

Norway

February 2023

Norway has a strong national asylum system and has made **outstanding financial contributions to refugee emergencies globally** over the past decades.

Norway's long-standing resettlement programme and relocation scheme provides a **durable solution for vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees.**

UNHCR appreciates the generous and flexible funding to its programmes from Norway to meet growing humanitarian needs around the globe.

UNHCR POPULATION STATISTICS AS OF MID-2022*

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Refugees | 63,839 |
| Asylum-seekers | 4,075 |
| Stateless persons | 3,901 |

Top three countries of origin*

| Refugees | | Asylum-seekers | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Ukraine | 19,916 | Ukraine | 2,308 |
| Syrian Arab. Rep. | 15,901 | Syrian Arab. Rep. | 414 |
| Eritrea | 10,883 | Afghanistan | 250 |

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

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of mid-February, some **40,000 refugees from Ukraine** had been registered for temporary protection in Norway.

UNHCR response:

Engagement with partners and authorities: UNHCR regularly engages in information exchange with civil society partners and authorities on the situation of refugees from Ukraine.

Collective temporary protection: refugees from Ukraine receive collective temporary protection under section 34 of the Norwegian Immigration Act. The temporary protection mechanism was activated by royal decree shortly after the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine.

Essential items and services, such as housing, food, daily allowance, health care and education are provided by the government to newly arrived refugees from Ukraine.

HIGHLIGHTS

Refugee status and protection

1,421 individuals were granted refugee status or another form of protection in 2022. Norway also exceptionally agreed to accept 20 individuals rescued by the Ocean Viking vessel that docked in France in November 2022, further demonstrating Norway's commitment to solidarity and responsibility-sharing.

Resettlement

Norway will offer a reduced yearly quota of 2,000 resettlement places for 2023 (down from 3,000) due to the high influx of refugees from Ukraine but will maintain expenditure of 1% of their Gross National Income on Official Development Assistance.

Statelessness

Norway strongly supports the #IBelong Campaign to end statelessness by 2024. Norway has strong safeguards to reduce statelessness, which were further strengthened through a (binding) government instruction in 2016 to prevent childhood statelessness.



NORWEGIAN SUPPORT ALLOWED UNHCR TO PROVIDE FOOD, WATER, AND MEDICAL CARE IN SUDAN

Insecurity and displacement in Sudan have increased over the past year in a country hosting 1.1 million refugees, as well as 3.7 million internally displaced people. Norwegian earmarked and unearmarked funding, has been vital to secure food rations to more than 482,000 refugees in Sudan. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Key Priorities

- **Access to territory:** UNHCR welcomes Norway's decision to maintain open borders and enable access to asylum-seekers from Russia following the announcement of "partial mobilization" in September 2022. UNHCR recommends that all asylum-seekers in Norway, including those arriving via its northern borders, have effective access to territory by providing minimum procedural safeguards and protection from refoulement.
- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR promotes access to fair and efficient asylum procedures and maintains ongoing dialogue with relevant government agencies to continuously improve the asylum system, including through quality initiatives and other forms of support. UNHCR recommends that Norway aligns with international refugee law when assessing protection space in the country of origin. UNHCR also recommends that Norway ensures adequate safeguards in determining admissibility into asylum procedures.
- **Resettlement and complementary pathways:** Norway has assumed a leading role in galvanizing support for the global strategy on resettlement and complementary pathways.
- **Family reunification:** UNHCR works with the government and other partners to reduce and remove obstacles to family reunification. UNHCR recommends that Norway facilitates family reunification requirements and procedures.
- **Integration:** Refugees integration into the Norwegian society is facilitated through comprehensive efforts and a whole-of-society approach, including targeted education, inclusive employment policies and tackling segregation. UNHCR recommends that Norway reviews its practice to terminate refugee status in cases when

international protection is still necessary and conditions in the country of origin are not yet favourable to return.

- **Law and policy:** UNHCR promotes Norway's compliance with international and European standards relating to international protection of refugees. UNHCR seeks to support the government to develop and strengthen national laws and policies in the area of international protection and improve public attitudes towards the people UNHCR serves.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR works with the [Ministry of Justice and Public Security](#), the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#), and the [Ministry of Education and Research](#) to support legal and policy developments. UNHCR also engages with key stakeholders on legal issues, family reunification and integration.

Statelessness

- Norway has acceded to both Statelessness Conventions.
- UNHCR recommends that Norway introduces a definition of a stateless person in its domestic law, establishes a statelessness determination procedure and ensures that children born stateless in Norway acquire citizenship automatically, or as soon as possible after birth.

UNHCR Nordic and Baltic Countries

Staff:

19 National Staff
 15 International Staff
 2 Affiliate Work Force

Offices:

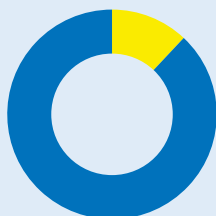
1 Regional Office in Stockholm
 1 Liaison Office in Vilnius
 1 Liaison Office in Tallinn
 1 Liaison Office in Riga

Financial information* (February 2023)

*Information relates to the Representation for the Nordic and Baltic countries, which includes Representation for Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden

Financial requirements USD 14 M

Funding gap
 88%
 12.4 M



Funded
 12%
 1.6 M

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

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As well as for the generous contributions from private individuals and the private sector.