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Country context (optional)

Please use this field to provide any relevant contextual or background information about the country's law, policy, and practice, or the stateless population, to help contextualise the information in the survey (optional question).

International and Regional Instruments

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
|---------|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| IOB.1.a | 1954 Convention | Is your country party to the 1954 Statelessness Convention? | UN Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954 | Yes | UNTC, 1954 Convention: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetailsII.aspx?src=TREATY&mt_dsg_no=V-3&chapter=5&Temp=mt_dsg2&clang=en |
| IOB.1.b | | If yes, when was ratification/accession? | | On 8 March 1960. | Idem |
| IOB.1.c | | Are there reservations in place? Please list them. | Best practice is no reservations. If there are, they should have little or no impact on the rights of stateless people. | Yes The provisions of article 10§2 (continuity of residency) are regarded by the French Government as applying only to stateless persons who were forcibly displaced from French territory during WWII, and who have, prior to the date of entry into force of this Convention, returned there directly from the country to which they were forced to proceed, without in the meantime having received authorisation to reside in the territory of any other State. | Idem |
| IOB.1.d | | Does the Convention have direct effect? | Best practice is that the Convention has direct effect, though this may depend on the legal regime. | Yes Decree N°60-1066 of 4 October 1960. | Legifrance: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEX000000306218&dateTexte=20170614 (French – FR) |
| IOB.2.a | 1961 Convention | Is your country party to the 1961 Statelessness Convention? | UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1961 | No | UNTC, 1961 Convention : https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mt_dsg_no=V-4&chapter=5&clang=en |
| IOB.2.b | | If yes, when was ratification/accession? | | N/A | Idem |
| IOB.2.c | | Are there reservations in place? Please list them. | As above | Yes, at the time of signature, but no ratification. | Idem |
| IOB.2.d | | Does the Convention have direct effect? | As above | N/A | |
| IOB.3.a | Other conventions | State party to European Convention on Nationality 1997? Please list any reservations. | European Convention on Nationality, 1997 | Signed but never ratified. No reservations. | Council of Europe, details of Treaty n°166 : http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/166 |
| IOB.3.b | | State Party to European Convention on Human Rights 1950? Please list any relevant reservations. | European Convention on Human Rights, 1950 | Ratified on 3 May 1974. Decree n°74-360 of 3 May 1974. Two reservations in place, but not strictly related to statelessness: On the right to liberty and freedom (article 5) and to a fair trial (article 6): those articles shall not hinder the application of the provisions governing the system of discipline in the armed forces, determining the general legal status of military servicemen, nor of the provisions of Article 375 of the Code of Military Justice. On the derogation in time of emergency (article 15§1): Article 16 of the French Constitution on state of siege must be understood as complying with the purpose of Article 15 of the Convention and, for the interpretation and application of the said Article 16, the terms to the extent strictly required by the exigencies of the situation shall not restrict the power of the President of the Republic to take the measures required by the circumstances. | Full list of signatures and ratifications : http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/005/signatures?p_auth=NRdM5IAy , Full list of reservations and declarations: https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list?module=declarations-by-treaty&numSte=005&codeNature=0 , Legifrance, Decree n°74-360: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEX000000886019 (FR) |

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| IOB.3.c | State Party to Council of Europe Convention on the avoidance of statelessness in relation to State succession 2006? Please list any reservations. | Council of Europe Convention on the Avoidance of Statelessness in Relation to State Succession, 2006 | Not signed, not ratified, no reservations indicated. | Council of Europe, Details of Treaty n°200: http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/200 |
| IOB.3.d | Bound by Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU Return Directive)? Please list any relevant reservations. | Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU Return Directive) | Yes, bound by Directive 2008/115/EC, and fully transposed. | Official Journal of the EU, Directive 2008/115/EC : http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1497280233964&uri=CELEX:32008L0115 Legifrance, Law n°2011-672 of 16 June 2011 on immigration, integration and nationality, and Decree n°2011-820 of 8 July 2011 applying the law : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000023444072(FR) |
| IOB.3.e | State Party to Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989? Please list any relevant reservations. | Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989 | Yes, ratified on 7 August 1990. Decree n°90-917 of 8 October 1990. Reservations confirmed on ratification (does not concern statelessness): (1) This Convention, particularly Article 6, cannot be interpreted as constituting any obstacle to the implementation of the provisions of French law regarding the voluntary interruption of pregnancy. (2) Article 30 is not applicable in France as it regards “States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities or persons of indigenous origin exist”. (3) Interpretation of Article 40, para. 2 (b) (v), establishes a general principle to which limited exceptions may be made under the law. This is particularly the case for certain non-appealable offences tried by the Police Court and for offences of a criminal nature. Nonetheless, decisions handed down by the final court of a jurisdiction may be appealed before the Court of Cassation. | UNTC, Convention on the rights of the child : https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&clang=en Legifrance, Decree n°90-917 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000716856(FR) |
| IOB.3.f | State Party to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966? Please list any relevant reservations. | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966 | Yes, acceded on 4 November 1980. Decree n°81-76 of 29 January 1981. Yes, three reservations are in place, none strictly related to statelessness: ‘In case of conflict between its obligations under the Covenant and its obligations under the Charter of the UN, France’s obligations under the Charter will prevail.’ Plus two reservations similar to those made to ECHR regarding the state of emergency and the rules pertaining to the disciplinary regime in the army. | UNTC, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966: https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-4&chapter=4&clang=en Legifrance, Decree n°81-76 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000517071&categorieLien=cid(FR) |
| IOB.3.g | State Party to International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966? Please list any relevant reservations. | International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966 | Yes, acceded on 4 November 1980. Decree n°81-77 of 29 January 1981. Three declarations, but no reservations. | UNTC, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966: https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-3&chapter=4 Legifrance, Decree n°81-77: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000702224&categorieLien=cid(FR) |
| IOB.3.h | State Party to Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women 1979? Please list any relevant reservations. | Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, 1979 CEDAW, Gen. Rec. 32 on the gender-related dimensions of refugee status, asylum, nationality and statelessness | Yes, ratification on 14 December 1983. Decree n°84-183 of 12 March 1984. Reservations have been added to Article 29 (“The Government of the French Republic declares, in pursuance of Article 29, § 2, of the Convention, that it will not be bound by the provisions of Article 29, § 1”) and to Article 9 (which “must not be interpreted | On ratification: Legifrance, Decree n°84-183: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000701382(FR) On reservations: |

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| | | | | as precluding the application of the 2 nd § of Article 96 of the code of French nationality”). The government also declared that the 11 th preambular § contains debatable elements. The term “family education” in Article 5 (b) of the Convention was defined as “public education concerning the family”, and Article 5 would only be applied subject to compliance with Article 17 of the ICCPR and Article 8 of the ECHR. France also declared that no provision of the Convention would be interpreted as prevailing over provisions of French legislation which are more favourable to women than to men. France also commented on reservations made by Saudi Arabia, Syria, Bahrain, South Korea, Oman, the UAE and Brunei Darussalam. | UNTC, Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women of 1979 : https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4 |
| IOB.3.i | State Party to Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment 1984? Please list any relevant reservations. | Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984 | Yes, ratified on 18 February 1986. Decree n°87-916 of 9 November 1987. Yes, reservation to Article 30§1 related to settling disputes, including before the ICJ – France declares it shall not be bound by those provisions. | UNTC, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of 1984 : https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-9&chapter=4&clang=en Legifrance, Decree n°87-916: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006066243&dateTexte=20170321 (FR) | |
| IOB.3.j | State Party to International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 1966? Please list any relevant reservations. | International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965 | Yes, acceded on 28 July 1971. Decree n°71-901 of 2 November 1971. No reservations, but there are three declarations, including one which may be relevant: with regard to Article 4, France interprets the reference made therein to the principles of the UDHR as releasing the States Parties from the obligation to enact anti-discrimination legislation which is incompatible with the freedoms of opinion and expression, and of peaceful assembly and association. | Legifrance, Decree n°71-901: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000511187&categorieLien=id (FR) UNTC, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 1965 : https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-2&chapter=4&clang=en | |
| IOB.3.k | State Party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families 1990? Please list any relevant reservations. | International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990 | No. | UNTC, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families of 1990: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-13&chapter=4&clang=en | |
| IOB.3.l | State Party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006? Please list any relevant reservations. | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 | Yes. Signed on 30 March 2007 and ratified on 18 February 2010. Decree no. 2009-1791 of 31 December 2009. | UNTC, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 2006: https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtmsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&clang=en | |

Stateless Population Data

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
|---------|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| POP.1.a | Availability and sources | Does the State have a standardised ‘stateless’ category in its data collection systems (e.g. census)? Please list available figures for the total stateless population on the territory and describe how data is disaggregated (e.g. by sex, age, residence). | <p>CEDAW, Gen. Rec. 32 (2014): States parties should gather, analyse and make available sex-disaggregated statistical data and trends.</p> <p>Council of the European Union, Conclusions on Statelessness (2015): Recognise the importance of exchanging good practices among Member States concerning the collection of reliable data on stateless persons as well as the procedures for determining statelessness.</p> <p>UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014): Improve quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations.</p> <p>ISI, The World’s Stateless (2014): States should strengthen measures to count stateless persons on their territory.</p> <p>International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS) (endorsed by UN Statistical Commission in 2023): States should use standardised definition of statelessness and consistent indicators for collecting statelessness data.</p> | <p>There is no data on statelessness in the census. According to INSEE (National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies), the category “stateless” is not foreseen by the Nationality Codes. The French population census considers that all individuals have a nationality. As INSEE cannot code this denomination, it is considered a non-answer (as are references to unknown nationality). The person is either assigned the nationality of their country of birth or INSEE looks for a respondent sharing similar characteristics where nationality is indicated and assigns them this nationality.</p> <p>Official statistics on statelessness relate to the statelessness determination procedure. In 2022, 503 new claims were lodged. An 89% increase in applications was recorded compared to 2021. This increase follows three years of decrease.</p> <p>The share of applications filed by people from Africa continues to increase, accounting for 63% of the total of applications (compared to 43% in 2021), an increase of 20 points. After several years of continuous decline, demand of people from Western Sahara knows a substantial increase and concentrates the largest number of applications, with about 54% of the total (274 requests), 32 points more than in 2021. In addition to Saharawis, just over 8% of applicants are from the African continent, which represents 42 cases.</p> <p>The share of requests for the statelessness status from individuals from the Asian continent knows a significant decrease of nine points compared to 2021, namely 12% of the total, even if the number of people concerned is increasing slightly (62 vs. 54 in 2021). These are mainly from Middle East. 8% of applicants (39 cases against 33 in 2021) assert they come from Palestinian families, that they come from the Palestinian Territories, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Syria or Qatar, whether or not they are placed under the protection of the Relief and Works Agency United Nations for Palestine Refugees in the near East (UNRWA).</p> <p>Applications filed by persons from of European countries, the majority until 2019, represent now less than a quarter of the demand, although their number is also increasing (124 against 95 in 2021). The share of people from the former USSR and the share of people born in the former Yugoslavia represent slightly more than 7% each. Finally, applications by people born in Europe, mainly in Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom or France, remain in their vast majority submitted by members of the Roma community whose ascendants have mostly declared themselves as from the former Yugoslavia.</p> <p>Only one application was filed by a person born on the American continent.</p> <p>Applications continue to be submitted mostly by men (76%, an increase of 10 points from 2021).</p> | <p>INSEE, PRÉSENTATION DES QUESTIONS DU BULLETIN INDIVIDUEL: https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/fichier/2579979/imet-hs-n-present-questions-bul-ind.pdf See p. 6 of leaflet where it is explained that the “country of birth” and the “current nationality” are asked for in the census). There is no box that people can check to indicate they don’t have a nationality.</p> <p>Email exchange with INSEE where they explain how they integrate answers from respondents indicating no nationality in the census.</p> <p>Gábor Gyulai (2010), Country Report on France, Funded and supported by the Open Society Justice Initiative, unpublished (UNHCR confidential).</p> <p>OFPRA (French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons), 2022 Activity Report : https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/actualites/rapport-dactivite-2022 (FR)</p> <p>EUROSTAT, Acquisition of citizenship by age group, sex and former citizenship, March 2023: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_acq/default/table?lang=en</p> |

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| | | | | <p>In 2022, OFPRA (the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons) issued 325 decisions, 108 of which were positive. The admission rate was 33.3%, up from 24.3% from the previous year. At the same time, and in addition, "at least 103 persons who have applied for international protection have been jointly recognised as refugees and stateless persons".</p> <p>In 2022, OFPRA reported 1,799 stateless people and 47 people with 'undetermined nationality - other' under its protection (33.5% and 44.7% women respectively), a slight increase compared to 2021, when 1,716 people were protected by (OFPRA) 34% of whom were women.</p> <p>Another source of data is the acquisition of French nationality in Eurostat, which is disaggregated by country of origin and includes "unknown" and "stateless". For 2021, 2,372 people who acquired French nationality are listed under "unknown" (1,861 in 2020) and 0 under "stateless" (like in 2019 and 2020).</p> | |
| POP.1.b | | Do public authorities define data categories that may overlap (e.g. unknown nationality) or where stateless people might be more highly represented (e.g. Palestinian)? Please explain and provide any available figures. | As above | See above. Prefectures may deliver stay permits bearing "undetermined nationality". | Interview with a lawyer working on statelessness. |
| POP.1.c | | What is UNHCR's estimate for the stateless/at risk of statelessness population and what is the source for this estimate? | As above | UNHCR indicates that as of mid- 2023 there were 4,111 statelessness persons in France. There is no estimation of persons at risk of statelessness in France. | UNHCR, Refugee Data Finder: unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=9I73DD |
| POP.1.d | | Have there been any surveys or mapping studies to estimate the stateless population in the country? | As above | Not to our knowledge. | |
| POP.1.e | | Are there any other sources of estimates for the stateless population not covered by the above? Please list sources and figures. | As above | No. | |
| POP.1.f | | Are there issues with the reliability of data or indications that the stateless population may be over/under reported? If yes, please describe. | As above | As indicated above, the lack of a category to indicate the absence of nationality or the status of statelessness in the census is an issue. The way stateless people are counted by the Ministry of Justice (e.g. issuance of residence permits and acquisition of French nationality) is not explained. Further research should be done to better understand this. The situation in detention should be looked at more carefully. Based on informal discussions with people working in detention centres, it seems there is a lack of understanding of the issue of statelessness, and therefore possible under reporting. A further issue is the situation of undocumented migrants. Gábor Gyulai reported: 'Several interviewees pointed to ... undocumented migrants who can neither be regularised, nor expelled, or as they are called in current French argot, the "ni-ni" (ni régularisable, ni expulsable). There are no reliable data about the number of undocumented migrants living in France; estimates often refer to hundreds of thousands.' | See POP.1.a Gábor Gyulai (2010), Country Report on France, Funded and supported by the Open Society Justice Initiative, unpublished (UNHCR confidential) |

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| POP.1.g | | Please provide any available figures for stateless refugees and/or asylum-seekers and clarify if the State also counts these groups in figures for the stateless population (i.e. to avoid under/over-reporting). | As above. EASO/EUAA, Practical guide on registration (2021) : States should collect information from applicants for international protection about their nationality(ies) and potential lack of nationality. When registering families, it is important to collect this data for each family member. | In 2022, "at least 103 persons" who lodged an international protection claim were granted protection as 'stateless-refugees'. This is an increase compared to 2021 (38 stateless-refugees), 2020 (74 stateless-refugees), and 2019 (59). In 2018 and 2017 the "stateless-refugees" status was much more granted (122 and 114 times respectively). | OFPRA, 2022 Activity Report : https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/actualites/rapport-dactivite-2022 (FR) OFPRA, Activity Report 2021: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/actualites/publication-du-rapport-dactivite-2021-de-lofpra (FR) OFPRA, Activity Reports 2020, 2019 and 2018: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/publications/les-rapports-dactivite (FR) |
| POP.2.a | Stateless in detention data | Does the State record and publish figures on stateless people held in immigration detention? If yes, please provide. | UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014) : Improve quantitative and qualitative data on stateless populations. CEDAW, Gen. Rec. 32 (2014) : State parties should gather, analyse and make available sex-disaggregated statistical data and trends. ISI, The World's Stateless (2014) : States should strengthen measures to count stateless persons on their territory. Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012) : States must identify stateless persons within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction as a first step towards ensuring the protection of their human rights. Council of the European Union, Conclusions on Statelessness (2015) : Recognise the importance of exchanging good practices among Member States concerning the collection of reliable data on stateless persons as well as the procedures for determining statelessness. | There are no official statistics on immigration detention centres, and on stateless people held in immigration detention. The only statistics are reported in NGOs' reports. The 2022 report provides details on nationalities of detained persons. Several centres indicate the presence of people with "unknown" nationality: Bordeaux (6), Guadeloupe (5), Hendaye (10), Mesnil Amelot (51), Palaiseau (1), Paris-Vincennes (7), Plaisir (1), Rennes (4) and Rouen (2), 87 in total in 2022 (12 more than in 2021). However, this data omits information about people detained and does not relate specifically to the determination of nationality by the authorities, who always indicate a nationality in the context of the removal procedure, or by associations. | 2022 NGO Report: Rapport annuel sur la rétention administrative 2022 (forumrefugies.org) (FR) 2021 NGO Report: https://forumrefugies.org/images/s-informer/publications/rapports/Rapport_r%C3%A9tention/Rapport-retention-2021-web.pdf (FR) |
| POP.2.b | | Does the State record and publish figures on people released from immigration detention due to un-removability? If yes, please provide. | As above | In the NGOs' report, there are statistics on individuals released from immigration detention due to the expiry of the maximum duration of detention (90 days), meaning the authorities did not manage to remove them. In 2022, several centres indicated the number of individuals released from immigration detention due to the expiry of the maximum duration of detention (90 days): Bordeaux (2), Coquelles (13), Lille (12), Lyon (12), Marseille (2), Mesnil-Amelot (52), Metz-Queuleu (7), Nîmes (11), Palaiseau (24), Paris-Vincennes (189), Rennes (2), Rouen-Oissel (5), Strasbourg-Geispolsheim (1), Toulouse (1). This is a total of 333 individuals in 2022, compared to 339 in 2021 and 70 in 2019. | 2022 NGO Report: Rapport annuel sur la rétention administrative 2022 (forumrefugies.org) (FR) 2021 NGO Report: https://forumrefugies.org/images/s-informer/publications/rapports/Rapport_r%C3%A9tention/Rapport-retention-2021-web.pdf (FR) 2019 NGO Report: https://forumrefugies.org/images/s-informer/publications/rapports/Rapport_r%C3%A9tention/RA_CR_A_2019_BD.pdf (FR) |

Statelessness Determination and Status

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
|---------|----------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| SDS.1.a | Definition of a stateless person | Is there a definition of a stateless person in national law? Do the definition and exclusion provisions align with the 1954 Convention? Please provide details. | 1954 Convention : Articles 1(1) & 1(2). | Yes. The legislation explicitly refers to the 1954 Convention: “Statelessness status is recognised to every person who meets the definition of Article 1 of the New York Convention of 28 September 1954 [...]”. Exclusion provisions foreseen by the legislation are where a) the person has been guilty of acts contrary to the purposes, objectives and principles of the United Nations; or b) their activities on French territory constitute a serious threat to public order, public security or the security of the State. | Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum (CESEDA), in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Article L-582-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775660?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.%C2%A0582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) |
| SDS.2.a | Training | Is there training to inform different public authorities about statelessness? If yes, please provide details (e.g. who provides training to whom/how often?) | UNHCR Executive Committee, Conclusion No. 106 (LVII) (2006) : Requests UNHCR to actively disseminate information and, where appropriate, train government counterparts on appropriate mechanisms for identifying, recording, and granting a status to stateless persons. | UNHCR organises an annual course on refugee law with a component on statelessness. Two OFPRA staff members take part in this course each year. | Confirmed by UNHCR country office. |
| SDS.2.b | | Is there training for judges and lawyers on statelessness? If yes, please provide details (e.g. provider, frequency). | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Officials who may be in contact with stateless persons need to be trained to identify potential applicants for statelessness status and refer them to appropriate channels. UNHCR, Geneva Conclusions (2010) : It is recommended that States provide specialised training on nationality laws and practices, international standards and statelessness to officials responsible for making statelessness determinations. | Not to our knowledge. There is a lack of knowledge on statelessness in general, and it is not perceived as an issue. There is no compulsory legal training for lawyers on statelessness and there are very few free trainings offered on the subject. Most of the time, it is only evoked during legal trainings on immigration law and it remains very theoretical. | Interview with asylum practitioners and lawyers. |
| SDS.3.a | Existence of a dedicated SDP | Which of the following best describes the situation in your country? Choose only one and then proceed to question indicated. 1. There is a dedicated statelessness determination procedure (SDP) established in law, administrative guidance, or judicial procedure, leading to a dedicated statelessness status (answer Question SDS.3.b. and proceed to Question 4a). 2. There is no dedicated SDP leading to a dedicated statelessness status, but there are other procedures in which statelessness can be identified (e.g. partial SDPs with no status/rights attached, residence permit or naturalisation applications, refugee status determination, ad hoc procedures, etc.), or other routes through which stateless people could regularise their stay and/or access their rights (answer Question SDS.3.b. and proceed to Question 10a). 3. There is a dedicated statelessness status but no formal procedure for determining this (answer Question | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : It is implicit in the 1954 Convention that States must identify stateless persons to provide them appropriate treatment to comply with their Convention commitments. UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Establishing a statelessness determination procedure is the most efficient means for States Parties to identify beneficiaries of the Convention. | Group 1 - There is a dedicated Statelessness Determination Procedure (SDP) established in law, which leads to a statelessness status. | Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum, in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Articles L. 582-1 to 582-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772666/#LEGISCTA000042775664 (FR) Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum, in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Articles R. 582-1 to 582-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042802304/#LEGISCTA000042805954 (FR) Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum, in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1734 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Articles R. 594-2 and R. 594-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042802392?init=true&page=1&query=CESED+A+R.+594-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042805864#LEGIARTI000042805864 (FR) Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum, in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1734 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Articles R. 595-2 and R. 595-3: |

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| | | SDS.3.b. and proceed to Question 15a). | | | <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042802400?init=true&page=1&query=CESED+A+R.+582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042805854#LEGIARTI000042805854 (FR)</p> <p>Code of Entry and Residence of Foreigners and of the Right to Asylum, in accordance with Article 20 of Ordinance No. 2020-1734 of 16 December 2020, these provisions came into force on 1 May 2021, Articles R. 596-2 and R. 596-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042802408?init=true&page=1&query=CESED+A+R.+596-2&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042805846#LEGIARTI000042805846 (FR)</p> |
| SDS.3.b | Temporary protection for people fleeing war | <p>Does the State guarantee access to the territory to everyone fleeing Ukraine, regardless of nationality, documentation, or residence status? Does the State offer a temporary form of protection to stateless people and people at risk of statelessness from Ukraine (through the EU Temporary Protection Directive or another mechanism)? Is temporary protection accessible to all stateless persons who have fled Ukraine, regardless of their documentation status? If the State grants temporary protection more broadly than required by the EU TPD, please state so. Please describe any other barriers for stateless people or people at risk of statelessness in accessing the territory or receiving temporary protection, asylum, or other protection.</p> | <p>EU Temporary Protection Directive (2001) EU Council Implementing Decision (2022) establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine & European Commission, Operational guidelines ENS, Briefings on access to protection for stateless people fleeing Ukraine: Everyone fleeing the war in Ukraine should be guaranteed access to the territory. European countries must extend temporary forms of protection to all stateless people and those with undetermined nationality who cannot meet current eligibility requirements, due to their statelessness or documentation status. Lack of documentation should not prevent access to international protection or other forms of protection.</p> | <p>The EU Temporary Protection Directive and Council Implementing Decision were implemented in France through the instruction of 10 March 2022, directed to prefects.</p> <p>Stateless people may enter the territory; however, undocumented persons may not enter France unless they apply for the statelessness determination procedure or asylum.</p> <p>France extends Temporary Protection to stateless people who benefit from international protection or equivalent national protection in Ukraine, including statelessness status, or who hold a permanent residence permit in Ukraine and are not able to return to their country of origin, and their family members.</p> <p>To apply for Temporary Protection, they will need to go to the closest "prefecture" or "Points accueil Ukraine" with their documentation.</p> <p>No barriers or discriminations exist to our knowledge.</p> | <p>Instruction relative à la mise en œuvre de la décision du Conseil de l'Union européenne du 5 mars 2022, prise en application de l'article 5 de la directive 2001/55/CE du Conseil du 20 juillet 2001, du 10 mars 2022 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/download/pdf/circ?id=45302 (FR)</p> <p>NGO Article : https://www.forumrefugies.org/s-informer/publications/articles-d-actualites/en-france/1033-en-france-quelle-protection-pour-les-personnes-fuyant-l-ukraine (FR)</p> <p>OFPRA: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/actualites/informations-sur-la-protection-temporaire-a-destination-des-personnes-ayant-fui-lukraine (FR/Ukrainian)</p> <p>Statelessness determination procedure: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15402 (FR)</p> |
| SDS.4.a | Access to the procedure (Group 1) | <p>Is the examination of statelessness claims conducted by a dedicated, centralised body with relevant expertise? Please note the competent authority and evaluate appropriateness to national context.</p> | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): States may choose between a centralised procedure or one that is conducted by local authorities. Centralised procedures are preferable as they are more likely to develop the necessary expertise. UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020): It is important that examiners develop expertise while ensuring that the procedures are accessible.</p> | <p>Yes, the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (Office Français de protection de réfugiés et des apatrides – OFPRA) is the competent authority in charge of determining the statelessness status and providing protection.</p> | <p>CESEDA, Article L. 582-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775656?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.+582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L.582-1 to L.582-4: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772666/#LEGISCTA000042775664 (FR)</p> <p>Gábor Gyulai (2010), Country Report on France, Funded and supported by the Open Society Justice Initiative, unpublished (UNHCR confidential)</p> <p>OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN)</p> |

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| SDS.4.b | Are there clear, accessible instructions on how to make a claim of statelessness? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : For procedures to be fair and efficient, access must be ensured (dissemination of info, targeted info campaigns, counselling on the procedures, etc.). UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Information on the procedure and counselling services must be available to potential applicants in a language they understand. | Information on the statelessness determination procedure can be found on the OFPRA website in French and in English, including information on the definition, the procedure, the appeal and data. Information can also be found on the public website "service public". However, the website is only in French. | OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN) Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023 : https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR) Website "service public": https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15402 (FR) Guide for asylum seekers in France, General direction of foreigners in France, September 2020: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/fr/Asile/Guide-du-demandeur-d-asile-en-France (FR) CESEDA, Article R.582582-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775660 (FR) |
| SDS.4.c | Can submissions be made orally and/or in writing in any language? | ENS, Statelessness Determination and the Protection Status of Stateless Persons (2013) : Bureaucratic difficulties (e.g. complicated forms, inflexible procedures, language restrictions etc.) can impede access to SDPs. | Only OFPRA is competent to receive an application for statelessness status. It is explicitly stated on the OFPRA website that Any foreigner who wishes to claim statelessness status must contact OFPRA directly by post to request the statelessness application form. ". The application form must be completed in French. Additional information can be provided orally during an interview, but the interview is not compulsory: the Office may invite the applicant to a personal interview. | R.582 CESEDA, Article L. 582-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775656?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.+582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN) |
| SDS.4.d | Must a specific application form be used? Please note any difficulties with forms or other inflexible documentation requirements. | ENS (2013) : Bureaucratic difficulties (e.g. complicated forms, inflexible procedures, language restrictions etc.) can impede access to SDPs. | The application must be made on a specific OFPRA form delivered on request by the applicant. It must be written in French and signed. Two recent photographs must be attached , and, if relevant, travel documentation, civil status documents and a copy of a valid residence permit as well. When the completed application is submitted, OFPRA immediately acknowledges receipt and issues a certificate of registration (not a residency permit). | CESEDA, Article R.582-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775660 (FR) OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN) Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR) |
| SDS.4.e | Are competent authorities authorised to initiate SDPs <i>ex officio</i> ? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : It is recommended that governmental authorities be authorised to initiate procedures <i>ex officio</i> . UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Given that individuals are sometimes unaware of SDPs or hesitant to apply, procedures can usefully contain safeguards permitting State authorities to initiate a procedure. | No. | Gábor Gyulai (2010), Country Report on France, Funded and supported by the Open Society Justice Initiative, unpublished (UNHCR confidential) |
| SDS.4.f | Are there obligations in law on authorities to consider the application? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Access to the SDP must be guaranteed. | Yes. No decision can be derived from the absence of answer from OFPRA. | CESEDA, Article R.582-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775660 (FR) CESEDA, Article L531-22 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042776027 (FR) OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN) Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR) |

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| SDS.4.g | | Is there an application fee? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Access to the SDP must be guaranteed. | No. | Nothing specified in the law. Lawyers and professionals interviewed informally for the purpose of this study confirm. |
| SDS.4.h | | Is there a lawful stay requirement to access the SDP? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Access to the procedure needs to be open to anyone regardless of lawful stay or residence. ENS (2013) : There is no basis in the 1954 Convention for requiring lawful stay. | No. | Nothing specified in the law. Lawyers and professionals interviewed informally for the purpose of this study confirm. |
| SDS.4.i | | Is there a time limit on access to the SDP? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Access to the SDP must be guaranteed and not subject to time limits. ENS (2013) : There is no basis in the 1954 Convention to set time limits for individuals to claim statelessness status. | No. | Nothing specified in the law. Lawyers and professionals interviewed informally for the purpose of this study confirm. |
| SDS.4.j | | Is there cooperation between agencies that may have contact with stateless people to refer cases for status determination? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Cooperation between actors working on statelessness and the various government agencies involved in determining statelessness is good practice. | OFPRA may receive referrals from the Prefecture in cases where third country nationals have a residence permit but cannot get documents from the country of origin. OFPRA may receive referrals from the Ministry of Interior in cases where people are living as French nationals, but it is discovered they do not possess French nationality. UNHCR may make referrals to OFPRA. In any case, OFPRA cannot initiate an SDP ex officio. | Interview with OFPRA, conducted on 14 December 2016. Confirmed by UNHCR country office. |
| SDS.5.a | Assessment (Group 1) | Who has the burden of proof in the SDP in law and practice? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The burden of proof is in principle shared (both applicant and examiner must cooperate to obtain evidence and establish the facts). UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : SDPs must take into consideration the difficulties inherent in proving statelessness. UNHCR, Geneva Conclusions (2010) : In statelessness determination procedures, the burden of proof should therefore be shared between the applicant and the authorities responsible for making the determination. Individuals must cooperate to establish relevant facts. The burden should shift to the State if an individual can demonstrate they are not a national, on the basis of reasonably available evidence. ECtHR, Hoti v. Croatia (2018) : State has responsibility to at least share the burden of proof with the applicant when establishing the fact of statelessness. | OFPRA determines the various countries with which the applicant may have a nationality tie. This is usually done through a personal interview which OFPRA is however not obliged to conduct. Then, there is an examination of any eventual entitlement to obtain the nationality of any of these States. OFPRA can approach the consular representation of the relevant States in France, or its own consular representation abroad, with queries regarding legal affiliation of the applicant to these States. OFPRA asks the applicant to sign a document allowing the office to contact state authorities, provided that there is no fear of persecution identified. The guide of procedures never refers to the applicant’s obligation to “prove” their statelessness; it rather talks about the authority’s methodology to establish the facts. OFPRA requires the applicant to demonstrate they have taken the necessary steps to obtain the nationality they would be entitled to according to the relevant legal provisions (if there is such a country). A genuine attachment to the country in question is not a requirement in this assessment. The burden of proof is shared: OFPRA is “not obliged to carry out an investigation to collect evidence; but if the applicant has made genuine efforts but cannot obtain sufficient evidence that they could possibly obtain a nationality, then we conduct our own investigation, including contacting the authorities of the country of origin”. | Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR) Gábor Gyulai (2010), Country Report on France, Funded and supported by the Open Society Justice Initiative, unpublished (UNHCR confidential) Interview with OFPRA, conducted on 14 December 2016. Confirmed by UNHCR country office. |
| SDS.5.b | | What is the standard of proof, in law and in practice? Is it the same as in refugee status determination procedures? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : States are advised to adopt the same standard of proof as in refugee status determination (‘reasonable degree’). UNHCR, Good practices in nationality laws (2018) : The standard of proof should be in keeping with the humanitarian objectives of statelessness status determination and the inherent difficulties of proving statelessness in the likely absence of documentary evidence. | In order to establish statelessness, OFPRA considers all relevant evidence, which shall be “sufficiently precise and serious”. In practice, the standard of proof is slightly higher than in asylum applications. The SDP is based on the evidence the applicant brings, proving they have performed official acts to claim a nationality, that have then been refused (and the proof of such refusal); or on objective elements demonstrating that the applicant is not eligible to any nationality. The decision issued in the SDP is objective and is not based on an intimate conviction as | Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR) Interview with OFPRA, conducted on 14 December 2016. Confirmed by UNHCR country office. |

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| | | | ECtHR, Hoti v. Croatia (2018) : If statelessness is a relevant factor in the context of access to human rights, the standard of proof when determining the status of statelessness cannot be too high. | it is in the asylum procedure. The assessment is of a totally different kind. | |
| SDS.5.c | | <p>What measures are in place to guarantee substantive equality for women, children and other groups (e.g. disabled people, older people, LGBTQI people, etc.) at risk of discrimination in the SDP?</p> <p>In particular, what measures are in place to ensure respect for the best interests of the child in the procedure (burden of proof, guardianship, child-friendly procedures, etc.)?</p> | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Due to discrimination, women might face additional barriers in acquiring documentation (e.g. birth certificates or other identification documents). Children and persons with disabilities may face acute challenges in communicating basic facts with respect to their nationality. States must follow the principle of pursuing the best interests of the child. Additional safeguards for child claimants include priority processing of their claims, appropriately trained professionals and a greater share of the burden of proof by the State.</p> <p>CEDAW, Gen. Rec. 32 (2014): Nationality laws may discriminate directly or indirectly against women. Legislative provisions that appear gender neutral may in practice have a disproportionate and negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to nationality by women.</p> <p>CRC: Articles 2, 3, 7 and 8</p> <p>CRPD: Article 18</p> <p>UNHCR, Best Interests Procedure Guidelines (2021)</p> <p>UNHCR, Roundtable on Protection and Solutions for LGBTQI+ People in Forced Displacement (2021)</p> <p>Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Objective 7</p> <p>UN Women, Gender-responsive implementation of the Global Compact (2021): States should put in place measures to regularise the status of migrants leading to permanent residence, with specific attention to migrant women and girls who are stateless.</p> <p>European Parliament, Resolution on LGBTQI rights in the EU (2021): Calls on Commission and Member States to overcome discrimination against rainbow persons and families.</p> | <p>During the interview, if the person is a minor, they will be accompanied by the legal representative, and if the person is an unaccompanied minor, they will be accompanied by their guardian. The interview will only take place if the representative or guardian is present.</p> <p>In addition, a lawyer or NGO representative can attend. The NGO needs a special accreditation. The lawyer should, if possible, inform OFPRA beforehand.</p> | <p>Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR)</p> <p>OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/accompagner-un-demandeur-dasile-en-entretien (FR/EN)</p> |
| SDS.5.d | | <p>Is there clear guidance for decision makers on how to determine statelessness (including e.g. sources of evidence and procedures for evidence gathering, accurate and reliable country of origin information relating to statelessness, etc.)?</p> | <p>ENS (2013): Determining authorities can benefit from concrete guidance that sets clear benchmarks and pathways for the establishment of material facts and circumstances.</p> <p>Asylos, Principles for Conducting Country of Origin Information Research on Statelessness (2023)</p> | <p>No information available. OFPRA Guide of Procedures explains what procedures are applied by OFPRA, it but does not provide decision makers with guidance on how to determine statelessness. OFPRA has a COI team and publishes reports on refugees' countries of origin. Only three reports include information on statelessness.</p> | <p>OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/accompagner-un-demandeur-dasile-en-entretien (FR)</p> |
| SDS.5.e | | <p>Is there any evidence of significant errors in decision-making?</p> | | <p>No.</p> <p>In 2022, 83 cases were before the Administrative Courts, 16 more than in 2021 (67 in 2021, 68 in 2020, 80 in 2019 and 81 in 2018). 67 judgments at first instance, 15 judgments on appeal and 1 in front of the "Conseil d'Etat" (highest administrative jurisdiction) There is no information on judicial decisions of annulment occurred during the year 2022 (1 in 2021, 1 in 2020, 0 in 2019 and 2 in 2018).</p> | <p>OFPRA, Activity Reports: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/en/publications/les-rapports-dactivite (FR) (2022 Activity Report, p.27)</p> <p>Correspondence with OFPRA.</p> |

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| SDS.6.a | Procedural safeguards (Group 1) | Is free legal aid available during the procedure? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Applicants should have access to legal counsel; where free legal assistance is available, it should be offered to applicants without financial means. ENS (2013) : If state funded legal aid is available, it should be provided to stateless claimants. If there is no state funded legal aid but asylum claimants can access free legal aid free of charge, the same level of access should be provided to stateless people. | No. Applicants for statelessness status are not entitled to free legal aid in this procedure, as the relevant provision only foresees this right for lawfully and habitually resident foreigners (if coming from outside the EU). Applicants for statelessness status (unlike e.g. asylum-seekers) are not mentioned among the exceptions to this rule. Nevertheless, the law provides that legal aid can exceptionally be granted to people who do not meet the required criteria when their situation appears worthy of special attention. | Law N° 2014-1654 of 29 December 2014, Article 3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexteArticle.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000537611&idArticle=LEGIARTI000030022902&dateTexte=&categorieLien=id (FR) |
| SDS.6.b | | Is an interview always offered (unless granting without interview)? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The right to an individual interview [is] essential. | An interview is not compulsory by law: OFPRA may invite the applicant to an interview. OFPRA can also conduct the interview by audio-visual communication means. OFPRA indicated that “[i]nterview notes are not provided prior to decision-making in statelessness applications. They are also not sent with the decision. However, [the applicant] may request, if they wish, after the decision has been made, access to their entire administrative file.” Access to the entire file is possible after the decision both in the asylum procedure and SDP. However, an asylum seeker can ask for the interview notes prior to the decision if they are in a regular procedure, and they will have the notes with the negative decision if it is an accelerated procedure. There is once again a different treatment between asylum seekers and SDP applicants. | CESEDA, Article R.582-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775656?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.+582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) CESEDA, Article R.531-16: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042806510?init=true&page=1&query=R.%C2%A0531-16&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) |
| SDS.6.c | | Is free interpreting offered for statelessness determination interviews? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The right to assistance with interpretation/translation [is] essential. ENS (2013) : Assistance should be available for translation and interpretation. | Yes, interpreters are provided free of charge for SDP interviews if needed: “the applicant is heard in the language of his choice, except if there is another language they understand and can use to communicate”. | CESEDA, Article R.582-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775656?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.+582-1&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) |
| SDS.6.d | | Are there quality assurance audits of the SDP? | UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : Quality assurance audits of SDPs are considered good practice. | UNHCR and OFPRA carry out a joint quality assurance exercise regarding first instance asylum decisions. However, the SDP does not fall within the scope of this exercise. | OFPRA, Quality assurance audits: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/en/publications/les-rapports-dactivite (FR) |
| SDS.6.e | | What role does UNHCR play in the proceedings (e.g. access to files, monitoring, training)? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : States are encouraged to guarantee access to UNHCR as a safeguard in the procedure. | UNHCR intervenes when necessary in SDP proceedings and shares good practices with OFPRA. | OFPRA, Quality assurance audits: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/en/publications/les-rapports-dactivite (FR) |
| SDS.6.f | | Are decisions (refusals and grants) given in writing with reasons? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : States are encouraged to incorporate the safeguard that decisions are made in writing with reasons. | The law provides that decisions are given with the legal reasoning and in writing. The notification must be made by postal services attested by an acknowledgement of receipt. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the main reasons for refusals are “journey not established” and/or “vague statements from the applicant”. | CESEDA, Article L.582-4 and Article R.582-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775650 (FR) CESEDA, Article R582-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042805946?init=true&page=1&query=R+582-3&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) Interview with a lawyer providing support to SDP applicants . |
| SDS.6.g | | Is there a timeframe for the SDP set in law or policy and is it complied with in practice? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : It is undesirable for a first instance decision to be issued more than six months from submission of an application. In exceptional circumstances it may be appropriate to allow the proceedings to last up to 12 months. | There is no timeframe defined in law or policy. In practice, verifications with the consular authorities generate very long delays (2-3 years in several reported cases). | Interviews with asylum practitioners and lawyers. |

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| <p>SDS.6.h</p> | | <p>Is statelessness identified in asylum procedures? Is there any guidance for officials relating to identification or determination of statelessness within asylum procedures? Is there a referral mechanism from asylum procedures to the SDP (either during or at the conclusion, if the applicant is refused asylum)?</p> | <p>UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020): Efficient referral mechanisms should be established and officials who may be in contact with stateless persons trained to identify and refer potential applicants.</p> <p>EASO/EUAA, Practical guide on registration (2021): The country or countries of former habitual residence should be recorded in applications for international protection to facilitate follow-up and referral to a dedicated statelessness determination procedure. Statelessness determination should be carried out only by a competent decision-making authority at an appropriate point in time following the final assessment of an asylum claim.</p> <p>ENS (2013): Cross-referral systems should exist in cases where the two determination procedures (refugee and stateless) are not conducted in a joint framework.</p> | <p>If the same person submits an asylum claim and an application for statelessness status, the asylum procedure will prevail. If the asylum request reveals a statelessness situation and OFPRA grants protection, OFPRA will grant a "stateless- refugee" status without the need to formally initiate a statelessness procedure. If OFPRA does not grant protection based on asylum grounds, OFPRA cannot engage a statelessness procedure, however, they inform the person about the SDP.</p> <p>The OFPRA Activity Report states that "If, on the occasion of a claim for asylum, an applicant produces documents attesting that he cannot claim the nationality of his country of origin (e.g. Maktoumeen of Syria, Bidoun of Kuwait, Tibetan born in India...) and that his fears of persecution are established by the Office, he may be recognised as a "stateless refugee", whose content corresponds to the refugee status as defined by the 1951 Geneva Convention."</p> <p>It is unclear whether OFPRA uses the same guidance to determine statelessness in the SDP and in the asylum procedure, and whether it is the same that assesses these applications.</p> | <p>Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR)</p> <p>OFPRA Organigram: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/libraries/pdf.js/web/viewer.html?file=/sites/default/files/2024-01/240103%20Organigramme%20de%20l%27Ofpra_0.pdf (FR)</p> <p>OFPRA 2022 Activity report p. 103: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/en/news/activity-report-2022</p> |
| <p>SDS.7.a</p> | <p>Protection during SDP (Group 1)</p> | <p>Does the applicant have automatic legal admission while their claim for statelessness status is assessed or is there a risk of expulsion?</p> | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): An individual awaiting a decision is entitled, at a minimum, to all rights based on presence and being 'lawfully in' the territory (including identity documents, the right to self-employment, freedom of movement, protection against expulsion). It is recommended that applicants for statelessness status receive the same treatment as asylum-seekers.</p> <p>ENS (2013): States should refrain from expelling or removing an individual pending the outcome of the determination process.</p> | <p>No. Applicants have no right to legally stay on the territory. Expulsion is possible during the process. The Prefectures may admit applicants for temporary stay but have no obligation to do so. There are cases of people being issued with an obligation to leave the French territory while still being in the SDP. However, there is no information on actual expulsions.</p> | <p>Updated Guides of Procedures, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protegees (FR)</p> <p>OFPRA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN)</p> <p>Interview with a lawyer providing support to SDP applicants.</p> |
| <p>SDS.7.b</p> | | <p>Do applicants for statelessness status have permission to work and access to assistance to meet their basic needs?</p> | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Allowing individuals to engage in wage-earning employment can reduce pressure on State resources and contributes to dignity and self-sufficiency. The status of those awaiting statelessness determination must reflect applicable human rights such as, assistance to meet basic needs.</p> | <p>No permission to work if they are not legally staying on the territory. Legal stay does not necessarily entitle someone to a right to work (e.g. asylum seekers or those with temporary stay permit are not necessarily allowed to work). As Prefectures are not obliged to allow SDP applicants to legally remain on the territory during the procedure, access to assistance to meet their basic needs varies. Where the Prefecture grants a temporary stay permit or when the stateless applicant also apply for asylum, the applicant can access Universal Healthcare Protection (Protection universelle maladie – PUMA) and be accommodated either in an emergency shelter for a maximum of 21 days or in an accommodation and rehabilitation center (centre d'hébergement et de réinsertion sociale – CHRS) where they can be accommodated for several months. Since the 30 December 2019 reform, asylum seekers also have to prove a 3-month residence in France before accessing PUMA.</p> <p>In case SDP applicants are not granted temporary stay by the Prefecture, they are considered irregular foreigners, so they can only access State Medical Aid (AME) if they can prove they have lived in France for three months and are accommodated under the 115 emergency scheme. However, since the decree of 30 December 2019, certain treatments, considered as "comfort", are subject to prior authorisation from the health insurance fund (surgery, myopia operation, etc.). In cases where the applicant cannot access the AME, urgent healthcare needs will still be covered thanks to the Urgent and Vital Care Scheme ("dispositif Soins urgents et vitaux").</p> | <p>Public Service website, Work permit of an employed foreigner in France: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2728 (FR/EN)</p> <p>Social care of foreigners in France, Legal analysis study, UNAFO and ODTI, July 2016: https://www.gisti.org/IMG/pdf/unafo-analyse_juridique_protection-toweb.pdf (FR)</p> <p>On PUMA: Social Security Code, Article L. 160-1 to L. 160-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006073189/LEGISCTA000031668675/#LEGISCTA000031668689 (FR)</p> <p>On CHRS: Social Action and Families Code, Article L.345-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074069&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006797708&dateTexte=&categorieLien=cid (FR)</p> <p>And Social Action Code, Article L.111-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074069&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006796413 (FR)</p> <p>On 115: Law N°98-657, Orientations relating to fighting exclusion, 29 July 1998: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT00000206894 (FR)</p> |

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| | | | | In both situations, during the waiting period, people can access the Urgent and Vital Care Scheme. | <p>For more information, see Website of the DIHAL: https://www.gouvernement.fr/delegation-interministerielle-a-l-hebergement-et-a-l-acces-au-logement(FR)</p> <p>On AME: Social Action and Families Code, Articles L.252-1 to L.252-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006157608&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074069 (FR)</p> <p>And Articles L.254-1 and L.254-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006157610&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074069 (FR)</p> <p>Circular, N° DHOS/DSS/DGAS/2005/141, 16 March 2005: http://circulaires.legifrance.gouv.fr/pdf/2009/04/cir_18852.pdf (FR)</p> <p>Social Security Code, Article D160, modified by the Decree n°2019-1531 of 30 December 2019: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000039810099/ (FR)</p> |
| SDS.7.c | | Do applicants for statelessness status face a risk of detention? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Routine detention of individuals seeking protection on the grounds of statelessness is arbitrary. Detention is a measure of last resort and can only be justified where other less invasive or coercive measures have been considered and found insufficient to safeguard the lawful governmental objective pursued by detention. | As there is no right to stay on the territory during the SDP, an applicant may be detained for the purpose of removal. | OFPPA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN) |
| SDS.8.a | Appeals (Group 1) | Is there an automatic right of appeal? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : An effective right to appeal against a negative first instance decision is an essential safeguard in an SDP. | In case of a negative decision by OFPPA, the applicant can appeal before the local administrative court (tribunal administratif) in their place of residence within 2 months. A further appeal is possible before the geographically competent court of appeal (cour administrative d'appel), as a final stage before the Council of State. Appeals do not have a suspensive effect. | <p>CESEDA, Article L.582-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775654 (FR)</p> <p>Refusal of statelessness status, Official website of the French public administration: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15402 (FR)</p> <p>OFPPA website: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/je-demande-le-statut-dapatride (FR/EN)</p> |
| SDS.8.b | | Is legal aid available for appeals? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The applicant should have access to legal counsel and, where free legal assistance is available, it should be offered to applicants without financial means. ENS (2013) : Applicants should have access to legal counsel both at first instance and on appeal. | The same rules on legal aid apply for an appeal before an administrative court (i.e. legal aid is not available ipso jure (de plein droit)). It is possible to apply for legal aid, which would suspend the two-month timeframe for the appeal. Any foreign national is eligible for legal aid provided they are legally and regularly staying on French territory. In practice, it seems, at least in the Rhône region, that legal aid is never refused in these cases. | Administrative code of justice, Article R441-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006449979&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070933&dateTexte=20170705 (FR) |
| SDS.8.c | | Is there a fee for the appeal application? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : An effective right to appeal against a negative first instance decision is an essential safeguard. | There is no fee. | Public Service Website: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2026 (FR/EN) |
| SDS.9.a | Statelessness status (Group 1) | Does recognition of statelessness result immediately in automatic permission to stay/legal status? If not, please describe any additional requirements, admissibility criteria, grounds for refusal or other steps required to access protection. | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The status granted to a stateless person in a State Party must reflect international standards. Although the 1954 Convention does not explicitly require States to grant a person determined to be stateless a right of residence, granting such permission would fulfil the object and purpose of the treaty. | Yes. The recognition of statelessness leads to a four-year stay permit as a "beneficiary of statelessness status". The stateless person can access a 10-year residence permit after four years of legal stay in France. Family members of stateless persons will access a four-year stay permit as a "family member of a beneficiary of statelessness status". The competent Préfet is informed by OFPPA of the decision in order to deliver the temporary stay permit. | <p>CESEDA, Article L.424-18 to L.424-20: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042771796?init=true&page=1&query=L.%C2%A0424-18&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042776542#LEGIARTI000042776542 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service Website, Stateless person: residence permit, travel document: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15402 (FR/ENG)</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>CESEDA, Article R. 582-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042805946?init=true&page=1&query=R+582-3&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR)</p> <p>The Ministry of Interior, Guide of asylum seekers in France, 2020, see p.36 " The rights of beneficiaries of protection": https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Asile/Guide-du-demandeur-d-asile-en-France (FR)</p> |
| SDS.9.b | | How long is initial status granted for and is it renewable? | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): It is recommended that States grant recognised stateless people a residence permit valid for at least two years, although longer permits, such as five years, are preferable in the interests of stability. Permits should be renewable.</p> | <p>A stay permit for up to four-years as a beneficiary of the statelessness status is delivered. The stateless person can access a 10-year residence permit after four years of legal stay in France. Family members (spouse, civil partner, children, parents if minor) of a stateless person will access a four-year stay permit as a "family member of a beneficiary of the statelessness status". The four-year permit costs 25 EUR.</p> | <p>CESEDA, Article L.424-18 to L.424-20: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042771796?init=true&page=1&query=L.%C2%A0424-18&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042776542#LEGIARTI000042776542 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service Website, Stateless person: residence permit, travel document: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F15402 (FR/ENG)</p> <p>Updated Guides of Procedures, Guide for recognised stateless persons, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protgees (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 411-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004276904?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+Articles++L.+411-3&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all</p> <p>And Article L. 433-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004276362?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.433-2&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all</p> <p>And Article L.424-21: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042771796?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.%C2%A0424-21&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042776536#LEGIARTI000042776536 (FR)</p> |
| SDS.9.c | | Is a travel document issued to people recognised as stateless? | <p>1954 Convention: Article 28.</p> | <p>Recognised stateless persons may request a travel document (document de voyage pour apatride), unless their presence constitutes a threat to public order. For a stateless person with a temporary multi-annual permit, the TD is valid for four years and costs 40 EUR. For a stateless person with a residence permit of 10 years, the TD is valid for five years and costs 45 EUR.</p> | <p>CESEDA, Article L.582-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772678?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.%C2%A0582-7&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042775644#LEGIARTI000042775644 (FR)</p> <p>General Tax Code, Article 953 (modified by the Law 2010-1657 of 29 December 2010): https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006069577&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006311166&dateTexte=&categorieLien=cid (FR)</p> |

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| SDS.9.d | Do people recognised as stateless have a right to family reunification? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Although the 1954 Convention does not address family unity, States parties are nevertheless encouraged to facilitate the reunification of those with recognised statelessness status in their territory with their spouses and dependents. | Individuals recognised as stateless (whatever the type of permit they have – residence permit or stay permit) can ask to benefit from family reunification, under the same conditions as refugees. | CESEDA, Articles L.582-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775648?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.%C2%A0582-5&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all (FR) And L. 561-2 to L. 561-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772546?init=true&page=1&query=CESEDA+L.%C2%A0561-2&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042775786#LEGIARTI000042775786 (FR) |
| SDS.9.e | On what grounds (if any) may residence status granted to stateless people be revoked? Is a proportionality assessment undertaken prior to the revocation decision, e.g. to consider respect for the right to private and family life (if applicable)? | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : If an individual recognised as stateless subsequently acquires or reacquires the nationality of another State, they will cease to be stateless under the 1954 Convention. This may justify the cancellation of a residence permit on the basis of statelessness, although proportionality considerations under international human rights law, such as the right to a private and family life should be taken into account. | Residence status may be revoked only if the person acquires the French nationality or if the person renounces to the status. The status can be withdrawn if the person acquires another nationality. OFPRA should be informed with adapted documentation of the decision. | Guides of Procedures, Guide for recognised stateless persons, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protgees (FR) |
| SDS.9.f | Do people granted statelessness status have permission to work? | 1954 Convention : Article 17 UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The right to work must accompany a residence permit. | Yes, they have permission to work based on the rights guaranteed under the residence permit they hold and under the same conditions as third country nationals with a residence permit in France. | Guides of Procedures, Guide for recognised stateless persons, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protgees (FR) |
| SDS.9.g | Do people granted statelessness status have access to primary, secondary, and higher education? | 1954 Convention : Article 22 | Yes. They have access to primary, secondary and higher education under the same common law rules and provisions as anyone else. | Guides of Procedures, Guide for recognised stateless persons, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protgees (FR) |
| SDS.9.h | Do people granted statelessness status have access to social security and healthcare? | 1954 Convention : Articles 23 & 24 UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : The right to work, access to healthcare and social assistance, as well as a travel document must accompany a residence permit. | On the basis of their legal residency, individuals recognised as stateless have access to universal healthcare (protection maladie universelle - PUMA), covering basic medical expenses, if residing continuously and legally in France for at least 3 months. They also have access to social assistance depending on their level of income and can benefit from the Active Solidarity Income (Revenu de Solidarité Active-RSA). Stateless people can also access integration programmes, including the national programme “AGIR”, that includes housing and work. However, practitioners report that stateless people rarely access this type of programmes. | Social Security Act (Code de la sécurité sociale), Article L160-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006073189/LEGISCTA000031668259/2022-01-07/#LEGISCTA000031668370 (FR) Social care of foreigners in France, Legal analysis study, UNFAO and ODTI, July 2016: https://www.gisti.org/IMG/pdf/unafo-analyse_juridique_protection-toweb.pdf (FR) OFPRA, Rights and obligations of people under its protection: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/mes-droits-et-obligations (FR) National program “AGIR”: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Integration-et-Acces-a-la-nationalite/AGIR-pour-l-emploi-et-le-logement-des-personnes-refugiees#:~:text=Le%20programme%20AGIR%20(Accompagnement%20global,int%C3%A9gration%20sans%20rupture%20aux%20r%C3%A9fugi%C3%A9s. (FR) Forum-réfugiés experience. |
| SDS.9.i | Are stateless people allowed to vote in local and/or national elections? If yes, are there any additional requirements for stateless people to vote (e.g. permanent residence, identification documents, etc.)? [Section complete, proceed to DET] | 1954 Convention : Article 7, States shall accord to stateless persons at least the same treatment as is accorded to foreign nationals. | No. In France only French nationals may vote. | Electoral Code (Code Electoral), Article L2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070239/LEGISCTA000006148454/#LEGISCTA000006148454 (FR) |

Detention

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
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| DET.1.a | Immigration detention | <p>Please provide a brief overview of whether immigration detention powers are provided for in law and applied in practice, and whether alternatives to detention are considered.</p> <p>Please provide the legal source(s) and, if available, refer to other publications and sources of information about the law, policy, and practice on immigration detention.</p> | <p>ICCPR: Article 9 ECHR: Article 5 EU Return Directive: Article 15 UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Detention is a measure of last resort and can only be justified where other less invasive or coercive measures have been considered and found insufficient. UN General Assembly (2009): Calls upon all States to adopt alternative measures to detention. HRC, Report of the Special Rapporteur (2012): The obligation to always consider alternatives before resorting to detention should be established by law. International Detention Coalition (2015): Immigration detention should be used only as a last resort in exceptional cases after all other options have been shown to be inadequate in the individual case.</p> | <p>The law provides that the administrative authority can place third country nationals in administrative detention only for the time strictly necessary until their departure from France, and for the time strictly necessary to determine the State in charge of their asylum request and the execution of the transfer decision. Purposes of detention set out in law include when they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - must be handed over to another EU Member State or are subject to a transfer decision, - are subject to a deportation order, - must be escorted back to the border following a legal interdiction to be in French territory, - are subject to a refusal of entry or an enforceable removal order, - are subject to an obligation to leave French territory issued less than a year ago and for which the voluntary delay to leave the territory has expired or has not been granted, - must be escorted back to the frontier because of a ban on returning to French territory, a ban on movement on French territory, or an administrative ban to enter France, and, - were placed in detention for one of the above reasons, the person did not comply with the deportation order or did so but came back to France when the deportation order was still enforceable. <p>French Law does not foresee any obligation to prove the impossibility of alternative measures before deciding to detain someone. If the person can present guarantees of presence (called representation) and unless there is proof to the contrary, house arrest should be given priority, but a necessity and proportionality test is not really implemented.</p> <p>Alternatives to detention must be established by law and considered prior to any decision to detain. The law foresees house arrest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in case of an absence of reasonable prospects of removal (which is the case for stateless people), and, - as an alternative to administrative detention (for health reasons for instance). <p>An instruction of the Interior Ministry of 19 July 2016 recommends to Prefectures to largely use house arrest for Dublin procedures.</p> <p>In theory, unaccompanied children cannot be returned, and thus cannot be detained. However, in practice, NGOs working in administrative detention centres reported cases of children being detained. On 12 July 2016, France was condemned by the European Court of Human Rights in 5 cases concerning children detained with their family.</p> <p>With the new law on immigration adopted in January 2024, minors may not be placed in administrative detention.</p> <p>If the person can present guarantees of presence (called representation), and unless the contrary is proved, house arrest</p> | <p>CESEDA, Articles, L. 741-1, L. 741-4 L. 741-5, L. 741-7, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020 https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773234/ (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 744-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042774941 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 751-2 to L.751-4 and L751-6, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773428/#LEGISCTA000042774885 (FR) And Article L.751-6: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042774873 (FR) And Articles L. 751-9 to 751-10: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773446/#LEGISCTA000042774867 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 731-1 to L. 731-3, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000006147816/2018-09-12 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA Articles L. 732-1 to L.732-5, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773148/#LEGISCTA000042775168 (FR) And Article L. 732-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775150 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA Articles L. 733-1 to L. 733-4, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773178 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA Articles L. 733-8 to L. 733-12, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020 https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773190/#LEGISCTA000042775126 (FR) And article 733-17: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775090 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 722-2, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775230 (FR) And L. 722-4: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775224 (FR)</p> |

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| | | | | <p>should be given priority, but a necessity and proportionality test is not really implemented.</p> <p>The 2022 annual report on detention elaborated by NGOs underlines that there is a national policy orientation to detain more systematically and a more restrictive legal framework. There were more than 15,922 persons detained in 2022 in the French metropolis (an increase of 8,3%) and 27,643 in French territories overseas. The highest was 53 273 in 2019.</p> <p>There are 1 936 places in 25 administrative detention centres. At the end of 2023, 2 178 places should be available. This number is expected to continue to increase in the coming years as the Ministry of the Interior’s orientation and programming law plans to reach 3,000 places.</p> <p>In 2022, the average duration of detention was 23 days. The average duration is in constant increase over the years.</p> | <p>And L. 722-10: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775202 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 743-16, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042774973 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 622-1 to L. 622-4, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772904 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 572-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N°2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775728 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 615-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775453 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 700-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775285 (FR)</p> <p>Criminal Code, Article 131-30: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070719&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006417294&dateTexte=&categorieLien=cid (FR)</p> <p>Ministry of Interior, Instruction of 19 July 2016 with regard to the application of the Dublin III Regulation: http://expat-elan.fr/images/10-textes-de-lois/instructions/2016/instruction_2016-07-19_NOR-INTV1618837J_assignment-a-residence-retention-administrative.pdf (FR)</p> <p>ECtHR, 12 July 2016, R.M. and Others v. France: R.M. ET AUTRES c. FRANCE (coe.int) (FR)</p> <p>Ministry of the Interior, The centres of administrative detention: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Archives/Les-archives-du-site/Archives-Immigration/La-lutte-contre-l-immigration-irreguliere/Les-centres-de-retention-administrative-CRA (FR)</p> <p>2022 NGO Report: This number is expected to continue to increase in the coming years as the Ministry of the Interior’s orientation and programming law plans to reach 3,000 places (FR)</p> <p>Law of 26 January 2024 to control immigration and improve integration: https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/287993-loi-immigration-integration-asile-du-26-janvier-2024#:~:text=Ils%20devront%20notamment%20justifier%20avoir,</p> |
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| DET.1.b | | Does a proposed country of removal need to be identified before a person is detained for removal? Please describe the situation in law and in practice. | <p>ICCPR: Repeated attempts to expel a person to a country that refuses to admit them could amount to inhuman or degrading treatment (Article 7).</p> <p>ECtHR, Auad v. Bulgaria (2011): In cases of detention with a view to deportation, lack of clarity as to the destination country could hamper effective control of the authorities' diligence in handling the deportation.</p> <p>EU Return Directive: Any detention shall only be maintained as long as removal arrangements are in progress and executed with due diligence.</p> | Yes. The Law establishes that the decision issued to the person stating the obligation to leave the French territory (obligation de quitter le territoire – OQTF) must set the country of removal if the person is to be forcibly removed from France. The country of removal is set in a separate decision that can be appealed. In practice, the country of removal is set based on the information provided by the person (declared nationality and/or country of origin, documents shared etc.). | <p>CESEDA, Article L.611-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772748 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 721-3 and L. 721-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773062 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 722-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775212 (FR)</p> <p>Caselaw on the definition of country of removal and link with legality of detention: Decision of the Council of State, of 14 December 2015: http://www.conseil-etat.fr/fr/arianeweb/CE/decision/2015-12-14/393591 (FR)</p> |
| DET.1.c | | Is there a clear obligation on authorities to release a person when there is no reasonable prospect of removal? Please describe the situation in law and in practice. | <p>EU Return Directive: When it appears that a reasonable prospect of removal no longer exists, detention ceases to be justified and the person concerned shall be released immediately.</p> <p>UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (2018): When the obstacle for identifying or removal of persons in an irregular situation from the territory is not attributable to them, the detainee must be released to avoid potentially indefinite detention from occurring, which would be arbitrary.</p> <p>ECtHR, Auad v. Bulgaria (2011)</p> <p>ECtHR, Mikolenko v. Estonia (2009)</p> | <p>A foreigner can only be placed or kept in detention for the time strictly necessary for their departure, and maximum 90 days. The judge of freedom and detention (JLD) decides whether or not they are kept in administrative detention. The JLD's role is to rule on violations of the individual freedom of the person and to rule on the merits of the detention decision, if it has been the subject of a challenge by the person detained, including the prospect of removal. In the event of an infringement of individual freedoms, the JLD pronounces the release of the person, while the removal measure is maintained subject to the review of its legality by the administrative judge.</p> <p>In their 2019 joint report, NGOs warned about the placement in detention of persons for whom "it is established that there is no real prospect of removal because of the lack of response from the consular authorities to requests for travel documents", and on the shortcomings of judicial review. This tendency was still present in 2022.</p> <p>In December 2018, the Court of Cassation declared that the judicial courts are not competent to rule on the question of prospects for removal, while administrative judges rule on the stricto-sensu legality of the decision and not the reality of the prospect of removal.</p> | <p>CESEDA, Article L 741-3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775074 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service website: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2780#:~:text=La%20r%C3%A9tention%20est%20d%C3%A9cid%C3%A9e%20par,l'aide%20d'associations. (FR/EN)</p> <p>2022, 2021, and 2019 NGO Reports: https://www.forumrefugies.org/s-informer/publications/rapports/288-rapport-annuel-sur-la-retention-administrative (FR)</p> |
| DET.2.a | Identification of statelessness | Is statelessness juridically relevant in decisions to detain? Please describe how (risk of) statelessness is identified and whether referral to an SDP is possible from detention. | <p>ECtHR, Auad v. Bulgaria (2011)</p> <p>ECtHR, Mikolenko v. Estonia (2009): Detention may only be justified as long as deportation proceedings are being conducted with due diligence.</p> <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Routine detention of individuals seeking protection on the grounds of statelessness is arbitrary.</p> <p>CMW, General comment No. 5 (2021): States should avoid detaining migrants who have specific needs, which includes stateless persons. States should also be aware that stateless persons find themselves in a vulnerable situation, given that consular assistance and protection are unavailable due to their status. Statelessness determination procedures are</p> | Not to our knowledge. No formal referral mechanism is defined in the law and there is nothing in practice that would indicate there are referrals from detention to the SDP. | |

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| | | | essential, given that the lack of a country of nationality to be returned to leaves stateless persons at higher risk of arbitrary and indefinite detention. Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012) : States must identify stateless persons within their territory or subject to their jurisdiction as a first step towards ensuring the protection of their human rights. ICJ, Migration and International Human Rights Law (2014) : The detention of stateless persons can never be justified when there is no active or realistic progress towards transfer to another State. | | |
| DET.2.b | | Is there a definition of vulnerability in law? If yes, does it explicitly include statelessness? If not, please note whether statelessness is considered to be a factor increasing vulnerability. | PICUM, Preventing and Addressing Vulnerabilities in Immigration Enforcement Policies (2021) : Statelessness should be explicitly included in the definition of vulnerability. Vulnerability should always be determined and assessed on an individual basis. | There is no definition of vulnerability in the law regarding detention and removal procedure. The CESEDA clearly establishes that the decision to detain takes vulnerability and any disability into account. The article also specifies that “the motor, cognitive or psychic handicap and the needs of support of the foreigner are taken into account to determine the conditions of the placement in detention.” | CESEDA, Article 741-4: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775072 (FR) Statelessness and detention in France, Forum Réfugiés (2021) : https://www.forumrefugies.org/s-informer/publications/rapports/934-l-apatridie-et-la-retention-administrative-en-france (FR) |
| DET.2.c | | Are individual vulnerability assessments carried out before a decision to detain (or soon after)? | ENS, Protecting Stateless Persons From Arbitrary Detention (2015) : Arbitrary and disproportionately lengthy detention can ensue when the particular vulnerabilities of stateless people are not addressed. EU Return Directive : Article 16(3) EU Return Handbook (2017) : Attention should be paid to the specific situation of stateless persons. Council of the European Union, Guidelines to promote and protect the enjoyment of all human rights by LGBTI persons (2013) : European entities should assess the situation of LGBTI persons in detention. PICUM, Preventing and Addressing Vulnerabilities in Immigration Enforcement Policies (2021) : There should be a clear legal obligation to screen and assess individuals’ vulnerability before a decision to detain is taken and before individuals are placed into situations of deprivation or restriction of liberty. | While the decision to detain must take vulnerability and any disability into account, the foreigner can request a vulnerability assessment after their arrival in detention, which can be completed by the doctor in charge of the medical unit in the detention centre. According to the results of this assessment, the officer and the doctor can formulate an opinion/notice to adapt the detention conditions. The individual can also question the decision to detain if it is incompatible with their vulnerability. | CESEDA, Articles, L. 741-1, L. 741-4 L. 741-5, L. 741-7, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773234/ (FR) CESEDA, Article 751-8: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042803070/ (FR) |
| DET.2.d | | Are stateless people detained in practice? | As above. | There are no official statistics on immigration detention centres, and on stateless persons held in immigration detention. The only statistics are reported in NGO reports. The annual joint NGO report provides details on nationalities of detained persons. Several centres indicate "unknown" nationalities: Bordeaux (6), Guadeloupe (5), Hendaye (10), Mesnil-Amelot (51), Palaiseau (1), Paris-Vincennes (7), Plaisir (1), Rennes (4) et Oissel (2) : 87 in total. However, this data omits information about people detained and does not relate specifically to the determination of nationality by the authorities, who always indicate a nationality in the context of the removal procedure, including by association. | 2022 NGO Report: https://www.forumrefugies.org/images/s-informer/publications/rapports/Rapport_r%C3%A9tention/RA_CR_A_2022_web.pdf (FR) |
| DET.3.a | Procedural safeguards | Are there adequate procedural safeguards in place for individuals in immigration detention (e.g. maximum period of detention, automatic release at the end, decisions in writing, regular periodic reviews, judicial oversight, legal aid, etc.)? | ICCPR : Article 9(4) ECHR : Article 5(4) EU Return Directive : Articles 12, 13 and 15(5) HRC, Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (2010) : A maximum period of detention must be established by law and upon expiry the detainee must be automatically released. CMW, General comment No. 5 (2021) : States parties are obligated to adopt legislative and other | People can now be detained in administrative detention centres for 90 days. The person is first detained for 48 hours, then a request before the Judge of Freedoms and Detention can be lodged to suspend or extend the detention. The Judge shall hand down a decision within 48 hours. The Judge can order an extension of 28 days or release the detainee. A second prolongation of 30 days can be granted by the Judge. Moreover, the Judge can extend the detention no more than twice for a period of 15 days each if the foreigner has obstructed the | CESEDA, Article L. 742-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775050 (FR) CESEDA, Articles 743-4 to L. 743-6, L. 743-7, L. 743-10, L.743-19, L. 743-20, L. 743-24 and L. 743-25, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: |

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| | | | <p>measures, allocate adequate resources, and provide relevant training to comply with the CMW. There should be a maximum period for immigration detention established in legislation, with automatic release at the end of that period, and which precludes re-detention. States should also be aware that stateless persons find themselves in a vulnerable situation, given that consular assistance and protection are unavailable due to their status.</p> <p>UNHCR, Detention Guidelines (2012): To guard against arbitrariness, maximum periods of detention should be set in national law.</p> <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Judicial oversight of detention is always necessary and detained individuals need to have access to legal representation, including free counselling for those without means.</p> <p>UNGA, Body of Principles (1988): Anyone who is arrested shall be informed at the time of the reason for their arrest.</p> <p>Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012): Stateless detainees shall receive their order of detention in writing and in a language they understand. To avoid arbitrariness, detention should be subject to automatic, regular and periodic review throughout the period of detention, before a judicial body independent of the detaining authorities. Detention should always be for the shortest time possible.</p> <p>International Commission of Jurists, Migration and International Human Rights Law: A Practitioners' Guide (2014): The authorities shall ensure that sufficient information is available to detained persons in a language they understand on the nature of their detention and reasons for it.</p> <p>ECtHR, Kim v. Russia (2014): The purpose of Article 5(4) ECHR is to guarantee to persons who are detained the right to judicial supervision of the lawfulness of the measure.</p> | <p>expulsion order or asked for protection against expulsion. Detention can last up to 90 days, or 210 days in case of terrorism, after these time limits, the detainee must be released.</p> <p>The administrative decision to detain shall be written and motivated. It takes effect from its notification to the person concerned.</p> <p>The initial decision to detain is taken by the Prefect for 48 hours. If the person is not expelled during this time, their detention can first be extended for 28 days. The Judge of Freedoms and Detention can, then, either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *order the extension of detention for a maximum period of 30 days; *decide to place the person under house arrest; *refuse the extension of detention. <p>If the Judge has ordered the extension of detention before it expires, they may decide to extend it twice for up to 15 days. The Judge checks if the police respected procedures, the legality of police custody and of placement into administrative detention. The Judge can also be seized at any moment by the person detained if the detainee argues that new elements require the detention to end. In practice, these requests must be very solidly grounded and are hardly ever considered admissible.</p> <p>An individual can challenge the legality of decisions taken by the Prefect (removal orders or house arrests) before the administrative court within 48 hours from the notification of the decision. The administrative court must take a decision within 72 hours. The administrative court can control the lawfulness of the detention only in case of an asylum claim. If an asylum claim is submitted during detention, it is possible to challenge the decision of placement in detention within 48 hours after the notification of the detention. The claimant has to prove their claim has not been submitted in order for the removal measure to fail. The court has to make a decision within 72 hours after the claim has been lodged.</p> <p>Free legal assistance, either from a lawyer or NGOs providing support in detention centres, is available. Legal assistance is also available by law for detention appeals before the administrative court.</p> | <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773296/#LEGISCTA000042775020 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 742-4 to L. 742-7 modified by article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773272/#LEGISCTA000042775044 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles, L. 741-1, L. 741-4 L. 741-5, L. 741-7, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773234/ (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 744-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004274941 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 751-9 to 751-10, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773446/#LEGISCTA000042774867 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service website, on detention centres: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2780 (FR/EN)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 614-1 and L. 614-3 to L. 614-19, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772814/#LEGISCTA000042775513 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA Article L. 732-8, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004275146 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 613-3 and L. 613-4, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020 https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042772796 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L. 722-3 and L. 722-7, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773080/#LEGISCTA000042775236 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 711-2, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773042 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 761-8, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004274734 (FR)</p> |
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| | | | | | Public Service website, on retention centres and legal assistance: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F18074 (FR/EN) CESEDA, Article R. 742-21, modified by the article 18 of Order N° 2020-1734 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042805348 (FR) |
| DET.3.b | | Are detainees provided with information on their rights, contact details of legal advice and support providers, and guidance on how to access an SDP? | Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012) : Detaining authorities are urged to provide stateless detainees with a handbook in a language and terms they understand, containing information on all their rights and entitlements, contact details of organisations which are mandated to protect them, NGOs and visiting groups and advice on how to challenge the legality of their detention and their treatment as detainees. | French law provides that on arrival to the detention centre, the person shall be informed in a language they understand that they can: *request the assistance of an interpreter, a counsel and a doctor; *communicate with their consulate or any person of their choice; *seek asylum and benefit from legal and linguistic assistance. In mainland France, five NGOs (Groupe SOS-Assfam, Forum réfugiés, France Terre d’Asile, and La Cimade) are authorised to access administrative detention centres. The 25 administrative detention centres and 27 places of administrative detention are subdivided into 8 lots, with each accessible by one NGO. Solidarité Mayotte is authorised to intervene in detention centres in Mayotte. | CESEDA, Articles, L. 741-1, L. 741-4 L. 741-5, L. 741-7, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773234/ (FR) CESEDA, Article L. 744-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004274941 (FR) CESEDA, Articles L. 751-9 to 751-10, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773446/#LEGISCTA000042774867 (FR) CESEDA, Article L.744-6, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773386 (FR) CESEDA, Article L. 754-1, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI00004274768 (FR) Decree N° 2014-676 of 24 June 2014 on access for humanitarian associations to places of detention: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEX000029136361&categorieLien=id (FR) And information letter: http://www.gisti.org/IMG/pdf/circ_2014-10-28.pdf (FR) |
| DET.3.c | | Are there guidelines in place governing the process of re-documentation and ascertaining entitlement to nationality for the purpose of removal? | Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012) : The inability of a stateless person to cooperate with removal proceedings should not be treated as non-cooperation. ENS, Protecting Stateless Persons From Arbitrary Detention (2015) : The detaining state should have rules in place that govern the process of re-documentation and/ or ascertaining entitlement to nationality. | Not to our knowledge. | |
| DET.4.a | Protections on release | Are people released from detention issued with identification documents (including confirmation of their statelessness status) and protected from re-detention? | 1954 Convention : Article 27 UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Being undocumented cannot be used as a general justification for detention. CMW, General comment No. 5 (2021) : There should be a maximum period for immigration detention established in legislation, with automatic release at the end of that period, and which precludes re-detention. Statelessness determination procedures | No, but their online file is updated. For example, when the person is released because removal could not be completed (whatever is the reason), it is specified on their online file. If the judge cancels the decision setting the country of removal, the person can be issued with a house arrest. | Interview with professionals working in detention centres. Ministry of justice website, Order to leave France: http://www.justice.fr/fiche/obligation-quitter-france-oqtf (FR) |

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| | | | <p>are essential, given that the lack of a country of nationality to be returned to leaves stateless persons at higher risk of arbitrary and indefinite detention. Detaining stateless persons when there is no real prospect of removal would render the detention arbitrary, and the detained stateless person must therefore be immediately released.</p> <p>ENS, Protecting Stateless Persons From Arbitrary Detention (2015): State parties to the 1954 Convention have an obligation to provide stay rights to stateless people who have been released from detention.</p> <p>Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012): Released stateless detainees should be provided with appropriate documentation and stay rights suitable to their situation.</p> | | |
| DET.4.b | | <p>If the purpose of detention cannot be fulfilled and the person is released, what legal status and rights are provided to them in law?</p> | <p>CJEU, Kadzoev, C-357/09 PPU (2009): After the maximum period of detention has expired, the person must be released immediately. A lack of valid documentation or inability to support themselves should not be a deterrent to release.</p> <p>Equal Rights Trust, Guidelines (2012): Released stateless detainees should be provided with appropriate documentation and stay rights suitable to their situation.</p> | <p>People released from detention because their removal has been cancelled by the judge are issued with a temporary stay permit, until a new decision from the judge on the case is made, granting access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - social services - healthcare (PUMA) - emergency accommodation <p>As it is not otherwise specified, they have the right to work.</p> | <p>CESEDA, Article L. 742-9, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042775024 (FR)</p> <p>Social Action and Families Code, Article L.111-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006074069&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006796413 (FR)</p> <p>Social Security Code, Articles L.160-1 to L.160-7: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000031668689&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006073189 (FR)</p> <p>Social Action and Families Code, Article L.345-2-2: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000020444502&cid554Texte=LEGITEXT000006074069 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 431-3, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042776412 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Article L. 433-3, modified by the article 20 of Order N° 2020-1733 of 16 December 2020: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042776360 (FR)</p> |
| DET.5.a | Return and readmission agreements | <p>Is statelessness considered a juridically relevant fact in any bilateral readmission and/or return agreements?</p> | <p>UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014): Efforts to secure admission or readmission may be justified but these need to take place subsequent to a determination of statelessness.</p> <p>UNCRC, MKAH v Switzerland, no 95/2019 (2021): The State in which a stateless child applies for international protection has an obligation under Article 7 CRC to consider whether, if the child was returned to another country, their right to a nationality would be fulfilled (as well as other rights under the CRC).</p> | <p>Yes. France has entered into bilateral readmission agreements with more than 50 countries, including around 20 European countries. In any case, in accordance with French law, a stateless person cannot be returned to another country if recognised as stateless and granted statelessness status (unless the person poses a serious threat to public order, public security or the security of the State). For example, in the bilateral agreement with Austria, it is recalled that the obligation to readmit does not apply if the applicant country has recognised the status of stateless person pursuant to the 1954 Convention. Also, the obligation to readmit does not apply if the stateless person has a valid residence permit or a temporary residence permit delivered by a contracting Party to the 1990 Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement.</p> <p>A child or an adult cannot be returned during a procedure (asylum or statelessness). Return can only happen once it has been determined that there is no risk of <i>refoulement</i> or when it has</p> | <p>About bilateral readmission arguments, see Migreurop: http://www.migreurop.org/article1931.html and Gisti: https://www.gisti.org/spip.php?rubrique135 (FR)</p> <p>CESEDA, Articles L.424-18 to L.424-20: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042771796?init=true&page=1&query=L.%C2%A0424-18&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=all&anchor=LEGIARTI000042776542#LEGIARTI000042776542 (FR)</p> <p>Bill authorising the approval of the agreement between the Government of the French Republic and the Federal Government of Austria with regard to the readmission of persons in an irregular situation of 3 August 2028 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/loi/2018/8/3/EAEJ1510183L/jo/texte (FR)</p> |

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| | | | | <p>been determined that a statelessness status cannot be granted. The best interest of the child should always be taken into account. In practice, a child will follow their parents. Unaccompanied minors are never returned, it is illegal. They are with social services, so there is no return procedure for them.</p> | |
| DET.5.b | | <p>Are you aware of cases of stateless people being returned under such agreements?</p> | | <p>No.</p> | |

Prevention and Reduction

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
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| PRS.1.a | Naturalisation | In what timeframe do stateless people who are residing on the territory acquire the right to apply for naturalisation, and how does this compare to others with a foreign nationality? | 1954 Convention : Article 32 UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : It is recommended that States Parties facilitate, as far as possible, the naturalisation of stateless persons. CoE Committee of Ministers, Recommendation No. R (99) 18 (1999) : Each State should facilitate the acquisition of its nationality by stateless persons lawfully and habitually resident on its territory. ENS (2013) : The main benchmark is if there is any preferential treatment for stateless people compared to the general rules applied to those with a foreign nationality. | Stateless persons can be naturalised if they can prove 5 years of stable legal stay in France. This is shortened to 2 years if they have obtained a master's degree in France. There is no accelerated procedure for stateless persons, unlike for refugees who can be naturalised without any qualifying period. The request has to be made online. A stateless person can also acquire French nationality through marriage. | Civil Code, Articles 21-17, 21-18, and 21-19: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;sessionId=FFB74E8D65B9D4E03F297C71F19B513B.tplgfr43s_1?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006165459&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170705 (FR) Ministry of the Interior, Access platforms to French nationality: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/fr/Integration-et-Acces-a-la-nationalite/La-nationalite-francaise/Les-plateformes-d-acces-a-la-nationalite-francaise (FR) |
| PRS.1.b | | Are there requirements relating to 'good character' or previous criminal convictions that could prevent some stateless people from naturalising? If yes, please describe. | CoE Committee of Ministers, Recommendation No. R (99) 18 (1999) : States should ensure that offences, when relevant for the decision concerning the acquisition of nationality, do not unreasonably prevent stateless persons seeking the nationality of a state. | Individuals recognised as stateless and applying for French nationality don't have to produce any official records of criminal convictions, but criminal records in France and abroad are checked. A claim for French nationality might be considered ineligible if the applicant has been convicted for terrorism or any other crime threatening the interests of the Nation. The Prefecture conducts an inquiry to check the applicant's civic conduct (for instance whether they pay their taxes etc.). | Circular of the Ministry of the Interior on the control of conditions, of 24 August 2011: https://www.gisti.org/IMG/pdf/noriocn111430c.pdf (FR) Public Service website, on access to nationality: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213 (FR) |
| PRS.1.c | | Are there exemptions for stateless people from any nationality or integration test, language, income or fee requirements for naturalisation? Please describe the requirements and cost of the procedure for stateless adults and children, and any direct or indirect barriers to naturalisation caused by discriminatory laws, policies, or practices. | 1954 Convention : Article 32 UNHCR, Good Practices Papers – Action 6 (2020) : It is recommended that States Parties facilitate, as far as possible, the naturalisation of stateless persons. CoE Committee of Ministers, Recommendation No. R (99) 18 (1999) : Each State should facilitate the acquisition of its nationality by stateless persons lawfully and habitually resident on its territory. UNHCR, Background Note on Discrimination in Nationality Laws and Statelessness (2021) : States should remove or amend discriminatory legal provisions, rules, policies, or practices that directly or indirectly act as barriers to naturalisation. | There are no exemptions for stateless people from naturalisation requirements. They must produce all OFPRA civil status records. They must pass a nationality test, which takes the form of an interview. It is mandatory for all applicants for French nationality. Furthermore, they must prove language skills (B2 spoken, increased from B1 by the new law on immigration adopted in January 2024), which are tested during the interview. Naturalisation costs 55 EUR (fiscal stamp). With the new law on immigration adopted in January 2024, in addition to the CIR (<i>Contrat d'intégration républicaine</i> , Republican integration contract) another must be sign, where the person concerned undertakes to respect the principles of the Republic (freedom of expression and conscience, gender equality, respect for symbols of the Republic...). In case of rejection of one of these principles, the prefectures will refuse the residence permit or may withdraw or refuse to renew it. To our knowledge, there are no specific barriers to naturalisation of stateless people. They are confronted to the same obstacles as foreigners: insufficient number of appointments available, delays, etc. | Public Service website, on access to nationality: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2213 (FR) Decree N° 93-1362 of 30 December 1993 on declarations of nationality, decisions on naturalisation, reintegration, loss, revocation and withdrawal of French nationality: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/article_lc/LEGIARTI000041422360/2020-04-01/#LEGIARTI000041422360 (FR) Ombudsman website , on barriers: https://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/fr/communiquede-presse/2022/02/acces-au-service-public-de-la-naturalisation-un-parcours-dobstacles-qui (FR) Law of 26 January 2024 to control immigration and improve integration: https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/287993-loi-immigration-integration-asile-du-26-janvier-2024#:~:text=Ils%20devront%20notamment%20justifier%20avoir,exp%C3%A9riment%C3%A9%20jusqu'%C3%A0%20fin%202026 (FR) |
| PRS.2.a | Stateless born on territory | Is there a provision in law for stateless children born on the territory to acquire nationality? [If yes, continue to PRS2b. If no, proceed to PRS2i] | 1961 Convention : Article 1 ECN : Article 2 CRC : Article 7 Joint General Comment No. 4 (2017) CMW and No. 23 (2017) CRC : States should strengthen measures to grant nationality to children born in their territory in situations where they would otherwise be stateless. HRC, CCPR General comment No. 17 (1989) : States are required to adopt every appropriate measure, both internally and in cooperation with other States, | Yes. | Civil code Article 19.1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;sessionId=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) |

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| | | | to ensure that every child has a nationality when he is born. European Parliament resolution (2018) : The EU and its MS should ensure that childhood statelessness is adequately addressed in national laws in full compliance with Article 7 CRC. | | |
| PRS.2.b | | Is the provision for otherwise stateless children to acquire nationality automatic or non-automatic (i.e. by application)? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : The 1961 Convention provides Contracting States with two alternatives for granting nationality to otherwise stateless children born in their territory: either automatic acquisition upon birth or upon application. ENS, No Child Should Be Stateless (2015) : The 1961 Convention and the European Convention on Nationality oblige the conferral of nationality to otherwise stateless children born on the territory. The optimal method is to grant nationality automatically at birth. | The provision is ipso jure (de plein droit), so an otherwise stateless child born in France is French by law, but in practice a request must be submitted for the nationality certificate to be delivered. Children born stateless in France whose parents apply for their recognition as stateless under the SDP (e.g. if the parents have not been informed about Article 19-1 or the Prefecture has not recognised the child's right to French nationality), may acquire French nationality under the rules that apply to children born in France to foreign parents. | Civil code, Article 19-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) Civil code, Articles 31 and following: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006420768&idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149969&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR) Civil Code, Articles 21-7 and 21-11: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006165743&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR) |
| PRS.2.c | | Are parents provided with information about their child's nationality rights and relevant procedures, including where the child would otherwise be stateless or has undetermined nationality? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : Contracting States are obliged to provide detailed information to parents of children who would otherwise be stateless or of undetermined nationality about the possibility of acquiring the nationality, how to apply and about the conditions which must be fulfilled. If the child concerned can acquire the nationality of a parent immediately after birth, States that opt to not grant nationality to children in these circumstances must assist parents in initiating the relevant procedure with the authorities of their State or States of nationality. | Not to our knowledge. Nothing in the law specifies the duty of the civil registrar to inform parents about the child's nationality rights. The civil registrar has the duty to report the information provided to fill in the birth registration. | Civil code, Article 35: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006420768&idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149969&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR) |
| PRS.2.d | | Is it a requirement that the parents are also stateless for the otherwise stateless child to acquire nationality? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : The test is not an inquiry into whether a child's parents are stateless. ENS, No Child Should Be Stateless (2015) : Only allowing access to nationality for stateless children whose parents are stateless fails to account for the circumstance where the parents hold a nationality but are unable to pass this on. | No, but in practice, for Article 19 to be applied, the situation of the parents must be proven (if they are stateless or cannot pass on their nationality), as well as the fact that the child was born in France (birth registration). There are other possibilities in the law for the child to acquire French nationality: *if they were born in France to unknown parents; *if they were born in France to foreign parents whose nationality laws do not allow one of the parents to pass on their nationality (but the child shall be deemed never to have been French if, as a minor, they acquired the foreign nationality of one of their parents); *if the child was born on the territory, is living in France and has lived regularly in France for at least 5 years (with or without continuity) from the age of 11 (if they apply for French nationality at 16 or 18). The parents can ask for the child to acquire French nationality at the age of 13 if the child has regularly lived in France since the age of 8. | Civil code, Article 19-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) Civil Code, Articles 21-7 and 21-11: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006165743&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR) |
| PRS.2.e | | Are stateless children required to prove they cannot access another nationality to acquire the nationality of the country of birth? If yes, please describe how this is determined in practice. | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : A Contracting State cannot avoid the obligations to grant its nationality to a person who would otherwise be stateless based on its own interpretation of another State's nationality laws. The burden of proof must be shared between the | Not by law, but in practice, the situation of the parents and birth of the child in France must be proven. If the child goes through the SDP, they must meet the same requirements as an adult applicant (see above under SDP). | Civil code, Article 19-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) |

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| | | | claimant and the authorities, but in the case of children the State assumes a greater share of the burden of proof. Decision-makers must consider Articles 3 & 7 CRC and adopt an appropriate standard of proof. Special procedural considerations to address the acute challenges faced by children in communicating basic facts about their nationality should be respected. | | OFPPA, minors: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/les-mineurs#:~:text=Les%20enfants%20d'apatrides,devront%20ensuite%20renvoyer%20d%C3%BBment%20rempli. (FR) |
| PRS.2.f | Is a stateless child born on the territory required to fulfil a period of residence to be granted nationality? If yes, please specify length and if this must be legal residence. | <p>1961 Convention: Article 1(2) UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012): States may stipulate that an otherwise stateless individual born in its territory fulfils a period of 'habitual residence' (understood as stable, factual residence, not legal or formal residence) not exceeding five years preceding an application nor ten years in all. CRC: Articles 3 & 7 Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding observations on the Netherlands (2015): Recommends the State party ensure that all stateless children born in its territory, irrespective of residency status, have access to nationality without any conditions. ECN: Article 6(2)(b)</p> | There is no residency requirement under Article 19 of the Civil code. If the French nationality of a stateless child born in France is not recognised under Article 19, Article 21 still applies. A person born on the territory and still residing there at the age of majority acquires French nationality under Article 21-7. The right to acquire French nationality "by declaration" due to birth and residence also applies to a minor born to foreign parents. From the age of 16, every minor may claim, without their parents, French nationality "by declaration", if at the time of declaration, they reside in France. The minor shall fulfil the conditions of habitual residence for a continuous or discontinuous period of at least five years, from the age of 11 (Art. 21-11(1)). French nationality may also be claimed by the legal representative on behalf of the minor born in France to foreign parents, from the age of 13, having habitual residence from the age of eight. Except in some cases of impairment of mental or physical faculties, the consent of the minor is required (Art. 21-11(2)). Law n° 2016-274 of 7 March 2016 introduced a new case of acquisition of French nationality by declaration at the age of majority for someone who, at the age of majority, and by declaration before the administrative authority, has a sibling who has acquired French nationality under Articles 21-7 or 21-11. The person must prove habitual residence in France since the age of six and have followed compulsory schooling in France in schools supervised by the State. Unlike Articles 21-7 or 21-11, birth in France is not required. | <p>Civil code, Article 19: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419403&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) And Article 19.1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR)</p> <p>Civil Code, Articles 21-7 to 21-11: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006165743&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR)</p> <p>"Every child born in France of foreign parents acquires French nationality at the age of majority when, at that time, he or she lives in France and has had his or her habitual residence in France for a continuous or discontinuous period of at least five years, from the age of 11".</p> | |
| PRS.2.g | Are the parents of a stateless child required to fulfil a period of residence for the child to be granted nationality? If yes, please specify length and if this must be legal residence. | <p>Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding observations on Czech Republic (2011): The outcome of an application by the parents of a child born on the territory should not prejudice the right of the child to acquire the nationality of the State. ENS, No Child Should Be Stateless (2015): Demanding that the child or their parents reside lawfully on the territory is prohibited by the 1961 Convention.</p> | No. | | |
| PRS.2.h | What are the age limits and fees (if any) for making an application for nationality for a stateless person born on the territory? | <p>1961 Convention: Article 1(2) UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012): Contracting States need to accept applications lodged at a time beginning not later than the age of 18 and ending not earlier than the age of 21. Where Contracting States grant nationality to individuals who would otherwise be stateless upon application, they are encouraged to accept such applications free of charge. ENS, No Child Should Be Stateless (2015): Closing the window of opportunity to apply for a nationality has the effect of leaving it in the hands of parents to take the necessary steps to secure a nationality for their child.</p> | <p>No age limit under Article 19 as the provision is automatic in law.</p> <p>Although there is no application, the parents may have to provide translated documents or an apostille (a method of certifying a document for use in another country). Aside from translation and apostille, it is free.</p> | <p>Civil Code, Article 19.1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=C494BDDA69E550B3B2162B3A85B50346.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419453&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR)</p> | |

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| PRS.2.i | | Are there specific provisions to protect the right to a nationality of children born to refugees? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : Where the nationality of the parents can be acquired through a registration or other procedure, this will be impossible owing to the very nature of refugee status which precludes refugee parents from contacting their consular authorities. | Not to our knowledge. | |
| PRS.3.a | Foundlings | Are foundlings granted nationality automatically by law? If not automatic, please describe the procedure. | 1961 Convention : Article 2 ECN : Article 6(1)(b) | Yes. The child born in France whose filiation is not legally established is deemed to be born French. | Civil Code, Article 19: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419403&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 And Article 58: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006421034&dateTexte=&categorieLien=cid (FR) |
| PRS.3.b | | Is there an age limit (e.g. 'new-born' or 'infant') in law or practice specifying when a foundling would qualify for nationality? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : At a minimum, the safeguard should apply to all young children who are not yet able to communicate information about the identity of their parents or their place of birth. | Article 58 of the French Civil code expressly refers to a new-born, which implies an age limit. But there is no age limit under Article 19. | Civil Code, Article 19: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419403&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) And Article 58: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006421034&dateTexte=&categorieLien=cid (FR) |
| PRS.3.c | | Can nationality be withdrawn from foundlings if this leads to statelessness? | UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : Nationality acquired by foundlings may only be lost if it is proven that the child possesses another nationality. | Yes, if the filiation is established while the child is a minor, but not if it results in statelessness. | Civil Code, Article 19: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419403&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170728 (FR) |
| PRS.4.a | Adoption | Where a child national is adopted by foreign parent(s), does the child lose their original nationality before the new nationality is acquired? | 1961 Convention : Article 5 ENS, No Child Should Be Stateless (2015) : Children may be exposed to a (temporary) risk of statelessness during the adoption process due to the nationality law of the child's country of origin. | There are two types of adoption under French law: full or simple. Full adoption replaces the existing filiation between the adopted person and the family of origin by a new relationship. Simple adoption makes it possible to adopt a person without breaking the links with the family of origin. Each type has a different effect on the nationality of the adopted person. Under Article 20, the French nationality of the minor subject to full adoption is governed by the same rules that apply to children whose filiation is established by jus soli or jus sanguinis. Simple adoption does not affect the nationality. The adopted person shall retain the nationality of the family of origin, unless they claim French nationality under Article 21-12. | Civil Code, Article 20: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419472 (FR) On full adoption, see Civil Code, Articles 356 to 359: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150072&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) On simple adoption, see Civil Code, Article 363: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150076&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) Civil Code, Article 21-12: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419872 (FR) |
| PRS.4.b | | Does a foreign child adopted by national parents acquire nationality? Please specify any age limits and/or risk of statelessness during the adoption process. | ECN : Article 6(4)(d) Committee on the Rights of the Child, Concluding Observations on Switzerland (2015) : Ensure that the child is not stateless or discriminated against during the waiting period between arrival and formal adoption. | Yes (as above). In the case of a simple adoption, a foreign child adopted by national parents does not automatically acquire French nationality - the child must apply for it through a declaration. If the simple adoption was realised abroad, an exequatur procedure is necessary. In the case of a full adoption, the child acquires nationality by filiation. If the adoption was realised abroad, it must be comparable to a full adoption under French law. There is no risk | Public Service website, on nationality for adopted children: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F3070 (FR/EN) Civil Code, Article 20: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419472 (FR) |

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| | | | | of statelessness during the adoption, but the person must be under 18. | On full adoption, see Civil Code, Articles 356 to 359: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idSectionTA=LEGISCCTA000006150072&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) On simple adoption, see Civil Code, Article 363: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150076&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) Civil Code, Article 21-12: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006419872 (FR) |
| PRS.5.a | <i>ius sanguinis</i> | Can children born to nationals abroad acquire nationality by descent (<i>ius sanguinis</i>) in general and/or if they would otherwise be stateless? | 1961 Convention : Article 4 UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : Where a child who would otherwise be stateless is born to parents of another Contracting State but does not acquire the nationality of the State of birth responsibility falls to the Contracting State of the parents to grant its nationality to the child. | Yes. Children are French if at least one of their parents is French, wherever the place of birth. If only one parent is French, and the children are born outside the territory, they can renounce their French nationality during the six months preceding their 18 th birthday and the 12 months following. | Civil Code, Articles 18 and 18-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149907&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR) |
| PRS.5.b | | Are there any discriminatory conditions in law and/or practice for the acquisition of nationality by descent (e.g. differential treatment of children born out of wedlock, rights of father/mother/same-sex parents to confer nationality, etc.)? | ECtHR, Genovese v. Malta (2011) : The state must ensure that the right to nationality is secured without discrimination. CEDAW, Gen. Rec. 32 (2014) : Requires States parties to ensure that women and men have equal rights to confer their nationality to their children and that any obstacles to practical implementation of such laws are removed. UNHCR, Background Note on Gender Equality, Nationality Laws and Statelessness 2023 : Nationality laws which do not grant women equality with men in conferring nationality to their children are a cause of statelessness. UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014) : Action 4 | No. | |
| PRS.6.a | Birth registration | Does the law provide that all children are registered immediately upon birth regardless of the migration or residence status, sexual and/or gender identity of their parents, or other characteristics? | CRC : Article 7 ICCPR : Article 24(2) CoE, Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)13 (2009) : Member states should register the birth of all children born on their territory even if they are born to a foreign parent with an irregular immigration status or the parents are unknown. UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012) : Article 7 CRC applies irrespective of the nationality, statelessness or residence status of the parents. UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014) : Action 7 UN Sustainable Development Goal 16.9 European Parliament, Resolution on LGBTIQ rights in the EU (2021) : Calls on States to overcome discrimination against rainbow persons and families. UNHCR and UNICEF, Background Note on Sex Discrimination in Birth Registration (2021) : All parents regardless of their sex should have equal rights to register the births of their children without discrimination. Laws or regulations that provide that | Yes. The required documents to register the birth of a child are: * birth certificate issued by a doctor/nurse * declaration of the child's name * identity documents of the parents * recognition act, if done prior to the birth * family record book, if parents have one. There is nothing in the law forbidding undocumented and irregularly residing persons to declare the birth of their child, and, in principle, all children born in France must be registered. In practice, the fact that the parents must prove their identity can constitute an obstacle to register the birth (although this is meant to protect the child and not to discriminate). However, according to the instructions ('Circulaire') of 28 October 2011 on the rules regarding civil acts on birth and filiation, the official cannot refuse to register the birth in the absence of the identity or civil documents of the parents. There is no discrimination based on the sex of the parents. | Civil Code, Article 55: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do;jsessionid=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000033460908&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) Public Service website, on birth declaration : https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F961 (FR/EN) Circular of 28 October 2011 on special rules for various civil status documents regarding birth and filiation, point 59: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/download/pdf/circ?id=34124 (FR) |

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| | | | only opposite sex parents may register the birth of children should be reformed. | | |
| PRS.6.b | | Are all children issued with birth certificates upon registration? If not, please describe legal status of documentation issued. | <p>HRC, Resolution A/HRC/RES/20/4 (2012): Underscores the importance of effective birth registration and provision of documentary proof of birth irrespective of immigration status and that of parents or family members.</p> <p>Joint General Comment No. 4 (2017) CMW and No. 23 (2017) CRC: Take all necessary measures to ensure that all children are immediately registered at birth and issued birth certificates, irrespective of their migration status or that of their parents.</p> <p>General Comment No 7 (2005) CRC: States parties should take all necessary measures to ensure that all children are registered at birth. This can be achieved through a universal, well-managed registration system that is accessible to all and free of charge. An effective system must be flexible and responsive to the circumstances of families.</p> | <p>All children born on French territory have to be registered regardless of their nationality. The birth certificate is immediately issued following the declaration and registration of birth, which must be made 5 days after the birth (the birthday is not included in the period). If this deadline is missed, a judicial declaration is necessary to elaborate the birth certificate, and the applicant risks a term of imprisonment of 6 months and a penalty of 3,750 EUR.</p> <p>The following documentation is requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - birth certificate from doctor or midwife - proof of address - identity card of parents - family record book <p>For refugees and migrant families, OFPRA can deliver civil documents, including birth certificates and family record books for events which took place before their protection. If the children are born in France, the French local authorities will be in charge of delivering the family a record book and registering the birth. The protected person/s must inform OFPRA of this event.</p> | <p>Civil code, Articles 55 to 59: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006420884&idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149970&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR)</p> <p>Civil code, Articles 34 to 54, https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006136100&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR)</p> <p>Criminal Code, Articles 433-18-1 to 433-21-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070719/LEGISCTA000006149849/#LEGISCTA000006149849 (FR)</p> <p>Decree N° 2017-278 of 2 March 2017 on the deadline for the declaration of birth : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000034133589 (FR)</p> <p>Circular of 28 October 2011 on special rules for various civil status documents regarding birth and filiation : http://circulaires.legifrance.gouv.fr/pdf/2011/11/cir_34124.pdf (FR)</p> <p>Decree N° 2004-1159 of 29 October 2004 implementing Law N° 2002-304 of 4 March 2002 on the family name and amending various provisions relating to civil status: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000000237596#LEGIARTI000034723992 (FR)</p> <p>Updated Guides of Procedures, Guide for refugees, July 2023: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/dossier/associations/les-outils-pour-accompagner-les-demandeurs-dasile-et-personnes-protgees (FR)</p> <p>Public Service, on birth declaration : https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F961 (FR/EN)</p> |
| PRS.6.c | | Is the child's nationality determined or recorded upon birth registration? If yes, please describe how and by whom (e.g. if the mother/father's nationality is recorded and/or automatically attributed to the child, if there's a formal procedure, if information on both parents is recorded etc.) | CRC : Articles 3 & 7 | The nationality of the child or of the parents is not recorded on the birth certificate, but the location of the birth is indicated. Administrative acts and declarations leading to the acquisition, loss of or reintegration of French nationality are recorded in the margins of the birth certificate. Nationality is determined based on the location of birth and the parent's nationality. | <p>Civil code, Articles 28 and article 28-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150514&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR)</p> <p>Civil code, Articles 55 to 59: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000006420884&idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149970&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721 (FR)</p> <p>Circular of 28 October 2011 on special rules for various civil status documents regarding birth and filiation : http://circulaires.legifrance.gouv.fr/pdf/2011/11/cir_34124.pdf (FR)</p> |
| PRS.6.d | | If a child's nationality is not determined or recorded upon birth registration, is there a legal framework to determine the child's nationality later? If yes, please describe the procedure, including the legal grounds, deadlines, competent | <p>CRC: Articles 3 & 7</p> <p>1961 Convention: Articles 1 & 4</p> <p>UNHCR, Guidelines on Statelessness No. 4 (2012): States need to determine whether a child would otherwise be stateless as soon as possible so as not to prolong a child's status of undetermined</p> | In addition to the birth certificate, the person can request a certificate of French nationality. The certificate of French nationality can be delivered by the territorial court or the French Nationality Centre of Paris ("Pôle de la Nationalité Française"). The certificate is free of charge and issued by the court clerk's office. In case of refusal, the applicant can make a hierarchical appeal to the Ministry of Justice and/or a contentious appeal to the court. | <p>Civil code, Articles 30 to 30.4: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006149966/#LEGISCTA000006149966 (FR)</p> <p>Civil code, Articles 31 to 31.3: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006136093/#LEGISCTA000006136093 (FR)</p> |

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| | | authority, and whether the child's best interests are taken into consideration. | <p>nationality. Such a period should not exceed five years.</p> <p>HRC, CCPR General comment No. 17 (1989): States are required to adopt every appropriate measure, both internally and in cooperation with other States, to ensure that every child has a nationality when he is born.</p> <p>UNHCR, Best Interests Procedure Guidelines (2021)</p> <p>HRC, D.Z. v. Netherlands (2021)</p> | | <p>Circular of May the 5th, 1995, regarding the issuance of French nationality : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/circulaire/id/43683 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service website, on French nationality: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N111 (FR/EN)</p> |
| PRS.6.e | | Are there credible reports to suggest that, in practice, children are prevented from registering their birth (or their birth certificate issued abroad is not recognised) because of parents' migration or residence status, sexual and/or gender identity, because they were born as a result of a surrogacy agreement, or other reasons (please specify)? | <p>Joint General Comment No. 4 (2017) CMW and No. 23 (2017) CRC: Urge States parties to take all necessary measures to ensure that all children are immediately registered at birth and issued birth certificates, irrespective of their migration status or that of their parents. Legal and practical obstacles to birth registration should be removed.</p> <p>Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: States will contribute resources and expertise to strengthen the capacity of national civil registries to facilitate timely access by refugees and stateless persons to civil and birth registration.</p> <p>Global Compact on Refugees: States commit to fulfil the right of all individuals to a legal identity and ensure that migrants are issued documentation and civil registry documents.</p> <p>European Parliament Resolution (2018): Calls on Member States to take immediate corrective measures to stop discriminatory birth registration.</p> <p>European Parliament, Resolution on LGBTIQ rights in the EU (2021): Emphasises the importance of the recognition of birth certificates in all EU Member States regardless of the sex of the parents.</p> <p>UNHCR and UNICEF, Background Note on Sex Discrimination in Birth Registration (2021): All parents regardless of their sex should have equal rights to register the births of their children without discrimination. Laws or regulations that provide that only opposite sex parents may register the birth of children should be reformed.</p> <p>Court of Justice of the European Union, V.M.A. v Bulgaria, Case C-490/20 (2021): Domestic authorities of an EU Member State are required to issue a birth certificate and identity documents to a child who is a national of that state and was born in another EU Member State, including when the birth certificate contains two parents of the same sex.</p> | <p>The National Assembly's Report on Children without Identity (September 2020) mentions inequalities in access to public services, including civil registration, especially in isolated areas of Guyana and Mayotte territories. According to the report, the technical and human resources dedicated to civil status in French Guyana are insufficient, unsuitable, and often saturated. In metropolitan France, the report mentions cases of children from the Roma community and children born in Syria or Iraq that are not being registered out of fear of seeing them being recruited to fight.</p> <p>In the case of asylum seekers, a birth certificate can only be issued at the end of the procedure, if the asylum application is accepted by OFPRA. In the north of France, cases were reported of refusal to record the father and/or mother during the birth registration because of their irregular residence status.</p> <p>Surrogacy agreements are illegal in France. However, in the interest of the child born by surrogacy in another country, a consolidated jurisprudence allows the registration of the intended parents in the French civil status if the birth certificate is in accordance with the law of the State in which it was issued (Cass. civ. 1ère, 18 novembre 2020, n°19-50.043).</p> | <p>National Assembly's Report on Children without Identity, September 2020: https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/15/rapports/cion_afetr/l15b3349_rapport-information.pdf (FR)</p> <p>Civil code, Articles 31 to 31.3 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006136093/#LEGISCTA000006136093 (FR)</p> <p>Cour de cassation, civil chamber 1, 18 November 2020, n°19-50.043 :</p> <p>Cour de cassation, civile, Chambre civile 1, 18 novembre 2020, 19-50.043 (FR)</p> |

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| PRS.6.f | | Are there mandatory reporting requirements that would deter undocumented parents from coming forward to register their children (e.g. health or civil registry authorities required to report undocumented migrants)? If not, is there a clear firewall to prohibit the sharing of information by other entities with immigration authorities? | Joint General Comment No. 4 (2017) CMW and No. 23 (2017) CRC and Joint General Comment No. 3 (2017) CMW and No. 22 (2017) CRC : Legal and practical obstacles to birth registration should be removed, including by prohibiting data sharing between health providers or civil servants responsible for registration with immigration enforcement authorities; and not requiring parents to produce documentation regarding their migration status. Children’s personal data, in particular biometric data, should only be used for child protection purposes. CoE, ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 16(2016) : States should clearly prohibit the sharing of information about migrants suspected of irregular presence with immigration authorities. These firewalls must be binding on state authorities and the private sector. | Not to our knowledge. The civil registration systems are under the responsibility of mayors. The personal information registered during civil registration to establish or update an act should only be used for this purpose by the mayor as civil registrar. The persons concerned must be informed of data processing. However, as civil registration is a legal obligation, the right to oppose it is not applicable. Birth certificates, certificates of recognition and marriage certificates, as well as the civil status registers which contain them, dating from less than 75 years, can only be directly consulted by authorised agents of the State for this purpose and persons with written authorisation from the archives’ administration. When delivering, renewing or removing residence or stay permits, the prefecture has the right to access civil registration systems in order to control the accuracy of the information provided. | CNIL, Civil registration files: https://www.cnil.fr/fr/les-fichiers-detat-civil (FR) Decree n° 2017-890 of 6 May 2017 on civil status: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000034635327/ (FR) CESEDA, Articles L.811-1, 3 to 6: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042773632/#LEGISCTA000042774678 (FR) |
| PRS.6.g | | Is there a statutory deadline for birth registration? If yes, please state the deadline and whether late birth registration is possible in law and practice. | Joint General Comment No. 4 (2017) CMW and No. 23 (2017) CRC : Measures should also be taken to facilitate late registration of birth and to avoid financial penalties for late registration. HRC, Resolution A/HRC/RES/20/4 (2012) : Calls upon States to ensure free birth registration, including free or low-fee late birth registration, for every child. General Comment No 7 (2005) CRC : States should facilitate late registration of birth and ensure that children who have not been registered have equal access to health care, protection, education and other social services. | All children must be registered within 5 working days after birth (not counting the day of birth), or within 8 days where the place of birth is far from the place of registration. If the child is born abroad, the deadline is 15 days for the birth to be declared at the Consulate or the Embassy. If the birth is not declared by the deadline, the civil servant at the city hall cannot register the birth and it can only be recognised by the High Court.. A person who attended a birth and did not make the declaration which they are obliged to do within the time limit can be sentenced to six months imprisonment and a fine of 3,750 EUR. | Civil Code, Article 55: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?sessionId=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?idArticle=LEGIARTI000033460908&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20170731 (FR) Decree N° 2017-278 of 2 March 2017 on the deadline for the declaration of birth: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000034133589 (FR) Civil Code, Article 56: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?sessionId=717F220C5D4D7D82E4AD630837C51042.tpdila07v_2?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006421023&dateTexte=20170731&categorieLien=cid (FR) Criminal Code, Article 433-18-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070719&idArticle=LEGIARTI000006418585 (FR) |
| PRS.6.h | | Are there additional requirements for late birth registration (e.g. fees, documents, court procedure)? Please describe the procedure including the competent authority and procedural deadlines. | As above | If the birth is not declared by the deadline, it can only be recognised by the High Court. No information is available on current practice. | |
| PRS.7.a | Reducing <i>in situ</i> statelessness | Does the government have any programmes in place to promote civil registration (including birth registration)? If yes, please provide details. | UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014) : Action 7 | There are no national campaigns or promotion events for civil registration. In hospitals and maternity services, information leaflets on birth registration are provided. | |
| PRS.7.b | | Are there particular sections of the population - such as minority groups or people affected by conflict - believed to be stateless/at risk of statelessness? Please provide details and source of information. | 1961 Convention : Article 9 UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014) : Action 4 HRC, Recommendations of the Forum on Minority Issues (2019) : States should take legislative, administrative and policy measures aimed at eliminating statelessness affecting minorities. | Sections of the population believed to be at risk of statelessness include Roma children and children of irregular migrants born in France. | Interviews with lawyers and professionals. |

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| PRS.7.c | | Has the State implemented any other measures specifically aimed at reducing (risk of) statelessness? (e.g. identification, registration or naturalisation campaigns, removal of treaty reservations, reform of discriminatory laws, etc.) | <p>1961 Convention UNHCR, Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2014-24 (2014): Actions 1 & 8 UNHCR, Good Practices Paper - Action 1 (2022): States generally address and resolve situations of statelessness through law and policy reform enabling stateless persons to acquire nationality automatically by operation of law, through a simple registration process, or through naturalisation. Non-automatic procedures are generally a less effective way to resolve statelessness because they require the person concerned to take certain steps to acquire nationality.</p> | Not to our knowledge. | |
| PRS.8.a | Deprivation of nationality | Are there any provisions on deprivation of nationality that could render a person stateless? Please state whether there is a safeguard against statelessness established in law and on what grounds deprivation of nationality may result in statelessness (e.g. national security, fraud, etc.). | <p>1961 Convention: Article 8 & 9 ECN: Article 7(3) UDHR: Article 15(2) Principles on Deprivation of Nationality and the Draft Commentary: Principle 2.2: Deprivation of nationality refers to any loss, withdrawal or denial of nationality that was not voluntarily requested by the individual; Principles 4, 5 & 6 HRC, Report of the Secretary-General on Human Rights and Arbitrary Deprivation of Nationality (2009): para. 23 UNHCR Guidelines on Statelessness No.5 (2020): the prohibition of arbitrary deprivation of nationality also includes situations where there is no formal act by a State but where the practice of its competent authorities clearly shows that they have ceased to consider a particular individual/group as national(s) (e.g. where authorities persistently refuse to issue or renew documents without providing an explanation or justification). ILEC Guidelines (2015): Deprivation of nationality must have a firm legal basis, should not be interpreted extensively or applied by analogy and deprivation-provisions must be predictable.</p> | <p>No, there are no provisions on deprivation of nationality that could render a person stateless.</p> <p>French law distinguishes between annulment/cancellation, withdrawal, and revocation/forfeiture of French nationality. For somebody who acquired French nationality, it can be challenged if legal conditions have not been fulfilled (e.g. lack of residence or integration in France) or in case of fraud (e.g. fake documentation, concealment of a child residing abroad). The declaration cancelling the declaration of French nationality or naturalisation has a retroactive effect. French nationality can be withdrawn if the individual has another nationality, acts as a national of this country and has committed acts against French interests. It can also be withdrawn from a person who works in the army or public services of a foreign State and does not desist despite an order of the Government. This withdrawal is not retroactive. The forfeiture/revocation of French nationality can be decided in case of particularly serious acts against French interests (such as terrorism), only if the individual has acquired French nationality (i.e. is not French by birth) and has another nationality.</p> <p>Loss of nationality is often voluntary and can result from the exercise of this right under Article 23 of the Civil Code. In the case of deprivation of nationality, it is declared by decree following confirmation by the Council of State under Articles 25 and 25-1 of the Civil Code. A French person can be deprived of their nationality for the reasons described under these two articles, unless they would become stateless. Deprivation powers are applied in practice.</p> | <p>Ministry of Interior website, on loss or deprivation of nationality: https://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Accueil-et-accompagnement/La-nationalite-francaise/La-perde-ou-la-decheance-de-la-nationalite-francaise (FR)</p> <p>Civil Code, Article 23: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006149955&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20181015 (FR)</p> <p>Civil Code, Articles 25 and 25-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;jsessionid=8313CEC297CCA850659B769D4418E971.tplgfr26s_1?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150513&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20190301 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service website, on Cancellation, withdrawal or revocation of French nationality: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F32827#:~:text=Vous%20risquez%20la%20d%C3%A9ch%C3%A9ance%20uniquement,ou%20d'acte%20de%20terrorisme. (FR)</p> |
| PRS.8.b | | Who is the competent authority for deprivation of nationality and what procedural safeguards are in place (e.g. due process, fair trial, participation in the proceedings, legal aid, decision in writing with reasoning, judicial oversight, appeal, time limit, subject to prior sentencing)? | <p>1961 Convention: Article 8(4) ECN: Articles 10 to 13 Principles on Deprivation of Nationality: Principle 7. Deprivation of nationality must be carried out in pursuance of a legitimate purpose, provided for by law, necessary, proportionate and in accordance with procedural safeguards; Principle 8: Everyone has the right to a fair trial or hearing and to an effective remedy and reparation. ILEC Guidelines (2015): The consequences of a decision to deprive somebody of their nationality must be assessed against the principle of proportionality. Adequate procedural safeguards are essential. Decisions should only take effect when the (judicial) decision cannot be challenged anymore.</p> | Deprivation of nationality is declared by decree following confirmation by the Council of State. A decree is an executory action taken by the President or the Prime Minister. The deprivation is only applicable if the alleged acts were committed before they acquired French nationality or within 10 years of the date of acquisition; and can only be pronounced within 10 years of the perpetration of the acts. However, if it concerns the acts referred to in Article 25(1) – crimes against the fundamental interests of the Nation, or a terrorist act – the time periods are extended to 15 years. | <p>Civil Code, Articles 25 and 25-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;jsessionid=8313CEC297CCA850659B769D4418E971.tplgfr26s_1?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150513&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20190301 (FR)</p> <p>Public Service website, on Cancellation, withdrawal or revocation of French nationality: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F32827#:~:text=Vous%20risquez%20la%20d%C3%A9ch%C3%A9ance%20uniquement,ou%20d'acte%20de%20terrorisme. (FR)</p> |

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| PRS.8.c | Are provisions on deprivation of nationality applied in practice? Have they been applied even where it results in (risk of) statelessness? If available, please provide any sources of data or information on cases that resulted in statelessness. | | No; deprivation of nationality can only be applied if the person concerned has another nationality. | Civil Code, Articles 25 and 25-1: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCode.do;jsessionid=8313CEC297CCA850659B769D4418E971.tplgfr26s_1?idSectionTA=LEGISCTA000006150513&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006070721&dateTexte=20190301 (FR) |
| PRS.8.d | Are there safeguards in law and practice to prevent renunciation or other forms of voluntary loss of nationality from resulting in statelessness? | 1961 Convention : Article 7 ECN : Articles 7 and 8 | Yes. Voluntary loss of nationality is possible only if the person concerned has another nationality. In case of marriage with a foreigner, the French spouse may renounce their French nationality if (and only if) they have acquired the foreign nationality of their spouse. | Civil Code, Articles 23-4 and 23-5: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006117612/#LEGISCTA000006117612 (FR) |
| PRS.8.e | Are there any provisions on deprivation of nationality in a national security context (regardless of whether they could render a person stateless)? Please describe these provisions and if/how they are applied in practice. | Principles on Deprivation of Nationality Principle 4: States shall not deprive persons of nationality for the purpose of safeguarding national security. Where provisions exist, these should be interpreted narrowly and in accordance with international law standards. UNHCR Guidelines on Statelessness No.5 (2020) : Laws that permit deprivation of nationality on the grounds of terrorism should be publicly available and precise enough to enable individuals to understand the scope of impermissible conduct. | Yes. Deprivation of nationality on national security grounds is permitted in cases of particularly serious acts against French interests (such as terrorism), and if the individual has acquired French nationality (i.e., is not French by birth) and has another nationality. It is not possible to deprive someone of French nationality if it could make him or her stateless, even if the person has committed acts of terrorism. | Civil Code, Article 25: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006117612/#LEGISCTA000006117612 (FR) |
| PRS.8.f | Are there any provisions on deprivation of nationality that directly or indirectly discriminate a person or group of persons on any ground prohibited under international law or that discriminate between nationals? Please describe these provisions and if/how they are applied in practice. | ICCPR : Article 26 1961 Convention : Article 9 ECN : Article 5 Principles on Deprivation of Nationality : Principle 6. Prohibited grounds for discrimination include race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, ethnicity, property, birth or inheritance, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other real or perceived status, characteristic or affiliation. Each State is also bound by the principle of non-discrimination between its nationals. | Yes. Deprivation provisions apply only to naturalised French nationals and not to French nationals by birth. In the case of deprivation on grounds of national security, the provisions only apply to naturalised French citizens who are dual nationals. | Civil Code, Article 25: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070721/LEGISCTA000006117612/#LEGISCTA000006117612 (FR) |
| PRS.8.g | Are there safeguards to prevent derivative loss of nationality (i.e., loss of nationality on the basis that a parent or a spouse has been deprived of that nationality)? Please describe the potential impact of deprivation on children and spouses. | 1961 Convention : Article 6 CRC : Articles 2(2), 7 and 8 CEDAW : Article 9(1) Principles on Deprivation of Nationality : States must take all appropriate measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination or punishment on the basis of the status, activities, expressed opinions, or beliefs of the child's parents, legal guardians, or family members (Principle 9.7). The derivative loss of nationality is prohibited (Principle 9.8). | Decisions taken by the national authorities ('décret') on the loss, deprivation, or removal of naturalisation, or reintegration of French nationality, take effect at their signature and do not impact the validity of previous acts done by the person, or the rights acquired by third persons before the publication of the decision on the basis of the person's French nationality. | Decree N° 93-1362 of 30 December 1993 on declarations of nationality, decisions on naturalisation, reintegration, loss, revocation and withdrawal of French nationality, Article 63: Décret n°93-1362 du 30 décembre 1993 (FR) |

Resources

| Item | Subtheme | Question | International Norms & Good Practice | Answer | Source |
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| RES.1.a | Published judgments | Please list the most relevant judgments relating to statelessness and include links to the cases (where available). | | There are judgments adjudicating statelessness in the jurisprudence of OPFRA, administrative courts and the Court of Cassation, which are available in online databases. | <p>· Case: https://www.dalloz.fr/documentation/Document?id=CAA_BORDEAUX_2023-06-15_22BX02000#expose-des-faits (FR) Administrative appeal court of Bordeaux, 15 June 2023 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.dalloz.fr/documentation/Document?id=TA_PAU_2023-02-23_2102606#texte-integral (FR) Pau Administrative Tribunal, 23 February 2023 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.dalloz.fr/documentation/Document?id=CE_LIEUVIDE_2022-12-27_457625#dispositif (FR) State Council, 27 December 2022 - sets aside the previous decision in favour of the claimant.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000046420597?init=true&page=3&query=&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=cetat (FR) Nantes Administrative Court of Appeal, 11 October 2022 - allows re-examination.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.dalloz.fr/documentation/Document?id=CAA_PARIS_2022-06-01_21PA06034#motifs (FR) Paris Administrative Court of Appeal, 1 June 2022 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: http://www.cnda.fr/Ressources-juridiques-et-geopolitiques/Actualite-jurisprudentielle/Selection-de-decisions-de-la-CNDA/Saisie-par-un-musulman-de-Birmanie-apatride-la-Cour-precise-les-criteres-de-la-definition-du-pays-de-residence-habituelle-au-sens-de-l-article-1er-A-2-de-la-convention-de-Geneve-et-de-l-article-L.-511-1-du-CESEDA (FR) CNDA, 27 January 2022 - defines the place of residence of a stateless person.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000046420597?init=true&page=3&query=&searchField=ALL&tab_selection=cetat (FR) Nantes Administrative Court, October 11, 2022 - allows a new application.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000046420587?dateDecision=01%2F01%2F2022+%3E+31%2F10%2F2022&init=true&isAdvancedResult=true&page=1&pageSize=10&query=%7B%28</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/uri/id/JURITEXT000046013601?dateDecision=01%2F01%2F2022+%3E+31%2F10%2F2022&init=true&isAdvancedResult=true&page=1&pageSize=10&query=%7B%28%40ALL%5Bt%22apatridie%22%5D%29%7D&sortValue=DATE_DESC&tab_selection=cetat&typeRecherche=date (FR)</p> <p>Bordeaux Administrative Court, October 11, 2022 - Rescinds the OFPRA decision and requests a reconsideration.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/uri/id/JURITEXT000046013601?dateDecision=01%2F01%2F2022+%3E+31%2F10%2F2022&init=true&isAdvancedResult=true&page=1&pageSize=10&query=%7B%28%40ALL%5Bt%22apatridie%22%5D%29%7D&sortValue=DATE_DESC&tab_selection=juri&typeRecherche=date (FR)</p> <p>Cassation Court, June 29, 2022- risk of statelessness.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000043672539 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 15 June 2021 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000043677007 (FR)</p> <p>Lyon Administrative Court, 10 June 2021 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000042600972 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 1 December 2020 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000041617204 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 18 February 2020 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>·Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000038530339?tab_selection=cetat&query=%7B(%40ALL%5Bt%22apatridie%22%5D)%7D&isAdvancedResult=true&dateDecision=10%2F01%2F2017+%3E+10%2F01%2F2020&jurisdiction=CONSEIL_ETAT&juridiction=COURS_APPEL&sortValue=DATE_DESC&pageSize=10&page=1&tab_selection=cetat#cetat (FR)</p> <p>Bordeaux Administrative Court, 23 May 2019 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000037834425?tab_selection=cetat&query=%7B(%40ALL%5Bt%22apatridie%22%5D)%7D&isAdvancedResult=true&dateDecision=10%2F01%2F2017+%3E+10%2F01%2F2020&jurisdiction=CONSEIL_ETAT&juridiction=COURS_APPEL&sortValue=DATE_DESC&pageSize=10&page=1&tab_selection=cetat#cetat (FR)</p> <p>Lyon Administrative Court, 13 December 2018 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case:</p> <p>https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000037534034?tab_selection=cetat&query=%7B(%40ALL%5Bt%22apatridie%22%5D)%7D&isAdvancedResult=true&dateDecision=10%2F01%2F2017+%3E+10%2F01%2F2020&jurisdiction=CONSEIL_ETAT&juridiction=COURS_APPEL&sortValue=DATE_DESC&pageSize=10&page=1&tab_selection=cetat#cetat (FR)</p> |
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| | | | | | <p>=COURS APPEL&sortValue=DATE DESC&pageSize=10&page=1&tab_selection=cetat#cetat (FR)</p> <p>Nancy Administrative Court, 18 October 2018 - confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000033858926&fastReqId=1311368353&fastPos=1 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 10 January 2017 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000032154089&fastReqId=1689360090&fastPos=7 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 1 March 2016 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000032613351&fastReqId=70653475&fastPos=8 (FR)</p> <p>Bordeaux Administrative Court, 22 February 2016 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000031486400&fastReqId=651894992&fastPos=12 (FR)</p> <p>Nantes Administrative Court, 10 November 2015 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000028313926&fastReqId=258068760&fastPos=33 (FR)</p> <p>Versailles Administrative Court, 19 November 2013 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000026567790&fastReqId=258068760&fastPos=37 (FR)</p> <p>Paris Administrative Court, 25 October 2012 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000026567789&fastReqId=258068760&fastPos=38 (FR)</p> <p>Paris Administrative Court, 25 October 2012 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=recJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000025366534&fastReqId=258068760&fastPos=41 (FR)</p> <p>Versailles Administrative Court, 19 January 2012 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec</p> |
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| | | | | | <p>hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000024225898&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=42 (FR)</p> <p>Versailles Administrative Court, 1 June 2011 – asks OFPRA to further study the case of the claimant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases N° 10BX00116: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023603891&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=45 (FR); N° 10BX01106: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023603919&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=46 (FR); N°10BX01073: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023603917&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=47 (FR) ; N°10BX01072: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023603916&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=48 (FR) <p>Bordeaux Administrative Court, 1 February 2011 – confirm the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases N° 09MA00321 : https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023218745&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=50and (FR) N° 09MA00317: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000023218744&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=49 (FR) <p>Marseille Administrative Court, 5 November 2010 – confirm the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000022329369&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=53 (FR) <p>Marseille Administrative Court, 11 March 2010 – sets aside OFPRA decision to dismiss the statelessness status and asks OFPRA to recognize the statelessness status to the claimant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000021646232&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=54 (FR) <p>Paris Administrative Court, 10 December 2009 – sets aside OFPRA decision to dismiss the statelessness status to the claimant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriAdmin.do?oldAction=rec hJuriAdmin&idTexte=CETATEXT000021646232&fastReqId=1521015220&fastPos=54 (FR) <p>Paris Administrative Court, 22 October 2009 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichJuriJudi.do?oldAction=rechJ uriJudi&idTexte=JURITEXT000027211340&fastReqId=1960419128&fastPos=14 (FR) |
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| | | | | | <p>Court of Cassation, Civil Chamber, 20 March 2013 – confirms the dismissal of the statelessness status.</p> <p>· Case: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/ceta/id/CETATEXT000035591772/ (FR) Versailles Administrative Court, 14 September 2017 – denies statelessness status.</p> <p>Jurisprudence database: Legifrance: https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/search/cetat?tab_selection=cetat&searchField=ALL&query=&page=1&init=true (administrative caselaw) https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/initRechJuriJudi.do (judicial caselaw)</p> <p>OFPRA, Activity Reports: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/publications/les-rapports-dactivite (FR)</p> |
| RES.2.a | Free legal assistance | Are there specialised lawyers or organisations providing free advice to stateless people or those at risk of statelessness? If yes, please describe. | UNHCR, Handbook on Protection (2014) : Applicants must have access to legal counsel. | DLA Piper and Betto Seraglini Grant Fund support projects and activities on refugees and stateless people’s rights, but they do not provide free advice to stateless persons or those at risk of statelessness. | Paris Bar Association, Pro Bono Trophy 2016: http://www.avocatparis.org/system/files/editos/brochure_trophees_pro_bono_2016.pdf (FR) |
| RES.3.a | Literature | Is there domestic academic literature on statelessness? Please list and provide references and hyperlinks (where available). | | It is difficult to find domestic legal academic literature on statelessness. There are many articles and references on “nationality”. On statelessness in particular, there is very little specific to France. It seems there is a general interest on the link between climate change and statelessness. | <p>· Charles Lasserre Yakite, La nationalité et l'apatridie en Afrique, L'Harmattan, 2018 : https://www.editions-harmattan.fr/livre-la-nationalite-et-l-apatridie-en-afrique-charles-lasserre-yakite-9782343153537-61359.html#:~:text=Les%20apatrides%20ne%20peuvent%20se,pour%20lutter%20contre%20l'apatridie. (FR)</p> <p>· Gisti, Plein droit N° 128, Apatridies, mars 2020.</p> <p>· Emilien Fargues, Dénaturaliser au risque de l'apatridie, Plein droit n°128, mars 2021, p31 à 34. https://www.cairn.info/revue-plein-droit-2021-1-page-31.htm (FR)</p> <p>· Danièle Lochak, La figure de l'apatride, immuable et changeante, Plein droit n°128, mars 2021, p 3 à 6. https://www.cairn.info/revue-plein-droit-2021-1-page-3.htm (FR)</p> <p>· Romuald Libiki, Le droit de l'apatridie, Pratiques et controverses, Paris, Publibook, 2013.</p> <p>· Report: http://www.avocatparis.org/mon-metier-davocat/publications-du-conseil/rapport-sur-la-decheance-de-la-nationalite (FR) from the Paris Bar Association on Deprivation of nationality, February 2016.</p> <p>· François Sureau, La déchéance de nationalité : deux catégories de Français, Article: https://www.cairn.info/revue-etudes-2011-4-page-475.htm (FR) de la revue Etudes, April 2011</p> |

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| | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Emmanuel Decaux, « L'apatridie », Pouvoirs, vol. 160, no. 1, 2017, pp. 73-84.· Aline Angoustures, Dzovinar Kévonian, Claire Mouradian (ed.), Réfugiés et apatrides. Administrer l'asile en France (1920-1960), Rennes, Presses universitaires de Rennes, 2017, 312 pages. |
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