

EUROPE MONTHLY UPDATE

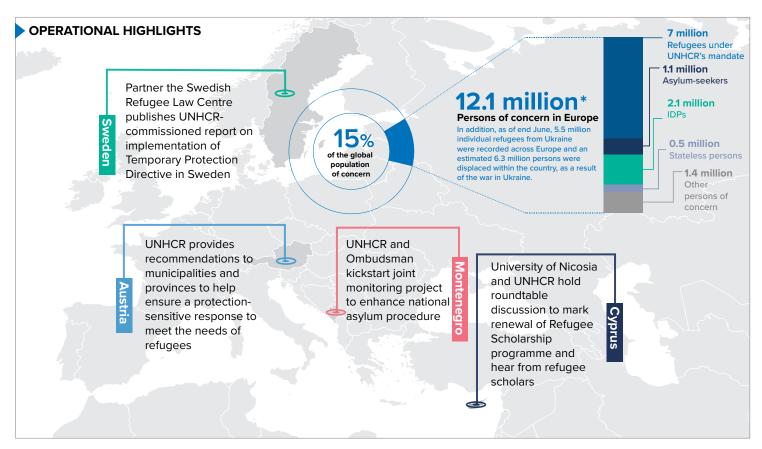
Regional Bureau for Europe | June 2022

MONTH IN REVIEW

Ukraine Situation: The international armed conflict in Ukraine has led to the largest forced displacement crisis in the world today and a surge in humanitarian needs. UNHCR continued scaling up its operations in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, focusing on strengthening protection mechanisms to identify and support the most vulnerable.

Arrivals and displaced populations: Some 5.5 million individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe as of end June 2022, while an estimated 6.3 million people were displaced inside Ukraine. In the first six months of 2022, some 49,400 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes, a 25 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2021.

COVID-19: Regional infection rates rose steadily in June, after declining gradually over the previous five months. Positive cases were detected in reception centres in at least five countries in June, resulting in restrictions of movements for some centre residents.



Source: UNHCR Global Trends Report 2021 and UNHCR data finder platform. The map includes Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)). The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

UKRAINE SITUATION

5,493,884 individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe as of end June 2022.¹ Within Ukraine, an estimated 6.3 million persons were displaced inside the country as of end June.²

MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTES

49,400 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the three Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes in the first six months of 2022, a 25 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. In June 2022, arrivals decreased by 11 per cent compared to May 2022, but increased by 23 per cent compared to June 2021.

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

12,000 persons have arrived in or transited through the subregion so far in 2022, 10 per cent fewer than in the same period in 2021. Of these, 3,100 persons arrived in or transited through the subregion in June, 2 per cent more than in May 2022.

TÜRKIYE

Türkiye hosts the world's largest refugee population with over **3.7 million** Syrians under temporary protection and over 322,000 refugees and asylum-seekers under international protection.³

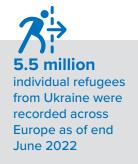
^{1.} Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation

^{2. &}lt;u>Ukraine Internal Displacement Report</u>, 23 June 2022

^{3.} For more information, please see the UNHCR Türkiye February 2022 bi-annual fact sheet

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- UKRAINE SITUATION: Since the start of the international armed conflict in Ukraine, nearly one-third of Ukrainians have been forced to flee their homes. This is the largest forced displacement crisis in the world today. Within Ukraine, some 6.3 million people remain internally displaced by the war.⁴ As of end June, some 5.5 million individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, and some 3.6 million refugees had registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe.⁵ Some 8.5 million border crossings from Ukraine have been recorded since 24 February, and authorities reported some 3.2 million crossings into the country since 28 February.
- UNHCR, as lead of the inter-agency refugee response, continued scaling up its operations in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, focusing on strengthening protection mechanisms to identify and support the most vulnerable. This month, UNHCR expanded its cash assistance programmes with over 536,000 people enrolled in Ukraine and over 364,000 people enrolled overall in Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia as of end June. Jointly with UNICEF, UNHCR rolled-out additional Blue Dot safe spaces providing refugees with critical protection information and services, with 39 Blue Dots established in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia, as of end June.
- EU PACT ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM: As progress toward the proposed European Union (EU) Pact on Migration and Asylum, 21 EU Member States and Associated States adopted a <u>declaration</u> on solidarity, on 22 June. The declaration provides for a voluntary solidarity contribution mechanism to support Member States receiving large numbers of arrivals in the form of relocations or other contributions, particularly financial contributions. UNHCR <u>welcomed</u> the declaration as a key step toward meaningful EU asylum reform, greater solidarity, responsibility-sharing and ultimately better protection for people forced to flee.
- UNITED KINGDOM: The first planned flight to remove asylum-seekers from the United Kingdom (UK) to Rwanda for asylum processing was cancelled on 14 June, hours before it was due to depart, following injunctions by the <u>European Court of Human Rights</u> as well as by UK courts. UNHCR had <u>intervened</u> as a friend of the UK High Court on 10 June and submitted its <u>Legal Analysis</u>, which considers that the UK-Rwanda arrangement fails to meet the required standards relating to the legality and appropriateness of transfers of asylum-seekers.
- SPAIN-MOROCCO: On 24 June, 134 people entered Melilla, Spain, from Nador, Morocco, in a collective fence jump, while some 700 people were pushed back. All those who entered requested asylum in Spain. At least 37 of those who attempted to enter Melilla died on the Moroccan side, according to civil society organizations. UNHCR and IOM issued a joint press release deploring the loss of lives and urging all authorities to uphold the human rights of refugees and migrants and refrain from excessive use of force. The UN Secretary-General expressed shock at the events, and human rights organizations, including OHCHR, called for an investigation to clarify the facts, any responsibilities and ensure accountability as appropriate.





39 Blue Dots established jointly by UNHCR and UNICEF in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia as of end June 2022



Solidarity declaration adopted in context of EU Pact on Migration and Asylum



First planned flight to remove asylumseekers from UK to Rwanda cancelled following legal injunctions



UNHCR and IOM deplore loss of lives at Melilla-Nador border, urge authorities to refrain from excessive use of force against refugees and migrants

^{4.} Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation

^{5.} Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, 23 June 2022

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Austria: As part of its efforts to ensure a protection-sensitive response to meet the needs of refugees, UNHCR sent a letter to Mayors across the country, providing them with comprehensive recommendations for Do's and Don'ts for volunteers in their communities, including information on preventing abuse and exploitation. UNHCR also sent a letter to Austrian Provinces, asking the authorities to ensure security checks of persons offering private accommodation and calling for more support for information provision, including through hotlines and counselling. The Austrian Association of Cities and Towns published UNHCR's recommendations here.

Cyprus: On 7 June, the University of Nicosia (UNIC) and UNHCR organized a <u>roundtable discussion</u> to mark the renewal of the UNIC-UNHCR Refugee Scholarship Programme and to hear from refugee scholars about how opportunities provided through the scholarships have changed their lives. A <u>video</u> was produced on the discussion, advocating for more educational opportunities for refugees in Cyprus to enable them to better integrate, achieve their goals, and enrich the host community. More than 70 refugees have been awarded scholarships through the programme since it was established in 2017.

Montenegro: On 28 June, UNHCR and the Ombudsman of Montenegro kickstarted a joint monitoring project through visits to the border crossing points of Sukobin (at the border with Albania) and Rance (at the border with Serbia). The aim of the project is to identify key gaps in accessing the asylum procedure for people interested in doing so, as well as to support to national authorities in building capacity in the area. As per the project framework, UNHCR and the Ombudsman will visit 26 border crossing points and detention facilities by end 2022.

Sweden: On 20 June, UNHCR's partner the Swedish Refugee Law Center <u>published</u> the UNHCR-commissioned report, <u>The Temporary Protection Directive and the implementation of temporary protection in Sweden</u>. The report provides key recommendations, including to ensure that persons granted temporary protection are entitled to the same level of social support and access to health services as other refugees in Sweden. Under current national legislation, persons with temporary protection status are only granted limited support, set at the level of the daily allowance for asylum-seekers, which is lower than that for recognized refugees.

COVID-19 SITUATION AND RESPONSE

- Regional COVID-19 infection rates increased steadily in June, with some 2.8 million cases detected in the Europe region during the last week of the month, compared to some 925,000 cases during the last week of May, according to the World Health Organization. This month, authorities across the region largely maintained existing COVID-19 restrictions in place, after having progressively relaxed them in many countries in response to declining rates of infection from January through May.
- Vaccination: Persons of concern to UNHCR are generally included in national vaccination campaigns on par with the general population, for instance in **Armenia**, where at least 10 persons of concern living in private accommodations were vaccinated in June.
- Quarantine measures upon arrival: Countries registering significant numbers of sea arrivals continued to adjust testing and quarantine measures in response to the evolving epidemiological situation. In Italy, the Government dismissed the system of offshore quarantine facilities for people arriving by sea, which had been established in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. New arrivals in Lampedusa are now transferred to on-shore reception facilities, where they still must undergo a five-day COVID-19 surveillance period.
- Reception conditions: Lack of sufficient reception spaces, overcrowding and inadequate facilities in some locations continue to pose challenges. Outbreaks in reception and detention centres remain a concern, and typically result in restrictions of movements for some centre residents, with additional cases detected in centres in at least five countries in June (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus and Montenegro).

EUROPE MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

PRESS RELEASES, STATEMENTS

Briefing Note: After 100 days of anguish, UNHCR is focused on protection and shelter for Ukrainians [03 JUN]

Press Release: UNHCR updates Ukraine refugee data, reflecting recent movements [09 JUN] Briefing Note: UNHCR data visualization on Mediterranean crossings charts rising death toll and tragedy at sea [10 JUN]

Court today to intervene in our capacity as the UN

Refugee Agency and a friend of the court.

JNHCR was granted permission by the UK High

UNHCR United Kingdom SOUNHCRUK

Appropriateness of the UK-Rwanda Arrangement to the court. More: unhcr.org/62a317d34

We submitted our Analysis of the Legality and

Press Release: FC Barcelona and UNHCR kick off partnership with new football jersey in support of refugee children [14 JUN]

UNHCR considers that the UK-Rwanda arrangement fails to meet the required standards relating to the

Press Release: On World
Refugee Day, UNHCR Goodwill
Ambassador Ben Stiller calls
for equal treatment of refugees
- whoever, wherever, whenever

Press Release: UNHCR and IOM deplore loss of life at Nador-Meilla crossing [25 JUN]

Press Release: UNHCR's Grandi welcomes developments on EU asylum reform, encourages further progress under Czech EU Presidency [28 JUN] Press Release: Germany wins first ever Unity Euro Cup, organized by UEFA and UNHCR to promote refugee inclusion [30 JUN]

COUNTRY OFFICE TWITTER HIGHLIGHTS



™ Demain, des équipes composées de joueurs réfugiés dans 8 pays ■ dont la ▮ prendront part à la huintsEuroCup en présence de @GeorgesLaura & ⊜FFF.

Un tournoi organisé par @UEFAcom_fr & @Le_HCR pour rappeler que le football rapproche les communautés

fr.uefa.com/returntoplay/n...



UNHCR Ukraine © @UNHCRUkraine

Our aim is to deliver aid $\&\,$ services as close as possible to areas where people are most in need

But it is not always easy to get there

Ukraine during visit to Moldova [16

UNHCR Representative in France

Paolo A Artini

refugees on World Refugee Day

21 JUN

commemorates French WW2

MIYAVI meets with refugees from

UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador

Francesca Bonelli

LEADER ACCOUNT TWEETS

We continue to try

We have managed to reach 73,401 people with assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas



Karolina L Billing alkarolina Billi UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Ben Stiller meets with President

Zelenskyy in Ukraine [22 JUN]

Filippo Grandi all'Ilippo Grandi Ut High Commissioner for Refugees visits Prague ahead of Czech Republic's EU Presidency [26 JUN]

Gonzalo Vargas Llosa

loss__gonzalo_UNHCR welcomedevelopments on EU asylum reform and encourages further progress under Czech EU Presidency. [28 JUN]

TOP NEWS STORIES

Daily Mail [13 JUN]

UN refugee chief: 'UK deportation policy to Rwanda is all wrong'

Forbes [14 JUN]

Putin's Invasion Of Ukraine Has Created 5 Million Refugees The Independent [20 JUN]
World Refugee Day: More than
100 million people now displaced
around the globe

Washington Post [27 JUN] Where have Ukrainian refugees

gone?



legality and appropriateness

of transfers of asylum-

I rifugiati hanno il diritto di essere protetti. Chiunque siano, da qualsiasi luogo provengano. Sempre. Presentiamo oggi insieme a ©LinoGuanciale la acompagna Together #WithRefugese per la #GiornataMondialede/Rifugiato 2022.
Unisciti a noi. Insieme possiamo fare la differenza.





How has art been healing for Neil Gaiman? What is the power of storytelling? The City of Athens invited acclaimed writer & UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador @neilhimself to a digital interview for the launch of the first-ever

Watch it here: refugeeweek.gr/neil-gaiman/



STORY SPOTLIGHT

"This country to me is heaven and I have to say that I feel I have a little bit of green in my blood."

Marlon Jimenez-Compton arrived in Dublin from Venezuela in 2003 with just a suitcase and a little money, but a bundle of dreams. "I escaped my country searching for a better life and I am proud and happy to say that I have found it here in Ireland", he says. "At home I couldn't live openly as I wanted to live, as an LGBTQIA+ person. Marlon has continued to pursue his dreams in the 18 years since he arrived in Ireland. In 2020, he was hired as a radio DJ on Dublin South FM after posting videos of himself dancing and singing online. 'The Marlon Show' is a space where everyone feels listened to and welcomed. "It has been a fantastic experience that I am enjoying so much. We are a community radio and I am using my radio show as a platform to give a voice to all those that feel they are voiceless, everybody is welcome".

For more stories and highlights, please subscribe to our mailing list, using this link.



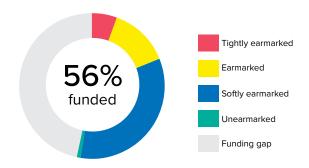
@ UNHCR/Agife Harte

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Requested for UNHCR's activities in Europe in 2022: USD 1.822 billion*

Total contributed or pledged as of 31 May 2022:

USD 1,022,574,088



^{*}This amount includes the revised supplementary appeal issued in April 2022 for the Ukraine situation

WHERE TO FIND

For more information, reports and other resources:

- UNHCR Europe webpage
- UNHCR Europe region monthly updates
- UNHCR Europe country operations fact sheets
- Europe pages of UNHCR's Global Focus webpage
- **UNHCR** Ukraine Emergency webpage

Operational data portals:

- Ukraine Refugee Situation
- Mediterranean Situation