

France

February 2023

UNHCR **mobilises support** for refugees in France, Europe and globally, by raising awareness about protection challenges, humanitarian crises, and promoting solidarity **in the spirit of the GCR**.

UNHCR makes recommendations to improve reception conditions and **collaborates with asylum authorities**. UNHCR supports solutions through resettlement & complementary pathways.

UNHCR works closely with the authorities, NGOs, and private sector to foster social inclusion. **UNHCR also engages with refugees** through a network of refugee volunteers.

UNHCR POPULATION STATISTICS AS OF MID-2022*

Refugees	613,272
Asylum-seekers	64,034
Stateless persons	3,633

Top three countries of origin*

	Refugees		Asylum-seekers
Ukraine	94,970	Afghanistan	9,066
Afghanistan	55,681	Türkiye	5,350
Syria	39,091	Bangladesh	5,013

*UNHCR 2022 Mid-Year Trends and UNHCR [data finder](#).

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of mid-February 2023, **118,994 refugees from Ukraine** were registered for temporary protection in France.

Public information: In 2022, UNHCR gave 89 interviews to French and international media on the Ukraine refugee situation, response and beyond.

Prevention of trafficking: UNHCR co-facilitated with the Interministerial mission for the protection of women against violence and the fight against trafficking a working group with a range of government and CSO to prevent and respond to trafficking of human beings.

HELP page: UNHCR developed a specific section on the HELP page to provide information on services available in France for refugees from Ukraine.

Citizen Housing: UNHCR is conducting a study on citizen housing in France, focusing on the reception of Ukrainian refugees in greatest refugee hosting cities.

Local authorities: In addition to the contributions from the government and the private sector, donations of EUR 133,940 were received from 17 local authorities.

Monitoring: UNHCR carried out monitoring activities in centres hosting refugees from Ukraine.

HIGHLIGHTS

France co-convenor of the GRF

France has agreed to be one of the co-convenors of the Global Refugee Forum (GRF) in December 2023, which will provide a range of opportunities to mobilise political support in favour of refugees.

Collaboration with the private sector

Over 300 employees of IKEA, Generali and Accord took part in UNHCR awareness-raising activities in 2022.

Raising awareness about refugees

UNHCR in France participated in 50 conferences and public events, including interventions with students, in 2022.

Local inclusion

UNHCR has developed a [French version of the existing toolkit](#) for the inclusion of refugees at local level.



INCLUSION THROUGH SCHOOL

In December 2022, UNHCR visited a secondary school in Mégnac documenting the inclusion of refugee students through education. The middle school in Mégnac offers a Pedagogical Unit for Newly Arrived Allophone Students and organized French language courses for parents. [Afghan and Ukrainian students](#) were interviewed, as well as [their parents](#) and a teacher.

Protection Key Priorities

- **Draft Law on Migration and Asylum :** UNHCR in France is closely monitoring the debate about the migration and asylum draft law and participates in a number of consultations and hearings to provide advice and recommendations.
- **Reception conditions :** UNHCR monitors asylum-seekers's reception conditions, notably at entry points and in northern France (Calais-Grande Synthe). Observations and recommendations are shared with state interlocutors, paying special attention to unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs). UNHCR also participates in trainings on best interest procedures for UASCs.
- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR provides advice to the French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) and the National Court of Asylum (CNDA). At the CNDA, UNHCR ensured the selection, training, and participation of some 160 judges in collegial adjudication cases as of January 2023.
- **University Corridors:** UNHCR is implementing a project "UNIV'R" to ensure education pathways to France, in collaboration with the Francophonie University Agency (AUF) and other actors.
- **Family Reunification:** UNHCR continues to advocate for more flexible in family reunification cases and contributes to the resolution of individual cases.
- **Overseas:** In 2022, UNHCR visited the island of Mayotte to monitor reception conditions, make recommendations and participate in the work of the Asylum Appeal Court.

Working with Partners

- **Mobilizing support for refugees:** UNHCR engages with a wide range of stakeholders in the government and private sector to mobilize support worldwide for refugees, as well as with social media, and journalists to inform the general public.

- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** UNHCR has been working with the Inter-Ministerial Delegation and the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) since 2021 to develop and sustain an Academy for refugee participation. UNHCR is also encouraging the participation of refugees in public events and awareness-raising actions.
- **Access to employment:** UNHCR is working together with several private sector actors (IKEA, Accor, Generali, BNP etc.) as well as the International Chamber of Commerce to identify needs and opportunities for international solidarity and support access to employment for refugees in France.
- **Mobilizing the youth:** In the fall of 2022, the INTER'ACT project has reached over 3,000 middle and high school students in Paris, Calvados and Corrèze. About 20 refugee volunteers took part in the project. In addition, UNHCR regularly participates in conferences with university students.
- **Support to refugee-led organizations:** Through its Innovation Unit, UNCHR supports three refugee-led organizations promoting refugee inclusion in France, including support to LGBTQIA+ refugees and [access to employment](#).

Statelessness

- France has ratified the 1954 Convention in 1960 and signed the 1961 Convention in 1962. UNHCR facilitates sharing of practices on statelessness determination Ppocedures and advocates for the government to ratify the 1961 Convention.

UNHCR Presence in France

Staff:

13 National Staff
 5 International Staff
 15 PSP staff

Offices:

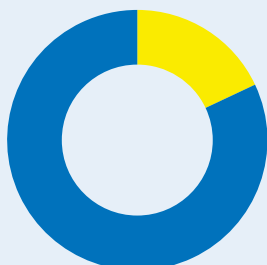
1 Branch Office in Paris

Financial information (February 2023)

Financial requirements

USD 4.3 M

Funding gap
 82%
 3.5 M



Funded
 18%
 0.8 M

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

Belgium | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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