



## **INTEGRATION IN PRACTICE IN CROATIA**

	ASYLUM SEEKER	PERSON UNDER INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION
EXPLANATION OF THE STATUS	An asylum seeker is a person of a foreign citizenship who asked for an international protection in the Republic of Croatia because of the fear of persecution in the country of origin. Justified causes of fear can be based on race, religion, nationality, belonging to a particular social group or political view which stops him from accepting the protection of that country.	A person under international protection is a person who was granted a positive decision after the asylum seeking process. There are two types of protection: <b>Asylum</b> – protection that lasts as long as the circumstances which made the person ask for an asylum have not been removed. The asylants usually regulate their status by asking for citizenship in the country where their protection has been approved.
	Every person that asks for an asylum in Croatia must prove the causes of persecution in <b>individual case</b> – it is necessary to have evidence (identification documents, photographs and similar).	Subsidiary protection – protection with limited duration, as it is considered that the causes of insecurity in the country of origin could be removed soon.
STATISTICS	Around 5000 people asked for asylum in the Republic of Croatia between 2004. and 2016.	Around 177 people were granted an international protection between 2004. and 2016.
ACCOMODATION	There are two reception centers in Croatia: <b>Reception center for asylum seekers in Kutina</b> – for vulnerable groups (families, children, women, older people) <b>Reception center for asylum seekers in Zagreb: hotel</b> <b>Porin</b> – for single men *accommodation in both facilities is shared and people share the room with at least one other person	Right to an apartment financed by the state (Ministry of social policy and youth, Social care center) for the period of 2 years starting from the day of receiving the positive decision on international protection. After two years, the person has to finance his own accommodation and if he or she is unable to do it, he or she has the right to stay in the Center for homeless people.
SOCIAL PROTECTION	The reception centers offer 3 meals per day, clothes and hygienic products. Center for social care gives financial support in the amount of <b>100 kn per month (13 euros)</b> . You have the right to free legal aid and humanitarian aid provided by the organizations.	Once you receive the protection, you have the same rights as the Croatian citizens. You have to registrate at the Center for social care which will assign you a social worker. You have the right to <b>800 kn per month</b> as well as the one- time financial aids, both provided by Center for social care. You have the right to use the public kitchen or monthly





		food packages (basic groceries). You have the right to free legal aid and humanitarian aid provided by the organizations.
HEALTH PROTECTION	You have the right to <b>urgent medical care</b> . The doctor visits the reception centers 2 times per week for the period of 2 hours. Organization "Association for psychological support" provides psychotherapy. Reception center in Zagreb has a gym. Reception center in Kutina has a sports hall.	You have the right to health protection equal to that of the Croatian citizens. Instead of getting your own health care card, you will visit the doctor with your residence permit card, and the costs of your treatment will be covered by Ministry of health. Organization "Association for psychological support" provides psychotherapy.
EMPLOYEMENT AND WORK	You have the <b>right to work 9 months after you have</b> <b>submitted asylum request</b> , if you haven't received the decision about international protection until that moment.	You have the <b>right to work without working or business</b> <b>permit</b> . You have to apply at the Croatian employment center where you will get employment consulter who you have to contact once per month. In Republic of Croatia 20% of the people are unemployed. For working in Croatia it is necessary to speak, read and write croatian language. In Croatia people work 40 hours per week. Women work as well.
EDUCATION	Children are enrolled in primary schools and high schools. Adults can attend the workshops organized by the organizations. Volunteers organize croatian language workshops in and outside of the reception centers.	You have the right to croatian language course organized in Foreign language school, paid by the state, in duration of 2 semesters (6 months). Children are enrolled in primary schools and high schools. Adults have right to education equal to that of Croatian citizens – which, in practice, means that you have to pay for that education. Individuals have the right to study by the same rules as Croatian citizens, but in practice there are difficulties.
RELIGION	The right to religious freedom and religious education of children.	The right to religious freedom and religious education of children.





TRAVELING	During the process of seeking international protection you can't leave the Republic of Croatia, but you can move freely within its borders. If you travel to another city you need to contact the police in order to inform them where you are.	The rights depend on the type of the protection that you receive: <b>Asylum</b> – you can make a refugee's passport which allows you to travel within the EU countries and costs around 400kn (53 euros). If you are planning to stay in one of the EU countries longer than 3 months you have to report your residence and causes of the relocation: work, studying After 5 years of residence in Croatia you have the right to permanent residence which allows you to travel and work in other EU countries. <b>Subsidiary protection</b> – you don't have the right to the refugee's passport but you can ask for passport for foreigners which is equal to the passport of your country of origin. If some countries ask for visa for the people of your citizenship, you have to get visa before traveling. After 5 years of residence in Croatia you have the right to permanent residence which allows you to travel and work in other EU countries.
RESIDENCE	You have the right to stay in Republic of Croatia from the day that you expressed intentions to request the asylum until the day of the decision about your request.	You have the right to stay in the Republic of Croatia. If you move or you stay abroad for longer than 6 months, without informing the Ministry of foreign affairs previously, you will lose the right of residence. After 5 years of residence in Croatia, you have the right to permanent residence. After 8 years of residence, you have the right to Croatian citizenship.