

Germany

February 2023

Germany is a large **refugee hosting country** as well as the second-largest **humanitarian donor** globally. In 2022, Germany was also the **second-largest donor to UNHCR**.

Germany is an important partner in refugee protection globally and in the European Union. It strongly supports the implementation of the **Global Compact for Refugees**, including through resettlement.

UNHCR welcomes the implementation of the **EU Temporary Protection Directive** for refugees from Ukraine providing expeditious access to protection and avoiding queues in the asylum procedures.

UNHCR POPULATION STATISTICS AS OF MID-022*

Refugees	2,234,932
Asylum-seekers	237,691
Stateless persons	28,941

Top three countries of origin*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	876,311	Syrian Arab Republic	43,628
Syrian Arab Republic	664,238	Afghanistan	41,300
Afghanistan	183,631	Iraq	29,368

*UNHCR 2022 Mid-Year Trends and UNHCR [data finder](#)

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of 15 February, **881,400 refugees from Ukraine** were registered for temporary protection in Germany.

Reception: UNHCR regularly visits arrival and reception centres for and provides feedback on findings, and recommendations to the relevant authorities. UNHCR also conducts individual interviews or focus group discussions with refugees to obtain first-hand information.

Help page: UNHCR [Help page](#) with information for asylum-seekers and refugees is available in Ukrainian, Russian, English and German.

Employment: The number of employees subject to social insurance contributions with Ukrainian citizenship has increased from 57,000 in February 2022 to 125,000 in February 2023. At least 116,000 refugees from Ukraine attend integration courses.

Education: 203,000 children and youth from Ukraine have been admitted to general and vocational schools, as of 22 January 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

Germany as a country of asylum

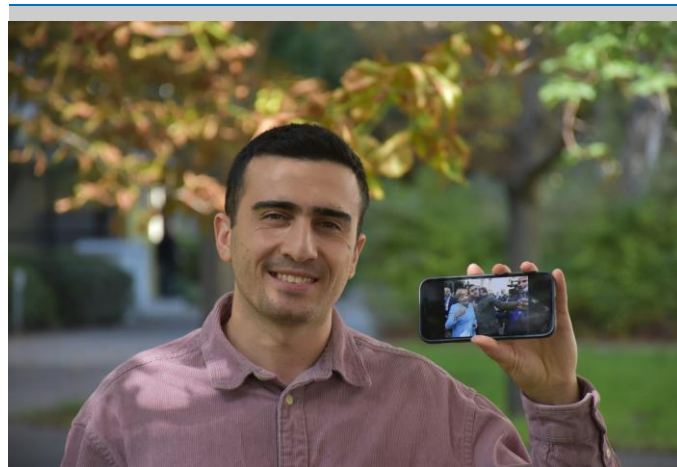
Germany is a large refugee-hosting country. In 2022, over 244,000 asylum claims were filed, including over 217,000 first-time applications. Of decisions on merits, the overall protection rate in 2022 (refugee status, subsidiary or humanitarian protection) was 72.2%, with many positive decisions granted to applicants from Syria and Afghanistan.

Germany as a resettlement country

In 2022, Germany admitted close to 6,000 refugees through resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, and plans to continue with a target of 6,500 places in 2023. UNHCR advises and supports authorities on these initiatives.

Germany as a global donor

Germany has remained UNHCR second-largest donor in 2022 with record contributions of USD 537 million, enabling effective responses to the needs in new and protracted displacement situations. The bulk of Germany's funding was flexible and softly earmarked at situation level, enabling UNHCR to respond effectively to emerging needs.



Anas Modamani shows the picture that made him famous in 2016 – a selfie with the then Federal Chancellor of Germany, Dr. Angela Merkel, who won the **2022 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award**. Mr. Modamani who fled his home country of Syria, is now a German citizen, studies and works at Deutsche Welle.

Key Priorities

- Strengthen respect for the 1951 Refugee Convention:** UNHCR works with counterparts at all levels so that policy and practices in Germany are in line with the obligations under the 1951 Convention, and eligibility for protection continues to be determined in fair and efficient procedures. To this end, UNHCR has regular exchanges with the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, including on quality of procedures. It also engages with judges on questions of eligibility. 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.
- Resettlement and complementary pathways:** UNHCR supports the federal as well as some state governments in the implementation of resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, including efforts to enhance flexibility of procedures and the implementation of an ‘unallocated quota’, which enables submissions from countries without a regular resettlement programme to Germany. Moreover, UNHCR cooperates with various stakeholders in the German community sponsorship programme ‘Neustart im Team (NesT)’ which has become a permanent programme.
- Family Reunification:** UNHCR, in cooperation with partners, is advocating for improving the legal framework, procedures and practice of family reunification. It supports partners in providing counselling services.
- Promote support for 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.

- DAFI scholarship programme:** A highlight in Germany’s support to refugees worldwide is the DAFI scholarship programme (Deutsche Akademische Flüchtlingsinitiative Albert Einstein). In the 30 years of its existence, the programme has enabled more than 22,500 refugees to access tertiary education. In 2022, the programme was implemented in 56 countries worldwide.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR maintains strong partnerships with relevant actors involved in refugee protection at national and state levels, including the Ministry of Interior and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, Members of Parliament, civil society, and the administrative courts.
- 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 operations, developments, and evolving needs.
- UNHCR cooperates with its national private sector fundraising partner UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe e.V.

UNHCR Presence in Germany

Staff:

12 National Staff
 4 International Staff

Offices:

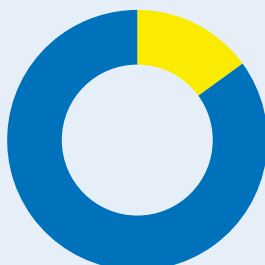
1 Country Office in Berlin
 1 Liaison Office in Nuremberg

Financial information (February 2023)

Financial requirements

USD 2.5 M

Funding gap 85 %
 2.1 M



Funded 15 %
 0.4 M

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

Belgium | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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