

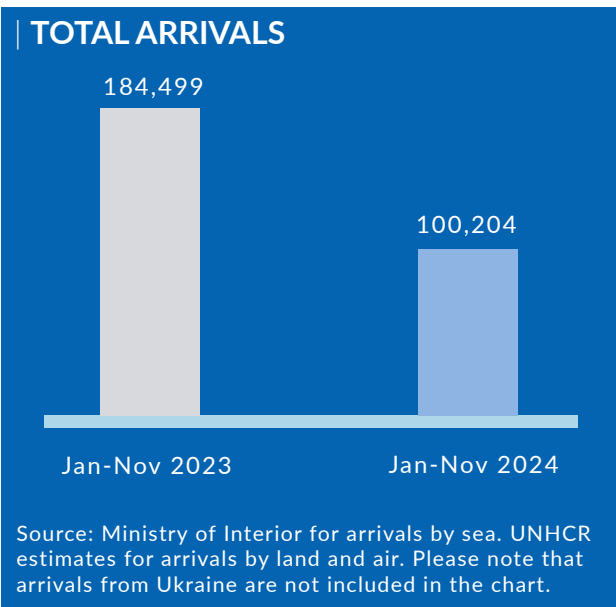
# Italy

## November 2024

In November, **8,124 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. Most originated from Bangladesh (22%), the Syrian Arab Republic (19%), and Pakistan (9%). **20 per cent were children**. Other people reached Italy via land and air.

On 6 and 7 November, the second edition of the **City-to-City event** took place in Rome, featuring the nine Municipalities that have signed the **Charter for Integration**. Roma Capitale officially signed the Charter, marking an important commitment toward refugee integration.

In November, within the **Global Compact on Refugees (GRF)**, **the Government of Italy submitted a new pledge** to support **Rohingya refugees** in Bangladesh. Italy also implemented its pledge submitted during the 2023 GRF to support the **Global Sponsorship Fund**.



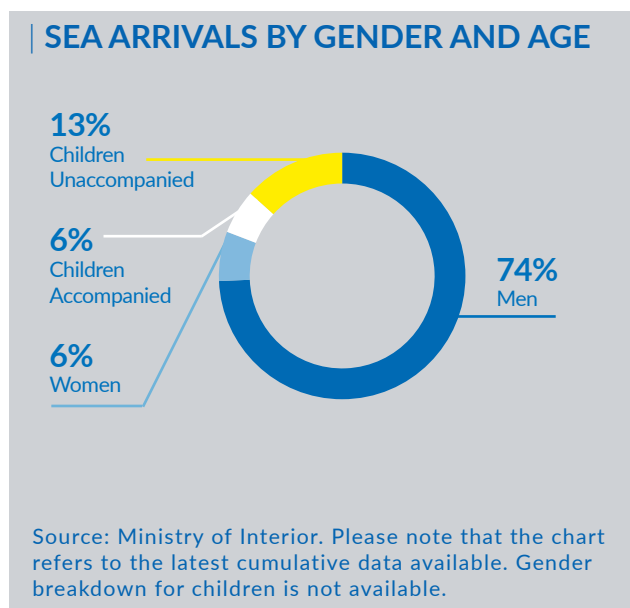
### KEY FIGURES

# 63,537

**People reached Italy by sea** disembarking in different ports across the country in January-November 2024. 54,396 (86%) were informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff and partners following disembarkation. (Source: Ministry of Interior and UNHCR)

# 197,650

**Temporary protection applications** of people fleeing Ukraine as of beginning of November 2024. 70% of applicants are females. (Source: Civil Protection)





## Arrivals

- Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In November 2024, **8,124 people reached the Italian shores** in 200 disembarkations, a 2 per cent decrease compared to the same month in 2023. Among arrivals, 20 per cent were children (same as in October). **Twenty two per cent originated from Bangladesh** (15% in October), followed by 19 per cent from **the Syrian Arab Republic** (20 % in October), followed by **9 per cent from Pakistan** (6% in October). Other nationalities of people arriving by sea were Egyptians (7%), Guineans (6%), Tunisians (5%), Sudanese and Eritreans (4% each), Gambians and Malians (3% each). In November, **about three quarters of sea crossings departed from Libya (74%, 5,982 people)**, followed by 20 per cent from Tunisia (1,636 people), 4 per cent from Türkiye (318 people) and 2 per cent from Algeria (188 people). In November, **less than half of the people arriving by sea (45%, 3,623 people)** were disembarked in Italy **as a result of Search and Rescue (SAR) operations**.<sup>1</sup>
- Access to territory (land arrivals).** Around **600 people who reached Italy by land** were intercepted in November by the Border Police at Italy's northern borders with Slovenia, bringing the total estimated number of detected arrivals to 6,800 since the beginning of the year. Those arriving by land via south-eastern Europe mainly originated from **Bangladesh, Türkiye, the Syrian Arab Republic, Pakistan and Morocco**. Instances of ill-treatment by the Police along the Western Balkan route continued being reported. UNHCR staff conducted outreach activities informing arrivals on their rights and how to apply for international protection in Italy and collected testimonies.



## Integration

- On 6 and 7 November, Rome hosted the second edition of the **City-to-City event**, bringing together nine Italian Municipalities that have signed the **Charter for Integration**. The event convened councillors, representatives of the media, Prefectures, Police Offices, and other key institutions and partners to strengthen collaboration on refugee integration. During the event, UNHCR presented its **first report on the Charter for Integration**, which outlines best practices and progress in supporting refugees and asylum seekers across participating Municipalities. A key highlight was the **official signing of the Charter by the Municipality of Rome**. Central to this initiative is the development of the *Spazio Comune* model, which envisages the creation of a multi-service centre where essential integration services are concentrated. In Rome, this approach is being implemented through the *Sportello Unico per l'Accoglienza Migranti* (SUAM), a multifunctional space managed by the *Ufficio Coordinamento Interventi in favore delle Popolazioni Migranti*. The facility aims to streamline and coordinate services that facilitate refugee and asylum-seeker integration and participation.<sup>2</sup>
- On 27 November, the **Milano Welcome Centre Spazio Comune** was inaugurated. The center adopts a 'one-stop shop' model, streamlining access to essential services to facilitate integration and inclusion. This milestone reflects years of collaboration between UNHCR and the Municipality of Milan, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2023.



Signing of the Protocol between UNHCR and Rome Capitale. © UNHCR/Valerio Muscella



Participants of the Second Edition of the City-to-City event. © UNHCR/Valerio Muscella

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

<sup>2</sup> See also, [CITY TO CITY: a Roma la seconda edizione del laboratorio di inclusione dei rifugiati nelle città italiane](#) and [Rifugiati: UNHCR e Roma Capitale firmano un Protocollo di intesa per promuovere l'integrazione dei rifugiati sul territorio](#), 6 November 2024.

- On 29 November, UNHCR and INTERSOS hosted the closing event of the programme **'For Refugees, By Refugees'** at the *Città dell'Altra Economia* in Rome. The event brought together refugee associations, community volunteers, local organizations, institutions, and media to reflect on the 2024 achievements of the two flagship projects initiatives: **PartecipAzione** and **VOC – Volontari nelle Comunità**. The programme was instrumental in fostering refugee integration in Italy by strengthening collaboration between refugee communities, local organizations, and institutions, highlighting the vital contribution refugees bring to society, both as active participants and leaders in addressing challenges. Since its launch in 2018, *PartecipAzione* has supported 60 refugee associations across 12 regions, while the VOC project has empowered nearly 100 volunteers from 30 communities to work with over 60 entities, including local institutions, municipalities, the private sector, etc., identifying and addressing community needs effectively.<sup>3</sup>



The closing event of the "For Refugees, By Refugees" programme. ©Marco Mastrandrea



### Gender-based violence

- On 15 November, the Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of Interior (Moi) organized the **first webinar introducing the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation and child safeguarding mechanisms** in the Italian reception system, including the Technical Note and operational 'Risk Mitigation Tool'. The webinar was addressed to Prefectures, managing entities of governmental facilities, and SAI (*Sistema di Accoglienza e Integrazione*) projects in Central Italy (Tuscany, Marche, Umbria, Molise, Abruzzo, and Lazio regions) and saw the participation of around 300 attendees. Participants were also given the opportunity to request support from UN Agencies, notably UNHCR and UNICEF, for implementing the tools mentioned in the Note.



### Specific needs

- On 13 November, the **National Working Group on Vulnerabilities** conducted the first webinar on the Moi's 'Handbook for the identification, referral and care of persons living with vulnerabilities' developed with the support of UNHCR. The event targeted the Prefectures of central Italy (including Tuscany, Marche, Lazio, Umbria, Molise, and Abruzzo regions) and was attended by approximately 80 participants. The webinar provided a comprehensive overview of the Handbook in the context of the new migration and asylum provisions, with a particular emphasis on addressing vulnerabilities. Participants engaged in group work with field experts on specific topics such as trafficking and mental health.



### Child protection

- On **World Children's Day**, 20 November, Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See, and San Marino, issued a statement calling for collective action to ensure that every child can enjoy a safe and opportunity-filled childhood, regardless of their nationality or circumstances. Highlighting the challenges faced by millions of refugee and displaced children, the UNHCR Representative noted that **children**, while comprising 30 per cent of the global population, **represent 40 per cent of the 122.6 million people displaced by war and persecution**, many in precarious conditions, often separated from their families, and at heightened risk of exploitation, abuse, trafficking, early marriage, and forced recruitment. In Italy, children and adolescents account for 19 per cent of the over 58,000 individuals who have arrived via the Mediterranean in 2024, underscoring the need for targeted support and resources to address their vulnerabilities. In this context, **UNHCR continues to advocate for enhanced protection and access to education and services for refugee and displaced children worldwide**, emphasizing their right to safety, stability, and hope for the future.

<sup>3</sup> See also, *Rifugiati e richiedenti asilo insieme per l'integrazione in Italia con UNHCR e INTERSOS*, 29 November 2024.

## External engagement

- On 27 November, Deputy High Commissioner Kelly T. Clements met with the Director General for Development Cooperation at Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Stefano Gatti, in Geneva, to reaffirm and advance the UNHCR-Italy collaboration. The meeting highlighted shared priorities and strategies for future cooperation, emphasizing the importance of life-saving initiatives and stabilization efforts. As **2024 marks the 70th anniversary of Italy's ratification of the 1951 Refugee Convention**, both parties reflected on the enduring partnership between UNHCR and Italy and its pivotal role in supporting refugees and displaced communities worldwide.
- **Global Refugee Forum.** In November, the Government of Italy, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation / Directorate General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies, reaffirmed its commitment to global refugee protection by submitting a pledge in support of the protection, empowerment, and peaceful coexistence of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. The pledge aligns with the multistakeholder initiative on resilience and solutions for Rohingya refugees, positioning Italy among the group of actors contributing to collective efforts in favour of Rohingya refugees under the [Global Refugee Forum \(GRF\)](#) framework.
- Additionally, in the same month, Italy formalized its financial support to the establishment of the **Global Sponsorship Fund**, which was presented as part of its pledges at the 2023 GRF. The fund is linked to the [Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative](#), a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral partnership model designed to overcome financial barriers and promote the expansion of sponsorship programmes and labour mobility pathways globally.

## UNHCR report 'No Escape: On the Frontlines of Climate Change, Conflict and Forced Displacement'

At the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi and climate advocate Grace Dorong released the first UNHCR report exploring the **nexus of climate change, conflict, and forced displacement** titled [No Escape: On the Frontlines of Climate, Conflict, and Displacement](#).

The report was developed in collaboration with 13 expert organizations, research institutes, and refugee groups, and it leverages cutting-edge data to highlight how climate shocks exacerbate conflict and displacement. It reveals that of the **more than 120 million displaced people globally**, three-quarters reside in climate-affected countries, with half facing the compounded risks of conflict and severe climate impacts in regions such as Ethiopia, Haiti, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, and Syria.

The report's key findings predict a sharp increase in extreme climate risks: **by 2040, the number of countries affected will rise from 3 to 65, with many hosting displaced populations**. By 2050, most refugee camps and settlements are expected to experience twice as many days of extreme heat annually. "**Climate change is a harsh reality deeply affecting the lives of the world's most vulnerable people**," stated the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi. "The climate crisis is causing displacements in regions already hosting large numbers of people uprooted by conflict and insecurity, worsening their situation and leaving them with no safe place to go."<sup>5</sup>

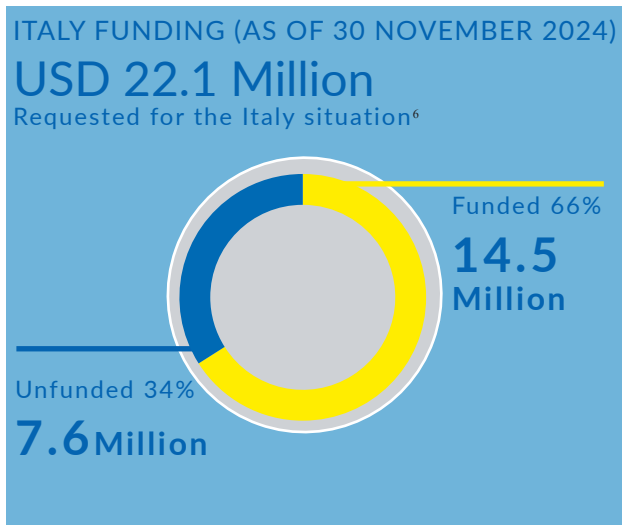


<sup>4</sup> See also, Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees Kelly T. Clements [tweet](#) on X.

<sup>5</sup> See also, COP29: un rapporto dell'UNHCR rivela che il cambiamento climatico è una minaccia crescente per le persone già in fuga da guerre, violenze e persecuzioni, 12 November 2024.



 **Financial information**



UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided to the UNHCR MCO Italy in November, including for earmarked, softly earmarked, unearmarked, unearmarked and tightly earmarked contributions.<sup>7</sup>

 **Fundraising**

- In November, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation / Directorate General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies generously allocated:
  - **500,000 euros** to support UNHCR activities in Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, and Uganda through the project entitled '**Support for the Global Sponsorship Fund and Italian Labor Mobility Pathways**';
  - **1 million euros** to support UNHCR's humanitarian activities in Sudan under the project entitled '**Provision of Comprehensive Protection Services to Vulnerable Forcibly Displaced People in Sudan**';
  - **1 million euros** to support the project entitled '**Support the Protection, Empowerment and Peaceful Coexistence of Rohingya Refugees and Peaceful Coexistence in Bangladesh**'.
- UNHCR MCO Italy is also grateful for the generous contributions from the private sector and individuals. In November, it raised **2.4 million euros from private donors in Italy**, and among them, it extends its gratitude to Intesa Sanpaolo Fondo di Beneficenza and Nexi for their contribution.

**CONTACTS**

**Giulia Manni**, Senior Reporting Assistant, [manni@unhcr.org](mailto:manni@unhcr.org)

**Maria Giovanna Pietropaolo**, External Relations Associate, [pietropa@unhcr.org](mailto:pietropa@unhcr.org)

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

<sup>6</sup>Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities. The funding update includes an indicative allocation of funds so as to accurately represent the resources available for the country. The contributions earmarked for Italy MCO shown above are combined with an indicative allocation of the softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions listed below. This allocation respects different levels of earmarking. Adjustments relate to indirect support costs and carry-over.

<sup>7</sup>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, España con ACNUR, Norway, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan for UNHCR, Denmark, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), France, Private donors in the Republic of Korea, Germany, Switzerland, Private donors in Italy, Republic of Korea, Belgium, Ireland, Private donors in the Netherlands, Sweden for UNHCR, Australia.