

CONTRACEPTION POLICY ATLAS EUROPE

Tracking government policies on access to contraceptive supplies, family planning counselling and the provision of online information on contraception

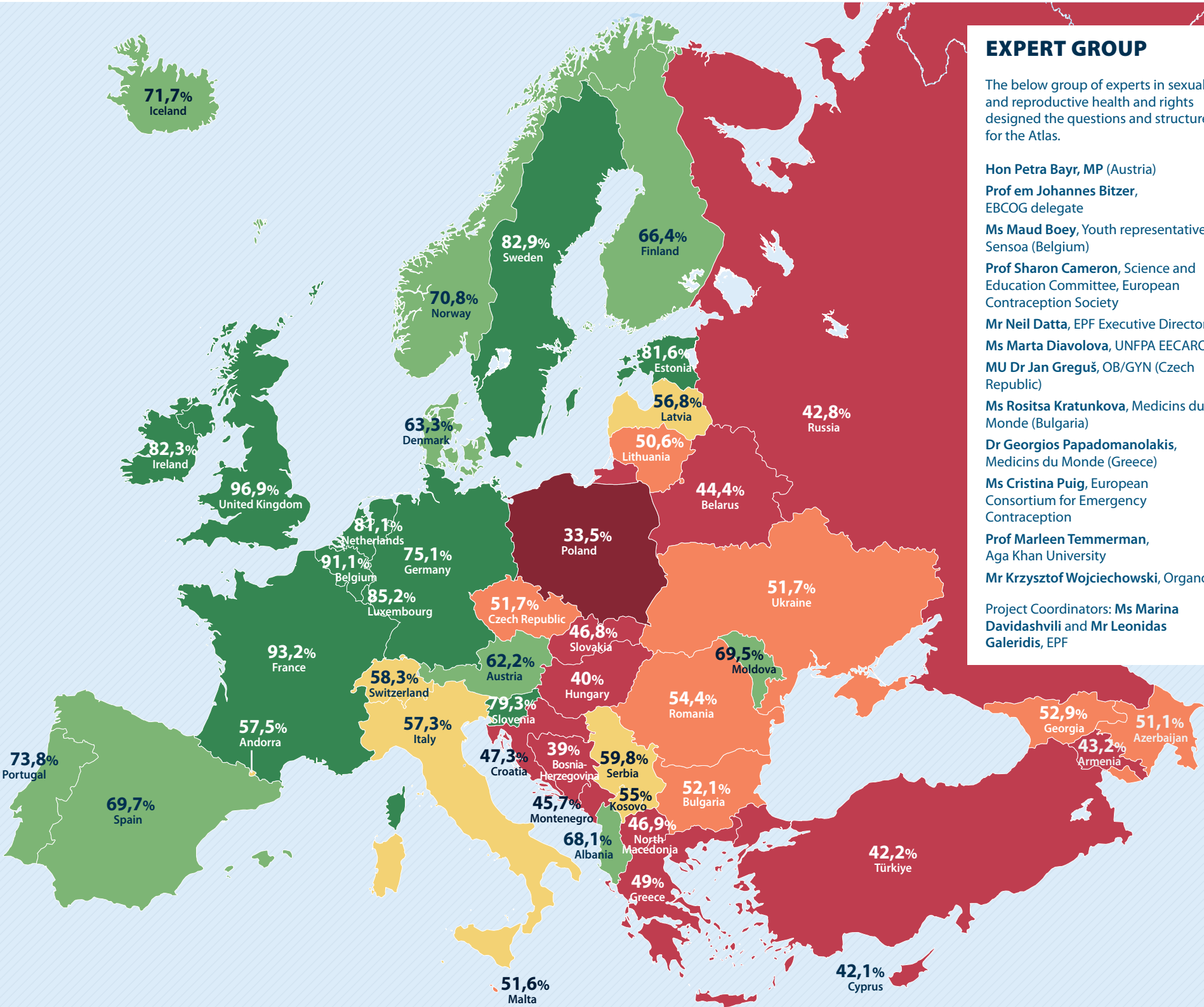
2023



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RANKING SCALE

United Kingdom	96,9%
France	93,2%
Belgium	91,1%
Luxembourg	85,2%
Sweden	82,9%
Ireland	82,3%
Estonia	81,6%
Netherlands	81,1%
Slovenia	79,3%
Germany	75,1%
Portugal	73,8%
Iceland	71,7%
Norway	70,8%
Spain	69,7%
Moldova	69,5%
Albania	68,1%
Finland	66,4%
Denmark	63,3%
Austria	62,2%
Serbia	59,8%
Switzerland	58,3%
Andorra	57,5%
Italy	57,3%
Latvia	56,8%
Kosovo	55,0%
Romania	54,4%
Georgia	52,9%
Bulgaria	52,1%
Czech Republic	51,7%
Ukraine	51,7%
Malta	51,6%
Azerbaijan	51,1%
Lithuania	50,6%
Greece	49,0%
Croatia	47,3%
N Macedonia	46,9%
Slovakia	46,8%
Montenegro	45,7%
Belarus	44,4%
Armenia	43,2%
Russia	42,8%
Türkiye	42,2%
Cyprus	42,1%
Hungary	40,0%
Bosnia-Herzegovina	39,0%
Poland	33,5%
	0%



EXPERT GROUP

The below group of experts in sexual and reproductive health and rights designed the questions and structures for the Atlas.

Hon Petra Bayr, MP (Austria)

Prof em Johannes Bitzer, EBCOG delegate

Ms Maud Boey, Youth representative, Sensoa (Belgium)

Prof Sharon Cameron, Science and Education Committee, European Contraception Society

Mr Neil Datta, EPF Executive Director

Ms Marta Diavolova, UNFPA EECARO

MU Dr Jan Greguš, OB/GYN (Czech Republic)

Ms Rositsa Kratunkova, Mediciens du Monde (Bulgaria)

Dr Georgios Papadomanolakis, Mediciens du Monde (Greece)

Ms Cristina Puig, European Consortium for Emergency Contraception

Prof Marleen Temmerman, Aga Khan University

Mr Krzysztof Wojciechowski, Organon

Project Coordinators: Ms Marina Davidashvili and Mr Leonidas Galeridis, EPF

INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES

NAIROBI STATEMENT ON ICPD25 : ACCELERATING THE PROMISE (2019)

We, representing all nations and peoples, and all segments of our societies [...] will [...] achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights as a part of universal health coverage (UHC), by committing to strive for [...] zero unmet need for family planning information and services, and universal availability of quality, accessible, affordable and safe modern contraceptives.

Source: <https://www.nairobisummiticpd.org/content/icpd25-commitments>

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE: RESOLUTION 2331 (2020) EMPOWERING WOMEN: PROMOTING ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION IN EUROPE

The Assembly calls on [...] to ensure that all modern methods of contraception, including emergency contraception without prescription, are made available to the public, including in rural and remote areas and to marginalised and vulnerable groups; [...] ensure the affordability of contraceptive methods by including them in national health insurance schemes [...] develop specific coverage or subsidisation schemes for young, low-income and vulnerable groups, [...] review such schemes regularly to ensure their effectiveness; [...] provide affordable, confidential and non-judgmental individual counselling to those seeking contraception

Source: <http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=28675&lang=en>

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION (2021) ON THE SITUATION OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN THE EU, IN THE FRAME OF WOMEN'S HEALTH (2020/2215(INI))

European Parliament [...] calls on the Member States to ensure universal access to a range of high-quality and accessible modern contraceptive methods and supplies, family planning counselling and information on contraception for all, to address all barriers impeding access to contraception, such as financial and social barriers, and to ensure that medical advice and consultations with healthcare professionals are available, allowing all persons to choose the contraception method that best suits them, and thereby safeguarding the fundamental right to health and the right to choice; [...] taking into account success rates in the long term; [...] Recalls that Member States and public authorities have a responsibility to provide evidence-based, accurate information about contraception.

Source: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0314_EN.pdf

MAIN FINDINGS

Access to modern, effective and affordable contraception remains a European challenge. Yet there is overall a positive progression across most of Europe. Out of 46 countries analysed:

20 countries (43%) cover contraceptives in their national health system and include LARCs;

14 countries (30%) cover contraceptives in the national health systems for young people to 25 years old or older;

41 countries (89%) cover counselling within the national health system;

19 countries (41%) provide good or exceptional governmental websites.

Who is behind the Atlas?

This initiative is powered by the European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (EPF). We are grateful to the numerous national organisations and country experts who contributed to gathering the data presented in the Atlas. The Atlas was produced in partnership with a group of experts in sexual and reproductive health and rights (see above) who designed the questions and structures. EPF benefitted from the financial support of Organon to undertake original and independent research which is presented in the Atlas. The scope and the content of the Contraception Policy Atlas Europe is the sole responsibility of the European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (EPF).

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ACCESS TO MODERN CONTRACEPTION

		Ranking index of countries	ACCESS TO SUPPLIES				ACCESS TO COUNSELLING					AVAILABILITY OF ONLINE INFORMATION							Countries (in alphabetical order)		
			COVERAGE OF CONTRACEPTIVES				COVERAGE OF COUNSELLING			PRESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS		TYPE OF ONLINE INFORMATION			INFORMATION COVERAGE			USER FRIENDLINESS			
			Level of coverage within the national health system	Special coverage for young people (until 19 or 25)	Special coverage for vulnerable groups (unemployed, low-income)	At least one LARC is covered by the national health system	Level of available, accessible, and affordable consultation	Need for third-party consent	Legal status (marital, citizenship) is not a barrier	Availability of emergency contraception	Hormonal contraceptives available without prescription	Website provided by	Number of contraceptives listed	Info on costs of contraceptives	Info where to get contraceptives	Regional or minority language included	Web design	Discoverability of the website online			
	Albania	68,1%	Superior to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Other online resources	Weak	Not available	Not available	No	Good	Exceptional	Albania		
	Andorra	57,5%	Similar to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	Yes (direct consent)	No	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Standard	Not available	Exceptional	Yes	Good	Insufficient	Andorra		
	Armenia	43,2%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	Yes (direct consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Standard	Not available	Not available	No	Good	Good	Armenia		
	Austria	62,2%	No coverage	No	No	No	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Austria		
	Azerbaijan	51,1%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Gov't supported integrated website	Standard	Not available	Not available	No	Good	Good	Azerbaijan		
	Belarus	44,4%	No coverage	No	No	No	Superior to other	No	No	Yes (legal)	No	Other online resources	Standard	Insufficient	Insufficient	No	Good	Exceptional	Belarus		
	Belgium*	91,1%	Similar to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Belgium*		
	Bosnia-Herzegovina	39,0%	No coverage	No	No	No	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (illegal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Insufficient	Not available	Not available	No	Good	Good	Bosnia-Herzegovina		
	Bulgaria	52,1%	No coverage	No	Yes	No	Similar to other	Yes (indirect consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (illegal)	Gov't supported integrated website	Standard	Insufficient	Insufficient	No	Insufficient	Insufficient	Bulgaria		
	Croatia	47,3%	Less than other	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Weak	Not available	Not available	No	Good	Exceptional	Croatia		
	Cyprus	42,1%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Insufficient	Not available	Not available	Yes	Insufficient	Exceptional	Cyprus		
	Czech Republic	51,7%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Good	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Czech Republic		
	Denmark	63,3%	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Insufficient	Good	No	Good	Good	Denmark		
	Estonia	81,6%	Similar to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Insufficient	Exceptional	Yes	Good	Exceptional	Estonia		
	Finland*	66,4%	No coverage	Yes (25)	No	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Insufficient	Good	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Finland*		
	France	93,2%	Superior to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	France		
	Georgia	52,9%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Georgia		
	Germany*	75,1%	No coverage	Yes (19)	No	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Germany*		
	Greece	49,0%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	Yes (indirect consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Other online resources	Standard	Not available	Insufficient	No	Good	Exceptional	Greece		
	Hungary	40,0%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (illegal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Insufficient	No	Exceptional	Good	Hungary		
	Iceland	71,7%	Less than other	Yes (19)	Yes	Yes	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Superior	Insufficient	Good	Yes	Good	Exceptional	Iceland		
	Ireland	82,3%	Less than other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Ireland		
	Italy*	57,3%	No coverage	No	No	No	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Gov't supported integrated website	Superior	Not available	Not available	Yes	Good	Exceptional	Italy*		
	Kosovo**	55,0%	Less than other	Yes (25)	Yes	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	No online resources	Not available	Not available	Not available	No	Not available	Not available	Kosovo**		
	Latvia	56,8%	Less than other	No	No	Yes	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Insufficient	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Latvia		
	Lithuania	50,6%	No coverage	Yes (19)	No	Yes	Similar to other	Yes (indirect consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Standard	Insufficient	Insufficient	No	Good	Good	Lithuania		
	Luxembourg	85,2%	No coverage	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Luxembourg		
	Malta	51,6%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Not available	Insufficient	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Malta		
	Moldova	69,5%	No coverage	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Similar to other	Yes (direct consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Insufficient	Exceptional	No	Good	Good	Moldova		
	Montenegro	45,7%	No coverage	No	No	No	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Standard	Not available	Not available	Yes	Insufficient	Good	Montenegro		
	Netherlands	81,1%	Similar to other	Yes (19)	Yes	No	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Standard	Exceptional	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Netherlands		
	North Macedonia	46,9%	No coverage	No	No	No	No coverage	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (illegal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Standard	Insufficient	Insufficient	No	Good	Good	North Macedonia		
	Norway	70,8%	No coverage	Yes (19)	No	Yes	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Superior	Exceptional	Good	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Norway		
	Poland	33,5%	Less than other	No	No	No	Similar to other	Yes (direct consent)	Yes	No	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Good	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Poland		
	Portugal	73,8%	Superior to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Insufficient	Yes	Exceptional	Good	Portugal		
	Romania	54,4%	No coverage	No	No	No	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Not available	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Romania		
	Russia	42,8%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (illegal)	Yes (illegal)	Other online resources	Superior	Insufficient	Insufficient	No	Insufficient	Insufficient	Russia		
	Serbia	59,8%	Less than other	No	No	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Non-gov't supported websites	Standard	Insufficient	Good	No	Good	Good	Serbia		
	Slovakia	46,8%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	Yes (direct consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Other online resources	Superior	Good	Insufficient	No	Good	Good	Slovakia		
	Slovenia	79,3%	Superior to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported integrated website	Standard	Insufficient	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	Slovenia		
	Spain*	69,7%	Similar to other	No	Yes	No	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Non-gov't supported websites	Superior	Good	Exceptional	No	Good	Good	Spain*		
	Sweden	82,9%	Similar to other	Yes (25)	No	Yes	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Exceptional	Good	Yes	Exceptional	Exceptional	Sweden		
	Switzerland*	58,3%	No coverage	No	No	No	Superior to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	No	Gov't supported standalone website	Superior	Insufficient	Exceptional	Yes	Exceptional	Good	Switzerland*		
	Türkiye	42,2%	Less than other	No	No	Yes	Less than other	Yes (direct consent)	No	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Other online resources	Standard	Not available	Not available	No	Exceptional	Good	Türkiye		
	Ukraine	51,7%	No coverage	No	No	No	Similar to other	Yes (direct consent)	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Other online resources	Standard	Good	Good	Yes	Good	Insufficient	Ukraine		
	United Kingdom	96,9%	Superior to other	Yes (25)	Yes	Yes	Similar to other	No	Yes	Yes (legal)	Yes (legal)	Gov't supported integrated website	Superior	Exceptional	Exceptional	No	Exceptional	Exceptional	United Kingdom		

Data extracted as of February 2023. *Belgium, Finland, Germany, Italy, Spain and Switzerland have decentralised political systems and therefore circumstances may vary between regions. **Under UNSCR 1244/99

