

E U R O P E



ALBANIA

From 27 May to 22 June, UNHCR organised an **exhibition of paintings** titled "Colours of Albania in the World" at the Albanian Gallery of Arts. The exhibition brought home 23 Albanian artists living and working abroad. Some are refugees from the previous regime, others are migrants, but all have been living abroad for many years. The artwork reflects their nostalgia for their home country, and artists Ibrahim Kodra and Omer Kaleshi have been called symbols of Albanian culture. The exhibition focused on respect for migrants and refugees, as well as on the positive contributions they can make to host societies. About 600 persons attended the launching ceremony. Media coverage was excellent, including 30 articles and 18 TV and radio mentions during the month of the exhibition. About USD 20,000 were raised through local fundraising efforts to cover the expenses of the event. The exhibition was organised in partnership with the International Organization for Migration and the National Gallery of Arts, under the auspices of the Albanian Prime Minister.

ARMENIA

UNHCR participated in the **morning TV programme on Armenian national TV**. During the programme, a UNHCR official answered questions related to housing projects and the local integration of refugees. In addition, some Armenian TV stations broadcast the **World Refugee Day TV spot** for 15 days.

An **exhibition-sale** of refugees' art work was also organised to show that the most appropriate durable solution for ethnic Armenian refugees from Azerbaijan is local integration in Armenia. The exhibition was appreciated; some of the refugees were asked to make some crafts for souvenir shops.

A **concert** for both refugees and locals took place on a *pro bono* basis. The concert was performed by young musicians (ages 9-12) from Spivakov Foundation. Classical music, including arias from famous operas, was played. Government officials and representatives of international organisations also attended the concert. At the end, the children received **presents** prepared by UNHCR.

UNHCR, in cooperation with the Danish Refugee Council and CRINGO (the Caucasian Refugee and Internally Displaced Person NGO Network), organised events in Vanadzor and Kapan. The events included **tree planting** in front of buildings in both cities. The lane of trees was called "Lane of Peace". In addition, in Vanadzor, the yard in front of the buildings built by UNHCR was equipped with a pavilion, benches and horizontal bars for children. The events in both places were followed by **performances at cultural centres** with the attendance of the public at large, as well as government officials.

AUSTRIA

A **billboard campaign** to dispel myths about asylum seekers was organised. The campaign was also promoted on UNHCR's Austrian website: <http://www.unhcr.at>. The website registered a 250% increase in visits. The anti-racism NGO, ZARA, joined in the campaign; some commercial companies and websites decided to support the billboard campaign.

A **press conference** took place to launch the campaign. 60,000 **free cards** were distributed and **media interviews** were given. The **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast on TV.

BALTIC and NORDIC COUNTRIES

In **Finland**, a **mock refugee camp** was set up on 20 June at the railway square in the centre of Helsinki. Activities included registration of visitors as refugees and distribution of food rations. A **quiz on refugee issues** was given out with tickets to the Helsinki Music Festival as first prize. An information desk was set up inside the camp, where refugees from Iran and Iraq refugees shared

their stories. A **Senegalese drum orchestra** and a **Kurdish lute player** played music. The camp was visited by some 500 people during the day. In addition, the event reached at least two million people through the main news broadcasts and newspapers.

40,000 “A Place to Call Home” **postcards** were distributed in public places – restaurants, cafés, bars, pubs, cinemas – in 25 Finnish cities.

In **Latvia**, a **drawing competition** for children, titled “Safe House – Safe Asylum”, was held in the UN House. Thirty children participated. Every child got a small **present** and watched a **cartoon** on refugee issues produced by UNHCR. The event was covered by the radio and two newspapers, including one of the biggest daily newspapers in Latvia.

Two **articles** were published in a Latvian daily newspaper and on UNDP’s website for World Refugee Day – one told the story of a former Latvian refugee and, the other, the experiences of a refugee residing in Latvia.

In **Lithuania**, a **meeting** for refugee community leaders, politicians, state officials, civil society actors and media was organised. The focus of the meeting was on the problems of integration faced by refugees residing in Lithuania. The participants were invited to taste **national dishes** prepared by the refugees.

In **Norway**, a **photo exhibition** took place in the Oslo Town Hall. The exhibition, titled “Lukten av savn”, was organised by the Norwegian Refugee Council and showed about 70 photos by photographer Rune Eraker. **Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mette Marit of Norway** opened the exhibition.

25,000 “A Place to Call Home” **postcards** were distributed in public places in Oslo.

In **Sweden**, a **seminar** was organized on the theme “the Challenges of Refugee Return: Afghanistan, Mozambique and Guatemala.”

60,000 “A Place to Call Home” **postcards** were distributed in public places in 53 Swedish cities.

BELARUS

From 4 to 6 June, UNHCR took part in the festivities of the nationwide **festival of National Cultures**, which took place in Grodno. The festival, which has become a tradition, was covered in the press and in other media outlets. Georgian and Afghan refugee communities took part in the festival and presented their national cultures.

On the eve of World Refugee Day, the **winners of the best academic work on refugee and migration issues** were announced at a press conference and **awarded scholarships**. This project was jointly conducted by UNHCR, the Belarusian State University and the IPA for UN Studies, Information and Educational Programs.

From 20 to 25 June, a festival titled "**Days of Cinema about Refugees**" took place in one of the central cinema houses in Minsk. **Films** and **documentaries** devoted to forced migration and refugee issues were shown. Approximately 3,000 people participated in this event.

Key advertising elements leading up to the festival included the **street banner**, "Days of Cinema about Refugees", in the centre of town; an **advertising campaign** in the Minsk underground; **radio ads** on the FM station “Radio Rocks”; **TV announcements**; and various types of publicity, distributed amongst all of the cinemas in Minsk.

The launch of the event took place on 20 June through a **ceremony** with speakers from UNHCR and the Minsk City Executive Committee. The event was covered by both Minsk-based and national television.

A series of **roundtable discussions** such as "Refugees and Belarus: the socio-historical aspect" was held at the Faculty of International Relations of the Belarusian State University. The

discussions were accompanied by **screenings of documentary films**. Roundtable discussions on refugee issues were also held at the Faculty of Research Expertise at the Academy of the MIA and in the CCA "Evrika", in which European Humanitarian University students participated.

More than 1,000 children from all the regions of Belarus devoted their works to refugees as part of a competition titled "There is nothing better than your home." **Drawings, poems and short stories** came not only from the main Belarusian cities, but also from the small villages and towns. Some of the artwork was done by refugee children living in Belarus. The event culminated in a **gala concert** and an **award ceremony** for the winners. All participants who reached the final stage of the contest were given UNHCR diplomas and T-shirts featuring the World Refugee Day logo to remember the event.

On 21 June, UNHCR held a **press conference** on World Refugee Day. The UNHCR Representative, together with the Head of Division on Refugees from the Department on Citizenship and Migration of the MIA, gave an account of recent developments regarding refugee issues in Belarus.

BENELUX COUNTRIES

In **Belgium**, a Flemish NGO, OCIV, organised on 19 July a festive meeting with a **press conference** and a **concert** by Flemish rock artists with the support of UNHCR. On the same day, refugee musicians took part in the **multicultural music festival**, "C'est la fête au village" organised by the francophone NGO Convivial with UNHCR and other organisations. The NGO, Pax Christi, also organised an **inter-religious vigil** with songs, readings and prayers by groups of different faiths.

In **Luxembourg**, World Refugee Day celebrations took place in the yearly "Fête de la Musique" with a **series of concerts and performances**.

In the **Netherlands**, **films** were screened in a UNHCR refugee tent in front of the Dutch Parliament.

BULGARIA

UNHCR published a **book** titled "*Reference Book, Refugees in Bulgaria: Building of National System for Refugee Protection, 1993-2003*" jointly with the State Agency for Refugees with the Council of Ministers, in consultation with the Delegation of the European Commission in Bulgaria and NGO partners. Its objective was to review and document the past ten years of progress in building the national system for refugee protection since the ratification of the 1951 Geneva Convention and its 1967 Protocol in 1993 and to look together ahead toward further harmonization with international standards and the evolving EU asylum acquis in the "post-Amsterdam 2004-2006" phase of Bulgaria's EU accession. The book was **launched at the eighth UNHCR roundtable on Bulgaria's EU integration and EU asylum harmonization**, organised in cooperation with the Irish and Dutch EU Presidencies. The participants represented the main actors involved in refugee work in Bulgaria, including the Prime Minister's Cabinet.

A national **essay writing competition** on the theme "How can you make a refugee feel at home in Bulgaria" was organised. 240 schools took part and five winners were selected.

On 29 June, an **open-air concert** was held in Sofia. Famous Bulgarian actors and pop singers performed together with refugees and refugee children.

CROATIA

On 3 June, UNHCR, the Centre for Human Rights and the Croatian Law Centre co-organised a **roundtable** on "Asylum in Croatia after 1 July 2004" to initiate a **public debate** on the right to asylum, international legal standards in the protection of asylum seekers and refugees, and the Law on Asylum, which was scheduled to enter into force on 1 July.

From 10 to 20 June, Croatian Television (HRT) aired the UNHCR-produced **World Refugee Day TV spot** during prime time.

From 14 to 20 June, an Osijek-based NGO, "Centre for Peace", in collaboration with UNHCR, held an **exhibition** of World Refugee Day information materials in Osijek City Library.

On 19 June, UNHCR was a guest on a **TV programme**, a show for ethnic minorities on HRT. UNHCR introduced viewers to the meaning of World Refugee Day, the situation of refugees in the world and UNHCR activities in Croatia.

On 20 June, Croatian TV featured a **report** on the significance of the day, as well as on UNHCR activities in the country and globally, in the main daily news programme. The report included a brief **interview** with the UNHCR Representative.

CYPRUS

A UNHCR **newsletter** was distributed to refugees to inform them about their rights and to strengthen the dialogue with them.

A **press conference** was organised on the occasion of World Refugee Day in cooperation with a Group of Volunteers for the Support of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Cyprus and the Asylum Service of the Ministry of Interior.

A **UNHCR note on World Refugee Day**, with this year's special theme, was sent to schools by the Ministry of Education.

CZECH REPUBLIC

An **information campaign** was organised to promote World Refugee Day and refugee issues. **Posters** and **ads** were posted in public transport vehicles. A Czech version of the UNHCR **website** was created with information about World Refugee Day.

A **concert of refugee music groups** was held at the Rock Café in Prague. Musicians played **traditional music** from their country of origin and refugee women prepared samples of their **national cuisine**. The concert was attended by over 200 people.

A **ceremony for best refugee students** was organised in cooperation with NGOs, schools and refugee camps. The event was organised under the auspices of the Minister of Education at its ceremonial premises and was well reflected in the Czech media. Nineteen refugee students were awarded and 90 people participated in the event.

The Czech version of the **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast on both national TV channels.

In cooperation with the Central Bohemia Pedagogic centre, a **roundtable** focusing on the education of refugee children was organized, discussing in detail the current methodology in the area of refugee children education.

Two major **travel agencies** in Prague included a **World Refugee Day card** “**Most people travel for fun. Refugees travel from fear**” in every plane ticket issued. A total of 7,000 of these cards were distributed by both companies between 10 and 30 June.

The **Czech National Theatre** (which has a capacity of 2,000 seats) promoted World Refugee Day by attaching **World Refugee Day leaflets and cards** to each ticket sold during the second half of June.

FRANCE

An **awareness campaign targeting schools** was launched in May. A set of posters, as well as educational kits, were sent to schools. UNHCR also widely disseminated information on World Refugee Day to local community associations through the 22 Conseils Régionaux (local authorities).

On 4 June, UNHCR participated in the “**United Nations’ Days**” organized by the political Study Institute, the so-called Sciences-Po. On this occasion, UNHCR also set up Sebastiao Salgado’s **photo exhibition** on refugee children to sensitize the academic community to the plight of refugees.

On 18 June, the UNHCR Representative participated in a **seminar** in Lyon on the theme “Asylum at a crossroads” organized by the Lyon-based NGO Forum Réfugiés. On the same day, UNHCR staff gave three interviews to Radio Catholique de France, Radio France Internationale (RFI) and the Christian newspaper *La Croix*.

On 19 June, Forum Réfugiés, released its **poll on refugees and asylum** in France through the newspaper *Liberation*. The survey focused on the perception of asylum-related issues by the French public. The results showed that 80 % of the population supports asylum in France.

On 20 June, World Refugee Day was widely covered in the main state-owned media including both TV channels (France 2, France 3 and Arte) and radio network (France Info). Private sector media, such as TV channel TF1, covered the day as well. France 2 broadcast a special programme on the war-torn region of Darfur, Sudan, and the outflow of refugees into neighbouring Chad; France 3 focused on living conditions in Farchana camp, Chad; TV5 interviewed UNHCR staff during the 18:00 TV news; and interviews were also given to Voice of America and Algerian National Radio. Arte broadcast a programme with an interview of UNHCR staff in Kenya on the possible repatriation of southern Sudanese refugees.

In Lyon, Forum Réfugiés organized a **peaceful walk** in support of the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. Each participant kept open a **white umbrella** labelled “Let us protect refugees”. The umbrella was also meant to symbolize a shelter for those in need of international protection. Some 1,000 persons (some of whom were refugees and asylum seekers) took part. The walk finished with a big **lunch**.

A special **announcement on World Refugee Day** was posted on a lighted billboard (offered by the City Hall of Paris) on the Champs Elysées Avenue to inform persons walking by of this special day. A special feature on World Refugee Day was posted on <http://www.msn.fr/actionssolidaires>

UNHCR’s French National Association, *Association française de soutien à l’UNHCR*, published a special edition of its **newsletter**, *Action réfugiés*, dedicated to the World Refugee Day theme, “A Place to Call Home: Rebuilding Lives in Safety and Dignity”. A special **feature** about World Refugee Day was posted on the Association’s website <http://www.unhcrfrance.org>.

The National Association adapted two of the posters provided by Public Affairs (“Coming back” and “New Land, New Life”) for a special **subway campaign**. 800 of these posters were displayed between 16 June and 16 September through the whole Parisian subway network, reaching some two million people over that period.

The National Association and Schneider Electric organised a **conference-debate** on the relationship between UNHCR and the business community on 22 June to coincide with World Refugee Day and Sustainable Development Week in France. Schneider Electric, Veolia Environment and France Telecom took part in the debate, which was led by well-known French journalist, Guillaume Durand. At the end, Schneider Electric made a **donation** of EURO 120,000 to UNHCR to fund a water project in Ethiopia and a refugee education programme in Cameroon, demonstrating that the corporate world has an important role to play in sustainable growth and

human development. **UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Julien Clerc** received the cheque on behalf of UNHCR

GEORGIA

For World Refugee Day, a **concert performance** of refugees and locals was organized to portray in a positive light the everyday experience of Chechen refugees in the Pankisi Valley.

A **dramatic circus** and **sports competitions** were also set up for the refugee children. Finally, a call for artwork resulted in an **exhibition of a selection of art** followed by **statements** from UNHCR and the Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation.

GERMANY

The 4th Berlin **symposium on refugee protection** “EU Enlargement and Common Protection Framework” was held in collaboration with the Berlin Protestant Academy and various NGOs in Berlin on 21 and 22 June. More than 400 experts from Germany and abroad took part. A statement was given by the then President of the Federal Republic Mr. Johannes Rau. The UNHCR Director of the Bureau for Europe delivered the keynote address. The German Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office and the Deputy Director of the UN Human Rights Committee addressed the audience on “Protection of Refugees and Human Rights - European Perspectives”. The event was widely covered in the print media and on TV (Phoenix).

As in previous years, **World Refugee Day materials** were sent out to 150 main editors of the most important German media. The **High Commissioner’s World Refugee Day statement** was translated into German and distributed to all German media, NGOs, government institutions, etc. (3,300).

GREECE

In Anogeia, Crete Island, a **concert** and a **handicraft exhibition**, with creations by young asylum seekers, were organised at the Reception Centre for Unaccompanied Minors. Local and central authorities attended the events and gained insight on the work of the Centre and the plight of refugee children in Greece. Some 500 persons attended the concert, while 70 people were the honoured guests of the exhibition, which was followed by a **reception**. A **poster** and **invitation cards** were specially produced and distributed around Crete before the events. Four extensive articles appeared in Crete’s four local newspapers and the events were announced in the national press. A **radio message** and a **TV spot** were aired for two weeks on local channels.

A UNHCR official spoke at a **press conference**, organised by the Greek Council for Refugees, with the support of a **radio-marathon** for refugees in Greece. UNHCR staff also participated in a **press conference** co-organised by Amnesty International and Médecins Sans Frontières Greece on the humanitarian situation in Sudan.

UNHCR also actively participated in a **roundtable**, organised by the Greek Council for Refugees and the Athens Bar Association. The discussions, targeting lawyers, focused on the process of the harmonisation of asylum policies in Europe and its impact on Greek legislation and practice.

With the support of the **national transport system**, posters were placed in **buses** and **trolleys**. The **World Refugee Day TV spot** was played on Greek channels in the days leading up to 20 June.

HUNGARY

World Refugee Day took place in Millenary Park, a cultural centre in the heart of Budapest. UNHCR and a local association set up an **information stand** on refugee issues while refugees prepared **culinary specialities**.

The programme at Millenary Park included free children's programmes, such as **puppet theatre**, **pantomime**, **inter-active fairy tale theatre** and **handicraft workshops**, which were attended by some 120 refugee children. There were also **exhibitions of artworks** by a Palestinian refugee living in Budapest, and of refugee **children's photo portraits** by a local association. There were **concerts** by the Malagasy Taxibrousse and Djolibaba music groups which included refugee and Hungarian musicians.

On 16 June, a **press conference** was held to raise awareness of World Refugee Day at the Office for Immigration and Nationality's Headquarters in Budapest, attended by 12 major media. On 20 June, UNHCR's **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast by three TV channels.

On 30 June, a ceremony was held to open a **children's drawing competition** in Budapest, organised by the Office for Immigration and Nationality.

IRELAND

UNHCR held a **press conference** to mark World Refugee Day, in conjunction with the Irish Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform's Reception and Integration Agency. Refugees from Iran, Vietnam, Kosovo and Zimbabwe participated in the press conference relating their personal journeys and experiences of finding a new "home" in Ireland. World Refugee Day coincided with the 25th anniversary of the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees to Ireland in 1979. This anniversary was also marked on the occasion of the press conference. In addition to local coverage, UNHCR wrote a **web story** for UNHCR's site covering the event.

UNHCR wrote an **opinion piece** for one of the main national newspapers, *The Irish Times*, which covered issues such as the need for an integration programme in Ireland and expressed the hope that Ireland would increase its resettlement quota.

UNHCR also provided public awareness materials for over 20 events in Ireland and printed 1,000 **special World Refugee Day balloons** for distribution at events involving young children.

In the run up to the day, UNHCR produced small **World Refugee Day stickers** for outgoing mail, which were also used by several local NGOs. The aim was to inform a larger audience of the existence of a World Refugee Day.

ITALY

On 18 June, UNHCR held a World Refugee Day **conference on durable solutions** at Rome's Palazzo Rospigliosi with the participation of Italian government authorities, politicians, NGOs, academics and the media. The conference was attended by 120 people.

From 21 to 26 June, the Municipality of Rome and UNHCR organised a **Refugee Week**, which took place in the Museo Centrale Montemartini, a former power station converted into a museum. Refugee Week included several events which were carried out with the cooperation of different NGOs and associations. Activities included a **photo exhibition** ("The Return") on the repatriation of Burundian refugees from Tanzania and a **theatre performance by refugees**. There were also a **concert** and **conferences on asylum law and refugee experiences**. An estimated 1,000 persons attended the events.

UNHCR produced **World Refugee Day materials** which were distributed at these events and to some 20 municipalities and NGOs which organised initiatives all over Italy. The materials included a special Information Kit composed of five thematic fact sheets on durable solutions (4,000 copies); the Italian version of the World Refugee Day leaflet (10,000 copies); the invitation card for the 18 June conference (3,000 copies); the invitation card (6,000 copies) and the poster for Refugee Week (1,000), and a four-page catalogue for the photo exhibition “The return” (4,000 copies). Ten Beta cassettes on the Afghan repatriation and ten CD-ROMs with photos were also distributed to the media on the occasion of the 18 June conference.

On 21 June, the second edition of the **Contemporary Art for Refugees Charity Auction** was held at the prestigious Museo of San Salvatore in Lauro in Rome. Artists, art galleries, foundations and private collectors donated 46 works of art, including two original fashion drawings by **UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Giorgio Armani**. The auction was organised in cooperation with Christie’s and il Cigno G.G. Edizioni. Some 220 people attended the gala dinner during which all the works of art were auctioned off for a total of EURO 126,000. Guests donated an additional EURO 3,370 during the dinner, bringing the total raised on this occasion to about EURO 129,400. The cost of the event was completely covered by sponsors. The income went to fund a project for sustainable water sources for Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia. As part of the agreement with Il Cigno G.G. Edizioni, a 125-page catalogue was produced in 2,000 copies and distributed before the event.

The conference, Refugee Week and the other initiatives got remarkable coverage on national media, including major TV and radio news, wires, daily newspapers (more than 20 articles) and two focus reports in the most widespread weekly magazines. To advertise the conference, UNHCR bought two **ad spaces** on major daily newspapers, while some additional 16 ad spaces were bought by Rome Municipality for Refugee Week. The Italian version of the **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast several times a day for three days by three major national TV channels and by a satellite channel.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

UNHCR organised a **drawing competition for school children** with the World Refugee Day theme, "A place to call home: Rebuilding lives in safety and dignity". The competition was announced through local newspapers and through the Ministry of Education, so that all the schools in the country could participate. UNHCR collected about 40 works and the best entries were mentioned with prizes. The drawings were displayed at the Charity Centre for Refugees and at the UNHCR office. The selected ones can be viewed at <http://www.unhcr.md>

UNHCR, in cooperation with the Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR) and the Main Directorate for Refugees (MDR), organised a **sports competition** for refugee children and adults at the Reception Centre for Asylum Seekers (RCAS).

The CCR hosted a **cultural party** dedicated to World Refugee Day, including **national dances and cuisine**. **Handicraft works made by refugee children** during ceramics lessons organised by the CCR were exhibited. The event was attended by government officials, members of Parliament, implementing partners and media representatives.

On 25 June, an **open-air concert** was organised by MDR with the participation of local artists in the square of the Central Market (UNIC) in Chisinau.

Local media received information packages, World Refugee Day stickers and small calendars with the World Refugee Day logo. These were distributed to a large number of minibuses circulating in the city. The **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast on national TV and PRO TV. From 14 to 27 June, the Patria cinema screened **refugee films** and hosted a **poster exhibition** on World Refugee Day.

World Refugee Day **publicity billboards** were placed in the most crowded parts of the city – close to the Presidency and Parliament buildings, opposite the Mayor's office and on the bridge connecting two regions of the city.

POLAND

One week before World Refugee Day, UNHCR organised a **one-day workshop for the media**. Seven journalists participated. The agenda included a visit to the Office for Repatriation and Aliens, the premises of the Border Guards, where asylum applications are filed, and a trip to the Refugee Reception Centre. The event gave the media a better understanding of refugee protection in Poland. It was also an opportunity for them to meet the UNHCR Representative and lawyers from the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights who assist asylum seekers and refugees in the country.

World music concerts and **fairs** presenting refugee and NGO activities (Warsaw, Krakow) gathered huge interest not only among Poles but also the refugee community. The events were covered by four TV stations, numerous radio and press journalists.

Two **exhibitions of refugee "success stories"** were on display. One, based on the "Gallery of Prominent Refugees", was in Warsaw. It showed pictures and biographies of famous refugees. The second exhibition – with short written notes about refugees and photographic stories about them – presented refugees who successfully contribute to Polish society and feel at home there. The idea was to show to refugees as well as to Poles that integration in Poland is possible. The exhibition was displayed in Krakow's main square for two weeks following World Refugee Day.

In an effort to present refugees in a positive manner to a wider audience, a **fashion show** took place at the World Refugee Day fair in Warsaw.

Music concerts took place in clubs (Torun and Krakow), gathering mainly young audiences. Several clubs also hosted **film screenings** (Torun, Bialystok and Poznan).

The "**Tree of World Wisdom**" – a selection of proverbs from around the world, written in the original language, as well as in Polish translation, and hung on the branches of a big tree in the middle of the fair in Warsaw – displayed Balkan, African, Asian, Belarusian, Armenian, Persian, Arabic and numerous other proverbs. They showed how much all peoples have in common.

As part of an awareness campaign, a series of **posters and stickers** were printed which showed foreign words in the Polish language. Some of the words are so rooted in the Polish language that no one remembers their origin. The series was accompanied by a "summarising poster" which read, "**They bring more than words**", referring to refugees arriving from those countries. The campaign was present in all the cities where World Refugee Day events were taking place.

A **collection of fairy tales** from various countries was gathered and displayed at the World Refugee Day fair in Warsaw. Stories were also distributed to refugee and Polish children.

Two **displays of refugee children's drawings** were organised in Poznan and Warsaw. Both exhibitions were a result of the long-term work of NGOs with refugee children.

Media coverage was good. Over 140 stories were published by the print media; at least 10 radio stations and 12 TV stations aired programmes about refugees. The **World Refugee Day TV spot** was aired by local and commercial stations.

Less than two weeks following World Refugee Day, UNHCR commissioned a **public opinion poll** about Poles' attitudes towards refugees. The results showed that 37% of Poles (over 15 million people) have heard about World Refugee Day and a slightly smaller number has heard of UNHCR and of its presence in Poland. Two out of three Poles understand who refugees are. The great majority of Poles (over 70%) believe that receiving and protecting refugees is Poland's duty,

as for centuries Poles sought asylum in other countries. The full text of the opinion poll can be found on <http://www.unhcr.pl>

ROMANIA

A **seminar** for journalists on the theme “Asylum issues reflected in the Romanian mass media” was held on 5 and 6 June. About 20 journalists participated.

On 18 June, 23 Romanian and refugee teenagers, as well as current and former members of the Refugee Adolescents Club, drove through Bucharest in a **minibus** adorned with posters, leaflets, postcards, balloons and flags. They stopped in several key locations to distribute **materials**.

Also on 18 June, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and the Romanian National Council for Refugees organised a **trip** to Sinaia for 60 refugees and asylum seekers living in the accommodation centres and in the JRS shelters.

UNHCR hosted a **ceremony** on 18 June to award eight Romanian children who won a **drawing contest** launched by Save the Children in schools in Bucharest. The theme of the contest was “Who are the refugee children?”

On 20 June, UNHCR, partner NGOs and the National Refugee Office organised an **open air concert** for the public, which was advertised on radio and TV stations and in local magazines. The concert was opened with a **dance show** by refugee youths. Refugee girls performed a **fashion parade with traditional clothes** made by women from Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran. This was followed by music by a refugee band and a famous Romanian band, “Taxi”. **Traditional food** from the refugees’ countries of origin was served during the event. The concert was attended by 500 persons, including Romanians, refugees, diplomats and the media.

An **exhibition of handicrafts** made by refugee women at the Refugee Women Organization for Romania’s handicraft workshop, as well as an **exhibition of photos of refugees**, were open during the event.

Through a **partnership** with “La fete de la musique”, all concerts taking place on 20 June at this multicultural event (18 to 22 June) were dedicated to World Refugee Day.

At UNHCR’s initiative and with the co-operation of Save the Children, refugee children were invited to a **TV show for children** broadcast by national TV in the morning of 20 June.

UNHCR staff was interviewed by BBC Radio, B1TV, Radio Bucharest and attended a **live show** at Radio Romania Tineret.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

30,000 **postcards** devoted to World Refugee Day were produced in Russian, with a special design, and distributed at 800 public spots in Moscow during the week of 11 to 20 June.

The celebration of World Refugee Day was held at the Moscow City Palace for Youth's Creativity in cooperation with UNHCR's implementing partner, Equilibre-Solidarity. The event was held outdoors and was open to the public. It included an opening **speech** by the UNHCR Deputy Representative, a **brass band performance**, entertainment for children, a **concert** with the participation of local musicians, refugees and asylum seekers and a **fair** organised by refugees. A **photo exhibition** was on display during the celebration. The local media covered this event.

Each guest of the World Refugee Day event received a **T-shirt** with the World Refugee Day logo and a pack with water and snacks. **Balloons** with the World Refugee Day logo were also distributed among children. The event was covered by local TV and press.

On 20 June, in Vladikavkaz, UNHCR organised the "Living Together" **exhibition of children's drawings** on asphalt, bringing together 200 participants.

On 21 June, UNHCR staff **visited and gave presents** to 30 single **elderly refugees** and on 22 June also **organised visits to the cinema and the zoo** for some **70 refugee children**.

A **radio programme**, "New place of residence", which was broadcast by "Radio of Russia", was devoted to World Refugee Day. **The World Refugee Day TV spot** was aired by local TV channels throughout the week.

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

On 16 June, World Refugee Day activities were launched at the UNHCR **press conference** held at the Media Centre in Belgrade.

On 18 June, an **exhibition** on the theme "Searching for durable solutions" took place at the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade and was organised by UNHCR, national and international partners.

On 20 June, a special **TV programme** on World Refugee Day was aired on national public TV, while a **public round table discussion on durable solutions** was organised at the Ethnographic Museum on 22 June.

In Novi Sad, the regional centre in the north of the country, a UNHCR/NGO **exhibition and round table event** were organised, as well as the broadcast of the **World Refugee Day TV spot** at the principal local TV station.

On 20 June, a **distribution of World Refugee Day posters, leaflets and postcards** was held in Kraljevo with the participation of local NGOs and authorities. UNHCR, together with the Red Cross, organised activities for the day. The concept of the event was local integration as a durable solution. The World Refugee Day programme included **educational and cultural performances** presented by refugee children.

On 20 June, UNHCR and its partners organised in Gornji Milanovac a public gathering at the local community centre including an **exhibition of refugee handicrafts**, a **distribution of clothes for refugee children** and a distribution of World Refugee Day **posters, leaflets and postcards**.

From 18 till 20 June, World Refugee Day took place on the Kralja Milana Square in Nis. An **exhibition of handicrafts, photos** from a photography workshop and **UNHCR posters and printed materials** took place. Special World Refugee Day programmes were broadcast on TV and radio.

In Smederevo, UNHCR, in cooperation with the local media, organised a **whole-day outdoor event** in the centre of the city including an NGO fair, refugee handicrafts, performances and music concerts.

The premiere of the **play** "The Jungle Book" took place on 20 June, in the Smederevo Theatre Hall.

In Podgorica, an **exhibition** organised by UNHCR and partners was opened at the Cultural Information Centre on achieving durable solutions for refugees in Montenegro.

In coordination with local NGO partners, **outdoor street events** and **presentations of World Refugee Day materials** took place in Podgorica, Berane and Bar.

In Kosovo, events took place in a number of regions, highlighting inter-ethnic dialogue and tolerance. On 17 June, in Gjilan/Gnjilane, UNHCR along with its implementing partner Malteser, organised a full day of **recreational activities** in the Ferizaj/Urosevac Sport Centre for 38 women and 140 children (refugees from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). After lunch, a **theatre play** by “Global Motion” brought a message of peace and tolerance to all participants.

On 20 June, UNHCR participated in a KFOR sporting event - **“Running Together” fun-run** - in co-ordination with the Ministry of Culture and Youth with the aim of strengthening the peace process in Kosovo. Forty photographs taken by refugee children were selected for a **photo exhibition** and displayed at the Pristina stadium during the fun-run.

A special ceremony was held at the Prizren Culture House on 22 June, where the UNHCR Head of Field Office presented a cheque of EURO 1,000 to the Chief of the Library to purchase **children’s books** promoting peace and tolerance in several local languages. The books will be part of a **mobile library**, which visits over 21 villages in the Prizren municipality and provides a large number of children with access to literature.

In Pec, a **book of poems and short stories** about refugees and return, written by children of the region, was released during a ceremony on 22 June. The book **“Children to Children,”** sponsored by the International Catholic Migration Commission, was published in five languages: Albanian, Serbian, English, Bosnian and Roma. Children of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds celebrated together – they read their **poems** and sang **folkloric songs**, while members of “Haxhi Zeka”, “Jehona e Dukagjinit” and “Global Motion” performed **dances**.

A **message by the Prime Minister**, published in local and Serbian media, conveyed strong support for the refugees. He made an appeal for the refugees to return to Kosovo. The **World Refugee Day TV spot** was broadcast on eight stations throughout Kosovo in Albanian, Serbian and English.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

From 21 May to 4 June, a **photo exhibition**, titled "Without Home," was held at the Parliament of the Slovak Republic. The photos are by Andrej Ban, a famous Slovak photographer, and they show refugee camps around the world.

“The Challenges of asylum policy after the entry into the EU” was the topic of a **roundtable** held on 18 June on the premises of the Slovak Parliament, attended by the media, members of Parliament, politicians and representatives of NGOs.

An **open air concert** by famous Slovak groups and singers who promote tolerance towards refugees took place on 20 June in Bratislava.

World Refugee Day **publicity billboards** were placed in the most crowded parts of Bratislava and **ads** on World Refugee Day events were published in the Slovak dailies. From 8 to 20 June, TA3 Television aired the Slovak version of the UNHCR-produced **World Refugee Day TV spot**.

SLOVENIA

On 18 June, a **concert** of popular music including Bosnian refugees' folk music, African refugees reggae music and a Slovene group performing Blues, took place in the Ljubljana city centre. The honorary speaker of the event was the Mayor of Ljubljana city. **Speeches** were given by both the Mayor and the UNHCR Representative. At the concert site and around the city centre, UNHCR distributed **balloons** and different **ethnic food** made by refugees and asylum seekers.

A UNHCR **press package** with the World Refugee Day statement of the High Commissioner, a press release and the 2003 Global Refugee Trends Report was distributed to the media, diplomatic missions and UNHCR partners. In addition, several media interviewed UNHCR staff.

The events were advertised in Slovene newspapers, with **posters** and the hand-distribution of **leaflets** all around the city.

SPAIN

The **central World Refugee Day event**, as well as the **Nansen Refugee Award ceremony**, were held on 20 June in Barcelona, Spain, as part of the **Universal Forum of Cultures** <http://www.barcelona2004.org/eng/eventos/espectaculos/ficha.cfm?IdEvento=3241>

During the day, UNHCR participated in a **dialogue session** about "Conflicts: Prevention, Resolution and Reconciliation", organized by the Spanish National Association, España con ACNUR. This session concluded an important policy conference series that had been taking place for four years. Participants included some 500 senior diplomats, top level government officials, business leaders and humanitarian lawyers from all over the world. **UN High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers** gave a speech and **UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie** said a few words at the closure of the session.

On the Forum plaza, Ms. Jolie, the Mayor of Barcelona Joan Clos and children of various nationalities hung lucky charms and wishes for refugees in the "**Sky of Aspirations**", a huge artificial sky.

2,000 **white and blue UNHCR kytes** were launched over the Forum to symbolise "a common sky for all."

A **photo exhibit** about internally displaced women in Colombia by photographer Colita, titled "*Mujer Atlas: Conflict in Colombia*", was held in the Ciudadela Park in Barcelona. A **concert** by Nayla, a Lebanese singer, took place in the Haima of the Forum's Fair.

In the evening of 20 June, the 50th anniversary of the **Nansen Refugee Award ceremony** was held in the *Palau de la Música Catalana* in Barcelona. Guests included dignitaries such as **Her Royal Highness The Infanta Cristina of Spain**, the **UN High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers**, **UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie**, the President of the Generalitat de Catalunya Pasqual Maragall, Barcelona's Mayor Joan Clos, and Spain's Secretary of State for International Cooperation Leire Pajín. **Spanish actor Imanol Arias** was the master of ceremony. The High Commissioner started the ceremony by paying tribute to last year's Nansen Refugee Award winner, Dr. Annalena Tonelli, who was murdered in her hospital in Borama, north-western Somalia, in October 2003. Her Royal Highness The Infanta Cristina presented this year's Award to the representative of the Russian "**Memorial Human Rights Centre**", Svetlana Gannushkina.

The event was attended by 1,700 people, including members of the royal family, the diplomatic community, government officials and business leaders, and was widely covered by the international and national media. The **Chamber orchestra Reina Sofia** closed the ceremony with an interpretation of Mozart and Tchaikovsky.

SWITZERLAND

The World Refugee Day theme for Switzerland this year was "Together for the Future" to focus on the integration of refugees. As in the past two years, World Refugee Day was coordinated by the Swiss Refugee Council with the support of UNHCR. The official launch took place on 18 June in Bern with a **speech by Swiss President, Joseph Deiss**. In 30 major Swiss cities, hundreds of events with **dancers, musicians, movies involving refugees** to show the value of integration were organised. Dozens of public buildings were lighted in **UN blue**.

In Geneva, **UNHCR flags** were flown from the main bridge in the city centre, the Mont Blanc bridge, and the famous **Jet d'eau in Lake Geneva** was coloured UN blue.

In addition, for the first time, a **nation-wide billboard campaign** was launched. The posters associated key Swiss historical moments and figures with images of refugees. They were located in prime locations in major cities like Zurich, Bern and Geneva.

In the weeks leading up to World Refugee Day, a giant World Refugee Day **banner** was placed on the front of the UNHCR Headquarters building. The day was marked by the staff on 18 June with a **photo exhibition on Chad**, **speeches** by the Deputy High Commissioner and Chairperson of the Staff Council, the screening of the **World Refugee Day TV spot** and a **documentary on the Nansen Refugee Award winner**, followed by a **reception**. These activities were organised by the Public Affairs Unit and the Swiss Liaison Office, in cooperation with the Staff Council.

On 20 June, the youth and children of the Church of Scotland in Geneva based their entire **family Service** on this year's World Refugee Day theme "A Place to call Home" from a child's perspective. Leading up to the Service, the UNHCR **animated film "Carly"** and other UNHCR materials were used to generate **discussions with the youth and children**. A **retiring collection** at the end of the Service was taken and sent to UNHCR.

World Refugee Day materials were distributed to other UN agencies in Geneva and to the public.

TURKEY

Refugee films days consisting of 18 documentaries by Turkish and foreign directors on forced population movements and refugee stories were held in Ankara and Istanbul between 17 and 22 June, in partnership with Documentary Film Makers Union, Istanbul Bilgi University Arts Center and Ankara Cankaya municipality.

UNHCR organized **two receptions**, one in Istanbul on 17 June and another in Ankara on 21 June. A **photo exhibition** of a well known photographer Bikem Ekberzade, who has worked in refugee situations in Afghanistan, Kosovo and Africa, was held at a main subway station in downtown Ankara and at the Fine Arts Centre of Ankara. A replica of the same exhibition was also held in Ankara's most fashionable street. The exhibition was accompanied by a **street concert** by the Mavy and Light Orchestra. The official **launch** of the photo exhibition was held at the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality Press Centre. On 18 June, a **press conference** was given by the UNHCR Representative on World Refugee Day events.

On 19 June, a **workshop** on "EU Asylum policies and Turkey" was held by Amnesty International, with the participation of key potential drafters of the new asylum law, leading academics in this field, NGOs and UNHCR. The Middle East Technical University Women Studies Center held a **panel discussion** on refugee women at the Contemporary Arts Centre, Ankara, on 21 June. On the same day a UNHCR-sponsored magazine, *Umuda Dogru*, **Turkey's only magazine on asylum**, was launched by the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

On 24 June, the chairperson of the refugee sub-committee of the Turkish Parliament delivered a **speech** at a plenary session on the occasion of World Refugee Day. The State Minister also gave a speech.

In co-operation with Ankara's metropolitan municipality, the main street of Ankara which links the airport to the city centre was decorated with **banners**.

A **fundraising campaign** for medical services for refugees was jointly launched by HASVAK (NGO), NTV TV and Ericsson Turkey on 16 June through mobile technology.

UNHCR's World Refugee Day TV spot was broadcast on CNN Turk- TV 8, Sky Turk, TRT and NTV.

UKRAINE

Many activities were undertaken in Odesa, Kharkiv and Lviv. These activities included **cultural performances** and a **sports competition** with the participation of local artists and refugees.

In Kyiv, on the weekend of 19-20 June, there was a **handicraft exhibition**, a **charity fair**, a **photo exhibition** titled “Beyond Borders” and a **street theatre performance**.

UNITED KINGDOM

UNHCR worked with NGO partners to stage a week-long (14-20 June) national celebration of the positive contributions made by refugees to British society. Over 200 events were held across the country as part of **Refugee Week**, including **football tournaments**, **arts workshops** in schools, **photo exhibitions**, **fashion shows** hosted by refugee communities, **panel discussions** and **debates**. Various London venues hosted a series of **film events**, including the showing of Michael Winterbottom’s new film on Identity Theft, which was followed by a panel discussion.

UNHCR participated in “**Celebrating Sanctuary**”, a day-long cultural festival of music, dance and visual arts in central London, held on 13 June to launch Refugee Week. The UNHCR Representative spoke at the launch event, along with the Chair of the Commission for Racial Equality and the Chair of the Refugee Council. UNHCR ran a **stall** in the partner organisations’ marquee. Members of the public were invited to construct a **greeting card showing what the concept of home meant to them and for the refugees coming to the United Kingdom**.

The “**Caught in Conflict**” **exhibition** was held from 14 to 20 June at the Horniman Museum, London. It showcased photos of refugee women from refugee emergencies around the world by award-winning photographer Jenny Matthews. Some 150 people attended the event, while 5,000 people visited the Museum whilst the exhibition was up. The “**Crimson Harvest**” **exhibition** by Bosnian refugee artist Pero Mandić was held during the same period at St. James Church, Piccadilly. The paintings showed the story of ethnic conflict in Bosnia and drew attention to the consequences for individuals and families that are forced to flee their homes.

A series of events took place in Bradford, Northern England, including **films** at the Photography Museum, **poetry evenings** at the Alhambra, and a **display of artwork by refugee children** living in camps at the Central Library. The event was launched by the Mayor of Bradford on 15 June.

UNHCR also ran a stall at **Glastonbury Festival**, held from 25 to 27 June, which is Europe’s largest open air festival (approximate attendance this year was 150,000). The staff running the stall spoke to about 1,000 people over the course of the festival. Visitors were invited to take part in the “**camp challenge**” which was a quiz comparing camping at Glastonbury to living in refugee camps. **Branded beach balls** and **postcards** were handed out. The activities generated 21 media mentions. Contact was made with over 50 journalists.

The “**One Day We Had to Run**” **exhibition**, as well as a display of **drawings by Burmese refugee children** living in camps in Thailand, took place at Haringey Professional Development Centre, London from 10 to 29 June. The exhibition was opened by the Director of Education of the Local Education Authority and received some positive local media coverage. Approximately 400 local school children toured the exhibition and did follow-up activities.