**Co-habitation coordination support scenario**

**[UR-PRAKSIS-35] Co-habitation coordination support**

*Context.* As mentioned above, refugees and asylum seekers (TCNs) in Greece need to leave their accommodation (the one that exist via specific programs) when they have the refugee status. Due to the high number of TCNs, it is a challenging task for PRAKSIS to provide help to all TCNs for finding new accommodation facilities. Therefore, they are informed about specific programs that exist, however, due to limitations in the capacity, there is also a high number of them searching for apartments in order to share with other refugees so that to jointly afford related costs.

*Rationale.* This, in turn, requires coordination support of TCNs to find candidates with whom they could share some flat based on most similar preferences.

*MyWELCOME contribution.* In WELCOME, the co-habitation coordination (CHC) scenario is concerned with helping TCNs to form groups of candidates for sharing an apartment according to their given individual and group constraints. The agents, however, neither search for available (rentable space in) rental apartments, nor do they match groups of TCNs with landlords of apartments for rent. these activities may be performed by the proposed groups of TCNs who best match with each other according to their individual preferences and some general hard (group) constraints of sharing some rental apartment in Greece. During self-coordination, TCNs may be assigned to more than one group of candidates for apartment sharing. In the CHC scenario, we consider the following family types: Single person; Nuclear family (2 parents and their children); Single-parent family (family headed by father or mother); Grandparent family (family with both grandparents).

At the end of a CHC process, each participating TCN shall be informed by his/ her agent about the recommended (approximately) optimal cohabitation group for her and the respective contact addresses of the other group members. The WELCOME system should make suggestions to the TCNs for their grouping with respect to co-habitation based on the following constraints:

1. **Individual constraints** specified by the TCNs (preferences)
2. **Age**: A TCN could prefer to belong to a group of similar or same age, to the extent possible, as they are more likely to share common interests. Recommended age groups for exclusive preference settings by TCNs: 18 – 25, 26 – 33, 34 – 43, 44 – 50 and 50 – no limit.
3. **Gender**: A TCN could prefer being member of a mixed-gender group or not. In fact, it is preferable for single men and single women not to share the same apartment. Single TCNs, however, might prefer to be in a mixed-gender group, if all group members would be members of the same family.
4. **Family:** 
   1. A TCN with one or more adolescent and/or adult children could prefer to belong to a group with (members of another family with) adolescent and/or adult children of same age group and sex, or not.
   2. A TCN could prefer to belong to a cohabitation group with different family types (e.g. nuclear and single-parent families) or not.
5. **Nationality**: Although many people do not have a problem when working with other nationalities, some of the TCNs might have. To avoid respective conflicts and communication problems in co-habitation groups, the agent should respect the preference of its TCN about being assigned to a group with other nationalities than her own one, or not. This constraint can be, however, ignored for sake of finding an overall grouping solution.
6. **Religion**: A TCN could prefer to be in a mixed-religion group or not.
7. **Ethnicity**: A TCN could prefer to be in a mixed ethnic group (e.g. Kurds and Arabs) or not.
8. **Apartment preferences:** A TCN could specify rental flat or apartment related preferences
   1. Location (area) of apartment
   2. Number of bedrooms
   3. Number of bathrooms
   4. Size (in square meters)
   5. Central heating
   6. House elevator
   7. Accessibility (disabled accessible)
   8. Furnished
   9. Nearby infrastructure (school, physicians, supermarkets, etc.)
   10. Nearby public transportation
   11. Rental period (min-max/from-to)
   12. Rental costs (min-max) - Costs of rental apartments vary in Greece, depending on the area. Usually rental costs are higher in Athens and Thessaloniki than in the rest of Greece. A furnished apartment is more expensive than an unfurnished one. The rent probably will not include utilities (electricity, water and heating costs).
9. **Urgency of renting**: A TCN could specify the exceptional constraint of having to rent an apartment after receiving their decision granting international protection, or not.
10. **Cohabitation group constraints**

1. All members of a cohabitation group have most similar individual constraints (preferences) for rental apartment sharing.

2. The number of TCNs in a co-habitation group must not exceed the total number of persons that the commonly preferred apartment configurations allow (square meters/number of bedrooms), if such information is available.

3. A cohabitation group with single-parent family headed by father or mother shall be extended with single-parent family headed by father or mother, respectively, if possible.

4. All members of a cohabitation group shall be able to communicate among each other in at least one common language.

5. Family-specific cohabitation group constraints.

6. A cohabitation group shall not have TCNs who belong to different family types (e.g. nuclear and single-parent families) unless they are all consent with it by means of their individual preferences.

7. The combination of a nuclear family and a grandparent family (with both grandparents being present) in a cohabitation group is allowed.

8. The combination of a single parent family (e.g. mother) and a grandparent family (e.g. grandmother) in a cohabitation group is allowed.

***Please note that the cohabitation group constraints above are key/informal points that the TCNs themselves could adjust (with PRAKSIS) if appropriate.***