# **Croatia Immigration Detention Data Profile**



**Global Detention Project Profile** 



1	Quick Facts	
	Immigration detainees (2018)	928
1	Detained asylum seekers (2016)	50
	Detained minors (2018)	110
	Persons expelled (2018)	2,210
7 1 1 1	International migrants (2019)	518,083
	New asylum applications (2019)	1,275

#### **NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE**

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <a href="https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/europe/croatia">https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/europe/croatia</a>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

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### **STATISTICS**

#### **Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics**

Observation Date Observation Date									
								Observation Date	
	928	201	8				9	2013	
	258	201	5				6	2012	
	425	201	4				4	2011	
	533	201	3				10	2010	
Total number of	784	201	2	Number of	persons		13	2009	
immigration detainees	649	201	1	granted alter immigration	natives to				
by year	559	201	0	minigration	actention				
	460	200	9						
	768	200	8						
	1,583	200	7						
	1,710	200	6						
	50	201	6				110	2018	
	41	201	5				73	2017	
	81	201	4				68	2017	
	73	201	3			59	2016		
Number of detained asylum seekers		•		Total num detained i			39	2010	
							25	2009	
							27	2008	
							96	2007	
							61	2006	
	110	201	8			_	5,580	2018	
		•					3,495	2017	
Number of detained				Numbe		3,320	2016		
accompanied minors				apprehension citize			3,295	2015	
							2,500	2014	
							4,150	2013	
Immigration detainee	0.04	201	5	Ni. I			3	2019	
as a percentage of total	0.07	201	3	Number of d long-term im	migration		1	2016	
population	0.1	201	0	detention	centres				
	229	2019			2,210		2018		
	241	2017			2,125		2017		
Estimated capacity of dedicated long-term	140	2016	remo	per of persons ved/returned	1,890		2016		
immigration detention centres	116	2015		ary returns and portations)	1,940		2015		
					2,245		2014		
					2,530		2013		

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	1,320	2018		48.29	2017
Number of	1,085	2017	Percentage of persons removed in relation to	39.96	2016
deportations/forced returns only	950	2016	total number of people placed in removal	49.62	2015
returns only	690	2015	procedures		
	1,415	2014			
3,190 2018  Criminal prison 2,220 2016				5.7	2016
Criminal prison population	3,228	2016	Percentage of foreign prisoners	5.8	2013
	4,741	2013			
Prison population rate	78	2016			
(per 100,000 of national population)	108	2013			
Demographics and immi	gration-related sta	atistics			
		Observation Date			Observation Date
	4,100,000	2020		518,083	2019
	4,240,000	2015		560,500	2017
Population	4,400,000	2012	International migrants	576,900	2015
				757,000	2013
				573	2010
	13.4	2017		916	2019
	13.6	2015		787	2018
International migrants as a percentage of the	17.6	2013	Defusees	504	2017
population			Refugees	304	2016
				522	2015
				684	2014
	0.07	2016		1,275	2019
Ratio of refugees per	0.17	2014	Total number of new	1,988	2016
1000 inhabitants	0.17	2012	asylum applications	453	2014
				1,241	2012
	7.9	2014		2,886	2018
Refugee recognition			Statologe nercone	2,873	2016
rate			Stateless persons	2,886	2015
				_,	

# **DOMESTIC LAW**

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LEGAL TRADITION											
		Name			(	Observation Da	ate				
Legal tradition		Civil law				2019					
LAWS AND REGULATIONS											
Constitutional	Yes/No	Con	stitution and Article	s	Year /	Adopted	Last	Year Amended			
guarantees?	Yes	Constitution of	of Croatia, articles 22,	24 and 25	1	.990	2013				
LAWS AND REGULATIONS											
			Name			Year Adopted	Las	st Year Amended			
Core pieces of national legislation		Law on Forei	igners (Zakon o stranc	ima)		2011		2017			
iegisiation	Law on Inter		nporary Protection (Zał vremenoj zaštiti)	kon o međunar	odnoj i	2015		2017			
LAWS AND REGULATIONS											
Regulations, standards,			Name					Year Published			
guidelines	Rules of the	stay in the Recep	otion centre for foreign strance 66/2		avka u p	orihvatnom cent	ru za	2013			
GROUNDS FOR ADMINIST	RATIVE IMMIC	GRATION-RELAT	ED DETENTION								
	Name						bserv	ation Date			
	Detention to effect removal							2019			
	D€	etention for failing			2019						
	Detention to establish/verify identity and nationality							2019			
Immigration-status-	Detention for unauthorised entry or stay						2019				
related grounds	Detention to prevent unauthorised entry at the border						2019				
	Detention pending transfer to another Schengen country						2019				
	Detention during the asylum process						2019				
	Detention to ensure transfer under the Dublin Regulation						2019				
	Datant		ion to prevent abscond zed stay resulting fron		istian			2019			
GROUNDS FOR ADMINIST			, ,	ii ciiiiiiiai conv	ICUUII			2019			
Non-immigration-			Name			Oh-		on Date			
status-related grounds providing for			Name			Obse	rvati	on Date			
administrative detention in immigration legislation.	Detention on public order, threats or security grounds					2019					
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMM	IIGRATION-RE	LATED OFFENC	ES								
Does the country provide specific criminal	Fi	ines	Incarce	ration		Obser	vatio	n Date			
penalties for immigration-related violations?	,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Yes			2019					

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CRIMINALIZATION OF IMM	IGRATION-RELATED OFFEN	CES						
Grounds for criminal immigration-related	Grounds for Incarceration	Maximum	ys of Incarcerati	on	Observation Date			
detention/incarceration and maximum potential	Unauthorized entry	30			2019			
duration of incarceration	Unauthorised stay			60			2019	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMM	IGRATION-RELATED OFFENC	CES						
Has the country decriminalized	Has the country decri	minalized immigra	ation-r	elated v	iolations?	Obs	ervation Date	
immigration-related violations?		No					2019	
LENGTH OF DETENTION								
Maximum length for administrative	Number o	f Days			Obser	vation Dat	te	
immigration detention in law.	548			2013				
LENGTH OF DETENTION								
Maximum length of time in custody prior to	Number o		Obser	vation Dat	te			
in custody prior to ssuance of a detention order	2			2013				
LENGTH OF DETENTION								
Maximum length of	Number o	f Days		Observation Date				
detention for asylum- seekers	180			2019				
PROCEDURAL STANDARD	s							
	Name		Ir	ı Law	In Practice	Ol	bservation Date	
Provision of basic	Information to de	tainees		Yes	Yes		2019	
procedural standards	Right to appeal the lawfuln	ess of detention		Yes			2019	
	Independent review o	f detention		Yes			2019	
NON-CUSTODIAL MEASUR	ES (ALTERNATIVES TO DETE	NTION)						
	Name		In Law		In Practice		servation Date	
	Designated non-secure	housing	Yes		infrequently		2019	
Types of non-custodial measures	Supervised release and/or	reporting	Yes in		infrequently		2019	
	Registration (deposit of do	ocuments)	Yes		infrequently		2019	
	Release on bail		Yes	es infrequently			2019	

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VULNERABLE PERSONS												
	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date								
	Elderly	Provided	Not available	2019								
Is the detention of	Persons with disabilities	Provided	Not available	2019								
vulnerable persons provided in law? Are	Pregnant women	Provided	Not available	2019								
they detained in	Survivors of torture	Provided	Not available	2019								
practice?	Accompanied minors	Provided	Yes	2017								
	Asylum seekers	Provided	Yes	2017								
	Unaccompanied minors	Provided	Yes	2017								
MANDATORY DETENTION												
Mandatony detention	Filter	Name		Observation Date								
Mandatory detention	No	No		2019								

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Latest Update

Update Status	Observat Date
Responding to the Global Deteriors Project's Cord-of 3 survey. The Crostian Interior Ministry provided detailed from the control of the Cord of the Co	2020
//isits by Croatia's National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) are currently suspended, impairing access to data and information relating to immigration detention and removal measures. As such, when the GDP contacted the country's Ombudsperson's office requesting information pertaining to immigration detention practices during the pandemic, the office instead recommended contacting the country's Interior Ministry to obtain relevant information. To-date, however, the GDP has not received a response from the ministry. As the GDP reported in June (see 22 June update), Croatian police have reportedly engaged in violent border pushbacks of migrants and asylum seekers during the Covid-19 crisis. Although the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have both condemned these actions, the Border Violence Monitoring Network continued to report similar episodes throughout July. On 16 July, for instance, Croatian border police apprehended a group of five male Afghan refugees aged between 16 and 30 at the Batrovci-Bajakovo border crossing, Forced to line up along the side of the road, the group was allegedly kicked, punched, and slapped, and their heads were slammed against a wall. They were eventually returned to Serbia. On another occasion, a 42-year-old Tunisian man was allegedly apprehended in a field near vinkovci, forced is at aupropoint; robbed of 1600 EUR, his mobile phone, and backpack; handcuffed; and driven towards the Serbian border where a border officer stamped on his leg - breaking the bone.	2020
In a joint statement published on 19 June, the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, Felipe González Morales, and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, Nils Melzer, said that they "are deeply concerned about the repeated and ongoing disproportionate use of force by Croatian police against migrants in pushback operations. Victims, including children, have suffered physical abuse and humiliation is proportionate use of their migration status." The Special Rapporteurs mentioned that physical beatings, use of treatment against migrants had been reported in more than 60 percent of all recorded pushbacks from Croatia between January and May 2020. The reported abuse included physical beatings, use of electric socks, forced river crossings, stripping of clothes despite adverse weather conditions, forced stress positions, gender insensitive body searches and spray-painting the heads of migrants with crosses (see 21 May Croatia update on this platform). González Morales stated that such violent pushbacks without proper or official procedure or any due process safeguards constituted a violation of the prohibition of collective expulsions and the principle of non-refoulement. Melzer requested that Croatian authorities investigate all reported cases of violence against migrants and to hold perpetrators and their superiors to account. The UN Special Rapporteurs were also concerned that in several cases, Croatian police officers ignored requests from migrants to seek asylum or other protection under international law. The statement comes following an official visit from González Morales to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in 2019 where he had already received information concerning violent pushbacks by Croatian police to BiH. Melzer had received similar information during his official visit to Serbia and Kosovo in 2017.	2020
Allegations of pushbacks at Croatia's borders with Serbia and Bosnia have increased in recent years - as the GDP reported in its 2019 country profile. According to the Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN), these pushbacks have escalated during the pandemic, "confirming that illegal removal practices have not stopped, in spite of the formal closure of borders." In several instances, migrants and asylum seekers have reported Croatian police spray-painting crosses on their heads as they were pushed back into Bosnia. According to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, "The actions of spray-painting asylum seekers carry several disturbing meanings, including humiliating asylum seekers, marking repeat border crossers, and traumatizing predominantly Muslim asylum seekers by painting a religious symbol of the cross on their heads. This mirrors discriminatory and racits abuse against civilians that contravenes international human rights law." With many monitors unable to assess actions at the border due to movement restrictions, these operations are taking place in "increased silence." However, this practice was noted with alarm by UNHCR, which urged Croatian authorities to immediately investigate. According to the BVMN, the Covid-19 guidelines issued by the European Commission on 16 March invited rights breaches at borders such as these pushbacks. The network highlights the following statement, which they argue indirectly implicated migrants and asylum seekers as virus carriers: "Member States have the possibility to refuse noty to non-resident third country nationals where they present relevant symptoms or have been particularly exposed to risk of infection and are considered to be a threat to public health." Additional concerns have been noted regarding a confirmed case amongst the Croatian border guard. According to Are You Syrious, the confirmed case involved an officer who worked directly with those	2020

# **INTERNATIONAL LAW**

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Relevant international tro	eaties and date of ratification				
		Name			Ratification Year
	OP (	2017			
	OPCRPD, Optional Protocol to	2007			
	CRPD, Conventi	2007			
	OPCAT, Optional Protocol to th Degi	e Convention agair rading Treatment o		ruel, Inhuman or	2005
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Su	ppress and Punish and Childre		Especially Women	2003
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Sm United Nations Con	2003			
International treation	ICCPR, Internat	ional Covenant on	Civil and Political Right	S	1992
international treaties	ICESCR, International	Covenant on Econo	omic, Social and Cultura	al Rights	1992
	CEDAW, Convention on the E	1992			
	CAT, Convention against Tort	ure and Other Crue Punishmer		ng Treatment or	1992
	CRC, Co	1992			
	CRSR, Geneva Co	1992			
	PCRSR, Protocol to the G	eneva Convention	Relating to the Status o	of Refugees	1992
	CRSSP, Convention	on Relating to the S	Status of Stateless Pers	ons	1992
	VCCR, Vie	1992			
	ICERD, International Conventi	1992			
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified			16/19		
Relevant international tro	eaties and date of ratification				
International treaty	Name	Reserv	ation Year	Observa	tion Date
reservations	CRC Article 9		1992	19	992
Relevant international tro	eaties and date of ratification				
		Name			Acceptance Year
	CRPD, Optional Protocol to o	the Convention on	the Rights of Persons v	vith Disabilities	2007
Individual complaints procedure	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the	mination against	2001		
	ICCPR, First Optional Protocol to	the International C	ovenant on Civil and Po	olitical Rights, 1966	1995
	CAT, declara	1992			
Relevant international tro	eaties and date of ratification				
	Number			Observation Date	
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	4/7				
International treaties ratified  Relevant international treaty reservations  Relevant international treaty reservations  Relevant international treaty procedure	4/7				

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Relevant international tre	eaties and date	of ratification							
	Name	Name Recommendation Excerpt							
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Committee against Torture	§12 [] take steps to improve the material conditions in the prisons, psychiatric institutions and in the detention facility for foreigners. §15 [] The State party should place asylum seekers in detention onl exceptional cases and should regularly monitor the facilities used a accommodation for asylum seekers through the national preventiv mechanism or other monitoring mechanisms.[] (c) establish a mechanism that will provide access to counselling, treatment and rehabilitation for victims of torture, and any specific accommodation necessary during refugee status determination procedures; (d) ensure free legal aid is provided to asylum seekers and migrants in procedurely related to the decision on detention;	ly in as e E I ns that						
Regional treaties, regulat	ions, and direc	tives							
		Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)						
	ECHR, Conve (com	1997							
	ECHRP1, Pro	ptocol 1 to the European Convention on Human Rights (amended by protocol 11)	1997						
Regional legal instruments	ECHRP7, Pro	1997							
	ECHRF	2003							
	ECPT, Europea	1997							
	CATH	2007							
	CPCSE, Conv	rention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse	2011						

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Regional treaties, regula	tions, and direc	tives		
	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year	Observation Date
Recommendations issued by regional human rights mechanisms	European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)	§ 35: The CPT recommends that material conditions at Je zevo Detention Centre be improved in the light of the above remarks. In particular, steps should be taken to: - reduce occupancy levels in the dormitories; - provide detained persons with lockable space for keeping personal belongings; - ensure that male detainees have ready access to a sufficient number of toilets at night; - improve the provision of hot water in the common shower room and extend the number of hours during which the shower room is available. Further, the necessary repairs should be made in the sanitary annexes in the women srooms. § 40: The CPT recommends that steps be taken to improve the quality of individual medical files drawn up in respect of foreign nationals held at Je zevo Detention Centre, in the light of the above remarks. § 41: The CPT recommends that the Croatian authorities provide staff working at Je evo Detention Centre with appropriate training, taking into consideration the above remarks, and encourage greater interpersonal communication between staff and detainees. § 42: The CPT calls upon the Croatian authorities to ensure that staff working in centres for foreign nationals do not openly carry batons in detention areas. If it is deemed necessary for staff to be armed with such equipment, it should be hidden from view. § 46: The CPT recommends that the Croatian authorities review the practice of holding juveniles and unrelated adults in the same accommodation at Je evo Detention Centre.	2008	

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ilateral/Multilateral agre	ements linked to readmission	S		
	Name		Year in Force	Observation Date
	Austria		1998	2017
	Belgium		2005	2017
	Bulgaria		2003	2017
	Spain		2011	2017
	Estonia		2001	2017
	France		1996	2017
	Greece		1995	2017
	Hungary		2001	2017
	ltaly		1998	2017
	Latvia		1998	2017
Bilateral/multilateral	Lithuania		2000	2017
agreements linked to readmission	Luxembourg		2005	2017
	Netherlands		2005	2017
	Poland		1995	2017
	Romania		2002	2017
	Czech Republic		2004	2017
	Sweden		2003	2017
	Iceland		2002	2017
	Norway		2005	2017
	Switzerland		1993	2017
	Albania		2005	2017
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	ì	2003	2017
	Serbia		2004	2017
on treaty-based internal	tional human rights mechanisi	ms		
Visits by special	Name		Year of Visit	Observation Date
procedures of the Human Rights Council	None			2016
on treaty-based internal	tional human rights mechanisi	ms		·
Relevant	Recomendation Issue	ed	Year Issued	Observation Date
ecommendations of the UN Universal Periodic	No		2011	2017
Review	No		2015	

### **INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS**

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Governing st	tructures														
Federal or	centralized		Fede	eral or cer	ntralized go	overning	g system			Observation Date					
governin	g system			Ce	ntralized sy	stem						201	9		
Governing st	tructures														
Central decent			Centra	lized or de	ecentralize	d immig	ration aut	hority		Observation Date					
immigratio		,		Centra	lized immigi	ation au	thority					2	2017		
Institutions	responsible	e for imm	igration d	etention											
	Δ	gency		Ministry		М	inistry	Typolog	ıy		Obs	ervatio	n Da	te	
Custodial	authority			Mi	nistry of Inte	erior	Inte	rior or F	lome Aff	airs			2017		
Institutions	responsible	for imm	igration d	etention											
Detentio	n Facility		E	ntity Nam	ie		En	tity Typ	e e		(	Obser	vation [	Date	
Management			Border M	anagemen	t of Police		Gov	ernmen	tal				2017		
Institutions	responsible	e for imm	igration d	etention											
Formally designated detention estate?		Forn	Formally designated immigration detention estate?			Ту	Types of officially designated det centres			Observation C		n Date			
detention	i estate:		Yes			[	Dedicated immigration detention fac			cilities	cilities 2019				
Institutions	responsible	e for imm	igration d	etention											
	Immigration detention centre (Administrative)	Immigration field office (Administrative)	Transit centre (Administrative)	Reception centre (Administrative)	Offshore detention centre ( (Administrative)	Hospital Administrative	Border guard (Administrative)	Police station (Criminal)	National penitentiary (Criminal)	Local prison (Criminal)	Juvenile detention centre (Criminal)	Informal camp (Ad hoc)	Immigration detention centre (Ad hoc)	Surge facility (Ad hoc)	Observation Date
Types of detention facilities used in practice	Yes		Yes		(Auministrative)			Yes			(Criminal)		посу	iioc)	2017
			Yes												2007
Detention m	onitoring i	nstitution	ns												
Authorized	monitoring			stitution			Institution Type				Observation Date				
institu	utions	On	nbudswoma (	an of the Ro Croatia	epublic of		National Human Rights Institution ( Ombudsperson) (NHRI)				n (or	n (or 2017			
Detention m	onitoring i	nstitution	ns												
Is the nation rights institu	ution (NHR		Is the NHI		zed as inde tee of Nati					ordin	ating		Obser	vatio	n Date
indepe						Ye	S							2016	
Detention m	onitoring i	nstitutior	ıs												
Does NHRI			Does NHRI carry out visits in practice?							Obse	rvatio	n Date			
visi	ts?				Yes							2017	7		
Detention m	onitoring i	nstitution	ıs												
Does NH capacity t			Does I	NHRI have	capacity t	o receiv	e complai	nts?			Ok	serva	tion Da	te	
capacity to receive complaints?					Yes					2016					

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Detention monit	oring i	nstitu	tions																		
Does NHRI publicly release reports on immigration detention?			Does NHRI publicly release reports on immigration detention?													Observation Date					
			Yes												2017						
Detention monitor	oring i	nstitu	tions																		
Does national preventive mechanism			Does NPM carry out visits in practice?												Observation Date						
(NPM) carry out visits?			Yes												2017						
Detention monit	oring i	nstitu	tions																		
Does NPM publicly release reports on			Does NPM publicly release reports on immigration detention?													? Observation Date					
immigration det	?	Yes												2017							
Detention monit	oring i	nstitu	itions																		
Do NGOs carry out				Do I	<b>IGO</b> s	regular	ly carr	y ou	r visi	ts?				Observation Date							
visits?		Yes											2017								
Detention monit	oring i	nstitu	tions																		
Do international and/or regional bodies (IRBs) visit immigration- related detention facilities?			Do international and/or regional bodies (IRB) regularly visit immigration detention facilities?												ion-re	-related Observation D			ion Date		
			Yes													2007					
Detention monito	oring i	nstitu	tions																		
Do IRBs publicly		t	Do IF	RBs pub	licly ı	eport 1	heir fir	nding	gs fro	m de	etenti	on ins	spec	tions?			Obse	rvation [	Date		
their findings inspection		Yes												2007							
Outsourcing and	privat	isatio	n																		
Detention contractors and other non-state entities	Name of entity	Type of entity	Detainee transport	Food services	Health care	Social services	Laundry services		egal selling	Manag	gement	Owner detenti facilit	on R	ecreation	Securit		elephone service	Translation services	Observation Date		
	Croatian Law Centre	Cincity						Y	res			racijie	,						2015		
Expenditures	Centre																				
Estimated annual budget for detention operations			Estimated total annual budget for detention operations (in USD)			Building and maintenance			Security		Staff	ffing Food		d Med	lical	Transport		Observation Date			
			373,000															2013			
Expenditures																					
Estimated cost per			Estimated cost per detainees day (in USD)												Observation Date						
detainees day (i	)	20											2014								
Foreign sources	of fund	ding f	or dete	ntion o	perati	ons															
Does the country receive external sources of funding?			Benefitted from non-state funding sources?												Observation Date						
							Yes								2011						

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Foreign sources of funding for detention operations									
	Description of non-state assistance	Observation Date							
Description of foreign assistance	The EU provided eight million Euros for the construction of a specific unit for vulnerable persons within the existing detention centre in Jezevo as well as two border detention facilities, which are supposed to open in early 2017	2011							

More information about immigration detention in Croatia is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)

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