

## Greece

30 June 2022

The war in Ukraine forcibly brought **47,700 Ukrainians**, mostly women and children, to Greece. By end June, **16,519 Ukrainians** had received **temporary protection** and **16,688** had registered their applications.

Implementing the **National Integration Strategy** can accelerate refugees' integration and boost Greece's economic growth and demographic deficit. UNHCR works with the State to **pilot projects** that advance **refugees' integration**.

In 2022, UNHCR continued to receive reports of **human rights violations** in the context of **border management operations** and has urged the authorities to conduct thorough investigations on all reported incidents.

### POPULATION OF CONCERN

Refugees	<b>119,650</b>
Asylum-seekers	<b>37,047</b>
Other of concern	<b>3,653</b>

### TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN\*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Syria	<b>39,372</b>	Afghanistan	<b>9,142</b>
Afghanistan	<b>28,543</b>	Syria	<b>3,933</b>
Iraq	<b>13,634</b>	Pakistan	<b>3,790</b>

\* Source: UNHCR [Refugee Data Finder platform](#) as of end December 2021. The refugee population of concern represents people recognized as refugees by Greece, while the actual number present in Greece may be lower.

### UKRAINE RESPONSE

**Coordination:** The Government of Greece is coordinating the response to refugees from Ukraine with the support of UN agencies, NGOs, local authorities, civil society organizations, volunteers, and the private sector.

**Needs:** Long-term accommodation, finding work, accessing healthcare and education are among the top concerns of Ukrainian refugees in Greece.

**Evidence-based advice:** UNHCR led an inter-agency assessment of the needs of Ukrainian refugees to help inform the Government and organizations on how to address them.

**Support to the most vulnerable:** UNHCR scaled up its support in protecting children, preventing gender-based violence and communicating with refugee communities.

### MID-YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

**1,859**

refugees and asylum-seekers received **legal assistance**.

**1,600**

**career coaching services** were provided to **540** refugees and asylum-seekers through the UNHCR-supported ADAMA integration centre.

**1,815**

**unaccompanied children** received help thanks to the national tracing mechanism established by Greece with the support of UNHCR. Of these, **764** unaccompanied children were placed in safe care arrangements.

**1,050**

**requests for assistance** reached UNHCR's protection helpline, mostly about legal advice and healthcare.

#### A safe home to finally shape dreams into reality

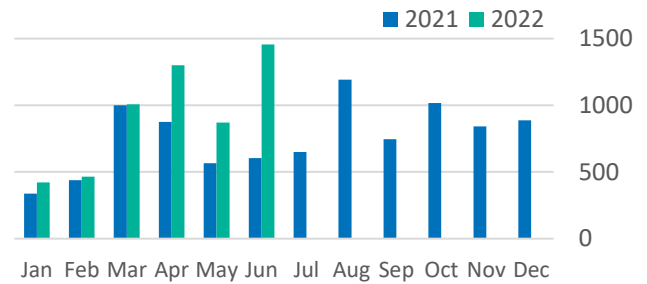


Baran is an unaccompanied refugee child who found a haven through the National Emergency Response Mechanism. His journey from Iraq brought him to Thessaloniki, where he found himself sleeping rough in a park on a makeshift cardboard bed. Baran now lives in a long-term shelter and the word "safety" stands out when describing his current life. You may read Baran's story [here](#).

## Key Priorities

- **Institutional strengthening:** UNHCR pilots good practices, deploys staff and provides training and advice to help the State strengthen systems and expertise on asylum, reception and durable solutions.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR raises with the authorities and key actors critical matters that affect the rights of refugees and asylum-seekers, including on access to territory and fair procedures, so as to trigger legal and policy change.
- **Protection:** With staff at six field locations and through a dedicated helpline, UNHCR monitors the situation of asylum-seekers and refugees, provides support to asylum-seekers with information sessions and makes interventions and referrals to services where they can get expert help.
- **Legal aid:** UNHCR offers personalized legal aid via specialised partners to help asylum-seekers and refugees obtain equal access to their rights.
- **Integration:** Engaging with refugee communities, UNHCR identifies skills and experience, maps intentions and needs and works with the public and private sector to create livelihood opportunities.
- **Persons with specific needs:** To those most at risk, such as unaccompanied children or survivors of sexual violence, UNHCR provides psychosocial support, emergency shelter and/or foster care. UNHCR also links refugees with disabilities to the national social protection system and job offers.
- **Community empowerment and self-reliance:** UNHCR mobilizes refugees to create support networks, from addressing mental health issues to training youth to help their peers.
- **Relocation:** UNHCR supports the relocation of unaccompanied children and other vulnerable groups from Greece to other European States.

## MONTHLY ARRIVALS IN GREECE



## Working with Partners

- UNHCR supports the Government, which leads the refugee response, by working with State and EU institutions, municipalities, UN agencies, international and local NGOs, refugees and local communities.
- **External Engagement:** UNHCR strives to raise awareness among the host population, foster understanding and solidarity with refugees; and cultivates partnerships with the private sector to mobilize wider support.

## Statelessness

- Greece has acceded to the 1954 Statelessness Convention but has yet to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.
- UNHCR offers advice to Greece to establish a statelessness determination procedure. UNHCR also deploys staff and offers expertise to collect and review data and implement legislation on acquiring Greek citizenship.

## UNHCR Presence in Greece

### Staff:

145 National Staff  
 14 International Staff

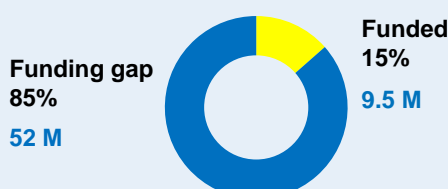
### Offices:

1 Country Office in Athens  
 6 Offices in Lesbos, Samos, Kos, Thessaloniki, Chios and Evros

## Financial information (4 August 2022)

### Financial requirements

USD 61.5 M



UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the 2022 global programmes. Donors of USD 10 million or more are:

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