

Sweden

September 2022

Sweden has made **outstanding contributions to international refugee protection** over the past decades and is the most important multi-year donor of flexible funding to UNHCR.

Sweden is strongly engaged in current European discussions on the **draft Pact for Migration and Asylum**, working towards a consensus to uphold international refugee protection.

Sweden has a **well-established asylum system**, long standing commitment to refugee resettlement and comprehensive integration programmes.

POPULATION OF CONCERN as of 30 June 2022*

Refugees	276,381
Asylum-seekers	14,131
Stateless persons	46,515

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Syrian Arab Rep.	113,213	Afghanistan	1,904
Ukraine	40,129	Iraq	1,391
Afghanistan	26,857	Ukraine	1,345

*Source: UNHCR provisional mid-year 2022 data

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of 30 September, **46,236** refugees from Ukraine are currently present in Sweden and registered for temporary protection.

UNHCR response: Protection monitoring and assessment, including of implementation of temporary protection framework and dialogue with refugees from Ukraine.

Essential items and services, such as housing, food, daily allowance, health care and education are provided by the Government to newly arrived refugees from Ukraine.

Support to the most vulnerable: Governments and civil society scaled up support to protect children and to prevent gender-based violence.

Coordination: UNHCR participates in monitoring and inter-agency assessments of the needs of Ukrainian refugees to help inform the government and organizations on how to address these needs.

HIGHLIGHTS

Fair and fast asylum procedures

Sweden continues to invest in such procedures with quality initiatives, frontloading, and diversified case processing modalities with specific procedures (tracks) according to characteristics of the asylum application identified during the initial process.

6,411 refugees

were resettled to Sweden in 2021. Sweden offers a yearly quota of 5,000 resettlement places.

More than 40,000 formerly stateless

individuals have acquired Swedish nationality between the start of the #IBelong Campaign in 2014 and the end of 2021.

ON WORLD REFUGEE DAY, UNHCR PASSED THE MIC TO FIVE YOUNG REFUGEE SPEAKERS



To mark World Refugee Day in Stockholm, UNHCR passed the mic to four participants of the Refugee Speakers Programme and to a Burundian refugee and aspiring journalist in Kakuma camp in Kenya. Read more about the pilot **Refugee Speakers Programme**, established in cooperation with TEDx Stockholm.

Key Priorities

- **Advocacy:** UNHCR promotes Sweden's compliance with international and European standards relating to international protection of refugees. UNHCR seeks to support the Government to develop and strengthen national laws and policies in the area of international protection and improve public attitudes towards persons of concern to UNHCR.
- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR promotes fair and efficient asylum procedures and supports the national asylum authorities to continuously improve the asylum system, through quality initiatives and other forms of capacity building.
- **Resettlement and Complementary Pathways:** Sweden has assumed a leading role in galvanizing support for the global strategy on resettlement and complementary pathways.
- **Integration:** The integration of refugees into Swedish society is facilitated through comprehensive efforts and an all-of-society approach, including targeted education, inclusive employment policies and tackling segregation. UNHCR recommends Sweden to grant all beneficiaries of international protection a secure and stable status to facilitate integration.
- **Family Reunification:** UNHCR works with the government and other partners to reduce and remove practical, legal, and financial obstacles to family reunification, including to refrain from imposing a maintenance requirement for refugees to reunite with their families.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish Migration Agency, County Administrative Boards, Swedish Association for Municipalities and Regions to support legal and policy development. With research institutions and civil society actors, UNHCR helps foster successful local integration of refugees in Sweden including the promotion of community sponsorship.
- **External Engagement:** UNHCR works with partners to raise awareness on asylum and statelessness issues. During key events, such as the WRD and Opinion Festivals, UNHCR promotes the inclusion of refugee voices in the public debate.

Statelessness

- Sweden has acceded to both Conventions.
- The Government-appointed working group on an Inquiry on Nationality presented its report in 2021 with proposals for further alignment of domestic legislation with Sweden's obligations under the UN Conventions on statelessness. UNHCR provided recommendations to strengthen safeguards for children born stateless, including a recommendation to proceed with automatic acquisition of Swedish nationality for children born stateless.

UNHCR Presence in Nordic and Baltic Countries*

Staff:

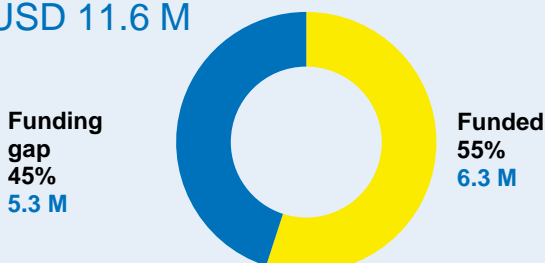
19 National Staff
 13 International Staff

Offices:

1 Regional Office in Stockholm
 1 Liaison Office in Vilnius
 1 Sub Office in Tallinn
 1 Sub Office in Riga

Financial information* (September 2022)

Financial requirements
 USD 11.6 M



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

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

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

*Information relates to the Representation for the Nordic and Baltic countries, which includes Representation for Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Sweden