WHAT IS PRE-REGISTRATION?

Between the end of May and the end of July 2016, teams from the Asylum Service will visit sites where refugees and migrants live on the Greek mainland. This process is called “pre-registration”.

The purpose of pre-registration is to give you an opportunity to ask for asylum, if you are afraid to return to your home country because you fear for your life or safety. Depending on your individual case, it is also possible that you can ask to be transferred to another European country or join a family member in another European country. The options that are available to you depend on your individual case and the laws of Greece and the European Union.

There is no limit to the number of people who can pre-register.

On the same day that you pre-register you will get an asylum seeker's card that allows you to stay in Greece until the Greek state has made a final decision on your request for asylum.

If you already have an asylum-seeker's card, you do not need to pre-register.

Pre-registration is only the first step if you want to apply for asylum in Greece, ask for family reunification or for relocation to another European country. The next steps are another appointment at the Asylum Service office, followed by a longer and more detailed interview.

After people in all sites have been pre-registered, the Asylum Service will send you a text-message (SMS) with the date and location for your next appointment at the Asylum Service. This SMS will probably be sent at the end of July. The SMS will be sent to the mobile phone number you gave the pre-registration clerk. It is possible, that your appointment will take place some months after you pre-registered. This is because there are many thousands of refugees asking for asylum in Greece at the moment. The date of your next appointment at the Asylum Service Office depends on three things: 1) the date when you arrived in Greece, 2) the language you speak and 3) if you have been asking for asylum in Greece, family reunification or relocation.

It is very important that you go to that appointment to complete your registration. If you miss the appointment, you will need to restart the whole process by booking a new appointment through Skype.