The war in Ukraine triggered a severe escalation of humanitarian needs and mass displacement of people internally and into neighbouring countries. As of 31 May 2022, 4,781,022 individual refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, while 2,908,238 refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe. From 24 February to 31 May 2022, 6,939,391 border crossings from Ukraine into neighbouring countries were recorded, and from 28 February to 31 May 2022, 2,160,146 border crossings into Ukraine were recorded. Within Ukraine, some 71 million people were internally displaced as of end May.
In the first five months of 2022, some 38,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes, a 26% increase compared to the same period in 2021. In May 2022, arrivals increased by 85% compared to April this year and by 37% compared to May 2021.

Arrivals in Italy increased by 123% in May compared to April and by 53% compared to May 2021. Out of some 8,700 refugees and migrants who arrived in Italy in May, 55% had departed from Libya, 28% from Türkiye and 17% from Tunisia.

In May, arrivals in Italy from Libya increased by 135%, compared to April, and arrivals in Italy from Türkiye increased three-times in the same period. Some 2,900 refugees and migrants who departed from Libya in May were intercepted or rescued by Libyan authorities and disembarked back in Libya, 190% more than in April.\(^8\) According to available data, most people departing from Libya in 2022 were from Bangladesh, Egypt, Eritrea, and Sudan, while people arriving in Italy from Türkiye originated mainly from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Egypt and Iraq.

Some 2,700 refugees and migrants arrived in Spain in May, a 93% increase compared to April 2022. Of these, 70% arrived in the Canary Islands. Arrivals in the Canary Islands in May (1,895) increased by 185% compared to last month, while arrivals in Spain through the Western Mediterranean route increased by 12% in the same period.

Some 900 refugees and migrants arrived in Greece by land and sea in May, a 31% decrease compared to last month and a 55% increase compared to April 2021. The average monthly arrivals in Greece in 2021 and so far in 2022 was lower compared to 2020, as allegations of pushbacks at land and sea borders continued. Turkish authorities reported rescuing or intercepting some 4,700 refugees and migrants at sea in May, 47% more than last month (3,200). In addition, some 500 refugees and migrants arrived by sea in Cyprus this month, a 67% increase compared to last month.

In May 2022, 124 persons submitted an asylum application, a 80% increase compared to last month (69). Two positive first-instance decisions were issued in May (both subsidiary protection status), while nine applications were rejected and 101 were closed, as the applicants were no longer present in the country of application. As of the end of May, 447 asylum applications were still pending a decision across the subregion.

For more information, please visit https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean

\(^1\) Dead and missing figures refer to the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes. Information is compiled from a variety of sources, the quality and reliability of which can vary. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures on some arrivals, as well as dead and missing at sea, represent an estimate. Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments in figures may occur, including retroactively.

\(^2\) Includes sea arrivals in the Canary Islands (Spain) via the Atlantic Ocean.

\(^3\) Includes sea and land arrivals in Spain via the Western Mediterranean route.

\(^4\) Includes sea arrivals in Italy and Malta.

\(^5\) Includes sea and land arrivals in Greece and sea arrivals in Cyprus.

\(^6\) For more information, please see the Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation.

\(^7\) Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, 23 May 2022.

\(^8\) https://data2.unhcr.org/en/dataviz/211?sv=0&geo=0

\(^9\) Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]).

For more information, please visit http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southeasterneurope

**SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE**

Some 3,310 persons arrived in or transited through the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements in May 2022, 54% more than last month and 57% more than in May 2021. From January through May 2022, 9,040 people arrived in or transit through the subregion, 13% fewer than in the same period in 2021. Out of overall arrivals so far in 2022, some 1,010 were Afghans, a 62% decrease compared to the same period last year (some 2,660).

In May 2022, 124 persons submitted an asylum application, a 80% increase compared to last month (69). Two positive first-instance decisions were issued in May (both subsidiary protection status), while nine applications were rejected and 101 were closed, as the applicants were no longer present in the country of application. As of the end of May, 447 asylum applications were still pending a decision across the subregion.

So far this year, 24 positive first-instance decisions were issued across the subregion (six refugee status and 18 subsidiary protection status), 83 asylum applications were rejected, and 412 asylum applications were closed after the applicants absconded from the asylum procedure.