

# Liechtenstein

September 2021

The Principality of Liechtenstein regularly provides **financial support** to UNHCR. The number of asylum applications in 2020 was 20% lower, compared to 2019.

Most applications are rejected as inadmissible. This is due to the fact that Liechtenstein participates in the Dublin system and that many applicants come from **safe countries of origin**.

UNHCR promotes the integration and inclusion of persons of concern into Liechtenstein's rural communities.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN\*

Refugees\*\* **154**  
Asylum-seekers **31**

\*\*incl. provisionally admitted persons

## TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN\*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
China	35	Iraq	6
Syria	32	Somalia	5
Somalia	26	Ukraine	5

\*Data source: UNHCR 2020 Global Trends Report and UNHCR [data finder platform](#)

## COVID-19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

**Advocacy:** UNHCR regularly monitors the situation of persons of concern during the pandemic in Liechtenstein and provides advice to the relevant stakeholders in the country.

**Inclusion of persons of concern:** persons of concern are included in COVID-19 protection concepts in the same way as the local population. This also applies to the vaccination programme in Liechtenstein.

**Communication with Communities:** The refugee-community in Liechtenstein is very small. Communication channels are mostly rather direct, informal, and uncomplicated.

**Health:** More information about vaccination plans available [here](#) (Liechtenstein) and [here](#) (UNHCR).

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Community-based

UNHCR is implementing a more **participatory approach** and published a brochure to promote such an approach for all stakeholders.

### Specific needs

In cooperation with EASO, UNHCR conducted on 9 September a webinar to provide an overview of the main international and national legislation to be considered for persons with special needs, presenting the EASO identification tools, and offering a platform to discuss the potential use of the tools in the Swiss and Liechtenstein context. There were participants from the Liechtenstein Aliens Office (APA) and the Association for Human Rights (VML).

### Family reunification

UNHCR advocated for **family reunification** with TV-spots and a video with explanations for refugee communities.



### From Syria to Vaduz: Liechtenstein becomes a new home for two Kurdish girls

For almost three years, Jwana and Rozana have been living with their mother in Triesen thanks to the UNHCR resettlement programme with Liechtenstein. More [here](#).

## Key Priorities

- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR continuously advocates for an asylum procedure which is fair and efficient and for removing admissibility criteria not in line with international law.
- **Solutions/Integration:** UNHCR advocates for the introduction of a subsidiary protection status with rights aligned to those of refugees. In addition, the Office monitors the implementation of the new integration strategy.
- **Resettlement and Complementary Pathways:** Liechtenstein offered in October 2013 to resettle one Syrian family from Jordan. Based on the success of this resettlement case, Liechtenstein accepted in February 2015 five additional families. These arrived in Liechtenstein in three groups between July and September 2015. Due to the rising number of asylum applications in 2015 (150 instead of 65 in 2014, significantly above the five-year average of 83) and Liechtenstein's participation in the EU relocation programme, Liechtenstein has not accepted any new resettlement case since then.
- **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance:** UNHCR advocates for the introduction of community-based approaches and issued an information booklet for this purpose.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR [advocates](#) for:
  - a fair and efficient asylum procedure,
  - the introduction of a subsidiary protection status,
  - an effective integration strategy.

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR maintains regular contact with all relevant governmental entities, the courts and civil society actors such as the Liechtenstein Refugee Council and the Liechtenstein Human Rights Association.
- **External Engagement:** Our external engagement aims at fostering public awareness of the importance

of refugee protection, the need for resettlement places and the improvement of the legal framework.

## Statelessness

- In 2009, Liechtenstein acceded to both the 1954 relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. However, there is no specific procedure for the recognition of statelessness. Though law provides stateless persons, recognized as such, with the right to have a travel document issued, it does not result in a residence title.

## UNHCR Presence in Liechtenstein

There is no UNHCR presence in the Principality of Liechtenstein. It is covered by the Country Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, based in Bern, Switzerland.

## Financial information (28 September 2021)

Information relates to the Representations for Austria and to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, to the Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, the Liaison Office in Vienna and the presence in Portugal

### Financial requirements

USD 5.2 M



UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the 2021 global programmes. Donors of USD 10 million or more are:

**Norway | Sweden | Private donors Spain | Netherlands | Denmark | Private donors Korea | United Kingdom | Germany | Private donors Japan | Japan | France | Switzerland | Private donors Italy | Private donors Sweden | Ireland | Belgium | Italy | United States of America**