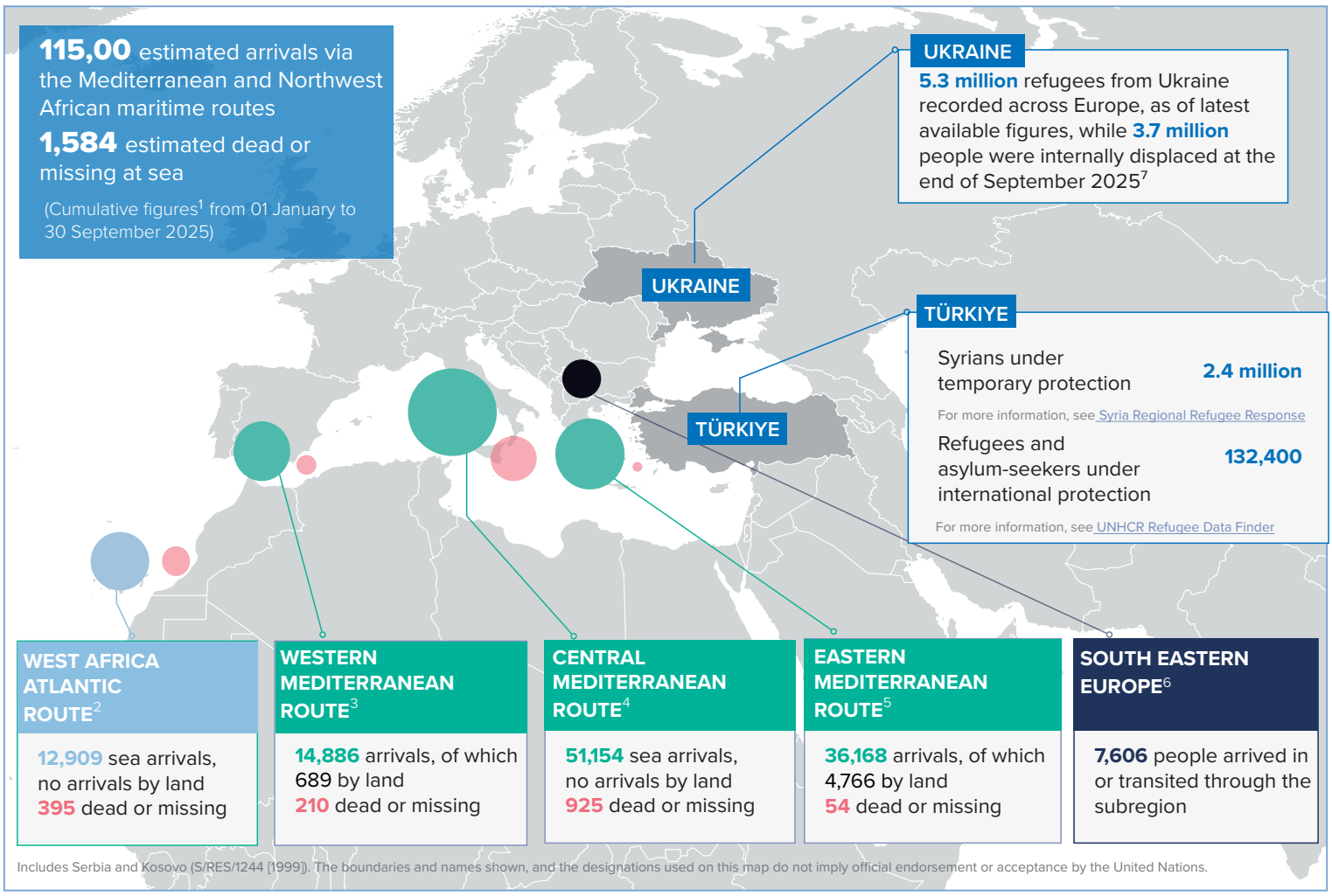
EUROPE SITUATIONS: DATA AND TRENDS

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Regional Bureau for Europe | September 2025

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

September 2025



Includes Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]). The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

UKRAINE SITUATION

The war in Ukraine triggered a major increase in humanitarian needs due the mass internal displacement within Ukraine as well as refugee outflows. As of latest available figures, 5.3 million refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe.

According to statistics published by EUROSTAT, the number of decisions granting Temporary Protection (TP) reached 81,500 persons during September 2025, a 61 per cent increase compared to the monthly average recorded between January and August 2025 (50,800 persons).[10] The largest increases during September compared to the annual monthly average were registered in Poland (+15,400; +141%) and Czechia (+6,980; +107%), with less pronounced increases in other top host countries.

Ukraine situation key figures:

5,331,270
Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe

549,090
Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe

5,880,360
Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally

- For more information, please visit the Operation Data Porrtal for the Ukraine Refugee situation

The increase observed in September was largely driven by increased arrivals of men aged 18 to 22, following the Ukrainian Government Decree at the end of August allowing cross-border movements of this group without hindrance. Among all decisions granting TP during September, 36% orresponded to males aged 18 to 34, more than double the share among decisions taken between January and August (15%).

In addition, UNHCR Border Monitoring interviews in Ukraine indicate a slight increase in the share of people exiting the country for energy-related reasons since September 2025, as the national energy situation has continued to deteriorate. Preliminary EUROSTAT data for October 2025 suggest that the number of TP decisions in Poland has decreased (18,000 compared to 26,340 in September), while increases are observed in countries such as Italy, the Netherlands and Norway. This may reflect secondary movements of those who first arrived in neighbouring countries in the previous month.

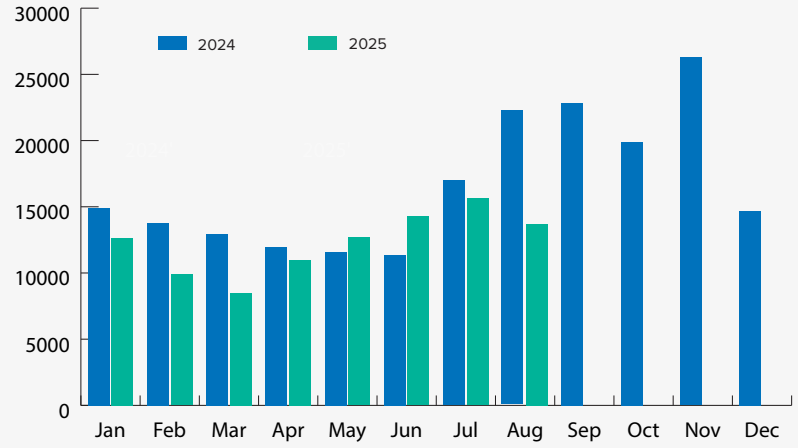
ARRIVALS IN EUROPE VIA THE MEDITERRANEAN AND WEST AFRICA ATLANTIC ROUTES

In September 2025, 16,800 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean and West Africa Atlantic routes through mixed movements. The arrivals were 23 per cent higher than the previous month but five per cent lower when compared to the same period.

In September 2025, arrivals to Italy were 35 per cent higher compared to the prior month and 37 per cent higher compared to the same period last year. Of the 8,300 refugees and migrants who arrived in Italy over September, 87 per cent departed from Libya, seven per cent from Tunisia and few people departed from Algeria and Türkiye. Most refugees and migrants who arrived in September originated from Bangladesh, Egypt and Eritrea. 35 persons arrived in Malta in September.

In September 2025, 1,600 refugees and migrants departing Libya were intercepted or rescued by Libyan authorities and disembarked back in Libya, 307 per cent increase compared to previous month. Among them 26 per cent were from the Sudan, nine per cent from Bangladesh and six per cent from the Syrian Arab Republic.

Total monthly arrivals through the Mediterranean and West Africa Atlantic routes



In Spain, 3,300 refugees and migrants arrived in September, representing a 12 per cent decrease compared to the previous month, and 35 per cent decrease when compared to the same period last year. Of all arrivals in September, 22 per cent landed on the Canary Islands. When compared to last month, arrivals to Spain through the West Africa Atlantic route has increased by 32 percent, whereas arrivals via the Western Mediterranean route decreased by 20 per cent.

In September 2025, Greece recorded around 4,800 land and sea arrivals, a 36% increase compared to August. However, cumulative arrivals from January to September 2025 remain 16 per cent lower than during the same period in 2024. This overall decrease contrasts with the situation on Crete, where arrivals have more than quadrupled compared to January–September 2024, reaching over 13,200 so far in 2025. Most sea arrivals to Greece originated from Afghanistan, Egypt, and Sudan. Sudanese nationals in particular accounted for 18 per cent of all sea arrivals nationwide and 37 per cent of those to Crete, reflecting a sharp rise in arrivals to the island since June 2025.

Turkish authorities reported rescuing or intercepting 2,461 refugees and migrants at sea in September, 23 per cent increase compared to the previous month.
In Cyprus, 306 refugees and migrants arrived in September, which represents a 61 per cent increase compared to the previous month but a 63 per cent decrease when compared to the same period last year.

For more information, please visit Operation Data Portal for Europe Sea Arrivals Situation

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[9]

In September 2025, 826 people arrived in or transited through the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements—almost double the number recorded in August (416), though still 59 per cent lower than in September 2024. Among all arrivals recorded so far in 2025, the largest groups originated from Egypt (21 per cent), Afghanistan (20 per cent) and Morocco (11 per cent).

Throughout September, 56 people submitted asylum applications, 29 per cent lower than in August (79). Meanwhile, 40 first-instance decisions were issued including seven subsidiary protection status, 16 applicants were rejected, and 17 applications were closed. As of the end of September, 572 asylum applications were still pending a decision across the subregion.

As of end of September 2025, 2,514 refugees and migrants were present in the Western Balkans, including 157 unaccompanied and separated children.

For more information, please visit Operation Data Portal for the South Eastern Europe Situation

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 Cyprus.
6. Majority of the persons arriving in the Western Balkan region are part of the secondary movement, those who have already arrived in Greece or Bulgaria and then transited through the region with the intention to move onward to other EU countries.
7. https://dtm.iom.int/ukraine
8. Countries participating in the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) are Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia
9. Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]).
10. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_asytpfm/default/table?lang=en&category=migr.migr_asy.migr_asytp