

## Slovenia

September 2024

Slovenia continues to be a welcoming environment for forcibly displaced individuals, providing **access to territory and protection, social services and employment**.

In April 2024, a specialized **facility for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)** was opened in Postojna, with an accommodation capacity for 70 UASC.

As of July 2024, Slovenia recorded **24,805** arrivals of persons wishing to apply for international protection. This is a **3 per cent decrease** compared to the same period in 2023.

### POPULATION STATISTICS (as of mid-2024)\*

Refugees	<b>11,468</b>
Asylum-seekers	<b>583</b>
Stateless people	<b>10</b>
Others of concern	<b>9</b>

### Top three countries of origin\*

Refugees	Asylum-seekers
Ukraine <b>10,231</b>	Morocco <b>209</b>
Syrian Arab Republic <b>373</b>	Ukraine <b>82</b>
Afghanistan <b>136</b>	Algeria <b>42</b>

\*UNHCR Mid-Year Statistical Report 2024 and UNHCR Data Finder

### Protecting forcibly displaced and stateless people in Slovenia

#### Slovenia adopts Migration Strategy

In 2024, the Government adopted Slovenia's Migration Strategy, developed through extensive stakeholder consultations. A significant portion of the strategy focuses on protecting vulnerable forcibly displaced persons, including unaccompanied and separated children, survivors of trafficking, persons with disabilities, and survivors of gender-based violence. The strategy also addresses hate speech and xenophobia.

#### Integration through sports: refugees in Slovenia to participate to the Unity Euro Cup

UNHCR, in collaboration with the UEFA, Slovenian National Football Association and Slovenian Red Cross, is supporting 12 amateur players, including three female players, to participate to for the third edition of the international football event for refugees and host community members, Euro Unity Cup in Nyon, Switzerland. The event highlights the importance of integration through sports.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Shift in nationalities of arrivals in Slovenia

Slovenian authorities reported that citizens of Syria, Afghanistan and Türkiye constitute the majority of new arrivals to Slovenia in 2024. In 2023, the most represented nationalities were Afghanistan, Morocco and Pakistan. Those who decide to lodge an application for international protection in Slovenia continue to be mainly Moroccan nationals.

#### More than 2,500 refugees and asylum-seekers receive targeted support

By mid-2024, UNHCR and partners had assisted 2,624 individuals. PIC provided legal aid to 952 people, EMMA Institute offered mental health services to 662, and Slovene Philanthropy supported 1,010 through community activities.



Zsolt Balla © UNHCR

### SLOVENIA SUPPORTS AFGHANS WHO LOST EVERYTHING IN TÜRKIYE EARTHQUAKE

The Joinda family fled Afghanistan only to have their new lives in Türkiye upended in last year's earthquake. Now, resettlement in Slovenia gives them the chance of stability.

## Key Priorities

- **Access to territory:** UNHCR supports national authorities and routinely monitors police procedures to ensure that people in need of international protection have [access to territory](#) and [asylum procedures](#).
- **Protection monitoring:** UNHCR conducts monitoring visits to reception and accommodation centers for forcibly displaced people and advocates with the government to enhance [reception standards](#) and access to quality protection services.
- **Accountability to Affected Persons:** UNHCR, with the Slovenian Migration Institute (SMI ZRC SAZU), conducted Multisectoral Needs Assessments (MSNA) among temporary protection holders. UNHCR advocates for improved access to [employment](#), [language support](#), [school attendance](#), and [health services](#) in Slovenia.
- **Education pathway:** UNHCR works closely with the government to facilitate access to post-graduate study programmes for refugee students in first asylum countries.
- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** Through a Small Grants Agreement scheme, UNHCR supports three Community-Based Organisations, providing psychological support, cultural activities and language classes to forcibly displaced individuals from Ukraine.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR advocates for the continuous improvement of the [protection environment](#) for forcibly displaced persons in Slovenia.
- **Capacity strengthening:** UNHCR facilitates [trainings](#) for police officers, child protection authorities, Refugee Status Determination officials, and frontline workers.

## Working with Partners

- UNHCR has three active partnerships in Slovenia. The Legal Centre for the Protection of Human Rights and Environment (PIC) offers legal support and representation to refugees and asylum-seekers and

operates mobile Blue Dots for those under temporary protection. [EMMA Institute](#) provides mental health and psychosocial support, along with assistance for GBV survivors. [Slovene Philanthropy](#) focuses on supporting forcibly displaced persons through community-based integration activities.

- UNHCR works closely with [relevant Ministries and Government Offices](#) on the development of the National Implementation Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Together with Government bodies and NGOs and EUAA, UNHCR organized several trainings, including on decision drafting, protection of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), child protection, family reunification, social work practice with forcibly displaced persons and GBV. UNHCR is also supporting the development of the Government's Migration Strategy.
- With an increase of identified UASC in the first eight months of 2024, UNHCR has prioritized [advocacy for UASC protection](#) and the enhancement of capacities for staff working with children.

## Statelessness

- Slovenia has acceded to the 1954 UN Statelessness Convention, and pledged during the 2023 Global Refugee Forum to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- UNHCR is working closely with national counterparts to encourage the ratification of the 1961 Convention before the launch of the Global Alliance in October 2024 and the introduction of a dedicated statelessness determination procedure following the ratification.

## UNHCR Presence in Slovenia

### Staff:

3 National Staff

### Offices:

1 Field Presence in Ljubljana

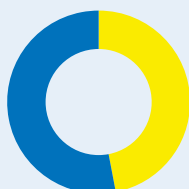
1 Multi Country Office in Budapest

## Financial information (as of 30 September 2024)

### Financial requirements

\$ 1.7 M

Funding gap 53%  
\$ 0.9 M



Funded 47%  
\$ 0.8 M

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