

## Liechtenstein

February 2023

While UNHCR has no presence in the Principality of Liechtenstein, **the support is provided by the UNHCR Country Office in Switzerland.**

UNHCR **promotes the integration and inclusion** of refugees into Liechtenstein's rural communities.

The Principality of Liechtenstein regularly provides **financial support** to UNHCR operations around the world.

### POPULATION OF CONCERN as of 30 June 2022\*

Refugees	<b>504</b>
Asylum-seekers	<b>58</b>

### Top three countries of origin\*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	<b>280</b>	Morocco	<b>9</b>
Syrian Arab Rep.	<b>65</b>	Sudan	<b>9</b>
China	<b>54</b>	Belarus	<b>5</b>

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

### UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of 28 February, 536 refugees from Ukraine were registered for temporary protection in Liechtenstein.

**Protection:** Relevant information is available to refugees from Ukraine by phone and through a dedicated section on the UNHCR [Help page](#). The information has been continuously updated since March 2022 and has been translated to Russian and Ukrainian.

**Monitoring:** To identify and tackle issues of concern to refugees from Ukraine, UNHCR is in continuous dialogue with authorities from Liechtenstein. On 12 December 2022, UNHCR visited Liechtenstein and the main focus was the situation of refugees from Ukraine. On that occasion, UNHCR visited a hotel that serves as accommodation for 90 refugees from Ukraine and conducted a focus group.

**Advocacy:** In March, UNHCR issued a [statement](#) welcoming the application of the temporary protection status and issuing recommendations.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Cooperation in strategic litigation

UNHCR and the NGO humanrights.ch will establish a coordination and knowledge management platform for strategic litigation in Switzerland and in Liechtenstein, as agreed in December 2022, when UNHCR participated in a second strategic network meeting on litigation.

#### New thematic postcards

UNHCR released in January 2023 a new series of seven postcards [in French](#) and [in German](#), in addition to the already existing 15 postcards, explaining in simple terms international protection and related issues. Postcards touch on refugee rights and obligations, temporary protection status and assistance for refugees with specific needs.

#### Updated brochures

Brochures developed by UNHCR about resettlement and statelessness in Switzerland and Liechtenstein were recently updated. Both are available [in French](#) and [in German](#).



#### MAPPING OF REFUGEE COMMUNITIES

UNHCR launched in February 2023 its mapping of refugee communities active in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. UNHCR surveyed 40 communities about their strengths, needs and work. The mapping shows that refugee communities play an important role for the integration of refugees by providing information about the life in Liechtenstein and organizing a wide range of activities, such as language courses.

## Key Priorities

- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR continuously advocates for an asylum procedure that is fair and efficient and for removing admissibility criteria not in line with international law.
- **Solutions/Integration:** UNHCR advocates for introducing a subsidiary protection status, aligning the rights to the rights of refugees. In addition, UNHCR monitors implementation of the new integration strategy.
- **Resettlement and complementary pathways:** Liechtenstein offered in October 2013 to resettle one Syrian family from Jordan. Based on the success of this resettlement case, Liechtenstein accepted five additional families in February 2015, who arrived in three groups between July and September 2015. Due to the rising number of asylum applications in 2015 (150 compared to 65 in 2014, significantly above the five-year average of 83) and Liechtenstein's participation in the EU relocation programme, Liechtenstein has not accepted any new resettlement cases since. In the context of the Solidarity Platform for refugees from the Ukraine, Liechtenstein has pledged to welcome 20 people transiting Moldova. Thus far, three refugees from Ukraine have been welcomed in Liechtenstein.
- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** UNHCR is advocating for introducing community-based approaches and issued an information booklet for this purpose.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR is **advocating** for a fair and efficient asylum procedure, as well as introducing subsidiary protection and an effective integration strategy.

## Working with Partners

- **Regular contacts:** UNHCR maintains regular contact with all relevant governmental entities, the courts and civil society actors such as the Liechtenstein Refugee Council and the Liechtenstein Human Rights Association.
- **External engagement:** UNHCR external engagement aims at fostering public awareness about refugee protection, the need for resettlement places and the improvement of the legal framework.

## Statelessness

- In 2009, Liechtenstein acceded to both the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. However, there is no specific procedure for the recognition of statelessness. Although law provides stateless persons, recognized as such, with the right to travel documents, it does not result in a residence title.

## UNHCR Presence in Liechtenstein

- There is no UNHCR presence in the Principality of Liechtenstein. It is covered by the Country Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, based in Bern, Switzerland.

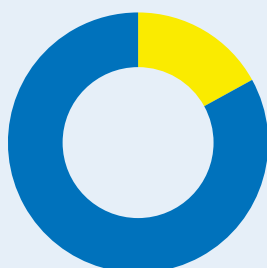
## Financial information\* (February 2023)

\*Information relates to the Representations for Austria and to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, to the Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein (OSL), the Liaison Office in Vienna and the presence in Portugal.

### Financial requirements

USD 5.4 M

**Funding gap**  
83%  
4.5 M



**Funded**  
17%  
0.9 M

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