

# Refugee-news

UNHCR International reports on how we're helping refugees around the world



## A challenging year ahead

A special message from UN High Commissioner for

Refugees António Guterres:

"In January I briefed the UN Security Council for the first time since 2006. I explained that the number of refugees worldwide has increased to more than 11 million over the last two years, and the number of people displaced internally as a result of conflict to some 22 million.

Meanwhile, competition over scarce resources has become an increasingly important factor in provoking or

## February 2009

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- Attack in Pakistan
- A race against time in Southern Sudan
- Star Appeal raises \$1 million
- Dreams of a better life in Serbia

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## UNHCR in the press

> Refugees are the responsibility of the whole

perpetuating armed conflicts, and rising food and energy prices are compounding social and political instability.

This year, UNHCR is launching an annual Global Needs Assessment to comprehensively map the real state of the world's refugees."

- > [More on my Security Council briefing](#)
- > [More on the Global Needs Assessment](#)
- > [UNHCR Annual Global Appeal](#)

international community

António Guterres in the *Daily Telegraph* (UK)

> [Lives of the Saints](#)

Jonathan Harr reports from a refugee camp in Chad, where he follows UNHCR staff for the *New Yorker* and documents a unique insight into camp life.

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## Two UNHCR staff members attacked in Pakistan

The two men were on their way to work when their vehicle was stopped. Driver Syed Hashim was shot and later died in

hospital. John Solecki, the head of the UNHCR sub-office in

Quetta, is missing and appears to have been abducted.

António Guterres said "the targeting of those who help the

world's most vulnerable people leaves all of us deeply

shocked and saddened".



> [Read more](#)

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## Southern Sudan: a race against time

More than 4.5 million people were displaced by the Sudanese civil war between 1983 and 2005. Since the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005, the UN refugee agency has been assisting the victims of the conflict to return home. But it's a difficult job – the rainy season is looming, and we desperately need funding to move as many people as possible before it becomes too late.



[> Find out more](#)

[> Photo gallery of last year's move](#)

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## Star Appeal hits \$1 million mark

Your kind and generous donations flew in from more countries than ever before – and thanks to you, thousands of malnourished children in refugee camps have life-saving, high-energy foods.

Many families received "gardens in a bag" to enable them to grow their own food, giving them the chance to sustain themselves through food crisis.



[> Find out more](#)

## Serbia: Dreams of a better life

While most refugees don't know how long it will be before they can return home, some remained exiled for decades. In Serbia victims of the wars that erupted after the break-up of the former Yugoslavia in 1991 still struggle under appalling conditions – and dream of a better future.



[> Video: the moving story of Miljo Miljic](#)

[> Photo gallery: snapshots of life in exile](#)

[> Expert quotes on the situation](#)

## Gaza crisis

The UN refugee agency stands in solidarity with our sister organisation, the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which is in charge of providing support to Palestinians.

António Guterres called for an immediate halt to the hostilities, describing the situation as "the only conflict in the world in which people are not even allowed to flee".

[> More on this story](#)

[> UNRWA](#)

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