Quarterly update on

- Treaties
- Legislation and
- Jurisprudence

on

European Asylum Issues

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Contents

Editorial

2

1. Qualification for Protection
   1.1 Adopted measures
   1.2 Proposed measures
   1.3 Jurisprudence

3

2. Asylum Procedure
   2.1 Adopted measures
   2.2 Proposed measures
   2.3 Jurisprudence

9

3. Responsibility Sharing
   3.1 Adopted measures
   3.2 Proposed measures
   3.3 Jurisprudence

14

4. Reception
   4.1 Adopted measures
   4.2 Proposed measures
   4.3 Jurisprudence

17

5. Miscellaneous

18
Editorial

Welcome to the third edition of NEAIS: a Newsletter on European Asylum Issues. This newsletter is designed for judges who need to keep up to date with European developments in the area of asylum. NEAIS contains European legislation and jurisprudence on four central themes regarding asylum:

1. qualification for protection,
2. procedural safeguards,
3. responsibility sharing and
4. reception conditions of asylum seekers.

On each theme NEAIS provides a list of:

(a) measures already adopted,
(b) measures in preparation and
(c) relevant jurisprudence.

On all other issues regarding Migration we would refer the reader to the other newsletter: NEMIS, the Newsletter on European Migration Issues.

Judgments

We would like to draw your attention to some recent judgments.

In Y. and Z. (C-71/11 and C-99/11 of 5 Sept. 2012 on the Qualification Dir.) the CJEU holds that only certain forms of severe interference with the right to freedom of religion may constitute an act of persecution requiring the competent authorities to grant refugee status. Subsequently, the CJEU states that the severity of the measures and sanctions adopted determines whether this should be regarded as persecution. Finally the CJEU holds that, where it is established that, upon return the person concerned will engage in a religious practice which will expose him to a real risk of persecution, he should be granted refugee status. In assessing an application for refugee status on an individual basis, the national authorities cannot reasonably expect the applicant to abstain from the manifestation or practice of certain religious acts.

In CIMADI & GISTI (C-179/11 of 27 Sept. 2012 on the Reception Conditions Dir.) the CJEU makes clear that the minimum conditions for the reception of asylum seekers, on the basis of the Reception Conditions Dir., have to be granted to any asylum seeker even if a Member State decides, under Dublin II, to call upon another Member State to take responsibility for examining the application for asylum.

In Singh v. Belgium (App.nr. 33210/11 of 2 October 2012 on art. 3 and 13 ECHR) the ECtHR considered the claim to the risk of chain refoulement to Afghanistan as ‘arguable’ so that the examination by the Belgian authorities would have to comply with the requirements of ECHR art. 13, including close and rigorous scrutiny and automatic suspensive effect. The examination of the applicants’ asylum case was held to be insufficient, since neither the first instance nor the appeals board had sought to verify the authenticity of the documents presented by the applicants with a view to assessing their possible risk of ill-treatment in case of deportation.

Input from judges

The more national jurisprudence the editors receive from judges, the more relevant this newsletter will become. You are therefore more than welcome to provide us with your judgments, regarding the relevant interpretation of EU on legal instruments. Do feel free to forward this newsletter to any colleagues you think might be interested. Please contact us if you have any inquiries.

Nijmegen, 2 November 2012, Carolus Grütters & Tineke Strik

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website  http://cmr.jur.ru.nl/neais/
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1 Qualification for Protection

1.1 Qualification for Protection: Adopted Measures

**Directive 2011/95**
*Qualification for protection-2*
- OJ 2011 L 337/9
- Recast of Dir. 2004/83 [impl. date: Dec. 2013]
- UK, IRL opt out

**Directive 2004/83**
*Qualification for protection-I*
- OJ 2004 L 304/12 [impl. date: 10 Oct. 2006]
- Revised by Dir. 2011/95
  - CJEU C-57/09 & C-101/09, *B. and D.* [9 Nov. 2010]
  - CJEU C-31/09, *Bolbol* [17 June 2010]
  - CJEU C-465/07, *Elgafaji* [17 Feb. 2009]
  - CJEU C-285/12, *Diakite* [pending]
  - CJEU C-201/12, *X v. The Netherlands* [pending]
  - CJEU C-364/11, *El Kott a.o.* [pending]
  - CJEU C-277/11, *M.M.* [pending]

**Directive 2001/55**
*Temporary Protection*
- OJ 2001 L 212/12

**ECHR art. 3 (qual.)**
*European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols*
- ETS 005 [impl. date: 1950]
- art. 3: Prohibition of Torture, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
  - ECtHR Ap.no. 25904/07, *N.A. v. UK* [17 July 2008]
  - ECtHR Ap.no. 24245/03, *D. v. Turkey* [22 June 2006]
- CAT art. 3: Protection against Refoulement
1.2 Qualification for Protection: Proposed Measures

* nothing to report

1.3 Qualification for Protection: Jurisprudence

### 1.3.1 CJEU Judgments on Qualification for Protection

**New**

  - interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection-I*: art. 2(c) and 9(1)(a)
  - ref. from 'Bundesverwaltungsgericht' (Germany)
  - 1. Articles 9(1)(a) QD means that not all interference with the right to freedom of religion which infringes Article 10(1) EU Charter is capable of constituting an 'act of persecution' within the meaning of that provision of the QD:
    - there may be an act of persecution as a result of interference with the external manifestation of that freedom, and
    - for the purpose of determining whether interference with the right to freedom of religion which infringes Article 10(1) EU Charter may constitute an 'act of persecution', the competent authorities must ascertain, in the light of the personal circumstances of the person concerned, whether that person, as a result of exercising that freedom in his country of origin, runs a genuine risk of, inter alia, being prosecuted or subject to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by one of the actors referred to in Article 6 QD.
  - 2. Article 2(c) QD must be interpreted as meaning that the applicant’s fear of being persecuted is well founded if, in the light of the applicant’s personal circumstances, the competent authorities consider that it may reasonably be thought that, upon his return to his country of origin, he will engage in religious practices which will expose him to a real risk of persecution. In assessing an application for refugee status on an individual basis, those authorities cannot reasonably expect the applicant to abstain from those religious practices.

  - interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection-I*: art 12(2)(b) & (c)
  - ref. from 'Bundesverwaltungsgericht' (Germany)
  - The fact that a person has been a member of an organisation (which, because of its involvement in terrorist acts, is on the list forming the Annex to Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism) and that that person has actively supported the armed struggle waged by that organisation, does not automatically constitute a serious reason for considering that that person has committed 'a serious non-political crime' or 'acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

- CJEU C-31/09, *Bolbol*, [17 June 2010]
  - interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection-I*: art 12(1)(a)
  - ref. from 'Fővárosi Bíróság' (Hungary)
  - Right of a stateless person, i.e. a Palestinian, to be recognised as a refugee on the basis of the second sentence of Article 12(1)(a)

  - interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection-I*: art 2(c), 11 & 14
  - ref. from 'Bundesverwaltungsgericht' (Germany)
When the circumstances which resulted in the granting of refugee status have ceased to exist and the competent authorities of the Member State verify that there are no other circumstances which could justify a fear of persecution on the part of the person concerned either for the same reason as that initially at issue or for one of the other reasons set out in Article 2(c) of Directive 2004/83, the standard of probability used to assess the risk stemming from those other circumstances is the same as that applied when refugee status was granted.

**CJEU C-465/07, Elgafaji, [17 Feb. 2009]**
* interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection*-1: art. 2(e), 15(c)
* ref. from 'Raad van State' (Netherlands)

**Minimum standards for determining who qualifies for refugee status or for subsidiary protection status - Person eligible for subsidiary protection - Article 2(e) - Real risk of suffering serious harm - Article 15(c) - Serious and individual threat to a civilian’s life or person by reason of indiscriminate violence in situations of armed conflict**

### 1.3.2 CJEU pending cases on Qualification for Protection

**CJEU C-285/12, Diakite**
* interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection*-1: art 15(c)
* ref. from 'Raad van State' (Belgium)

**On the meaning of “internal conflict”**.

**CJEU C-201/12, X v. The Netherlands**
* interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection*-1: art. 9(1)(a); 2(c); 10(1)(d)
* ref. from 'Raad van State' (Netherlands)

**On homosexuality**

**CJEU C-364/11, El Kott a.o. (opinion 13 Sep. 2012)**
* interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection*-1
* ref. from 'Fővárosi Bíróság' (Hungary)

**Does cessation of the agency's protection or assistance mean residence outside the agency's area of operations, cessation of the agency and cessation of the possibility of receiving the agency's protection or assistance or, possibly, an involuntary obstacle caused by legitimate or objective reasons such that the person entitled thereto is unable to avail himself of that protection or assistance?**

**CJEU C-277/11, M.M.**
* interpr. of Dir. 2004/83 on *Qualification for protection*-1: art. 4(1)
* ref. from 'High Court' (Ireland)

**In a case where an applicant seeks subsidiary protection status following a refusal to grant refugee status and it is proposed that such an application should be refused, does the requirement to cooperate with an applicant imposed on a MS [in Article 4(1)] require the administrative authorities of the MS in question to supply such applicant with the results of such an assessment before a decision is finally made so as to enable him or her to address those aspects of the proposed decision which suggest a negative result?**

### 1.3.3 ECtHR Judgments on Qualification for Protection

**ECtHR Ap.no. 33809/08, Labsi v. Slovakia, [15 May 2012]**
* violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)

**An Algerian man, convicted in France of preparing a terrorist act, and convicted in his absence in Algeria of membership of a terrorist organisation, had been expelled to Algeria upon rejection of his asylum request in Slovakia. On the basis of the existing information about the situation in Algeria for persons suspected of terrorist activities, the Court found that there had been substantial grounds for believing that he faced a real risk of being exposed to treatment contrary to art. 3. The responding government’s invocation of the security risk represented by the applicant was dismissed due to the absolute guarantee under art. 3. Assurances given by the Algerian authorities**
concerning the applicant’s treatment upon return to Algeria were found to be of a general nature, and they had proven insufficient since the request for a visit by a Slovak official to the applicant, held in detention upon return, had not been followed. The applicant’s expulsion only one working day after the Slovak Supreme Court’s judgment, upholding the dismissal of his asylum request, had effectively prevented him from attempting redress by a complaint to the Slovak Constitutional Court. Expulsion of the applicant in disregard of an interim measure issued by the Court under Rule 39, preventing the Court from properly examining his complaints and from protecting him against treatment contrary to art. 3, was a violation of the right to individual application under art. 34.


violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)

Observing that the human rights situation in Iran gives rise to grave concern, and that the situation appears to have deteriorated since the Swedish domestic authorities determined the case and rejected the applicants’ request for asylum in 2008-09, the Court noted that it is not only the leaders of political organisations or other high-profile persons who are detained, but that anyone who demonstrates or in any way opposes the current regime in Iran may be at risk of being detained and ill-treated or tortured. Acknowledging that the national authorities are best placed to assess the facts and the general credibility of asylum applicants’ story, the Court agreed that the applicant’s basic story was consistent notwithstanding some uncertain aspects that did not undermine the overall credibility of the story. While the applicants’ pre-flight activities and circumstances were not sufficient independently to constitute grounds for finding that they would be in risk of art. 3 treatment if returned to Iran, the Court found that they had been involved in extensive and genuine political and human rights activities in Sweden that were of relevance for the determination of the risk on return, given their existing risk of identification and their belonging to several risk categories. Thus, their sur place activities taken together with their past activities and incidents in Iran lead the Court to conclude that there would be substantial grounds for believing that they would be exposed to a real risk of treatment contrary to art. 3 if deported to Iran in the current circumstances.

ECtHR Ap.no. 24027/07, **Babar Ahmad v. UK**, [10 Apr. 2012]

no violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)

In a case concerning six alleged international terrorists who have been detained in the UK pending extradition to the USA, the Court held that neither their conditions of detention at a ‘supermax’ prison in USA (ADX Florence) nor the length of their possible sentences (mandatory sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility parole for one of the applicants, and discretionary life sentences for the others) would make such extradition being in violation of art. 3.

ECtHR Ap.no. 27765/09, **Hirsi v. Italy**, [23 Feb. 2012]

interpr. of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)

For the first time the Court applied Article 4 of Protocol no. 4 (collective expulsion) in the circumstance of aliens who were not physically present on the territory of the State, but in the high seas. Italy was also held responsible for exposing the aliens to a treatment in violation with article 3 ECHR, as it transferred them to Libya ‘in full knowledge of the facts’ and circumstances in Libya.


no violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)

referral to the Grand Chamber requested; refused by the ECtHR Panel on 9 May 2012

Notwithstanding widespread and routine occurrence of torture in Jordanian prisons, and the fact that the applicant as a high profile Islamist was in a category of prisoners frequently ill-treated in Jordan, the applicant was held not to be in real risk of ill-treatment if being deported to Jordan, due to the information provided about the ‘diplomatic assurances’ that had been obtained by the UK government in order to protect his Convention rights upon deportation; the Court took into account the particularities of the memorandum of understanding agreed between the UK and Jordan, as regards both the specific circumstances of its conclusion, its detail and formality, and the modalities of monitoring the Jordanian authorities’ compliance with the assurances. Holding that ECHR art. 3 applies in expulsion cases, but that there would be no real risk of flagrant breach of art. 5 in respect of the applicant’s pre-trial detention in Jordan. Holding that deportation of the applicant to Jordan would be in violation of ECHR art. 6, due to the real risk of flagrant denial of justice by admission of torture evidence against him in the retrial
of criminal charges.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 23505/09, N. v. Sweden, [20 July 2010]
  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - The Court observed that women are at particular risk of ill-treatment in Afghanistan if perceived as not conforming to the gender roles ascribed to them by society, tradition and even the legal system. The Court could not ignore the general risk to which she might be exposed should her husband decide to resume their married life together, or should he perceive her filing for divorce as an indication of an extramarital relationship; in these special circumstances, there were substantial grounds for believing that the applicant would face various cumulative risks of reprisals falling under Art. 3 from her husband, his or her family, and from the Afghan society.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 25904/07, N.A. v. UK, [17 July 2008]
  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - The Court has never excluded the possibility that a general situation of violence in the country of destination will be of a sufficient level of intensity as to entail that any removal thereto would necessarily breach Art. 3, yet such an approach will be adopted only in the most extreme cases of general violence where there is a real risk of ill-treatment simply by virtue of an individual being exposed to such violence on return

  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - There was a real chance that deportation to ‘relatively safe’ areas in Somalia would result in his removal to unsafe areas, hence there was no ‘internal flight alternative’ viable. The Court emphasised that even if ill-treatment be meted out arbitrarily or seen as a consequence of the general unstable situation, the asylum seeker would be protected under Art. 3, holding that it cannot be required that an applicant establishes further special distinguishing features concerning him personally in order to show that he would be personally at risk.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 24245/03, D. v. Turkey, [22 June 2006]
  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - Deportation of woman applicant in view of the awaiting execution of severe corporal punishment in Iran would constitute violation of Art. 3, as such punishment would inflict harm to her personal dignity and her physical and mental integrity; violation of Art. 3 would also occur to her husband and daughter, given their fear resulting from the prospective ill-treatment of D.

  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - Asylum seeker held to be protected against refoulement under Art. 3; the Dutch authorities had taken the failure to submit documents establishing his identity, nationality, or travel itinerary as affecting the credibility of his statements; the Court instead found the applicant’s statements consistent, corroborated by information from Amnesty International, and thus held that substantial grounds had been shown for believing that, if expelled, he would be exposed to a real risk of ill-treatment as prohibited by Art. 3

  - no violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - Current situation in Sri Lanka makes it unlikely that Tamil applicant would run a real risk of being subject to ill-treatment after his expulsion from the Netherlands

  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - Holding violation of Article 3 in case of deportation that would return a woman who has committed adultery to Iraq.

  - no violation of ECHR art. 3 (qual.)
  - Finding no violation of Article 3 in case of expulsion of a citizen of Columbia as there was no ‘relevant evidence’ of ‘risk of ill-treatment by non-state agents, whereby authorities ‘are not able to obviate the risk by providing adequate protection’.
Finding no breach of Art. 3 although applicants claimed to have been subjected to ill-treatment upon return to Sri Lanka; this had not been a foreseeable consequence of the removal of the applicants, in the light of the general situation in Sri Lanka and their personal circumstances; a mere possibility of ill-treatment is not in itself sufficient to give rise to a breach of Art. 3, and there existed no special distinguishing features that could or ought to have enabled the UK authorities to foresee that they would be treated in this way.

Recognizing the extra-territorial effect of Art. 3 similarly applicable to rejected asylum seekers; finding no Art. 3 violation in expulsion of Chilean national denied asylum, noting that risk assessment by State Party must be based on facts known at time of expulsion.

Recognizing the extra-territorial effect of the ECHR.

1.3.4 CAT Judgments on Qualification for Protection

The present human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is such that, in the prevailing circumstances, substantial grounds exist for believing that the complainant is at risk of being subjected to torture if returned to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Return of longtime PKK member to Turkey where he is wanted under anti-terrorism laws would constitute a breach of art. 3.

Violated the Convention when France charged dual French/Tunisian national of terrorism, revoked his French citizenship, and expelled him to Tunisia while his asylum and CAT claims were still pending.

Violated the Convention when Azerbaijan disregarded Committee’s request for interim measures and expelled applicant who had received refugee status in Germany back to Turkey where she had previously been detained and tortured.

Rwandan women repeatedly raped in detention in Rwanda by state officials have substantial grounds to fear torture if returned while ethnic tensions remain high. Complete accuracy seldom to be expected of victims of torture, and inconsistencies in testimony do not undermine credibility if they are not material.

The non-refoulement under CAT is absolute even in context of national security concerns; insufficient diplomatic assurances were obtained by sending country.
violation of CAT art. 3
* Contradictions and inconsistencies in testimony of asylum seeker attributed to post-traumatic stress disorder resulting from torture.

1.3.5 National Judgments on Qualification for Protection

- **Germany**: BVerwGE 10 C 13.10 [17 Nov. 2011]
- interpretation of Dir. 2004/83 on **Qualification for protection-1**: art. 2(e), 4(4), 15(c)
- Munich Higher Adm. Court

  1. In order for a substantial individual danger to be presumed, Section 60 (7) Sentence 2 of the Residence Act requires a considerable probability that the individual concerned will be threatened with harm to the legally protected interests of life or limb.
  2. For a finding of the requisite density of danger, in addition to a quantitative determination of the risk of death or injury, a general appraisal is also required that also assesses the situation for the delivery of medical care

2 Asylum Procedure

2.1 Asylum Procedure: Adopted Measures

**Directive 2005/85**

* Asylum Procedures
  - OJ 2005 L 326/13 [impl. date: 1 Dec. 2007]
  - CJEU C-69/10, **Samba Diouf** [28 July 2011]
  - CJEU C-175/11, **H.I.D.** [pending]

**ECHR art. 3 (proc.)**

  - ETS 005
  - art. 3: Protection against Refoulement
    - ECHR Ap.no. 27765/09, **Hirs v. Italy** [23 Feb. 2012]
    - ECHR Ap.no. 246/07, **Ben Khemais v. Italy** [24 Feb. 2009]
    - ECHR Ap.no. 45223/05, **Sultani v. France** [20 Sep. 2007]
    - ECHR Ap.no. 13284/04, **Bader v. Sweden** [8 Nov. 2005]
    - ECHR Ap.no. 38885/02, **N. v. Finland** [26 July 2005]

**ECHR art. 13 (proc.)**

  - ETS 005
  - art. 13: Right to Effective Remedy
    - ECHR Ap.no. 33809/08, **Labsi vs Slovakia** [15 May 2012]
2.2 Asylum Procedure: Proposed Measures

**Directive**

Recast of Procedures Directive

  * UK, IRL opt out

2.3 Asylum Procedure: Jurisprudence

#### 2.3.1 CJEU Judgments on Asylum Procedure

* CJEU C-69/10, *Samba Diouf*, [28 July 2011]
  * interpr. of Dir. 2005/85 on *Asylum Procedures*
  * ref. from 'Tribunal Administratif' (Luxembourg)
  * On (1) the remedy against the decision to deal with the application under an accelerated procedure and (2) the right to effective judicial review in a case rejected under an accelerated procedure. Art. 39 does not imply a right to appeal against the decision to assess the application for asylum in an accelerated procedure, provided that the reasons which led to this decision can be subject to judicial review within the framework of the appeal against the rejection of the asylum claim.

  * interpr. of Dir. 2005/85 on *Asylum Procedures*
  * Under Article 202 EC, when measures implementing a basic instrument need to be taken at Community level, it is the Commission which, in the normal course of events, is responsible for exercising that power. The Council must properly explain, by reference to the nature and content of the basic instrument to be implemented, why exception is being made to that rule. In that regard, the grounds set out in recitals 19 and 24 in the preamble to Directive 2005/85 on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status, which relate respectively to the political importance of the designation of safe countries of origin and to the potential consequences for asylum applicants of the safe third country concept, are conducive to justifying the consultation of the Parliament in respect of the establishment of the lists of safe countries and the amendments to be made to them, but not to justifying sufficiently a reservation of implementing powers which is specific to the Council.

#### 2.3.2 CJEU pending cases on Asylum Procedure

  * interpr. of Dir. 2005/85 on *Asylum Procedures* : art. 39
  * ref. from 'High Court' (Ireland)
  * Whether Art. 39 when read in conjunction with its Recital (27) and Article 267 TFEU to be interpreted to the effect that the effective remedy thereby required is provided for in national law when the function of review or appeal in respect of the first instance determination of applications is assigned by law to an appeal to the Tribunal established under Act of Parliament with competence to give binding decisions in favour of the asylum applicant on all matters of law and fact relevant to the application notwithstanding the existence of administrative or organisational arrangements.

#### 2.3.3 ECtHR Judgments on Asylum Procedure
violation of ECHR art. 13 (proc.)

Having arrived on a flight from Moscow, the applicants applied for asylum but were refused entry into Belgium, and their applications for asylum were rejected as the Belgian authorities did not accept the applicants’ claim to be Afghan nationals, members of the Sikh minority in Afghanistan, but rather Indian nationals. The Court considered the claim to the risk of chain refoulement to Afghanistan as ‘arguable’ so that the examination by the Belgian authorities would have to comply with the requirements of ECHR art. 13, including close and rigorous scrutiny and automatic suspensive effect.

In the light of these requirements, the examination of the applicants’ asylum case was held to be insufficient, since neither the first instance nor the appeals board had sought to verify the authenticity of the documents presented by the applicants with a view to assessing their possible risk of ill-treatment in case of deportation. In that connection the Court noted that the Belgian authorities had dismissed copies of protection documents issued by UNHCR in New Delhi, pertinent to the protection request, although these documents could easily have been verified by contacting UNHCR. The examination therefore did not fulfil the requirement of close and rigorous scrutiny, constituting a violation of ECHR art. 13 taken together with art. 3.

violation of ECHR art. 13 (proc.)

An Algerian man, convicted in France of preparing a terrorist act, and convicted in his absence in Algeria of membership of a terrorist organisation, had been expelled to Algeria upon rejection of his asylum request in Slovakia. On the basis of the existing information about the situation in Algeria for persons suspected of terrorist activities, the Court found that there had been substantial grounds for believing that he faced a real risk of being exposed to treatment contrary to art. 3. The responding government’s invocation of the security risk represented by the applicant was dismissed due to the absolute guarantee under art. 3. Assurances given by the Algerian authorities concerning the applicant’s treatment upon return to Algeria were found to be of a general nature, and they had proven insufficient since the request for a visit by a Slovak official to the applicant, held in detention upon return, had not been followed.

The applicant’s expulsion only one working day after the Slovak Supreme Court’s judgment, upholding the dismissal of his asylum request, had effectively prevented him from attempting redress by a complaint to the Slovak Constitutional Court. Expulsion of the applicant in disregard of an interim measure issued by the Court under Rule 39, preventing the Court from properly examining his complaints and from protecting him against treatment contrary to art. 3, was a violation of the right to individual application under art. 34.

interpr. of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

For the first time the Court applied Article 4 of Protocol no. 4 (collective expulsion) in the circumstance of aliens who were not physically present on the territory of the State, but in the high seas. Italy was also held responsible for exposing the aliens to a treatment in violation with article 3 ECHR, as it transferred them to Libya ‘in full knowledge of the facts’ and circumstances in Libya.

violation of ECHR art. 13 (proc.)

The Court therefore observed, with regard to the effectiveness of the domestic legal arrangements as a whole, that while the remedies of which the applicant had made use had been available in theory, their accessibility in practice had been limited by the automatic registration of his application under the fast-track procedure, the short deadlines imposed and the practical and procedural difficulties in producing evidence, given that he had been in detention and applying for asylum for the first time.

violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

The applicant was an irregular migrant complaining that he had been raped with a truncheon by one of the Greek coast guard officers supervising him in a detention centre upon interception of the boat on which he and 164 other migrants attempted to go from Turkey to Italy. Due to its cruelty and intentional nature, the Court considered such treatment as amounting to an act of torture.
under ECHR art. 3. Given the seriousness of the treatment, the penalty imposed on the perpetrator – a suspended term of six months imprisonment that was commuted to a fine – was considered to be in clear lack of proportion. An additional violation of ECHR art. 3 stemmed from the Greek authorities’ procedural handling of the case that had prevented the applicant from exercising his rights to claim damages at the criminal proceedings.

New

  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)
  - Although the applicants – a Kazakhstani couple and their two children aged 5 months and 3 years – had been detained in an administrative detention centre authorised to accommodate families, the conditions during their two weeks detention were held to have caused the children distress and to have serious psychological repercussions. Thus, the children had been exposed to conditions exceeding the minimum level of severity required to fall within the scope of ECHR art. 3, and this provision had been violated in respect of the children. Since that minimum level of severity was not attained as regards the parents, there was no violation of art. 3 in respect of these applicants.
  - ECHR art. 5 was violated in respect of the children, both because the French authorities had not sought to establish any possible alternative to administrative detention (art. 5(1)(f)), and because children accompanying their parents were unable to have the lawfulness of their detention examined by the courts (art. 5(4)).
  - ECHR art. 8 was violated due to the detention of the whole family. As there had been no particular risk of the applicants absconding, the interference with the applicants’ family life, resulting from their placement in a detention centre for two weeks, had been disproportionate. In this regard the Court referred to its recent case law concerning ‘the child’s best interest’ as well as to art. 3 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and to Directive 2003/9 on Reception Conditions.

  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)
  - A deporting State is responsible under ECHR Art. 3 for the foreseeable consequences of the deportation of an asylum seeker to another EU Member State, even if the deportation is being decided in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; the responsibility of the deporting State comprises not only the risk of indirect refoulement by way of further deportation to risk of ill-treatment in the country of origin, but also the conditions in the receiving Member State if it is foreseeable that the asylum seeker may there be exposed to treatment contrary to Art. 3.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 30471/08, Abdolkhani v. Turkey, [22 Sep. 2009]
  - violation of ECHR art. 13 (proc.)
  - Holding a violation of Art. 13 in relation to complaints under Art. 3; the notion of an effective remedy under Art. 13 requires independent and rigorous scrutiny of a claim to risk of refoulement under Art. 3, and a remedy with automatic suspensive effect.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 246/07, Ben Khemais v. Italy, [24 Feb. 2009]
  - violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)
  - Violation of Art. 3 due to deportation of the applicant to Tunisia; ‘diplomatic assurances’ alleged by the respondent Government could not be relied upon; violation of Art. 34 as the deportation had been carried out in spite of an ECtHR decision issued under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court.

- ECtHR Ap.no. 45223/05, Sultani v. France, [20 Sep. 2007]
  - no violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)
  - Finding no violation of Art. 3, despite the applicant’s complaint that the most recent asylum decision within an accelerated procedure had not been based on an effective individual examination; the Court emphasized that the first decision had been made within the normal asylum procedure, involving full examination in two instances, and held this to justify the limited duration of the second examination which had aimed to verify whether any new grounds could change the previous rejection; in addition, the latter decision had been reviewed by administrative courts at two levels: the applicant had not brought forward elements concerning his personal situation in the country of origin, nor sufficient to consider him as belonging to a minority group under particular threat

- ECtHR Ap.no. 25389/05, Gebremedhin, [26 Apr. 2007]
Holding that the particular border procedure declaring ‘manifestly unfounded’ asylum applications inadmissible, and refusing the asylum seeker entry into the territory, was incompatible with Art. 13 taken together with Art.3; emphasising that in order to be effective, the domestic remedy must have suspensive effect as of right.

ECtHR Ap.no. 13284/04, **Bader v. Sweden**, [8 Nov. 2005]  
violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

Asylum seeker held to be protected against refoulement due to a risk of flagrant denial of fair trial that might result in the death penalty; such treatment would amount to arbitrary deprivation of life in breach of Art. 2; deportation of both the asylum seeker and his family members would therefore give rise to violations of Articles 2 and 3

ECtHR Ap.no. 38885/02, **N. v. Finland**, [26 July 2005]  
v violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

Asylum seeker held to be protected against refoulement under Art. 3, despite the Finnish authorities’ doubts about his identity, origin, and credibility; two delegates of the Court were sent to take oral evidence from the applicant, his wife and a Finnish senior official; while retaining doubts about his credibility on some points, the Court found that the applicant’s accounts on the whole had to be considered sufficiently consistent and credible; deportation would therefore be in breach of Art. 3.

v violation of ECHR art. 13 (proc.)

The detention of rejected Roma asylum seekers before deportation to Slovakia constituted a violation of Art. 5; due to the specific circumstances of the deportation the prohibition against collective expulsion under Protocol 4 Art. 4 was violated; the procedure followed by the Belgian authorities did not provide an effective remedy in accordance with Art. 13, requiring guarantees of suspensive effect.

v violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

Given the irreversible nature of the harm that might occur if the risk of torture or ill-treatment alleged materialised and the importance which it attaches to Article 3, the notion of an effective remedy under Article 13 requires independent and rigorous scrutiny of a claim that there exist substantial grounds for fearing a real risk of treatment contrary to Article 3

no violation of ECHR art. 3 (proc.)

Although prohibition of ill-treatment contained in Article 3 of Convention is also absolute in expulsion cases, applicants invoking this Article are not dispensed as a matter of course from exhausting available and effective domestic remedies and normally complying with formal requirements and time-limits laid down by domestic law.

In the instant case applicant failed to comply with time-limit for submitting grounds of appeal – failed to request extension of time-limit even though possibility open to him – no special circumstances absolving applicant from compliance – even after time-limit had expired applicant had possibility to lodge fresh applications to domestic authorities either for refugee status or for residence permit on humanitarian grounds – Court notes at no stage during domestic proceedings was applicant refused interim injunction against expulsion – thus no imminent danger of ill-treatment

### 2.3.4 CAT Judgments on Asylum Procedure

No cases yet

### 2.3.5 National Judgments on Asylum Procedure

No cases yet
3 Responsibility Sharing

3.1 Responsibility Sharing: Adopted Measures

Regulation 343/2003

Dublin II

- OJ 2003 L 50/1 [impl. date: 1 Sep. 2003]
- implemented by Regulation 1560/2003 (OJ 2003 L 222/3)

- CJEU C-620/10, Kastrati [3 May 2012]
- CJEU C-493/10, M.E. [21 Dec. 2011]
- CJEU C-411/10, N.S. [21 Dec. 2011]
- CJEU C-19/08, Petrosian [29 Jan. 2009]
- CJEU C-394/12, Abdullahi [pending]
- CJEU C-666/11, M [pending]
- CJEU C-648/11, M.A. [pending]
- CJEU C-528/11, Halaf [pending]
- CJEU C-245/11, K. [pending]
- CJEU C-4/11, Puid [pending]

Regulation 2725/2000

Eurodac

- OJ 2000 L 316/1 [impl. date: 15-1-2003]

ECHR art. 3+13

European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols

- ETS 005


3.2 Responsibility Sharing: Proposed Measures

Amendment

Dublin II and Eurodac


New

agreed by Coreper, Oct. 2012

3.3 Responsibility Sharing: Jurisprudence

3.3.1 CJEU Judgments on Responsibility Sharing

- CJEU C-620/10, Kastrati, [3 May 2012]
- interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on Dublin II: art. 2(c)
- ref. from 'Kammarrätten i Stockholm, Migrationsöverdomstolen' (Sweden)

before the MS responsible for examining that application has agreed to take charge of the applicant, has the effect that that regulation can no longer be applicable. In such a case, it is for the MS within the territory of which the application was lodged to take the decisions required as a result of that withdrawal and, in particular, to discontinue the examination of the application, with a record of the information relating to it being placed in the applicant's file.

  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 3(2)
  - ref. from 'High Court' (Ireland)

- **CJEU C-411/10, N.S.**, [21 Dec. 2011]
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 3(2)
  - ref. from 'Court of Appeal (England and Wales)' (UK)
  - *On (1) the concept of 'safe countries' and (2) Transfer of an asylum seeker to the MS responsible and (3) Rebuttable presumption of compliance, by that MS, with fundamental rights.*

- **CJEU C-19/08, Petrosian.**, [29 Jan. 2009]
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 20(1)(d) & 20(2)
  - ref. from 'Kammarrätten i Stockholm, Migrationsöverdomstolen' (Sweden)
  - *On (1) Taking back by a MS of an asylum seeker whose application has been refused and who is in another MS where he has submitted a fresh asylum application and (2) Start of the period for implementation of transfer of the asylum seeker and (3) Transfer procedure on the subject-matter of an appeal having suspensive effect.*

### 3.3.2 CJEU pending cases on Responsibility Sharing

- **CJEU C-394/12, Abdullahi**
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 10(1), 18 and 19
  - *on the meaning of “first Member State” and its relation with C-411/10 and C-493/10*

- **CJEU C-666/11, M**
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 3(2) and 19(4)
  - ref. from 'Oberverwaltungsgericht für das Land Nordrhein Westfalen' (Germany) 19-12-2011
  - *Does the asylum seeker have a right, enforceable by him in the courts, to require a MS to examine the assumption of responsibility under art. 3(2) and to inform him about the grounds for its decision?*

- **CJEU C-648/11, M.A.** (hearing due 5 Nov. 2012)
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 6
  - ref. from 'Court of Appeal (England & Wales)' (UK)
  - *On determining the MS responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the MS by a TCN, where an applicant for asylum who is an unaccompanied minor with no member of his or her family legally present in another MS has lodged claims for asylum in more than one MS, which MS does the second paragraph of article 6 make responsible for determining the application for asylum?*

- **CJEU C-528/11, Halaf**
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 3(2)
  - ref. from 'Administrativen sad Sofia-grad' (Bulgaria)
  - *On (1) Legislation of a MS where application is made not providing either criteria or rules of procedure for the application of the sovereignty clause, and (2) Admissible evidence of non compliance with European Union law on asylum where there is no judgment of the CJEU declaring that by reason of those infringements the MS responsible has failed to fulfil its obligations in relation to asylum.*

- **CJEU C-245/11, K.** (judgment due 6 Nov. 2012)
  - interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on *Dublin II* : art. 3(2) and 15
ref. from 'Asylgerichtshof' (Austria)

* On the question whether, in the accessory interpretation and application of Art. 3 or 8 of the ECHR (Article 4 or Article 7 of the Charter), more extensive notions of 'inhuman treatment' or 'family', at variance with the interpretation developed by the European Court of Human Rights, may be applied?

☞ CJEU C-4/11, 
Puid
* interpr. of Reg. 343/2003 on 
Dublin II : art. 3(2)
* ref. from 'Hessischer Verwaltungsgerichtshof' (Germany)

* On the obligation of a MS to take responsibility for the processing of an asylum application if there is a risk of infringement of the fundamental rights of the asylum-seeker or a failure to apply the minimum standards.

3.3.3 ECtHR Judgments on Responsibility Sharing

* violation of ECHR art. 3+13
* A deporting State is responsible under ECHR Art. 3 for the foreseeable consequences of the deportation of an asylum seeker to another EU Member State, even if the deportation is being decided in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; the responsibility of the deporting State comprises not only the risk of indirect refoulement by way of further deportation to risk of ill-treatment in the country of origin, but also the conditions in the receiving Member State if it is foreseeable that the asylum seeker may there be exposed to treatment contrary to Art. 3.

* no violation of ECHR art. 3+13
* Based on the principle of intra-community trust, it must be presumed that a MS will comply with its obligations. In order to reverse that presumption the applicant must demonstrate in concreto that there is a real risk of his being subjected to treatment contrary to Article 3 of the Convention in the country to which he is being removed.

* no violation of ECHR art. 3+13
* The Court considered that indirect removal to an intermediary country, which was also a Contracting Party, left the responsibility of the transferring State intact. Subsequently, the transferring State was required not to deport a person where substantial grounds had been shown for believing that the person in question, if expelled, would face a real risk of being subjected to treatment contrary to Article 3 in the receiving country.

In this case the Court considered that there was no reason to believe that Germany would have failed to honour its obligations under Article 3 of the Convention and protect the applicant from removal to Sri Lanka if he submitted credible arguments demonstrating that he risked ill-treatment in that country.

3.3.4 CAT Judgments on Responsibility Sharing

No cases yet

3.3.5 National Judgments on Responsibility Sharing

No cases yet
4 Reception Conditions

4.1 Reception Conditions: Adopted Measures

Decision 573/2007
European Refugee Fund (2008-2013)
* OJ 2007 L 144/1
* amended by Decision 458/2010 (OJ 2010 L 129/1)

Council Decision 2004/904
Refugee Fund (2005-2010)
* OJ 2004 L 381/52

Directive 2003/9
Reception Conditions
 CJEU C-179/11, CIMADE & GISTI [27 Sep. 2012]

Decision 2000/596
* OJ 2000 L 252/12

ECHR art. 3 (reception)
European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its Protocols

4.2 Reception Conditions: Proposed Measures

Decision
Amendment of Refugee Fund
* COM (2009) 456, 2 Sep. 2009 UK opt in

Amendment
Reception Directive
* UK and Ireland opt out; amended text proposed by Commission, June 2011 (COM (2011) 320)

4.3 Reception Conditions: Jurisprudence

4.3.1 CJEU Judgments on Reception Conditions

New
 CJEU C-179/11, CIMADE & GISTI, [27 Sep. 2012]
* interpr. of Dir. 2003/9 on Reception Conditions
* ref. from 'Conseil d’État' (France)
* 1. A MS in receipt of an application for asylum is obliged to grant the minimum conditions for reception of asylum seekers laid down in Directive 2003/9 even to an asylum seeker in respect of whom it decides, under Dublin II, to call upon another MS, as the MS responsible for examining his application for asylum, to take charge of or take back that applicant.
2. The obligation on a MS in receipt of an application for asylum to grant the minimum reception conditions...
conditions to an asylum seeker in respect of whom it decides, under Dublin II, to call upon another MS, as the MS responsible for examining his application for asylum, to take charge of or take back that applicant, ceases when that same applicant is actually transferred by the requesting MS, and the financial burden of granting those minimum conditions is to be assumed by that requesting MS, which is subject to that obligation.

4.3.2 CJEU pending cases on Reception Conditions

- CJEU no cases yet,

4.3.3 ECtHR Judgments on Reception Conditions

  - violation of ECHR art. 3
  - A deporting State is responsible under ECHR Art. 3 for the foreseeable consequences of the deportation of an asylum seeker to another EU Member State, even if the deportation is being decided in accordance with the Dublin Regulation; the responsibility of the deporting State comprises not only the risk of indirect refoulement by way of further deportation to risk of ill-treatment in the country of origin, but also the conditions in the receiving Member State if it is foreseeable that the asylum seeker may there be exposed to treatment contrary to Art. 3.

4.3.4 CAT Judgments on Reception Conditions

- No cases yet

4.3.5 National Judgments on Reception Conditions

- No cases yet

5 Miscellaneous

Regulation 439/2010

* European Asylum Support Office
* OJ 2010 L. 132/11