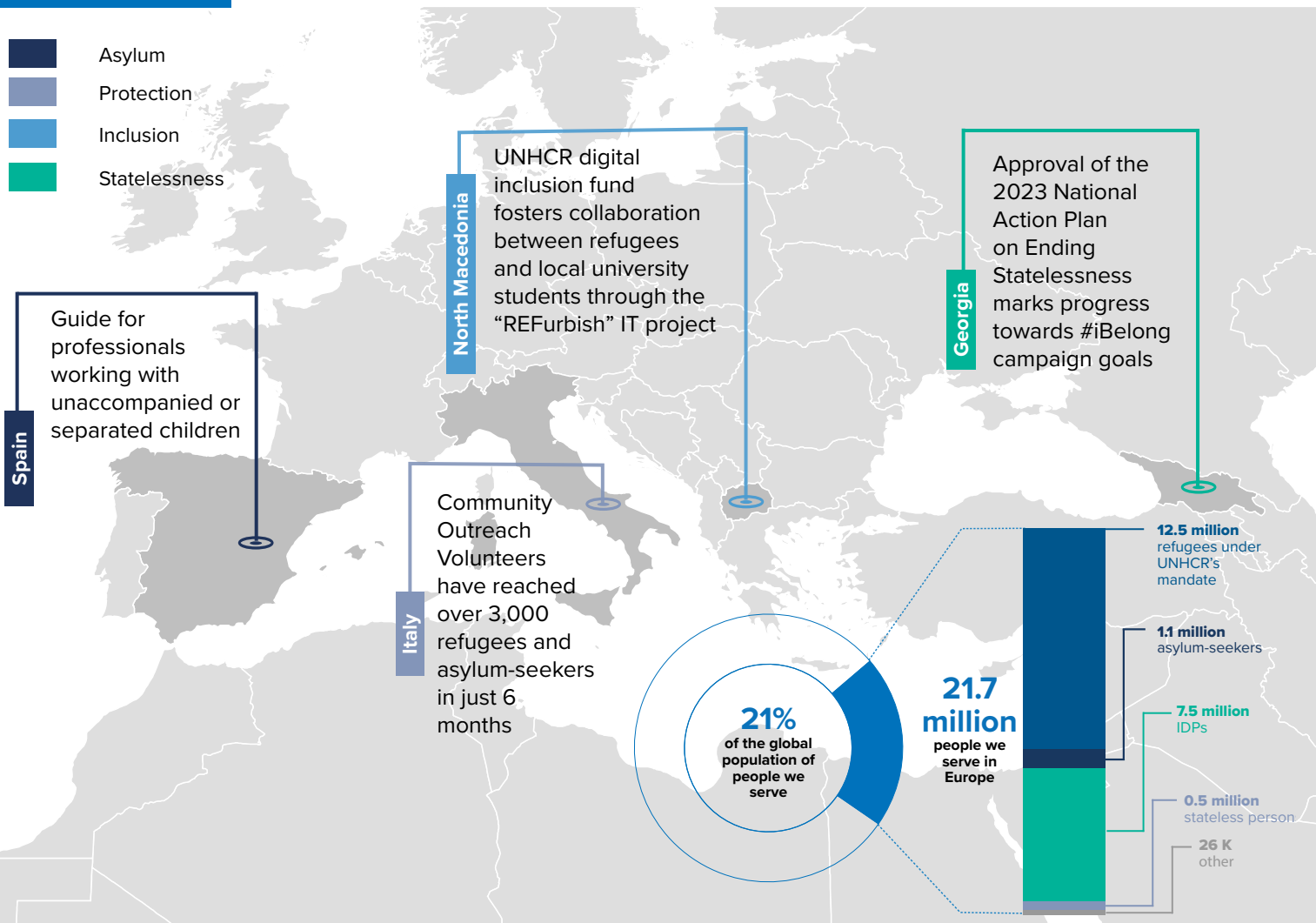


## AT A GLANCE

- Asylum
- Protection
- Inclusion
- Statelessness



Source: UNHCR [data finder platform](#) and mid-year statistics data as of 30 June 2022.

References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999). The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

## ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

### UKRAINE SITUATION

**7,807,410** individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe as of end December 2022 and over 4.9 million refugees had registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe.<sup>1</sup> An estimated 5.9 million persons were displaced inside the country at the end of November.<sup>2</sup>

### MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTES

**159,400** refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the three Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes in 2022, a 29 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2021. As of 31 December, 2,589 people have been reported dead or missing in 2022 on the three Mediterranean and the Northwest African maritime routes.

### SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

**31,400** persons have arrived in or transited through the subregion in 2022, 20% more than in the same period in 2021. 4,900 persons arrived in or transited through the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements in November 2022, 12% less than in the previous month.

### TÜRKİYE

Türkiye hosts the world's largest refugee population with over **3.6 million** Syrians under temporary protection and over 319,000 refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection.

1. [Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

2. [IOM, Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, 5 December 2022](#)

## UKRAINE SITUATION

- In 2022, UNHCR worked hand in hand with the Government of Ukraine to complement its efforts with protection services, emergency shelter and housing support, as well as cash and in-kind assistance for IDPs and war-affected people inside Ukraine. UNHCR continuously adapted its response to ensure it prioritised the people who needed this support the most. Overall, inside Ukraine in 2022, UNHCR provided protection assistance to 1.24 million people (103% of the 2022 target), 1.78 million people received NFIs (119% of the target), and some 164,000 people received shelter support (114% of the target).
- The freezing winter temperatures coupled with the energy shortages since October have exacerbated the scale of the humanitarian needs inside Ukraine. To help over 1.5 million individuals in vulnerable situations across Ukraine received specific assistance from UNHCR in 2022, including winter items, housing repairs, and cash to cover additional winter costs. UNHCR also delivered 81 generators in 2022 to Khersonska, Kharkivska, and Donetsk oblasts.
- Reaching people in hard-hit and frontline areas remained a priority in 2022. UNHCR participated in 27 inter-agency convoys to hard-to-reach areas and delivered 626 convoys on its own, including to areas like Kherson city, assisting a total of 556,970 people.
- The UNHCR response in 2022 in refugee-hosting countries neighbouring Ukraine initially focused on ensuring access to territory, providing adequate reception, including food, and meeting refugee's basic needs. Over time, the response has shifted to supporting governments in fostering the inclusion of refugees into national systems. In 2022, UNHCR supported some 500,000 refugees across the region with information on accessing their rights, such as education, healthcare, assistance for specific needs, accommodation, livelihoods, and avenues towards solutions. Some 476,000 refugees also received multi-purpose and protection-specific cash assistance.



**4.32 million**  
people reached with  
assistance in 2022,  
including protection,  
cash, NFIs and  
shelter



**476,000**  
people reached with  
cash assistance in  
Bulgaria, Poland, the  
Republic of Moldova,  
Romania and Slovakia

## ASYLUM

- **Croatia:** The annual consultations with ten civil society organizations working with asylum-seekers and refugees were convened by UNHCR and partner the Croatian Law Center on 5 December. The annual gathering allowed stakeholders to exchange on best practices and challenges in provision of free legal aid, family reunification, and protection of unaccompanied and separated children.
- **Netherlands (the Kingdom of):** UNHCR and the Dutch Council for Refugees organized a session on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) for 18 asylum lawyers to discuss recent case law, best practices, signalled challenges and ways to improve the quality of the asylum process for persons applying for asylum on grounds of their SOGI.
- **Spain:** UNHCR launched in December the "[Guide for professionals working with unaccompanied or separated refugee children](#)", developed with the support of the University of Comillas for all professionals part of the assistance and protection of refugee children arriving in Spain. The launch event was broadcasted through UNHCR's [YouTube](#) channel and hosted some 150 attendees from authorities, law enforcement, NGOs lawyers and [media](#).

## PROTECTION

- **Regional:** In December, UNHCR organised activities as part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). In collaboration with the **Armenian** Red Cross Society, UNHCR [facilitated a series of workshops](#) to raise awareness and prevent GBV among the displaced community. UNHCR conducted sessions with refugees and asylum-seekers in **Azerbaijan** with legal experts and medical professionals to inform about rights, services and mechanisms to report incidents. In **Croatia**, front-line staff of the Red Cross Society was informed on prevention and response to GBV, while in **Cyprus**, UNHCR and asylum authorities held [two workshops](#) to update caseworkers on international legal frameworks, types of gender-based harm and GBV-sensitive credibility assessments. UNHCR **Spain** screened an [informative video on gender-based violence](#) addressed to women and girls, and provided related information sessions to refugee men specifically.
- **Italy:** UNHCR's end-year meeting with the Community Outreach Volunteers (COV) Team Leaders took stock of the achievements since the establishment of the outreach project launched in June 2022 with INTERSOS. The 68 volunteers and eleven team leaders referred close to **2,400 refugees** in need to services, and reached over **900 refugees** and asylum-seekers through 36 information sessions on job inclusion, protection status and education. Moreover, refugee communities were consulted in 24 focus group discussions. UNHCR will continue its commitment to such initiatives also in 2023.

## STATELESSNESS

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** UNHCR and partner Vaša Prava continued dialogues to facilitate access to documentation and solutions for stateless persons. On 1 December, a roundtable on the provision of [free legal aid](#) to persons at risk of statelessness, displaced persons and returnees resulted in a set of conclusions and recommendations. A week later, a second roundtable gathered Republika Srpska and BiH authorities and the Ombudsperson to discuss legal remedies and solutions for obtaining documentation, confirmation of citizenship, and facilitated naturalization for 18 former refugees who approached UNHCR and Vaša Prava BiH for assistance.
- **Georgia:** On 14 December, the government-led Working Group on Statelessness approved the 2023 National Action Plan on Ending Statelessness. The document is renewable on an annual basis to reflect specific course of action for the concrete year. Some of the basic action points included in the 2023 action plan include facilitation of naturalization for stateless persons; improving quantitative data on stateless persons in the Public Service Development Agency database; and ensuring access to state education grants for stateless persons. UNHCR and authorities organised a presentation of achievements within the #IBelong Campaign and planned implementation of the remaining pledges by the end of the campaign in 2024.



“Nihada – Invisible Dreams”, a short documentary about an undocumented person at risk of statelessness, premiered at the 28th Sarajevo Film Festival. UNHCR assisted the film director Giorgio Ghiotto and featured the 12-minute short film on regional websites and social media.

## COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

- **Nordic and Baltic Countries:** UNHCR published the [Mapping of Complementary Education Pathways in the Nordic and Baltic Countries](#) with information about legal entry requirements for study purposes, education programmes available to refugees, and the value added of these programs. The report provides recommendations to national authorities, civil society organizations and academia.

## INCLUSION

- **North Macedonia:** UNHCR kicked off the [Skills and Computers for Inclusion – REFurbish](#) project to provide a space for teamwork and collaboration between refugee, asylum-seeking and stateless students with university students from the host community. The project, made possible through the [UNHCR Digital Inclusion Fund](#), further aims to strengthen the information technology skills of participating students. In partnership with the Doniraj Kompjuter Initiative, UNHCR provided unused IT equipment donated by UN Agencies for students to refurbish and keep at the end of the project.
- **Italy:** The first edition of the Know Your Rights project, a 9-week long legal training for protection holders, wrapped up in Milan with a [final event](#). The project is a collaboration between UNHCR, DLA Piper and Intersos in Milan and trained 25 participants of 12 different nationalities, on education, labour law, health care, and family law, so they can in turn support their communities with adequate information to facilitate their socio-economic inclusion. The project is replicated in 2023 with registrations open for the edition in [Rome](#).



Preparations for the second [Global Refugee Forum](#), scheduled for December 2023, have kicked off in several countries in the region to discuss respective roles, timelines and mobilization of stakeholders. **France** is one of the six co-convenor countries, and in **Switzerland**, co-host of the high-level meeting. In **Spain**, a Refugee Reference Group will work with UNHCR on specific areas, such as education, reception and economic inclusion. Find more details in the [concept note of the Global Refugee Forum 2023](#)

# EUROPE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

## COUNTRY OFFICE TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS

**UNHCR United Kingdom** @UNHCRUK

UNHCR notes with concern the proposals presented in a report issued today by the Centre for Policy Studies on UK asylum reform.

It contains critical factual and legal errors regarding the international legal status of refugees and asylum-seekers. More:



unhcr.org  
UNHCR News Comment on UK Asylum Reform Proposals  
This news comment is attributable to Vicky Tennant, UNHCR Representative to the United Kingdom

9:00 am · 5 Dec 2022

**Le HCR en France** @UNHCRFrance

Crés par et pour les réfugiés afin de promouvoir l'inclusion via la mode et la culture, @SAMAForAll2 et @EsperoFrance sont lauréats 2022 du Fonds d'innovation par les réfugiés du HCR.

La Haut Commissaire adjointe @Refugees @KellyTClements les a honorés au @MuseeOrsay.



**KELLY CLEMENTS**  
Haut Commissaire adjointe (HCR)

le fonds d'innovation des réfugiés.

2,074 views

9:14 pm · 10 Dec 2022

**UNHCR Ukraine** @UNHCRUkraine

Following recent attacks in Dnipro in November, @UNHCRUkraine & @MissionProliska responded rapidly with emergency shelter materials and essential items like bedding, solar lamps and kitchen sets so 73 people had a place to sleep.



NGO Proliska and 4 others

9:53 am · 2 Dec 2022

**UNHCR Italia** @UNHCRItalia

@LinoGuanciale è al fianco di UNHCR per sostenere i rifugiati e gli sfollati questo inverno. Unisciti a lui. La tua donazione si trasformerà in vestiti caldi, ripari e riscaldamento per le famiglie costrette a fuggire.

Dona ora per chi non ha più nulla:  
[bit.ly/unhcr\\_inverno22](https://bit.ly/unhcr_inverno22)



**LINO GUANCIALE**  
Testimoniato UNHCR Italia

L'orribile guerra in Ucraina continua a devastare vite ogni giorno.

3,133 views

2:31 pm · 7 Dec 2022

**UNHCR Cyprus** @UNHCRCyprus

Refugee women and volunteers in Pafos have been busy sewing fabric baskets as seasonal gifts - and we love them! Economic inclusion and skills development is key to enabling refugees to rebuild their lives and contribute valuably to the host society.



unhcr.org  
Supporting refugees to support themselves - UNHCR Cyprus  
The UNHCR Country Office in Cyprus chose handcrafted fabric baskets sewn by refugee women - together with volunteers - in Pafos as an end-of-year gif...

12:38 pm · 23 Dec 2022 · 6,154 Views

## LEADERSHIP ACCOUNT TWEETS

**Filippo Grandi** @FilippoGrandi  
High Commissioner  
Celebrating 30 years of DAFI, the premier refugee scholarship programme. [05 DEC]

**Christoph Pinter** @UNHCR\_Pinter  
Head of National Office-Vienna  
People seeking protection must have access to a fair asylum procedure. [15 DEC]

**Karolina L Billing** @KarolinaBilling  
Representative Ukraine  
Homes repaired under UNHCR Ukraine's shelter programme. [08 DEC]

**Chiara Cardoletti** @chiaraUNHCR  
Representative Italy  
In 4 days at least 15 victims, including 2 missing children and a 6-month-old baby who died in Lampedusa. [06 DEC]

## TOP NEWS STORIES

**Daily Mail** [22 DEC]  
Nottingham Forest to feature 'UK for UNHCR' logo on shirts

**NPR** [19 DEC]  
U.K. top court upholds a controversial plan to send migrants to Rwanda

**The Independent** [13 DEC]  
'Cruel' Sunak asylum plan violates international law, UN says

**Le Monde** [08 DEC]  
Frontex to probe Bulgarian police for keeping migrants in cage

**Die Welt** [5 DEC]  
UNHCR expects more displaced people inside Ukraine

## PRESS RELEASES, STATEMENTS

**News comment:** UNHCR notes UK High Court judgement on transfer of asylum-seekers from the UK to Rwanda [19 DEC]

**Press release:** UNHCR appeals to UK to uphold its international legal obligations [13 DEC]

## STORY SPOTLIGHT

### Abandoned hospital gets new life as a home for Ukrainian refugees in Bulgaria

When Nata Ellis, a tech entrepreneur originally from Odesa, first heard about the deserted hospital in her adopted city of Plovdiv in Bulgaria, she could already see its potential as a shelter for refugees forced to flee the war in Ukraine.

With help from refugee volunteers and donations from businesses, local authorities, NGOs and the Bulgarian public, Ellis has managed to renovate the first three floors of the four-storey building since taking on the project in March. UNHCR is currently repairing the entire fourth floor in addition to providing mattresses, blankets and kitchen sets to meet the centres' growing needs, while the municipality is assisting with electricity, heating and food.

Ahead of the holidays, children transformed the centre into a winter wonderland with handmade ornaments and Christmas trees located throughout the reception

and common areas. The hospital hosted a two-day Christmas Bazaar where hand-made jewellery, toys, knitted items and handmade backed goods were sold to help raise funds for children's gifts.



For more stories and highlights, please subscribe to our mailing list, using this [link](#).

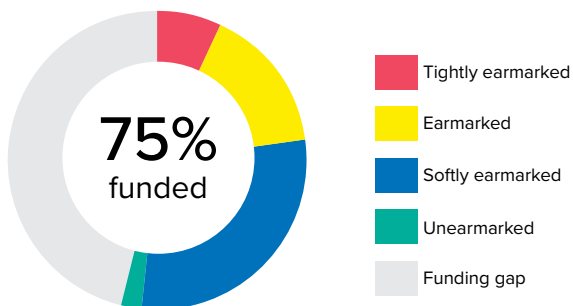
## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Requested for UNHCR's activities in Europe in 2022:

**USD 1.992 billion\***

Total contributed or pledged as of 29 December 2022:

**USD 1,461,218,58**



\*This amount includes financial requirements for the Ukraine situation.

## WHERE TO FIND

**For more information, reports and other resources:**

- [UNHCR Europe webpage](#)
- [UNHCR Europe region monthly updates](#)
- [UNHCR Europe country operations fact sheets](#)
- [Europe pages of UNHCR's Global Focus webpage](#)
- [UNHCR Ukraine Emergency webpage](#)

**Operational data portals:**

- [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)
- [Mediterranean Situation](#)

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

Australia | Austria | Belgium | Canada | Czechia | Denmark | European Union | Finland | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Spain | Sweden | United Kingdom | Switzerland | Ireland | Republic of Korea | United States of America

We are also grateful for the generous contributions from private individuals and the private sector.