

6. ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Information on agencies and organisations working in the field of immigration and asylum is presented below. The majority of the information is based on that supplied on the websites of the relevant organisations. Two other useful sources are directories prepared by the Immigrant Council of Ireland (2006) and Integrating Ireland (2004).⁴⁴⁸

Africa Centre

Address	9c Lower Abbey Street, Methodist Church Building, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8656951
Fax	+353-1-8656951
Website	http://www.africacentre.ie
Email	info@africacentre.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	The objective of the Africa Centre is to advance attitudes, policies and actions that promote tolerance, justice and social inclusion for African communities in Ireland and to encourage a more positive Africa-Ireland exchange.
Activities	At present, the work of Africa Centre falls under two broad themes: 1) Promotion of community participation of the African immigrant community in Ireland. In this regard, the centre works to challenge barriers to integration and to promote the active participation of the African community in society in Ireland. 2) Awareness raising and Africa-Ireland exchange. The aim is to use

⁴⁴⁸ We have endeavoured to include most national-level organisations in the field although some omissions are inevitable. Some prominent local/regional-level organisations have also been included.

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

the presence of Africans in Ireland to fight the often negative representation of Africa/Africans and to promote a more balanced and positive Africa-Ireland exchange. Key actions on the above themes at present include: civic and political participation; collaboration and networking with other stakeholders; development education and organisational development.

Contact Eric Yao, Coordinator

Akidwa

Address 9c Lower Abbey Street, Dublin Central Mission, Dublin 1, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-8148582

Website <http://www.akidwa.ie>

Email info@akidwa.ie

Category NGO

Objectives Akidwa works to promote equality for African women living in Ireland so as to ensure positive change and social justice. Fundamental to their work is the belief that women's rights are human rights. The organisation believe that that African women face particular barriers to their empowerment, therefore the following human rights are some of those that underpin Akidwa's work: to be free from racism, discrimination and stereotyping; to live free of poverty; to be respected as an equal in Irish society.

Activities Akidwa provide support and information for African women living in Ireland. They promote and support the networking of African women's groups in Ireland. Through awareness raising, education and training the organisation aims to empower African women. The organisation also aims to influence policy in order to promote the integration of African women through advocacy work locally, regionally and nationally.

Contact Salome Mbugua, National Director

Amnesty International (Irish Section)

Address	48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6776361
Fax	+353-1-6776392
Website	http://www.amnesty.ie
Email	info@amnesty.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Amnesty International is an NGO working towards the full application of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. Amnesty International undertakes research and action focused on preventing and ending human rights abuses.
Activities	Amnesty International is involved in a large number of awareness raising campaigns dealing with human rights abuses racism.
Contact	Fiona Crowley, Research and Legal Officer

ARCSS - Asylum Seeker and Refugee Counselling and Support Service

Address	ARCSS Project, Co. Meath, Ireland
Telephone	+353-41-9829780
Fax	+353-41-9829386
Website	www.spirasi.ie
Email	arcss@spirasi.ie
Category	Joint Project between NGO and Statutory Body (HSE)
Objectives	The overall aim of the ARCSS project is to provide a dedicated counselling and support service to asylum seekers and refugees in the HSE North Eastern Area. The service was developed specifically to address the impact of trauma experienced by clients in their country of origin. More recently the remit of the service has extended to include adults who are experiencing stress and trauma as a result of their current living situation.

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Activities	The project comprises two elements, a dedicated counselling service and a support service. The support service is provided by the ARCSS Project Worker based at Mosney Accommodation Centre. The project worker has a key role in liaising with residents in relation to their health and social care needs and providing support on to those attending counselling as well as on issues surrounding the asylum process. Counselling is provided by qualified counsellor/therapists employed on a contract basis under the management and supervision of Rian Counselling Service (HSE). Mosney is the largest accommodation centre in the country catering for asylum seekers, with a capacity of 800 people.
Contact	Audrey Crawford

Cáirde

Address	19 Belvedere Place, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8552111
Fax	+353-1-8552089
Website	http://www.cairde.ie
Email	info@cairde.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Cáirde is an NGO which aims to build the capacity of minority ethnic community organisations to identify their own needs, to develop an awareness of the policy context within which services are planned and delivered and to act collectively in identifying the health and wellbeing concerns of their communities. Cáirde targets at risk or disadvantaged minority ethnic groups and provide tailored supports to build their capacity i.e. women, people living with HIV, Roma etc. The organisation also provides information and advocacy services.
Activities	Cáirde aims to tackle minority ethnic health inequality by initiating programmes and actions which model community development approaches to tackling health inequality and which address the wider factors that influence health at the community level, factors

including; accommodation; education and training; employment; childcare; financial security; residency status; racism and discrimination and other asylum/immigration issues. Cáirde acts to articulate its activities at community level into the policy system through a coherent programme of research and policy development.

Centre for the Care of Survivors of Torture (CCST)

Address	213 North Circular Road, Dublin 7, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8389664
Fax	+353-1-8683504
Website	http://www.ccst.ie
Email	clientservices@ccst.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	The Centre for the Care of Survivors of Torture (CCST) is a non-profit humanitarian organisation that provides multidisciplinary healthcare, in co-operation with the statutory health services, free of charge to survivors of torture.
Activities	The CCST offer medical consultations, medico-legal reports, psychiatry, counselling, physiotherapy, physical therapy and various complimentary therapies, Chinese medicine and group therapies. The Centre also runs an outreach service and provide vocational guidance counselling.

Children's Rights Alliance

Address	4 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6629400
Fax	+353-1-6629355
Website	http://www.childrensrights.ie
Email	info@childrensrights.ie

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Category	NGO
Objectives	The Children's Rights Alliance provides information on children's rights and services in Ireland. The Alliance's objective is to secure the implementation in Ireland of the principles and provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
Activities	The Alliance promotes compliance with the National Children's Strategy and assists the Ombudsman for Children. The alliance also undertakes research and various projects aimed at eliminating child poverty in Ireland and promoting the rights of the child.

Comhlámh

Address	10 Upper Camden Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4783490
Fax	+353-1-4783738
Website	http://www.comhlamh.org
Email	info@comhlamh.org
Category	NGO
Objectives	Comhlámh is an organisation that supports Irish Development Workers and campaigns on social justice, human rights and development issues.
Activities	Comhlámh campaigns for global justice and human rights in Ireland and abroad; provides support for returned development workers; promotes understanding of global issues and cultures through courses, public meetings, the media etc.

Crosscare Migrant Project

Address	1a Cathedral Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8732844
Fax	+353-1-8727033
Website	www.migrantproject.ie

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Email	migrantproject@crosscare.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Crosscare (formerly Emigrant Advice) aims to provide a quality information and support service in order to enable people involved in a migration decision or experience, especially the most vulnerable, make informed choices; through our engagement with clients and in collaboration with others to effect positive change in migration policy.
Activities	Crosscare Migrant Project provides information and advocates on behalf of emigrants, returnees and immigrants through its walk-in, outreach, phone and email services, website, publications, and support to generalist information services.
Contact	Yvonne Flemming, Co-Coordinator

Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment Government of Ireland

Address	Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6312121
Fax	+353-1-6312827
Website	http://www.entemp.ie
Email	info@entemp.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	The Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment is responsible for growing Ireland's competitiveness and quality employment.
Activities	In the context of immigration, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has responsibility for the administration of the Employment Permit Programme for international workers and the formulation of relevant legislation.

Equality Authority, The

Address	2 Clonmel Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4173333
Fax	+353-1-4173331
Website	http://www.equality.ie
Email	info@equality.ie
Category	Independent State Body
Objectives	The Equality Authority is an independent body with the objective of promoting and defending the rights established in the equality legislation (Employment Equality Act, 1998 and the Equal Status Act, 2000) and providing leadership in raising public awareness of equality issues, promoting diversity and mainstreaming equality considerations.
Activities	The Equality Authority has a strong research and information function. The organisation runs a Public Information Centre and library, publishes newsletters, information leaflets and holds various events. The Equality Authority also has an in-house Legal Service that may, where the case has strategic importance, provide free legal assistance to those making complaints of discrimination.
Contact	Niall Crowley, Director Laurence Bond, Head of Research

European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

Address	Avenue de l'Europe, 67075 Strasbourg Cedex
Telephone	+33 -(0)-388412000
Website	http://www.coe.int/t/E/human_rights/ecri
Email	combat.racism@coe.int
Category	European Body
Objectives	The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) was set up following a decision of the 1 st Summit of Heads of State and Government of the

Member States of the Council of Europe, in October 1993. ECRI's task is to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and intolerance at the level of the greater Europe and from the perspective of the protection of human rights.

Activities ECRI monitors phenomenon of racism and racial discrimination by closely examining the situation in each of the Member States of the Council of Europe and by drawing up country reports containing its analyses and recommendations. ECRI's programme also focuses on general themes of particular importance in combating racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and intolerance, through the elaboration and adoption of general policy recommendations. Finally the organisation works to spread ECRI's anti-racist message as widely as possible among the general public and to make its work known in all relevant spheres

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

Address Wyattville Road, Loughlinstown, Dublin 18, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-2043100

Fax +353-1-2826456

Website <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu>

Email press.officer@eurofound.europa.eu

Category European Body

Objectives The Foundation is a European Agency set up by the European Council to contribute to the planning and design of better living and working conditions in Europe.

Activities The Foundation works to provide information, advice and expertise – on living and working conditions, industrial relations and managing change in Europe – for key actors in the field of EU social policy on the basis of comparative information, research and analysis. Themes of interest to the Foundation are: employment and

working conditions; work–life balance; industrial relations and partnership and social cohesion.

Contact Jorma Karppinen, Director

Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC)

Address 13 Lower Dorset Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone +353-1-8745690
Fax +353-1-8745320
Website <http://www.flac.ie>
Email info@flac.ie
Category NGO
Objectives Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) is a NGO which provides legal services for those living in poverty and campaigns on behalf of those on low incomes.
Activities FLAC operates a telephone help line which gives information on general rights and entitlements as well as free legal advice clinics around the country. FLAC also campaigns on issues such as child benefit for asylum applicants.
Contact Noeline Blackwell, Director General

(FRA) European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Address Rahlgasse 3, A – 1060 Vienna, Austria
Telephone +43(1)580 30 – 60
Email administration@fra.europa.eu
Category European Body
Objectives The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is a body of the European Union (EU), and is being built on the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC). The objective of the Agency is to provide the relevant institutions and authorities of the Community and its Member States

when implementing Community law with assistance and expertise relating to fundamental rights in order to support them when they take measures or formulate courses of action within their respective spheres of competence to fully respect fundamental rights.

Activities	The FRA is tasked with: 1) Information and data collection and analysis: To collect, analyse and disseminate objective, reliable and comparable information on the development of fundamental rights in the EU; to develop methods and standards to improve the quality and comparability of data at EU level; to carry out and encourage scientific research and surveys. 2) Co-operation with civil society and awareness-raising: to raise public awareness of fundamental rights; to promote dialogue with civil society; establish a network through a Fundamental Rights Platform. 3) Advice to EU institutions and Member States: to formulate and publish conclusions and opinions to the EU institutions and the Member States when implementing Community law; to publish an annual report on fundamental rights in the EU, and thematic reports based on its research and surveys, also highlighting examples of good practice regarding fundamental rights. The NCCRI is the designated 'National Focal Point' for the EU FRA in Ireland and therefore carries out the RAXEN reporting for Ireland.
Contact	Anastasia Crickley, Chairperson

Galway Refugee Support Group

Address	No.3 The Plaza, Headford Road, Galway, Ireland
Telephone	+353-91-779083
Email	refugee.galway@ireland.com
Category	NGO
Objectives	The Galway Refugee Support Centre is an NGO that works to assist refugees and asylum seekers in the Galway area.
Contact	Triona Nic Giolla Choille

Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB)

Address	13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6669100
Website	http://www.garda.ie/angarda/gnib.html
Email	gnib@iol.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	The Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) is responsible for all Garda operations pertaining to immigration matters in the State.
Activities	The Garda National Immigration Bureau members apply the law in relation to immigration within the state. Their duties include the registration of immigrants and carrying out deportation orders that are issued by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

Garda Racial and Intercultural Office

Address	Harcourt Square, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6663150
Category	State Body
Objectives	The Garda Racial and Intercultural Office operates within Community Relations Section. The office has a national remit with responsibility for the development and monitoring of the implementation of organisational policies and strategies, which deal with racial, ethnic, religious and cultural diversity.
Activities	The Garda Racial and Intercultural Office undertook an EU funded programme entitled “Intercultural Ireland, Identifying the Challenges for the Police Service”. Staff at the office are currently developing a recording mechanism within the Garda Pulse crime recording programme, which will capture data concerning racially motivated incidents. Links have also been established with the Irish Victim Support organisation concerning racial issues and it is intended that victims of racially motivated crime will be referred to this service. An

initiative currently being explored by the Racial and Intercultural office is the development of a network of contact individuals within the many minority ethnic communities in Ireland.

Contact Jonathan O'Mahony, Mary Gormley

Immigrant Council of Ireland

Address 2 St. Andrew Street, Dublin 2, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-6740202

Fax +353-1-6458031

Website <http://www.immigrantcouncil.ie>

Email info@immigrantcouncil.ie

Category NGO

Objectives The Immigrant Council of Ireland is an NGO responding to the needs of immigrants (particularly migrant workers and their families) in Ireland.

Activities The information role of the Council is an important one. Free advice and information is offered to immigrants as well as general information on their rights and entitlements. The Council's work also has a policy dimension directed at the development of 'humane and just' legislation. In addition the ICI offers training to service providers involved with immigrants in Ireland.

Contact Denise Charlton, Chief Executive Officer
Aoife Collins, Information Officer

Immigration Control Platform

Address P.O. Box 6469, Dublin 2, Ireland

Website www.immigrationcontrol.org

Email icp@iol.ie

Category NGO

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Objectives	The aim of the Immigration Control Platform is to address the phenomenon of immigration to Ireland and to lobby Government for a tight immigration policy. Immigration Control Platform is an Irish NGO. It is a voluntary organisation funded by membership subscription and donation.
Activities	The Immigration Control Platform lobbies the government for a tight immigration policy. The ICP raises awareness of its priority concerns by issuing press statements and maintaining a website. It has stood candidates for election on the immigration issue. It has engaged in leafleting and occasionally in other activities such as pickets.
Contact	Aine Ni Chonail, Public Relations Officer

Integrating Ireland

Address	17 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4759473
Website	http://www.integratingireland.ie
Email	info@integratingireland.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Integrating Ireland is an independent network of community and voluntary groups working to promote the human rights, equality and full integration in Irish society of asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants.
Activities	Integrating Ireland promotes the participation of refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants within member organisations, helps organisations to develop common policy positions, promotes public education, holds forums and makes available relevant publications, lobbies the government, provides training, guidance and advice to groups, and provides a platform for networking among members of the network.
Contact	Aki Stavrou, Director

International Education Board Ireland

Address	International Education Board Ireland, IPC House, 35-39 Shelbourne Road, Dublin 4, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6144838
Fax	+353-1-6144850
Website	http://www.educationireland.ie
Email	info@educationireland.ie
Category	State Associated Agency
Objectives	IEBI's objectives include promoting Ireland as a quality destination for students and trainees; supporting the international activities of Irish education institutions; acting as a national point of contact and referral to and from Irish suppliers of education services and the international market place; promoting Irish education expertise as a valuable resource for international institutions, development agencies and governments; liaising with education interests and government around barriers to the development of the international education sector.
Activities	Established by the Irish government in 1993, the International Education Board has representation from Universities, Institutes of Technology, Independent Colleges and Language schools as well as from other Government Departments and agencies. IEBI is supported by Enterprise Ireland, Embassies and the Irish Tourist Board. The IEBI responds to enquiries from overseas students, and promotes Irish education overseas via advertising, developing and circulating generic information and by participating at education fairs, seminars and workshops.
Contact	John Lynch, Chief Executive

International Organization for Migration (IOM), Mission in Ireland

Address	7 Hill Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8787900
Fax	+353-1-8787901
Website	http://www.iomdublin.org
Email	info@iomdublin.org
Category	Intergovernmental organisation
Objectives	Established in 1951, IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.
Activities	IOM opened an office in Ireland in 2001, with Ireland becoming a full member government of IOM in 2002. The IOM Mission in Ireland operates voluntary assisted return and reintegration programmes for irregular migrants or asylum seekers who wish to return home voluntarily. To support these, IOM Dublin operates a number of projects to provide information on return and reintegration to people considering return. IOM also works on issues around human trafficking. IOM Dublin also undertakes a number of research projects looking at migration flows to Ireland.
Contact	Siobhan O'Hegarty, Senior Programme Manager

Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC)

Address	IBEC Head Office, Confederation House, 84/86 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6051500
Fax	+353-1- 6381500
Website	http://www.ibec.ie
Email	info@ibec.ie
Category	Private Organisation
Objectives	Irish Business and Employers Confederation is an umbrella organisation representing a variety of Irish businesses and employers. It has approximately 7,500 member businesses and organisations.
Activities	IBEC aims to shape policies and influence decision-making. The organisation represents business and employer's interests to Government, state agencies, the trade unions, other national interest groups, and the general public. IBEC develops and reviews policy on relevant topics through consultation with members and undertaking research.
Contact	Danny McCoy, Director of Policy

Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU)

Address	31/32 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8897777
Fax	+353-1-8872012
Website	http://www.ictu.ie
Category	Trade Union
Objectives	Congress is a single umbrella organisation for trade unions in Ireland representing a wide range of interests both in the Republic and in Northern Ireland.
Activities	Congress has a number of functions, for example: representing the interests of workers in respect of economic, employment, taxation and social protection issues, especially with government; providing

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

information, advice and training to unions and their members; assisting with the resolution of disputes between unions and employers and influencing government economic and social policies through direct contacts and via the National Partnership process. The ICTU is involved in campaigning for workers rights including immigrant workers.

Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL)

Address	DMG Business Centre, 9-13 Blackhall Place, Dublin 7, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-7994504
Website	http://www.iccl.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	The Irish Council for Civil Liberties is a non-governmental organisation that works to promote and defend human rights and civil liberties.
Activities	ICCL runs campaigns and makes submission on issues such as criminal justice, equality, ECHR and immigrants' rights.
Contact	Mark Kelly, Director

Irish Council for International Students

Address	41 Morehampton Road, Dublin 4, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6605233
Fax	+353-1-6682320
Website	http://www.icosirl.ie
Email	office@icosirl.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	The Irish Council for International Students is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit organisation established in 1970. The Council aims to enhance the quality and benefits of international

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

education in Ireland by working with the main educational institutes, government departments and development agencies both in Ireland and abroad. The Council is made up of representatives from Irish universities, Institutes of Technology and other institutions involved in international education and training at post-secondary level.

Activities	The Council offers student advice and support to international students and to their advisers, as well as training and information workshops to staff of member colleges. The Council administers Irish Government (Department of Foreign Affairs) funded Study Fellowship Programmes and works to promote good policy and practice in international education, through research, publications and conferences.
Contact	Sheila Power, Chief Executive

The Irish Council of Imams

Address	19 Roebuck Road, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-2080009
Fax	+353-1-2609603
E-mail	aliselim_2000@yahoo.com
Objectives	This council represents an unprecedented Muslim initiative in Ireland that provides a theological Muslim body that represents Muslims in Ireland. The Irish Council of Imams is formed of most of the qualified Imams in Ireland.
Activities	The Irish Council of Imams is an authorised, specialised, official Muslim body formed to express the Islamic verdicts on issues occurring in the Irish Arena. It encourages positive Muslim integration into the Irish society; embarks on social and educational programmes for Imams; makes a positive contribution into sorting out social and family problems; co-operates in relevant issues with concerned offices and organisations; collaborates with people of other faiths via dialogue on commonalities; endeavours to reach Muslim consensus

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

on Muslim occasions in Ireland; seeks to spread the spirit of the Islamic tolerance.

Contact Imam Hussein Halawa, Chair; Sheikh Yahia Al-Hussein, Deputy Chair; Ali Selim, Secretary General

Irish Human Rights Commission

Address 4th Floor, Jervis House, Jervis Street, Dublin 1, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-8589601

Fax +353-1- 8589609

Website www.ihrc.ie

Email info@ihrc.ie

Category Independent State Body

Objectives The Human Rights Commission was formally established in 2001 as part of the undertakings given by the Government in the Belfast Agreement. It parallels a similar commission set up in Northern Ireland in 1999. The Commission is responsible for monitoring human rights in Ireland i.e. those rights, liberties and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and by any treaty or convention to which the State is a party.

Activities The Commission reviews Irish law with regard to human rights and makes recommendations to the Government on such matters; it consults with relevant national and international bodies, undertakes research and educational activities. The Commission also conducts inquiries into human rights abuses and take cases to court on behalf of individuals and groups. It can also offer its expertise to the courts in such matters. It participates in the Joint Committee of Representatives drawn from the Commissions in both the Irish and Northern Ireland jurisdictions thus providing a forum for human rights issues on the island of Ireland.

Contact Alpha Connelly, Chief Executive Officer

Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS)

Address	Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform, Government of Ireland, 13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6167700
Website	http://www.justice.ie
Email	info@justice.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	The Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform has responsibility for crime and state security, the criminal justice system, criminal and civil law, equality and immigration and asylum.
Activities	The Immigration and Asylum Policy Divisions of the Department has responsibility for the further development of the national immigration policy and the implementation of the Government's asylum strategy. The Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner, The Refugee Appeals Tribunal and the Reception and Integration Agency fall within the remit of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) is an executive office within the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform is responsible for managing the administrative functions of the Department in relation to immigration.

Irish Penal Reform Trust

Address	53 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8741400
Fax	+353-1-8733174
Website	http://www.iprt.ie
Email	info@iprt.ie
Objectives	The Irish Penal Reform Trust is a non-governmental organisation campaigning for the rights of people in prison and the reform of Irish penal policy.

Activities The Irish Penal Reform Trust campaigns through conferences and events, produces policy papers and conducts research on Irish penal policy. A membership service is offered.

Irish Refugee Council

Address Second Floor, Ballast House, Aston Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-7645854

Fax +353-1-8730088

Website www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie

Email info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie

Category NGO

Objectives The Irish Refugee Council (IRC) is an independent membership-based non-governmental organisation which works closely with asylum seekers, refugees, community organisations, NGOs, UNHCR and Government to promote a fair and humane protection system.

Activities The Council's current strategic plan focuses on policy development, research, advocacy and public awareness under four headings:

- 1) A fair and transparent asylum and protection system
- 2) Adequate accommodation and rights for asylum seekers in 'direct provision'
- 3) Protection and rights for separated children
- 4) Awareness of asylum seekers and refugees, their lives, aspirations and rights.

Contact Robin Hanan, Chief Executive

Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland

Address	19 Roebuck Road, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-2080000
Fax	+353-1-2080001
E-mail	info@islamireland.ie
Website	www.islamireland.ie
Objectives	The ICCI aims at facilitating cultural and religious services.
Activities	In Nov 1996 the Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland at Clonskeagh, Dublin 14 was established evolving into a distinguished landmark and elite Islamic edifice not only in Ireland but in Europe as a whole. Since its inauguration, the ICCI has embarked on a wide range of religious and cultural activities. The Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland offers facilities for daily prayers and religious celebrations and the general welfare of the community including a Muslim National School, a library, a mortuary, a shop and a restaurant. The ICCI has participated in and organized numerous functions serving integration e.g. health awareness, world cultural activities. Huge efforts for the accomplishment of the reciprocal processes of integration have been exerted in parallel with sincere endeavours to organize religious functions.
Contact	Sumayah, Community Coordinator

Islamic Foundation of Ireland

Address	163 South Circular Road, Dublin 8, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4533242
Fax	+353-1-4532785
Website	www.islaminireland.com
Email	info@islaminireland.com
Category	Religious Organisation
Objectives	The Islamic Foundation of Ireland established the first mosque in Ireland in 1976. It also helped to establish

mosques in other cities in Ireland. The Islamic Foundation of Ireland has been the official representative of Muslims in Ireland since its inception. It looks after the religious, educational and social needs of Muslims in Ireland.

Activities	The Foundation runs the Dublin Mosque and Islamic Centre. The Foundation also organises prayers and study circles, Islamic Lectures, Islamic Courses, Summer Camps etc and distributes free literature on Islam. Facilities at the Islamic centre include a library, and a Halal shop and restaurant.
Contact	Iman Al-Hussein, Director

Lithuanian Association in Ireland

Address	17 St. John's Bridge Walk, Lucan, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Telephone	+353-879171245/08682288305
Website	http://langas.net/tp/airija
Category	NGO
Objectives	The organisation was established to help the growing number of Lithuanian nationals in Ireland to settle and to build up a sense of community. ⁴⁴⁹
Activities	Activities of the Lithuanian Association in Ireland include: organising of Lithuanian concerts and other events; running 4 Lithuanian weekend schools (Dublin, Cork, Galway, Dundalk) for Lithuanian children; maintaining a mailing list of Lithuanians in Ireland (approx. 1,000 members); publishing information for Lithuanians in Ireland online; organising monthly Lithuanian gatherings in Dublin and Cork and organising non-regular Lithuanian meetings in other cities and towns.
Contact	Linas Jakucianis

⁴⁴⁹ Information taken from Immigrant Council of Ireland, 2006.

Louth African Women's Support Group, The

Address	Ait Na nDoine, 2 Grange Close, Muirhevnamor, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland
Telephone	+353-42-9326645
Category	NGO
Objectives	The main aim of the Louth African Women's Support Group is to raise awareness about cultural diversity by participating in all aspects of the Irish society, without having to relinquish cultural identity also to give a common voice and enable self representation.
Activities	The group also acts as a social outlet for women to stop the marginalisation of black and minority ethnic groups. The group also sets about uniting the African populace by facilitating get together, challenge racism and discrimination on the grounds of gender, ethnicity, race, religion, etc.
Contact	Titilola Ossai

Metro Eireann

Address	34 North Frederick St., 3rd Floor, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8783441
Fax	+353-1-868 9142
Website	www.metroeireann.com
Email	info@metroeireann.com
Category	Newspaper
Objectives	Metro Eireann is a multi cultural newspaper with a special focus on immigrant, asylum-seeker and refugee issues.
Activities	Metro Eireann produces a newspaper organises debates, conferences and seminars, provides training in multicultural understanding and generally promotes cultural understanding through the arts, entertainment and sport.
Contact	Chinedu Onyejelem, Editor

Migrant Rights Centre Ireland

Address	55 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8897570
Fax	+353-1-8897579
Website	http://www.mrci.ie
Email	info@mrci.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	The MRCI is a national organisation concerned with the rights of migrant workers and their families. Established in 2001 to bridge a gap in support structures and information provision for migrant workers and their families, it has since evolved to become a national organisation concerned with: A. Provision of supports to migrant workers and their families. B. Empowering migrant workers through community work practice. C. Achieving policy change.
Activities	<p>The activities of MRCI can be divided into three key programmes areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The Drop In Centre Programme provides information, advice and assistance to migrant workers and their families who are in situations of vulnerability.2) Community work: the active participation and inclusion of migrant workers at all levels of society is a strategic aim of MRCI pursued through community work.3) Through the Policy Engagement Programme, MRCI seeks to contribute constructively to the formation of migration policy which recognises the human rights of migrant workers and their families.
Contact	Siobhan O'Donoghue, Coordinator; Jacqueline Healy, Drop In Centre Coordinator

NASC Irish Immigrant Support Centre

Address	Enterprise House, 35 Main Street, Cork City, Ireland
Telephone	+353-21-4317411
Fax	+353-21-4317002
Website	http://www.nascireland.org
Email	info@nascireland.org
Category	NGO
Objectives	“Nasc” which takes its name from the Irish word “Link” is a non-Governmental organisation that seeks to respond to the needs of immigrants in the area of Cork, Ireland. Their aim is to contribute to an environment of social inclusion for all communities, based on the principles of equality, social justice and human rights.
Activities	NASC provides three types of support: One to one Advice & Advocacy (they run a drop-in service for any immigrant, refugee, migrant worker or asylum-seeker from any part of the world and provide help and advice on a range of different issues); Group Capacity Building (they are a Community Development Organisation and work through our subgroups such as our Social & Cultural, Women’s and Speakers Panel Groups); Policy & Campaigning (key areas of focus are on Family Reunification, Integration, Direct Provision, and Access to Education, Employment and Enterprise).
Contact	Gertrude Cotter, Director

National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI)

Address	Third Floor, Jervis House, Jervis Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8588000
Fax	+353-1-8727621
Website	http://www.nccri.ie
Email	info@nccri.ie
Category	Independent State Body

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Objectives	<p>The National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI) is an independent expert body focusing on racism and interculturalism. The NCCRI is a partnership body which brings together government and non-government organisations to: develop an inclusive and strategic approach to combat racism by focusing on its prevention and promoting an intercultural society; contribute to policy and legislative developments and seek to encourage dialogue and progress in all areas relating to racism and interculturalism; encourage integrated actions towards acknowledging, celebrating and accommodating cultural diversity; establish and maintain links with organisations or individuals involved in addressing racism and promoting interculturalism at national, European and international level; provide a national framework for responding to and consulting with key European and international bodies on issues related to racism and interculturalism.</p>
Activities	<p>As an expert organisation on racism and interculturalism, the NCCRI has an important advisory role in relation to government and non-government organisations and seeks to influence relevant policy. The NCCRI has a Training and Resource Unit which provides anti-racism and intercultural awareness training to government and non-government organisations and other groups. The Community Development Support Unit (CDSU) provides assistance and support to community groups working with minority ethnic groups. The NCCRI also provide a system for monitoring racist incidents and work towards information and Public Awareness. NCCRI is the designated 'National Focal Point' for the EU FRA and therefore carries out the RAXEN reporting for Ireland to the European Union.</p> <p>The NCCRI is the designated organising body for the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008.</p>
Contact	<p>Anastasia Crickley, Chairperson; Philip Watt, Director</p>

National Economic and Social Council

Address	16 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8146300
Fax	+353-1-8146301
Website	http://www.nesc.ie
Email	info@nesc.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	The National Economic and Social Council's main task is to advise the Government on the development of the national economy and the achievement of social justice. In addition to advising the Government, the Council provides a forum for debate and the exchange of views between interested parties. Members include trade unions, business organisations and agricultural organisations, representatives from the community and voluntary Sector and a number of public servants and independent members to the Council.
Activities	The National Economic and Social Council publishes reports and a research series based on work that is considered to be a potential contribution to wider policy debate but on which the Council has not adopted a position.
Contact	Dr Rory O'Donnell, Director

National Qualifications Authority of Ireland

Address	5th Floor, Jervis House, Jervis Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8871500
Fax	+353-1-8871595
Website	http://www.nqai.ie
Email	info@nqai.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	The National Qualifications Authority of Ireland is the Irish centre for the recognition of international awards. The Authority represents Ireland in a European Network

of centres known as ENIC/NARIC (European National Information Centre/National Academic Recognition Information Centre) and NRP (National Reference Point) which promote the recognition of international awards throughout Europe.

Activities The Authority works towards the establishment and maintenance of a framework of educational qualifications. Building on the framework, the Authority also has a number of other functions in relation to liaising with bodies to facilitate recognition of international awards in Ireland and of Irish awards internationally.

Office of the Minister for Integration

Address Dun Aimhirgin, 43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-6473000

Fax +353-1-6473119

Email info@justice.ie

Category State Body

Objectives The Office of the Minister for Integration and has a cross Departmental mandate to develop, drive and co-ordinate integration policy across other Government Departments, agencies and services. The Office will be involved in the development of a long-term national policy on integration which will be informed by widespread consultation at a national level, properly structured objective research and international experience. Overall, responsibility for the promotion and coordination of integration measures for all legally resident immigrants rests with the Office of the Minister for Integration. In general the actual delivery of integration services is the responsibility of mainstream Government departments.

Activities A cross-Departmental Group was established by Government in February 2007 to carry out a review of existing integration policy and to provide an initial assessment of future policy options. This group will continue its work under the chair of the Minister for

Integration. In February 2007 the Government also started the process of consultation with NGOs and key stakeholders by holding a major conference on Integration Policy. A follow-up workshop took place in December 2007. This process of consultation and policy development will continue throughout 2008 through various initiatives as outlined below.

Task Force on Integration: A Task Force on Integration will be established to identify key issues affecting immigrant communities; consult widely with the immigrant and indigenous populations; visit communities; examine previous research and report back with specific recommendations.

Ministerial Council for Immigrants: A Ministerial Council for Immigrants will be set up during 2008 to allow ongoing input by immigrants into policy and implementation issues.

Immigrant Commission: An “Immigrant Commission” will be established that will include a broad representation of stakeholders. The Commission will advise the Minister on all aspects of developments in the integration area.

Strategic Studies: The Office will continue to promote and fund strategic studies geared to informing policy development in the integration area.

Funding Streams: Provision has been included in the 2008 budget of the Office to provide seed funding to promote integration activities.

Resettlement: The Office of the Minister for Integration also coordinates the Governments Resettlement Quota programme.

Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC)

Address	79-83 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6028000
Fax	+353-1-6028122
Website	http://www.orac.ie
Email	oracmail@orac.ie

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Category	State Body
Objectives/ Activities	Established in 2000 by the Refugee Act 1996 (as amended). The key statutory responsibilities of the office are to investigate applications from those who seek a declaration of refugee status and to issue appropriate recommendations to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform on such applications, and to investigate applications by refugees to allow family members to enter and reside in the State and to report to the Minister on such applications. It is also the Commissioner's responsibility to direct the presentation of the Commissioner's case to the Refugee Appeals Tribunal where recommendations made by the Commissioner are appealed to the Tribunal.
Contact	David Costello, Refugee Applications Commissioner

Pavee Point

Address	46 North Great Charles Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8780255
Fax	+353-1-8742626
Website	http://www.paveepoint.ie
Email	pavee@iol.ie
Category	NGO/Partnership
Objectives	Pavee Point is an NGO working to improve the lives of Travellers in Ireland.

Polish Information and Cultural Centre⁴⁵⁰

Address	56-57 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6729997
Fax	+353-16334705
Website	www.polishcentre.ie
Category	Private organisation
Objectives	The Polish Information and Cultural Centre has two stated objectives: to research and publish information on economic migration from Poland to Ireland and to work on the integration of the Polish community into Irish society.
Activities	Free services consist of an information desk and the organisation of information seminars (focused on different topics such as migrant workers rights, medical care in Ireland, Social Welfare), employment law advice, FÁS and employment advice, tax advice, a notice board, accommodation lists (in co-operation with Focus Ireland), information on job offers. Paid-for services include: CV preparation, translations and English classes. Cultural activities include the production of a monthly newspaper <i>Szpila</i> , promotion of Poland through participation in conferences, festivals, and European projects in co-operation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Dublin, and the promotion of Polish artists in Ireland, independent projects: events, parties, artistic projects.
Contacts	Magdalena Kerdelewicz

⁴⁵⁰ Information received from Immigrant Council of Ireland, 2006.

Reception and Integration Agency (RIA)

Address	Block C, Ardilaun Centre, 112-114 St. Stephens Green West, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4183200
Fax	+353-1-4183271
Website	http://www.ria.gov.ie
Email	RIA_inbox@inbox.ie
Category	State Body
Objectives	(Note that the Integration Unit is now operating at the Office of the Minister of State with special responsibility for Integration Policy). Under the aegis of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, the Reception and Integration Agency has responsibility for planning and coordinating the provision of services to asylum seekers, refugees and persons granted leave to remain.
Activities	The Reception and Integration Agency has responsibility for planning and co-ordinating the provision of services to both asylum seekers and refugees; the accommodation of asylum seekers through direct provision; operation of the selection and resettlement of programme refugees; in relation to all immigrants, monitoring, promoting and facilitating effective integration initiatives; and co-ordinating and developing integration policy.
Contacts	Steve Magner, Assistant Secretary

Refugee Appeals Tribunal (RAT)

Address	6/7 Hanover St. East, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4748400
Fax	+353-1-4748410
Website	http://www.gov.ie/refappeal
Email	info@refappeal.ie
Category	State Body

Objectives	The Refugee Appeals Tribunal was established in October 2000 and decides appeals of those asylum seekers whose applications for refugee status has not been recommended by the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner. The Tribunal is a statutorily independent body and exercises a quasi-judicial function under the 1996 Refugee Act.
Activities	The Refugee Appeals Tribunal hears appeals of negative decisions made by the Refugee Applications Commissioner. Oral appeals are held except in the case of certain applications where the appeal is based on written evidence only. The RAT either confirms the negative decision made by the ORAC or makes a positive decision and informs the Ministerial Decision Unit accordingly where a final declaration is made.

Refugee Documentation Centre (RDC)

Address	Legal Aid Board, Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-4776250
Fax	+353-1-6613113
Email	Refugee_Documentation_Centre@legalaidboard.ie
Category	Independent State Body
Objectives	The Refugee Documentation Centre (RDC) was established as an independent service operating under the aegis of the Legal Aid Board
Activities	The role of the Centre is to provide a research and query service for key Organisations involved in the asylum process; to build and maintain a collection of objective and up to date country of origin (COI), asylum, immigration, legal and human rights documentation for general access; to provide training on country of origin information research; to undertake other research activities and provide a lending and research library service; to cooperate with similar agencies elsewhere to enhance knowledge of the country of origin research area. Members of the public and other agencies may

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

make an appointment to use the Documentation Centre to conduct their own research.

Contacts Fiona Morley, Manager; Zoe Melling, Librarian

Refugee Information Service (RIS)

Address 27 Annamoe Terrace, Off North Circular Road, Dublin 7, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-8382740

Fax +353-1-8382482

Website <http://www.ris.ie>

Email info@ris.ie

Category NGO

Objectives The Refugee Information Service is an NGO which exists to counter social exclusion through the provision of a specialist information, referral and advocacy service to asylum-seekers and refugees.

Activities The RIS provide an information service to asylum seekers and refugee from their offices in Dublin and Galway. They also run an outreach 'clinic' service in areas of Dublin and Galway where refugees and asylum-seekers live in significant numbers.

Contact Josephine Ahern, Director; Ruth O'Dea, Information and Training Officer

Refugee Legal Service (RLS)

Address Montague Court, Montague Street, Dublin 1, Ireland

Telephone +353-1-4760265

Fax +353-1-4760271

Website <http://www.legalaidboard.ie>

Email dublinrls@legalaidboard.ie

Category Independent State Body

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

Objectives	The Refugee Legal Service was established by the Legal Aid Board to provide independent legal services to persons applying for asylum in Ireland. The Legal Aid Board is an independent statutory body providing legal services in civil matters.
Activities	The Refugee Legal Service provides, for a nominal fee, legal representation and services to asylum seekers and those whose case is in the appeal process.

Ruhamma

Address	Senior House, All Hallows College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1- 836 0292
Fax	+353-1- 836 0268
Website	http://www.ruhamma.ie
Email	admin@ruhamma.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Ruhammas mission is to: 1) reach out to and provide support services to women involved in prostitution and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation 2) based on individual need, to offer assistance and opportunities to explore alternatives to prostitution 3) work to change public attitudes, practices and policies which allow the exploitation of women through trafficking and prostitution.
Activities	Ruhamma is a voluntary organisation that offers outreach services, training and development to women involved in prostitution. The organisation also has a research and awareness-raising role.
Contact	Geraldine Rowley

Spiritan Asylum Services Initiative (SPIRASI)

Address	213, North Circular Road, Dublin 7, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-8389664
Fax	+353-1-8683504
Website	http://www.spirasi.ie
Email	info@spirasi.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	SPIRASI is a Non Governmental organisation working with non-nationals in Ireland.
Activities	SPIRASI offers educational courses to non-nationals including English languages for all levels, computer skills training and a Health Information Service. SPIRASI houses a Centre for the Care of Survivors of Torture, which offers medical and psychosocial services for survivors. In addition the organisation facilitates immigrant artists and exhibitions of intercultural art. The organisation is also involved in a number of research projects.
Contact	Michael Begley, Director

Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI)

Address	20 Upper Baggot Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6688869
Fax	+353-1- 6687962
Website	http://www.sari.ie/
Email	info@sari.ie
Category	NGO
Objectives	Sport Against Racism Ireland is a not-for profit organisation that supports and promotes cultural integration and social inclusion through sport.
Contact	Frank Buckley, Chief Executive Officer

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Representation in Ireland**

Address	Suite 4, Merrion House, 1-3 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
Telephone	+353-1-6314510
Fax	+353-1-6314616
Website	http://www.unhcr.ch
Email	iredu@unhcr.ch
Category	United Nations Refugee Agency
Objectives	The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provides protection and assistance to the world's refugees. UNHCR was created by the United Nations General Assembly and began work in 1951, initially aiding more than one million European refugees following World War II. In 2004 the number of people 'of concern' to UNHCR is more than 20 million worldwide. UNHCR's most important responsibility, known as "international protection", is to ensure respect for the basic human rights of refugees, including their ability to seek asylum and to ensure that no one is returned involuntarily to a country where he or she has reason to fear persecution. UNHCR has maintained a Representation in Ireland since 1998.
Activities	In Ireland, the organisation promotes international refugee agreements, monitors government compliance with international law and provides assistance in the area of refugee law training to the main statutory agencies dealing with asylum. UNHCR is also engaged in raising public awareness of the plight of refugees.
Contact	Manuel Jordao, Representative; Steven O'Brien, Assistant Public Information Officer

Vincentian Refugee Centre

Address	St. Peter's Church, Phibsboro, Dublin 7, Ireland
Telephone	+353 -1-8102580
Fax	+353 -1-8389950
Website	http://www.vincentians.ie
Email	refugeecentrephibsboro@eircom.net
Category	NGO
Objectives	The Vincentian Refugee Centre is run by the Irish Vincentian Order and works to involve the local community with refugees in developing a model of a "Welcoming Community" which recognises and values cultural diversity in a multi-ethnic society.
Activities	The Vincentian Refugee Centre offers a wide range of services including: information provision on social welfare and health, an accommodation and housing service, language training, public awareness raising programmes and communication with the media, social events and general integration with the local community, an outreach programme, special services for unaccompanied/separated children, both in terms of integration and education, a women's group, Liaison and advocacy work on behalf of Asylum Seekers/Refugees and a platform for Asylum Seekers/Refugees to express their views to the community.
Contact	Sr. Breege Keenan, Administrator

WorkFair

Address	P.O. Box 11234, Dublin 7, Ireland
Telephone	+353-85-8164946
Website	www.workfair.org
Email	info@workfair.org
Objective	WorkFair is an initiative directed at combating labour exploitation of migrant workers in Ireland. WorkFair is a voluntary-run, confidential service that will provide

ORGANISATIONS AND AGENCIES

information, free legal advice and legal representation to migrant workers in relation to employment law issues.

Activities

WorkFair operates fortnightly drop-in free advice clinics staffed by practicing barristers, a schedule of which is available on our website. In addition, WorkFair offers legal representation in relation to employment issues before the Rights Commissioner, Employment Appeals Tribunal, the Equality Authority and the ordinary courts. Persons may be referred to the scheme from other groups or organisations catering to the needs of migrant communities. If an applicant's language needs are not catered to within the scheme, or if a large number of applicants have a similar set of circumstances, consultations can be arranged by special appointment.

Initial advice is given at the drop-in clinics and if an applicant's case comes within the scheme's criteria, the person will be referred to the scheme's panel of solicitors.

Contact

Niall Buckley