

**INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION.**STEPS OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
PROTECTION SEEKING PROCEDURE**„Bezpieczna przystań”**

Projekt „Opracowanie i wdrożenie długofalowej strategii komunikacyjnej Urzędu do Spraw Cudzoziemców” współfinansowany z Programu Krajowego Funduszu Azylu, Migracji i Integracji.

Wyłączna odpowiedzialność za wyrażone opinie spoczywa na autorze i Komisja Europejska oraz Ministerstwo Spraw Wewnętrznych i Administracji nie ponoszą odpowiedzialności za sposób wykorzystania udostępnionych informacji.



The “international protection” consists of the “refugee status” and of the “subsidiary protection”.

## BORDER GUARD

1.



### TO SEEK:

the refugee status and the subsidiary protection, turn in person to the Polish Border Guard. Tell the officers you wish to apply for international protection. An officer will help you complete your application.

If you complete the application form by yourself and send it to the Border Guard or to the Head of the Office for Foreigners, your application will not be reviewed!

The procedure will start when the Border Guard accepts and registers your application.

Read the brochure titled “How to apply for international protection in Poland” or visit the Web site of the Office for Foreigners, <https://udsc.gov.pl/uchodzczy-2/uchodzczy/zlozenie-wniosku-o-nadanie-statusu-uchodzczy/>, for details

The Border Guard will send your application (completed by you or by an officer) to the Office for Foreigners. Then, the Office will check whether your application is based on good reasons.

## OFFICE FOR FOREIGNERS

2.



Then, the Office will check whether your application is based on good reasons.

You will be summoned to the Office for an interview where you will have an opportunity to tell in detail why you have decided to seek international protection and why you are anxious to return to your country. The interview will be held in a language you understand. The Office will provide an interpreter for this purpose. You will be able to present all evidence to attest that what you are saying is true. Everything you say will be kept confidential. The Office shall not disclose to your country’s authorities

any information about the history or results of your protection seeking in Poland.

The Office will investigate into the actual situation in your country based on information captured by experts of the Country of Origin Information Unit of the Office for Foreigners and obtained from third parties, including governmental and non-governmental institutions. The Office will not contact any authorities of the country of your origin for verification. The confidentiality principle holds valid for the whole procedure.

You may provide the Office with additional information and evidence until the Head of the Office gives a decision on your case. The Office will inform you when it has all evidence relevant to your case collected. You will be allowed to study, and comment on, this material, as well as provide new evidence.

The Office Head’s decision on your case will specify whether you have been granted the refugee status or the subsidiary protection. The decision will be thoroughly substantiated and will inform you what you can do next and how you can use gratuitous legal assistance.

## COUNCIL FOR REFUGEES

If you disagree with this decision, you will be able to appeal to the Council for Refugees. The Council will examine your case. You may provide the Council with additional evidence until the Council makes its decision. As in the previous step, the Council will inform you when it has all evidence relevant to your case collected. You will be allowed to study, and comment on, this material, as well as provide new evidence.

The Council may sustain the Office Head’s decision, order the Head to re-consider your case or override the Head’s decision and grant you the refugee status or the subsidiary protection. The decision will be substantiated in detail.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

The proceedings before the Office for Foreigners and before the Council for Refugees are an administrative procedure. While it proceeds, you are entitled to social assistance (including accommodation at a refugee/immigrant reception facility and medical care). You will be given a Temporary Certificate of Identity of a Foreign National.

## PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

3.



You may challenge the Council’s decision before the Provincial Administrative Court in Warsaw. The court will study your case in detail to check whether the decisions of the Office Head and of the Council were lawful. The Court may sustain the decisions or have the Head or the Council re-examine your case.

## SUPREME ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

Finally, you may engage an attorney or legal counsel to appeal on your behalf from the decision of the Provincial Administrative Court to the Supreme Administrative Court. Again, the Court may sustain the former decisions or have them reconsidered.

### ADMINISTRATIVE-JUDICIAL PROCEDURE

The procedures before the Provincial Administrative Court and before the Supreme Administrative Court are “administrative-judicial”, so you are not entitled to social assistance (such as accommodation or medical care) and you will not be given a Temporary ID.