

Italy

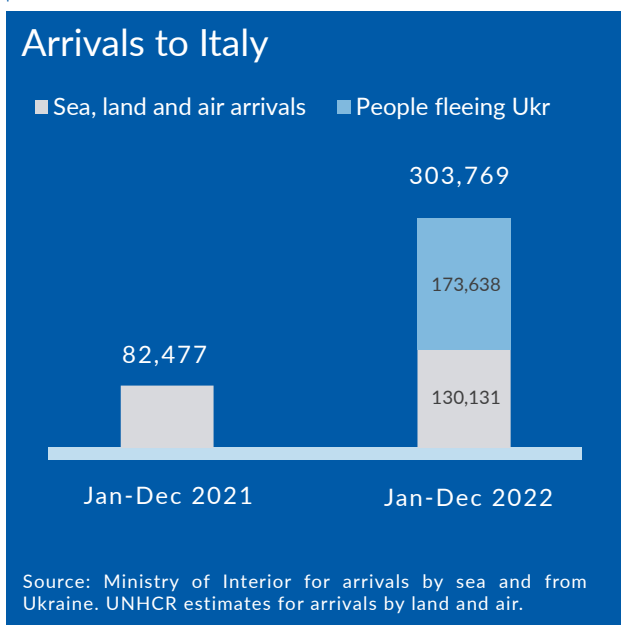
December 2022

Year to date, **105,131 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. An additional **173,638 refugees fleeing Ukraine** arrived in Italy, along with other land and air arrivals (approximately 25,000 in total).

58 Syrian refugees arrived in Italy from Lebanon, thanks to the **Italian resettlement scheme**. Refugees will have access to the reception system for one year and will benefit from integration programmes.

The Municipality, the Prefecture and the local health authorities of **Turin** signed a **protocol** to facilitate access to the local **health services** for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection.

TOTAL ARRIVALS



KEY FIGURES (DECEMBER 2022)

66

Arrivals from Ukraine to Italy by land, air and train (Source: Ministry of Interior, as of 5 January 2023)

10,788

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

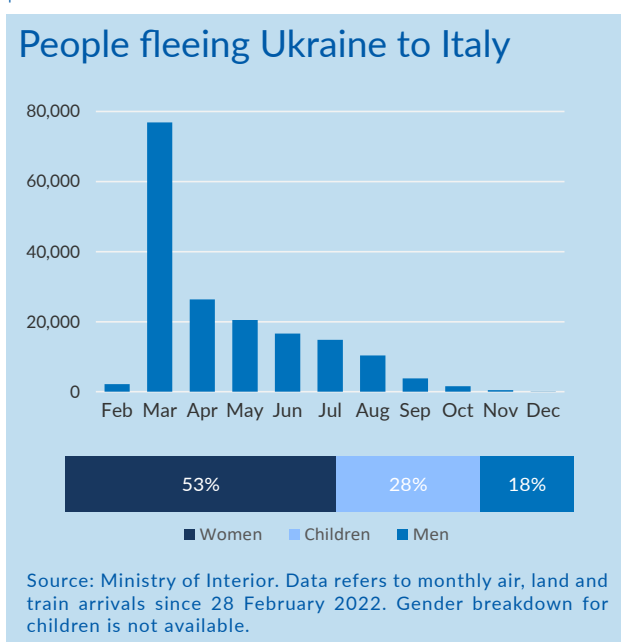
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People fleeing Ukraine informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff at Ferneti and Tarvisio border crossing points (Source: UNHCR, as of 31 December)

9,442

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

UKRAINE



SEA ARRIVALS



- Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In December 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, **10,788 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**, bringing the **yearly total to 105,131**, an increase of 56% and 208% compared to the same period in 2021 and 2020, respectively. On a monthly basis, December arrivals increased by 19% compared to November. Persons arriving by sea during the month mainly originated from **Côte d'Ivoire** (15%), followed by **Egypt** (12%) and **Guinea** (11%). The number of Ivorian nationals reaching Italy increased by 38% compared to the previous month and, more in general, it is possible to observe that **63% of yearly arrivals originating from Côte d'Ivoire reached Italy in the last three months** of 2022, signalling an upward trend. Differently, the number of **Egyptian nationals** arriving to Italy progressively dropped since July; however, despite this decrease, Egypt **represented the main nationality of sea arrivals in 2022**. The number of migrants and refugees from Guinea, the third main nationality on a monthly basis, reached instead its peak in December. Bangladeshi nationals reaching Italy in December slightly decreased compared to those registered in November, while Tunisians increased by 84%. On a yearly basis, **Tunisia** and **Bangladesh** represent the second and third main nationalities respectively. The vast majority of people arriving in December disembarked in **Sicily** (79%), followed by **Calabria, Apulia, Campania, Tuscany, Sardinia and Emilia-Romagna**.¹ Conditions in the **Lampedusa hotspot** during the month remained critical, with delays in transfers of people out of the island particularly affecting **persons with specific needs**, including minors travelling on their own, family units and survivors to shipwrecks. This was due to bad weather conditions, which made transfers out of the island difficult, and the lack of capacity in reception facilities. UNHCR staff continued to be present at **disembarkation sites**. In 2022, **86,533 persons received relevant information on procedures to seek protection in Italy**, 82% of all new arrivals.



- Access to territory (land arrivals).** In addition to persons reaching shore in southern Italy, **over 1,080 land arrivals were recorded through Italy's northern borders with Slovenia in December**. In 2022, almost 13,500 (non-Ukrainian) refugees and migrants arrived in Italy travelling by land via south-east Europe, mainly originating from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India and Nepal. 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.
- Ukraine situation.** As of 30 December, **167,925 refugees from Ukraine** applied for temporary protection in Italy since the start of the emergency.² UNHCR staff continued to be present at the north-eastern border crossing points of Tarvisio and Ferneti providing **over 51,700 persons with basic information about services and registration procedures**. In addition, **almost 10,770 people - both adults and children - accessed the Blue Dots** at the borders, receiving assistance from UNHCR staff, in close cooperation with UNICEF and other partners. Up-to-date information about relevant services continue to be regularly channeled to refugees through the digital component of the **Blue Dots** and through **Telegram**.

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

² For further information, see also Civil Protection, [Mappe e dashboards Ucraina](#) (last access 23 January 2022).

- **UNICORE and Manifesto on an Inclusive University.** On 6 December, UNHCR organized the event "*Le università italiane all'avanguardia nell'accesso all'istruzione dei rifugiati in Italia e nel mondo*", as an opportunity to raise attention on the **projects UNICORE and Manifesto on an Inclusive University**. Representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and from the Ministry of Interior intervened, alongside refugee students, UNHCR and partner organizations. Moreover, Universities adhering to Manifesto presented results achieved in 2022. All participants expressed their willingness to continue supporting these initiatives.
- **Statelessness.** On 7 December, the end-year workshop of the **legal clinics project** took place in Rome. The legal clinics were launched in the last trimester of 2021 and they are set up in partnership with the International University College of Turin, and in collaboration with the Federico II and Roma Tre Universities. The clinics **provide legal support to stateless and at risk of statelessness persons**, addressing the existing gap in available information through the provision of qualified legal assistance, while also training law students on such themes.
- **Trainings.** Between 12 and 14 December, in the framework of the collaboration with the Superior School of Magistrates, UNHCR delivered a national training on **refugee law and vulnerabilities** in the context of **pre-removal detention**, targeting the justices of the peace. About 100 judges, competent for the review of detention measures and return decisions against third-country nationals who have not lodged an asylum application, participated in the training.
- **Communication with Communities.** On 15 December, UNHCR organized an end-year meeting with the **Community Outreach Volunteers (COV) Team Leaders**, to discuss lessons learnt and set the way forward for 2023. The COV project, launched in June by UNHCR and INTERSOS, involved 79 refugees, who reached out to their communities and supported them. During the year, **almost 2,400 referrals of refugees in need** were made to services and 36 sessions of **information provision** were organized on various topics, reaching more than 900 persons. Moreover, refugee communities were consulted in 24 **focus group discussions**.
- **Family reunification.** On 20 December, UNHCR organized a **workshop on family reunification** involving relevant stakeholders, among whom NGOs, refugee-led organizations and institutions, such as the Prefecture of Rome. The objectives of the workshop were, among others, to **exchange practices** on family reunification procedures, to allow for evidence-based **advocacy** and to encourage and support **coordination and networking** among key actors. In 2023, UNHCR will also work on the creation of a **Community of Practice** on the topic.
- **Resettlement.** On 21 December, **58 Syrian refugees arrived in Italy from Lebanon**, thanks to the Italian resettlement scheme. The **flight** was the first since December 2019 and was brought to completion thanks to the **collaboration** of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation, UNHCR and IOM. Refugees will have access to the Italian SAI reception system for one year and will benefit from integration programmes. For 2023, resettlements from Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Libya are foreseen.
- **Integration.** On 21 December, the 25 students participating in the **third edition** of the **Powercoders project** received their end-year diplomas. Powercoders is an initiative supported by Reale Foundation, the Italian Accenture Foundation and Enel Group, in collaboration with UNHCR, thanks to which



intensive courses and job inclusion opportunities in the IT sector are offered to youth of different nationalities. UNHCR intervened in the event and continues to offer support to this initiative and to the job inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers through the Welcome project.

- External engagement.** In December, UNHCR Representative, Chiara Cardoletti, delivered a briefing for representatives of Embassies to Italy and to the Holy See. In addition, she intervened in the UNHCR-Save the Children joint event titled *“Accogliere, proteggere e includere i minori non accompagnati: le evoluzioni e le sfide ancora aperte nell’attuazione della L.47/2017”*, concerning age assessment, voluntary guardianship and psychological support to children travelling on their own. As part of UNHCR’s regular engagement with the Government and other political counterparts, the Representative had meetings with the Ministry of Interior, the President of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in the Senate and the [Mayor of Rome](#). UNHCR staff attended the launch of the [Migrantes 2022](#) report, a [webinar](#) concerning migration and human rights in Italy and a two-day event organized by SAR NGOs, addressing search and rescue activities at sea. In addition, colleagues from the UNHCR’s Milan office participated in a [roundtable](#) concerning the recognition of refugees’ qualifications in Italy organized in Turin.



UNHCR Representative for Italy, Chiara Cardoletti, with the Mayor of Rome, Roberto Gualtieri. ©UNHCR

- Fundraising.** In November, UNHCR raised **3.5 million Euros from private donors** in Italy, totalling 56.6 million Euros since the beginning of the year. The major private donors in Italy contributing to UNHCR activities this month were Autostrade per l'Italia, Bolton Hope Foundation, Gucci, Moncler, Nexi and Salvatore Ferragamo.

Multifunctional Centre in Turin

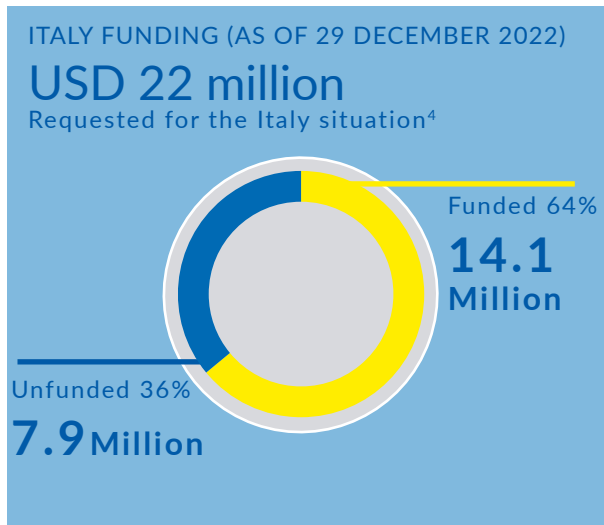
On 5 December, the Municipality, the Prefecture and the local health authorities (ASL) of Turin signed a protocol aiming at facilitating the access to the national and local health services for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection.³ The signature of the agreement represented the consolidation of the positive collaboration between the various authorities, facilitated also by UNHCR, which was strengthened in 2022 around the creation of the Multifunctional centre in Turin. The centre offers access to legal, psychosocial and administrative services to support refugees and asylum seekers in their process of integration; thanks to the presence of a desk managed by the local health services, PoC will now have also the possibility to enroll in the NHS, choose a general practitioner and receive information about the health services available in Turin.



Institutional and local authorities representatives signing the agreement. @UNHCR/Massimo Gnone

³ UNHCR, [Comune di Torino, Prefettura e ASL Città di Torino firmano un accordo che promuove l’accesso di richiedenti asilo e rifugiati ai servizi sanitari](#), 5 December 2022 (in italian, last access 23 January 2022).

Financial information



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

Government of Italy (Presidency of the Council of Ministers) | Istituto Buddhista Italiano Soka Gakkai | Enel Cuore Onlus | Intesa Sanpaolo | Accenture | Autostrade per l'Italia S.p.A. | European Union | Other private donors

UNHCR is also grateful to the donors who have contributed to UNHCR operations globally, including Italy, with unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions.⁵

In particular, in the month of December, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies gave a contribution of EUR 2 million for strengthening access to comprehensive protection services for Afghan refugees in Pakistan; EUR 2 million for the protection and health for Afghan refugees in Iran; a contribution of EUR 3 million for promoting access to rights and services for IDPs and conflict-affected people in Ukraine; and one of EUR 2 million for improving access to basic services and rights for refugees and asylum-seekers in Tunisia. In the same month, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate-General for Globalization & Global Affairs granted a EUR 200.000 contribution in support of UNHCR's legal assistance to Myanmar refugees residing in the nine temporary shelters on the Thai-Myanmar border.

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LINKS

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⁴ Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities.

⁵ 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; Private donors Republic of Korea; Private donors USA; Germany; Japan; Private donors Italy; France; Switzerland; Private donors Canada; Private donors Sweden; Belgium; Ireland; Italy. Donors of softly earmarked contributions of USD 10 million or more are: Private donors USA; Private donors Japan; Germany; Private donors Sweden; Private donors Germany; Private donors Bahamas; United States of America; Private donors United Kingdom; Private donors Netherlands; United Kingdom; Private donors Italy; Private donors France; Private donors Spain; Private donors Switzerland; Norway; France; Private donors Australia; Japan; Private donors Denmark; Private donors Czech Republic.