

# REINTEGRATION CHANGES 2026

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# 1. GENERAL


## A. Background

From **1 January 2026**, a **new reintegration grid was introduced**. This grid will apply to all REAB cases opened after 01/01/2026.

The new grid introduces a number of **important changes**. Fedasil has drafted the following explanatory note in order to quickly communicate this information to front-line workers and partners.

<b>1. Simplified categories</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Priority to Syria</li><li>2. Visa required + Latin America</li><li>3. Balkans, Georgia, Moldova and Brazil</li></ol>
<b>2. Degressive model</b>	The government agreement provides for the introduction of a <u>degressive model</u> . This model applies exclusively to persons who have applied for international protection. The stage of the procedure they are at when they register for voluntary return determines the extent of this additional reintegration assistance. The earlier people decide to return voluntarily, the more aid they receive.
<b>3. Priority country of origin</b>	People who return to a specific home country benefit from an additional incentive. At present, only Syria is considered to be a priority country.
<b>4. Restrictive measures</b>	Some restrictive measures are imposed on certain countries. No reintegration assistance is granted to people returning to the Balkans, Georgia, Moldova and Brazil, except in cases of vulnerability.
<b>5. Vulnerability criteria</b>	Objective and clear definition of the vulnerabilities on the basis of which an additional budget can be allocated. Both medical and non-medical vulnerabilities are taken into account.
<b>6. Multiple aids</b>	Fedasil offers a wide range of reintegration assistance for reintegration back in the destination country: on the one hand, via the Post Arrival Package in cash (PAP) and, on the other, via the Post Return Package (PRP), by analogy with Frontex's EURP programme. The PAP consists of financial assistance, in cash where possible, which the returnee receives within two weeks of arrival to meet their immediate needs. The PRP consists of assistance in-kind.

## B. New grid 2026

CAT 1 Priority Country Of Origin		CAT 2 Visa obliged Country Of Origin + Latin America		CAT 3 Balkan + Geo + Mold + Brazil	
Ticket (actual cost)					
Departure allowance (50€ per person) - <i>in cash</i>					
Vulnerabilities (if applicable):					
Single parent, elderly (65+), pregnant, VoT, (ex-)JUAM (1000€ cumulative) - <i>in kind</i>					
BASIC medical (500€ per person) + AMAAR (actual cost) - <i>in kind</i>					
REINTEGRATION	Post Arrival Package (PAP) - <i>in cash</i> (615€ per person upon arrival)		REINTEGRATION	Post Arrival Package (PAP) - <i>in cash</i> (615€ per person upon arrival)	
	Post Return Package (PRP) - <i>in kind</i> (2000€ main appl + 1000€ add appl)			Post Return Package (PRP) - <i>in kind</i> (2000€ main appl + 1000€ add appl)	
	Prior - <i>in kind</i> (1000€ per person)			Degressive model - <i>in kind</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 (2000€ per person)</li> <li>Phase 2 (500€ per person)</li> </ul>	
	Degressive model - <i>in kind</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 (2000€ per person)</li> <li>Phase 2 (500€ per person)</li> </ul>			Not eligible  <b>MEER INFO</b> 	

The **basic amounts for reintegration (Post Arrival Package & Post Return Package)**, those linked to the **priority country that is Syria** and those related to the new vulnerability criteria apply from 01/01/2026. As part of this process, **clear definitions of vulnerabilities** and **interview forms for VoT cases** have been drawn up to support front-line staff. You will find them later in this note.

Reintegration budgets linked to the **degressive model** will be activated from **01/02/2026**.

On the basis of the budget allocated, the returnee, in collaboration with the local reintegration partner, draws up a reintegration plan that best meets their economic, psychological and social needs.

If, according to the new grid 2026, returnees are entitled to a reintegration budget, the frontline worker must refer the person concerned to the relevant reintegration partner (Caritas International, IOM, Fedasil). Please note: this also applies to vulnerable category 3 returnees.

**You will find here an overview** of the countries for which Fedasil uses the EURP programme.

## C. Transition 2025 – 2026

During the transition from 2025 to 2026, there will be a three-month transitional phase, during which both the old reintegration grid (2025) and the new reintegration grid (2026) will apply. To find out which conditions the person is subject to, we look at **the date they signed up to/opened a REAB file**.

- Individuals (with the exception of Brazil) who **signed up before 31/12/2025** and whose departure date is before 31/03/2026 are subject to the previous conditions and criteria (grid 2025).
- People who signed up before 31/12/2025, but whose **departure date is after 31/3/2026**, are subject to the 2026 reintegration grid.
- The same rule applies to **Brazil**, with the only difference being that these people must have **signed up before 30/11/2025** to continue to be subject to the conditions and criteria of Grid 2025.
- People who **signed up on or after 01/01/2026** are in all cases subject to the new 2026 reintegration grid.
- People who **signed up after 1/1/2026** and who **leave after 1/2/2026** can benefit from the assistance provided by the degressive model.

When the new 2026 reintegration grid comes into force, the following provisions will no longer apply:

- **Administrative support for the Balkans.**
- **National restrictions:** the national restrictions in force in 2025 for Belarus, Pakistan, Mongolia and Jordan are abolished. Ongoing monitoring is in place to detect any abuses and deal with them appropriately if necessary.

## 2. VULNERABILITIES: DEFINITION, BURDEN OF PROOF AND WORKFLOW

### A. Non-medical vulnerabilities

1	<b>Pregnant women</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Pregnancy is the period during which a foetus develops in a woman's uterus, from the time a fertilised egg is implanted to delivery or termination of the pregnancy.</p> <p><i>World Health Organization (WHO), Pregnancy, Childbirth, Postpartum and Newborn Care: A Guide for Essential Practice, (3rd ed.), Genève, 2015.</i></p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> medical certificate</p>
2	<b>Older persons (65+)</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Older persons are those aged 65 and over.</p> <p><i>United Nations Principles for Older Persons (1991), Political Declaration, Article 2.</i></p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> Extract from the waiting register / Appendix 26 / Identity documents</p>
3	<b>Unaccompanied minors *ex (UAM)</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> An unaccompanied foreign minor (UAM) is a person who :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is under the age of eighteen,</li> <li>• is not accompanied by a person exercising parental authority or guardianship (in accordance with Article 35 of the Act of 16 July 2004 on the Code of Private International Law),</li> <li>• is a national of a country that is not a member of the European Economic Area,</li> <li>• and is in one of the following situations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ either they have applied for recognition of refugee status;</li> <li>◦ or fail to satisfy the conditions of entry to the territory and residence laid down by the laws relating to entry, residence, establishment and removal of foreign nationals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Act of 24 December 2002 - Programme Law (1), Article 479, Title XIII, Chapter VI: Guardianship of unaccompanied foreign minors, Article 5.</i></p> <p>For the category of former unaccompanied minors, young people aged under 21 are taken into consideration.</p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> Extract from the waiting register if the guardian is mentioned / Appendix 38</p>
		<p><b>Workflow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2026 grid applies to (EX-)UAM who register from 01/01/2026</li> <li>• (EX-)UAM Cat 1 &amp; 2: are entitled to the standard reintegration package + €1,000 extra for (EX-)UAM vulnerability, to which other vulnerabilities may be added.</li> <li>• (EX-)UAM Cat 3 are entitled to an additional €1,000 for "(EX-)UAM" vulnerability, to which other vulnerabilities may be added. The following are not eligible for the standard reintegration package.</li> <li>• Children travelling alone, i.e. from one parent in the host country to a parent in the home country, are not considered as UAM.</li> </ul>

4	<p><b>Single parents with minor children or a dependant adult child</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> A single parent with a minor child or a dependent adult child is a person who has sole responsibility for one or more unmarried children. For the sole purpose of Reception, the term "parent" exceptionally includes another adult responsible for the beneficiary, including an adult brother or sister.</p> <p>The status of parent or "parenthood" is legally established by filiation, which may result from: birth; presumption within marriage; recognition; court decision; adoption. <i>Belgian Civil Code, Articles 312, 315, 325/2, 319, 322, 343, 344, 349/1, 353 and 356.</i></p> <p>A minor is any person of either sex who has not yet reached the age of eighteen. <i>Belgian Civil Code, Article 388, as amended by the Act of 19 January 1990, Article 1.</i></p> <p>An adult child should be considered dependent, on the basis of an individual assessment, only in circumstances where that child is unable to support him or herself due to a physical or mental condition linked to a serious non-temporary illness or severe disability. <i>Qualification Regulation (EU) 2024/1347 (Recital 17); Belgian Aliens Act, Article 10(1), 6°</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>Burden of proof:</b> Extract from the waiting register (code 120) / Appendix 26/declarations</p> <hr/> <p><b>Workflow: As a front-line social worker, how can I check whether this is a single-parent family?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The notion of nuclear family is interpreted in a broad sense: legal status, SP number and intention are all taken into account.</li> <li>• Check whether the couple will return together and whether the decision has been taken by mutual agreement.</li> <li>• Check the impact of the return on family life (intention). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Is the person single in Belgium? If yes, single parent.</li> <li>◦ Is it a nuclear family (parents with children in Belgium and one single parent returning with the children to the home country)? If yes, single parent.</li> <li>◦ If, after returning to their home country, a single parent starts living with their partner again, this person is then considered to be a single parent.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VoT</b> <b>(Victims of human trafficking)</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Trafficking in human beings involves recruiting, transporting, transferring, harbouring or receiving a person, or taking or transferring control over them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. for the purpose of exploitation, prostitution or other forms of sexual abuse;</li> <li>2. in order to exploit begging;</li> <li>3. for the purposes of work or services, in conditions contrary to human dignity;</li> <li>4. for the purpose of exploitation through the removal of human organs or bodily material;</li> <li>5. to cause that person to commit an offence against their will;</li> <li>6. for the purposes of carrying out an illegal adoption;</li> <li>7. for the purpose of exploiting a forced marriage.</li> </ol> <p><i>New Belgian Penal Code, Book II, article 258 (entry into force 8 April 2026)</i></p> <p><b>The Belgian legal definition is used to categorise victims of human trafficking.</b></p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> front-line VoT screening form + in-depth IOM screening</p>
		<p><b>Workflow: How do I process a VoT file?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If VoT is suspected: The front-line social worker conducts an interview using the VoT screening form, which you can find <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>• When a signal is detected, the frontline worker forwards the file to the relevant reintegration partner. This partner then carries out more detailed screening to determine whether or not the person falls into the Fedasil VoT category and is therefore eligible for additional reintegration assistance of €1,000.</li> </ul>

### *B. Medical vulnerabilities*

#### **The current system is maintained**

1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Basic medical assistance</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Possibility of granting basic medical assistance for mild medical conditions: €500 per person.</p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> medical certificate</p>
2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AMAAR</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Adapted Medical Assistance After Return; support for returnees with complex medical conditions. The medical service examines the care required, the medical services available in the home country and calculates the costs. Budget for medical treatment lasting a maximum of 6 months.</p>
		<p><b>Burden of proof:</b> Fedasil case file</p>

### 3. EXPLANATION OF THE DEGRESSIVE MODEL

#### A.. Background

##### 1. What is “degressive assistance”?

The system developed by Fedasil is a **complementary system**.

- For people who are entitled to basic reintegration assistance, this assistance remains unchanged and is not reduced, regardless of the date on which the migrant decides to return to his or her country.

The **degressive aspect only concerns additional assistance**, which decreases as **the date** on which a person decides to register for voluntary return approaches.

##### 2. Target group

The target group includes **first-time applicants for international protection** from **countries with visa requirements and from countries in Latin America (LATAM)**, with the exception of Brazil. **Minor children** follow the parent on whom they depend, if the parents are at different stages of the procedure. The budget is allocated **cumulatively per person**, including children.

##### 3. Ineligible personen

The following persons are not eligible for additional degressive assistance:

- The subsequent applications, even if they have been declared admissible;
- Applications submitted on behalf of accompanied minors, even if they have been declared admissible;
- Persons with protection status (recognised refugee or subsidiary protection) in another EU Member State (“M status”);
- Persons who are the subject of an ongoing Dublin investigation (“Dublin-HITS”);
- The persons referred to in Annex 26quater.
  - **Please note:** if Belgium is nevertheless declared responsible for processing the application, these persons are currently eligible for degressive assistance.

While these categories are not eligible for degressive assistance, they are entitled to basic reintegration assistance if they come from a country subject to a visa requirement or a LATAM country (with the exception of Brazil).

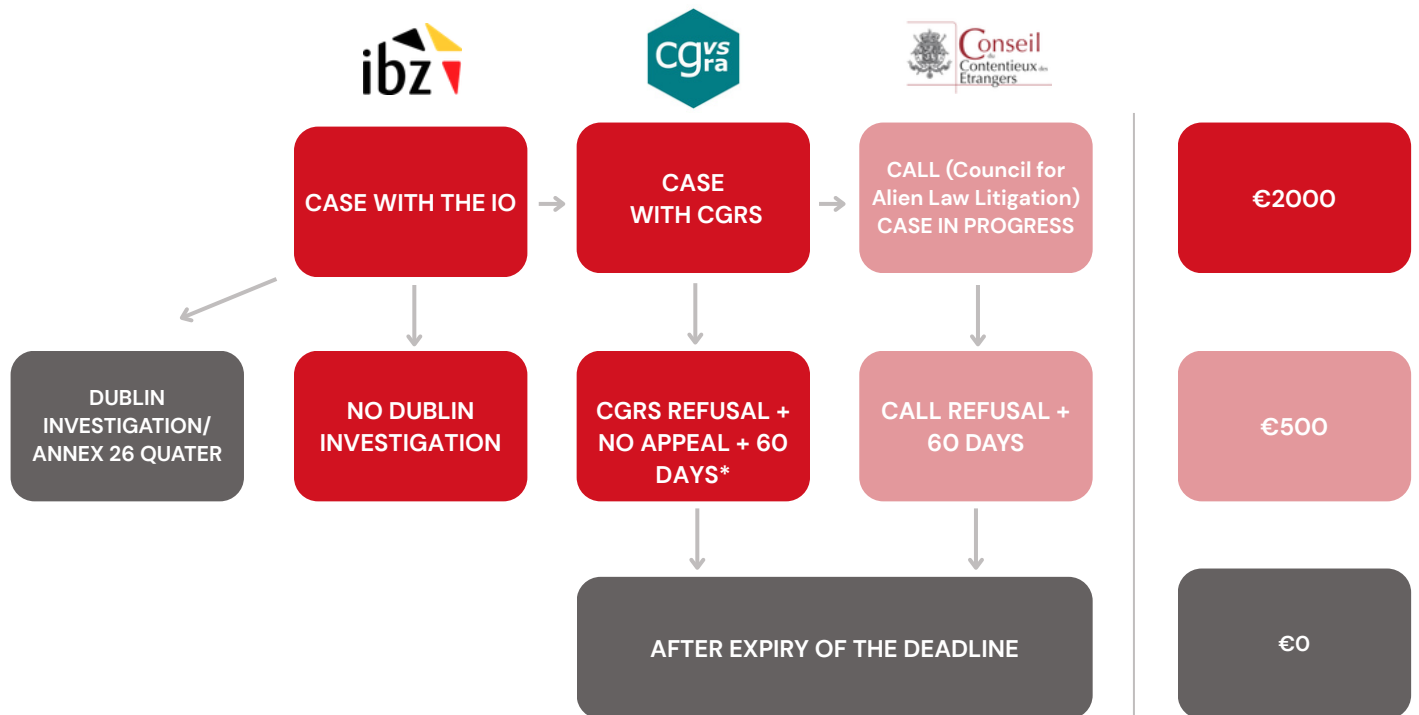
##### 4. Timing

The degressive model applies to people who have registered for the voluntary return programme after **1 January 2026** and whose departure date is **after 1 February 2026**.

##### 5. Procedureanalyse

The procedure is analysed on the basis of the waiting register, code 206. You can find more information on the analysis of code 206 [here](#).

## DPI (CAT 1/CAT 2)



### File with the IO (Immigration Office)

#### 1. Dublin Hit

- The IO conducts a Dublin investigation (€0)
  - The migrant is not eligible for the degressive scheme during the Dublin investigation
- The IO provides Annex 26quater (€0). Another Member State is responsible for the VIB.
  - The migrant is not eligible for the degressive model

#### 2. Appeal against Annex 26quater (€0)

- The migrant appeals against the decision (annex 26quater).
- The migrant is not eligible for the degressive model.

#### 3. Belgium is nevertheless responsible for processing the application for international protection

- The migrant is eligible for the degressive model (€2,000).

#### 4. Case file with the IO

- The IO does not carry out a Dublin investigation
  - The migrant is eligible for the degressive model (€2,000).

(\*) Notification day = day 0 + 60 days.

For example, in the event of notification on 03/03/2026 (day 0) → 02/05/2026 = day 60.

## Case file with the CGRS

### 1. During the ongoing investigation with the CGRS (€2,000).

A migrant is still eligible for the degressive model when their case file is with the CGRS, even if they have received an annexe 26quater in the past.

- Please note that this only applies to first-time applications. The following admissible applications; applications on behalf of accompanied minors are not eligible.

### 2. The CGRS refuses refugee status and subsidiary protection status.

- The migrant does not appeal and undertakes to return voluntarily within 60 days of notification of the decision.
- The migrant is eligible for the degressive model (€2,000).

### 3. If the period of 60 days after notification is exceeded

- The migrant is no longer eligible for the degressive model.

## File with the CALL

Only in the case of an appeal against the CGRS's refusal decision in the context of a first application for international protection.

### 1. Ongoing proceedings before the CALL (€500)

- The applicant waives the right to appeal.
- The migrant is eligible for the degressive model.

### 2. The CALL confirms the CGRS's decision (€500)

- The CALL refuses refugee status and subsidiary protection.
- The migrant undertakes to return voluntarily within 60 days of notification of the CALL's decision.

### 3. If the period of 60 days after notification is exceeded

- The migrant is no longer eligible for the degressive model.

## RETURN DESKS

### REAB registration

- The REAB case is registered in the VT application.

### Search in the waiting register - You can find more information with analysis code 206 [here](#).

- The return counsellor searches for the person in the waiting list.
- The return counsellor immediately downloads a screenshot of the waiting list in the VT application. Application with the IO?
- INTEL checks with the IO to see if an investigation is underway.
- INTEL sends the answer to the return counsellor:
  - Dublin procedures applies / does not apply to the application.
- The return counsellor then schedules a reintegration consultation in accordance with the desk's SOP.

### Application of the degressive model?

- In the event of an ongoing Dublin investigation | no degressive model.
- If the Dublin procedure is not applicable|, the degressive model is applied.

## CIB/ IOM FILES

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