

EUROPE RESETTLEMENT



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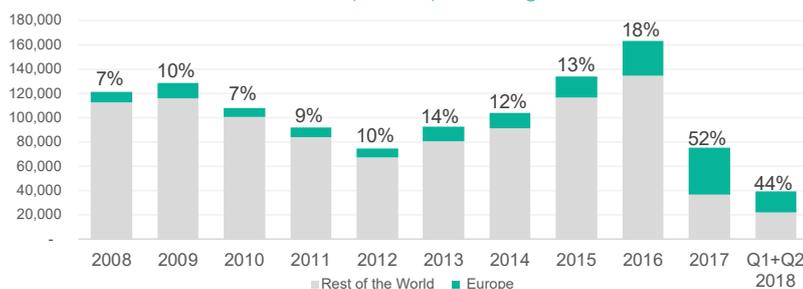
A Syrian refugee family and an Eritrean refugee family, who have been resettled to Italy from Jordan and Sudan respectively. Both families, who live next door to each other in Sicily in the same apartment block, have now become friends.

Overview

During the first six months of 2018, just over 17,400 refugees were submitted by UNHCR for resettlement¹ to 19 countries in Europe.² This is similar to the first half of 2017 and already 13% more than the average rate of 15,400 submissions per year during the previous 10 years.

Between 2008 and 2017, Europe's proportion of resettlement submissions globally has increased from approximately 7% to almost 52%, and in the first half of 2018⁴ remained nearly half of all submissions. This is primarily due to a significant decrease globally in the scale of some States' resettlement programmes during 2017, most notably by the United States of America.

Resettlement submissions to Europe compared to global trends³



Resettlement submissions to Europe³

17,428
in 2018⁴
19 countries

17,209 in 2015 19 countries	28,651 in 2016 27 countries	38,881 in 2017 25 countries
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Resettlement departures to Europe³

13,133
in 2018⁴

Resettlement arrivals to Europe⁵

11,175 in 2015	18,175 in 2016	27,450 in 2017
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¹ See www.unhcr.org/resettlement.html for more background information on resettlement. Only data on resettlement cases referred by UNHCR is available for 2018. The figures presented in this factsheet reflect UNHCR *submissions* of resettlement cases to resettlement countries. Following submission, the timescale can vary in each resettlement country before a case is accepted and the refugees depart from their country of asylum and arrive finally in the country of resettlement.

² Europe comprises 50 countries, including the EU, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, South-Eastern Europe (inc. Kosovo (S/RES/1244(1999))), Turkey and Eastern Europe (exc. Kazakhstan).

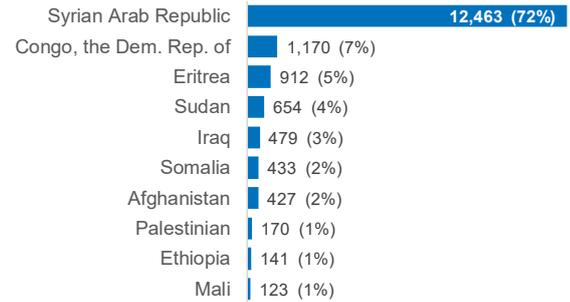
³ Source: Resettlement submission and departure data from sq.unhcr.org. Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR's resettlement processes.

⁴ All references to 2018 reflect the period January-June, unless otherwise specified.

⁵ Sources: Resettlement data from Eurostat for the EU and Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, and sq.unhcr.org for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

Country of origin

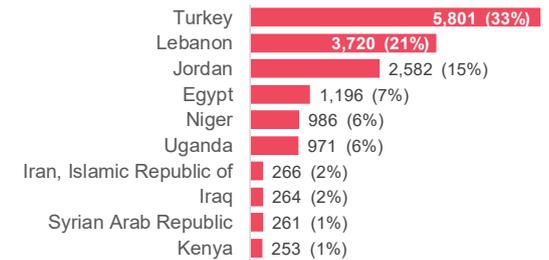
The vast majority of refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in 2018 are originally from Syria (72%), consistent with 2017, with the resettlement of Syrians to Europe having increased significantly in scale between 2013 and 2016. In total, 91% of refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in the first half of 2018 originate from just five countries: the Syrian Arab Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eritrea, Sudan and Iraq. 13% of submissions to Europe are from East Africa and just over 1% are from West Africa.



Country of asylum

Refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe were typically registered in the following countries of asylum: **Syrians:** Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan or Egypt; **Congolese (DRC):** Uganda or Burundi; **Eritreans:** Niger; **Sudanese:** Egypt or Chad; **Iraqis:** Turkey, Syrian Arab Republic or Lebanon.

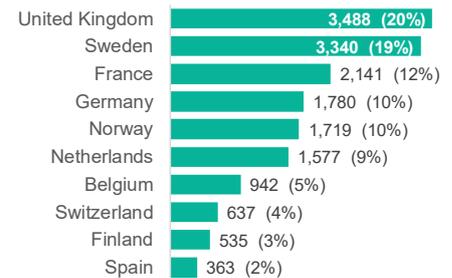
Following UNHCR's establishment of an [Emergency Transit Mechanism](#) in Niger in late 2017 for the evacuation of highly vulnerable persons out of detention in Libya, resettlement submissions from Niger (which include [evacuees](#) as well as refugees initially registered in Niger) are five times greater in the first six months of 2018 than in the whole of 2017 (986 versus 191, and most commonly Eritreans, Malians, Somalis and Nigerians, submitted to France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland, Belgium, and the Netherlands).



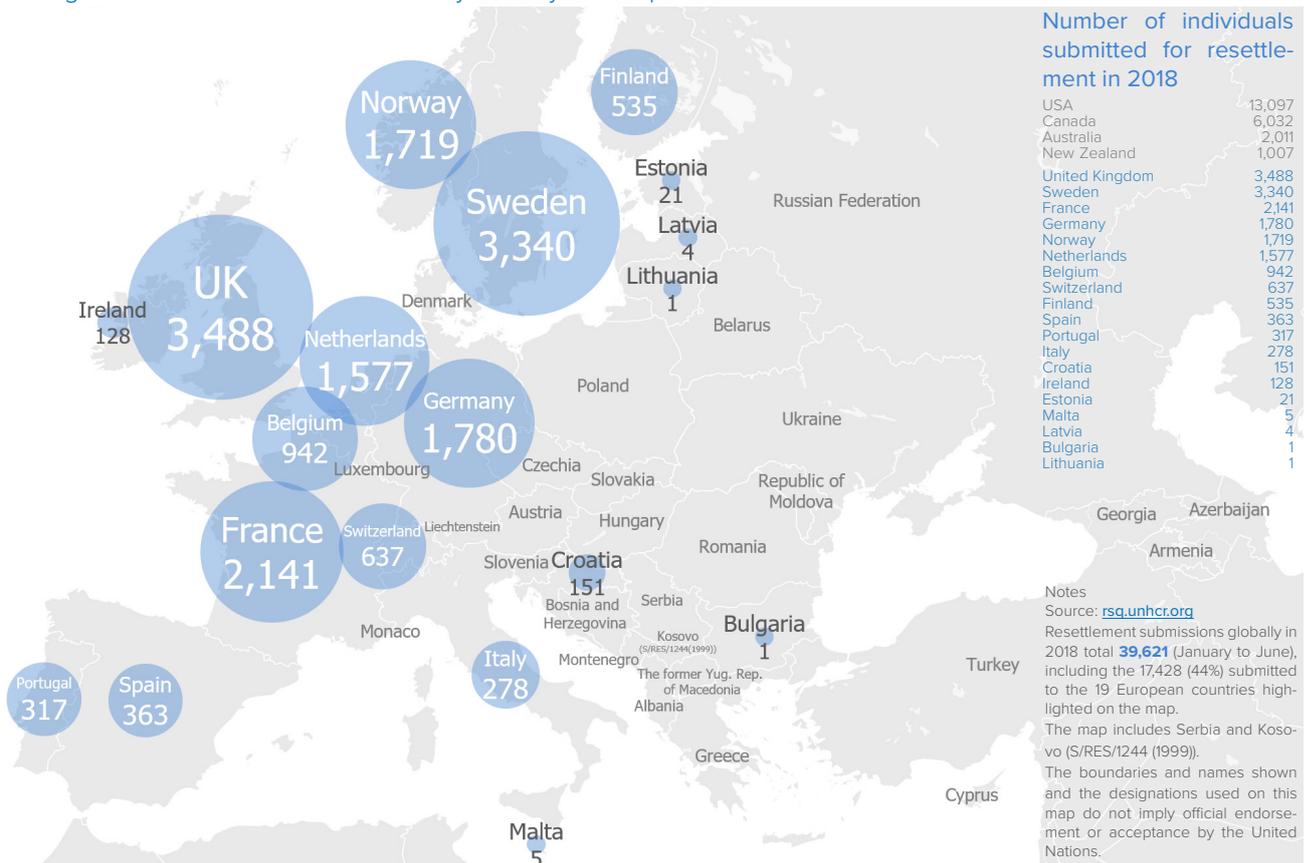
Country of resettlement

In 2018, six countries in Europe (the UK, Sweden, France, Germany, Norway and the Netherlands) have received 81% of all resettlement submissions.

Of the 19 countries in Europe with active resettlement programmes, 13 resettled predominately Syrians in 2018, admitting at least 80% Syrians for resettlement. Only the UK, Norway, France, Sweden and Portugal have resettled substantial numbers of other nationalities of refugees, including from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Sudan and Iraq.



Number of refugees submitted for resettlement by country in Europe



Notes
 Source: rsq.unhcr.org
 Resettlement submissions globally in 2018 total **39,621** (January to June), including the 17,428 (44%) submitted to the 19 European countries highlighted on the map.
 The map includes Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)).
 The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

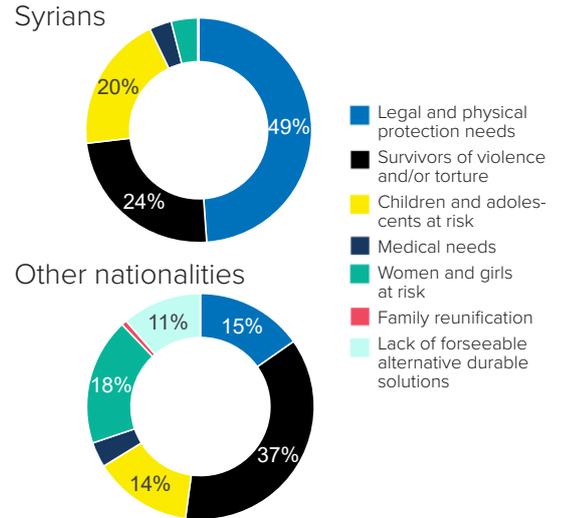
Categories of resettlement submissions

As an important protection tool that is used to address cases that cannot be provided with appropriate protection and support in their countries of asylum, resettlement cases in 2018 were most commonly submitted based on legal and physical protection needs (39%), to provide adequate protection to survivors of torture and/or violence (28%), and to children and adolescents at risk (18%).⁶

For nationalities other than Syrians (28% of submissions overall), fewer cases were submitted due to legal and physical protection needs (15%). By contrast, more cases were submitted to provide adequate protection to survivors of torture and/or violence, women and girls at risk, and due to the lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions in protracted refugee situations (37%, 18% and 11% respectively).

Overall, just 1% of cases submitted to European countries were under the emergency submission procedures, while 10% were urgent.⁶

Of the 2,854 resettlement cases (11,477 individuals in total) on which a decision was made in 2018 by European countries, 90% were accepted, consistent with acceptance rates in previous years, as well as globally.



Demographics

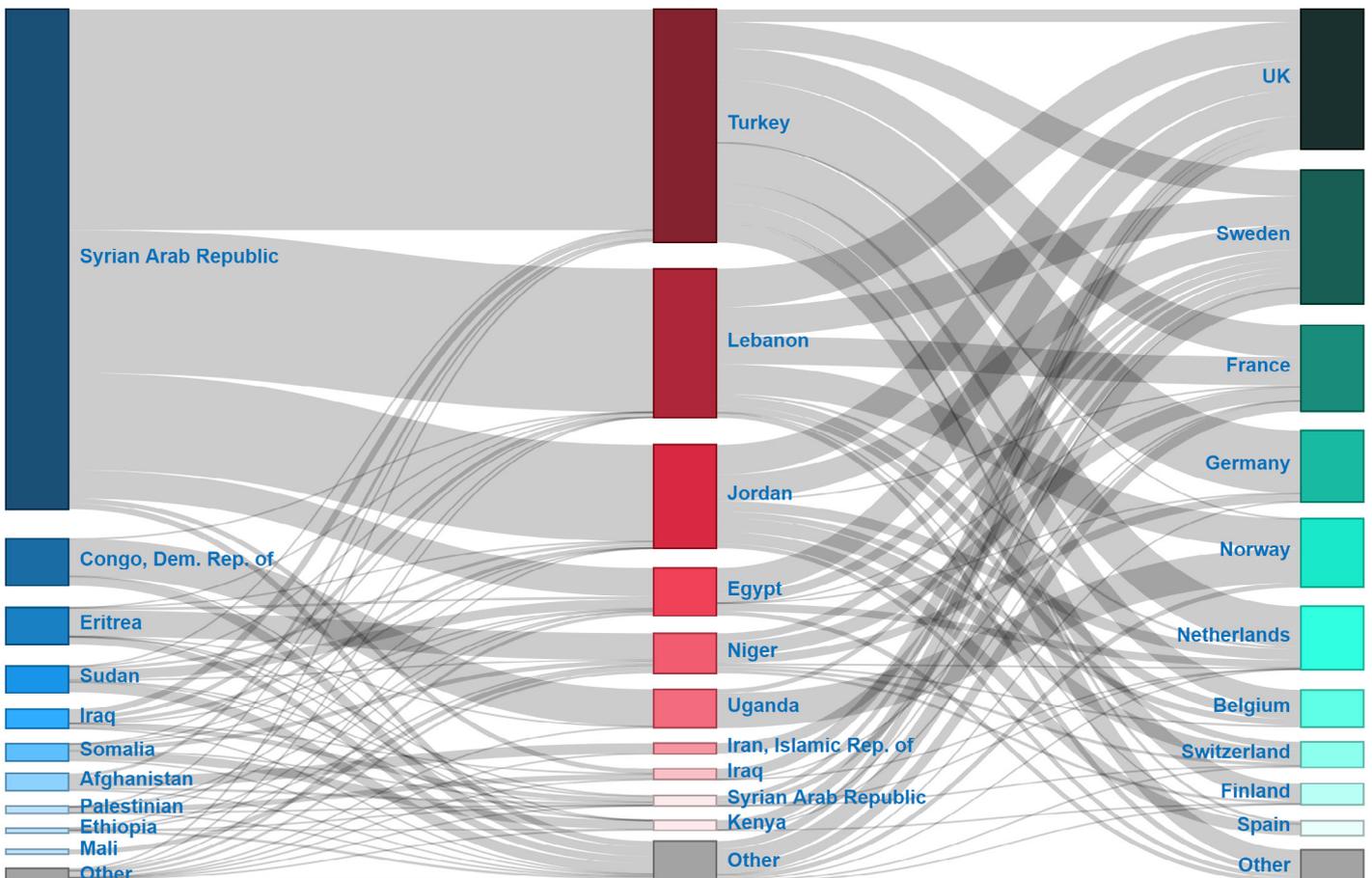
In the first six months of 2018, 52% of those people whose resettlement cases were submitted to Europe were children, 46% were aged between 18 and 59, and 2% were over 60 years old. Overall, submissions of men and boys compared to women and girls were close to equal (52% versus 48%). This demographic profile is very consistent with submissions in 2017 and also by both the country of origin and country of resettlement.

Each case submitted to Europe included just under 4 people on average in 2018, with just 8% of submissions being only for one person.



Flow of refugees

Flow of refugees submitted for resettlement in 2018 from country of origin via their country of asylum to the intended country of resettlement



⁶ See the [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#): chapter six (resettlement submission categories) on page 243 and section 6.1.1 (resettlement priority levels) on page 246.