

EUROPE RESETTLEMENT



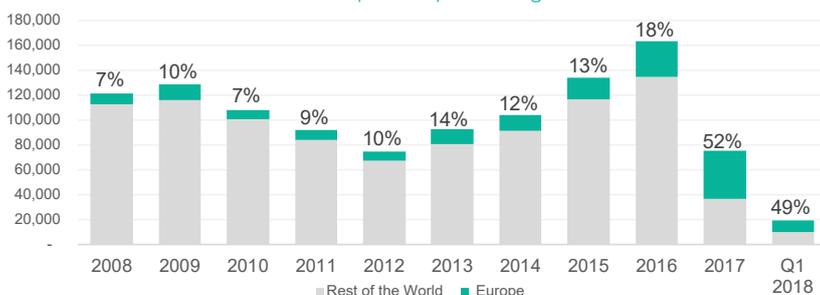
"Leaving Africa and ending up here is like moving from one planet to the other." Nicolas Maheshe Ndoole, a former refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is helping to assist fifty-six women, men and children evacuated from Libya via Niger who have been recently resettled in Thal-Marmoutier, eastern France.

Overview

During the first three months of 2018, almost 9,700 refugees were submitted by UNHCR for resettlement¹ to 13 countries in Europe.² This is similar to the first quarter of 2017 and already almost two-thirds of the average rate of 15,400 submissions per year during the previous 10 years.

Between 2008 and 2017, Europe's proportion of resettlement submissions globally has increased from approximately 7% to almost 52%, and in the first quarter of 2018⁴ remained nearly half of all submissions. This is primarily due to a significant decrease globally in the scale of some states' resettlement programmes during 2017, most notably by the United States of America.

Resettlement submissions to Europe compared to global trends³



Resettlement submissions to Europe³

9,669
in 2018⁴
13 countries

17,209 in 2015 19 countries	28,651 in 2016 27 countries	38,881 in 2017 25 countries
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Resettlement departures to Europe³

5,684
in 2018

Resettlement arrivals to Europe⁵

11,175 in 2015	18,175 in 2016	27,450 in 2017
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¹ See www.unhcr.org/resettlement.html for more background information on resettlement. Only data on resettlement cases referred by UNHCR is available for 2018. The figures presented in this factsheet reflect UNHCR *submissions* of resettlement cases to resettlement countries. Following submission, the timescale can vary in each resettlement country before a case is accepted and the refugees depart from their country of asylum and arrive finally in the country of resettlement.

² Europe comprises 50 countries, including the EU, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, South-Eastern Europe (inc. Kosovo (S/RES/1244(1999))), Turkey and Eastern Europe (exc. Kazakhstan).

³ Source: Resettlement submission and departure data from rsq.unhcr.org. Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR's resettlement processes.

⁴ All references to 2018 reflect the period January-March, unless otherwise specified.

⁵ Sources: Resettlement data from Eurostat for the EU and Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein and rsq.unhcr.org for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

Country of origin

The vast majority of refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in 2018 are originally from Syria (78%), with the resettlement of Syrians to Europe having increased significantly in scale between 2013 and 2016. In total, 93% of refugees submitted for resettlement in Europe in the first three months of 2018 originate from just five countries and are Syrian, Congolese (DRC), Sudanese, Somali or Eritrean. 10% of submissions to Europe are from East Africa and just over 1% are from West Africa.

Country of asylum

Refugees submitted for resettlement in Europe were typically registered in the following countries of asylum: **Syrians:** Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan or Egypt; **Congolese (DRC):** Uganda and Burundi; **Sudanese:** Egypt or Chad; **Somalis:** Kenya; **Eritreans:** Niger.

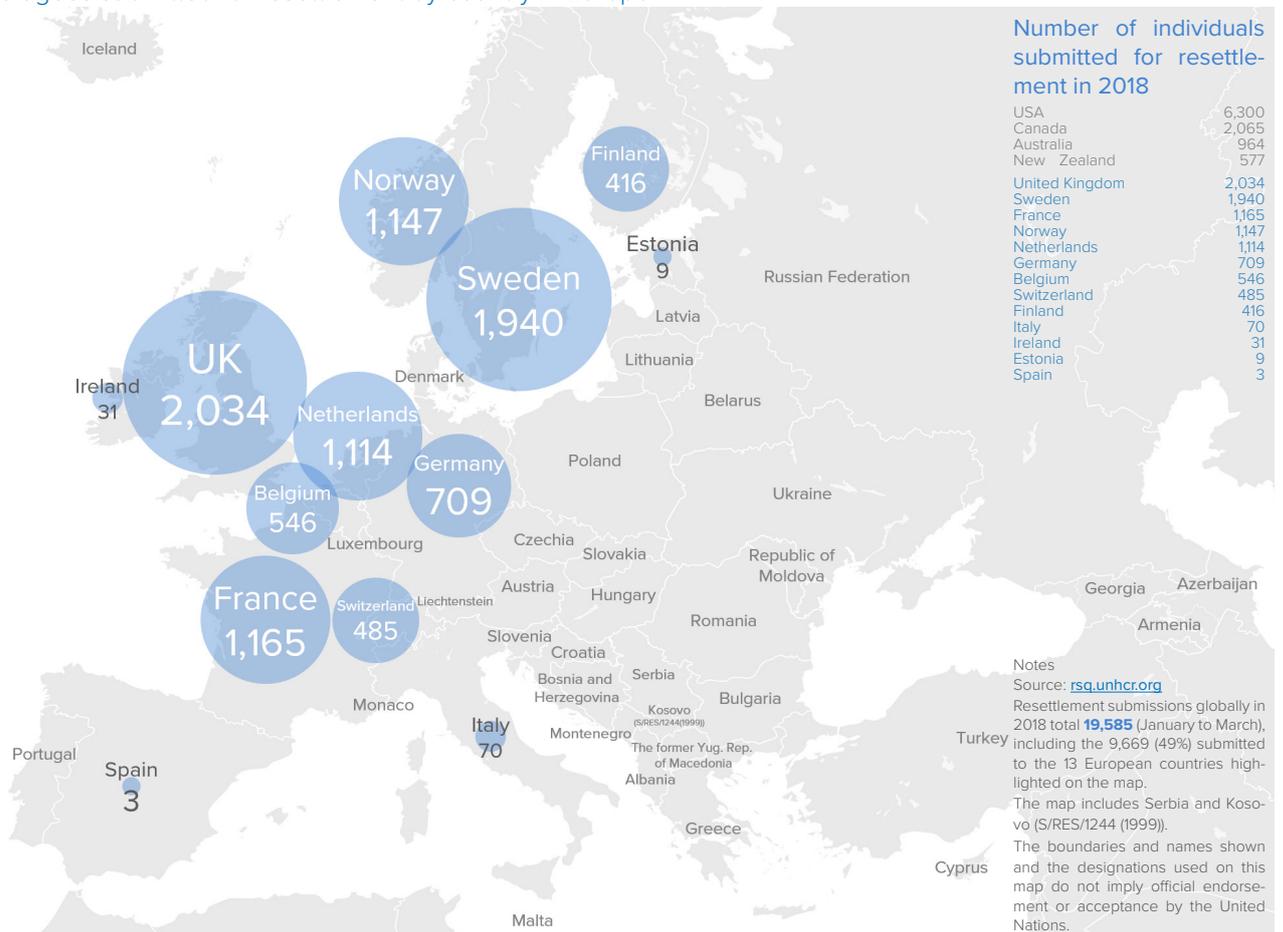
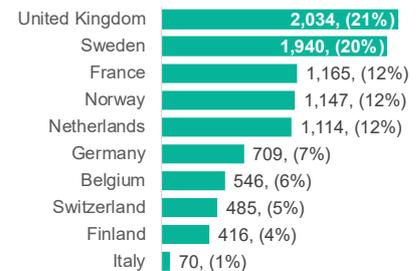
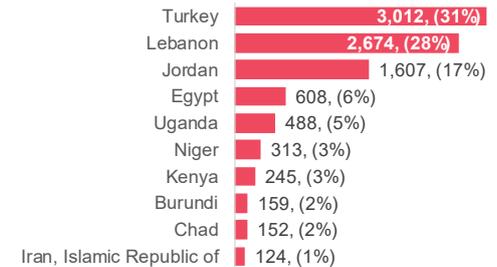
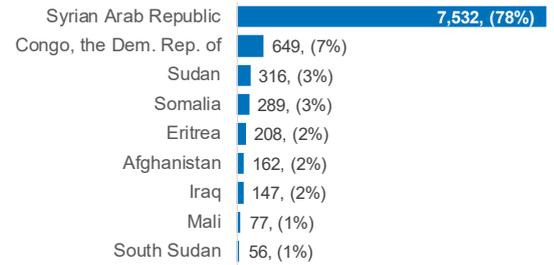
Following UNHCR's establishment of an [Emergency Transit Mechanism](#) in Niger in late 2017 for the evacuation of highly vulnerable persons out of detention in Libya, resettlement submissions from Niger (which include [evacuees](#) as well as refugees initially registered in Niger) are two-thirds greater in the first three months of 2018 than in the whole of 2017 (313 versus 191, most commonly Eritreans, Malians, Nigerians and Somalis, submitted to France, Switzerland and the Netherlands).

Country of resettlement

In 2018, five countries in Europe (the UK, Sweden, France, Norway and the Netherlands) have received 77% of all resettlement submissions.

Most countries in Europe with active resettlement programmes resettled predominately Syrians (in 2018, 9 of these 13 countries in Europe admitted at least 80% Syrians for resettlement). Only the UK, Norway, France and Sweden have resettled substantial numbers of other nationalities of refugees, including from the Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea.

Number of refugees submitted for resettlement by country in Europe



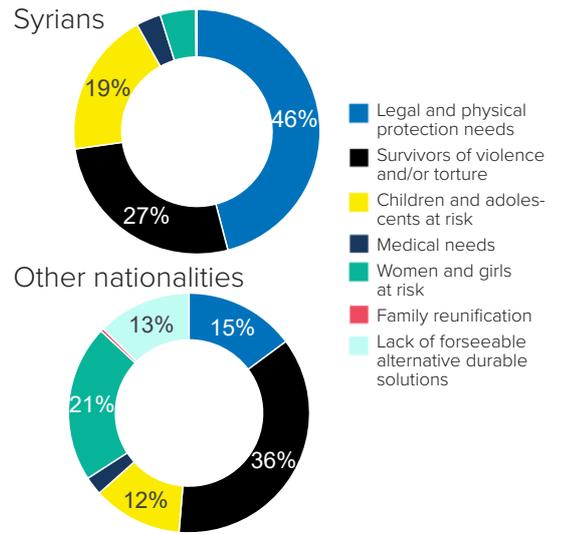
Categories of resettlement submissions

As an important protection tool that is used to address cases that cannot be provided with appropriate support and protection in their countries of asylum, resettlement cases in 2018 were most commonly submitted based on legal and physical protection needs (39%), to protect survivors of torture and/or violence (29%), and to protect children and adolescents at risk (18%).⁶

For nationalities other than Syrians (22% of submissions overall), fewer cases were submitted due to legal and physical protection needs (15%). By contrast, more cases were submitted to protect survivors of torture and/or violence, women and girls at risk, and due to the lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions (36%, 21% and 13% respectively).

Overall, just 1% of cases submitted to European countries were under the emergency submission procedures,⁶ while 7% were urgent.

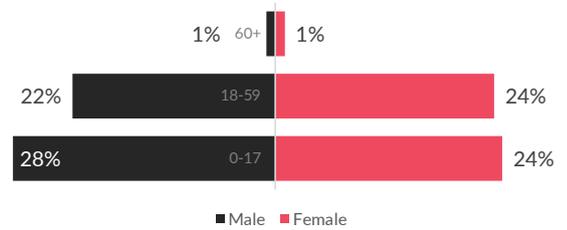
Of the 1,273 resettlement cases (4,877 individuals in total) on which a decision was made in 2018 by European countries, 90% were accepted, consistent with acceptance rates in previous years.



Demographics

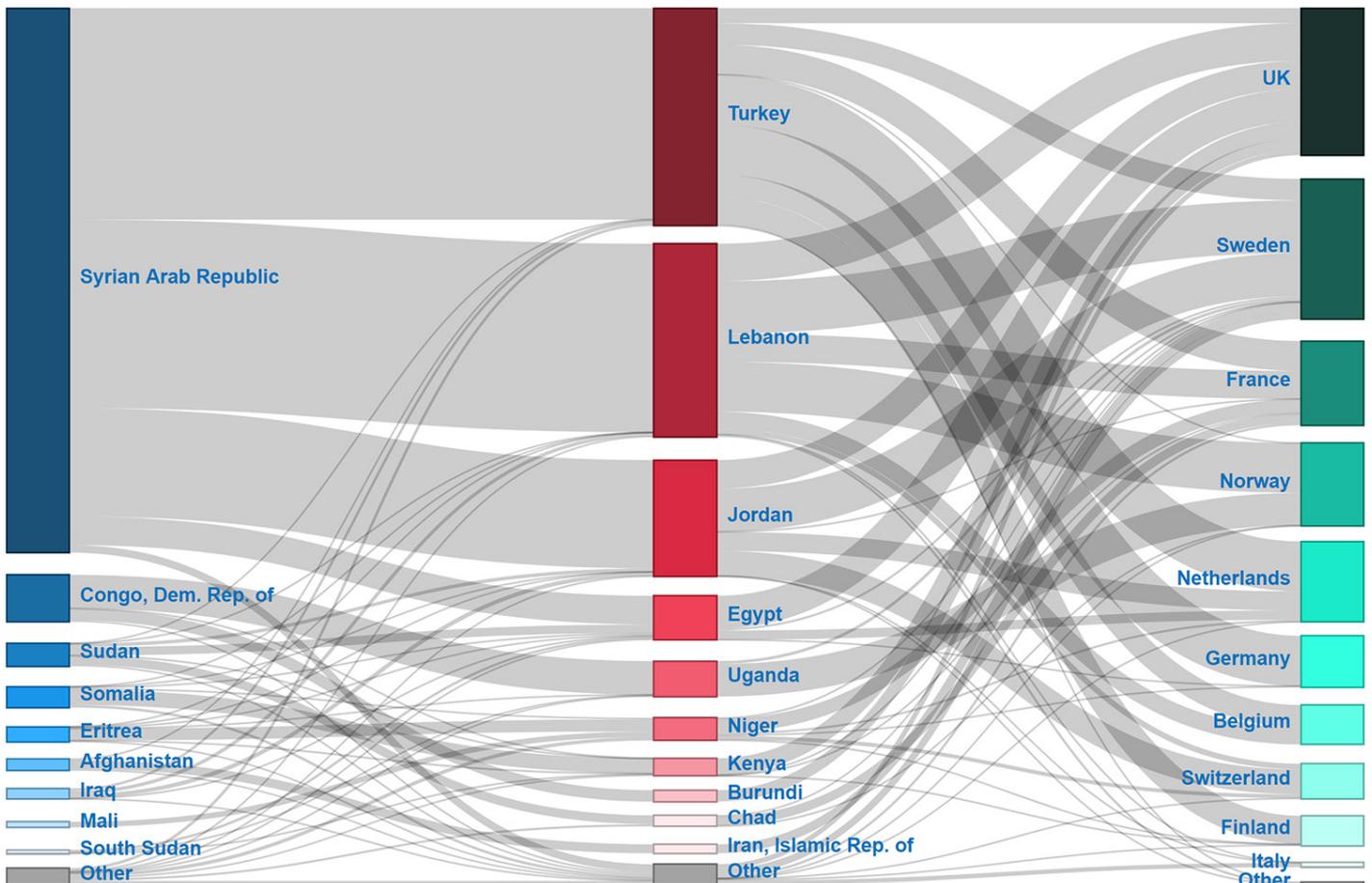
In the first quarter of 2018, 53% of those people whose resettlement cases were submitted to Europe were children, 45% were aged between 18 and 59 and 2% were over 60 years old. Overall, submissions of men and boys compared to women and girls were close to equal (51% versus 49%). This demographic profile is very consistent with submissions in 2017 and also by both the country of origin and country of resettlement.

Each case submitted to Europe included 4 people on average in 2018, with just 9% of submissions being only for one person.



Flow of refugees

Flow of refugees submitted for resettlement in 2018 from country of origin via their country of asylum to the intended country of resettlement



⁶ See the [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#): chapter six (resettlement submission categories) on page 243 and section 6.1.1 (resettlement priority levels) on page 246.