

Flowchart

SELECTION OF QUOTA REFUGEES



The Finnish Parliament decides the next year's refugee quota during the annual budget negotiations. Since 2001, the refugee quota has been 750 persons a year.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNCHR) presents Finland people who they classify as refugees.

Based on UNCHR's presentation, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy (MEE) prepare a proposal on targeting of the refugee quota regionally.

Minister of the Interior makes the final decision on regional targeting.

Information on the previous years' targetings can be found at the Finnish Immigration Service's (Migri's) website at www.migri.fi

Officials of Migri and other officials (Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY) or the city in question and the Finnish Security Intelligence Service) participating on a selection trip abroad will conduct a pre-selection in Finland based on the UNCHR documents.

The final selection is made after the selection delegation has interviewed the candidates personally at their country of residence.

Those selected in the quota are granted a refugee status in Finland, and Migri grants them fixed-term continuous residence permits.

The first permit is valid for four years, after which a renewal can be applied for.

A quota refugee can move to Finland as soon as housing is found in a Finnish municipality.

The MEE coordinate placement of the refugees into municipalities on the national level.

The ELY-centres take care of the placement in practice.

Migri places the refugees into municipalities according to municipality vacancies announced by the ELY-centres.

An exception to the rule on personal interview are refugees who are granted an emergency status by UNCHR, based on a special need for protection, exceptionally acute humanitarian reasons or an acute need for medical care.

Migri will decide on their selection, based on the the background documents.

The quota selection journey can sometimes exceptionally be replaced with a dossier based selection.