



Rome, Italy – Zahara, a refugee who fled recent hostilities in Sudan, arrives to Rome with her two-month-old son on an evacuation flight from Libya organized by UNHCR.
©UNHCR/Alessandro Penso

2024 CRITICAL FUNDING NEEDS IN EUROPE

October 2024

As of mid-2024, countries in Europe are hosting some 21.2 million forcibly displaced and stateless people – 16 per cent of the global displaced population. For 2024, UNHCR's financial requirements in Europe stand at **US\$ 1.466 billion** to assist some 6.7 million forcibly displaced and stateless people in need across the region.

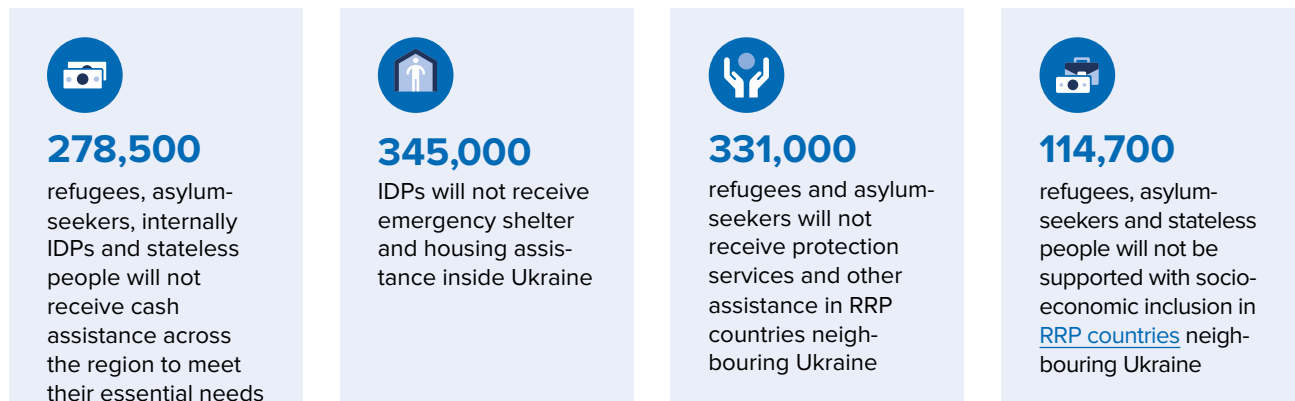
The war in Ukraine has displaced almost one-third of the country's population, with some 3.7 million people internally displaced and over 6.7 million refugees globally, including 6.1 million in Europe. UNHCR and partners are supporting national authorities in providing humanitarian assistance to displaced Ukrainians both within and outside of the country. Meanwhile, **many continue to take perilous journeys towards Europe from other regions** along dangerous sea and land routes where they face abuse, exploitation, sexual violence and detention. UNHCR and partners are working with States to ensure a favorable protection environment for people on the move, while advocating for safer migration pathways.

However, **the funding outlook remains uncertain in Europe**. UNHCR calls for more support amidst low funding levels in 2024, which unless addressed will negatively impact its ability to provide assistance to forcibly displaced and stateless people. As of 30 September, UNHCR has received only 50 per cent of its funding needs for activities in Europe, less than during the same period in 2023. Winter assistance in particular remains critical, notably inside Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, where funding gaps are limiting UNHCR and partners' ability to reach those in need with vital support in 2024-25.

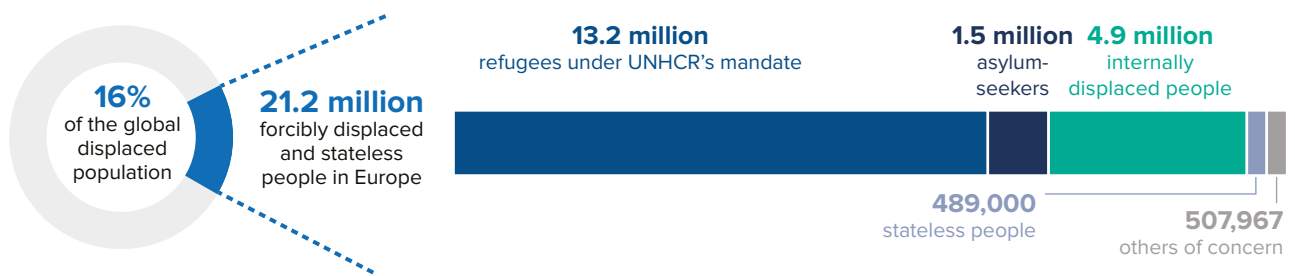


UNHCR is calling for additional support to its 2024 programmes. Without sufficient funding, UNHCR will need to halt or reduce some interventions across Europe, increasing protection risks for forcibly displaced and stateless individuals and exacerbating the burden on host countries and communities.

Without further crucial funding, in 2024 UNHCR will be unable to reach vulnerable displaced people and communities in Europe, including:



Key Figures:



Financial Information

In 2024, UNHCR has appealed for **\$1.466 billion** to provide assistance to over **6.7 million** forcibly displaced and stateless people in need across Europe.

FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PEOPLE IN NEED ACROSS EUROPE

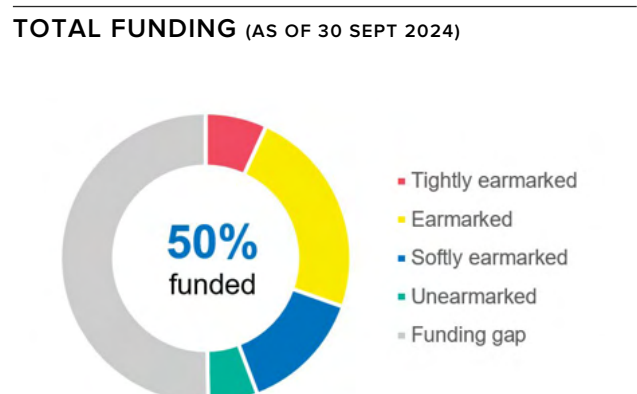
6.7 million

REQUESTED FOR UNHCR'S ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE IN 2024

\$ 1.466 billion

TOTAL CONTRIBUTED OR PLEDGED (AS OF 30 SEPT 2024)

\$ 728.9 million



Ukraine Situation

As the full-scale war in Ukraine continues unabated, ongoing hostilities are heavily impacting civilians, with **3.7 million people currently internally displaced**.¹ UNHCR and partners are on the frontline providing lifesaving assistance to the newly displaced, including psychosocial support, legal assistance, core-relief items, cash assistance and emergency shelter support and repairs. Where conditions allow, UNHCR is supporting government-led early-recovery efforts including repairs to civilian housing and infrastructure. Heading into yet another winter—and with targeted attacks compromising energy infrastructure in parts of the country—additional funding is critical to help scale up assistance for millions of people to repair their damaged homes, afford electricity and heating costs, and ensure they have access to essential non-food items such as clothing, heaters, thermal kits, as well as cash assistance.

Over **6.1 million refugees** from Ukraine have sought safety across Europe, where host countries have generously provided protection, access to services, and inclusion into national systems. However, host governments and communities need support to guarantee access to rights and services, provide dedicated support for the most vulnerable, foster greater inclusion and ensure social cohesion. UNHCR leads the **Regional Refugee Response Plan** (RRP) for the Ukraine Situation in these efforts along with more than 300 partners. In 2024, UNHCR aims to assist over **850,000 refugees with protection support** including information and counselling, targeted cash for protection and socio-economic activities, including livelihoods support. For more on UNHCR's 2024 plans and financial requirements for the Ukraine Situation, see [here](#).



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Ukraine Winter Appeal

UNHCR's **2024/2025 winter response plan appeals** for \$170 million and aims to assist over 550,000 people in Ukraine with cash support, 41,400 people with better insulated homes and living spaces, 33,600 people with essential items, in addition to alternative energy support such as generators and portable power stations.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

UNHCR'S 2024 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR UKRAINE SITUATION COUNTRIES

US\$ **993.3** million

TOTAL FUNDED (as of 30 Sept 2024)

52%

COUNTRY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL FUNDED (%)	
Bulgaria	\$17.0M	71%	<div style="width: 71%;"></div>
Czech Republic	\$11.9M	44%	<div style="width: 44%;"></div>
Estonia	\$4.2M	50%	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>
Hungary	\$14.2M	60%	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Latvia	\$4.2M	50%	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>
Lithuania	\$4.2M	50%	<div style="width: 50%;"></div>
Poland	\$85.0M	38%	<div style="width: 38%;"></div>
Rep. of Moldova	\$102.8M	60%	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Romania	\$54.3M	45%	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>
Slovakia	\$20.3M	53%	<div style="width: 53%;"></div>
Ukraine	\$598.9M	52%	<div style="width: 52%;"></div>

¹IOM DTM - Ukraine

Mediterranean and North-West African Maritime Routes

The Western Mediterranean and North-West African maritime routes towards Europe are experiencing ongoing **high arrivals of refugees and asylum-seekers**, with 132,050 arrivals and over 1,000 reported dead or missing so far this year.² In August 2024 some 22,600 asylum-seekers and migrants arrived to Europe by sea.³ Addressing the complex challenges associated with these mixed movements requires robust and consistent collaboration among states, focusing on comprehensive route-based strategies that address the full spectrum of protection needs, potential solutions and the capacities of states.

UNHCR is working to strengthen cooperation with national authorities and partners to improve coordinated search and rescue operations along the primary sea routes, while delivering protection support and identifying the most vulnerable among those arriving. These efforts are realized through UNHCR's presence at key border and arrival points including Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain to identify protection and humanitarian needs, provide assistance after disembarkation and support states in strengthening their asylum capacities. However, **UNHCR's response is hampered by critical underfunding**—including in Greece where UNHCR activities remain only 45 per cent funded⁴—impacting on the ability to deliver protection assistance including legal aid and referrals to specialized services for vulnerable persons arriving.



© UNHCR/Michele Cirillo

Lampedusa, Italy – UNHCR and partners are present at disembarkation points in Italy and other Mediterranean countries, where people arrive after undertaking perilous sea journeys. UNHCR works with national authorities to ensure those arriving by sea are provided with adequate assistance and information—including medical assistance, where needed—while identifying opportunities for socio-economic inclusion and durable solutions, including resettlement and complementary pathways. A high number of sea arrivals continue to be observed in Mediterranean countries in Europe and along the Northwest African maritime route towards the Canary Islands.

UNHCR'S 2024 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

US\$ **81.2** million

TOTAL FUNDED (as of 30 Sept 2024)

54%

COUNTRY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL FUNDED (%)
Cyprus	\$3.2M	69%
Greece	\$46.9M	45%
Italy	\$22.1M	63%
Malta	\$2.2M	68%
Spain	\$6.8M	73%

The "Whole-of-Route" Approach

UNHCR works with states to address the challenges of irregular and mixed movements at Europe's borders through a comprehensive route-based approach. This strategy focuses on coordinated actions to protect refugees and migrants, uphold their rights and reduce dangerous journeys. It emphasizes cooperation among states, UN agencies and civil society to manage irregular movements and ensure responses align with international obligations.

² Mediterranean Situation [Operational Data Portal](#)

³ 8,500 arrivals to Italy; 6,900 to Greece; 6,500 arrivals to Spain (4,095 of whom arrived in the Canary Islands); and 216 to Cyprus.

⁴ As of 30 September 2024.

South Eastern Europe

As of June 2024, some 3,000 refugees and asylum-seekers were present in South Eastern Europe, including 199 unaccompanied and separated children.⁵ UNHCR's [Strategy for engagement in mixed movements in the Western Balkans](#) sets a foundation to work with partners to strengthen asylum systems and identify viable solutions for refugees, as well as to eradicate statelessness, while fostering opportunities for integration and inclusion for those granted international protection. UNHCR is helping to build the capacities of local authorities to gradually assume greater responsibility for their asylum systems, while also improving protection-sensitive migration management across the region, including recognising the importance of effective return mechanisms for those not in need of international protection. **Funding is needed to support these efforts and ensure sustainable programming** for integration and inclusion, and to identify durable solutions for refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless people in the region – which is itself a region of emigration.



© UNHCR/Vanja Cerimagic

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina – Anes and his wife Selma were displaced after the war broke out in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1992. In 2018, they were provided with accommodation through the [Regional Housing Programme \(RHP\)](#) – a joint initiative to support refugees and displaced people from the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. The RHP was developed in partnership with UNHCR, OSCE, the European Commission and partner countries.

UNHCR'S 2024 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

US\$ **30.7** million

TOTAL FUNDED (as of 30 Sept 2024)

60%

COUNTRY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL FUNDED (%)	
Albania	\$3.5M	58%	<div style="width: 58%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>
Bosnia & Herzegovina	\$8.0M	63%	<div style="width: 63%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>
Montenegro	\$2.9M	60%	<div style="width: 60%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>
North Macedonia	\$3.8M	54%	<div style="width: 54%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>
Serbia	\$9.2M	60%	<div style="width: 60%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>

⁵ Non-Ukrainian nationals; of these, 52 per cent were in Bosnia and Herzegovina; 25 per cent in Serbia; 7 per cent in Kosovo; 6 per cent each in Albania and Montenegro; and 4 per cent in North Macedonia. In North Macedonia, this number includes individuals outside government-run centres, with forcibly displaced and stateless people accommodated in government or IOM-run centres, asylum centres, and transit facilities. UNHCR utilises arrival data to estimate the numbers involved. Note: References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Statelessness

Just under **490,000 stateless individuals are currently present in Europe** (out of a total 4.4 million people globally). In the region, UNHCR is providing legal advice and assistance to affected individuals, while engaging governments in developing Statelessness Determination Procedures, offering recommendations on legislative proposals, and providing submissions to human rights mechanisms along with legal and technical guidance on interpreting the [UN Conventions on Statelessness](#). UNHCR has also co-facilitated regional initiatives to bring together high-level stakeholders in South Eastern Europe to address issues related to access to documentation and overcome obstacles to nationality, resulting in renewed commitments from participating States.

UNHCR continues to support national authorities with the issuance of civil documentation, while undertaking advocacy, awareness-raising and capacity building. In October 2024, UNHCR is launching the [Global Alliance to End Statelessness](#), bringing together key stakeholders to achieve the goal of ending statelessness. While national initiatives and ongoing strong political will in Europe remain promising, concrete efforts are needed to support those without legal recognition in the region.

UNHCR'S 2024 FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS
FOR STATELESSNESS-RELATED ACTIVITIES
IN EUROPE

US\$ **13.8** million

TOTAL FUNDED (as of 30 Sept 2024)

50%



Podgorica, Montenegro – For Sadik (centre) and his family, the journey out of legal invisibility in Montenegro has been a saga spanning over 25 years. Fleeing the Kosovo war in 1999*, his family later found themselves without identity documents, depriving them of basic human rights and services that most of us take for granted.

The breakthrough came early this year when with UNHCR's support, Sadik's wife Buqa obtained identity documents. This enabled the registration of their children in birth registries and paved the way for them to apply for identity documents. The new legal status has opened new frontiers for the family, granting them access to healthcare, education, social assistance, and more.

© UNHCR/Igor Sljivancanin

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).



Hatay, Türkiye – Tawfiq (right) and his family fled hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic 11 years ago, and now reside in Hatay, Türkiye – one of the provinces most affected by the 2023 earthquakes. Following the disaster, they lost everything and moved into a camp area. Tawfiq says ensuring his children attend school remains his priority: “I hope for a better future for them. No father desires anything but the best for his children.”

In Türkiye's southeast region, which hosts 1.7 million refugees, UNHCR prioritizes key needs of refugees and the host community including those affected by the earthquakes through protection monitoring, shelter, core-relief items, cash assistance, and advocacy.

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2024 Europe financial requirements by outcome area

Total: \$1,465,225,124

OUTCOME AREA (OA)	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (USD)
OA1: Access to territory, registration and documentation	\$211,813,735
OA2: Refugee status determination	\$33,974,100
OA3: Protection policy and law	\$54,927,225
OA4: Gender-based violence	\$28,706,368
OA5: Child protection	\$30,391,118
OA6: Safety and access to justice	\$122,329,625
OA7: Community engagement and women's empowerment	\$146,627,784
OA8: Well-being and basic needs	\$347,232,237
OA9: Sustainable housing and settlements	\$213,922,043

OUTCOME AREA (OA)	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (USD)
OA11: Education	\$40,111,597
OA13: Self-reliance, economic inclusion and livelihoods	\$49,004,339
OA14: Voluntary repatriation and sustainable reintegration	\$12,650,941
OA15: Resettlement and complementary pathways	\$15,313,313
OA16: Local integration and other local solutions	\$112,163,620
EA17: Systems	\$10,228,918
EA18: Support	\$13,128,504
EA19: People	\$5,688,961
EA20: External	\$17,010,696

Total funding for UNHCR activities in Europe (as of 30 Sept 2024)

50% funded - \$728.9 million

50% Funding Gap

Total needs: \$1.466 billion

For more information, reports and other resources:

- UNHCR Europe webpage
- UNHCR Europe region quarterly updates
- UNHCR Europe country operation fact sheets
- UNHCR Global Focus Europe webpage
- UNHCR Ukraine Emergency webpage

[Join our mailing list](#)

Operational data portals:

- Ukraine Refugee Situation
- Europe Sea Arrivals

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