
Eurostat: EU, 3 asylum seekers in 10 are minors. In 2020, 129,000 applications lodged from children mainly from Asia and Africa



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[“In 2020, 129,630 children \(persons under 18 years old\) lodged a first-time application for asylum in the EU which corresponds to 31% of the total number of first-time asylum applications recorded in the EU”. The shocking figure is released in Brussels today by the European Commission’s Statistical Office Eurostat. “Among those children, 10% were unaccompanied minors corresponding to 3% of the total number of first-time asylum applicants”. In the EU Member States, the share of children and teens in the total number of first-time asylum applicants varied in 2020 from 54% in Germany to 6% in Slovakia, whereas the share of unaccompanied minors in the total number of first-time asylum applicants was the highest in Bulgaria \(23%\) and the lowest in Spain \(0.1%\). In the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Hungary “no applications from unaccompanied minors were registered in 2020”. Concerning the country of citizenship of minor first-time asylum applicants in 2020, more than half \(52%\) of the children had a citizenship of an Asian country, 22% an African citizenship, 13% an American citizenship, and 9% a \(non-EU\) European country citizenship. Syrian was the main citizenship of the minor first-time asylum applicants in 2020 \(25% of the total number of first-time asylum applicant children\).](#)



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