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GIURIDICI E STORICO-POLITICI

**Topic:**

**The reception of migrant and refugee children**

**Summer school on family life and migrant children in  
the European Union**

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## What is “Reception Centre”?



- Reception centre or Welcoming centre is a temporary shelter given to people who migrate from one place to another and have no relatives in the new habitant that can take them in.
- Reception centres include facilities for beneficiaries of international protection as well as for unaccompanied minors, accommodation centres, and hotspot facilities.
- Reception centre is an accommodation centre which guarantee an adequate standard of living of asylum seekers, it can be of private houses, flats, hotels, or other premises adapted for housing applicants for international protection

## **Children Reception centre.**

- The Reception Centre for Children (RCC) is a 24-hour residential facility that provides social work interventions to children. It provides protection and rehabilitation services through temporary residential care to neglected, abandoned, abused, and exploited children and those with special needs such as children at risk and children who need alternative family care.
- It also provides appropriate and responsive social work intervention and services that address growth and development and the safety and the security needs of young children.
- Further RCC, works at developing competence and effectiveness of the centre's staff and service providers in the management of cased through proper placement and other rehabilitation services for children



## EU Law on reception centre.

- The Reception Conditions Directive (Directive 2003/9/EC, Article 13) and the Commission's proposal for the recast Reception Conditions Directive (Article 17) stipulate that Member States shall ensure availability of material reception conditions to applicants for international protection. Housing constitutes an essential, if not the primary, element of reception conditions. Provision of accommodation can be provided in a variety of possible manners.

## Why reception centre?

Reception centre in the immediate period following arrival generally have two important goals:

- To address basic material and psychosocial needs of all arrivals (e.g., accommodation, food, clothing, and medical services); and
- To distinguish between various categories of persons, including persons seeking international protection and those with specific needs.

## Reception centre conditions

DIRECTIVE 2013/33/EU, aims at ensuring common standards of reception conditions throughout the EU to:

- Ensures that applicants have access to housing, food, clothing, health care, education for minors and access to employment.
- Provides particular attention to vulnerable persons, especially unaccompanied minors, and victims of torture. EU countries must conduct an individual assessment to identify the special reception needs of vulnerable persons and to ensure that vulnerable asylum seekers can access medical and psychological support.



**Source: UNHCR, 2016:** <http://goo.gl/HBUWMs>. Children receive assistance at the Blue Dot child and family protection support hub in Gevgelija in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

## **Refugee and migrant children in Italy unaccompanied and separated overview of trends January to June 2020 by UNHCR, IOM, SVC.**

### Italy

Among the 1,289 children who arrived in Italy between January and June 2020, 1,080 (84%) were UASC – a ratio amongst all children that has remained consistent in recent years. Arrivals of children in the first half of 2020 more than doubled compared to the same period in 2019 (486). Most children originated from Bangladesh, Tunisia, Côte d’Ivoire, and Guinea.

### Italy Reception centre

- The majority of UASC registered at the end of June 2020 (94%) were in shelters for unaccompanied children run by state authorities and non-profit entities, while the rest were in family care arrangements (6%).
- As of June 2020, some 5,016 unaccompanied migrant and asylum-seeking children (95% boys and 5% girls) were present in the country.

## Challenges in the reception centre

As of October 2019, it is estimated that an additional 5,000 young refugees and migrants have left Italy's formal reception system and are now unaccounted for.

- Most leave due to bureaucratic delays, a lack of information on their legal rights, concerns about their status once they turn 18 or to reunify with family members. These young people often end up on the streets, cut off from protection and basic services and are extremely vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.



## References

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*That's all Folks!*