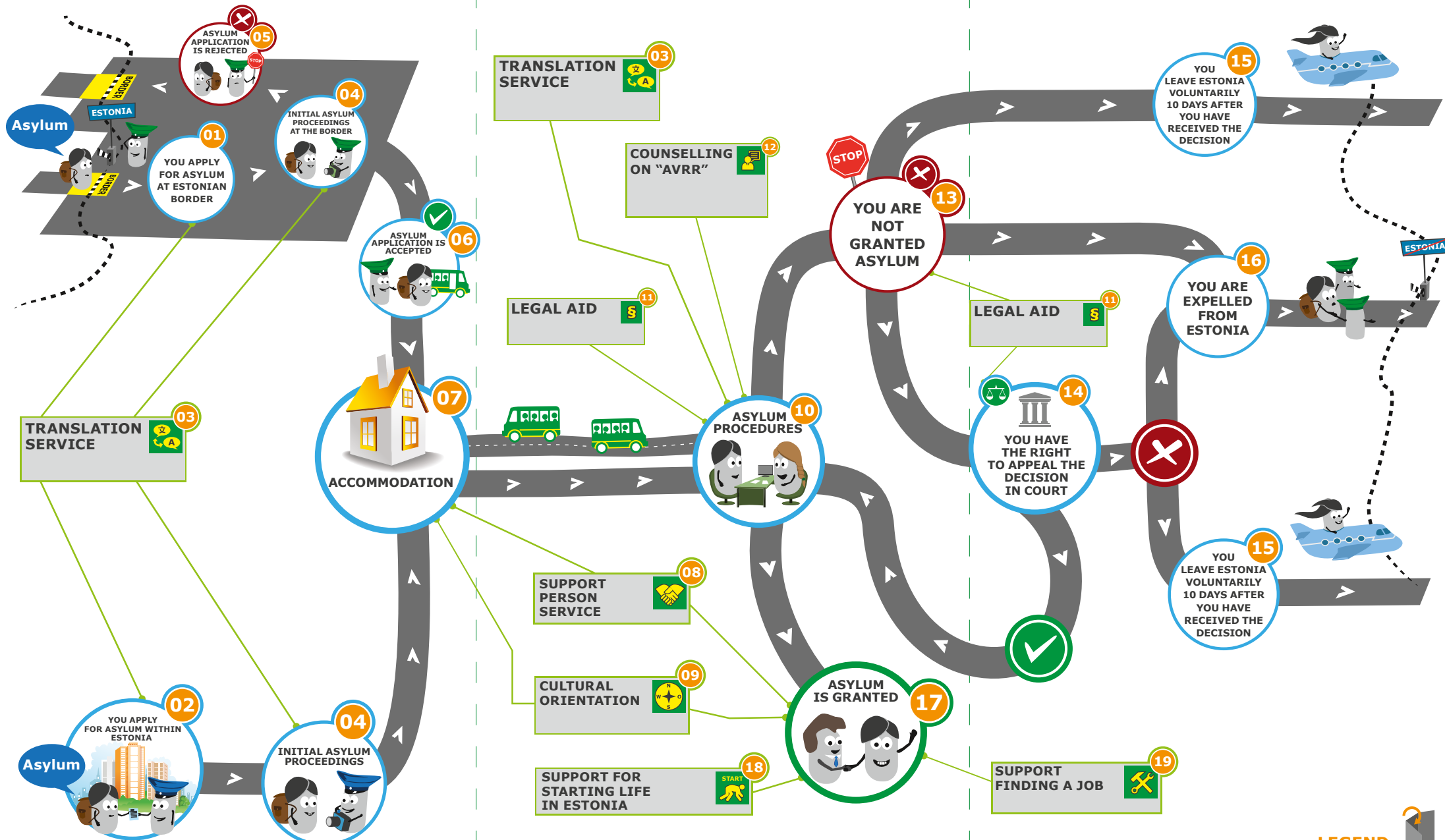


IPE Project ASYLUM SYSTEM IN ESTONIA



LEGEND

- 01 You have arrived at the Estonian border and immediately ask for asylum from the **Estonian border guards**.
- 02 You are already in Estonia and immediately turn to the **Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB)** to apply for asylum. More info: tel: +372 612 3000; www.politsei.ee.
- 03 The translation service will be provided for you by the **PBGB** during all asylum procedures.
- 04 You will be asked why you are applying for asylum and what has been your travel route to Estonia. Initial procedures also include examination of your person and your personal belongings, taking hold of your documents and personal belongings, photographing and fingerprinting if you are over 14. Also, at this stage, the process of determining the state responsible for looking through your asylum application commences (Dublin procedure). You will remain in Estonia until the responsible member state will be determined. More info: tel: + 372 612 3000; www.politsei.ee.
- 05 Your asylum application is rejected at the border if: 1) you have received international protection in another country; 2) your country of origin can be considered a safe country; 3) you have arrived in Estonia through a country that can be considered a safe third country for you. If your asylum application is rejected at the border, you can appeal this decision in the **Estonian administrative court**. More info: tel: +372 6 208 100; email: info@just.ee; www.just.ee/4616; Estonian Human Rights Centre- More info: tel: (+372) 5804 7600; www.humanrights.ee.
- 06 Your application will be accepted at the border if there are no grounds for rejection (see point 5).
- 07 If your asylum application is accepted at the border, **PBGB** will start the asylum procedures to analyse whether to grant you asylum in Estonia. During the asylum procedures you can live in the **accommodation centre** for asylum seekers. In the centre you are provided with medical care, language classes and other services. In order to live outside of the centre you have to make an application to **PBGB** and you need to have sufficient financial means or someone who ensures your accommodation and support. Dependent on your individual case you may be placed in the **detention centre** for the whole duration of procedures. The asylum procedures may last up to six months. If it is not possible for the **PBGB** to make a decision concerning your application within six months as of submission of the application, **PBGB** shall notify you of the delay and the expected time the decision is to be made. During the asylum procedures you may also be temporarily placed in the rooms of the **Police and Border Guard Board**, if it is required for the asylum procedures. More info: tel: + 372 612 3000; www.politsei.ee.
- 08 **NGO Johannes Mihkelsoni Keskus (JMK)** provides you with a support person service while you are an asylum seeker. If you wish, the service continues after you have been granted asylum in Estonia. More info: tel: +372 7 300 541; email: jmk@jmk.ee; www.jmk.ee.
- 09 **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** offers cultural orientation trainings for asylum seekers, but also when you have been granted asylum. The trainings help you to adapt better in Estonian society. More info: tel: +372 6116088, email: IOMESTCO@iom.int; www.iom.ee/estco.
- 10 During the asylum procedures, you will be requested to attend at least one interview where you can thoroughly explain to the **PBGB** official all details related to your application. If required, a translator will be present at the interview. You have a right to withdraw your application and return home during the whole procedure.
- 11 You are entitled to free legal aid and representation during the asylum procedures. Free legal aid and representative (if you so wish) is provided by **State Legal Aid**. More info: tel: +372 6 208 100; email: info@just.ee; www.just.ee/4616; **Estonian Human Rights Centre**. More info: tel: (+372) 5804 7600; www.humanrights.ee.
- 12 If you wish to return home voluntarily you can apply for support from **IOM**. The support includes information and counselling regarding the return with **IOM**, assistance in getting travel documents, planning and organisation of the travel and reintegration assistance upon arrival in your country of origin. More info: tel: +372 6116088; email: www.iom.ee/varre.
- 13 If you are not granted international protection you have a right to appeal the decision to the **administrative court** within 10 days after you have received the decision or leave the country voluntarily within that time. Otherwise you will be expelled from Estonia. You can ask for free legal aid if you decide to appeal.
- 14 If the court does not satisfy your first appeal you have a right to appeal the decision further. Ask for more information from your legal aid. During the appellations you can live at the accommodation centre for asylum seekers. You have a right to return voluntarily during the whole procedures.
- 15 If you do not wish to appeal the decision, you have 10 days to leave the country. You can use the help of **IOM**.
- 16 If you do not leave the country voluntarily, then you will be expelled. During that time you will be placed in a **detention centre**.
- 17 If the asylum procedures carried out by **PBGB** show that you would need international protection, you will receive a residence permit in Estonia and respective documents. Your residence permit is valid for three years if you receive refugee status and for one year in case of subsidiary protection. Both types of residence permits can be extended, if necessary.
- 18 After you have been granted asylum, the accommodation centre will help you find a place to live. State support is used to cover some of your living costs such as initial expenses for renting an apartment, Estonian language classes and translation services. Ask for additional information from the accommodation centre.
- 19 To find a job you could turn to **Estonian Unemployment Insurance fund**. More info: tel: 15501; www.tootukassa.ee. You can also seek help from the support persons of **NGO Johannes Mihkelsoni Keskus (JMK)** and **NGO Estonian Refugee Council**. More info: tel: +372 517 4334; email: info@pagulasabi.ee; www.pagulasabi.ee.