

Refugee-news

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



Honouring those who have fallen serving others

A special message from UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres:

"On June 21, I had the honour of accepting the annual Calouste Gulbenkian International Prize with Palestinian and Israeli members of the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East.

The Gulbenkian International Prize is awarded to an individual or institution whose thoughts or actions have made a decisive contribution and significant impact on understanding, defending or fostering universal human

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UNHCR in the press

> [The house of despair](#)

A filthy squat in Calais is home to 50 Eritreans who daily try to cross the Channel seeking asylum in Britain. Here are

values.

In tribute to the brave humanitarian aid workers who have lost their lives, we dedicate our half of the prize to their memory. In the last six months, three UNHCR staff members have been killed in Pakistan. I could not be more honoured to accept this award which comes as a great encouragement at such a difficult time."

[> Full story](#)

their stories and how UNHCR is helping as reported in *The Guardian*.

UNHCR online



UNHCR annual report shows 42 million people uprooted worldwide

UNHCR's annual "Global Trends" report, released in June, shows the number of people forcibly uprooted by conflict and persecution worldwide stood at 42 million at the end of last year. This includes 16 million refugees and asylum-seekers and 26 million internally displaced people uprooted within their own countries. In recent years, UNHCR has increasingly been tasked with providing help to the internally displaced, in addition to its traditional mandate of protecting and assisting refugees who have crossed international borders.

[> Read the full report](#)



Angelina Jolie returns to Iraq and appeals for support for the displaced

On July 23, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie returned to Iraq to offer support to the hundreds of thousands of Iraqis who remain displaced within their own country.

Despite the difficulties in Iraq, Jolie said, "this is a moment when things seem to be improving on the ground." She added that Iraqis, however, "need a lot of help to rebuild their lives."

[> Read the full story](#)

[> Donate to help the displaced Iraqis](#)



UNHCR commemorates fallen aid workers on World Humanitarian Day

Last year, the UN General Assembly decided to designate August 19, the date of the suicide bombing of the UN office in Baghdad in 2003, as World Humanitarian Day. Among the 22 people killed in the Canal Hotel blast was Sergio Vieira de Mello, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and former long-time staff member of UNHCR. UNHCR has lost three colleagues killed in the Pakistan operation alone this year. Please remember those who have given their lives in the service of others on this day.

[> More on World Humanitarian Day](#)



See for yourself: return to Swat Valley

Since July 14, thousands of families displaced by the conflict between government forces and militants in north-west Pakistan have returned home. Although many still fear for their safety and are not ready to return home, some believe that the excruciating heat which has made scores of children fall ill is enough of a reason to leave. These are images of the journey home.



[> See for yourself](#)

Thousands of Congolese flee the new fighting in South Kivu

An estimated 56,000 people have fled their homes in the wake of the latest government military campaign against a rebel group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's South Kivu region. The campaign launched on July 12 is aimed at disarming the so-called Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and their local militia allies. This new round of violence and fighting has brought the total number of people displaced in the eastern Congo to more than 1.8 million.

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