

Germany

September 2025

Germany is among the largest **refugee hosting countries globally** and one of the largest **humanitarian donors**. In 2024, Germany was UNHCR's second largest and most flexible donor.

Germany maintains a functioning protection system for forcibly displaced and stateless people and supports the implementation of the **Global Compact on Refugees**.

Germany offers refugee admissions programmes through **resettlement** and other programmes. However, these programmes were suspended in 2025.

POPULATION STATISTICS (as of mid-2025) *

Refugees	2,703,887
Asylum-seekers	320,164
Stateless people**	28,132

**Figures include both displaced & non-displaced stateless persons

Top three countries of origin*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	1,193,063	Türkiye	69,282
Syrian Arab Republic	695,428	Syrian Arab Republic	64,696
Afghanistan	280,341	Afghanistan	44,349

*UNHCR Mid-Year Statistical Report 2025 and UNHCR [data finder](#)

Protecting Forcibly Displaced and Stateless People in Germany

Advocating for government policies in line with international standards of refugee protection

UNHCR has been advocating with the new federal government for refugee policies which respect international and EU law, and which contribute to a strong global system of refugee protection – focusing on access to asylum, procedural standards, safe-country solutions and resettlement.

Advocating for safeguards in the implementation of EU asylum reforms

In exchanges with government counterparts, parliamentarians, and other stakeholders, UNHCR provides comments and recommendations on legislative and administrative measures and promotes an adaptation to the legal framework as well as a timely application of the new rules that safeguards the rights of asylum-seekers and beneficiaries of protection.

HIGHLIGHTS

Germany as a country of asylum

Over 72,800 asylum applications were lodged in the first six months of 2025. In total, 158,753 decisions were made in the first half of 2025, including applications lodged before the start of the year, with more than 29,000 applicants granted refugee status, subsidiary or humanitarian protection. As of August 2025, more than 1.2 million refugees from Ukraine had been granted temporary protection in Germany.

Germany as a resettlement country

Germany had envisaged admitting 13,100 refugees through resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes in 2024 and 2025. Programmes were implemented with the advice and support of UNHCR until early 2025, and approximately 5,500 people were admitted between January 2024 - June 2025. As of 2025 however, all programmes remain suspended.

Germany as a global donor

Germany remained UNHCR's second largest government donor in 2024, with a contribution of USD 332 million. The majority of Germany's funding was flexible and softly earmarked.



POSTER CAMPAIGN ACROSS GERMAN METRO LINES

On World Refugee Day 2025, UNHCR Germany launched a campaign in the subway systems of Berlin, Munich, and Stuttgart featuring digital displays of a photograph depicting two refugees: an older German man receiving medical care from a younger doctor. The caption read: "Dr. Umes, 47, fled Sri Lanka in 1990. Klaus, 81, fled Pomerania in 1945." The campaign aimed to remind audiences that Germans once faced displacement too, fostering empathy with today's refugees. It reached up to 3 million viewers.

Key Priorities

- **Strengthen respect for the 1951 Refugee Convention:** UNHCR works with counterparts to ensure policies are aligned with the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, including access to an asylum procedure and a fair and efficient review of eligibility criteria for protection. Accordingly, promoting understanding of refugees' protection needs in political discourse is crucial to reinforce the values and principles of the 1951 Convention in Germany. UNHCR has regular exchanges with the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, including on quality of procedures, and engages with judges on questions of eligibility.
- **Legal Assistance:** UNHCR strongly promotes maintaining the system of independent legal assistance during the asylum procedure to support an overall fair and efficient procedures.
- **Family Reunification:** UNHCR and partners jointly advocate for strengthening current legal frameworks, procedures and good practices of family reunification, including for individuals with subsidiary protection status for whom family reunification has been suspended. UNHCR also engages with partners providing counselling services.
- **Support for the Global Compact on Refugees:** UNHCR encourages Germany to maintain its positive role in international refugee protection and responsibility-sharing. UNHCR supports the Government's efforts to support large refugee hosting countries through targeted bilateral and development cooperation.
- **Resettlement and complementary pathways:** UNHCR continues to advocate for maintaining the German resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, even at a reduced level.
- **Education:** UNHCR promotes continued German support to refugees worldwide through the [DAFI scholarship programme](#) (Deutsche Akademische Flüchtlingsinitiative Albert Einstein). As of the end of the year 2024, the program has been implemented in 59 countries since its founding and enabled over 27,000 refugees to obtain academic degrees.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR maintains strong partnerships with state actors involved in refugee protection, including the Ministry of Interior, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, the Office of the Integration Commissioner, Members of the Federal Parliament, the administrative courts, the Federal Police and civil society actors.
- UNHCR liaises with the Federal Foreign Office, which leads on humanitarian assistance, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development on UNHCR's global operations and evolving needs.
- UNHCR cooperates with its national private sector fundraising partner [UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe](#) to support refugees and projects benefiting people forced to flee globally.

Statelessness

- Germany has acceded to both the 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions on Statelessness. Considering the different administrative procedures for determining statelessness and nationality in Germany, UNHCR advocates for the adoption of uniform standards for existing mechanisms. Additionally, UNHCR recommends the introduction of dedicated residence permits for stateless people, in line with the 1954 Statelessness Convention.

UNHCR Presence in Germany

Staff:

11 National Staff
2 International Staff

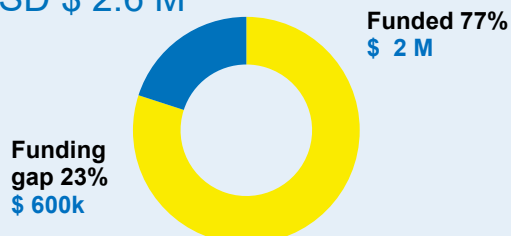
Offices:

1 Country Office in Berlin

Financial information (as of 31 August 2025)

Financial requirements for 2025:

USD \$ 2.6 M



UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors in 2025:

Australia | Belgium | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | New Zealand | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | Norway | Republic of Korea | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Sweden | Switzerland

UNHCR is also grateful for the generous contributions from the private sector and individuals.