



EMN Ad-Hoc Query on Ad-hoc query on recreational activities and leisure equipment in detention

Requested by Anne-Cecile JARASSE on 21st February 2018

Irregular Migration

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway (23 in total)

Disclaimer:

The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.

Background information:

French authorities have initiated a new Asylum and Immigration act that will soon be submitted to National Parliament. An extension of the maximal length of detention is planned in order to enhance the efficiency of the return policy.

In this regard, France is willing to improve the material detention conditions of the detainees by providing them with recreative activities and adequate leisure equipments and would like to identify the best practices of other MS.


Could you please answer before the Wednesday 14 March, we need your background information in order to enlighten the parliamentary debate that is due this spring?


On behalf of the French Directorate for Immigration, we would like to ask MS about the following in order to collect examples of best practice in this field.



Questions



1. 1. What types of recreational activities are available in detention? Please fill in the table in the attached document.
2. 2. Do the detainees have access to a leisure room, internet room and/or a courtyard space? What kind of leisure equipment is provided in these facilities? Please fill in the table in the attached document.
3. 3. Do the detainees have access to leisure activities in their room (e.g. television, internet, and radio)?
4. 4. Do you propose specific activities designed for detainees according to their gender and age (male, female, families with minors and UAM if any)? Do the detainees share the same premises in order to participate in these activities? Please provide us with examples of dedicated activities according to their gender and age?
5. 5. How do you ensure the handling of the recreational activities and the access to the leisure rooms? What kind of staff is in charge of the leisure activities (e.g. : social workers, NGOS, community organizers, cultural facilitators, sport coordinators)?

Responses



	Country	Wider Dissemination	Response
	Austria	Yes	1. Answers in the table in the annex. 2. Answers in the table in the annex.


			<p>3. A television can either be found in the leisure rooms or in the cell. Access to the internet is not provided for detainees. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>4. The equipment for detainees is provided in the same rooms, but at different times, since men are detained separately from women. Although male and female detainees partly share the same building, they are housed in separate areas. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>5. As to the detention center Vordernberg, there is a contract with the company G4S, that takes care of the detainees. NGOs and organizations can offer activities if their implementation is possible and the organization has been screened. Apart from that, police officers are responsible for the supervision of detainees and their activities in detention centers. --- Source: Ministry of the Interior</p>
	Belgium	Yes	<p>1. Plesse see attached document.</p> <p>2. Plesse see attached document.</p> <p>3. If residents have a regime in group (which is usually the case), this is not provided in the room. If they have a more individual regime (because of medical or psychiatric reasons, for safety, because of a possible negative impact on the other residents, ...), this will be provided in the room.</p> <p>4. Yes. Animators /educators try to respond to interests / preferences of residents. Because the residents change, interests can also change. Male residents are often interested in fitness and sports, while women might prefer cooking activities or hairstyling. Some detention centers only have male residents. Other detention centers have both male and female residents. Detention centers are divided in communities. In a mixed community, recreational activities are not exclusive for men or exclusive for women. Families with underage children or UAMs are (for the moment) not detained in a detention center.</p> <p>5. Recreational activities are handled by animators / educators. In principle security staff only deals with security. Social workers are also not involved in recreational activities. Exceptionally the animators / educators can ask external help. For example yoga classes can be given by an external</p>



			yoga teacher. For recreational activities the help of NGOs is never asked.
	Bulgaria	Yes	<p>1. According to the table attached.</p> <p>2. The TCNs accommodated in SHTAF have access to the following leisure activities in the premises: a library with a training room, a TV room, a prayer room. Within the regime, the residents have certain hours of walking and outdoor sports in a separate yard space with a basketball and a football field.</p> <p>3. In the bedrooms, accommodated TCNs can use their own radio and mobile internet from their own mobile phones.</p> <p>4. The activities are mixed for men and women in the ward for women and families and only for men in the men's ward. The adult TCNs accommodated in the SHTAF can take part in foreign language training courses - Bulgarian, English, Italian, cultural orientation classes and interactive theater.</p> <p>5. When accommodated, the TCNs are informed by the employees of the SHTAF about the opportunity to participate in the optional classes. Activities with foreigners are carried out by non-governmental organizations with which the Migration Directorate has concluded cooperation agreements.</p>
	Croatia	Yes	<p>1. In the detention centre foreigners have at their disposal the following recreational activities: Accommodation for man - Various social games (chess, cards, dominoes etc.) are organized in the indoor common areas, table tennis, watching television, borrowing books, a workshop organized by various non-governmental organizations Group accommodation - childrens' playroom and a recreation area for women - living room with TV - outdoor playground (slides and swings)</p> <p>2. Yes, trough-out the day persons in the detention centre have access to shared facilities, where TV, table tennis, various social games, etc are available. There is no Internet access. The access to courtyard or outdoor playground is available at least two hours a day when the weather allows. On the court there are football and basketball facilities, and on the playground at the facility for</p>



			<p>vulnerable groups there are slides, swings, and toys for children.</p> <p>3. No, given that the rooms are only intended for sleeping, and access to shared facilities is available all day long.</p> <p>4. Implementation of free activities is tailored and implemented in accordance with the structure of foreigners placed in the detention centre. Example - children's playground, recreation for women.</p> <p>5. Recreational activities are carried out by the Social Workers of the Detention Centre and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).</p>
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1. See attached table</p> <p>2. See attached table</p> <p>3. No</p> <p>4. We have no gender specific activities, but for children we have Children's Centre with leisure activities especially for children and our leisure time staff organize trip or excursions for children outside the detention centre (as children are not detained but accommodated with parents).</p> <p>5. In each detention centre we employ up to 4 leisure time activities staff. Occasionally NGO organise some workshops or other activities in our detention centres.</p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>1. Please see the attached document.</p> <p>2. Please see the attached document.</p> <p>3. Personal electronical items are allowed in the rooms (TV, radio, PlayStation etc.). All detainees have access to leisure activities in shared spaces i.e. in the leisure room as well as on the sporting/walking area outdoor. Internet access is not permitted unless for accessing important documents/information relevant to their court/asylum/deportation proceedings. Detainees can use the</p>


			<p>internet kiosk in order to access legislation, Chancellor of Justice of UNHCR webpages.</p> <p>4. Organizing language classes depends on the number of detainees interested. Language classes have been held both separately as well as together (male and female detainees). Recreational leader organizes activities separately – for male and for female detainees, premises are not shared. If there are any families with minors, it is taken into account from both –language teacher as well as recreational leader, in order to carry out age appropriate learning methods or more playful activities.</p> <p>5. Access to leisure rooms is free depending on the daily routine of the detention center. Leisure activities are organized by the PBGB project manager and coordinated/assisted by officials from the detention center. Language courses are carried out by professional language tutors and recreational activities by recreational leader outside the PBGB (public procurement/ job competition).</p>
+	Finland	Yes	<p>1. Please see the enclosed tables for Helsinki and Joutseno detention facilities. Separate tables.</p> <p>2. Please see the enclosed tables for Helsinki and Joutseno detention facilities. Separate tables.</p> <p>3. No TV:s in the rooms, possibility to freely use own mobile phone. (Helsinki detention facility). Yes, televisions, blueray-players and an internet connection are available. (Joutseno detention facility).</p> <p>4. The detainees at the facility are to 90% adult men. If women and children need particular activities or own space, this is arranged. Children are usually with their families and only for very short periods of time (1-2 days). The staff organizes activities for the children, e.g. drawing, painting, handcrafting, and outdoor activities. (Helsinki detention facility) Activities (such as play, games, handcrafts and some studies) are organized for children, that are suited for their age- and development level. The parents are also given the possibility to have childcare in order to have time together and rest. Adults are given the same possibilities to different activities, although at different times. (Joutseno detention facility)</p> <p>5. The detention facility has a staff of 23, who are also in charge of the spare time activities. All indoor spaces of the detention facility are in the free use of the detainees, except for the gym/fitness</p>





			rooms, where the detainees are escorted. Volunteers from the Finnish Red Cross visit once a week. (Helsinki detention facility). The staff (social workers) at the detention facility is in charge of organizing and supervising all the activities as well as their safety. Every person is in charge of a certain area and activity besides his/her normal responsibilities. Cooperation with volunteers from the Finnish Red Cross is starting, where they will organize e.g. game- and discussion evenings for the detainees. The activities by NGO:s will be monitored by staff from the detention facility as well as camera surveillance. (Joutseno detention facility)
	France	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. France does not provide recreational activities in immigration detention but is willing to implement them in order to improve the detention conditions of the detainees. 2. See document attached. 3. French authorities do not provide leisure activities in the detainee's rooms except in Lyon (TV in the rooms). 4. In France there are no specific activities designed for detainees according to their gender and age. Male and female are strictly separated and families with minors are housed in dedicated units. UAM are not detained. Minors have access to toys, stuffed animals and baby care equipment. 5. The access to either leisure rooms is free and not regulated. The access to the exterior courtyard is prohibited during the night.
	Germany	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General information: Responsibility for detention pending deportation lies with the Federal Länder in Germany. There is therefore no common standard for accommodation during detention pending deportation, and circumstances may vary. Answer to question 1 : Please see attached document. 2. Please see the attached document. 3. Inmates have a television (with radio reception) in their own rooms or a portable radio (world receiver).

			<p>4. As there are no families with minor-age children being housed at present, there are also no separate activities offered for them. There are no activities specifically assigned depending on sex or age. The varying range of recreational activities is orientated towards demand and the interests of the persons accommodated, but not towards their sex or age.</p> <p>5. The recreational activities are mostly on the personal responsibility of the detainees. Properly qualified staff, social workers, or the facilities' own staff with the support of private security staff, are responsible for the recreational activities and for supervising them. The recreational activities are freely accessible all day until 10 p.m., with the exception of the weight lifting room, where a certified sports trainer must be present. The open air spaces are accessible during the day (during daylight hours).</p>
	Greece	Yes	<p>1. In Greece we have eight Pre-Return Detention Centers (in Amygdaleza, in Tavros, in Korinthos, in Drama, in Xanthi, in Orestiada, in Islands Lesvos and Kos) in which all the irregular migrants are kept in order to be returned to the countries of origin or transit. The detainees enjoys good living condition and a variety of recreational activities there. The space inside the Detention Centers is separated according to the gender and age of the detainees. For instance the space inside of these Centers, is separated suitably which is based in several categories (male, female, families and unaccompanied minors). During their accommodation they are allowed to move in a specially shaped courtyard space twice a day, 09:00 a.m. -13:00 p.m. and 18:00 p.m.- 20:00 p.m. During these hours they can entertain themselves through different activities (educational, entertaining or occupational) or team games (football, basketball, ping-pong, chess). The detainees have access to a leisure room, which is open to all of them and includes television, internet and reading material. Moreover they can use their personal items inside their rooms such us mobile phones and they can also use public phone cardmachines that are available 24hs the day. Finally, visits are taken everyday from 16:00-18:00. The minors, stay in the centers until they are moved in a special hosting center. They have free access to network, television and they are allowed to move in their courtyard space all the day (24hs). In the same place there is the playground and the pediatrician's office. Finally, the Ministry of Health / Health Insurance Company SA, provides them with specialists in health care, psychological and social support services as well as interpretation services.</p>


			<p>2. see Q1</p> <p>3. see Q1</p> <p>4. see Q1</p> <p>5. see Q1</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>1. Game of chess, board games, books, football, table tennis, other sports.</p> <p>2. There is gym, pray room, public room and internet room in each Detention Center. In the gym are only fixed sports machines.</p> <p>3. There are no subjects in the rooms. Television is in the public room, the internet can be used in the internet room. There is a fenced yard at every Detention Center.</p> <p>4. The detainees prefer the ball games, game of chess and cards, table tennis. The families and the children prefer drawing and painting. The police ensures the necessary subjects for these activities.</p> <p>5. The activity of the detainees is regulated by daily agenda. The spare time activities are available anytime, except during the mealing, showering and the night relaxing time. Social employees help the detainees at the Detention Center. They have the task to organize for the detainees in case of need cultural and sports activities.</p>
	Ireland	Yes	<p>1. N/A. See our response to ad hoc query 2018.1272.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3. N/A.</p> <p>4. N/A.</p>



			5. N/A.
	Latvia	Yes	<p>1. Currently in detention centres in Latvia recreational activities such as basketball in the courtyard and fitness room inside the centre are available. Additionally to that there are also some other premises: rest room with TV, special playroom for children, library. See the attached table.</p> <p>2. Detainees have access to a leisure room and courtyard space every day, but internet is provided in a special room (rest room) and only upon request. See the table attached.</p> <p>3. Leisure activities are not available for detainees in their room.</p> <p>4. There are no specific activities provided for detainees depending on their gender. UAM accommodated in the detention centre have free access to playroom (available in women and family block) and are entitled to use leisure activities according to their age. All detainees use common premises in order to participate in leisure time activities, but women and men have separate visiting time.</p> <p>5. An adult detainee accommodated in the centre needs to inform in advance the officials of the detention centre on his/her willingness to visit fitness room. Additionally to this during the walking time (not less than 2 hours per day) the detainees are entitled to play basketball. Accommodation centre official is responsible for providing an access for detainee to the respective leisure activities.</p>
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. Please find in the table attached.</p> <p>2. Please find in the table attached.</p> <p>3. All 6 leisure rooms have a cable TV. Foreigners can use their radio recipients and music players. There is no internet or computer room in the Foreign Registration Center (FRC).</p> <p>4. Men and women have different schedules to participate in the activities of their interest. Accordingly, those activities are organized by different social workers. However, everyone are participating in Center's events together (e.g. New Year's celebration). Women tend to choose</p>

			<p>handcrafts, puzzles, knitting, tatting, whereas men prefer sports, table football, reading. Children are given priority – if parents agree, children can participate in common activities with other kids at the asylum seekers dorm. The detention premises also has kids room, where there are areas for playing. Children are allowed to spend more time outdoors. A new project also foresees more outdoor activities.</p> <p>5. All 6 sectors of the dorm for the detained foreigners have a leisure room. Foreigners can read press or books at the FRC library, which is on the ground floor of the premises. There is a room with sport equipment, where the foreigners can do physical training exercises. In addition to that, on the working days the detainees can reach out for psychological help. Psychologist evaluates the psycho-emotional state of detainees, performs psychological diagnostics, identifies vulnerable, trauma or abuse-affected persons, provides individual psychological consultations, organizes group activities supported by psychological and art therapy, among which – music, art therapy, as well as game therapy activities for children. In accordance with an agreed plan, social worker provides social services – i.e. organizes festive and topic evenings, quizzes, board games (both for different ethnic groups and for all foreigners). By the request of the foreigners, FRC organizes meetings with various religious confession representatives. FRC closely cooperates with two non-governmental organizations – Lithuanian Red Cross Society and Vilnius archdiocese "Caritas", which are both given the possibility to plan and implement activities based on the needs of the detainees.</p>
	Luxembourg	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See attached document. 2. See attached document. 3. See attached document. 4. See attached document. 5. See attached document.

	Malta	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please refer to attached table. 2. Please refer to attached table. 3. No, only in the common room. 4. No specific activities are proposed. 5. Detention Service Officers are in charge of leisure activities.
	Netherlands	No	
	Poland	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See attachment 2. All detainees have access to the internet. Persons staying in detention can go for walks and move around freely in their free time (9:00 – 21:00). This freedom can be constrained only by mealtimes. (see attachment) 3. All detainees have access to the internet and radio in their rooms. Additional rooms are available with different leisure activity equipment. 4. All of the detention centers have rooms for minors (play rooms). Minors have compulsory access to education. There are separate detention centers for families with minors and unattended minors – because of that the access to leisure activities is different for children than for adults. 5. The Teaching and Education Section of the detention is in charge of the leisure activity.
	Portugal	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Answer in attached doc 2. Answer in attached doc

			<p>3. Answer in attached doc</p> <p>4. Answer in attached doc</p> <p>5. Answer in attached doc</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. Detained third-country nationals have access to leisure activities in the Police Detention Centre for Aliens (PDCA) facility. It is mainly cultural and sports activities performed daily at times specified in the PDCA internal rules (in the morning, in the afternoon, and in the evening during spare time, or in the morning and in the afternoon during walks). More information in the attached document.</p> <p>2. Detainees have access to television in the common TV room. Sports activities focus on exercises on the playground during walks or in designated premises (in a new gym, for example). The visit room in the PDCA Medved'ov is equipped with a computer with internet connection. Detainees have limited access to this computer and can use it only in the presence of the PDCA staff. Persons placed in the PDCA in Sečovce also have limited access to the internet three times a week, in the presence of an NGO worker and PDCA staff. In both PDCAs detainees may use the internet only for searching information; e-mail communication is prohibited. Detainees are helped by social workers while searching information, but only in case it is justified and if approved by the director of the PDCA Sečovce.</p> <p>3. There is no TV neither internet connection in the accommodation units of the PDCA. Detained TCNs can have a radio powered by batteries or chargeable one, as the voltage in electrical circuits is lowered in accommodation unit to 24V due to security reasons. 220V voltage is only in common spaces, where the TVs are.</p> <p>4. In the PDCA Sečovce, cultural and leisure activities of detained minors accompanied by their legal representatives are provided in the game room located within the accommodation premises for families with children or in the gym equipped with sports tools, where detained minors can do sports activities also during bad weather. During good weather conditions minors can use the outdoor children's playground. The social worker organises also specific activities depending on gender (e.g.</p>

			<p>make-up training courses for women).</p> <p>5. Activities for minors as well as adults are the responsibility of social workers. They plan and adjust educational, recreational and gaming activities for minors in the facility while cooperating with the NGO, mainly for the purpose of social and psychological counselling and caretaking, with a specific emphasis on the care for vulnerable groups. They also cooperate secondarily during the educational and training activities carried out by teacher/tutor, employee of the NGO. These and other activities respect the needs and age of the persons.</p>
	<p>Sweden</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>1. There are local differences between the different detention centres but in all detention centres there are possibility for table tennis, internet, board games and books. In addition to these activities other activities, such as for example yoga, physical training, baking and easier cooking, are arranged by staff based on their interests.</p> <p>2. There is a leisure room in each ward that is available around the clock. There is also access to a gym room with workout equipment during most of the day, but it is normally closed during the night. There is also a possibility to play TV-games in a designated room. There is a walking yard available at least three hours a day and in the yard there is possibility to play basket or volleyball. In the yard there is also benches and most often a possibility to play football.</p> <p>3. The standard has since a long time been that there is TV in the leisure rooms. Since a year there is a pilot project with TV in the sleeping rooms in order to see whether will create a calmer atmosphere. So far, the pilot has been successful which will probably mean that we will install TV in the sleeping rooms when building new detention centres.</p> <p>4. There are few children in detention. If there are children in the detention centre arrangements will be made so the child can play with toys. Apart from that the arranged activities are due to demand, meaning that proposals can be made and/or activities that have been popular before can be arranged.</p> <p>5. Each detention centre has staff with dedicated responsibility for recreation. Their background and education differs, it is their own interests and ability to carry out the activities that are of importance. NGOs often have activities or performances, but this is based on their abilities and interests.</p>

			<p>Musicians are frequent and popular. Staff that have own abilities or competences, such as physical training, music or handicraft, are encouraged to carry out these as a part of the social interaction.</p>
	<p>United Kingdom</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unable to attach Tables document- This will be emailed separately. 2. Unable to attach Tables document- This will be emailed separately. 3. Immigration removal centres provide televisions in most rooms. It is open to detainees to use their own radios. Internet access is not available in detainee bedrooms, but is available daily in the centre IT suites. 4. Each immigration removal centre organises activities on the basis of the changing population in detention at any one time. In immigration removal centres with a single gender population detainees come together for activities. In centres with a mixed gender population men and women do not participate in joint activities. Families who are detained in in the pre-departure accommodation undertake all activities within that accommodation. Some examples of activities in centres, other than those listed above, include: hairdressing, beauty treatments, BBQs, karaoke, gardening, bingo, and discos. Voluntary paid activities are also provided. 5. Activities in immigration removal centres are supervised by detainee custody officers (DCOs) who are employees of the contractor operating the centre on behalf of the Home Office. To meet religious needs, each immigration removal centre has a number of different religious leaders who attend the centre on a weekly basis and all detainees have access to facilities to enable them to worship. There are a limited number of outside organisations who provide activities at individual centres.
	<p>Norway</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See attached table. During wintertime: indoor-activities are most common. We have an Activity Center were it is possible to enjoy the following activities: basketball, soccer, table tennis, cooking and exercise spinning bikes. In addition, we also have a small gym. There are 2 internet machines with a limited network. During summer it is possible to take part in outdoor activities such as soccer, volleyball, badminton, and running. From time to time, different courses are offered for the

			<p>detainees. Examples are first aid- and various training courses.</p> <p>2. See attached table. Norway's one detention center has one Activity Center and one activity hall. Each wing has limited access during the week. There are 13 different departments that have to share the activity space. The detainees may use the outdoor activities when they are outside several times a day. When they are in their own department they have access to table games and decks of cards.</p> <p>3. The detainees do have a single room with a television which has 16 different channels, and a radio. The detainees do not have access to internet in their room.</p> <p>4. Activities and play are organized according to the child's age and gender. From time to time we also arrange other activities for women, for example, they work in a kitchen-garden during summertime. Unaccompanied minors can sometimes take part in activities for adults detainees only when suitable. The employees who work at the unaccompanied minors department will accompany the minors to such activities to protect the minor from pressure or risks from the adult detainees. The unaccompanied minors are not allowed to socialise with other adult detainees, unless they are under constant supervision.</p> <p>5. In Norway's one detention center we have employed 2 activity leaders – with different kinds of background. They organize the activities together with the staff. We also have cooperation with NGOs, ex. The Red cross and The Salvation Army.</p>
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