

Europe



FOREWORD

In the aftermath of the 2015-2016 European refugee crisis, 2017 was a year of transition and relative stability. There were challenges to collectively tackle and opportunities to build on.

Unresolved conflicts in the region and ongoing violence in other parts of the world fuelled large-scale and protracted displacement. Four years after the conflict in eastern Ukraine began, for example, the humanitarian crisis continued unabated, with repeated security incidents at the contact line.

Dire humanitarian situations drove some refugees to seek safety outside their immediate area. With mounting restrictions on access to territory and to international protection, difficult integration possibilities, a limited number of safe pathways and often lengthy processes required to access them, many fleeing persecution around the world were left with few choices, including those trying to reunite with family members in Europe.

Refugees and migrants continued to undertake dangerous journeys, with a significant number known to have died or gone missing while crossing the Mediterranean Sea in 2017. While this situation remained a concern, the overall number of refugee and migrant arrivals in Europe fell by 53 per cent compared to 2016 figures. This was mainly the result of fewer people travelling from Turkey to Greece and from North Africa to Italy, although arrivals into Spain increased.

In 2017, the number of asylum applications lodged in Europe also fell by 49 per cent, though 625,000 new applications were lodged in 38 European countries, mainly originating from the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria).

Ahmed, 37, a refugee from Somalia, in his uniform at the fire station in the town of Fürstenwalde, eastern Germany, where he has recently joined as a volunteer.

Turkey continued to host the largest number of refugees worldwide and, throughout Europe, host communities showed great commitment to engaging with, and supporting, refugees. New partnerships emerged with States, municipalities, EU institutions, NGOs, volunteers, private sector actors and academic institutions. The range of expertise and services each partner brought provided a more holistic support network to refugees, better meeting their needs and creating an environment in which many refugees felt more able to participate in, and contribute to, the societies hosting them.

In 2017, UNHCR poured its energy into outreach programmes. A regional refugee coalition was established by UNHCR and its partners, giving refugees a greater say in how their protection needs should be met. The coalition brought together representatives from refugee communities across Europe and gave them a platform from which to share their opinions, make their needs known and ensure their resources were taken into account when officials were drafting policies and making decisions that directly affected them. The coalition also aimed to promote concrete actions to strengthen refugees' rights and enhance their integration in host countries.

While conditions for people of concern in Europe did not always meet international and EU standards, substantial support from the European Union and national governments meant reception and asylum processing capacities were strengthened in some European countries, many of which were the first point of entry for people of concern.

The negative narrative and political instrumentalization of migration and refugee topics by some continued to have divisive consequences and long-term negative effects on refugees and host communities alike. Such a portrayal of refugees inevitably fuelled fear and discrimination and had a significant impact on social inclusion and the provision of holistic integration support.

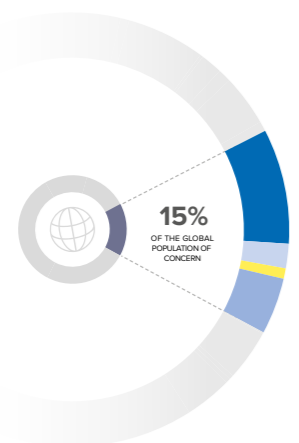
Nevertheless, Europe continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to its international responsibilities toward refugees, providing financial support to host countries and offering resettlement opportunities and other complementary pathways to people of concern. In this regard, UNHCR called for continued efforts to strengthen Europe's leadership on humanitarian issues and contributions to global solidarity.

Pascale Moreau

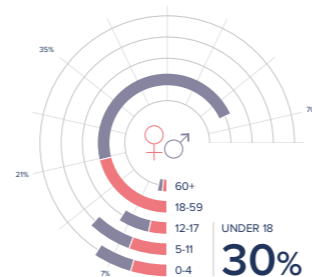
Director of UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Europe



11 MILLION
PEOPLE OF CONCERN IN EUROPE



AGE AND GENDER BREAKDOWN
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS



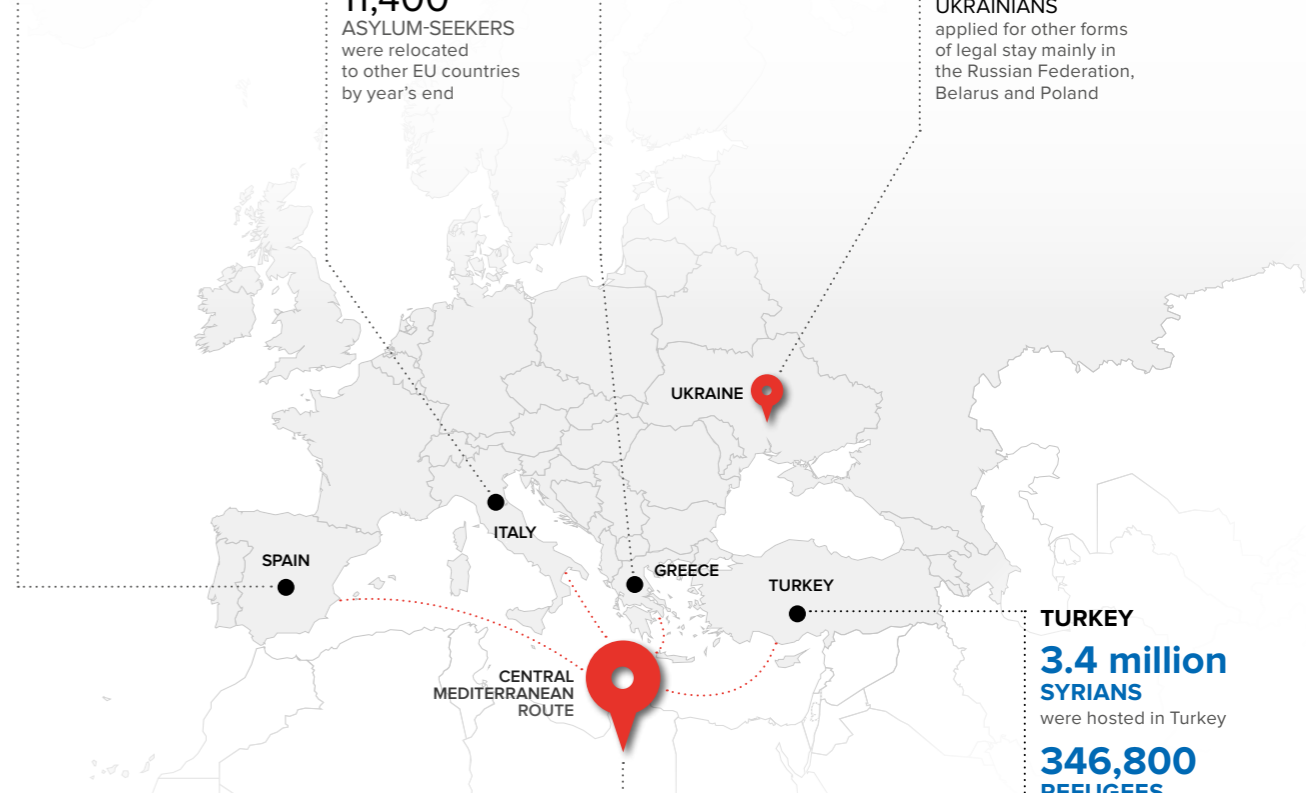
SPAIN
22,100
ARRIVALS
via the Mediterranean Sea
6,300
ARRIVALS
came to Spain by land
ARRIVALS by sea increased three-fold compared to 2016

ITALY
119,400
ARRIVALS
via the Mediterranean Sea
15,800
UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN
crossed the sea
11,400
ASYLUM-SEEKERS
were relocated to other EU countries by year's end

GREECE
29,700
ARRIVALS
via the Mediterranean Sea
21,700
ASYLUM-SEEKERS
were relocated to other EU countries by year's end



UKRAINE SITUATION
495,900
UKRAINIANS
sought asylum mainly in the Russian Federation and in EU countries
1.8 million
IDPs by year's end
1.4 million
UKRAINIANS
applied for other forms of legal stay mainly in the Russian Federation, Belarus and Poland



TURKEY
3.4 million
SYRIANS
were hosted in Turkey
346,800
REFUGEES
and asylum-seekers of other nationalities sought protection in Turkey
TURKEY
hosts the world's largest number of refugees

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE
172,300
REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean Sea

194 PARTNERS IN EUROPE

- 146 NATIONAL NGO PARTNERS
- 23 INTERNATIONAL NGO PARTNERS
- 24 GOVERNMENT PARTNERS
- 1 UN AGENCIES/OTHER PARTNERS

18%
ARRIVALS
were children, and over half were unaccompanied

2,348 STAFF IN EUROPE

42%
MALE

58%
FEMALE

76
LOCATIONS

1%
BASED IN
HARDSHIP LOCATIONS

3,100
REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
died crossing the Mediterranean Sea

SITUATIONS

- < 1.5 million
People of concern
- > 3 million
People of concern

MAJOR SITUATIONS

Europe refugee situation

In 2017, approximately 172,300 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean Sea, including 119,400 to Italy, 29,700 to Greece and 22,100 to Spain. An additional 6,300 came to Spain by land via the enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta. The overall number of arrivals decreased by 53 per cent compared to 2016, primarily due to a reduction in the arrivals from Turkey to Greece (83 per cent) and from North Africa to Italy (34 per cent). Arrivals in Spain by sea increased almost three-fold compared to 2016 and by land up to 5 per cent.

More than 3,100 refugees and migrants are known to have died or been lost at sea making the dangerous Mediterranean Sea crossing. Some 18 per cent of the total arrivals by sea in Europe were children, and

just over half were unaccompanied and separated from their families. In Italy, nearly 15,800 unaccompanied and separated children made the dangerous journey across the sea, representing 13 per cent of all arrivals to Italy (see the chapter on *Safeguarding fundamental rights*). In July 2017, UNHCR launched a supplementary appeal for the central Mediterranean route seeking \$421 million for the year.

The EU's emergency relocation mechanism, a scheme started in 2015 to relocate 160,000 people from Italy and Greece within two years, expired in September 2017. More than 33,100 asylum-seekers had been relocated from Greece (21,700) and Italy (11,400) as of December 2017. Although the relocation scheme only partially met its objectives, it proved crucial in easing the humanitarian situation in Greece, relieving some pressure on Italy, and improving the lives of many seeking protection.

supported the Greek Asylum Service with a pre-registration exercise to ensure people of concern had the opportunity to pursue available legal options. As Greek authorities progressively increased their role in registering people of concern, which included a larger presence at identification centres in the Aegean Islands, UNHCR reduced its operational engagement. In 2017, the number of people residing in mainland sites fell from 20,000 to 12,500,

resulting in the closure of 15 refugee camps. However, with living conditions remaining dire on the islands, especially on Chios, Lesbos and Samos, UNHCR strongly advocated for the transfer of asylum-seekers and refugees to the mainland. More positively, accommodation and cash-based intervention (CBI) schemes supported a meaningful transition to self-reliance for people of concern.



Residents on Tilos have opened their hearts and businesses to refugees.

Greek islanders open their hearts and businesses to refugees in "Dreamland"

The tiny Greek island of Tilos has a population of fewer than 800 people. In 2017, it became an example to the world after residents welcomed 10 families from Syria. "Since I moved to Tilos I have been calling it the land of dreams or 'Dreamland';" says Kusai Al-Damad, who fled Syria and now works in a bakery on the picturesque island.



UNHCR high profile supporter Theo James is reunited with Syrian refugee Housam.

Goodwill Ambassador support to refugees in Europe

UNHCR's high profile supporters have demonstrated a commitment to UNHCR's work by using their influence, dedication and hard work to raise funds, awareness and advocate for refugees. In December 2017, actor Theo James travelled to Strasbourg, France, to be reunited with Housam, a refugee he had met previously in Lakadikia, Greece. Housam was relocated to Europe as part of the EU's emergency relocation scheme, which aims to share responsibility for the refugee crisis.



In Italy, UNHCR strengthened its operational response through community-based protection interventions, protection case management focusing on protecting unaccompanied and separated children, and initiatives designed to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The Office also monitored reception conditions, and worked with

authorities to identify and refer people with specific needs to appropriate services and supports.

Although arrivals in Greece decreased, there remained significant challenges regarding reception and registration capacity. In response, UNHCR and the European Asylum Support Office

Turkey continued to host the world's largest number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate, with 3.4 million Syrians and 346,800 refugees and asylum-seekers of various nationalities. By the end of 2017, some 212,000 people of concern from countries other than Iraq and Syria (18,800 refugees and 193,000 asylum-seekers) were registered with UNHCR, with some 82,000 people newly registered in 2017. UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior Directorate General of Migration Management launched a joint registration process in July 2017, eventually registering 8,700 people. The Office also increased its support to national service providers, particularly the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, assisting 59 social service centres with social workers, interpreters, drivers, and others. UNHCR provided technical and capacity development support to the

Turkish Coast Guard, Gendarmerie, and the Directorate General for Migration Management on the identification and referral of the most vulnerable individuals and asylum procedures. To build refugee self-reliance and ease their inclusion into the labour market, UNHCR helped provide more than 13,700 refugees with skills, vocational and Turkish language training in 2017. More than 1,100 students were provided with full university scholarships and over 6,000 students participated in a higher education preparation programme that will enable them to meet language proficiency requirements for admission to Turkish universities. UNHCR also helped link up 875 refugees with the private sector to support their path to employment. Around 1,270 people of concern received entrepreneurship and business training, and 90 others were helped to legalize their businesses.

13,700 refugees were provided with skills building, vocational and Turkish language training.

In Central and South-Eastern Europe, more arrivals were recorded in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Romania. In Central Europe, where anti-foreigner sentiment continued to grow, UNHCR engaged with authorities, media and civil society to defend the right to seek asylum, ensure appropriate reception conditions, access to fair and quality procedures, and support for integration, including access to health care and education. UNHCR also worked to strengthen asylum systems and build national capacities in the context of mixed movements. In addition, UNHCR focused on ensuring the identification and referral of vulnerable people, such as unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of SGBV and women at risk. UNHCR also worked with governments, the European Union, the OSCE and partner organizations to prevent statelessness by addressing, in particular, obstacles in the area of civil registration.

In Northern and Western Europe, UNHCR focused on ensuring access to territory and asylum procedures, with a particular focus on child asylum claims, facilitating integration, and preventing and ending statelessness. In the Baltic States, asylum frameworks, procedures, practice and reception arrangements improved

following the development of laws, the implementation of findings from training, border monitoring and persistent advocacy.

In Eastern Europe, unresolved situations and resulting displacement remained a concern. UNHCR worked with relevant governments to protect the rights of IDPs, including their right to return to their places of origin in safety and dignity.

Ukraine situation



In 2017, there remained nearly 1.8 million IDPs in Ukraine, while more than 495,900 people have sought asylum, mainly in the Russian Federation (427,200), but also in the European Union. At least

1.4 million Ukrainians continued to reside primarily in the Russian Federation, as well as in Belarus and Poland, by applying for other forms of legal stay. In 2017, UNHCR continued to advocate a long-term strategy focusing on solutions for IDPs, including their access to full pension rights, social benefits and social housing. Providing lifesaving humanitarian assistance in the vicinity of the active contact line and non-government controlled areas remained a UNHCR priority.

Innovative practices in conveying protection-related information



In 2017, UNHCR piloted a regional border monitoring system, comprising two adaptable questionnaires, to collect information, via tablet or smartphone, from people of concern and secondary sources of information. The information related to four key areas: access to territory, access to asylum, access to information on asylum, and protection incidents at the border. The system allows UNHCR to use the indicators to monitor trends and create common data that can be compared between operations.

In Serbia, UNHCR partnered with the organization IDEAS to support the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs in developing a professional guardianship model within the existing system of social protection. Together, UNHCR and local authorities developed a training curriculum with terms of reference and manuals for guardians and cultural mediators. These cultural mediators will be instrumental in identifying and conveying protection-related information to people of concern.

UNHCR, in partnership with the NGO, Independent Diplomat, created the Refugee Coalition for Europe, which brings together refugee representatives living in different European countries to ensure their opinions, capacities and needs are taken into account in decisions and policies impacting their lives.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT

Safeguarding asylum space and providing appropriate reception conditions

Despite physical, legal and administrative restrictions, people in need of international protection continued to seek safety in Europe in 2017. Given repeated push-backs at borders as well as increasing restrictions on access to asylum, UNHCR advocated directly with governments and the European Union, as well as through strategic judicial interventions, to ensure international standards were upheld. These advocacy efforts had some success. Asylum systems in key countries such as Greece and Italy were strengthened, and UNHCR supported significant EU bilateral and national investments. Across Europe, the Office promoted compliance with internationally-accepted asylum standards. UNHCR also worked with States on solutions while simultaneously looking to address drivers of onward movement using an evidence-based and participatory approach.

Although several European countries made significant progress in strengthening reception capacities in 2017, conditions were not universally at international and EU standards. Overcrowding and lack of capacity to identify and refer people with specific needs remained challenges. The situation was particularly worrying on the Aegean islands, where thousands of refugees continued to live in inadequate reception facilities and identification centres, facing risks related to SGBV, hygiene, health and security. In Italy, the increase in asylum applications overstretched processing and reception capacities. In response, UNHCR increased its support for the asylum system, as well as for people with specific needs, such as survivors of SGBV, arbitrary detention, severe physical maltreatment and torture, as well as for people with disabilities, who were identified in alarmingly high numbers among the arrivals.

Overcrowding and lack of capacity to identify and refer people with specific needs remained challenges in some European countries particularly on the Aegean islands.



Cash empowers refugees and stimulates local economies

In 2017, through the Greece Cash Alliance, UNHCR provided cash assistance to almost 40,000 people of concern in Greece; 85 per cent of those reached by the scheme were Afghan, Iranian, Iraqi, Palestinian or Syrian. Cash assistance restored dignity and empowered beneficiaries to choose how to meet basic needs including food, transport, communication, school materials and medicine, as well as clothing and hygiene products. CBIs also helped host communities by stimulating local economies.



In Turkey, 480,000 people of concern received cash for winter support both in camps and urban areas. Another 14,200 households received cash assistance for basic needs, livelihoods, protection and education needs. Due to limited funding, UNHCR's regular cash assistance covered less than one per cent of refugees and asylum-seekers from countries other than Syria.



In South-Eastern Europe, over 2,000 people benefited from CBIs, of whom 1,200 were refugees and asylum-seekers, more than 500 were IDPs, and nearly 300 were returnees to Serbia and Kosovo (Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)), who received assistance as part of an exceptional return package. The purpose of this unconditional cash grant to each of these respective groups was to alleviate immediate protection risks and assist the most vulnerable with essential needs.

In Ukraine, an agreement with the national postal service allowed the distribution of cash by making use of pre-existing systems for the payment of social benefits. Winter cash assistance to purchase primarily heating fuel was provided to more than 840 people of concern in the last quarter of the year when additional funds became available.



As UNHCR rolls out its cash assistance programme across Greece, a Syrian family visit a local shop to buy groceries with the card they have received.

© UNHCR/Thomas Kyriakidis

Building and maintaining fair and efficient asylum and protection systems

At EU-level, work advanced on the reform of the Common European Asylum System. However, discussions among decision-makers proved to be particularly challenging on the establishment of an intra-EU solidarity mechanism to support EU Member States under pressure, as well as on measures to manage mixed flows. On the latter, deliberations focused on modalities aimed at providing international protection outside the European Union. These modalities included the proposed mandatory use of admissibility procedures, including on the basis of the safe third country concept. On the basis of UNHCR's December 2016 "Better protecting refugees" proposals to EU institutions and Member States on the future of EU asylum and migration policies,

UNHCR recommended the reformed Common European Asylum System include an intra-EU solidarity mechanism entailing the relocation of asylum-seekers. The proposal also advocated the use of accelerated and simplified procedures for manifestly well-founded as well as patently unfounded claims, ensuring rapid and more efficient access to protection for those with the former and facilitating the return to their country of origin of those with the latter.

Child protection and SGBV continued to be a priority areas for intervention in 2017. UNHCR's 2017 policy document "The way forward to strengthened policies and practices for unaccompanied and separated children in Europe" outlined the specific risks faced by unaccompanied and separated children. Through a consultative process, strategic partnerships, and community outreach, SGBV prevention and response

activities were improved through various innovative projects. For example, in Italy, cultural mediators informed children about asylum systems and available services, while in Serbia a professional guardianship system was established to support unaccompanied children.

Recognizing the pivotal role communities play in protection, UNHCR strengthened its community-based protection approach for IDPs, refugees and other people of concern in Ukraine. In collaboration with partners, more than 400 IDP communities throughout the country, including in non-government controlled areas, were mobilized to find solutions to issues themselves or together with host communities and local authorities. UNHCR also tapped into, and enhanced, local resources by actively supporting and building communities' advocacy capacity. UNHCR facilitated peer-to-peer support between communities, where 150 IDPs exchanged best practices on working with the private sector and local authorities. Small-scale grants strengthened the tools and capacity of existing communities. For instance, advocacy training was conducted for groups with specific profiles and shared interests, such as those living with disabilities or in collective accommodation centres.

Securing durable solutions

In line with the spirit of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which calls for better responsibility-sharing on a global scale, UNHCR continued to advocate in 2017 for predictable and credible pathways for admission to Europe. In 2017, 25 European countries resettled approximately 26,400 refugees, up from the 17,100 resettled by 23 States in 2016. UNHCR provided comments to the European Commission's proposal for a Union Resettlement Framework, advocating a framework responsive to global resettlement needs, reflective of resettlement as a durable solution, and representing a tool for protection and international responsibility-sharing. UNHCR also participated in negotiations on the development of standard operating procedures for the European Union's voluntary humanitarian admission scheme from Turkey. These procedures were endorsed in December 2017.

400 IDP communities in Ukraine were mobilized to find solutions to issues themselves or together with host communities.



Family displaced three times plants new roots in Portugal

© UNHCR/Bruno Galian Ruiz



The family stand outside their new home in Batalha, Portugal.

Duret and his family finally found peace in Portugal, far from the violence and persecution that haunted their previous lives. At a ceramics factory in the small town of Batalha, Duret is loading plates and bowls onto a conveyor belt, ready for the kiln.

"When we came here, we didn't even know how to say 'Hello', we didn't know anything," says Duret, straining to make his voice heard over the steady hum of machines. "But once we learnt a bit of Portuguese, we found there was no difference between us and our colleagues. We all work together."



UNHCR continued its partnership with IOM and the International Catholic Migration Commission under the auspices of the EU-funded European Resettlement Network. Through this network, UNHCR and its partners helped develop complementary pathways of admission to the European Union, including community-based sponsorship, humanitarian admission programmes and student scholarship schemes (see the chapter on *Building better futures*).

Despite the right to family reunification under the EU Family Reunification Directive as well as in national legislation, beneficiaries of international protection continued to face serious obstacles in exercising this right. UNHCR advocated refugees' right to family reunification as an additional safe pathway to Europe that reduces reliance on the use of smugglers. The Office also mapped family reunification procedures across various European countries and, through its continued partnership with the European Council on Refugees and Exiles, organized a consultation with legal practitioners on judicial engagement concerning family reunification.

UNHCR focused on facilitating durable solutions for people displaced by the conflicts of the 1990s, especially in the context of the "Sarajevo Process on refugees and displaced persons" and its Regional Housing Programme. At the strategic policy level, it also worked to build authorities' capacity to assume full responsibility for durable solutions for affected groups.

In Ukraine, UNHCR worked with relevant authorities on the effective implementation of an IDP integration and durable solutions strategy, which was adopted in November 2017. There was significant progress made

in Eastern Europe, in the South Caucasus, towards the integration of IDPs and refugees by facilitating durable housing solutions and strengthening social inclusion.

Preventing and resolving statelessness

There remain an estimated half a million stateless persons in Europe. Thanks to ongoing efforts in reducing statelessness, about 10,000 stateless persons acquired nationality in 2017 in Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine alone. However, due to inadequate legal safeguards, risks of statelessness persisted in most European States. Twenty years after the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia and its related displacement, some 8,500 people were still at risk of statelessness because they lacked identity documents such as birth certificates.

As part of UNHCR's #IBelong campaign to end statelessness, which in 2017 focused on stateless minorities, the European Network on Statelessness—a UNHCR partner—published a report on Roma statelessness in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe highlighting discrimination as both a cause and consequence of statelessness. The report included a series of recommendations for policy-makers.

In 2017, Luxembourg acceded to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, bringing to 31 the number of European States that are a party to this convention. Luxembourg also amended its nationality law, strengthening safeguards against statelessness at birth, and securing pathways for the acquisition of nationality by stateless persons.

Another positive development in 2017 saw Albania adopt a law on the rights of the child, giving due consideration to the protection of stateless children and the right to nationality at birth.

Strengthening external relations in the region

UNHCR strengthened partnerships with United Nations agencies, NGOs, and the private sector in order to improve joint advocacy efforts, mobilize support and ensure effective use of resources. The Office continued to develop tools, such as data portals, to improve information-sharing with partners, thereby helping ensure a more effective and joined-up response to refugee situations.

An example of a creative, non-traditional partnership was the Refugee Food Festival, held across 13 European cities in 2017. The Festival was a partnership with the NGO Food Sweet Food, but the event also relied on the support of citizens, local authorities and private businesses. Through a positive

cultural experience, locals and refugees were brought together, helping foster a sense of community.

Together with UNDP, UNHCR co-chaired the Issue-based Coalition on Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience, and facilitated the adoption of common advocacy messages among the Coalition's members.

In Ukraine, UNHCR led the protection and shelter clusters within the inter-agency framework for IDPs and maintained close partnerships with the ICRC, OSCE and NGOs in both government and non-government controlled areas.

In South-Eastern Europe, UNHCR strengthened its traditional partnership with OSCE missions and the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre to secure solutions for those populations displaced by the conflicts in former Yugoslavia, and through two regional processes commonly known as the "Sarajevo Process" and the "Skopje Process".

Luxembourg acceded to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, bringing to 31 the number of European States party to this convention.

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A volunteer from the Lutheran World Federation plants seeds in a nursery at Minawao refugee camp in Cameroon, as part of the reforestation project, "Make Minawao Green Again".

The Green Refugee Camp: a sustainable environment for refugees and host communities

The Dutch and Swedish Postcode Lotteries granted more than \$5 million in unearmarked funding in 2017. The Dutch Postcode Lottery also contributed an additional \$1.6 million to support the Green Refugee Camp, an innovative project in Cameroon to create a sustainable environment for refugees and host communities. As part of this project, 40,000 trees will be planted to restore the local environment. An estimated 25,000 people of concern will also benefit from work to improve the sustainability of shelters and to ensure cooking practices are more environmentally friendly.



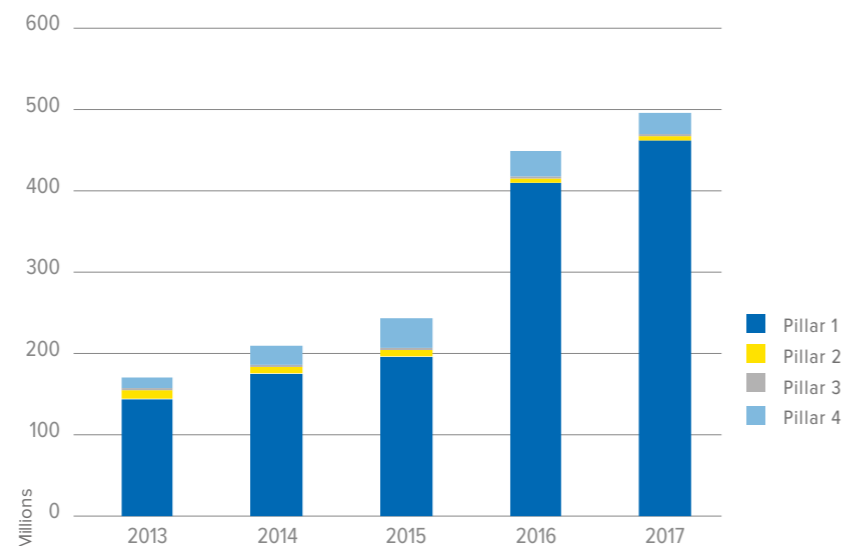
CONSTRAINTS

While UNHCR called on European States to demonstrate more responsibility-sharing, as well as solidarity, direct access to protection in Europe continued to be restricted at its external borders. Despite the existence of a shared legal framework and common standards among EU Member States, the official treatment of refugees and migrants varied widely throughout these countries and beyond. For instance, an increasing number of asylum-seekers were denied refugee status based on national security considerations. In Eastern Europe, security concerns and economic hardship dominated asylum policy, while national asylum systems lacked the capacity to ensure effective protection for the most vulnerable.

Inadequate reception facilities exposed asylum-seekers and refugees to serious protection risks, homelessness, and limited integration opportunities, contributing to an environment in which criminal networks could thrive. With limited legal pathways available to people seeking international protection to enter Europe, many felt dangerous journeys were their only option.

Discriminatory rhetoric in media and politics increased, with legislators feeling pressured to pass ever more restrictive legislation. Too often, this limited access to territory and national asylum systems increased the risk of direct or indirect *refoulement*.

EXPENDITURE IN EUROPE 2013-2017 | USD



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Budget

- ExCom revised budget: **\$891.7 million**.
- Final budget: **\$827.7 million**.
- Budget decrease: **\$63.9 million / -7%**.

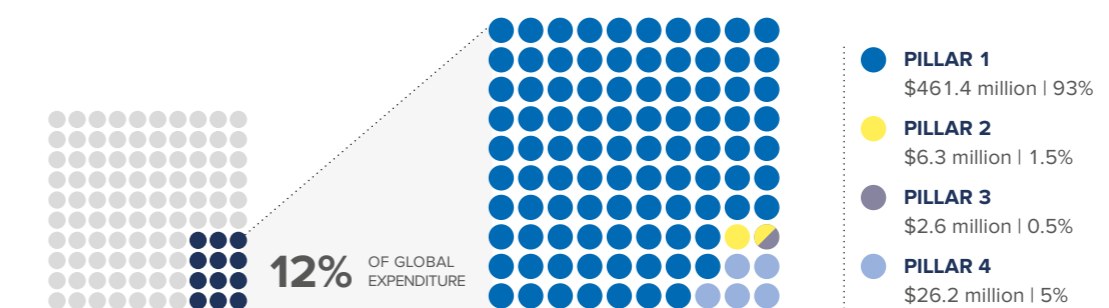
Expenditure

SOURCE OF EXPENDITURE		USD thousands	As % of expenditure within the region	As % of global expenditure by source of funding
Carry-over from prior years	Earmarked	39,082	7.9%	14%
	Unearmarked	-	-	-
Voluntary contributions	Earmarked	342,743	69.0%	16%
	Softly earmarked	53,743	10.8%	8%
	Unearmarked	49,068	9.9%	12%
	In-kind	1,998	0.4%	6%
Programme support costs	-	-	-	-
Other income	-	9,845	2.0%	8%
TOTAL		496,479	100%	12%

- Funding gap: **40%**.
- High concentration of tightly earmarked funding: **75%** of regional expenditure.
- Overall expenditure increased from 52% in 2016 to 60% in 2017.
- The operations with the highest expenditure were Greece (\$217.7 million) and Turkey (\$149.4 million), responding respectively to needs associated with the situations in the Mediterranean and the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria).
- The region's funding shortfall limited UNHCR's ability to deliver assistance and protection to people of concern, particularly for those displaced due to conflict in Syria.

2017 EXPENDITURE IN EUROPE | USD

\$496 million



BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE IN EUROPE | USD

OPERATION		PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	TOTAL
		Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects	
EASTERN EUROPE						
Belarus	Budget	1,329,804	47,815	-	-	1,377,619
	Expenditure	1,318,504	46,934	-	-	1,365,438
Georgia Regional Office ¹	Budget	11,604,704	786,756	-	4,324,911	16,716,372
	Expenditure	6,605,535	482,150	-	2,955,280	10,042,965
Russian Federation	Budget	5,283,435	642,847	-	-	5,926,281
	Expenditure	4,017,351	595,275	-	-	4,612,626
Turkey	Budget	367,988,985	2,790	-	-	367,991,775
	Expenditure	149,466,721	2,790	-	-	149,469,511
Ukraine	Budget	6,774,428	632,566	-	30,231,018	37,638,012
	Expenditure	4,821,980	314,012	-	16,293,368	21,429,360
SUBTOTAL	Budget	392,981,355	2,112,774	-	34,555,929	429,650,058
	Expenditure	166,230,090	1,441,161	-	19,248,648	186,919,900
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE						
Bosnia and Herzegovina Regional Office ²	Budget	36,436,016	3,274,512	3,812,592	17,684,996	61,208,117
	Expenditure	24,173,828	2,406,665	1,899,693	6,955,167	35,435,353
SUBTOTAL	Budget	36,436,016	3,274,512	3,812,592	17,684,996	61,208,117
	Expenditure	24,173,828	2,406,665	1,899,693	6,955,167	35,435,353
NORTHERN, WESTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN EUROPE						
Belgium Regional Office ³	Budget	17,413,681	1,039,462	-	-	18,453,143
	Expenditure	14,383,263	992,139	-	-	15,375,402
Greece	Budget	245,838,409	27,856	-	-	245,866,265
	Expenditure	217,731,455	9,847	-	-	217,741,301
Hungary Regional Office ⁴	Budget	16,247,223	591,103	774,243	-	17,612,569
	Expenditure	10,955,093	544,095	679,460	-	12,178,648
Italy Regional Office ⁵	Budget	31,677,312	225,210	-	-	31,902,522
	Expenditure	19,669,277	192,493	-	-	19,861,769
Sweden Regional Office ⁶	Budget	4,029,803	646,315	-	-	4,676,118
	Expenditure	3,142,694	428,433	-	-	3,571,128
Regional activities	Budget	17,929,988	449,087	-	-	18,379,074
	Expenditure	5,090,051	305,242	-	-	5,395,293
SUBTOTAL	Budget	333,136,416	2,979,033	774,243	-	336,889,691
	Expenditure	270,971,832	2,472,248	679,460	-	274,123,540
TOTAL	Budget	762,553,787	8,366,319	4,586,836	52,240,925	827,747,866
	Expenditure	461,375,750	6,320,074	2,579,153	26,203,815	496,478,792

¹ Includes activities in Armenia and Azerbaijan.

² Includes activities in Albania, Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)), and Montenegro.

³ Includes activities in Austria, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, the liaison office for Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

⁴ Includes activities in Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

⁵ Includes activities in Cyprus, Malta and Spain.

⁶ Includes activities in Latvia and Lithuania.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO EUROPE | USD

DONOR	PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3	PILLAR 4	ALL PILLARS	TOTAL
	Refugee programme	Stateless programme	Reintegration projects	IDP projects		
European Union	246,101,464			4,385,424		250,486,888
United States of America	74,000,000				52,300,000	126,300,000
Germany	23,157,246			1,711,424	564,572	25,433,241
Italy	10,329,748				175,390	10,505,138
Japan	5,378,175			325,950		5,704,125
United Nations Department of Political Affairs	4,123,557					4,123,557
Republic of Korea	2,800,000					2,800,000
Norway	1,543,612			1,185,958		2,729,570
Spain	2,342,938				325,000	2,667,938
Canada	1,886,792				743,494	2,630,287
Private Donors in Germany	2,369,668			70,277	21,209	2,461,154
Denmark	2,388,535					2,388,535
France	2,265,676					2,265,676
Private Donors in Spain	1,163,295					1,163,295
Sweden				1,106,317		1,106,317
Private Donors in the United States of America	909,491				30	909,521
United Kingdom	747,524				20,702	768,226
Private Donors in Japan				681,531		681,531
Private Donors in France	623,473				53,318	676,791
Russian Federation		200,000		350,000		550,000
Estonia	60,096			448,425		508,522
Austria					350,677	350,677
Hungary					285,867	285,867
Council of Europe Development Bank				246,957		246,957
Ireland	235,187					235,187
Romania					103,521	103,521
Armenia					103,000	103,000
Private Donors in the United Arab Emirates					100,000	100,000
International Organization for Migration	91,805					91,805
Montenegro					82,745	82,745
Private Donors in Greece	71,786					71,786
Poland					65,000	65,000
Malta	53,318					53,318
Private Donors in the United Kingdom	38,429					38,429
Czechia					38,100	38,100
Serbia					30,380	30,380
Private Donors in Italy	25,607					25,607
Croatia					24,957	24,957
Private Donors Worldwide	17,046				18	17,064
Luxembourg					10,239	10,239
Azerbaijan	6,672					6,672
Private Donors in Austria	738					738
TOTAL	382,731,878	200,000		10,512,262	55,398,219	448,842,359

Note: Contributions include 7 per cent programme support costs, and exclude \$0.61 million for implementation in 2018.