

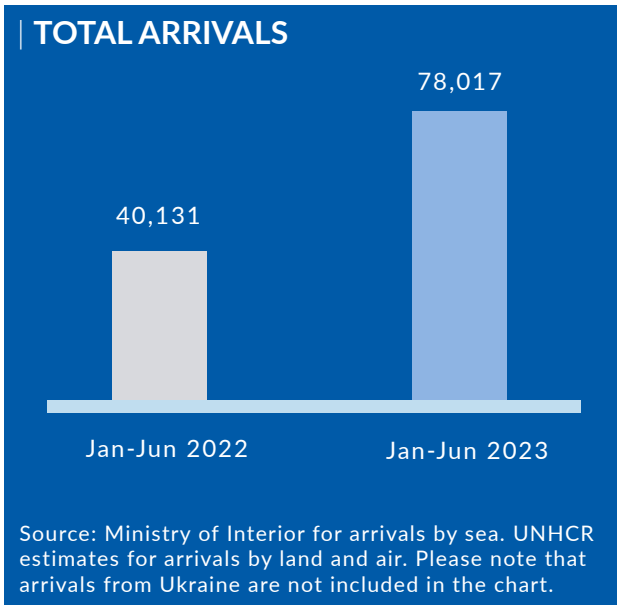
Italy

June 2023

In June, **15,164 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. Most originated from Guinea, Bangladesh and Burkina Faso. 17% were children. Additional arrivals reached Italy **via land and air**.

UNHCR supported the creation and the adoption of the “**Vademecum for the identification, referral, and take in charge of people with vulnerabilities**”, which was published on 21 June.

In June, UNHCR celebrated the **World Refugee Day**. The High Commissioner for Refugees took part in the "Not Alone" event at the Holy See, signing the **Declaration on Human Fraternity**.



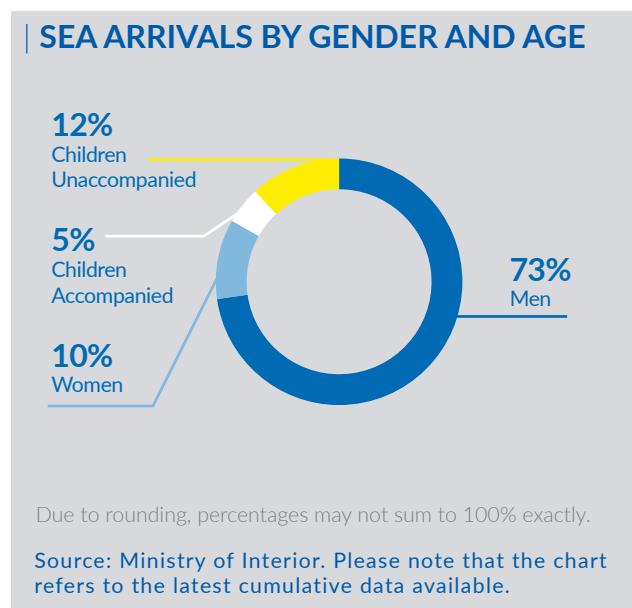
KEY FIGURES

65,519

Sea arrivals to Italy disembarked at different ports across the country in January-June 2023. 55,980 (85% of the total) were informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff, following disembarkation. (Source: Ministry of Interior and UNHCR)

178,738

Temporary protection applications of people fleeing Ukraine as of end of June 2023. 71% of applicants are females. (Source: Civil Protection)





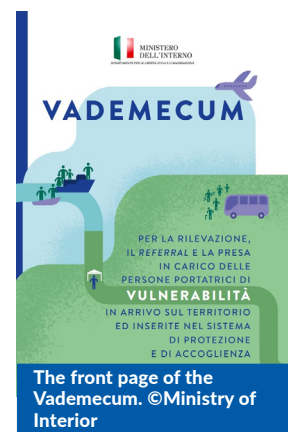
Arrivals

- Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In June, the monthly number of refugees and migrants arriving to Italy via the Mediterranean Sea reached the highest peak recorded in 2023 so far. During the month, **15,164 persons reached the shores in Italy**, an increase of 86% compared to May. 17% of them were **children**. New arrivals mainly originated from **Guinea** (11%), **Bangladesh** (10%) and **Burkina Faso** (10%). Other nationalities arriving during the month were Ivorian, Egyptian and Tunisian. In June, departures from Tunisia increased again after the drop registered in May, representing 56% of monthly arrivals. The rest of sea crossings departed from Libya (36%), Türkiye (8%) and Algeria (less than 1%). Over the month, almost 9,250 people (61% of the total) were disembarked in Italy as a result of **Search And Rescue (SAR) operations**. Due to multiple shipwrecks, more than 2,000 **people have died or gone missing** in the Mediterranean in the first half of the year.¹ Despite several transfers out of **Lampedusa** to mainland destinations, the considerable number of new arrivals put again the facility under pressure. The Italian Red Cross officially took over the management of the hotspot on 1 June, quickly moving forward renovation works and significant improvements. During the reporting period, **13,939 people** (around 92% of monthly sea arrivals) were assisted and **informed about asylum procedures** by UNHCR staff following disembarkation.
- Access to territory (land arrivals).** In addition to arrivals via sea, **some 1,130 land arrivals were intercepted at Italy's northern borders with Slovenia in June**. Since the beginning of 2023, more than 5,600 new arrivals were reported in this area. Those travelling by land via south-east Europe mainly originated from **Afghanistan, Bangladesh** and **Pakistan**. New arrivals continued reporting **systematic ill treatments and pushbacks** by the Turkish, Bulgarian, and Croatian Border Police. Lack of access to **reception** continued affecting land arrivals during the month, in both the Trieste and the Gorizia province. Dozens of people were reportedly sleeping rough in informal settings in June. UNHCR staff continued to conduct **outreach activities**, collecting testimonies and informing new arrivals on their rights and ways to apply for protection in Italy.



Specific needs

- Vademecum on vulnerabilities.** UNHCR supported the creation and the adoption of the “**Vademecum for the identification, referral and take in charge of people with vulnerabilities**”, which was **made public** on 21 June.² The Vademecum is the result of an inter-ministerial Working Group led by the Ministry of Interior including UNHCR, the Ministry of Health, the European Commission, Frontex, EUAA, IOM, UNICEF, INMP, the Italian Red Cross, and others. The Vademecum will provide **standardized guidelines** for each actor involved in the asylum system at national level, tackling how to identify, refer and respond to **specific needs**. The roll-out phase will be carried out in the next months and a pilot project with related monitoring activities will be activated in four selected locations (Lampedusa, Crotone, Roma, Milano) also with UNHCR collaboration.
- Torture and mental health.** On 26 June, the **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**, MEDU shared the full version of the documentary ‘**Un luogo sicuro. Voci contro la tortura**’, which was realized with the support of UNHCR. The documentary tells the stories and the difference it made to refugee survivors of torture being able to access a therapeutic path in Italy



The front page of the Vademecum. ©Ministry of Interior

¹ For further information on sea arrivals in Italy, please refer to the [Italy page](#) of the UNHCR data portal. See also UNHCR, *Tragedia al largo della Grecia, si teme per la vita di centinaia di rifugiati e migranti dispersi in mare*, 15 June 2023 (in Italian) and UNHCR, *OIM e UNHCR chiedono un'azione decisa a seguito dell'ultima tragedia nel Mediterraneo*, 16 June 2023 (in Italian).

² For further information, please refer to the [Vademecum](#) official publication.

thanks to the assistance of the Psyche' center, also supported by UNHCR in the framework of the partnership.



Asylum system

- In June, UNHCR completed the first round of **trainings on exclusion from international protection and case-law research** addressed to the members of the **Territorial Commissions for the recognition of international protection**. The trainings, organized in cooperation with the National Commission for Asylum, reached 24 out of 41 Commissions, involving 132 participants.
- UNHCR co-facilitated a training session on possible **international protection needs of survivors/ persons at risk of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation**, organized by EUAA for the Specialized Section of the Court of Florence. Around 70 judges, lawyers and court employees participated. Moreover, UNHCR facilitated a training session on possible **international protection needs of trafficking survivors** in Florence, in the context of the anti-trafficking national action A.St.R.A., that aims at reinforcing the cooperation between Police Officers and anti-trafficking networks. Part of a cycle of seven sessions organized in seven Regions by the anti-trafficking national network, in cooperation with the Department of Public Security, the event reached 130 people.



Community-based protection

- A series of three webinars on the topic of '**protection of people with disabilities in forced displacement**', co-organized with CBM, LEDHA, Special Olympics, RIDS and FISH, ended in June. The webinars aimed at strengthening the disability awareness of the staff working in reception facilities and actors involved in the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. More than 1,750 registrations to the webinars were recorded, while the initiative also allowed UNHCR to establish a wider **network of stakeholders** to continue cooperating, strengthen advocacy and promote programmes for the protection of people with specific needs. Relevant materials, including the three sessions, are [available online](#).



Resettlement and complementary pathways

- On 5 June, UNHCR, together with Caritas Italiana and in collaboration with the Federation of Italian Evangelical Churches, Talent Beyond Boundaries and RefugeeHub, organized the first **Policy Design Session on labour pathways** in Italy. This was the **first official initiative** that gathered key stakeholders and decision makers to discuss the possibility to establish Labor Pathways for refugees in Italy. Among the participants, there were representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labour, alongside a number of civil society organizations operating in the sector. The event was organized in the framework of EU-Passworld, a three-year AMIF project led by Caritas and implemented by several different partners (including UNHCR Ireland and Italy) launching labor pathways in Italy, Belgium, and Ireland, among others. The discussion was conducted also in light of the recent legislative changes introduced by Law 50/2023 - advocated by UNHCR during the legislative process - which foresee two possible entry channels for refugee workers.



Child protection

- In June, following the conclusion of the **EU project EFRIS** (*European Family Reunion Innovative Strategies*), UNHCR and CIDAS presented the results of the analysis conducted on secondary movements across Europe of unaccompanied children (UAC) asylum seekers. The EFRIS project

was designed to address the need to improve the effectiveness of **family reunification procedures affecting UAC seeking asylum** and eventually reduce secondary movements of minors and their connected risks. The recently published analysis focuses on the phenomenon of abscondment of minors after their arrival in Europe and draws recommendations aimed at implementing the existing systems of protection according to the principles of the best interest of the child and the family unit.³ The study was developed also thanks to the collaboration with the Dublin Unit of the Minister of Interior and the *Commissario Straordinario per le persone scomparse* (Special Commissioner for missing persons).

- On 27 June, UNHCR and Save the Children presented the results of a partnership started in 2022 aimed at improving the **protection systems for unaccompanied foreign children**. Two mappings were conducted, among others, exploring the state of implementation of **voluntary guardianship and age assessment practices** in Italy.⁴ The reports evaluate how national standards are applied according to territorial specificities, with particular reference to the application of Law 47/2017. Good practices were identified to promote child protection uniformity and consistency for all children in different contexts. Practitioners and experts participated in the presentation of the mappings, including the Ombudsman for Infancy and Adolescence and the University of Milan, who were involved in the research.



External engagement

- On 12-14 June, the Representative participated in the UNHCR Regional Representatives meeting for Europe in Madrid. She also met with the UK Cabinet Secretary, to discuss the global refugee challenge and potential short- and longer-term solutions, and she intervened in the 'migration and forced displacement' session of the Joint Bank of Italy - Ministry of Economy and Finance - World Bank conference, commenting the follow up actions to the World Bank 2023 World Development Report. The Representative also participated in the celebrations for the US Independence Day. UNHCR Italy Deputy Representative participated in the UNHCR Middle East and North Africa Workshop on Child Protection Case Management in Mixed Movements, on 13-15 June, in Amman. UNHCR staff held an institutional meeting, with representatives from various Ministries, on the Global Refugee Forum. Moreover, UNHCR intervened in the national ECRE General Annual Conference talking about displacement and they attended the National Council of ANDISU (*Associazione Nazionale degli Organismi per il diritto allo studio universitario*) to present the Manifesto and UNICORE initiatives. Cooperation with traditional counterparts at local and national level continued to be pursued.



Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino intervening at the Welcome event (page 5). ©UNHCR/Alessandro Penso



Fundraising

- In June, UNHCR raised **2.3 million Euros from private donors** in Italy, totalling 17.9 million Euros since the beginning of the year. The major private donors in Italy, contributing to UNHCR activities this month, were Pirelli and PUPA.

³ See also UNHCR, [UNHCR e CIDAS Insieme per riunire i minori non accompagnati alle loro famiglie](#), 7 June 2023 (in Italian).

⁴ For further information, please refer to the [Mappatura sullo stato attuale di implementazione del sistema di tutela volontaria](#) and to the [Mappatura sullo stato attuale delle procedure di identificazione e accertamento dell'età](#) official publications.

Public events

Engagement with the Holy See. On 10 June, the **High Commissioner** (HC) Filippo Grandi attended the **“Not Alone” event**, a World Meeting on Human Fraternity co-organized by the Fratelli Tutti Foundation and Dicasteries of the Holy See. In the morning, alongside other 30 Nobel Laureates, he discussed and signed, on behalf of UNHCR, the **Declaration on Human Fraternity**, including also a reference to forced migration. During the afternoon public event in Saint Peter’s Square, the HC intervened and spoke about the meaning of **fraternity for forcibly displaced people** and called for “fairness in fraternity”. In addition, a video produced by UNHCR Ethiopia was broadcasted, including a testimony on solidarity between the local host community and refugees, a speech by the Representative in Ethiopia and a music performance. The afternoon event was broadcasted worldwide and part of it was aired on Italian public TV (*Rai*). A video on fraternity was also shared by UNHCR Chad. The event further strengthened UNHCR collaboration with the Holy See, in particular the Fratelli Tutti Foundation and the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, give visibility to UNHCR initiatives in other countries, and disseminate UNHCR messages.



High Commissioner Filippo Grandi, along with Nobel Laureates. ©UNHCR

Global Trends report. In June, UNHCR launched the **Global Trends report**, containing the main **trends and global statistics** on refugees and forcibly displaced people around the world. More information can be found in the press release available at this [link](#).

World Refugee Day. On 20 June, UNHCR Italy celebrated the World Refugee Day (WRD) with an **event** at the Auditorium Antonianum in Rome. The **event** was opened by Mahdia Sharifi, an Afghan taekwondo athlete, and included **performances** of Hisam Allawi, a Syrian poet, and the Ukrainian musician Dasha Zhyvolup. The **declaration** received by the Italian President of the Republic for the occasion was read by Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative to Italy, the Holy See and San Marino, while also the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs shared his **message** with UNHCR. Representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Italian Episcopal Conference, the Holy See and other relevant stakeholders intervened in the **panels**. Highlights are available on the [UNHCR Italy YouTube channel](#). Also other events were organized across Italy for the WRD, including in **Naples**, where UNHCR carries out integration activities. 16 Italian cities decided to illuminate **public monuments** in blue, as a sign of their support to the WRD.⁵



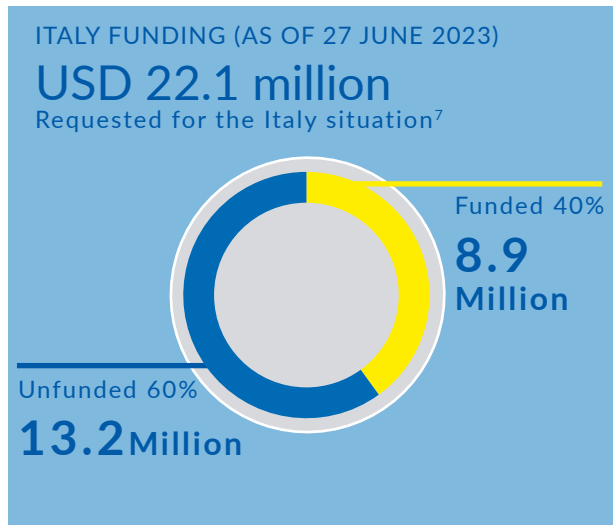
Hisam Allawi, Dasha Zhyvolup and Elena Sofia Ricci, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador. ©UNHCR/Michele Cirillo

Integration. On 26 June, **UNHCR awarded 167 private companies** with the Welcome logo for creating job opportunities for nearly 9,300 refugees in 2022.⁶ Since 2017, the UNHCR initiative **Welcome. Working for Refugee Integration** facilitated the creation of **22,000 labour pathways for refugees in more than 520 companies**. The programme is realized together with the Adecco Foundation and supported by the Ministry of Labour, Confindustria and the Global Compact Italy. UNHCR Italy is currently working on setting up the Welcome-in-one-click platform, offering to facilitate online matching among the various actors involved in the initiative.

⁵ See also UNHCR, [Le città italiane illuminano i loro monumenti per la Giornata Mondiale del Rifugiato](#), 19 June 2023 (in italian).

⁶ See also UNHCR, [9.300 rifugiati inseriti nel mondo del lavoro con “Welcome” nel 2022](#), 26 June 2023 (in italian)

Financial information



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

L'Istituto Buddista Italiano Soka Gakkai | 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.⁸

In the month of June, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Development Cooperation granted a EUR 6 million contribution to enhance protection and socio-economic inclusion of refugees from Ukraine in the Republic of Moldova and Poland and a **EUR 8 million voluntary contribution** for UNHCR activities in the African continent. In addition, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies gave a contribution of EUR 4 million, to improve community stabilization and provision of basic needs and essential services to forcibly displaced people in Libya and EUR 3,75 million in support of the **UNHCR project** “Strengthening access to protection and solutions along mixed movements routes in Chad and Niger”.

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LINKS

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

⁷ Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities.

⁸ 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; Netherlands; Denmark; Private donors Spain; United Kingdom; France; Germany; Private donors Japan; Switzerland; Private donors Republic of Korea; Belgium; Ireland. Donors of softly earmarked contributions of USD 10 million or more are: Private donors Germany; Private donors Canada; Private donors Sweden.