

SCREENING INFORMATION NOTICE – Checks at the external border

Unauthorized sea crossing or SAR events

You are in _____, in Italy, which is part of the European Union, and we inform you that we are here to support you; if you have any questions or need help, please do not hesitate to ask.

You have the right to use the available interpretation and cultural mediation services to ensure proper communication with the competent Authorities. You may also ask questions and request clarifications at any time. Where possible, you may ask to speak with a man or a woman.

1. Entry conditions

At present, you have not yet been legally admitted to the EU because you have not complied with the entry rules, and therefore the Authorities must carry out checks called *screening*. During this process, all rights and obligations provided for under national, international and EU law still apply.

2. Screening activities

The screening activities will take place here in _____.

The following are the steps carried out by the Authorities in application of the Screening Regulation:

- Physical checks on the person and personal belongings for security reasons.
- Initial checks carried out by healthcare staff to verify any need for urgent healthcare assistance or isolation for public health reasons.
- Verification of identity, collection of personal data (name, date and place of birth, nationality), and presentation of any identity and travel documents in your possession. Failure to hand over documents may be considered as non-cooperation with the Authorities.
- Reporting any condition of statelessness.
- Indicating the presence of accompanying family members so that you may remain together.
- Indicating the reason for entering Italy.
- Sharing of personal data among the competent Authorities, without such data being disclosed to others without your consent.
- Taking of fingerprints and identification photograph.
- Checking data in national and European digital systems for security purposes.
- Collection and storage of data, only for as long as necessary, for the management of the procedure.

- Further medical examination to assess urgent medical needs or health isolation, specialist healthcare or psychological assistance.
- Individual interview for further assessment of vulnerabilities or specific needs, and immediate referral of situations of particular vulnerability.

If you are in a situation of particular need, it is essential that you inform the Authorities immediately, for example if you are under 18 years of age, need medical care, are a woman, are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, are a person with a disability, need psychological support, are an older person, are a single parent with minor children, have serious illnesses or mental disorders (including post-traumatic stress disorder), are pregnant, have survived torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence, for example if you are a victim of gender-based violence, female genital mutilation, child or forced marriage, or violence committed on sexual, gender, racial or religious grounds, or if you are a victim of trafficking (for sexual, labour or other forms of exploitation, or because you were forced to marry).

If you are under 18 years of age, you are considered a minor in Italy, which means that you will receive reception and support appropriate to your needs and age. In addition, if you are not accompanied by your parents or legally responsible adults, you will be represented by an adult who will assist you to ensure your rights.

If you have medical documents or certificates that can support what you report, show them as soon as possible.

- Collection of information about you, your family members and your journey from your country of origin to the country where you are currently located.
- Completion of the screening with signature of the form and delivery of a copy after verification, confirmation or request for amendment of the information entered in the form.
- Completion of the screening within seven days of disembarkation on Italian territory.

All information provided during this procedure is confidential: it will never be disclosed to persons not involved in this procedure.

3. **Rights and obligations during screening**

- During screening, you have the right to receive food, accommodation, medical assistance (physical and mental) and to be treated with dignity and in respect of your fundamental rights.

- If you have any medical issue, need psychological or other support, or wish to report any events that occurred in your country of origin, during transit or while crossing the border, you may do so with the competent Authorities or the staff assisting you.
- You have the right to communicate with any person or organization providing advice and assistance, including legal assistance.
- If you believe that your fundamental rights have not been respected during screening, you have the right to contact the competent Authorities.
- You are required to remain available to the screening Authorities in the place assigned to you during the procedure and to provide accurate and complete information when requested, so that the Authorities may verify your right to enter and stay in the territory of the Italian State.
- You are required to cooperate with the Authorities and, in particular, you are required to provide:
 - name, date of birth, gender and nationality;
 - any documents in your possession that may verify your identity;
 - your fingerprints and a photograph of you, which will be collected by the designated staff.

If you do not cooperate with the Authorities, there may be negative consequences for the procedures that will be applied subsequently.

- You are required to provide complete and correct information, specifying which information you do not remember and/or are unable to provide.

4. **Right to apply for international protection**

- If you are afraid to return to the country of which you are a citizen (or, if stateless, to the country of your habitual residence) because your life and/or freedom, or that of your family members, is at risk, or because you fear torture, serious ill-treatment or abuse, you have the right to seek protection. If you have been persecuted or fear persecution because of your race, nationality, membership of an ethnic group, religion or political opinion, or if you belong to a particular social group and fear violence or being enslaved, or if you fear being sentenced to death, tortured, or come from a war zone, you may seek protection.
- If you wish to apply for international protection, state this clearly during screening and explain the reasons to the competent Authorities.
- If you apply for international protection, you will have the right to be transferred to a reception centre suitable for your needs.
- You must submit your application in Italy, as this is where you arrived and where you are now. You cannot choose which country will be responsible for your case, but family unity needs will be taken into consideration.
- If you have family members in an EU Member State, inform the competent screening Authority, as this may be useful to assess whether you have the right to be legally reunited with them.

- If you apply for international protection, you must remain in Italy and may not move to another EU Member State without the permission of the Authorities. If you leave Italy before a decision is made on your application for international protection, this will have consequences for your procedure, as the person seeking protection must first wait for the decision on which State is responsible for the application. If you move to another country before this decision, the Authorities may revoke reception at the centre.
- In Italy there are different procedures for assessing your application for international protection: the ordinary procedure, the accelerated procedure, which has shorter timelines, and the accelerated border procedure, which is very fast and applies in places that Italy considers border or transit zones.
- The different procedures and their timelines will be explained to you at a later stage, as the procedure is established by Italian law and applied by the Italian Authorities based on your personal situation.

If you are under 18 years of age and are an unaccompanied minor, not accompanied by your parents or legally responsible adults, you have the right to access a specific procedure for the issuance of a residence permit for minors.

5. **Return**

If you do not apply for international protection and do not meet the entry conditions, you may be returned to your country of origin or to another country where you are authorized to enter and stay, based on a return decision.

6. **Relocation**

You may also be transferred to another Member State that decides to take responsibility for your application for international protection; this procedure is called relocation.

7. **Applicable procedure**

At the end of the screening, you will receive further information on international protection, return or relocation, depending on the procedure that will apply to your case.

8. **Data protection**

Remember that EU data protection law gives you the right to access your personal data, namely the information about you that you have shared, to have it corrected and to request its deletion from Italian and European databases where it was recorded during the procedure, under certain conditions provided for by law.

Remember that you always have the right to be informed about the procedures concerning you, to ask for clarifications, and that you may speak at any time with the operators you will meet during your journey in Italy.