Europe

Eastern Europe South-Eastern Europe Central Europe and the Baltic States Western Europe

The main objectives of UNHCR in Europe for 2006 are the following:

 Continue to support governments in establishing and maintaining national asylum systems (Global Strategic Objective 1) so that: i) persons seeking asylum have access to the territories of European States, including in the Mediterranean Basin; ii) the quality of asylum systems is safeguarded; iii) asylum systems and practices are responsive to issues of gender and age; iv) xenophobia and racism towards refugees and asylumseekers decrease and the integration of refugees is effectively promoted; v) asylum policies are informed by a spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing; and vi) refugee protection in the European Union is enhanced through the development of a common asylum system that conforms to international standards.

- Promote stability and solutions in South-eastern and Eastern Europe (Global Strategic Objectives 2 and 3), ensuring that the protection and assistance needs of persons displaced in Eastern and South-eastern Europe are met, that durable solutions are implemented for refugees and internally displaced populations, and that statelessness is reduced and effective solutions for stateless persons are identified.
- Maintain or establish a permanent presence in European countries on the Mediterranean border facing difficulties with the number of new asylum-seekers.
- Ensure that strengthened political and financial support is provided to UNHCR programmes and activities worldwide.