

Germany

February 2022

Germany is the fifth largest **host country** of refugees in the world and the second largest **humanitarian donor** globally. In 2021, Germany was also the second largest donor to UNHCR.

Over the past years, Germany has expanded its engagement in refugee protection globally and in the European Union, including by strongly supporting the **Global Compact for Refugees**.

In cooperation with UNHCR, Germany is also engaged in the **resettlement** of particularly vulnerable refugees, including as a sign of responsibility sharing.

POPULATION OF CONCERN*

Refugees	1.24 million
Asylum-seekers	232,481
Stateless persons	26,980

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Syrian Arab Republic	616,325	Syrian Arab Republic	48,939
Afghanistan	152,677	Afghanistan	30,146
Iraq	147,400	Iraq	25,401

*Data source: UNHCR 2021 Mid-Year Statistical Report and UNHCR [data finder platform](#)

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Advocacy: UNHCR published [recommendations](#) on how to respond to COVID-19 challenges at the border, in reception centres, and within the asylum procedure.

Inclusion: Asylum-seekers and refugees are included in Germany's COVID-19 response measures, including the vaccination scheme.

Communication with Communities: UNHCR has compiled information in relevant languages for asylum-seekers and refugees on COVID-19 prevention and response measures on UNHCR Germany's [help site](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

Germany as a country of asylum

In 2021, some 190,816 persons lodged asylum claims compared to 122,170 persons in 2020. The overall protection rate (refugee status and subsidiary protection) was 63 per cent.

Germany as a resettlement country

In January 2022, the Government decided on the basis of the new coalition agreement to increase the annual admission target to 6,000 persons. UNHCR works with government partners to advise and support them in their admission initiatives per the coalition agreement.

Germany as a global donor, partner

Germany was UNHCR's second largest donor in 2021 with record contributions of USD 488 million, the bulk of which were flexible, softly earmarked funds at situation level enabling UNHCR to respond to emerging needs.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION



In the run-up to the federal election in Germany, UNHCR produced videos with refugee voices, expressing their hopes and expectations for the next German government as well as their challenges and experiences related to family reunification.

Key Priorities

- Strengthen respect for the 1951 Refugee Convention:** UNHCR encourages the Government and other partners to uphold the core principles of the 1951 Convention, including in the European Union. It works with counterparts at all levels so that policy and practices in Germany are in line with the obligations under the Convention, and protection needs continue to be determined in fair and efficient procedures. Promoting openness and understanding for the protection needs of refugees in the political discourse and in practice is also considered important to reinforce the values and principles of the 1951 Convention in Germany.
- Actively implement the Global Compact on Refugees:** UNHCR encourages Germany to further advance its positive role in international refugee protection and responsibility-sharing. UNHCR draws attention to the criticality of maintaining substantial humanitarian assistance in support of refugees and internally displaced persons. It supports the Government's efforts to reduce pressure on large refugee hosting countries through targeted bilateral and development cooperation, in the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees.
- Promote resettlement and support implementation:** UNHCR supports the federal as well as some state governments in implementation of resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes. With a view to expanding safe pathways to protection, UNHCR calls for a substantial increase in places. Moreover, UNHCR cooperates with various stakeholders in the German community sponsorship programme 'Neustart im Team (NesT)'.
- Foster improvements in family reunification:** UNHCR observes the legal framework and practice of family reunification and proposes some improvements in the legislation granting family

reunification. In cooperation with partners providing counselling services in the area of family reunification, UNHCR promotes improvements in the procedures in order to make them fairer and more efficient.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR maintains strong and reliable partnerships with the most relevant actors involved in refugee protection in Germany at national and state levels.
- The Ministry of Interior and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees are important stakeholders, as are Members of Parliament and civil society.
- UNHCR liaises with the Federal Foreign Office as the ministry in charge of humanitarian assistance as well as the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), on UNHCR's global operation, developments and evolving needs.
- UNHCR works with its national private sector fundraising partner UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe e.V. to enhance communication with private donors.

Statelessness

- UNHCR raises awareness about the situation of stateless persons and international standards on their treatment. UNHCR further advocates for a withdrawal of reservations on part of the German Government declared upon ratification of the statelessness conventions.

UNHCR Presence in Germany

Staff:

12 National Staff
 3 International Staff

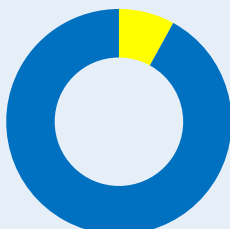
Offices:

1 Country Office in Berlin
 1 Liaison Office in Nuremberg

Financial information (22 February 2022)

Financial requirements
USD 2.5 M

Funding gap
92%
2.3 M



Funded
8%
0.2 M

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the 2022 global programmes. Donors of USD 10 million or more are:

Sweden | Norway | Netherlands | Denmark | Germany | Switzerland | Belgium | Ireland

Unearmarked contributions provide UNHCR with vital flexibility in determining how best to protect and assist persons of concern who are in the greatest needs or at the greatest risks.