

# Migrations in the European Union

## DEFINITIONS

**Migrant:** a person who leaves their usual place of residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently.

**Foreigner:** any person who does not have the nationality of the State in which they reside.

**Refugee:** a person who is forced to flee their country and seek refuge in another country, and who cannot return to their own country for fear of persecution. This is a specific legal status.

**Asylum seeker:** a person seeking international protection, but whose application for refugee status or other protection has not yet been examined.

**Migrant person in an irregular situation:** a person who moves across an international border and is not legally authorized to enter or to stay in a State.

## KEY FIGURES

3,5%

**International migrants represent approximately 3.5% of the world's population, or 108.4 million forcibly displaced people in 2022.**

48%

**48% of migrants worldwide are women.**

72%

**72% of refugees live in a country neighbouring their country of origin.**

11,6%

**In Europe, migrants represent 11.6% of the population**

10%

**In 2022, 7 million immigrants will be living in France, i.e. around 10% of the population.**

## ISSUES



**Within the European Union, the Member States have a common policy on migration:** the European institutions have created a set of rules on migration that each Member State must respect. **This policy is increasingly restrictive towards exiles.**



Despite the creation of European standards for the reception conditions of asylum seekers in the various countries of the European Union, **the quality of accommodation is often far from up to scratch, and varies greatly depending on the Member State.**



**The asylum application procedure**, which aims to obtain international protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection), **is often long and difficult, and can have a major impact on the mental health of exiles**, particularly the most vulnerable.



**Women, LGBTQIA+ people, young people and minors, and people with physical or mental illnesses are particularly at risk of violence**, both on the migration route and in their destination country.

## RESSOURCES



For more information on the asylum application procedure, visit the Ofpra website:

<https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/en/applying-asylum>



Cimade offers a wide range of publications on exile and migration in France and Europe:

<https://www.lacimade.org/publication/>



The Gisti also produces information on the rights of foreigners in France, and critical publications on the latest reforms of the migration system: <https://www.gisti.org/spip.php?page=sommaire>

**Our training courses to take you further (in French only):**

- Specific forms of violence in a migratory context
- Vulnerabilities and asylum procedures
- Sexual and reproductive health of foreign women