

Switzerland:

Notably vulnerable persons are not deported to Greece, this means families with very small children, unaccompanied minors and severely sick persons. The jurisdiction is not consistent, so any other person will be threatened by deportation but with the help of a specialised lawyer there are some chances. The following two contacts can also help finding contact in the different cantons of Suisse:

Schweizerische Flüchtlingshilfe

Weyermannsstrasse 10
3008 Bern
Tel.: 0041 (0)31 370 75 75
mail to: susanne.
bolz@fluechtlingshilfe.ch
www.fluechtlingshilfe.ch

Solidarité sans frontières

Neuengasse 8
3011 Bern
Tel. 0041-(0)31 311 07 70
Fax: 0041-(0)31 311 07 75
Mail: sekretariat@sosf.ch

Sweden:

Some deportations to Greece have been stopped by the Migration Court but then overturned by the Supreme Migration Court, which is extremely restrictive, so conditions in Greece are no longer used as a reason for making an exception from Dublin. Some reasons may gain support: if exceptions from the Dublin convention would enable the uniting of families or prevent the splitting up of families; if the asylum application has been withdrawn and replaced with some other ground for residency; or in cases involving extremely severe health problems (including psychiatric ones). Some migration officers will purposefully let time pass until a transfer to Greece no longer has to be made. If six months go by after Greece has accepted the return of a particular person (and that person has not avoided the authorities) the transfer will not take place. The Migration Board has stopped the deportation of unaccompanied minors to Greece.

You can find contact and more detailed information:

Gothenburg (Göteborg)

E-mail: momo@ingenillegal.org
Tel. (leave a message): 0046 (0)704-37 75 24

Malmö

E-mail: asylgruppen@hotmail.com
Tel: 0046 (0)736 59 05 73

Stockholm

E-mail: stockholm@ingenillegal.org
Tel: 0046 (0)762 - 44 33 12

Welcome to Europe!

Some information for your journey after leaving Athens...

Most refugees who arrive in Athens don't want to stay in Greece. If you have an idea for your target country, some of the following information might be useful for you.

If you are registered in Greece your fingerprints are taken - digitally or on paper - and are usually stored in Europe-wide „Eurodac“ database. As soon as you claim for asylum in any other country of European Union, the authorities may find out quickly that you have been in Greece.

According to an agreement between European countries (“Dublin2”), all asylum seekers are returned to the country of first entry (or, in the case of unaccompanied minors only, to the first country of asylum-application). So if they find your fingerprints in the database showing that you were in Greece first, they may try to deport you back here.

In recent months the bad situation facing asylum seekers in Greece has caused many migrants and their supporters to protest against deportation to Greece all over Europe. Because of this, there are some chances to avoid deportation back to Greece.

However, the procedures are very complicated and change often. You'll need to contact people who are experienced in dealing with the legal situations: you will need a lawyer who is experienced with “Dublin2-cases”!

If possible you should contact people who can give you some tips **before** you get registered. Any information you give to the authorities, especially about your escape route, may be used to your disadvantage. So you should give some thought as to how you will describe your route before you go to the first interview.

If you have been fingerprinted in Greece or another EU-country, you should not hide your stay there from the authorities and particularly not from your own lawyer!

A last general remark: if you can prove you were in a Non-EU-country (like Turkey or Serbia) three months after your last registration in Greece, deportation from other EU-countries to Greece can be avoided, as the official timeframe will have expired.

At the following pages you'll find contacts and some basic information about the situation in different target countries. As the situation is changing constantly, there is no guarantee that it is up to date. If you want to be sure you should ask the named contacts about it.

Have a safe journey!

The following informations might change, this leaflet is work in progress. In any case you should contact the named NGOs, lawyers or support-groups to be sure about the situation.
If you observe any changes on your journey that might be also important for others, please inform us: frasanito@kein.org

First of all, if you are still in Greece, some contacts in Athens:

This leaflet is mainly to inform you about the situation after you continue your journey and leave Greece. However, if you need any kind of support you can also get in contact with people in Athens:

Network of Social Support to Immigrants and Refugees:

provides information on legal/ social needs (every afternoon from 5-9), free lessons of Greek language and computer.
For people who have or don't have papers.
Tsamadou 13, Exartheia,
Tel.: 210-3813928

Group of lawyers for the rights of immigrants and asylum seekers:

provides free information on legal issues, every Monday and Wednesday from 5-7.
For people who have or don't have papers.
Spiridonos Trikoupi 21, Exartheia,
ornadadikigorwn@lists.riseup.net

Greek Council for Refugees:

the Greek department of UNHCR, legal advice and access to hostels only for people who have applied for asylum in Greece. Every morning.
Solomou 25, Exartheia,
Tel.: 210-3814710

PRAKSIS:

for medical treatment and aid, every morning.
Stournari 57, Exartheia,
Tel.: 210-5205200

Norway:

In 2008, Norway has had a temporary suspension of Dublin-transfers to Greece, but this has been lifted earlier this year, and the practice has become very strict. All, including families with children, can be sent back to Greece, but an exception is still made for unaccompanied minors who come directly from Greece. It is however important to know that the increasing arrival of unaccompanied minors to Norway has led to harsh practices towards this group: Age-testing is very strict and unaccompanied minors who don't need protection will get temporary permission to stay in Norway until they are 18 years old - and then can be returned to their home countries, including Afghanistan.

Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers (NOAS)

Pb. 8893 Youngstorget,
0028 Oslo, Norway
Tel: 0047 22 36 56 60,
Fax: 0047 22 36 56 61,
e-mail: noas@noas.org

UK:

UK Government policy is to deport to Greece all asylum seekers whose fingerprints were taken in Greece. A defining House of Lords test case (the Nasser case) in March 2009 ruled that returns to Greece from the UK do not amount to a violation of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights by the returning state' because of lack of evidence that Greece removes people back to dangerous countries. Sources of legal advice:

Refugee Action

240A Clapham Road
London SW9 OPZ
Tel: 0044 (0) 20 7735 5361
Fax: 0044 (0) 20 7587 3676
Web: www.refugee-action.org.uk

Refugee and Migrant Justice

Nelson House
153-157 Commercial Road
London E1 2DA
Tel: 0044 (0)20 7780 3200
Fax: 0044 (0)20 7780 3201
Email:rlc@rmj.org.uk
Web: www.rmj.org.uk

Refugee Council

240-260 Ferndale Road
London SW9 8BB
Tel: 0044 (0) 20 7346 6709
Fax: 0044 (0) 20 7346 6760
Email: info@refugeecouncil.org.uk
Web: www.refugeecouncil.org.uk

Italy:

In Italy the situation for refugees in Dublin-II cases is difficult, but sometimes, with lawyers' intervention, it is possible to avoid to be sent back, especially to Greece. In this last year some organizations for refugees rights denounced the situation at adriatic italian ports, where many migrants are sent back to Greece without any possibility to ask for asylum (this practice is not Dublin II, but just an illegal police procedure!). Anyway, as an asylum seeker in Italy there is the possibility to be detained (if you don't have a passport or if you have already been expelled) for some months, but in many cases you can wait the decision about your status without being imprisoned.

If you get to Venice you can come here:

Razzismo Stop Venezia

Via Fratelli bandiera 45,
30175 Marghera (Ve)
e-mail: razzismostop_ve@globalproject.info

Austria:

In Austria the situation for refugees in DublinII-cases is really bad. Deportations to Greece have also been taking place continuously up to now. In coming months, the Austrian parliament will decide on an amendment to the legislation on asylum, which will worsen the situation, leading to a longer time of imprisonment and a shorter appeal period. If you nevertheless choose Austria as target country, you will need support, which you can get here:

Deserteurs- und Flüchtlingsberatung / Legal Advice for Refugees

<http://www.deserteursberatung.at/>
Tel: 0043-(0)1-533 72 71
Schottengasse 3a/1/59 staircase
(Stiege) 1, 4th floor, door No. 59,
1010 Wien
info@deserteursberatung.at
Legal and current information also
on the website in German, English,
French, Russian, Serbo-Croatian,
Albanian.

Asyl in Not

www.asyl-in-not.org
Währingerstraße 59/2/1
1090 Wien
Tel. 0043-(0)1 408 42 10

Netherlands:

In the Netherlands, deportation to Greece happens regularly. Lower Courts have judged in individual cases that deportation to Greece should be stopped because of the bad circumstances in this country. But these judgements are always brought to the Highest Court, which then judges that deportation to Greece is permitted. The European Council of Human Rights took several interim measures to stop deportations from the Netherlands to Greece. There are no specific categories (f.e. children) of asylum seekers who are not deported to Greece.

Dutch Council for Refugees

Surinameplein 122
Postbus 2894, 1000 CW Amsterdam
T (020) 346 7266
F (020) 617 81 55
pdeinum@vluchtelingenwerk.nl
www.vluchtelingenwerk.nl

Belgium:

Most asylum seekers get decisions to be sent back to Greece. It is possible to appeal against those decisions. French speaking courts regularly oppose deportations to Athens (the asylum seeker may only use the French court if he/she speaks it fluently). Severely sick persons are entitled to ask for health care before a decision on transfer. Every document which demonstrates lack of proper treatment in Greece is important: personally experienced failures in the asylum system, proofs of detention, etc... Every asylum seeker arriving in Belgium via Greece should contact a specialised lawyer immediately.

Comité Belge d'Aide aux Réfugiés/

Belgisch Comité voor Hulp aan Vluchtelingen

Rue Defacqzstraat 1 b 10
1000 Bruxelles
Tel 0032-(0)2/537.82.20
Fax 0032-(0)2/537.89.82
www.cbar-bchv.be

Denmark:

In Denmark only unaccompanied minors are not deported to Greece. If Danish authorities have documentation that an asylum seeker have been in Greece, and when Greece accepts to take them back they will be deported to Greece. Danish authorities have been criticized of breaking the Refugee Convention by sending asylum seekers to Greece. But the Danish Government seems to think, that if Greece is breaking the Refugee Convention, it is a Greek problem, not a Danish problem. So every asylum seeker arriving in Denmark via Greece should contact a specialized lawyer immediately.

Contacts for Denmark:

Danish Refugee Council

Borgergade 10
1300 København K
Tel: 0045 (0)33 73 50 00
Wednesday 1 – 3 p.m.

Marianne Volund
Cityadvokaterne
Falkoner Allé 7
2000 Frederiksberg
mv@cityadvokaterne.dk
Tel: 0045 (0)27 14 92 97

France:

In France there is no moratorium on deportations to Greece. Several French courts, however, have suspended transfers to Greece referring to the difficult health situation of the asylum seeker and the worsening situation in Greece. Once in France, it is important that asylum seekers contact NGOs who are specialised in questions of asylum. For example:

Collectif de soutien des exilés du 10ème

c/o MIRAP 43 bd Magenta 75010
Paris
0033 (0)1 53 38 99 99
exiles10@rezo.net
<http://www.exiles10.org/>

Forum refugies Maison du réfugié

326 rue Garibaldi
69007 Lyon
Tel: 0033 (0)4.72.77.68.02

GISTI

3 villa marcés 75011 Paris
<http://www.gisti.org/>
gisti@gisti.org
0033 (0)1 43 14 84 84

Germany:

Particularly vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors and families with small children and severely sick persons are not sent back to Greece. In general, deportations of asylum-seekers to Greece are strongly contested. Many courts have stopped the returns, but the jurisprudence is not consistent. In September 2009 the constitutional court stopped a deportation in a summary proceeding. So every asylum seeker arriving in Germany via Greece should contact a specialised lawyer immediately.

Contacts for Germany:

Hamburg:

Flüchtlingsrat Hamburg
www.fluechtlingsrat-hamburg.de
Tel. 0049(0)40-431587

Café Exil

Spaldingstr. 41
Tel.: 0049(0)40-2368216
Mo, Tue, Thurs, Fri 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Frankfurt:

PRO ASYL
Tel.: 0049 (0)69-23 06 88
Fax: 0049 (0)69-23 06 50
Email: dmo@proasyl.de
Web: www.proasyl.de

Hanau:

Refugee café
0049-(0)6181-184369
ag3f@comlink.org

München:

Bayerischer Flüchtlingsrat
Augsburgerstr.13
Tel: 0049 - (0)89 76 22 34
Mobil: 0049 - (0)151 21187027

Ireland:

In the moment we are not sure about the situation concerning Dublin2 in Ireland. To get more information, you can contact:

Irish Refugee Council
2nd Floor

Ballast House
Aston Quay
Dublin 2

Tel.:00353-(0)1 764 58 54
Fax: 00353-(0)1 672 59 27
Email: emma@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
Website: www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie