

The CGRS has published the asylum statistics for July 2011. The following comments can be made:

- In July 2011, **1,919** asylum applications were introduced, i.e. a slight increase of 2.46% compared to July 2010 (1,873 applications). Compared to July 2010, the number of asylum applications has increased by 24.69% (1,539 applications).
- During the first seven months of 2011, a total of **13,493** asylum applications were registered in Belgium.
- The main countries of origin of asylum seekers in July 2011 were **Afghanistan** (249 applications), **Iraq** (166), **Russia** (149), **Guinea** (143), **Kosovo** (91), **Pakistan** (88), **DR Congo** (62), **Armenia** (56), **Syria** (55) and **Serbia** (41). In July, the CGRS saw a significant increase in the number of asylum seekers from Russia and Pakistan. For asylum seekers from the Balkans (Kosovo, Serbia and Macedonia), a decrease was observed, even though the number of asylum seekers from Kosovo was still relatively high. As for Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, the number of asylum applications from nationals of these countries remained very low (respectively 4, 1 and 14 applications in July).
- In July 2011, the Immigration Department transferred **1,184** cases to the CGRS for treatment. The CGRS took **1,310 decisions**, an **increase of 65%** compared to July 2010 (793). The number of decisions is slightly below the target of 1,500 decisions. In May 2011 however, with 1,546 decisions, the CGRS exceeded its objective (1,400 decisions).
- The CGRS **confirms its commitment** to keep increasing its productivity to reach 1,850 decisions per month by the end of this year. This objective can be achieved as from **September** thanks to the return of collaborators who are currently on leave and to new collaborators, who were engaged during the first months of 2011 and will be fully operational by September. In addition, 22 new protection officers will join the CGRS in September 2011.
- In July, **187** decisions to grant refugee status were taken as well as **76** decisions to grant subsidiary protection status.
- At the end of July 2011, the total caseload of the CGRS amounted to **13,780** applications. As **4,500** can be considered a normal workload, the actual backlog amounts to **9,280** dossiers.

The complete statistics can be found on the website of the CGRS ([www.cgvs.be](http://www.cgvs.be)).