

Liechtenstein

February 2022

The Principality of Liechtenstein regularly provides **financial support** to UNHCR.

Most asylum applications in Liechtenstein are rejected as inadmissible. This is largely since Liechtenstein participates in the Dublin system and 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** 131
Asylum-seekers 15

**includes provisionally admitted persons

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN*

	Refugees		Asylum-seekers
China	35	Iraq	5
Syrian Arab Republic	32	Republic of Moldova	5
Somalia	25	Ukraine	5

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

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

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

Inclusion: Persons of concern are included in COVID-19 prevention and protection measures 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 direct, informal and uncomplicated.

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

HIGHLIGHTS

High-level visits to Liechtenstein

The Head of UNHCR's Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein (OSL) went on mission to Liechtenstein to meet the new Ministers of Interior and Foreign Affairs. She also met with UNHCR's most important NGO the Liechtenstein Refugee Council and the Liechtenstein Society for Human Rights. Issues discussed included the Government's planned review of reception arrangements, possibilities to reinitiate a small-scale resettlement programme, Liechtenstein's contributions to the Global Refugee Forum, and a possible visit of the High Commissioner to Liechtenstein in 2022.

Focus on specific needs

UNHCR and the Council of Europe jointly organized on 1 and 2 December 2021 an online training on "LGBTQI+ persons in the asylum procedure". This practical training was a follow-up to last year's training.

BRING REFUGEES COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



OSL held two workshops in November and December 2021 with representatives of refugee communities from Switzerland and Liechtenstein to promote linkages. See more information [here](#).

Key Priorities

- **Workshops with refugee leaders:** On 27 November and 11 December 2021, OSL organized two workshops with more than 20 leaders of refugee communities from Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The workshops laid the foundation for a systematic and long-term cooperation between representatives of refugee communities.
- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR continuously advocates for an asylum procedure that is fair and efficient and for removing admissibility criteria not in line with international law.
- **Solutions/Integration:** UNHCR advocates introduction of a subsidiary protection status with rights aligned to those of refugees. In addition, OSL monitors 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 five additional families in February 2015, who arrived 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.
- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** UNHCR advocates 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 and an effective integration strategy.

Working with Partners

- **Regular contacts:** 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:** OSL's 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 Convention 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. Although law provides stateless persons, recognized as such, with the right to issuance of a travel document, 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 (22 February 2022)

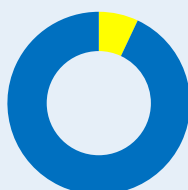
Information relates to the Representations for Austria and to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, to the Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein (OSL), the Liaison Office in Vienna and the presence in Portugal

Financial requirements

USD 5.2 M

Funding gap
93%

4.5 M



Funded
7%

0.7 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 need or at the greatest risk.