

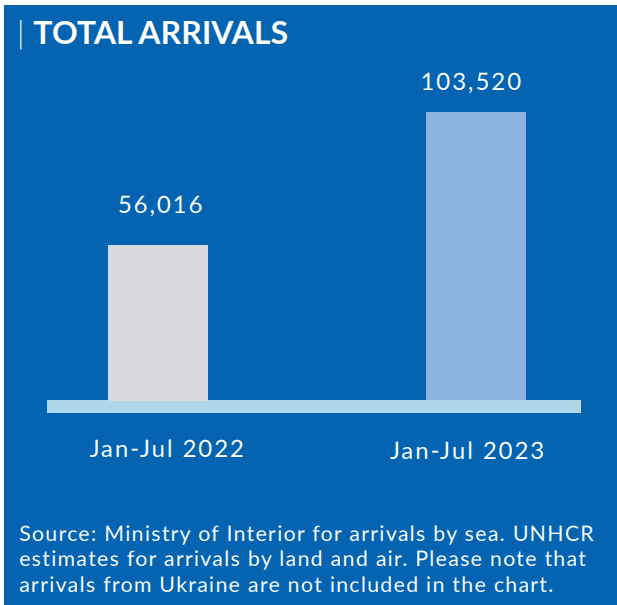
Italy

July 2023

In July, **23,420 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. Most originated from Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Tunisia. 19% were children. Additional arrivals reached Italy **via land and air**.

On 23 July, the UNHCR High Commissioner and UNHCR Italy Representative attended the **International Conference on Development and Migration** held in Rome.

In July, UNHCR facilitated the **visit of a Serb delegation composed of Mol officials and judges**, in the framework of a quality programme between Italian and Serbian asylum and migration authorities.



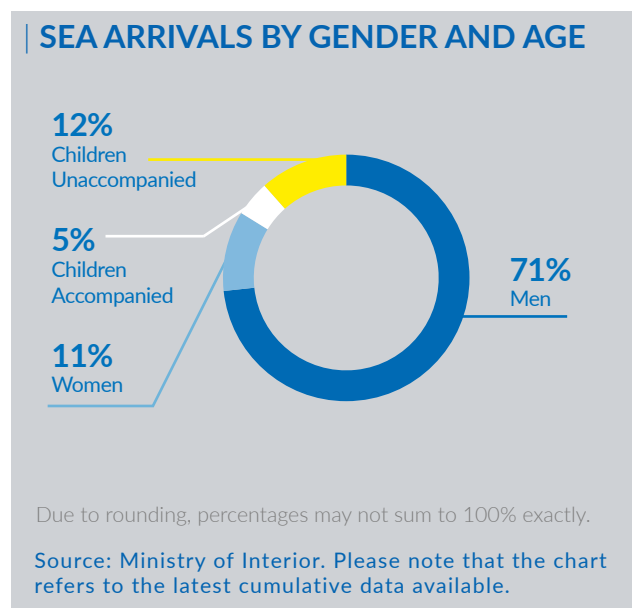
KEY FIGURES

89,939

Sea arrivals to Italy disembarked at different ports across the country in January-July 2023. 76,693 (85% of the total) were informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff, following disembarkation. (Source: Ministry of Interior and UNHCR)

177,666

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





Arrivals

- Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In July, the monthly number of refugees and migrants arriving to Italy via the Mediterranean Sea reached the highest peak recorded in 2023. During the month, **23,420 persons reached Italy's shores**, an increase of 54% compared to June. 13% were **UAC**. New arrivals mainly originated from **Guinea** (20%), **Côte d'Ivoire** (16%) and **Tunisia** (12%). Other nationalities arriving during the month were Burkinabe, Malian and Cameroonian. In July, departures from Tunisia starkly increased, representing 86% of monthly arrivals, while departures from Libya decreased (9%). Türkiye accounted for 5% of departures. Over the month, almost 16,151 people (69% of the total) were disembarked in Italy as a result of **Search And Rescue (SAR) operations**. During July, **20,713 people** (around 88% of monthly sea arrivals) were assisted and **informed about asylum procedures** by UNHCR staff following disembarkation. Due to multiple shipwrecks, more than 2,100 **people have died or gone missing** in the Mediterranean in the first seven months of the year.¹
- Reception conditions.** The trend of **gradual improvement** of the Lampedusa hotspot continued throughout the first half of July despite high number of arrivals. However, although volume of transfers remained high, conditions deteriorated in the second half of the month. On 4 July, Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi and EC Commissioner Ylva Johansson went on a mission to Lampedusa where also UNHCR participated. Moreover, the **UNHCR Representative went to Sicily on 24-26 July** where she visited the hotspot in Pozzallo, met with the Mayor of Lampedusa Filippo Mannino and conducted a **joint visit to the Lampedusa hotspot with the UNICEF** Coordinator for migrant and refugee response in Italy, Nicola dell'Arciprete. Following the visit, UNHCR and UNICEF released a **joint press release** acknowledging the commitment and significant progress made by the authorities, as well as the efforts of the Italian Red Cross, towards more effective management of the hotspot. They flagged that the **positive shift initiated in early June needs further commitment** to increase and expedite transfers to suitable facilities nationwide. Moreover, Cardoletti and Dell'Arciprete emphasized the **need for swift and targeted responses for unaccompanied children and other vulnerable individuals** received at the hotspot, aimed at ensuring their well-being and safety.
- Access to territory (land arrivals).** In addition to arrivals via sea, **some 800 persons were intercepted at Italy's northern borders with Slovenia in July**. Since the beginning of 2023, more than 6,400 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 Trieste and Gorizia provinces. Dozens of people were reportedly sleeping rough in informal settings in July. UNHCR staff continued to conduct **outreach activities**, collecting testimonies and informing new arrivals on their rights and ways to apply for protection in Italy.



Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino and UNICEF Coordinator for migrants and refugees response in Italy Nicola dell'Arciprete in the Lampedusa hotspot. ©UNHCR/M. Molina

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



Resettlement and complementary pathways

- **Labor pathways.** On 6 July, the Council of Ministers preliminarily approved the **President of the Council decree** containing the **2023-2025 programming of legal entry flows** into Italy for foreign workers. The decree, that follows Law 50/2023 which paved the way for the creation of labor pathways for refugees, has been transmitted to the Chambers on July 19 and will undergo the ordinary parliamentary process. The Decree envisages regular entry quotas totaling **452,000 individuals for the period 2023-2025** and includes specific provisions for supporting the entry of stateless and refugee workers. Notably, **reserved quotas** provide for the entry of **250 refugee/stateless persons per year** for subordinate, self-employed, or seasonal work. In addition to quotas, the draft decree allows entries outside the quota system for stateless persons and refugees recognized by UNHCR or by the competent authorities in first countries of asylum or transit, who undertook and completed education and training activities.



Asylum system

- **A delegation from Serbia**, composed of officials from the Ministry of Interior, the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and judges from administrative courts **visited Italy from 3-7 July**. The mission involved exchange of experiences about asylum and migration system management in a context of mixed movements, observing quality monitoring of the RSD decision-making process, the management of appeals against decisions taken by the administrative authority, and integration and inclusion paths. The mission falls within a **programme between Italian and Serbian asylum and migration authorities** and was preceded by two visits in November 2021 and October 2022. The mission entailed meetings with Territorial Commissions and Courts, UNHCR quality monitoring experts as well as managing entities of reception centers.



Policy developments

- Law 50/2023 has enlarged the scope of the application of **accelerated border procedures** in Italy, extending it to applicants from Safe Countries of Origin, in addition to those who apply for asylum at the border or transit zone after being stopped for avoiding or attempting to avoid border controls, as per already existing normative provisions. Beginning early July, media reported that a possible **pilot project** for the implementation of accelerated border procedures in a regime of detention would be implemented in the **hotspot of Pozzallo** (Sicily), including remote RSD interviews.
- In border procedures, UNHCR underlines that the **registration phase** will be crucial for implementing screening to exempt individuals with specific needs from border procedures. In this regard, UNHCR strongly recommends to follow the principles contained in the paper **Practical considerations for fair and fast border procedures and solidarity in the European Union** laying out a “whole of system” approach that considers efficiency and fairness of the asylum procedure as well as the return of individuals not in need of international protection. In UNHCR’s view, efficient border procedures that maintain fairness safeguards and adhere to international and EU law, including the principle of non-refoulement, are possible.



Integration

- On 5 July, the **UNHCR Italy Representative Chiara Cardoletti met with Turin Mayor Stefano Lo Russo** to reaffirm the mutual commitment to strengthen support for the integration of

refugees within the city's territory. Turin in 2021 has been one of the six municipalities that drafted and adopted the **Integration Charter** with the objective of highlighting the role of local authorities in the integration pathways of refugees fostering inter-institutional collaboration. The drafting process involved the six Italian municipalities that host the highest number of refugees in their respective territories: Rome, Milan, Naples, Turin, Palermo, and Bari. In recent months, UNHCR and the City of Turin have jointly developed significant experiences, among which the **Spazio Comune**, a common space housed in the Foreigner Service building in Via Bologna functioning as a **multifunctional center** allowing refugees to access services and projects for their integration, with the collaboration of the Piemonte Lavoro Agency and the ASL Città di Torino.



- Subsequent **meetings** of the UNHCR Representative with **Assolavoro** President Baroni and Director Di Maio and **ANCI** President Biffoni, provided the opportunity to further advance UNHCR refugees integration priorities.

High-level missions to Italy: the 23rd July Conference on Development and Migration

On 23 July, the **UNHCR High Commissioner (HC) Filippo Grandi** and Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino attended the International Conference on Development and Migration held in Rome, spearheaded by President Meloni and Tunisian President Saied. The Conference has been convened with the purpose of **addressing the root causes of migration, whilst fostering legal and safe pathways for migration** and countering human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

In his speech, the HC underlined that the focus on the **“whole-of-route” approach to address mixed flows of refugees and migrants** discussed during the Conference is welcome because it looks at their causes, and the entire spectrum of the situations in which people on the move and their hosts find themselves. Thanking the Government of Italy for its leadership on the matter, the HC noted that it constituted a refreshing alternative to the failed country-by-country approach that has dominated the discourse over the past years. On asylum-related matters, the HC underscored that **ensuring access to territory to seek asylum must be respected as a fundamental human right** and an obligation of States everywhere, remarking that pushbacks and collective expulsions are never acceptable. The HC Grandi appreciated the emphasis placed on helping countries along the routes to manage the movement of people rather than focusing only on controls and barriers. To this extent, **he recalled the conflict in Sudan** as the latest example of millions displaced by violence, highlighting that **protection and assistance operations** in support of the Sudanese and countries hosting them, like Egypt, Chad and South Sudan, **are less than 25 per cent funded**.



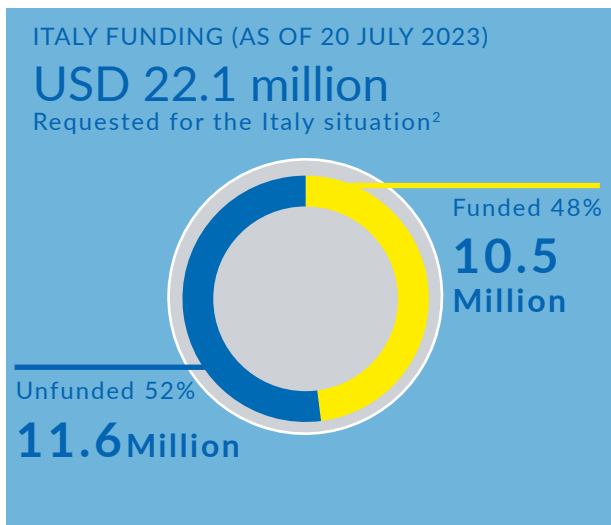


Fundraising

- In July, UNHCR raised **2.6 million Euros from private donors** in Italy, totalling 20.2 million Euros since the beginning of the year. The major private donors in Italy, contributing to UNHCR activities this month, were Calzedonia and Dieci Trust Onlus.



Financial information



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

L'Istituto Buddhista Italiano Soka Gakkai | European Union | Calzedonia SpA | Dieci Trust Onlus | Other private donors

UNHCR is also grateful to the donors, including Italy, who have contributed to UNHCR operations globally with unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions.³

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LINKS

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

²Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities.

³ 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.