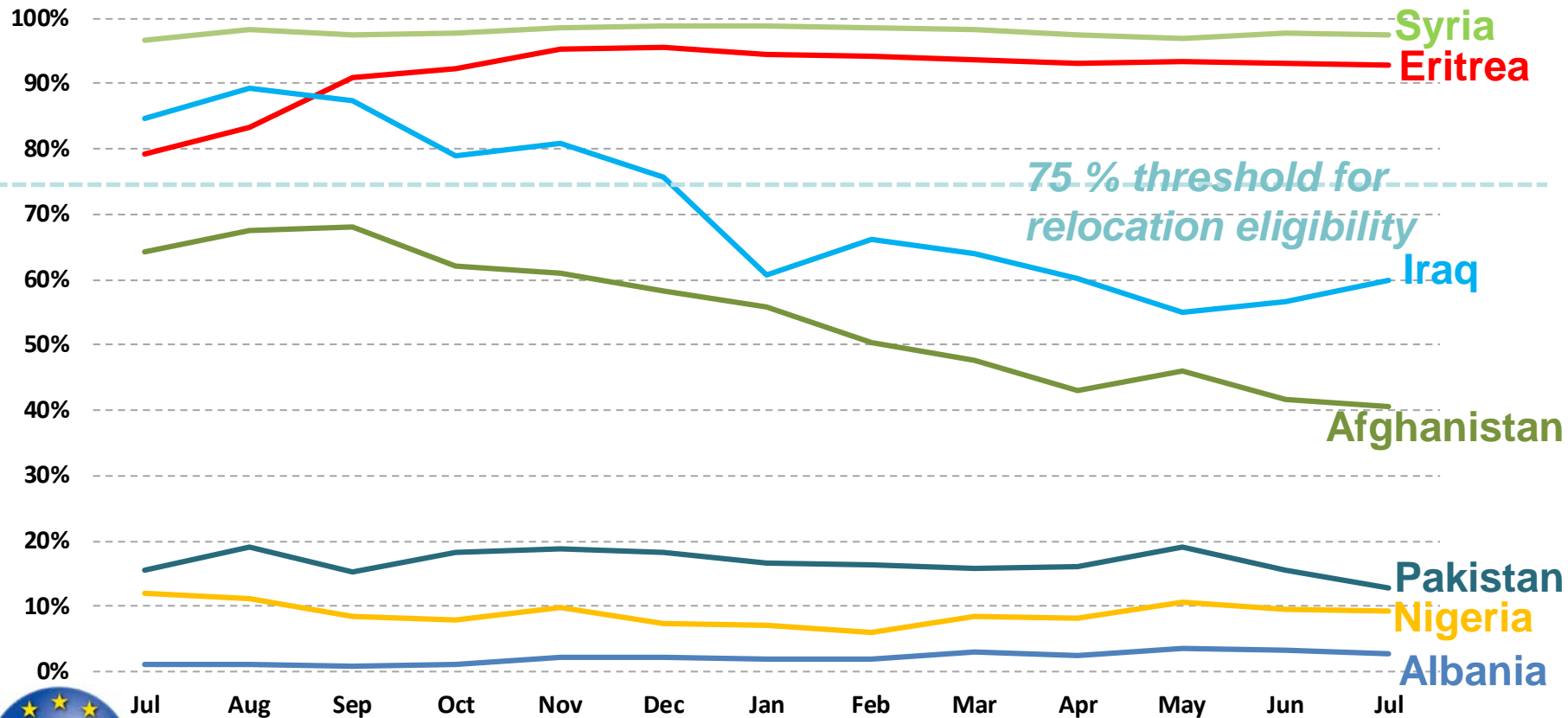
**Syria, Central African  
Republic, Eritrea,  
Seychelles, Dominica,  
Bahrain, Laos, Saudi Arabia**

+ Stateless persons  
residing in those countries





## Recognition rate for selected nationalities, July 2015 - July 2016 (EU-regulated types of protection)

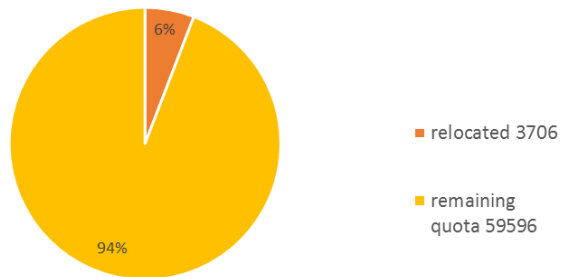


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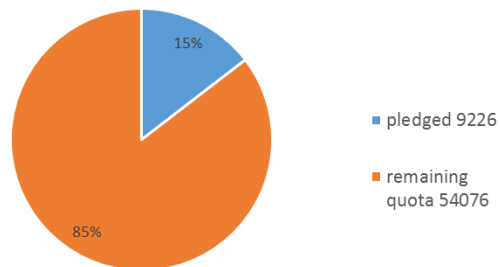
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# Where are we standing? Greece

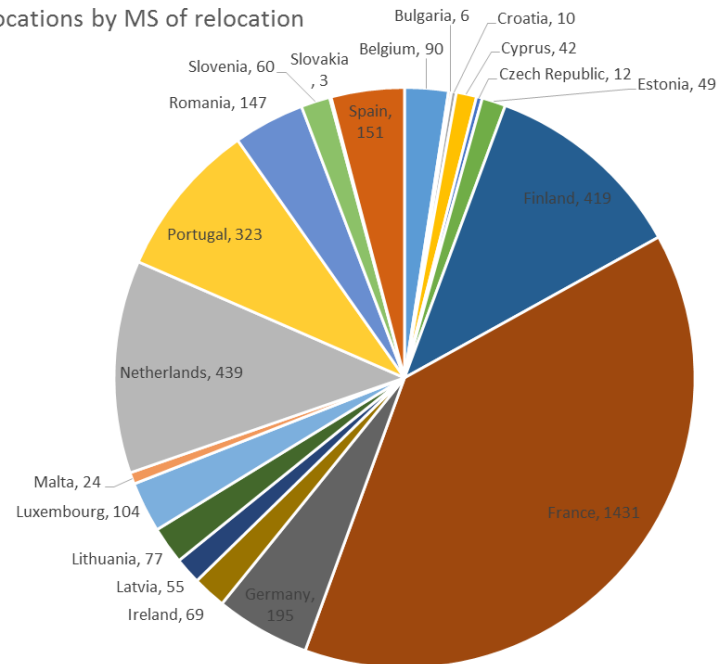
% completed relocation (14.9.2016)



% indications of relocation (14.9.2016)



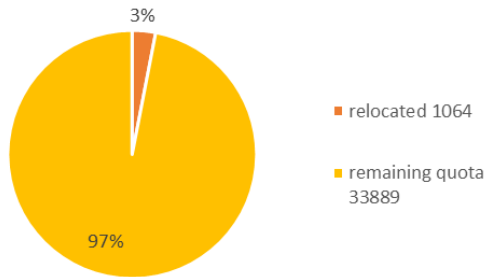
Relocations by MS of relocation



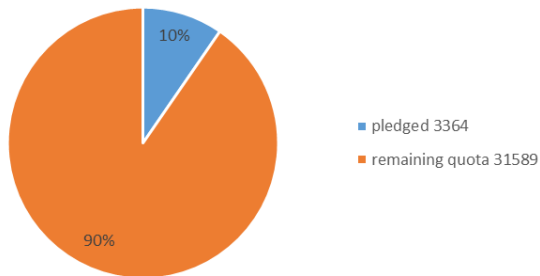


# Where are we standing? Italy

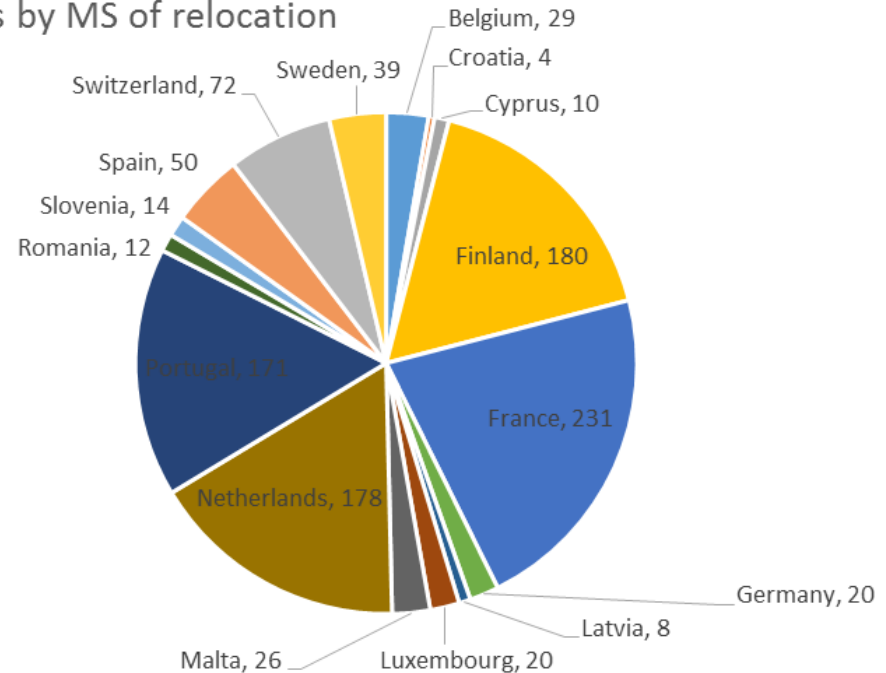
% completed relocation  
(14.9.2016)



% indication of relocation



Relocations by MS of relocation



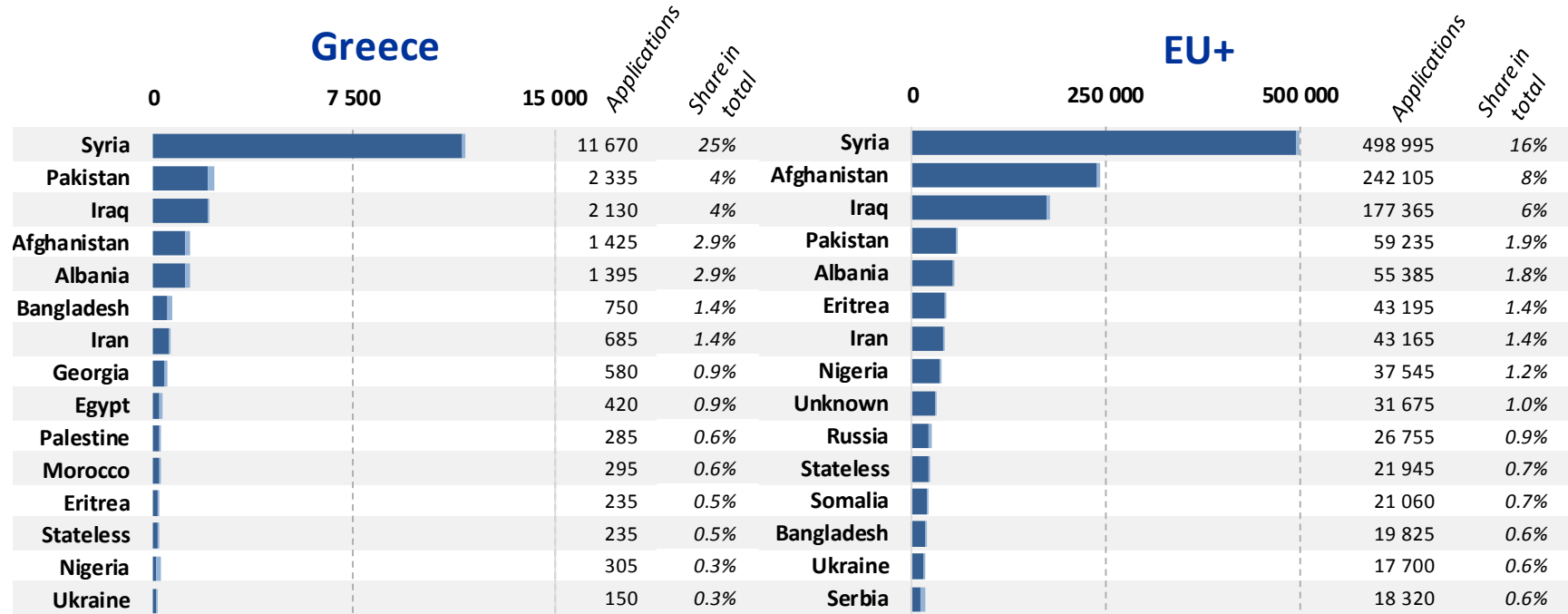
# Nationalities of applicants for relocation

Member State	Nationality
Italy	Mainly from Eritrea
Greece	Mainly from Syria; Iraq, Yemen and Eritrea



# Applicants in Greece and EU+ countries over the most recent 12 months

## Main countries of origin July 2015 - June 2016



■ First time applicant ■ Repeated applicant

■ First time applicant ■ Repeated applicant

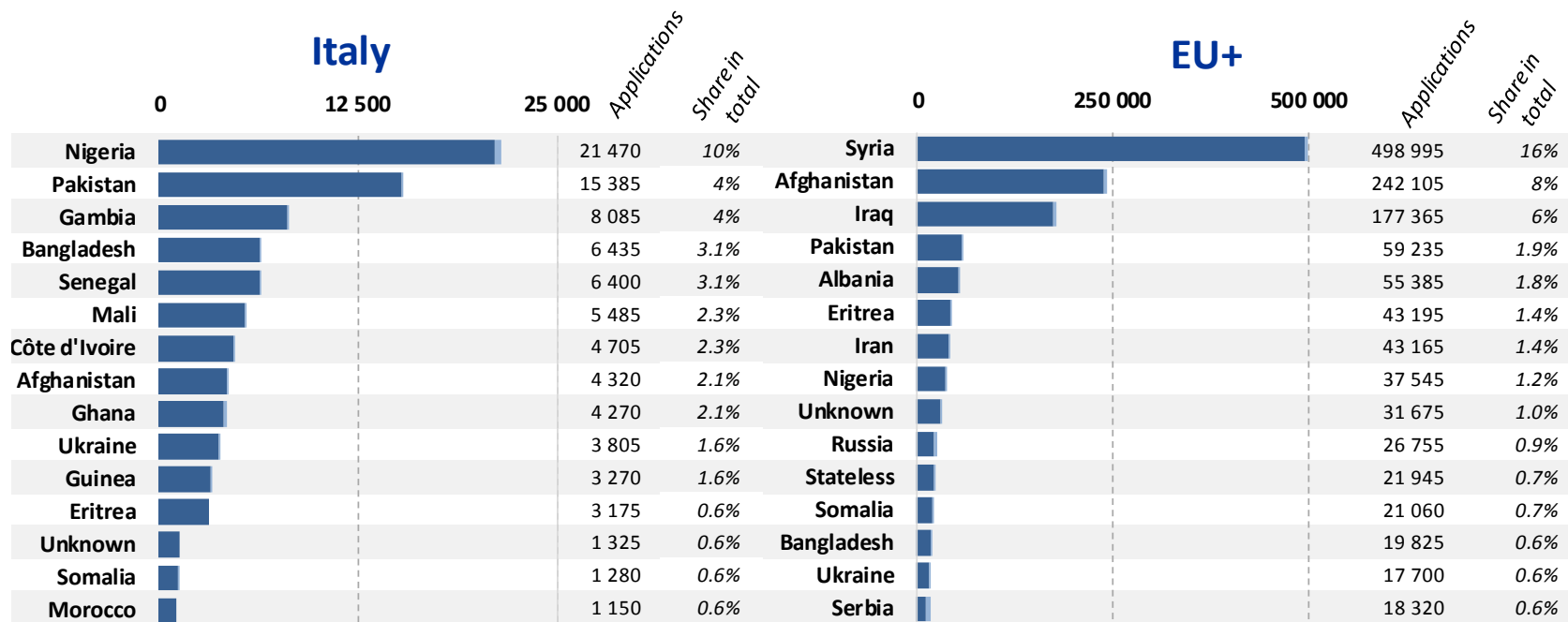


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# EASO support in the relocation process

## Provision of information

- Info on the asylum procedures and on the relocation procedure to the persons disembarking, in order to inform applicants of the benefits of relocation procedure in Italy.

## Registration

- of the application for international protection of persons eligible for relocation. This activity may include additional vulnerability assessment or preliminary nationality assessment.

## Matching

- of applicants with the most appropriate MS of Relocation and preparing the transfer to the MS of Relocation. EASO experts will assist the Dublin units processing such files as well with regular Dublin cases.
- Matching tool under development with the Greek Asylum Service



# EASO support

Support  
overall  
relocation  
process

- Data collection and monitoring the overall relocation process
- Facilitate direct cooperation and exchange of information between NCPs of the MS of relocation
- Develop tools in support of specific steps in the relocation procedure (information leaflet, methods for vulnerability assessment, tracing of elements which might trigger exclusion consideration, registration forms, SOP, script..)
- Inform relevant stakeholders, the press and the general public about relocation;
- Provide effective communication tools;





# The matching tool

- Aim of matching: to facilitate integration where possible
- Criteria used:
  - Demonstrated family ties
  - Demonstrated social and cultural ties (earlier stay, work experience, studies,...)
  - Knowledge of languages
  - Specific requests of MS e.g. linked to shortages in specific sections of the labour market of the MS (pilot phase)
- EASO support:
  - IT tool to automatically propose a MS of Relocation based on the characteristics of the applicants, the available places in the MS and the fair distribution of vulnerable applicants



# EASO Presence in Greece

- Lesvos (hotspot)
- Chios (hotspot)
- Samos (hotspot)
- Leros (hotspot)
- Kos (hotspot)



- Athens
- Thessaloniki
- Alexandroupolis
- Corinth



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# EASO Presence in Italy

- Lampedusa (hotspot)
- Pozzallo (hotspot)
- Trapani (hotspot)
- Taranto (hotspot)
- Catania EURTF



- Villa Sikanian (Agrigento)
- Questura of Rome
- Bari
- Crotona
- Mineo
- Sicily Mobile Team
- Rome Mobile Team
- Roving team (short term)

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# Greece – additional support

- **Pre-registration exercise** in mainland Greece: a large-scale operation, where some **27,600 persons** were pre-registered.
- **Admissibility procedure** in the hotspots:  
Following the EU-TUR Statement EASO provides support to the EL Asylum Service with
  - Admissibility interviews and opinion drafting
  - Vulnerability assessment/referral
  - Notification of decisions
- **Eligibility interviews**-low recognition rate nationalities



## Main challenges

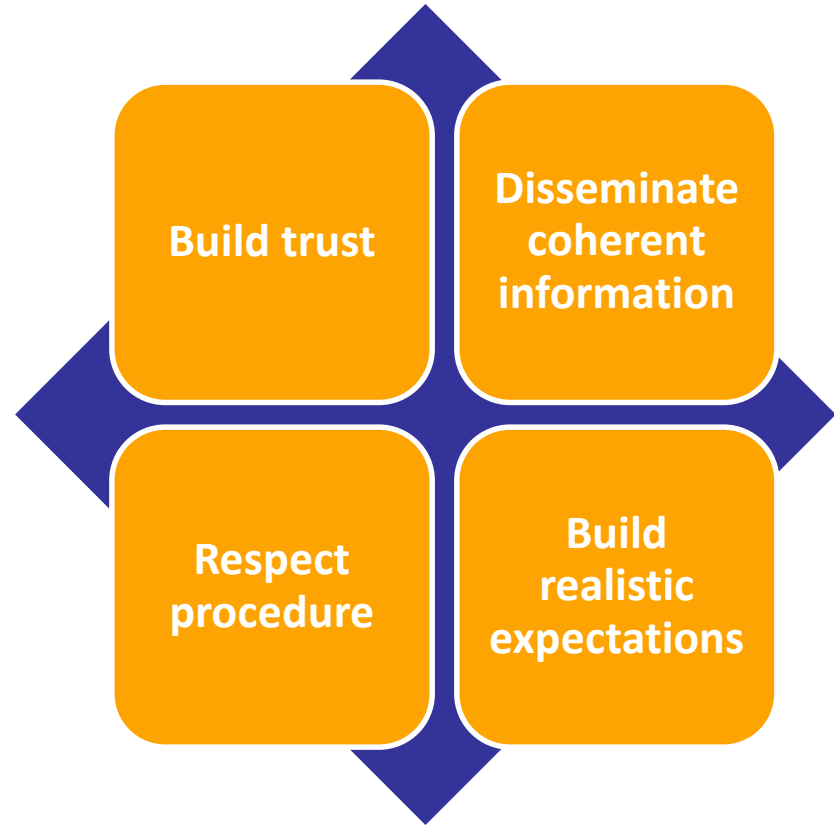
- **A slow start** - a new process, steep learning curve for many stakeholders
- **Risk of absconding** - need for detailed information on the countries of relocation, a quick procedure and more success stories are needed to build trust
- **Pledging procedure** needs to be adhered to more strictly by the MS
- Limitation of **eligible nationalities**
- The issue of **preferences** needs to be further refined as well as the matching process
- **Availability** of MS experts offered for deployment to support EASO's operations





# Build trust in the relocation program

*EASO should involve refugee communities in receiving countries in the development of communication tools for relocation, enabling them to inform their peers about the relocation process and the circumstances in a receiving country, preferably through social media frequently used by migrants.*



# Where civil society can play a role?

- Reception + vulnerable groups
- Reinforcing coherent messages
- Cultural orientation sessions
- Language training in time between notification and transfer
- Integration in MS of relocation



# EASO Relocation communication activities and tools



## قائمة مكاتب اللجوء الذي يمكنك الذهاب إليها:

الشارع	مكاتب اللجوء الإقليمية
2 شارع ب. كانيلوبولو، الرمز البريدي 10177	أثينا
مبنى إكس بوتوس كتيو ب - منطقة لاهاناجورا (سوق البقالة الخضراء)، كالهوري، ثيسالونيكي	ثيسالونيكي
1 شارع ب ماكريس، الرمز البريدي 68100 نيا شيلي، أليكساندروبولي	إغروس الجنوبية
مرفق الإنسان الخاص للأجانب (إهيا)، فيلاكيو، أوريستيدا، الرمز البريدي 68006	إغروس الشمالية
1 ميدان إيليفثيرياس، رودس، مبنى شرطة المرور، الرمز البريدي 85100	رودس
مركز هوية المواطنة، موريا، ميتيلي الرمز البريدي 81100	اليسبوس
فاتهي، ساموس	ساموس
Kos, Leros, Samos, Chios, Lesvos	مكاتب اللجوء في المواقع الساخنة
ليسفوس، خيوس، ساموس، ليروس، كوس	

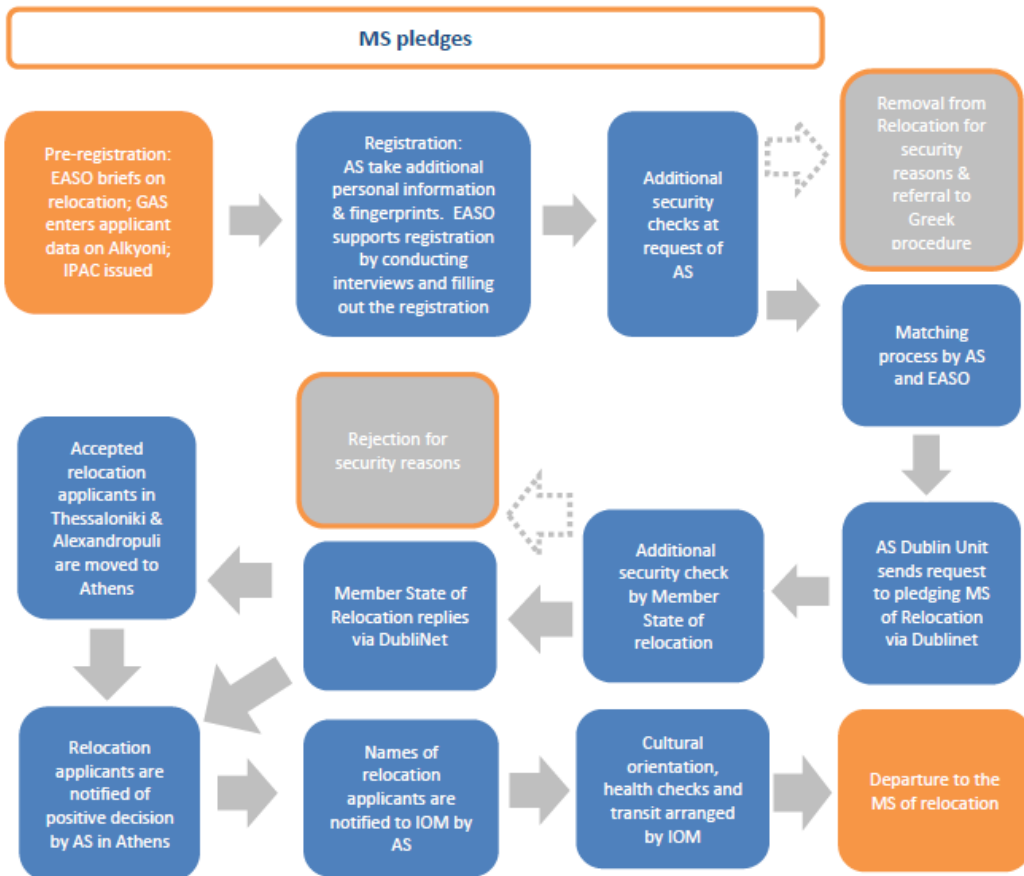


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## Relocation process flow chart



UNHCR provides transportation during the process.

Applicants are hosted in different types of accommodation, including one relocation site (Lagadikia)

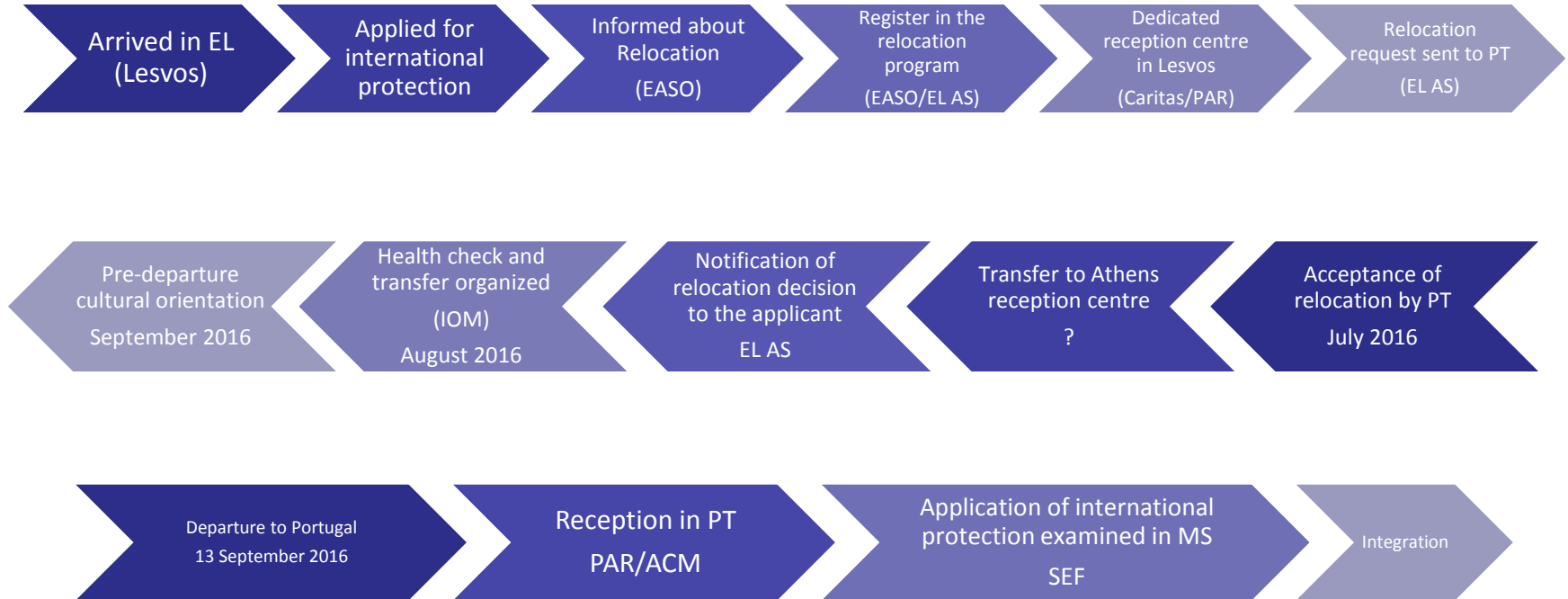
**Arrival in MS of relocation, examination of asylum application and first steps towards integration**



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# The story line of ...





# EASO CONSULTATIVE FORUM Plenary Meeting

28-29 NOVEMBER 2016, ATHENS, GREECE

**Interactive,  
participatory format**

For more information:

[consultative-forum@easo.europa.eu](mailto:consultative-forum@easo.europa.eu)



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**Thank you!**