

Country: Hungary

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No. Asylum seekers 2007	No. of persons granted protection	No. of Ngos'/ GOs'/ projects offering mental health services	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with persons with broken family links	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with survivors of torture	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with the elderly and frail
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Access to health system: In case of illness, asylum seekers not covered by social security shall be entitled to the following health care services free of charge: e.g. Hospital care in cases of emergency, medical treatment, medicaments, emergency dental care, prenatal care, mandatory vaccination, also psychological care for especially vulnerable persons (unaccompanied minors, survivors of torture, sexual or psychological violence, etc.).

Legal Access to mental health care: Officially yes. For applicants: first aid. For persons with refugee status: as for citizens.

Systematic assessment of mental health needs: Due to the provision of the new Asylum Act LXXX of 2007 the Hungarian authorities have responsibility to deal with traumatised or persons with mental illness such as to cover the costs of medical treatment etc. Psychiatrists who are employed by Cordelia Foundation visit the Reception Centres weekly, cure the asylum seekers and provide them with the necessary medicine.

Main stakeholders in the asylum system: Refugee authority -> Office of Immigration and Nationality (1st instance) and capital Court of Budapest (2nd level of legislation?), ~~Hungarian Office of Asylum~~, NGOs (Red Cross, Cornelia Foundation, Interchurch Aid) **MENEDEK Association – also an important NGO**

Country specific features: What drew my attention? That only one organisation is offering mental health services for refugees and asylum seeker in whole Hungary.

Ambiguity: The Cordelia Foundation visits the reception centres regularly every week. Regarding a systematic assessment it however remains unclear, whether every “newcomer” is assessed regarding his/her mental health at the beginning or whether this only happens if necessary -> **client usually gets referred to Cordelia's practitioners by lawyers or asylum officials/social workers**