

International Protection Applicants and establishing their Identity

Who is an international protection (asylum) applicant?

An international protection applicant seeks asylum in a country other than theirs due to fear of persecution or harm. Legal and humanitarian organisations assist them throughout the asylum process, which involves proving their need for protection based on race, religion, or political opinion.

Do international protection applicants have any form of identity?

Yes! International protection applicants in Ireland typically have forms of identification, including an International Protection identity number assigned during the asylum application process.

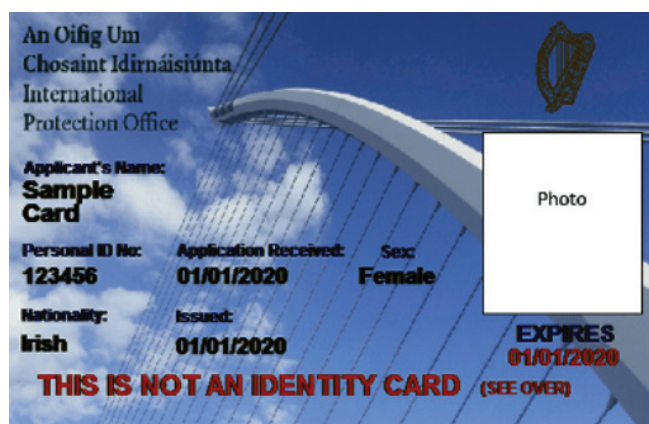
Additionally, some have identification documents from their country of origin. However, some may lack official documents due to confiscation or destruction during their journey. Irish authorities use interviews and other means to establish their identity in such cases.

What security/due diligence is done when seeking International protection in Ireland?

The International Protection Office (IPO) takes applicants' fingerprints for international protection. This is part of the asylum application process and is done for several reasons;

- **Fingerprints:** help to establish the applicant's identity, especially if they do not have other forms of identification.
- **Security checks:** Fingerprints may be used for security and background checks, including verifying whether the applicant has any criminal history or is listed in databases of concern.
- **Dublin Regulation:** Under the Dublin Regulation, which determines which EU member state is responsible for examining an asylum application, fingerprints are used to check whether an applicant has previously applied for asylum in another EU country
- **A picture/photo** of the applicant is taken and stored
- The applicant is given an **asylum application identification number**
- An international protection client is given a Temporary Resident Card (TRC or blue card). The TRC has a photo of the applicant, including their name, asylum identity number, date of asylum application, sex and nationality.

Below is an example of the TRC



The volunteer centre has a designated support worker to assist you with any questions, information, and training regarding engaging displaced people/migrants from various cultures who are volunteering in your organisation.

Get in touch

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