



EARTH IS HOME
International
Solidarity Association

Legal Support Report

2025-2026



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Introduction

Guided by the understanding that a life worthy of human dignity is possible only in an environment where everyone can access fundamental rights and services on an equal basis, Dunya Evimiz International Solidarity Association works to prevent rights violations experienced particularly by asylum seekers, refugees and other people in vulnerable situations, and to strengthen their access to rights.

This report was prepared to assess the scope, nature, outcomes and protection impact of the legal aid activities carried out by Dunya Evimiz International Solidarity Association between September 2025 and February 2026. **During the reporting period, direct legal support was provided to 111 applicants, and the activities contributed to the access of a total of 199 people to fundamental rights and services.**

Activities were carried out in different provinces of Türkiye, and numerous requests for legal support were assessed in relation to access to the rights to education and health, international protection procedures, migration and residence matters, family law issues, and various administrative and judicial proceedings. The data show that the need for legal aid was concentrated largely in access to fundamental rights such as education and health, while problems relating to legal status continued to affect many areas of people's lives directly.

Although the primary dataset for this report was obtained from activities carried out during the six-month reporting period, the assessments in the report are not limited solely to the quantitative

results of this period. Since its establishment, Dunya Evimiz International Solidarity Association has provided legal support to many people in connection with international protection applications, migration law procedures, problems in accessing fundamental rights, and various administrative and judicial disputes. Through this work, it has accumulated significant institutional experience concerning the functioning of the protection system, problems encountered in practice, and structural dynamics affecting access to rights.

The analyses in this report therefore draw, on the one hand, on concrete data for the period September 2025-February 2026 and, on the other hand, on field experience and observations gained over the years through legal support activities in different provinces. In particular, the recent increase in requests for legal aid, recurring problems in access to fundamental rights, and conflicting decisions by different institutions or courts in similar legal situations have made it necessary to examine the functioning of protection mechanisms more closely.

Within this framework, the report aims not only to present a numerical overview of applications received during a specific period, but also to analyse the nature of legal needs arising in different provinces, assess the social impact of legal aid activities, make protection risks visible, identify differences in practice, and provide an evidence-based contribution to future protection work. The report is intended to support a better understanding of needs encountered in the field, the improvement of current practices, and the strengthening of rights-based protection mechanisms.



General Assessment of the Protection Environment and Legal Needs



Data obtained during the reporting period show that the need for legal aid arose mainly in areas concerning access to fundamental rights. The fact that a significant proportion of applications related to access to education and health services demonstrates that the main problem in the field is not limited to disputes over legal status; individuals also face serious difficulties in using public services that directly affect their daily lives.

A significant proportion of the problems encountered in education and health stem not from gaps in legislation but from differences in implementation. Individuals with the same legal status may face different practices in different provinces or institutions, which is one of the main factors increasing the need for legal aid. This shows that a substantial gap between the formal recognition of rights and actual access to those rights persists in the field.

Assessments by province reveal that legal needs are not distributed evenly across the country. Some provinces stand out because of a high volume of applications, while in others a smaller number of cases has generated a much broader social impact. This indicates that legal aid activities should be evaluated not only by the number of cases but also by their protection impact.

The data also show that many legal problems do not remain individual in nature. Access to the right to education, the use of health services, preservation of family unity, and procedures relating to legal status often affect more than one family member. A single legal intervention may therefore help reduce protection risks affecting an entire household.

Another notable issue during the period was the difference in practice observed in administrative and judicial processes. In particular, cases of a similar nature in the fields of international protection, health measures and migration law were subject to different legal assessments by different institutions and courts. This affects not only the outcomes of individual cases but also the predictability of protection mechanisms.

2

Legal Needs Arising in Relation to Access to Fundamental Rights



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Data from the reporting period show that requests for legal aid were concentrated mainly in access to the rights to education and health. Although these may initially appear to be isolated administrative problems, a holistic analysis of the data points to a more structural picture.

A significant proportion of the problems encountered in education and health arise because access to rights recognised in legislation is interrupted in practice for various reasons. School enrolment, address and registration discrepancies, recognition and equivalency procedures, access to health services, referral mechanisms and problems relating to registration systems account for a substantial proportion of applications.

Applications concerning children's access to the right to education are particularly important from a protection perspective. Children who cannot benefit from education services face not only the risk of remaining out of school, but also secondary risks such as social exclusion, child labour, early marriage and disengagement from social cohesion processes.

Similarly, applications in the field of health show that access to health services is a fundamental component of the protection system. Individuals who cannot use health services may experience adverse effects not only on their physical health, but also on their psychological well-being, economic circumstances and participation in society.

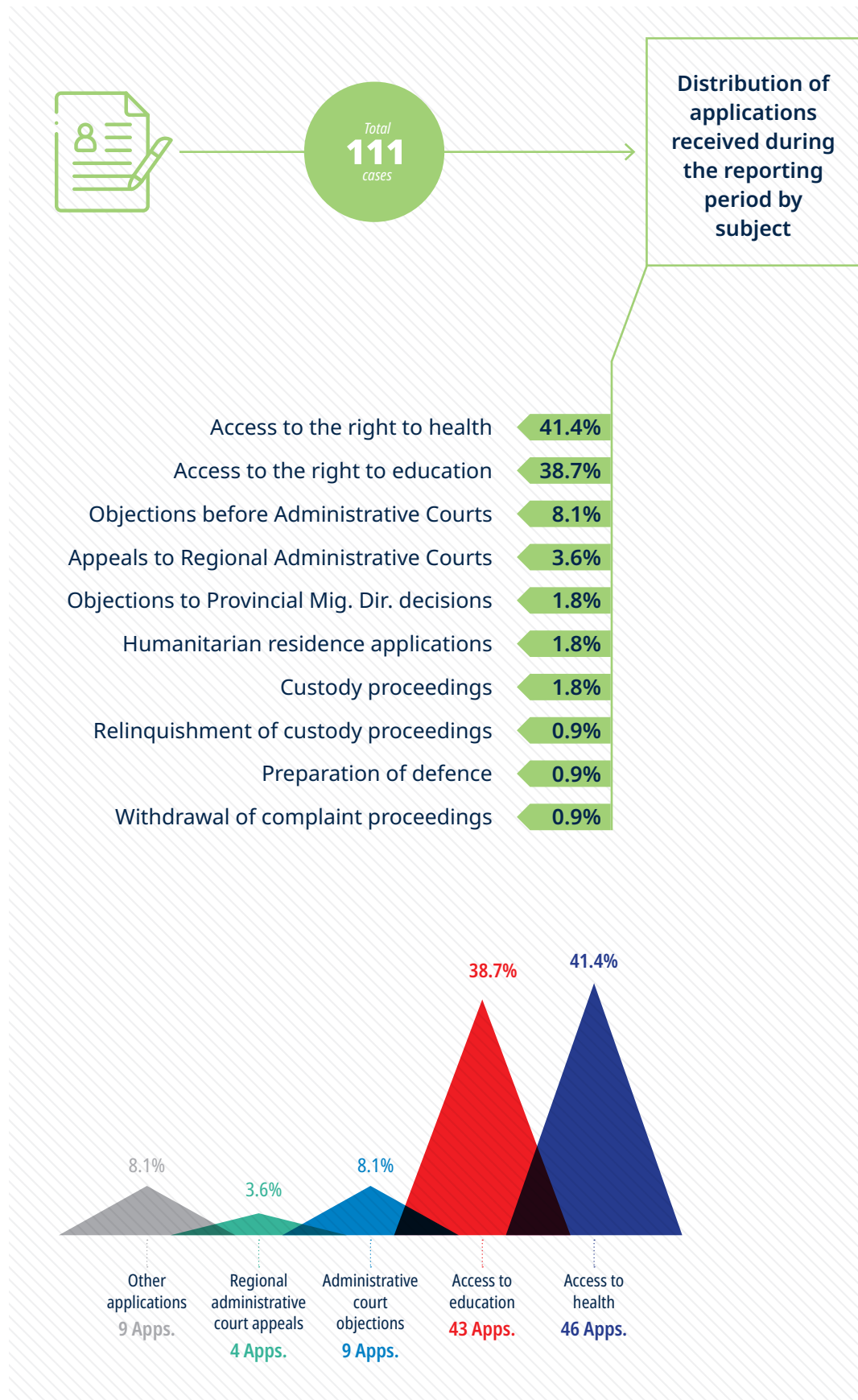
At the same time, many problems that become visible in education and health do not arise directly from those services, but are often connected with registration procedures, legal status, residence conditions and administrative practices. Requests in education and health should therefore be viewed not only as problems of access to services, but also as indicators of how the protection system functions.

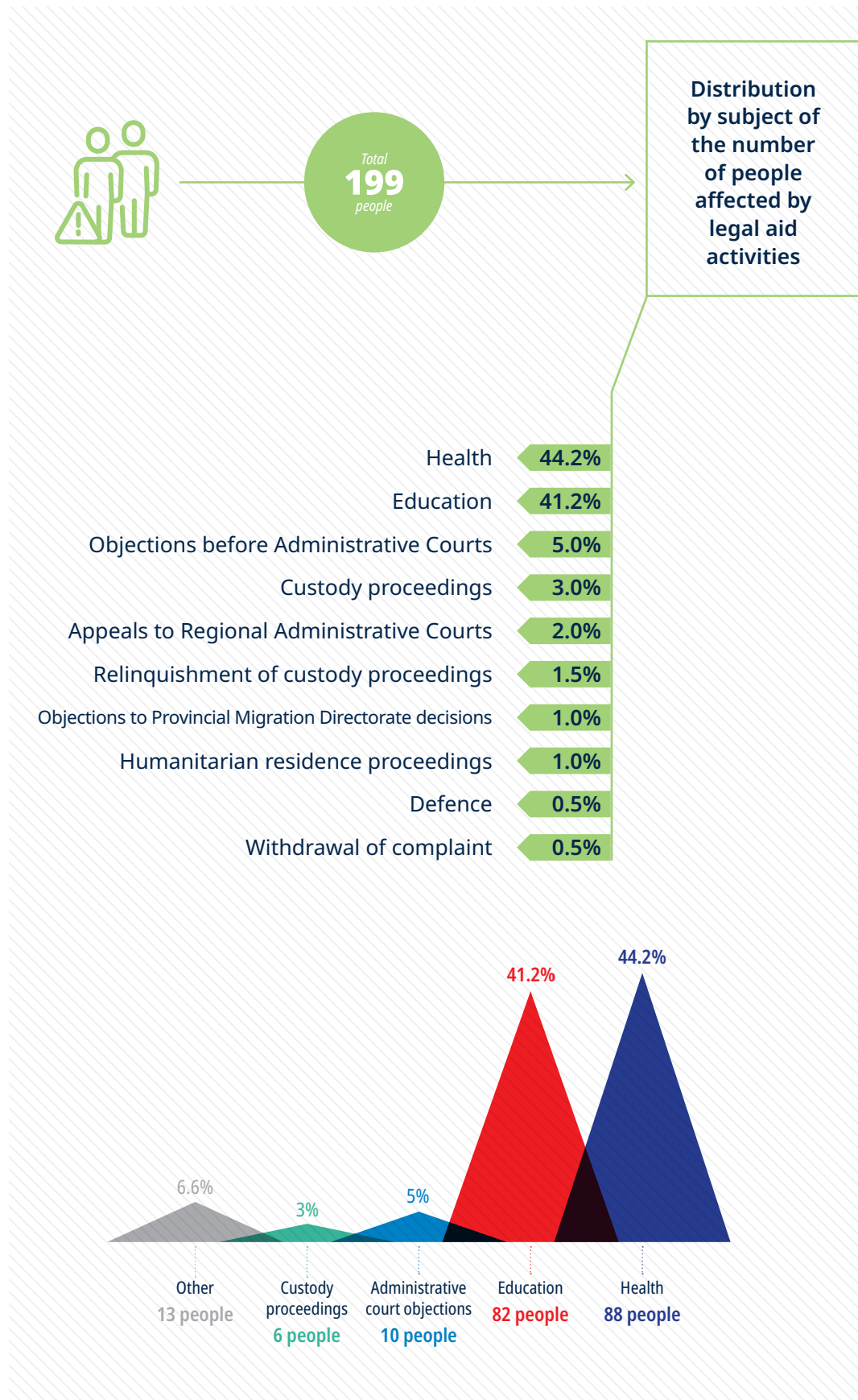
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Statistical Findings and Analysis of Results



Data for the reporting period were examined beyond the numerical profile of applications, with reference to their regional distribution, social impact, capacity to generate solutions, and the scope of legal support provided. The assessment aims not only to show the volume of applications, but also to identify the subjects on which legal aid work was concentrated, the regions in which it produced more visible results, and the extent to which the problems encountered have structural characteristics.





3.1 Demand Intensity, Geographical Distribution and Social Impact

An examination of the distribution of applications received during the reporting period by province shows that the need for legal aid was not evenly distributed across the country. Applications were concentrated in certain provinces, while some provinces generated a high social impact despite a more limited number of applications.¹

Ankara stood out by a wide margin in terms of the total number of applications, followed by Kirikkale and Karaman. Taken together, these three provinces not only had high demand intensity, but also differed from other provinces in the diversity of legal needs. In Ankara in particular, in addition to education and health applications, requests relating to international protection processes, migration authority procedures, humanitarian residence applications and administrative justice proceedings also held an important place. This indicates that Ankara had a more complex and multi-layered needs profile than other provinces.

In Karaman and Kirikkale, despite the high volume of applications, requests were concentrated largely in education and health. This suggests that the need for legal aid in these provinces was shaped mainly around access to essential services.

When the number of people affected is considered alongside the number of applications, Ankara also emerges as the province with the greatest social impact, followed by Kirikkale, Karaman, Konya and Cankiri. It is nevertheless notable that in some provinces the number of people affected was high despite a relatively low number of applications. In Kirsehir, Aksaray, Karabuk and Gumushane in particular, a limited number of applications affected more than one individual.

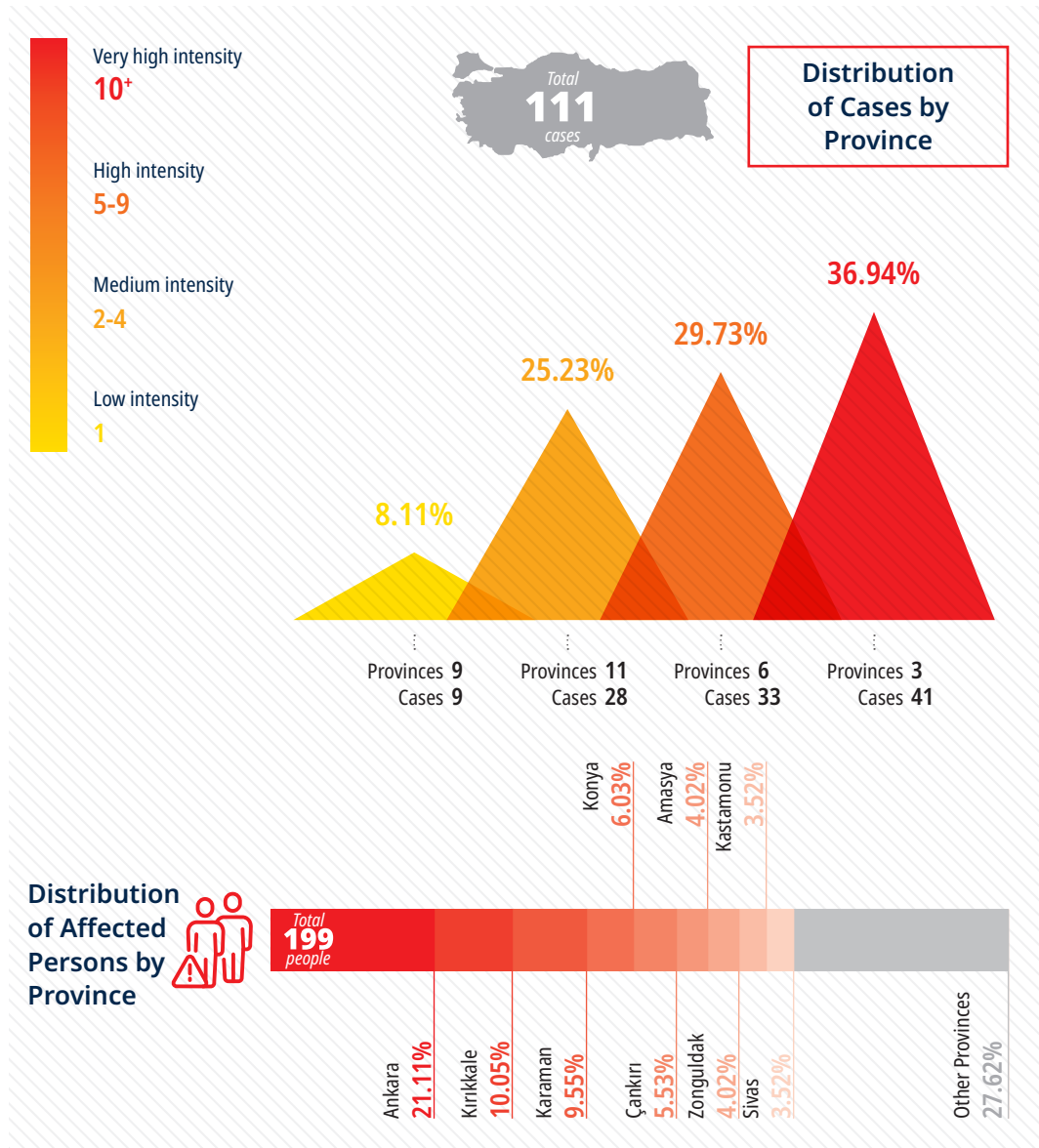
This finding shows that it is not sufficient to evaluate legal aid activities solely through case numbers. Some files may contribute to resolving education, health or legal-status problems affecting not just one individual but several people living in the same household. Social impact assessment should therefore be treated as a key indicator in measuring the performance of legal aid programmes.

When demand intensity and social impact are considered together, Ankara is the programme's primary priority area. Kirikkale and Karaman form the second priority group, while Konya, Cankiri and Kirsehir stand out as medium-high priority provinces. Aksaray, Gumushane, Karabuk and Nevsehir, although appearing to have low intensity, are among the provinces that should be monitored closely because of their high impact ratios.

¹ In this report, social impact refers not only to the number of applications, but also to the number of people directly or indirectly affected by a legal intervention and the results the intervention produced at household level.

**Table 1.** Distribution of cases by province (total: 111 cases)

Rank	Province	Cases	Share (%)	
1	Ankara	21	18.92	
2	Kırıkkale	11	9.91	
3	Karaman	10	9.01	
4	Konya	7	6.31	
5	Amasya	6	5.41	
6	Kastamonu	6	5.41	
7	Çankırı	6	5.41	
8	Samsun	4	3.60	
9	Zonguldak	4	3.60	
10	Sivas	3	2.70	
11	Kırşehir	3	2.70	
12	Afyonkarahisar	3	2.70	
13	Giresun	3	2.70	
14	Niğde	3	2.70	
15	Tokat	3	2.70	
16	Trabzon	3	2.70	
17	Erzurum	2	1.80	
18	Eskişehir	2	1.80	
19	Kayseri	1	0.90	
20	Yozgat	1	0.90	
21	Ağrı	1	0.90	
22	Aksaray	1	0.90	
23	Bolu	1	0.90	
24	Çorum	1	0.90	
25	Gaziantep	1	0.90	
26	Gümüşhane	1	0.90	
27	Karabük	1	0.90	
28	Nevşehir	1	0.90	
29	Ordu	1	0.90	



3.2 Analysis of Applications Concerning the Right to Education

Applications concerning access to the right to education constituted one of the most important areas of legal aid during the reporting period. An examination of requests in education shows that a significant proportion arose from school enrolment procedures, address registration problems, recognition and equivalency processes, and various administrative practices.

An assessment of outcomes by province shows that legal interventions in education generally had a high success rate. All applications in Afyonkarahisar, Aksaray, Amasya, Bolu, Corum, Giresun, Karabuk, Kastamonu, Kayseri and Yozgat resulted in positive outcomes. This demonstrates that many problems in education can be resolved through effective referral, communication between institutions, and timely legal intervention.

Konya, Sivas and Zonguldak stand out for their high rates of positive outcomes. Problems relating to access to the right to education in these provinces were largely resolved.

Ankara, Karaman and Cankiri, by contrast, present a different picture. Although a significant proportion of education applications in Ankara resulted positively, the number of pending files and rejection decisions was also notable. This is due to the more complex nature of cases in Ankara.

In Karaman, the distribution of education files across different outcome categories indicates that legal processes were less predictable than in other provinces. In Cankiri, the relatively high number of files ending with an application rejection is noteworthy.

Overall, the data on education show that legal aid activities can produce effective results in securing access to fundamental rights. Differences observed in some provinces nevertheless demonstrate the need to strengthen consistency in implementation. The picture also shows that many problems in education can be resolved through effective referral, inter-institutional communication and timely legal intervention rather than through judicial proceedings.

3.3 Analysis of Applications Concerning the Right to Health

Access to the right to health was the field receiving the highest number of applications during the reporting period. Problems arising in health applications should be viewed not only as matters of access to health services, but also as multidimensional problems connected with protection, registration, legal status and administrative processes.

All health applications in Amasya, Kastamonu, Konya, Nevsehir, Ordu, Yozgat and Cankiri resulted in positive outcomes. Kirikkale and Nigde also stood out with high success rates. This indicates that many problems concerning access to health services can be resolved through legal support and institutional coordination.

Ankara presents a different picture in health. The fact that a significant proportion of health applications remained pending at the end of the reporting period indicates that the problems encountered in the province were more complex. Files connected with registration status, international protection status, changes of province and administrative procedures in particular led to longer processes.

Pending files and rejection decisions were similarly notable in Karaman. This shows that some problems in health cannot be resolved through referral alone and require more comprehensive legal processes.

The fact that all health applications in Gumushane ended in rejection is a striking finding. The absence of any positive outcome in health in Kirsehir also requires a separate examination of local differences in practice and the level of coordination between institutions.

The health data present a more complex picture than education applications. The main reason is that access to health services is often directly connected with legal sta-

tus, registration systems, institutional practices and administrative processes. Legal aid activities in health therefore contribute not only to resolving individual problems but also to making structural protection problems visible.

3.4 Assessment of Administrative Justice, Migration and International Protection Processes

A significant proportion of applications in education and health concern problems that can be resolved by correcting disruptions in administrative processes or through coordination between institutions. Applications involving administrative justice, international protection and migration law, by contrast, require more complex legal assessments and have outcomes that affect many areas of individuals' lives.

Applications in this field do not concern access to a single service alone; they directly affect individuals' legal status, residence rights, freedom of movement, ability to use public services, and long-term protection situation. Their impact therefore often goes beyond the result of a single legal procedure and also determines a person's capacity to access education, health, employment and social services.

Files examined during the reporting period show that administrative judicial proceedings consisted largely of ongoing applications requiring lengthy review. In a significant proportion of the files before Administrative Courts and Regional Administrative Courts considered in this report, no final decision had yet been reached, demonstrating that such disputes by their nature extend over longer periods. Their assessment should therefore take into account not only the number of positive or negative decisions but also the nature of the ongoing proceedings and their protection impact on individuals.

An examination of applications in international protection and migration law shows that registration procedures, requests to change province, decisions on international protection status, administrative obligations and humanitarian residence procedures were prominent. Because these files determine an individual's legal position in the country, they have a decisive effect on all other areas of rights. Many problems in education and health are in fact rooted in uncertainty over legal status or administrative restrictions.

Another notable finding during the reporting period was that rejection decisions and adverse outcomes in this field became more visible than in previous periods. This should not be regarded as a phenomenon explained solely by the characteristics of individual files. Decisions in migration and international protection are often influenced by the administrative practices, institutional priorities and general policy approach of the period. Changes in rejection rates therefore also provide important indicators of the functioning of the protection system and the approach of public authorities.

In this context, applications in international protection and migration law should be considered not only as individual disputes, but also as indicators that make it possible to monitor trends and structural transformations in the protection environment. In particular, rising rejection rates and prolonged judicial proceedings may have direct

effects on individuals' sense of legal security, access to fundamental rights, and prospects for long-term integration.

Migration and protection-law activities carried out during the reporting period should therefore not be viewed merely as the monitoring of lawsuits or applications. They also serve a strategic function in maintaining access to protection mechanisms, preventing loss of rights, monitoring changes in policy implementation, and making trends in the functioning of the protection system visible.

3.5 Findings from Court Decisions and Differences in Practice

The case files, administrative applications and judicial decisions examined during the reporting period provided important findings not only on the outcomes of individual disputes, but also on structural problems arising in the operation of the protection system. When requests for health measures, child-protection mechanisms, international protection processes and lawsuits against administrative acts are considered together, similar legal problems can be seen to have been handled differently by different courts and administrative authorities.

The decisions examined show that applications based on the same legal and factual grounds may reach different outcomes in different courts. Some courts assess disputes mainly through questions of jurisdiction, competence or procedure, while others examine the merits directly and consider the applicant's need for protection, the best interests of the child, the right to health or the possibility of accessing fundamental rights. This points not only to different legal interpretations, but also to a marked distinction between a protection-oriented approach and a procedure-oriented approach.

Similarly, some courts acknowledge the existence of a protection need but treat the fact that alternative administrative remedies have not yet been exhausted as grounds for rejection. Other decisions, taking into account the severity of the protection risk, do not regard the mere existence of administrative processes as sufficient and conduct a more comprehensive rights-based assessment. These differences reduce legal predictability, particularly for people in vulnerable situations, and may cause individuals in similar circumstances to face different outcomes.

A similar picture emerges in international protection and migration law. Some decisions focus on whether applicants have fulfilled their obligations, while others assess the need for protection and the applicant's individual circumstances from a broader perspective. Differences in approaches to registration processes, requests to change province, and the continuation or termination of international protection status show that a fully established and predictable standard has not yet developed in practice.

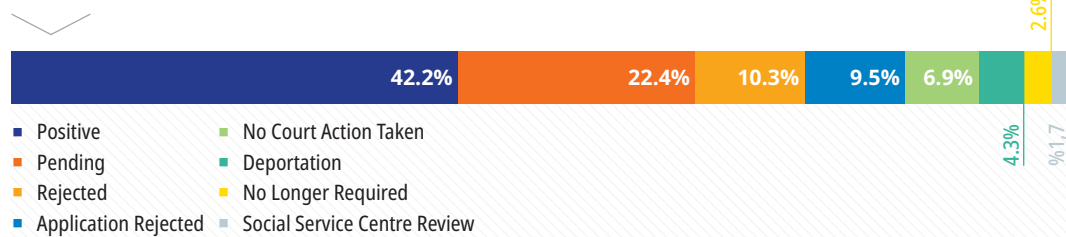
The problem highlighted during the reporting period is not limited to differences between decisions. The files examined also show that many clients were unable, for various reasons, to use existing objection and application mechanisms effectively. In particular, lack of information, language barriers, financial constraints, frequent

relocation, the complexity of institutional processes and uncertainty about the future may distance individuals from procedures for seeking remedies. In some cases, clients were unaware of available application channels; in others, they abandoned legal avenues because of the length of the process and a sense of hopelessness about its outcome.

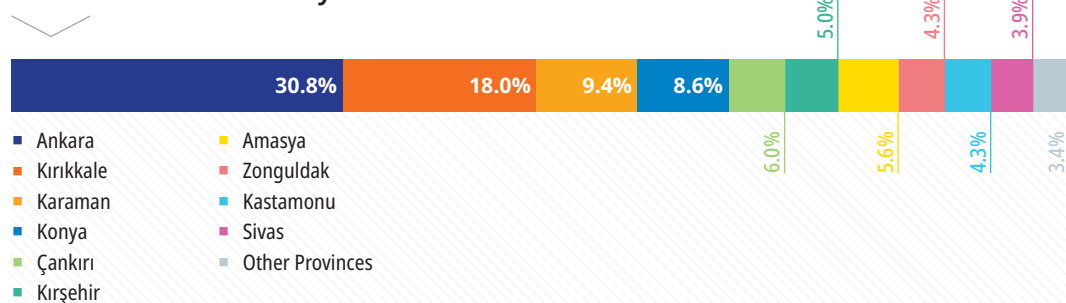
Files that were concluded without an examination of the merits because limitation periods had been missed, objections were not filed in time, or necessary applications were not submitted promptly are also noteworthy. For individuals with high protection needs, this creates a secondary risk of losing rights independently of the underlying legal problem. In other words, some clients may lose protection not only because of administrative decisions, but also because they cannot effectively access existing mechanisms for seeking remedies.

Taken together, these findings show that the risks faced by clients do not arise solely from the legal disputes themselves. They are also driven by differences in practice, judicial unpredictability, the complexity of procedures, and structural barriers limiting individuals' capacity to seek legal remedies.

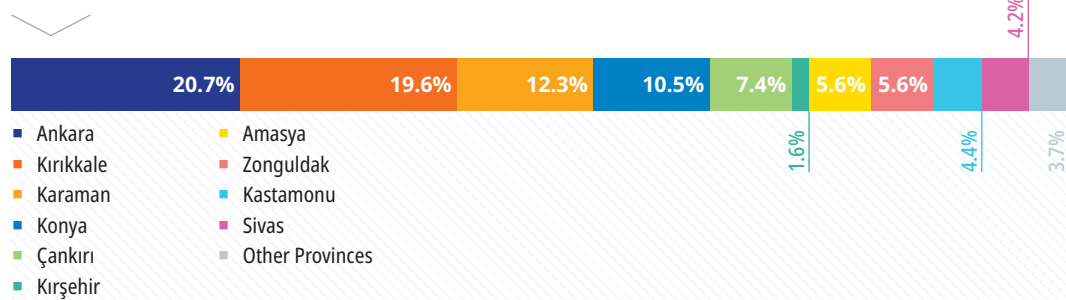
Overall Outcome Status



Outcome Distribution by Province



Which Province Had the Most Positive Outcomes?



3.5.1 A Closer Look at Rejection Decisions - Divergent Case Law and Legal Approaches

At first glance, the ten rejection decisions examined during the reporting period appear to be individual disputes concerning the rejection of requests for health measures or applications for international protection. When considered together, however, the central problem is not simply that the requests were rejected, but that the same legal issue was assessed by different courts within different normative frameworks. The files reveal clear differences between courts, particularly in disputes involving barriers to children's access to health services and international protection status.

This is most evident in files seeking health measures to secure access to health services for children whose identity registrations became inactive after their international protection applications were rejected or deemed withdrawn. A significant proportion of applicants requested a health-measure order under Article 5(1)(d) of Child Protection Law No. 5395 for children who could not access health services. The same legal request, however, was placed in different legal categories by different courts.

The decisions of the Afyonkarahisar Family Court and the Gumushane Family Court reflect a similar approach. These courts held that the conditions under which foreigners may use health services and the rules on health coverage fall within the administrative authority's remit under Law No. 6458 on Foreigners and International Protection. They therefore concluded that there was no judicial dispute requiring a health-measure order. The courts did not examine the child's health condition in detail and did not entirely deny that a problem of access to health services existed. Instead, they considered that the solution should be provided by administrative authorities rather than through judicial intervention. Although these decisions formally appear to reject the requests on the merits, they essentially rest on the view that the dispute is administrative in nature.

The Tokat Family Court followed a different method in an application of the same kind. It first accepted that it had jurisdiction, obtained a social assessment report, investigated the children's health conditions and only then concluded that the requirements for a health measure were not met. The reason for rejection was not that a health measure was legally unavailable, but that the facts of the specific case did not demonstrate a protection need serious enough to require such a measure. The Tokat court therefore treated the dispute not as an issue of jurisdiction or competence, but as a matter concerning the merits of child-protection law.

The decision of the Trabzon Children's Court represents a third approach. Although the court accepted that a health measure was theoretically available, it rejected the request on the ground that access to health services could be restored through applications to the Provincial Directorate of Migration Management. The court therefore neither treated the dispute as falling entirely within the administration's remit nor conducted a direct examination on the merits of the child's need for protection. The rejection was based on the assumption that an alternative and effective administrative remedy was available.

The Kirsehir Family Court decision follows a different line of reasoning. Rather than focusing on the children's health, the court based its assessment on the parents' obligations under migration legislation. Failure by family members to fulfil notification obligations and compliance failures concerning residence requirements were treated as decisive grounds for rejecting the request for a health measure. The children's request for access to health services was thus assessed in practice through the parents'

migration-law status, while examination of the protection need remained secondary. The fact that the same legal request was assessed by the Tokat court with the children's health at its centre clearly illustrates the difference in approach between courts.

A similar picture is visible in international protection files. In a significant proportion of decisions examined in Ankara, Kastamonu and Samsun, the grounds for rejection were based on Article 77 of Law No. 6458. Courts considered failure to comply with notification obligations, leaving the designated place of residence, or being found outside the province of registration sufficient for an application to be deemed withdrawn. In these files, assessments of the merits of the need for international protection often remained secondary; health problems, the circumstances of children or other humanitarian grounds did not outweigh breaches of obligations.

Some files nevertheless included assessments not only of procedural breaches of obligations but also of whether a need for protection existed. In one file, for example, the administration argued that the applicant had failed to substantiate sufficiently the claim that return to the country of origin would expose them to persecution or a risk of serious harm. This shows that in some files, rejection may arise not only from procedural shortcomings but also from assessments of the merits of the protection need.

When the decisions are considered together, the most important finding is the absence of a clear consistency of approach between courts. The same legal problem is treated by some courts as falling within the administration's remit, examined directly on the merits by others, and rejected by still others on the ground that alternative administrative remedies exist. In particular, it is difficult to say that common and settled case law has developed on whether a health measure may be imposed under Child Protection Law No. 5395 when children are prevented from accessing health services.

The common feature of these rejection decisions is therefore not merely that the requests were denied. More importantly, courts expected to operate on the same normative basis ask different legal questions. One court frames the dispute as a matter of jurisdiction and competence, another focuses on the child's need for protection, and another on the availability of alternative administrative remedies. The same legal request is consequently placed in different legal categories by different courts and rejected on different grounds.

Viewed as a whole, the structural problem revealed by the decisions is not that certain applications were rejected, but that legal predictability is limited. In particular, for foreign children whose international protection applications have been rejected or whose registrations have been deactivated, there is a clear and significant difference between courts on whether a health measure may be applied under Child Protection

Law No. 5395 to secure access to health services. This difference is far more significant than the outcomes of individual files and shows that the relationship between child-protection law and migration law has not yet acquired a stable and predictable framework in judicial practice.

3.6 Protection Outcomes and Programmatic Impact of Legal Aid Interventions

Legal aid activities during the reporting period not only contributed to resolving individual legal problems, but also produced important outcomes in maintaining access to protection mechanisms and supporting the enjoyment of fundamental rights. A total of 199 people were directly or indirectly affected by the legal support provided to 111 applicants. This shows that the impact of legal aid extended beyond individual applications to family members and other people living in the same household.

The distribution of affected persons by subject shows that health (44.2%) and education (41.2%) clearly predominated. A detailed examination of the files, however, reveals that a significant proportion of problems arising in education and health stemmed not directly from the provision of those services, but from registration procedures, legal status, residence conditions and administrative practices. Applications in education and health should therefore be regarded not only as problems of access to services, but also as areas in which disruptions across different components of the protection system become visible.

The distribution of outcomes shows that legal aid activities produced substantial and tangible protection results. Ongoing proceedings and applications with adverse outcomes nevertheless indicate that some problem areas have structural features that cannot be resolved through individual interventions alone. Files involving international protection, migration law and administrative justice in particular extend over longer periods and produce consequences affecting many areas of individuals' lives.

The distribution by province shows that, although protection needs were concentrated in certain centres, they emerged in different forms throughout the country. This demonstrates that legal aid activities contribute not only to resolving individual applications, but also to monitoring the protection environment and making regional trends visible.

The protection impact of legal aid should not be assessed solely through files with positive outcomes. In many cases, legal counselling, referral and case follow-up helped prevent clients from losing rights, maintain their access to existing services, and remain visible within protection mechanisms.

4

Protection Risks and Trends in Practice



4.1 Protection Risks Arising in Education and Health

Applications concentrated in education and health during the reporting period show that access to essential services remains central to the protection system. In education, problems arising from school enrolment, address-registration practices and administrative procedures were prominent; in health, registration status, referral processes and practices affecting access to services stood out.

A common feature of these applications is that, although they appear at first sight to concern education or health services, they are often connected with broader protection problems. For children, people with chronic illnesses and other vulnerable groups in particular, disruptions in these areas may affect not only access to services but also long-term protection and social cohesion.

4.2 International Protection and Migration Law Processes

Applications concerning international protection, registration procedures, requests to change province, administrative obligations and residence processes constituted the most complex and multi-layered files of the reporting period. Their importance is not limited to the result of a particular administrative procedure. The decisions directly affect individuals' legal position in the country, their ability to use public services, and their plans for the future.

The files examined show that processes in this field are becoming increasingly lengthy and complex. The growing visibility of rejection decisions cannot be explained solely by the characteristics of individual files. The picture also provides important indications of how the administrative approach, institutional priorities and broader policy environment in the protection field are reflected in practice.

4.3 Differences in Judicial Approaches and the Problem of Legal Predictability

The case files and judicial decisions examined during the reporting period show that similar legal problems may be assessed differently by different courts.

Some courts address disputes mainly through questions of jurisdiction, competence and procedure, and regard administrative authorities as the primary bodies responsible for resolving them. Under this approach, the nature of the protection need often remains secondary.

Other courts, by contrast, enter directly into the merits of the same type of application and assess the best interests of the child, the right to health or the applicant's need for protection. Here, the legal examination centres on the risks faced by the individual rather than procedural debate.

A third approach does not reject the protection need entirely, but treats the existence of alternative administrative remedies as grounds for rejection. Courts following this approach acknowledge the protection need but state that other mechanisms must first be used.

These differences point not only to divergences in legal interpretation but also have direct effects on the predictability of the protection system. The possibility that individuals in similar circumstances may face different outcomes can weaken confidence in procedures for seeking remedies and increase protection risks.

4.4 Erosion of the Capacity to Seek Legal Remedies

Another notable finding during the reporting period is that a significant proportion of clients had difficulty using existing mechanisms for seeking remedies effectively. This cannot be explained simply by a lack of information.

Financial hardship, language barriers, frequent relocation, prolonged administrative procedures and uncertainty make it difficult for individuals to access application and objection mechanisms. Some clients also appeared to have developed a strong conviction that adverse decisions would not change. This may lead them to abandon legal avenues or stop following ongoing processes.

Files that could not proceed to an examination of the merits because limitation periods were missed, objections were not lodged in time or necessary applications were not made promptly show that protection risks may arise not only from legal disputes but also from barriers to access to justice.

5 Assessment

The cases examined not only produce outcomes concerning individual legal problems, but also make broader trends in the functioning of the protection system visible.

Findings from the reporting period show that assessing protection needs solely through individual incidents is insufficient. When the cases are considered together, many problems can be seen to arise from common structural dynamics.

Problems visible particularly in education and health are often connected with legal status, registration processes or administrative practices. Protection risks may therefore emerge in different areas while often stemming from the same sources.

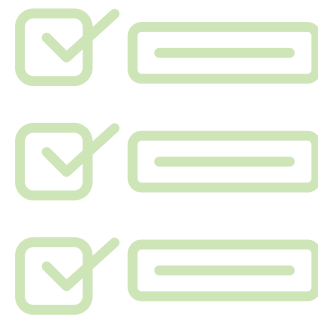
Another important conclusion is the tension between the need for protection and the administrative approach. This shows that the protection system must be assessed not only through legal rules, but also through decision-making processes in practice. In files involving international protection and migration law in particular, clear differences were observed between how protection needs were assessed and how administrative procedures were conducted. This affects not only the outcomes of individual applications but also the overall functioning of the protection system.

Differences in approach between courts and administrative authorities limit legal predictability. The possibility that people in similar circumstances may receive different outcomes directly affects their confidence in procedures for seeking remedies.

Finally, difficulties experienced by clients in accessing existing application mechanisms show that the protection system cannot be assessed solely through legal arrangements. There is an important distinction between a mechanism being legally available and being accessible in practice. Many files observed during the reporting period demonstrate that protection risks arise not only from legal disputes but also from limitations on individuals' capacity to exercise their existing rights.

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Conclusion and Policy Implications



In light of the findings from the reporting period, the following issues are recommended as priority areas of work for the coming period:

- Preventive interventions addressing the root causes of problems in access to education and health services should be strengthened. It is particularly important to expand information activities on registration procedures, address-registration practices and administrative processes affecting access to services.
- Multilingual information tools should be developed to facilitate access to mechanisms for seeking legal remedies. Accessible information on application and objection processes, time limits and available legal options will help prevent loss of rights.
- Practices in international protection and migration law should be monitored and analysed regularly. Rejection decisions, lengthy review processes and implementation trends in particular should be treated as important indicators of change in the protection environment.
- Differences in practice observed between courts and administrative authorities should be documented systematically. Decisions concerning health measures, child-protection mechanisms and international protection processes should in particular be monitored and reported regularly.

- Support mechanisms addressing factors that weaken the capacity to seek legal remedies should be strengthened. Preventing missed limitation periods, monitoring application processes and keeping clients regularly informed are important in this regard.
- Early identification and referral mechanisms should be developed for children, single-parent families, people with chronic illnesses, older people and other vulnerable groups. Identifying protection risks before they materialise will enable more effective interventions.
- Coordination mechanisms between migration, education, health and social-service institutions should be strengthened. Improved inter-institutional communication will help resolve many problems without the need for judicial proceedings.
- The effects of prolonged administrative and judicial proceedings on individuals should be monitored regularly. The consequences of lengthy processes for education, health and social cohesion should also be assessed.
- Programme performance should be assessed not only through case numbers, but also through social impact and the number of people affected. It is particularly important to make visible interventions that generate a high impact despite a low number of cases.
- Data obtained through legal aid activities should be analysed regularly and integrated into institutional learning processes in ways that contribute to the development of protection policies.

In conclusion, findings from the reporting period show that legal aid activities are not merely a mechanism for resolving individual disputes; they also contribute to monitoring trends in the protection system, making structural problems visible, and strengthening access to rights. Legal aid should therefore be regarded not as a supplementary element, but as a fundamental component of a rights-based protection approach.

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