

ENGLISKI



The Dublin Procedure

What is the Dublin Procedure?

The Dublin Procedure is the process used under European Union (EU) law to determine which country is responsible for your application for international protection. This could be Croatia, another EU Member State, or Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, or Switzerland.

For example, if you have already requested asylum in another EU member state, that country may be responsible for reviewing and deciding on your application. Only one Member State will examine your application for international protection. The responsible Member State will be determined according to EU law.

Who is responsible for carrying out the Dublin Procedure?

In Croatia, the Ministry of the Interior is responsible for carrying out the Dublin Procedure. This involves determining which country has to decide upon your claim, according to EU law, and then organising your transfer to that country.

Why was I sent back to Croatia?

If you were staying in another country and applied for international protection there, and the authorities returned you to Croatia, it means that Croatia is responsible for reviewing your application, according to EU law.

This could happen for several reasons:

- If you have already applied for international protection in Croatia,
- If you entered Croatia irregularly in the last 12 months,
- If you have a residence permit or visa issued by Croatia,
- If you entered Croatia without needing a visa for entry,

- If you are an unaccompanied child, and a family member of yours legally resides in Croatia,
- If you have a family member who has already applied for, or been granted, international protection in Croatia, and you have both expressed to the authorities an interest in reuniting with each other.

What are my rights?

If you are in need of international protection, and you have been returned to Croatia under the Dublin Procedure, you can apply (or apply again) for asylum. You will have the same rights as other applicants, including the right to reside in Croatia, freedom of movement within the country, an ID card for asylum seekers, accommodation, healthcare, primary and secondary education, access to legal counseling and free legal aid, freedom of religion, and three months after submission of your asylum application, the right to work.

Can I go to another country to reunite with my family there?

If you have a family member in another country in the EU, you may request family reunification under the Dublin Procedure. Both you and the family member you wish to reunite with have to officially express this intention in writing. If you have documents that prove your relationship or kinship with this family member, you should include them in your request.

Please note that reunification with extended family members, and those residing irregularly in the EU, may not be possible under the Dublin Regulation.

For detailed guidance on who counts as an eligible family member, and other conditions, please speak with a lawyer.



**Who can I contact
for free legal aid?**

To speak with a lawyer for free,
you can contact the Croatian Law Centre,
an implementing partner of UNHCR.

Tel: **+385 1 21 05 301**

Mob: **+385 91 235 5523**

Email: **hpc@hpc.hr**