

Italy

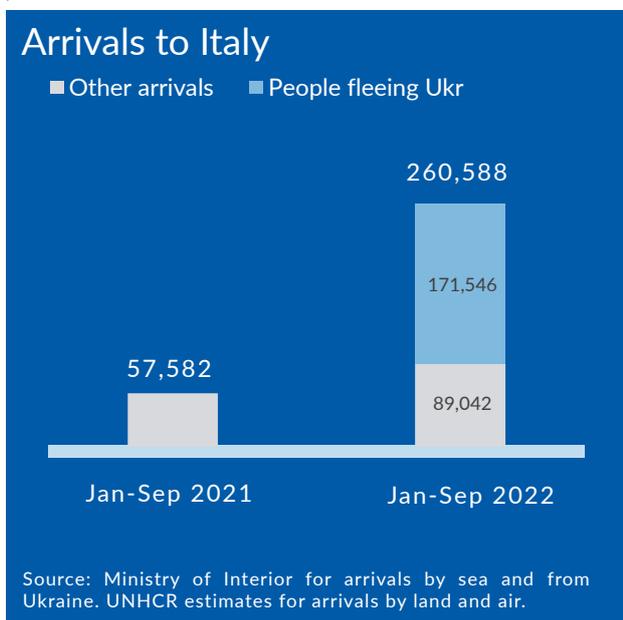
September 2022

Year to date, **71,790 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**, an increase of 55% compared to last year. An additional **171,546 refugees fleeing Ukraine** arrived in Italy as of 27 September.

UNHCR and the National Commission for Asylum updated the **procedural guidelines for Territorial Commissions**, drawing upon four years of activities aimed at monitoring the quality of refugee status determination in Italy.

In late September, **UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi**, attended two conferences in Rome, meeting also with refugee students who arrived in Italy through University corridors.

TOTAL ARRIVALS



KEY FIGURES (SEPTEMBER 2022)

3,842

Arrivals from Ukraine to Italy by land, air and train (Source: Ministry of Interior, as of 27 September)

13,539

Sea arrivals to Italy disembarked at different sites across the country (Source: Ministry of Interior)

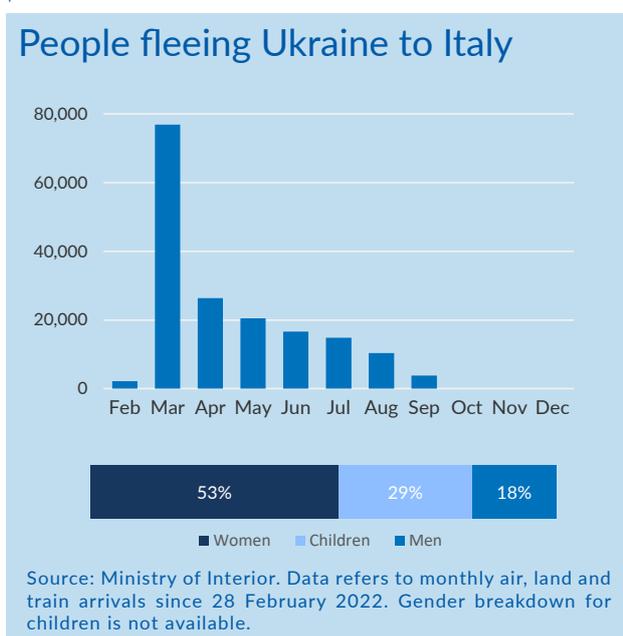
2,984

People fleeing Ukraine informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff at Ferneti and Tarvisio border crossing points (Source: UNHCR, as of 30 September)

12,273

Sea arrivals assisted and informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff following disembarkation (Source: UNHCR)

UKRAINE



SEA ARRIVALS



- **Access to territory.** In September 2022, Italy continued to receive significant numbers of refugees and migrants both via the Mediterranean Sea and via land, mainly through border crossing points in Friuli Venezia-Giulia. During this month, **13,539 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**, bringing the year-to-date total to 71,790, an increase of 55% and 203% compared to the same period in 2021 and 2020, respectively. Persons arriving by sea in September most commonly originated from Egypt (29%), followed by Syrian Arab Republic (15%) and Tunisia (14%). Monthly sea arrivals mainly departed from Libya (57%), followed by Tunisia (21%), Türkiye (14%), Lebanon (6%), Syrian Arab Republic and Algeria (around 1% each).¹ **Departures from eastern Libya** - mainly concerning Egyptian, Bangladeshi and Syrian nationals - continued to be reported as in previous months. **Boats departing from countries along the eastern Mediterranean coast**, namely Türkiye, but also Lebanon and Syria continued to be recorded in September, confirming the trend of arrivals via this route. Persons departing from Türkiye were mainly Afghan nationals, while persons travelling from Lebanon were mostly Syrians and, to a lesser extent, Lebanese and Palestinians. They reported a deteriorating economic situation and poor employment prospects in Lebanon. **Tragedies at sea** occurred in September, causing over 150 dead and missing persons across the central Mediterranean, including three Syrian children, who lost their lives due to thirst, hunger and severe sunburns following departure from Türkiye.²
- UNHCR staff were present at disembarkation sites throughout the month of September, providing new arrivals with relevant information on procedures to seek protection in Italy. UNHCR staff also **advocated with authorities to ensure adequate reception conditions at the Lampedusa hotspot and in other facilities** near disembarkation locations, working in close cooperation with partner D.i.RE. and UNICEF in particular to ensure prompt assistance to women and children arriving by sea.
- In addition to persons reaching shore in southern Italy, **over 1,680 land arrivals were recorded through Italy's northern borders with Slovenia in September.** Year-to-date, more than 8,000 (non Ukrainian) refugees and migrants arrived in Italy travelling by land via South-East Europe, mainly originating from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, India and Nepal. The number of applications for asylum submitted in Friuli Venezia-Giulia increased fourfold this year compared to last year, resulting in **delays in registering applications** and in reception facilities working at full capacity, with an estimated 200-300 refugees and migrants sleeping rough for weeks. UNHCR staff regularly conducted **outreach activities** in the area, collecting testimonies from new arrivals and informing them on their rights and ways to apply for protection in Italy. UNHCR also continued to **liaise with the authorities at local and central level to identify reception solutions**, especially in light of the incoming winter season.
- **Access to territory (Ukraine emergency).** An estimated 3,842 persons reached Italy in September fleeing war-torn Ukraine, predominantly travelling by land via Austria and Slovenia. In addition, **171,546 refugees from Ukraine arrived in Italy** between the start of the emergency in late February and the end of September. UNHCR staff were present at the north-eastern border crossing points of



Refugees and migrants arriving by boat in Lampedusa. ©UNHCR/Alessio Mamo

¹ For further information on sea arrivals in Italy, please refer to the [Italy page](#) of the UNHCR data portal.

² See also UNHCR, [L'UNHCR esprime profondo rammarico per l'ultima perdita di vite umane in mare e chiede il ripristino di un meccanismo di ricerca e soccorso rapido ed efficiente](#), 12 September 2022 (in Italian, last access 5 October 2022).

Tarvisio and Ferneti, ensuring that new arrivals were provided with information and relevant services in Italy, including for persons with specific needs. As of 30 September, **49,461 persons were provided with basic information about services and registration procedures** by UNHCR staff working at the Ferneti and Tarvisio border crossing points. Also, by the end of the month, **8,954 people - both adults and children - had accessed the Blue Dots** at the borders, receiving assistance by UNHCR staff, in close cooperation with UNICEF and in partnership with ARCI, D.i.RE., Save the Children and Stella Polare. Up-to-date information about services available to refugees are also available through the digital component of the Blue Dots, available online at the dedicated [webpage](#). They enable persons fleeing Ukraine to locate the nearest Blue Dot, search for service providers in Italy, access information to stay safe during the journey and provide feedback and/or complaint.

- UNHCR also continues to liaise with the Italian authorities to better coordinate the response to arrivals from Ukraine. In September, UNHCR was appointed to join a **Committee set up by the Italian Civil Protection** to coordinate the implementation of measures relating to dispersal accommodation and cash assistance, together with representatives of relevant ministries, other UN agencies, the Ukrainian community and civil society organizations. UNHCR is also working closely with the Italian authorities to **monitor the implementation of temporary protection** in Italy, while providing opportunities of training on gender-based violence and trafficking to provincial police headquarters staff in selected locations, with a view to supporting the identification of victims of trafficking and survivors of gender-based violence. Since the start of the emergency, over 158,600 Ukrainian nationals applied for temporary protection and over 2,400 claimed asylum in Italy.³



The UNHCR - UNICEF Blue Dot at the Ferneti border crossing point near Trieste, Friuli Venezia - Giulia, Italy. ©UNHCR/Marco Albertini

- **Asylum procedures.** On 22 September, UNHCR, in collaboration with the National Commission for the Right to Asylum, presented the **updated procedural guidelines for Territorial Commissions**, which provide operational support to Territorial Commissions staff for the effective implementation of procedures for refugee status determination. They aim at enhancing the quality of decision-making while ensuring fairness, efficiency, transparency and adaptability. The updated guidelines reflect recent legislative updates and best practices collected over four years of quality monitoring activities carried out by UNHCR staff across the country.
- **Integration.** In September, UNHCR launched a call for applications for the **fifth edition of the Welcome - Working for Refugee Integration programme**. Applications can be submitted until 30 November. The programme awards companies that promote the job inclusion of refugees providing employment opportunities or vocational training. Since the launch of the programme in 2018, 355 companies received the award, ensuring employment opportunities for over 13,000 refugees across Italy.⁴
- **Communication with communities.** This month, UNHCR launched a new [Telegram channel](#), aiming to enable refugees to receive relevant information, including on UNHCR and partners' work, events and opportunities.
- **External engagement.** In early September, the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**, Filippo

³ For further information, see also Civil Protection, [Mappe e dashboards Ucraina](#) (last access 5 October 2022), and [Eurostat](#).

⁴ For further information, see also the programme website, available [here](#) (in Italian, last access 1 September 2022).

Grandi, delivered the opening speech at the [Festival della Mente](#) in Sarzana. At the end of the month, the High Commissioner also attended the [Refugee & Migrant Education Network Conference](#) in Rome, which was jointly organized by the Jesuit Refugee Service, the Refugee & Migrant Education Network, UNHCR and the Gregorian University. He also attended the [Sports for all conference](#), organized by the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, the Pontifical University and the John Paul II Foundation for Sports.



High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, and UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino, Chiara Cardoletti, after the RMEN conference meet with refugee students participating in UNHCR's flagship University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE and DAFI higher education scholarship programmes. ©UNHCR/Valerio Muscella

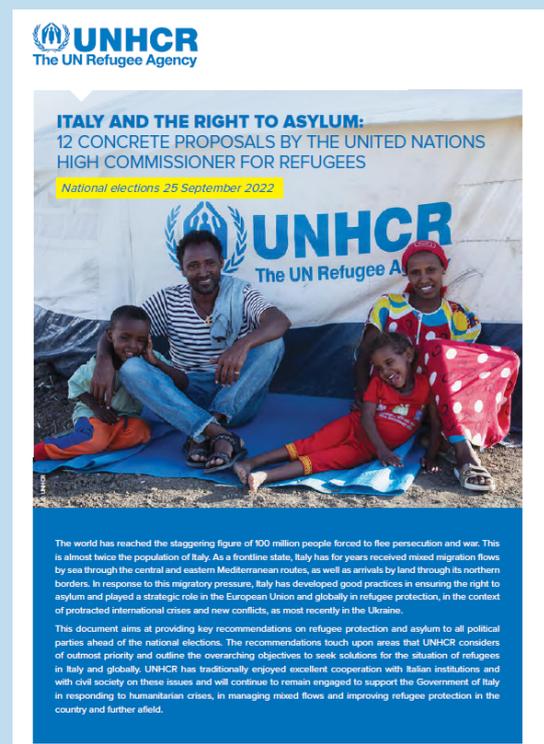
- **UNHCR Representative**, Chiara Cardoletti, delivered opening remarks at a human rights specialized course at La Sapienza University, and a speech at a [Symposium](#) organized by the Fondazione Fratelli Tutti at the Vatican. UNHCR staff additionally attended numerous other events during the month, including a [roundtable](#) on refugees and migrants organized by Cortile di San Francesco in Assisi, a lecture on the Global Refugee Forum at an event arranged by the Scalabrinian Missionaries, a panel discussion on migration taking place in Trieste jointly with the Undersecretary responsible for the Vatican's Migrants Father Baggio, and Refugees Section and a lecture on the Libyan migration route organized by the University of Bologna.
- **Fundraising**. In September, UNHCR raised **1.9 million Euros from private donors** in Italy, totalling 48.8 million Euros since the beginning of the year.

UNHCR's 12 concrete proposals for the right to asylum in Italy

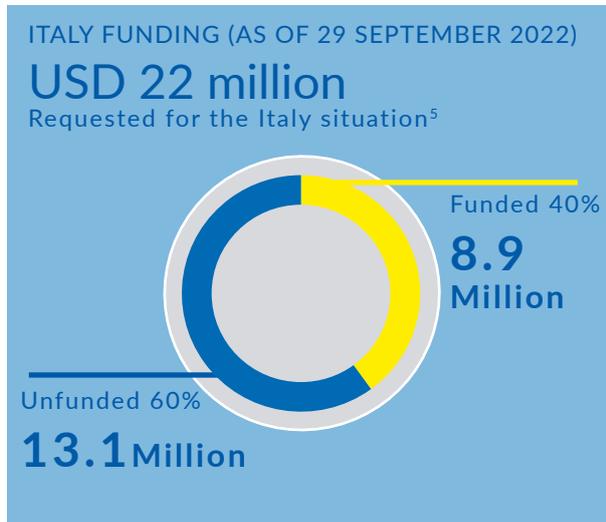
Ahead of the 25 September Italy's national elections, UNHCR provided key recommendations on refugee protection and asylum to all political parties, touching upon areas that UNHCR considers of utmost priority and outlining the overarching objectives to seek solutions for the situation of refugees in Italy and globally.

The recommendations suggest, *inter alia*, strengthening international efforts to address root causes of global displacement; promoting European cooperation and solidarity on asylum; ensuring accountable spending on asylum through improved governance and planning; ensuring rescue at sea and access to the territory; promoting legal and safe pathways for refugees; making reception a springboard for integration; protecting and caring for the most vulnerable; involving affected populations in the identification of solutions; maintaining a balanced and fact-based narrative on migration.

The recommendations can be accessed [here](#).



Financial information



UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Italy operation:

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UNHCR is also grateful to the donors who have contributed to UNHCR operations globally, including Italy, with unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions.⁶

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LINKS

[UNHCR data portal](#) - [UNHCR Italy](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Facebook](#) - [LinkedIn](#) - [Global Focus](#)

⁵ Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities.

⁶ Unearmarked contributions are without restrictions on their use, allowing UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk globally. Softly earmarked contributions allow UNHCR to use them across the range of countries, activities or themes in a given region or situation in accordance with identified priorities; softly earmarked contributions can potentially be used for the Italy operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region. Donors of unearmarked contributions of USD 10 million or more are: Sweden; Norway; Private donors Spain; Private donors Japan; United Kingdom; Netherlands; Denmark; Germany; Private donors USA; Private donors Republic of Korea; Japan; France; Switzerland; Private donors Italy; Belgium; Ireland; Private donors Canada; Private donors Sweden; Italy. Donors of softly earmarked contributions of USD 10 million or more are: Private donors USA; Private donors Japan; Private donors Sweden; Germany; Private donors Bahamas; United States of America; Private donors Germany; Private donors United Kingdom; Private donors Netherlands; United Kingdom; Private donors Italy; Private donors France; Private donors Spain; Private donors Switzerland; France; Norway; Japan; Private donors Australia; Private donors Denmark; Private donors Czech Republic.