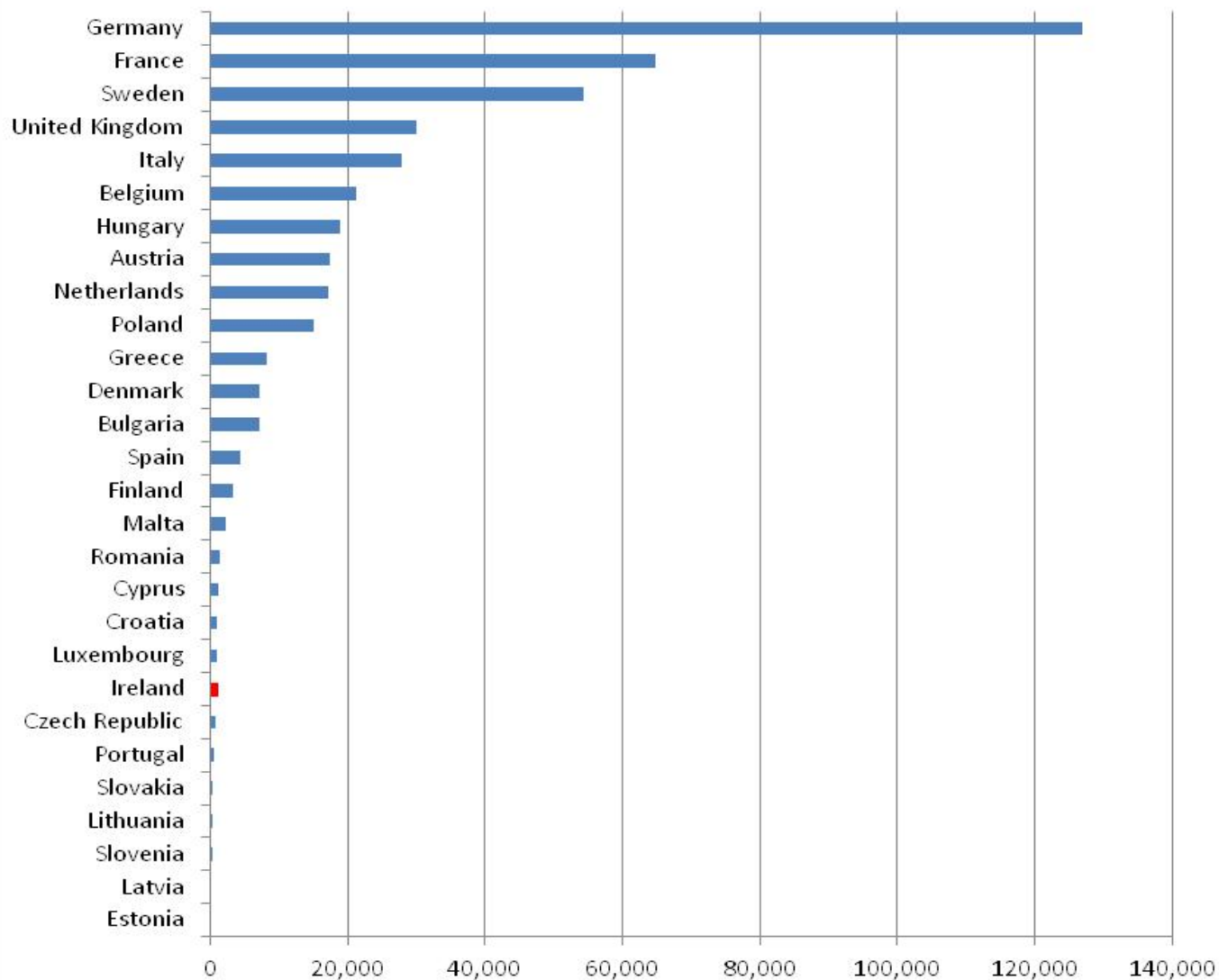


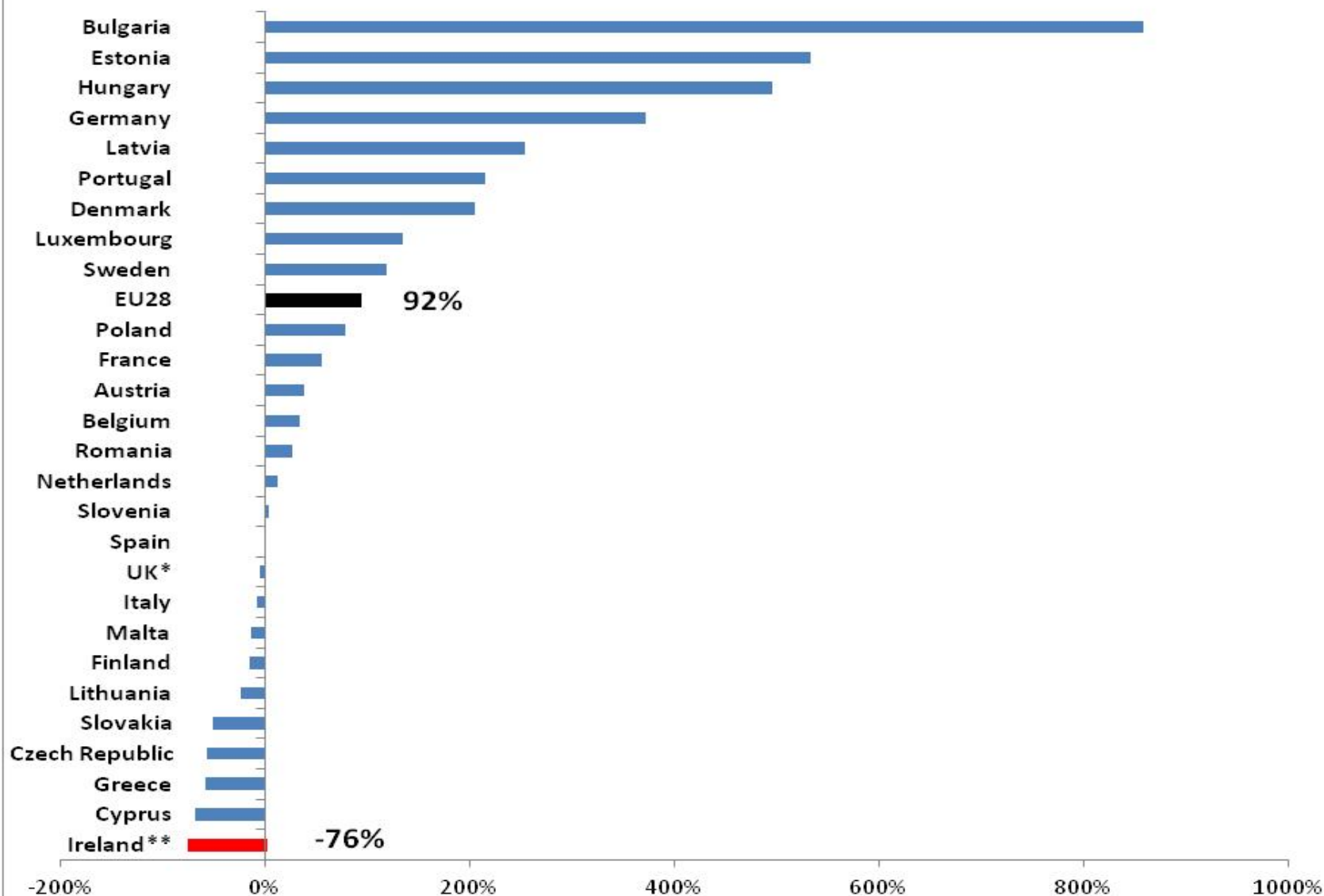
# European Asylum Trends, Reception and Policy Responses

1 April 2014 | Dublin

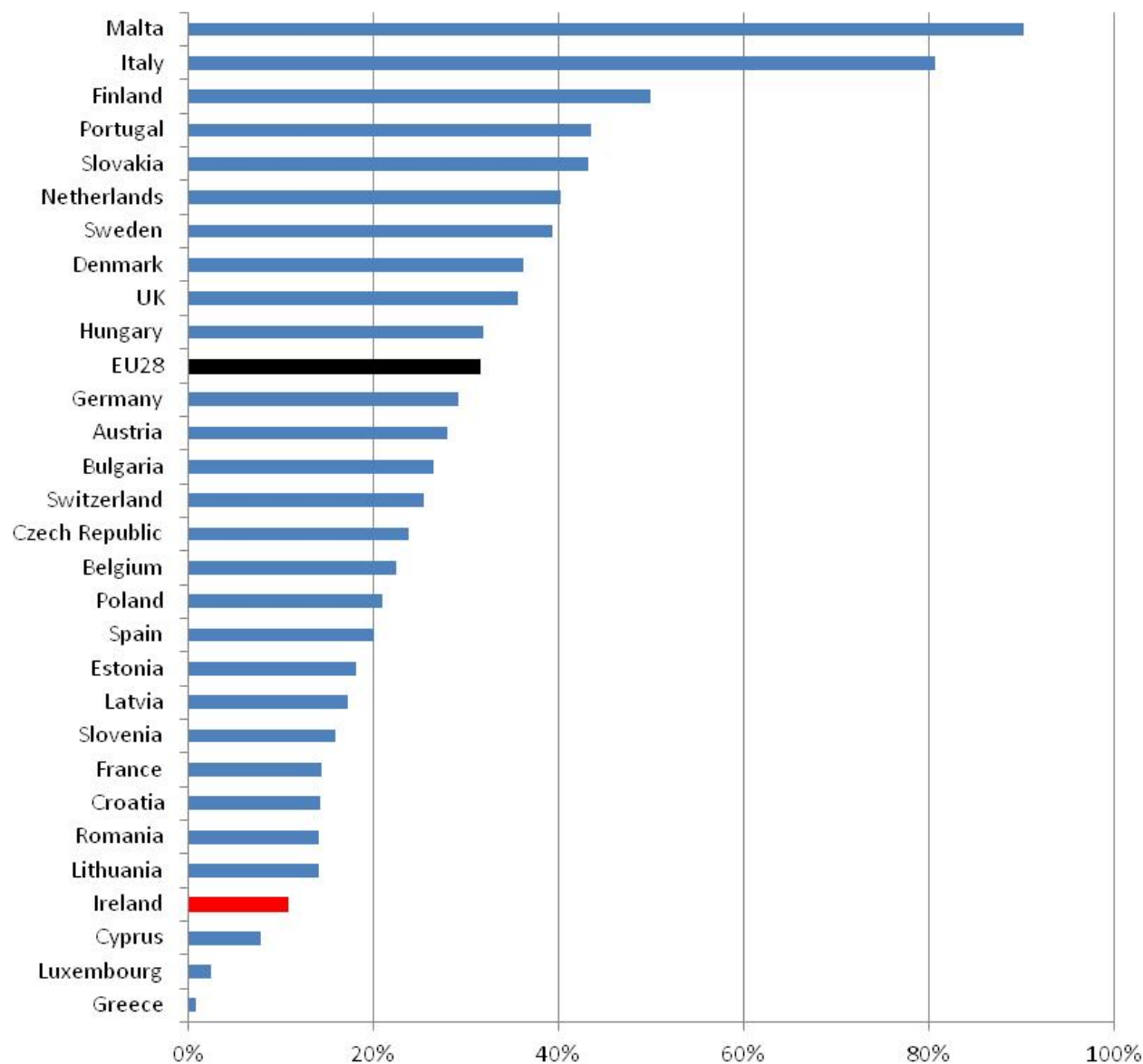
# Asylum Applications, 2013



# Asylum Applications, % Change 2008-2013

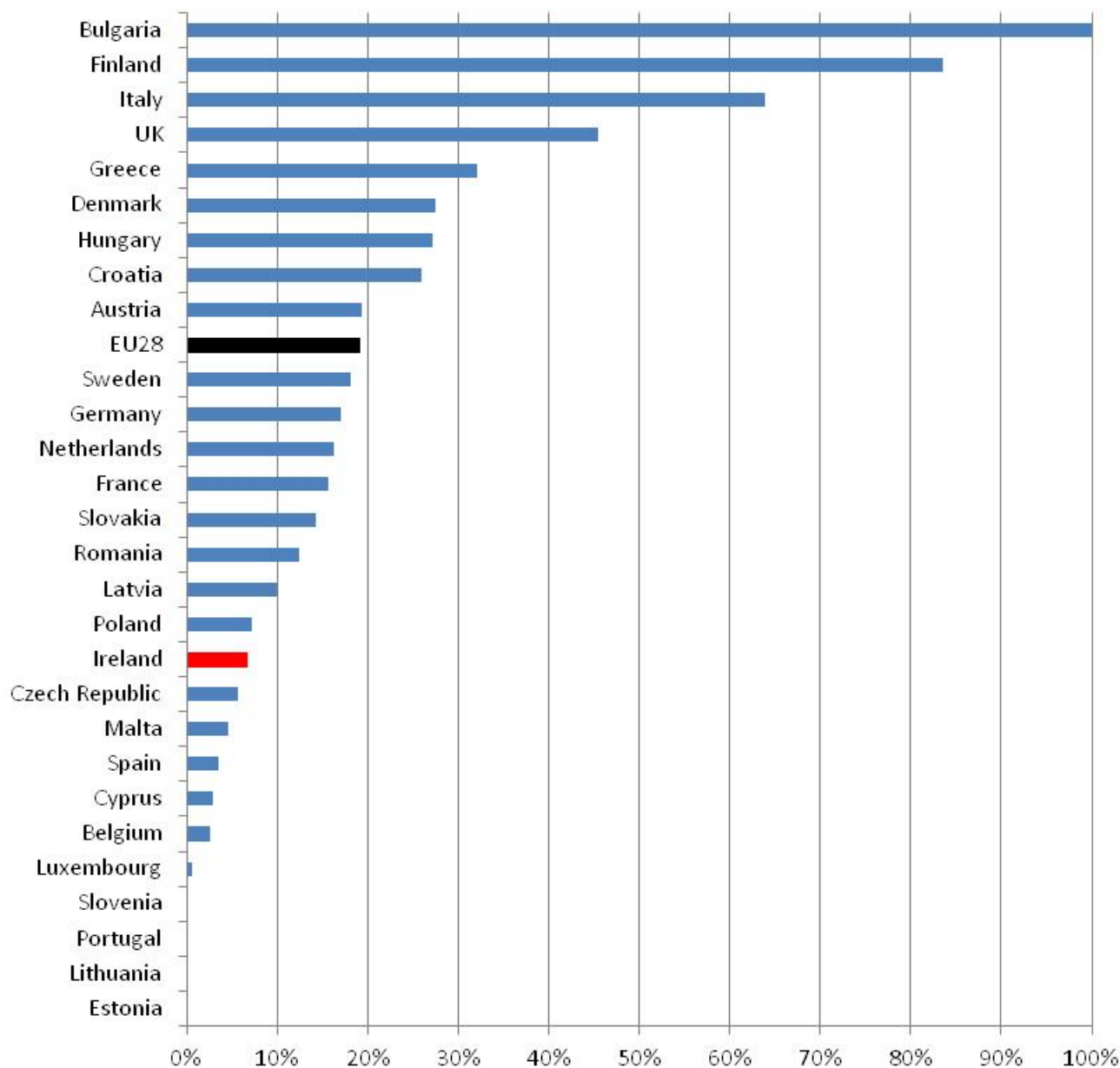


## % Positive First Instance Decisions, 2012



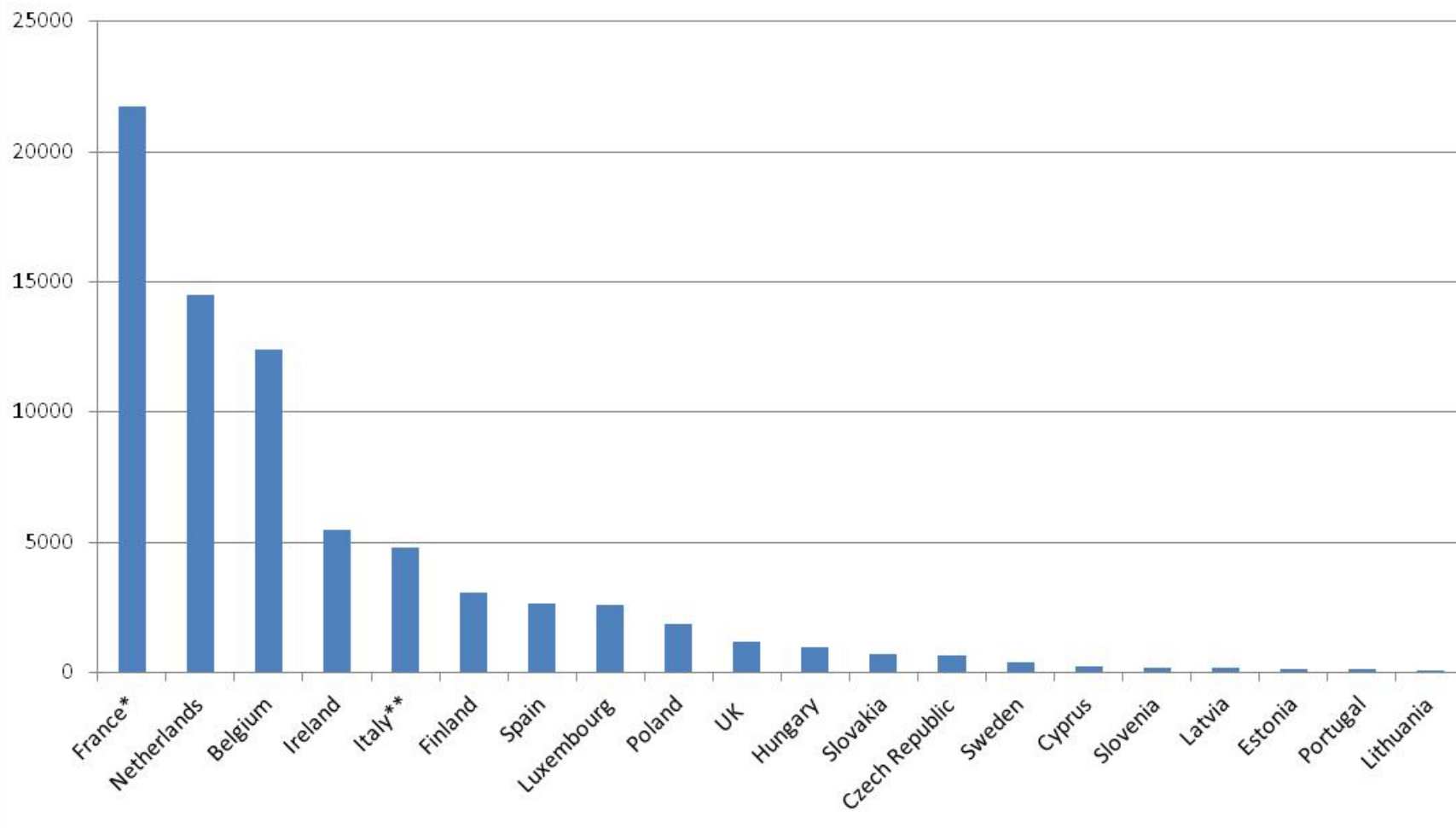
Source: EUROSTAT

## % Positive Final Decisions, 2012



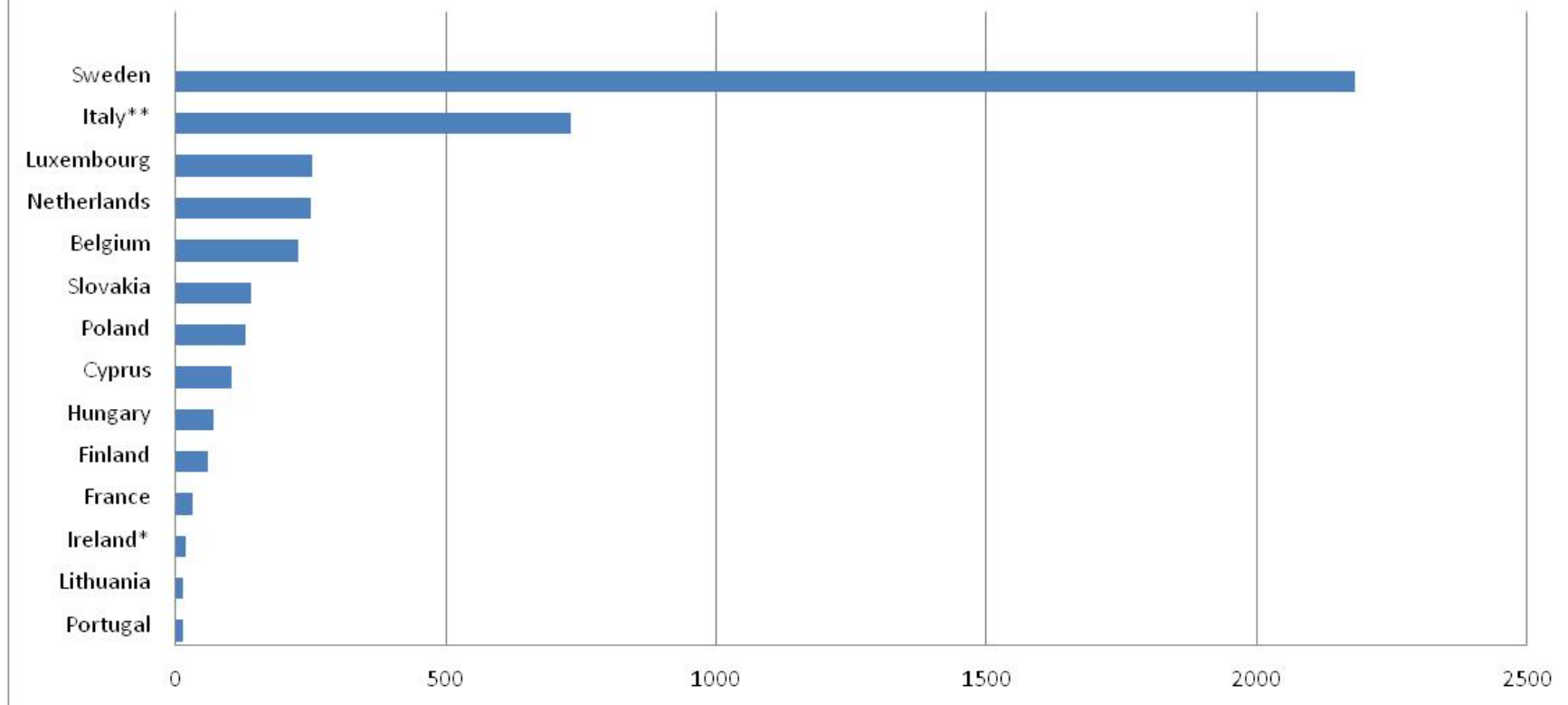
Source: EUROSTAT

## Initial/transit/collective reception facilities, 2012 (Bed spaces)



Source: EMN *The Organisation of Reception Facilities for Asylum Seekers in different Member States: EMN Synthesis Report*

## Special reception for vulnerable groups, 2012 (Bed spaces)

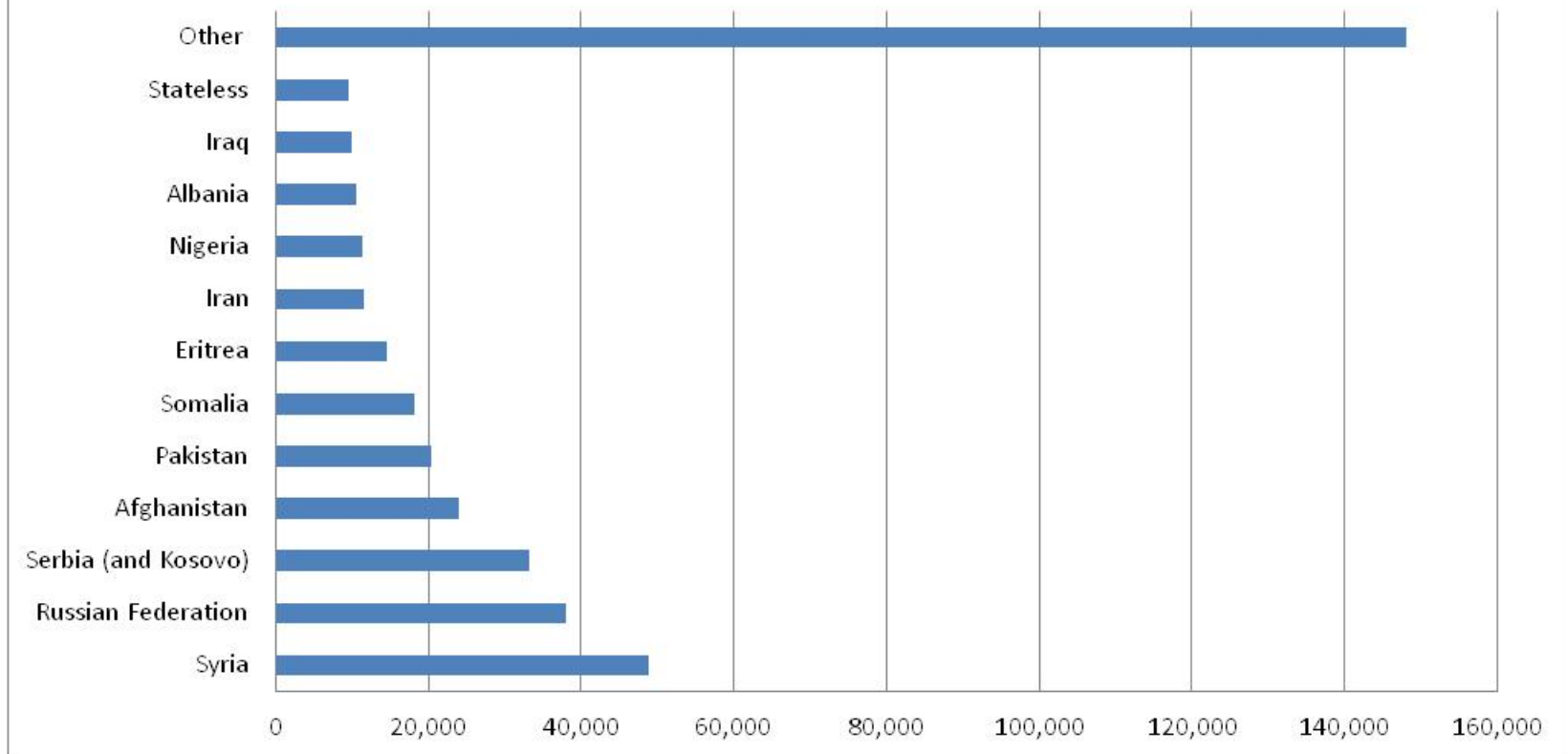


Data were not available for Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, UK. \*In the case of Ireland this number concerns initial assessment accommodation for UAMs.

\*\*Figure relates to 2011.

Source: EMN *The Organisation of Reception Facilities for Asylum Seekers in different Member States: EMN Synthesis Report*

## Asylum applications lodged in EU28, 2013, Country of Origin



Source: UNCHR, Asylum Trends 2013

**EU28 received 398,250 claims in 2013;  
Increase of 32 per cent compared to 2012**



# Asylum applications lodged in selected EU MS, 2013 by country of origin of applicant

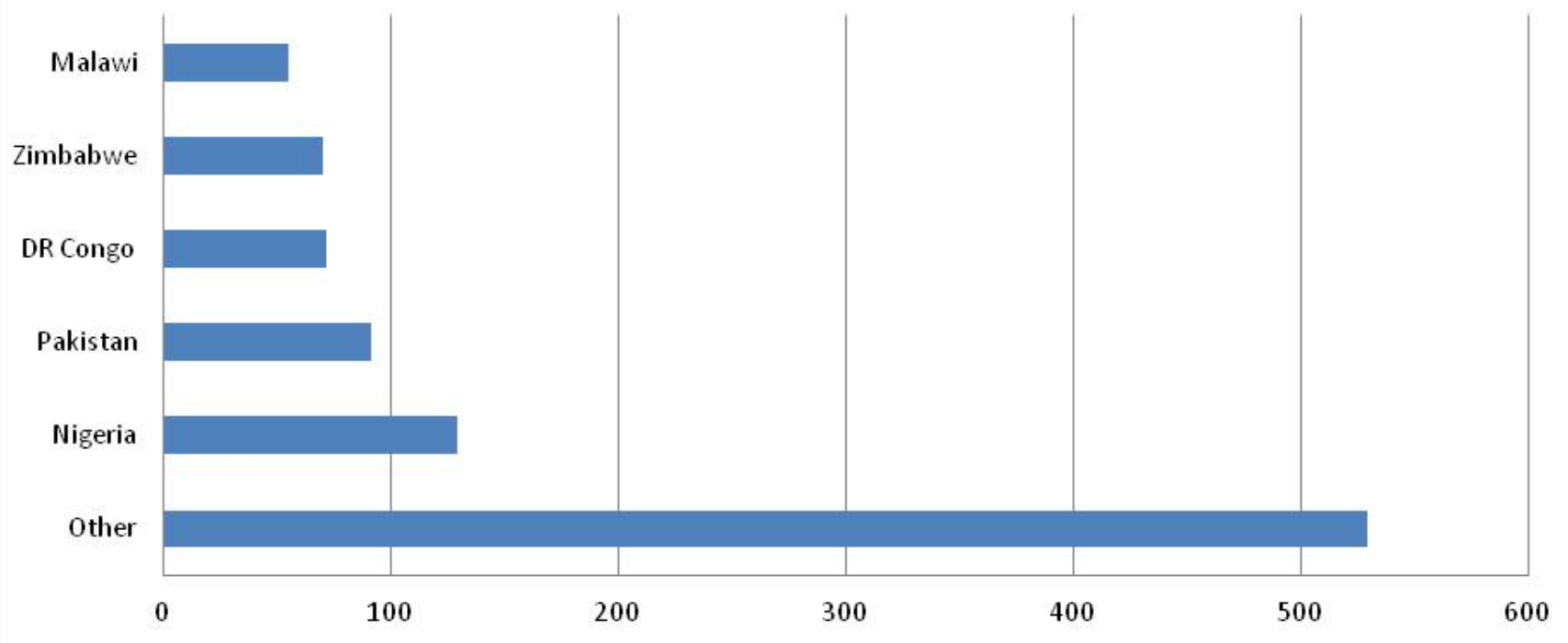
| United Kingdom       |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Pakistan             | 4,507 |
| Islamic Rep. of Iran | 2,946 |
| Sri Lanka            | 2,246 |
| Syrian Arab Rep.     | 2,032 |
| Albania              | 1,587 |
| Afghanistan          | 1,422 |
| Eritrea              | 1,408 |
| Nigeria              | 1,377 |
| Bangladesh           | 1,233 |
| India                | 1,085 |

| Netherlands           |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Somalia               | 3,078 |
| Syrian Arab Rep.      | 2,673 |
| Iraq                  | 1,094 |
| Eritrea               | 978   |
| Islamic Rep. of Iran  | 728   |
| Afghanistan           | 673   |
| Serbia <sup>(4)</sup> | 316   |
| Russian Fed.          | 263   |
| Stateless             | 216   |
| Georgia               | 209   |

| Sweden                |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Syrian Arab Rep.      | 16,317 |
| Stateless             | 6,921  |
| Eritrea               | 4,844  |
| Somalia               | 3,901  |
| Afghanistan           | 3,011  |
| Serbia <sup>(4)</sup> | 2,878  |
| Iraq                  | 1,476  |
| Islamic Rep. of Iran  | 1,172  |
| Albania               | 1,156  |
| Russian Fed.          | 1,036  |

Source: UNCHR, Asylum Trends 2013

## Asylum applications lodged in Ireland, 2013, Country of Origin



Source: ORAC

# The Organisation of Reception Facilities in Ireland

- Over 4,800 asylum applicants accommodated in 35 reception facilities at end-2012, down from just over 5,400 residents accommodated in 39 centres in 2011
- Some 59% had been resident for over 3 years, 31% for over 5 years, and 9% for over 7 years
- Reception centre building types include: two system-built properties, thirteen former guesthouses/hotels, nine hostels and one mobile home site
- All centres are managed and run by private entities under contract to the State
- Eight reception centres are occupied by single males, one by single adults and two by families only. The remainder are mixed
- Single parent families represented almost 40% of total residents end-2012

Source: *The Organisation of Reception Facilities in Ireland*. Available at [www.emn.ie](http://www.emn.ie).

# The Organisation of Reception Facilities in Ireland

- Research and commentary point to:
  - lack of privacy, overcrowding
  - insufficient facilities such as homework/play areas for children
  - limited autonomy, especially regarding food
- NGOs and international bodies have concerns about the suitability of the reception system for long-term residence, particularly of children
- The reception system is endorsed by the Government as being both cost-effective and flexible, but acknowledged to be unsuitable for long-term residence

Source: *The Organisation of Reception Facilities in Ireland*. Available at [www.emn.ie](http://www.emn.ie).

# EU Policy Response

- Stockholm Programme; Post-Stockholm Discussions
- Post-2014 EU Focus (*COM 2014) 154 final*)
  - CEAS Consolidation
  - Solidarity/Relocation
  - Preparedness/Crisis Management
  - External Challenges/Legal Routes
  - Funding

# Limited CEAS Applicability for Ireland

| Measure                       | Original Opt-In (IE) | Recast Opt-in (IE) |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Reception Directive           | N                    | N                  |
| Qualification Directive       | Y                    | N                  |
| Asylum Procedures Directive   | Y                    | N                  |
| Eurodac                       | Y                    | N                  |
| Dublin Regulation/ Convention | Y                    | Y                  |

## 1. STOCKHOLM PROGRAMME

The EASO will be an important tool in the *development and implementation of the CEAS* and should contribute to strengthening all forms of practical cooperation between the Member States. Therefore the Member States should play an active role in the work of the EASO. It should further develop a common educational platform for national asylum officials, building in particular on the European Asylum Curriculum (EAC). *Enhancing the convergence and ongoing quality with a view to reducing disparities of asylum decisions will be another important task.*

- MS implementation of common standards as laid down in the different directives under the CEAS, mostly through use of ERF funding
- Focus on improvement of:
  - reception capacity and conditions (including for vulnerable groups)
  - efficiency and quality of procedures for international protection; capacity to conduct COI
- Inauguration of EASO
- Cooperation between Member States is still in its infancy
  - E.g. few Member States use European Asylum Curriculum extensively
  - Wide variation in decision-making
- The risk of differences in interpretation of the asylum *acquis* remains
- EASO role in supporting Member States' practical cooperation in this process through an array of tools (e.g. training, practical cooperation activities, COI, quality reports).

Source: Forthcoming EMN Synthesis Report contributing to evaluation of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013 *A Descriptive Analysis of the Impacts of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013*.

## 2. STOCKHOLM PROGRAMME

...developing mechanism for *sharing responsibility* between the Member States while assuring that asylum systems are not abused, and the principles of the CEAS are not undermined.

...creating instruments and coordinating mechanisms which will enable Member States to *support each other in building capacity, building on Member States own efforts to increase their capacity with regard to their national asylum systems.*

- Some progress in terms of solidarity and the sharing of responsibility
- Limited solidarity between MS; less than half participate in the EUREMA Intra-EU Relocation project: small numbers compared to the numbers of asylum applications received, and numbers of positive first decisions granted to refugees
- Disparate reception experience. EMN Reception Facilities Study and the 2012 EASO Annual Activity Report indicated that several Member States have limited reception capacity resulting in overcrowded facilities whilst others have excess capacity

Source: Forthcoming EMN Synthesis Report contributing to evaluation of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013 *A Descriptive Analysis of the Impacts of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013.*



### 3. STOCKHOLM PROGRAMME

...the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission to encourage the voluntary participation of Member States in the *joint Union resettlement* scheme and increase the total number of resettled refugees, taking into consideration the specific situation in each Member State

- Number of resettlement places by MS is small: currently 12 MS run resettlement programmes (less than 8% of annual resettlement places on offer around the world)
- MS initiatives in terms of capacity-building in third countries
- External dimension of asylum still in the early stages of development

Source: Forthcoming EMN Synthesis Report contributing to evaluation of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013 *A Descriptive Analysis of the Impacts of the Stockholm Programme 2010-2013*.