



## Ad-Hoc Query on Asylum seekers from Iraq

Requested by FI EMN NCP on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### Compilation produced on

Responses from: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Estonia Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom plus Norway and Croatia (23 in Total)

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### **1. Background Information**

Iraqi nationals have currently been the largest group among the asylum seekers in Finland. For example last week 80 % (1348 persons) of the asylum seekers were from Iraq. Therefore political interest has risen whether there are any differences amongst the Member States regarding their policies concerning Iraqi asylum seekers.

Questions:

1. Do you grant subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive to asylum seekers from Iraq? Concerning which areas?

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*In approximately half of the responses the state did not have a list of disputed areas which natives are granted subsidiary protection according to the area. Instead decisions were made case by case. Most often in the list of disputed areas were mentioned the following areas: Nineveh, Salah- al Din, Diyala, Kirkuk and Al Anbar. In addition the following areas were mentioned in one or few lists: At Tamim, Baghdad, Babil, Wasit and Kerbala.*

2. Do you currently carry out forced returns to Iraq?


*In approximately half of the responses forced returns to Iraq have not been carried out this year. In around 1/3 of the responses forced returns to Iraq were currently carried out, however many of them had faced problems during the process.*

3. How many asylums and other protection status have been granted and how many asylum applications have been rejected (excluding dismissal of a case) this year concerning asylum seekers from Iraq?

*In approximately half of the responses the amount of decisions concerning Iraq asylum seekers was more than 50. In these cases the amount of positive decisions varied between 30 % - 99,6 %, median was 75 %. In approximately half of the responses the total amount of decisions (excluding Dublin decisions) was less than 50 which cannot be considered a comprehensive sample.*

We would very much appreciate your responses by the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2015.



## **2. Responses<sup>1</sup>**

		<b>Wider Dissemination?<sup>2</sup></b>	
	<b>Austria</b>	<b>Yes</b>	1. In Austria, each application for asylum is examined individually within comprehensive investigation proceedings. The resulting decision is taken on the basis of objective criteria and according to existing legal provisions. In case the requirements for granting the Geneva-Convention refugee status are not met or the entitlement for asylum is withdrawn but forced return is inadmissible due to human rights considerations, subsidiary protection status is to be granted.





<sup>1</sup> If possible at time of making the request, the Requesting EMN NCP should add their response(s) to the query. Otherwise, this should be done at the time of making the compilation.

<sup>2</sup> A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."



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			<p>2. Currently no forced returns to Iraq are planned.</p> <p>3.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;"><b>January – June 2015</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: center;"><b>1st and 2nd instance</b></td> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Nationality</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Final positive decisions</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Final negative decisions</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Other decisions</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Subsidiary protection</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Iraq</td> <td style="text-align: center;">185</td> <td style="text-align: center;">61</td> <td style="text-align: center;">168</td> <td style="text-align: center;">55</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior</p>	<b>January – June 2015</b>					<b>1st and 2nd instance</b>					Nationality	Final positive decisions	Final negative decisions	Other decisions	Subsidiary protection	Iraq	185	61	168	55
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Nationality	Final positive decisions	Final negative decisions	Other decisions	Subsidiary protection																			
Iraq	185	61	168	55																			
	<b>Belgium</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.																				
	<b>Bulgaria</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. The applications for international protection lodged by all asylum applicants are examined on an individual basis. The case workers have the obligation and opportunity to consider all the circumstances of the applicant's refugee story on the individual basis. The decisions in substance of the applications for international protection are drafted in accordance with the COI report and in accordance with the EU and Bulgarian legislation.</p> <p>2. Yes.</p> <p>3. Decisions 1.1.-31.8.2015 concerning Iraqi asylum seekers:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Refugee status</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Subsidiary protection</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Refusals:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">92</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29</td> <td style="text-align: center;">156</td> </tr> </table>	Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Refusals:	92	29	156														
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	<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes we do as far as concerned the North, West, Central and East governorates that is Ninawa, At Tamim, Diyala, Al Anbar, Bagdad, Babil, Salah Ad Din, Wasit. Regarding to asylum seekers originating from the Kurdish Region of Iraq, we examine the cases on an individual basis and we do not grant subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive.</li> <li>Not applicable</li> <li><u>Decisions 1.1.-31.8.2015 concerning Iraqi asylum seekers:</u>  <b>Applications</b> 01.01.2015-31.08.2015: (56)  <b>Decisions</b> 01.01.2015-31.08.2015: Subsidiary Protection (6), Recognise (15), Negative (0)</li> </ol>										
	<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>No</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.</li> </ol>										
	<b>Estonia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Estonia has no current policy on granting subsidiary protection pursuant to Article 15 (c) of the QD to asylum seekers from Iraq. The decisions are made case by case.</li> <li>Yes, in principle forced returns from Estonia to Iraq are carried out, although there have been difficulties in getting travel documents from Iraq.</li> <li>Decisions 1.1.2015-31.8.2015 concerning Iraqi asylum seekers: <table border="1" data-bbox="705 1005 1937 1165"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asylum</th> <th>Secondary protection</th> <th>Other residence permits</th> <th>Positive decisions altogether</th> <th>Negative decisions altogether</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </li> </ol>	Asylum	Secondary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	0	0	0	0	2
Asylum	Secondary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether									
0	0	0	0	2									
	<b>Finland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current policy of Finland is that the natives of the so called disputed areas (the Governorates of Ninewa, Kirkuk, Diyala and Salah Al-Din), Baghdad and Governorates of Al-Anbar and Babel are granted subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive, unless they are considered able to internally relocate elsewhere in Iraq. (Valid September 2015)</li> <li>Involuntary returns from Finland to Iraq have been successful in individual cases. In general, we are currently unable to return to Iraq the Iraqi citizens whose asylum applications have been rejected, unless they are returning voluntarily.</li> <li>Decisions 1.1.-31.8.2015 concerning Iraqi asylum seekers:</li> </ol>										

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			Asylum	Secondary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)
			205	104	19	328	69	13
	<b>France</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>France does not have a peculiar policy concerning asylum seekers from Iraq. The granting of the refugee status or of the subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 (c) of the Qualification Directive depends on the applicant's profile. For instance, in the case of religious minorities (mostly Christians and Yazidis), refugee status is granted pursuant to Art. 1 of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.</li> <li>Normally, Iraqi asylum seekers whose application is rejected can be subject to forced or voluntary return to Iraq. However, in view of the country's political situation, forced returns to Iraq are suspended since March 2015.</li> <li>In the first semester of 2015, a total of 1327 asylum applications were lodged. 1249 Iraqi citizens were granted refugee status, 10 subsidiary protection whereas 19 asylum applications were rejected.<sup>3</sup></li> </ol>					
	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is assumed that there is a internal armed conflict in the provinces of Anbar, Baghdad, Saladin, Nineveh, Diyala, Kirkuk, and Babil. In general, it is assumed that, with respect to the aforementioned provinces, and with the exception of the city of Baghdad, a level of risk for civilians exists that warrants the conclusion of significant risk to individuals resulting solely from a return into the area of origin and residence there. The same applies for those regions that have fallen into the hands of the ISIS.  With regard to the city of Baghdad, a lower level of risk to civilians is assumed. As a result of this, individual risk-aggravating characteristics which lead to an intensification of the general conflict-related dangers are required for the acceptance of a substantial threat to an individual. Internal protection is only considered as an exception in individual cases in Iraq.  Protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive, however, is only granted occasionally, because as a general rule, a connecting feature is available to the Geneva Convention for Refugees and as such, refugee protection is granted.</li> <li>In the period from January to August 2015, five Iraqi nationals were deported from Germany to Iraq. Their destination was Erbil.</li> <li>Decisions on applications for asylum, regarding Iraq as country of origin (01.01. - 31.08.2015):</li> </ol>					

<sup>3</sup> Source: French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA).



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			Asylum/refugee protection	Subsidiary protection	National prohibition of deportation	Positive decisions (altogether)	Negative decisions	Decisions in Dublin procedure						
			8,800	122	48	<b>8,970</b>	33	907						
	<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hungary grants subsidiary protection for asylum seekers from Iraq if they come from certain areas where there is a risk of serious harm according to Article 15c of the Directive 2011/95/EU unless internal flight alternative is available. The Region of Kurdistan may be considered as such a region. The list of safe regions is continuously updated and the availability as internal flight alternative is examined individually in each case.</li> <li>Each case is examined individually whether it is possible to carry out a forced return to Iraq or not. If the asylum department rejects the Iraqi citizen's application, according to the national law it is possible to carry out a forced return to Iraq although the Iraqi Embassy cooperates merely if an Iraqi citizen wants to return voluntary.</li> <li>Between 01.01.2015 and 30.09.2015 6 persons from Iraq were granted asylum status, 33 persons from Iraq were granted subsidiary protection and 6 asylum applications lodged by Iraqi citizens were rejected.</li> </ol>											
	<b>Ireland</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that their response is not disseminated further.											
	<b>Italy</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Italy, subsidiary protection is granted under Article 15(c) of the Qualification Directive. There is no list of specific areas: protection is granted on a case-by-case basis.</li> <li>Yes, there have been some cases of Iraqi citizens. However, within the framework of the yearly quota, Italy has favoured initiatives aimed to encourage and implement assisted Voluntary Return programmes.</li> <li>During 2015, Italy has received 308 applications for international protection from Iraqi citizens. From 1 January to 2 October 2015, 444 decisions were taken on applications submitted by Iraqi asylum seekers, including some applications submitted before 2015. See table below:</li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="645 1401 2123 1433"> <tr> <td>Asylum</td> <td>Subsidiary</td> <td>Other residence</td> <td><b>Positive decisions</b></td> <td><b>Negative decisions</b></td> <td>Unfounded</td> </tr> </table>						Asylum	Subsidiary	Other residence	<b>Positive decisions</b>	<b>Negative decisions</b>	Unfounded
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				protection	permits	altogether	altogether	applications (included in the negative decisions)																	
				88	307	15	<b>410</b>	<b>34</b>	18																
	<b>Latvia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the current approach asylum seekers who originate from Ninawa, Kirkuk and Baghdad are entitled to receive subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive.</li> <li>There are no forced returns to Iraq in 2015 so far. In 2014 – 7 forced returns;</li> <li>Increase in asylum claims from Iraqi citizens started from September 2015. In 2015 the total number of Iraqi asylum seekers – 56, subsidiary protection granted – 5, rejected – 9, dismissal -12.</li> </ol>																						
	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes. Applicants received this year were only from around Mosul.</li> <li>No.</li> <li>3 applicants were granted subsidiary protection.</li> </ol>																						
	<b>Luxembourg</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, LU has granted subsidiary protection to 5 individuals during the current year. A case by case study is done and no specific areas have been determined (yet) which would automatically trigger subsidiary protection.</li> <li>Luxembourg does not carry out forced returns to Iraq.</li> <li>Decisions 01.01-31.08.2015 concerning Iraqi international protection applicants</li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="705 1077 2094 1412"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asylum (Refugee status)</th> <th>Subsidiary protection</th> <th>Other residence permits</th> <th>Positive decisions altogether</th> <th>Negative decisions altogether</th> <th>Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)</th> <th>Incompetent</th> <th>Implicit withdrawal</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>6 (out of which 1 has been granted by the high administrative)</td> <td>-</td> <td>15 (including the high administrative ruling in 1)</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							Asylum (Refugee status)	Subsidiary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)	Incompetent	Implicit withdrawal	9	6 (out of which 1 has been granted by the high administrative)	-	15 (including the high administrative ruling in 1)	4	-	4	7
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			e court)	case)												
	<b>Malta</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. The number of applications for international protection lodged by Iraqi nationals remains very low. In 2014, the Office of the Refugee Commissioner received 4 of such applications and in 2015 (from 01<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> August) 3 applications from Iraqi nationals were lodged. The Office notes that due to the low number of applications lodged by Iraqi national no formal policy is in place. Each application is assessed on a case by case basis taking into consideration the individual and contextual circumstances.</p> <p>2. No forced returns to Iraq were carried out.</p> <p>3. In 2014 and 2015 (until 31<sup>st</sup> August) the Office concluded seven cases lodged by persons who claimed to be Iraqi nationals. Of these three were recognised as refugees, one was granted subsidiary protection status, two were rejected and one was discontinued (explicitly withdrawn).</p>													
	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<p>1. No. At the moment we have a 'postponement of decision' for the Iraqi regions Bagdad, Anbar, Ninewa, Salaheddin, Ta'mim (Kirkuk), Diyala en Babil. For the other regions in Iraq, decision making is based on an individual assessment. We are currently reviewing our policy on Iraq.</p> <p>2. The State Secretary of Security and Justice has implemented a decision- and return moratorium for certain provinces of Iraq. The moratorium has been prolonged until 16 October 2015. The moratorium concerns the provinces Bagdad, Anbar, Ninewa, Salaheddin, Ta'mim, Diyala en Babil. This means forced return is not possible and is not carried out to these provinces, for the period that the return moratorium is effective.</p> <p>For provinces of Iraq that are not covered by the moratorium, forced return is possible and carried out if the person involved has a valid passport. The authorities of Iraq only provide nationals of Iraq with laissez passers (substitute of a travel document) if the person involved is willing to return.</p> <p>Forced return to the region that is under control of the Kurdish authorities is possible. This is limited to the Iraqi nationals from this region with criminal records. If the Iraqi national in case does not have a Iraqi passport, he or she can travel with a document as provided by the Netherlands authorities called an 'EU-staat'.</p> <p>3.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="658 1279 1818 1409"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2015 Q1</th> <th>2015 Q2</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>4540</td> <td>2050</td> <td>6590</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							2015 Q1	2015 Q2	Total	Granted	4540	2050	6590
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			Rejected	1855	1005	2860												
			Total	6400	3055	9455												
	<b>Poland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If applicants whose country of origin is Iraq do not qualify for the refugee status, we grant subsidiary protection to them, no matter which area of the country they are coming from.</li> <li>Forced returns to Iraq are suspended since 29 April 2014. However four forced returns of Iraqi citizens are planned for the end of October due to their written demands for return to the country of origin.</li> <li>18 persons were granted refugee status, 22 persons were granted subsidiary protection, one application for international protection was rejected.</li> </ol>															
	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes. The Slovak Republic grants subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive to asylum seekers from Iraq. They come from Bagdad and northern Iraq.</li> <li>Yes, In general the Slovak Republic carries out forced returns to Iraq but treats each decision about forced return individually. The existence of impediments to expulsion is assessed individually according to section 81 of the Act on Residence of Foreigners. If the impediments to expulsion are not identified in relation to the respective country and to the other party to the proceedings, the return to such country is carried out.</li> <li>First instance decisions issued from 1.1.2015 to 30.9.2015 in case of third country nationals from Iraq</li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="611 938 1839 1289"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asylum granted</th> <th>Asylum rejected</th> <th>Subsidiary protection granted</th> <th>Subsidiary protection rejected</th> <th>Application refused as unfounded</th> <th>Application refused as inadmissible</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The table shows that in the timeframe (1.1.2015 - 30.9.2015) third country nationals from Iraq were granted one of the forms of international protection (granted asylum or subsidiary protection). From the 12 cases - asylum was granted in one case and in the other 11 cases the asylum was rejected but the subsidiary protection was granted.</p>				Asylum granted	Asylum rejected	Subsidiary protection granted	Subsidiary protection rejected	Application refused as unfounded	Application refused as inadmissible	1	11	11	0	0	0
Asylum granted	Asylum rejected	Subsidiary protection granted	Subsidiary protection rejected	Application refused as unfounded	Application refused as inadmissible													
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	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No.</li> <li>No.</li> <li>From 1.1.2015-31.8.2015 decisions concerning Iraq asylum seekers are following: 14 asylum application; 4 negative decisions, 2 dismissals from application.</li> </ol>												
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sweden has a judicial position from October 2014 still valid. Subsidiary protection is in general fulfilled for The Governorates of Anbar, Nineva and Salah al-Din. For the Governorates of Kirkuk and Diyala the criteria for internal armed conflict are fulfilled with the notice that the violence is not that extensive as in Anbar, Nineva and Salah al-Din. An individual assessment of the person's exposition for danger has to be done. The other parts of Iraq are assessed that there is other severe conflicts (national law - outside Art. 15 lit. c).</li> <li>Very small numbers are forced returns (15 so far this year). The Embassy of Iraq does not issue travel documents if not on voluntary ground. Voluntary return about 185 this year.</li> <li>Decisions 1.1.-5.10.2015 concerning Iraqi asylum seekers: <table border="1" data-bbox="705 799 2168 1018"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="705 799 952 954">Asylum</th> <th data-bbox="952 799 1198 954">Secondary protection</th> <th data-bbox="1198 799 1444 954">Other residence permits</th> <th data-bbox="1444 799 1691 954">Positive decisions altogether</th> <th data-bbox="1691 799 1937 954">Negative decisions altogether</th> <th data-bbox="1937 799 2168 954">Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="705 954 952 1018">247</td> <td data-bbox="952 954 1198 1018">65</td> <td data-bbox="1198 954 1444 1018">25</td> <td data-bbox="1444 954 1691 1018">337</td> <td data-bbox="1691 954 1937 1018">325</td> <td data-bbox="1937 954 2168 1018">9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </li> </ol> <p>Particularly distressing circumstances are not included.</p> <p>Sweden has had 6 600 asylum seekers this year (Jan-Sep), from which 3 500 applied in September.</p>	Asylum	Secondary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)	247	65	25	337	325	9
Asylum	Secondary protection	Other residence permits	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)										
247	65	25	337	325	9										
	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In October 2015, in the country guidance case of <a href="#">AA (Article 15(c)) Iraq CG [2015] UKUT 00544 (IAC)</a>, the court concluded Article 15(c) of the Qualification Directive applied in the provinces of Anbar, Diyala, Kirkuk, (aka Ta'min), Ninewah and Salah Al-din. It also applies to certain parts of the "Baghdad Belts".</li> </ol> <p>However, a person from one of these provinces may be able to relocate to Baghdad (city), the south or the KRI. This will depend on the particular facts of the case and the individual circumstances of the person</p>												

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			<p>2. The Home Office's first and preferred option is for those who have no legal basis to remain in the UK to leave voluntarily and we offer assistance to those who choose to do so.</p> <p>Generally, there are no countries to which as a matter of immigration policy we cannot remove those who have no legal basis to remain in the UK. However, there may be some countries where it is difficult to remove to because of the country situation, or where there may be legal barriers to removal. We continue to make returns to Iraq where appropriate and on a case by case basis.</p> <p>3. First instance decisions for Iraqi Asylum Seekers to the UK (1/1/2015-31/06/2015)*</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="781 564 2092 727"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asylum</th> <th>Humanitarian protection</th> <th>Other grants of leave</th> <th>Positive decisions altogether</th> <th>Negative decisions altogether</th> <th>Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>123</td> <td>6</td> <td>57</td> <td>186</td> <td>436</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Data includes main applicants and dependants</p> <p><b>Source: Home Office Immigration Statistics, August 2015</b></p>	Asylum	Humanitarian protection	Other grants of leave	Positive decisions altogether	Negative decisions altogether	Unfounded applications (included in the negative decisions)	123	6	57	186	436	N/A				
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123	6	57	186	436	N/A														
	<p><b>Norway</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	<p>1. UDI is still developing their practice when it comes to returns to these provinces: Anbar, Babel, Diyala, Kerbala, Kirkuk, Ninewa og Salah al-Din. When it comes to Bagdad, the Norwegian Appeals Board decided in June of 2015 that the security situation there is no longer so serious that applicants with a negative decision require international protection. The Appeals Board lifted a suspension on return, that previously allowed Iraqi applicants with a negative decision to remain in Norway. Now it will be possible for them to return.</p> <p>2. Yes. Though those who have been returned this year thus far have been sent back to the Kurdish areas. It is assumed that there will be a change in practice regarding this and applicants will be returned to other parts of Iraq, including Bagdad.</p> <p>3. January – August 2015</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="607 1177 2024 1362"> <thead> <tr> <th>Citizenship</th> <th>Convention refugees</th> <th>Other refugee status</th> <th>Humanitarian grounds</th> <th>15 month rule</th> <th>UM limited</th> <th>Rejection</th> <th>Dublin III ordinance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Iraqi</td> <td>10</td> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>15</td> <td>41</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Citizenship	Convention refugees	Other refugee status	Humanitarian grounds	15 month rule	UM limited	Rejection	Dublin III ordinance	Iraqi	10	4	6	0	0	15	41
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			Safe 3rd country	Withdrawn/ dismissed	total
			6	12	94
	<b>Croatia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The current policy of Republic of Croatia is that the natives of the so called disputed areas (the Governorates of Ninewa, Kirkuk, Diyala and Salah Al-Din), Baghdad and Governorates of Al-Anbar and Babel are not granted subsidiary protection pursuant to Art. 15 lit. c of the Qualification Directive.</li> <li>2. N/A</li> </ol>		

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