

Ireland

September 2022

Decisions to facilitate travel to Ireland for refugees from Ukraine: The Government lifted visa requirements for Ukrainian citizens on 25 February and opted into the EU Temporary Protection Decision of 4 March.

8,878 new applications for international protection were lodged as of 31 Aug: This represents an almost threefold increase in comparison to the same period in 2019, the last year unaffected by COVID-19 travel restrictions.

UNHCR increased communication with communities' activities, including Posters and outreach visits to accommodation centres, HELP page, Ukrainian/Russian language help line.

POPULATION OF CONCERN as of 30 June 2022*

Refugees	51,647
Asylum-seekers	9,774
Stateless persons	7

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	41,043	Georgia	1,681
Syrian Arab Rep.	2,954	Nigeria	1,132
Zimbabwe	797	Somalia	1,130

*Source: UNHCR provisional mid-year 2022 data

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of 30 September, 49,999 refugees from Ukraine are currently present in Ireland.

54,826 refugees from Ukraine were registered for temporary protection in Ireland.

Information Provision: UNHCR Ireland has focused on distributing up to date information for refugees from Ukraine since the outbreak of war. Materials with QR codes in Ukrainian, Russian and English have been distributed to information hubs and accommodation centres which direct readers to our help page (help.unhcr.org/Ireland). This website which contains regularly translated and updated information and resources.

Help line: UNHCR Ireland has been operating a help line for refugees from Ukraine every Thursday from 2-5pm. This has been operating with pro-bono support from Arthur Cox, a local law firm.

Monitoring: UNHCR Ireland has conducted protection monitoring visits to accommodations providing shelter for refugees from Ukraine to observe procedures and facilities in place.

HIGHLIGHTS

Resettlement

Resettlement arrivals to Ireland were lower than planned in 2022 due to housing shortages and increased pressure on the availability of accommodation due to the arrival of large numbers of refugees from Ukraine. Of the 84 refugees resettled from Lebanon, 5 were welcomed as part of the Community Sponsorship Ireland programme, which gives towns and cities around Ireland the opportunity to support the integration of refugees into their communities. Ireland has committed to resettling 2,900 refugees from 2020 to 2023.

Asylum Procedures

32% per cent of decisions on refugee status or subsidiary protection in the first six months of 2022 were successful at first instance, at the International Protection Office. Of appeals to the International Protection Appeals Tribunal, 40% per cent were successful in the same period.

Accommodation

Over 15,000 persons were accommodated by the International Protection Accommodation Service as of 8 Sept 2022.

MARLON JIMENEZ COMPTON



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UNHCR Ireland released a story for Pride Month about Marlon Jimenez Compton. Marlon is a former Venezuelan refugee who has found safety and love in Ireland. The social media [video](#) featured across Irish and Global channels.

Key Priorities

- **Complementary pathways:** UNHCR Ireland continues to work on the EU Passworld Project aiming to create new, safe, and legal routes for displaced people to secure education scholarships and labour opportunities. The National University of Ireland, Galway has committed to offering the first higher education scholarship to a refugee by the end of this year.
- **Inclusion:** UNHCR Ireland was proud to announce the [Irish Refugee Advisory Board \(IRAB\)](#) to the public. The Board has convened several times and underlined issues of concern from their communities. Board members have also consulted on UNHCR campaigns and spoken around World Refugee Day.
- **Information & Communication with Communities:** The UNHCR Ireland Protection team have increased information sessions in accommodation centres throughout Ireland, for both beneficiaries of temporary protection and asylum seekers. QR code posters with information on anti-trafficking have also been distributed during these visits.
- **Media interventions:** UNHCR Ireland published two op-eds in Irish mainstream newspapers, print and online. Sipiwe Moyo, member of the IRAB featured in the [Irish Independent](#) around World Refugee Day. UNHCR Head of Office, Enda O'Neill, has spoken to Irish Broadcast media and published in the [Sunday Business Post](#). He penned a piece around the action the Government must take to secure the reform of the Irish international protection system.
- **Capacity-building:** In line with UNHCR's advisory role as set out in Article 35 of the 1951 Refugee Convention, UNHCR facilitated six training sessions and continued to work on quality assurance activities with state bodies such as the International Protection Office, the International Protection Appeals Tribunal and the Border Management Unit.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR's Head of Office continues as a member on the Programme Board overseeing the end of Direct Provision, Ireland's reception system.
- For World Refugee Day, UNHCR Ireland held the annual [Fairplay Football Cup](#) and [National Book Reading Campaign](#). UNHCR staff also attended and spoke at several events around the day, including book launches, award ceremonies and sports activities.
- UNHCR Ireland's high profile supporter Jess Murphy published her book '[The United Nations of Cookies](#)' featuring recipes from refugees all over Ireland. Writer proceeds from the book will be generously donated to UNHCR.
- UNHCR Ireland produced four short food films along with Jess Murphy and refugee chefs throughout the country. The [films premiered](#) in the [Galway Film Fleadh \(Film Festival\)](#). Participants attended and took questions after the event.

Statelessness

- Ireland has acceded to both the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- Ireland does not have a statelessness determination procedure in place. UNHCR continues to advocate the establishment of one in line with Action 6 of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness. Disaggregated data on stateless persons in Ireland is not systematically collected.

UNHCR Presence in Ireland

Staff:

9 National Staff
2 Affiliated Workforce

Offices:

1 National Office in Dublin

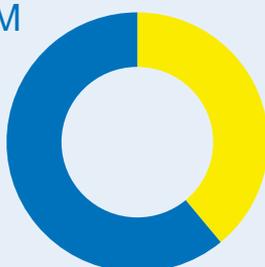
Financial information* (30 September 2022)

*Information relates to the Representation for EU Affairs, Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and the Liaison Offices to EUAA and Frontex.

Financial requirements

USD 11.4 M

Funding gap
61%
7 M



Funded
39%
4.4 M

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As well as for the generous contributions from private individuals and the private sector.