

## **Interview about the ending or cancellation of refugee status or subsidiary protection status at the Finnish Immigration Service**

You have been invited to an interview at the Finnish Immigration Service. Please read these instructions which explain your rights and obligations during the interview carefully. If you have any questions about these instructions, you can ask the interviewer for more information at the beginning of the interview.

### **What is the purpose of this interview?**

- The Finnish Immigration Service is considering the ending or cancellation of your refugee status or subsidiary protection status. The invitation to the interview explains why the Finnish Immigration Service has launched the process of considering your matter.
- The purpose of the interview is to examine your matter. You can explain the matters to be investigated in your own words, and the interviewer will help you by asking questions.
- If you have applied for a residence permit or the Finnish Immigration Service is considering the cancellation of your residence permit or whether you can be deported, the Finnish Immigration Service will interview you about these matters.

## What rights do you have in the interview?

- You have the right to use a legal counsel at the interview. The counsel will participate in the interview in the way they think is best.
- You must find the counsel yourself. If you do not get a counsel for the interview, we can still go ahead with the interview without a counsel.
- The invitation will tell you if an interpreter will be present at the hearing. The interpreter will use a video link.
- The interviewer, interpreter and counsel have a duty of secrecy. This means that they may not tell any outsiders about what we talk about in the interview. However, matters you tell us at the interview may have an impact on the processing of your family member's matter. In these cases, we will take them into account in your family member's case. However, we can keep information secret from your family member if giving the information to them would put you or your loved one at risk or harm you. You can tell us what you think about this in the interview.
- As a rule, the documents concerning you must be kept secret.

## What obligations do you have in the interview?

- You are obliged to explain your matter during the interview. It is in your interest to tell the truth about everything that affects your matter in the interview.
- It is also in your interest to talk about things that are difficult.
- If there is something you can't remember or don't know, do not try and make up an answer. If you give false information, this makes it more difficult to believe your story.
- The Finnish Immigration Service saves your personal information and the matters you disclose in the case management system for immigration matters, which is an official register.
- Providing false personal information to an authority or giving false information to be entered into an official register is a punishable offence.
- Please note that if you give false information, or keep the correct information secret, a permit that has been given to you may be later taken away. It will also make it more difficult to process your other matters.

## How should you prepare for the interview?

- Bring your passport, refugee travel document or alien's passport.
- If you have a justified reason to request a female or male interpreter or interviewer, or if your physical or mental health may affect the interview, report the matter to the Finnish Immigration Service. The Finnish Immigration Service will assess if the reason is justified. Send the notification via secure email to [kasu.kainuu@migri.fi](mailto:kasu.kainuu@migri.fi). Send a secure email using the service [securemail.migri.fi](https://securemail.migri.fi). Enter your email address in the service and click "Continue". After this, you need to click "Register" and then follow the instructions sent to your

email. During the registration process, you will receive an email containing a personal link that you can use to identify yourself in the service. The link you receive is valid for 30 days.

- Bring a packed lunch or lunch money with you.
- Bring all medication that you need during the day.
- Do not bring any children with you, unless they have been invited to the interview.
- Do not be late for the interview. The invitation explains where and when the interview will take place.

## What you should do on the day of the interview at the Finnish Immigration Service

- You cannot change the date of the interview without a good reason. If you are sick on the day of the interview, tell the Finnish Immigration Service about it at once. Send the notification via secure email to [kasu.kainuu@migri.fi](mailto:kasu.kainuu@migri.fi). Send a secure email using the service: [securemail.migri.fi](https://securemail.migri.fi). You must send a certificate given by a nurse or doctor to the Finnish Immigration Service at the latest one week after the date of the interview.
- When you come to the Finnish Immigration Service's premises, a security check may be carried out on you.
- Present your passport, identity card or residence permit card and the invitation to the interview to a security guard of the Finnish Immigration Service.
- Only the persons invited to the interview, and other persons accepted in advance by the Finnish Immigration Service, can come to the waiting room.
- If you would like to bring a support person, you or your support person must ask the Finnish Immigration Service about this in writing before the interview. Otherwise, the interviewer will decide at the start of the interview if the support person may be with you. A support person is not a legal counsel, and they do not participate in examining your matters.
- The interviewer works for the Finnish Immigration Service. This employee will either be there in person or interview you via video link.
- The interview will be recorded. There is also a CCTV camera that records video in the room.
- The interview may take all day. You will have a lunch break and other breaks during the day if you need them. You can ask for a break at any time.
- If necessary, the interview will continue another day. In this case, you will receive a new invitation to an interview after some time.

## What happens in the interview?

- The interviewer will first explain what will happen during the interview and make sure that you have understood your rights and obligations. If you do not understand something, ask. If you do not understand the interpreter, say so.
- The interviewer will ask you questions related to different themes. Answer the questions honestly. If you do not know or cannot remember something, tell the interviewer.
- In the interview, you can give the Finnish Immigration Service information that may affect the decision in your case. For example, if you are suspected of an offence, or if you have been convicted of an offence in this country, this may affect the processing of your case at the Finnish Immigration Service. If necessary, the Finnish Immigration Service will give you an opportunity to state your opinion about the matter during the interview.
- The interviewer will review the protocol with you in part or in full if the Finnish Immigration Service considers this necessary. If the interviewer does not check the protocol with you in full during the interview, you will be given a deadline by which you can make additions or corrections to the protocol. You will receive a copy of the protocol.

## How does the Finnish Immigration Service make its decision?

- The Finnish Immigration Service will make a decision on your matter based on the information you provided in the interview and other documents presented. The Finnish Immigration Service may also use public sources to look for information that supports its decision.
- If necessary, the Finnish Immigration Service may obtain reports on the authenticity of your documents from your home country. The authorities will not hear about it, and there will be no risk to you or your loved ones.
- If the interviewer does not review the protocol with you in full during the interview, you will be given a deadline by which you may submit additions and corrections to the protocol. You may also submit additional information related to your application after the deadline until you receive a decision on your application. Please note that it may not be possible to take additional information provided after the deadline into consideration in the decision. Provide any additional information in writing.
- If your refugee status or subsidiary protection status is cancelled or ended, or your residence permit is cancelled, you have the right to apply for support for voluntary return. This support is provided on certain conditions, which will be checked when you apply for it. See more information and the contact information of assistance for voluntary return on the Finnish Immigration Service's website at [migri.fi/paluu](https://migri.fi/paluu).