

# Standards for the reception of applicants for international protection. Recast

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The Council looked, on the basis of a [presidency paper](#), at the **state-of-play of negotiations on the various legislative proposals concerning the Common European Asylum System (CEAS)**.

Ministers instructed the Council preparatory bodies to continue their work to reach an agreement at Council level and with the European Parliament as soon as possible.

The situation on the various files can be described as follows:

- [The Dublin II regulation](#) establishes the procedures for determining the member state responsible for examining an application for international protection. Further progress has been made on almost all aspects, in particular concerning a proposal to introduce a mechanism for early warning, preparedness and crisis management. This mechanism aims at evaluating the practical functioning of national asylum systems, assisting member states in need and preventing asylum crisis. Such a mechanism would concentrate on adopting measures to prevent asylum crises from developing rather than addressing the consequences of such crises once they have occurred.
- [The qualification directive](#) providing for better, clearer and more harmonised standards for identifying persons in need of international protection was adopted in November 2011 and entered into force in January 2012.
- [The asylum procedures](#) (current proposal being examined) and [reception conditions directives](#): revised proposals were tabled by the Commission on 1 June 2011. Significant progress has been made on the two instruments. Work is continuing on these two proposals.
- [The Eurodac regulation](#): discussions on amendments to the rules regulating this fingerprint database are on hold pending a revised Commission proposal.

Two other agreements related to the CEAS have been achieved so far. They concern the [long term residence directive](#) and the creation of the [European Asylum Support Office \(EASO\)](#) which started operations in spring 2011.

In addition, the Council took a decision without discussion which establishes common EU resettlement priorities for 2013 as well as new rules on EU funding for resettlement activities carried out by member states.

For the overall context, it is to be remembered that the European Council confirmed in its conclusions in June 2011 that negotiations on the various elements of the CEAS should be concluded by **2012**.