

Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council
of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in
Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals

CHAPTER IV

DETENTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF REMOVAL

Article 17

Detention of minors and families

- 1 Unaccompanied minors and families with minors shall only be detained as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.
- 2 Families detained pending removal shall be provided with separate accommodation guaranteeing adequate privacy.
- 3 Minors in detention shall have the possibility to engage in leisure activities, including play and recreational activities appropriate to their age, and shall have, depending on the length of their stay, access to education.
- 4 Unaccompanied minors shall as far as possible be provided with accommodation in institutions provided with personnel and facilities which take into account the needs of persons of their age.
- 5 The best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in the context of the detention of minors pending removal.