



## Insert sheet for asylum seekers from safe countries of origin

### **You are from a 'safe country of origin'. Which countries are safe and what does that mean?**

Currently, the following countries are safe countries of origin:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kosovo, Croatia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Morocco, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Ukraine, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Czech Republic, Tunisia, Vatican City, United Kingdom, United States, Iceland, Sweden, Switzerland.

*Please mind!* This list changes constantly. The most up-to-date list is available on: [www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/vraag-en-antwoord/lijst-van-veiligelanden-van-herkomst](http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/asielbeleid/vraag-en-antwoord/lijst-van-veiligelanden-van-herkomst)

The Dutch government has designated these countries as 'safe country of origin'. The situation in these countries is safe enough. You are from a safe country of origin. That is why you hardly stand a chance of being granted a Dutch asylum residence permit. In case of rejection or revocation of your asylum application, the government will impose an entry ban on you. And it will send you back to your safe country of origin.

### **Asylum procedure if you are from a safe country of origin**

Following the application for asylum, you will enter an accelerated asylum procedure. Interest group Dutch Council for Refugees (Vluchtelingenwerk Nederland, VWN) will inform you about an asylum application if you are from a safe country. You will have one interview with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst, IND). A lawyer will prepare you for this interview.

You can explain why the country of origin is not safe for you in the interview with the IND. If your explanation is convincing, the accelerated procedure will be terminated. Next, the IND will process your application in the General Asylum Procedure (Algemene Asielprocedure, AA). If your explanation is not convincing, the IND will issue a "intended decision to reject your asylum application". You can discuss this intended decision with a lawyer. Does the meeting with your lawyer not change the opinion of the IND? In that case, the IND will issue a definitive rejection of your asylum application. And an entry ban will be imposed on you.

*See overleaf*

**What does it mean when you get an entry ban?**

Does the IND reject your asylum application or will you withdraw your asylum application? In that case, you will get an entry ban for 2 years. Only adult asylum seekers will get an entry ban. If you do not comply with the entry ban you are punishable. An entry ban means that you are not allowed to travel to or reside in: Netherlands, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Croatia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Iceland, Sweden and Switzerland.

**Consequences of the rejection of your asylum application**

You will no longer be entitled to shelter and you will get an entry ban. You must leave the Netherlands immediately. The Repatriation and Departure Service (Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek, DT&V) can assist you in this matter. You may be placed in a freedom-restricting centre (VBL) or family centre (GL).

Only families with minor children go to a GL. A VBL and GL are aimed at return to your country of origin. Alternatively, you may be placed in alien detention if the government can deport you. Are you not in the VBL, GL, or in detention? In that case, you must leave the Netherlands independently. If you return to your safe country of origin, you will not receive a return fee in most cases. If you withdraw your asylum application you will not receive a return fee either.

**Why are asylum seekers from safe countries allowed to tell their asylum motives to the IND at an earlier stage?**

Asylum seekers from safe countries are scheduled for an interview sooner because chances are very high that they will not be granted an asylum residence permit. They occupy capacity in shelters that is intended for asylum seekers with more promising prospects.

**What happens to asylum seekers who cause nuisance?**

The Dutch government expects good behaviour from every foreign national, including you. Asylum seekers who have exhausted all legal means and who cause nuisance at and around reception centres can rely on immediate measures. For example: imposition of a area ban or placement in alien detention. A conviction to a prison sentence is also possible.

For more information, visit: [www.ind.nl/asiel](http://www.ind.nl/asiel)

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