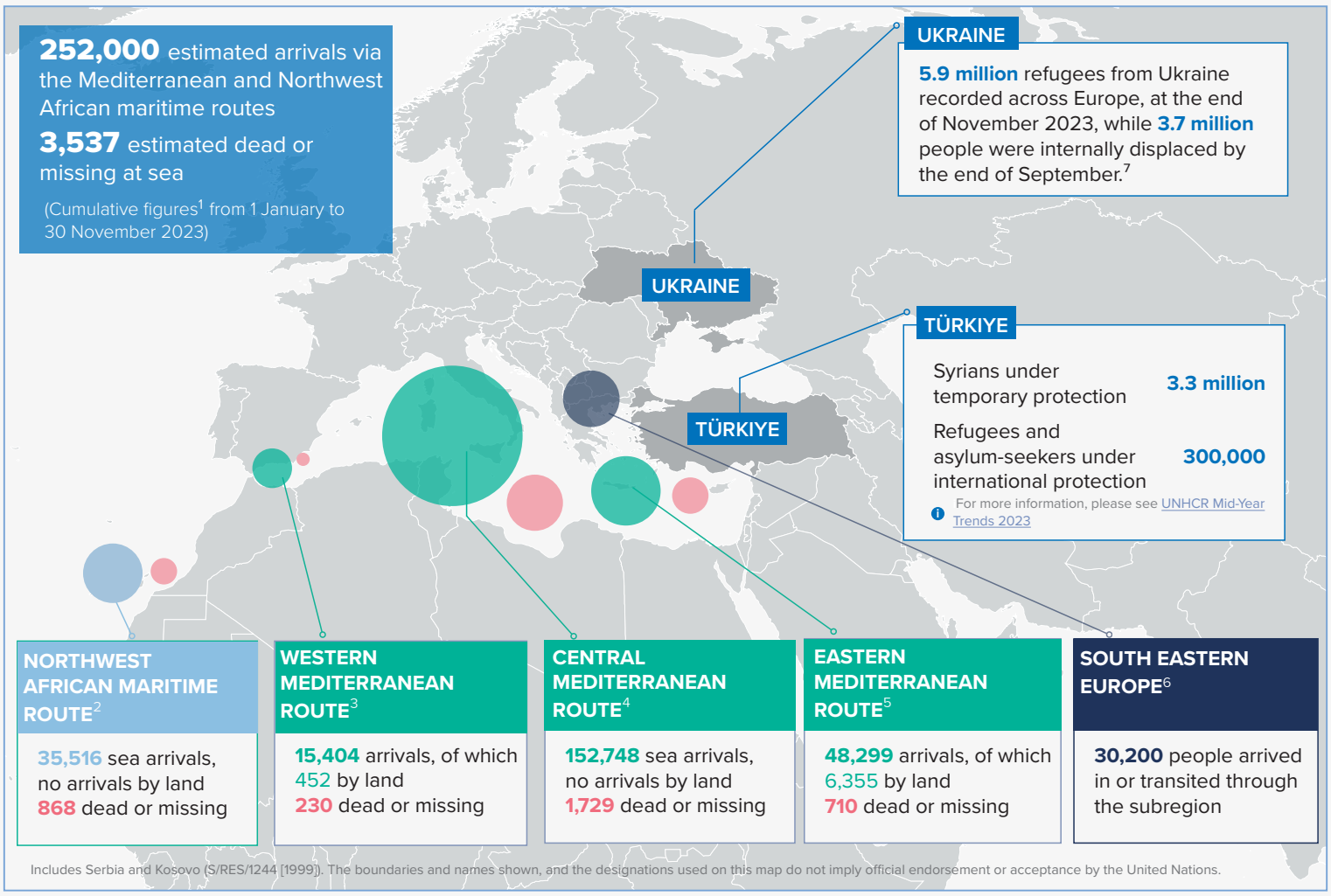
EUROPE SITUATIONS: DATA AND TRENDS

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS

Regional Bureau for Europe | November 2023

ARRIVALS AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS: KEY FIGURES AND TRENDS

NOVEMBER 2023 FIGURES



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 to mass internal displacement and refugee outflows. As of 30 November 2023, 5,908,200 refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, with 5,298,000 registered for Asylum, Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes. As of the end of September, 3.7 million people were internally displaced in Ukraine.[7]

Between January - November 2023, 910,000 applications for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes were registered in Europe, equivalent to an average of around 91,000 per month. Of applications, some 25 per cent were recorded in Germany, 23 per cent in Poland and 10 per cent in Czech Republic.

Ukraine situation key figures as of 30 November 2023[8]

5,908,200
Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe

403,600
Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe

6,311,800
Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally

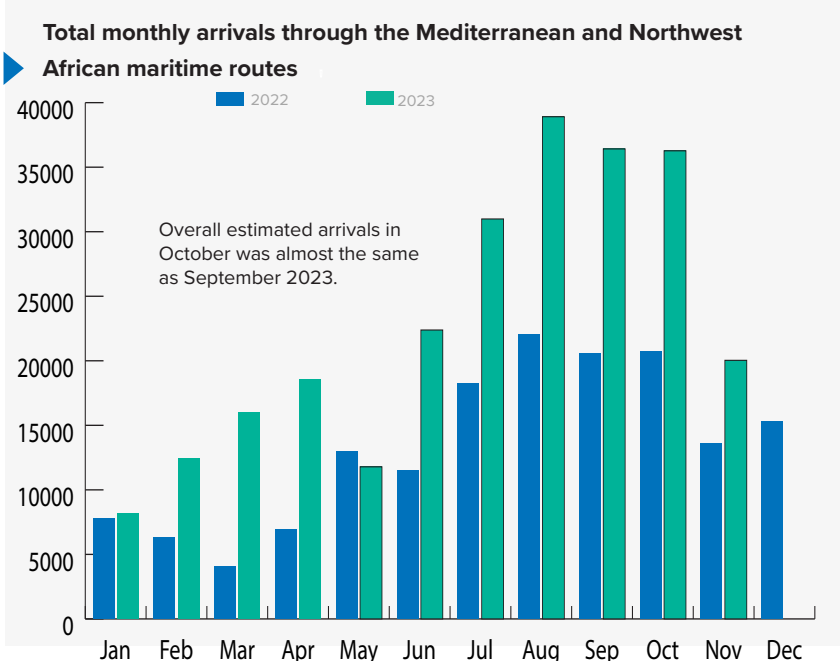
For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation

The number of refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (stocks) have not changed significantly in recent months, fluctuating between 5.7 and 5.9 million, slightly higher compared to end of 2022. While additional applications for Temporary Protection or asylum have been registered this year, and other countries have also reported new arrivals under other forms of stay, authorities in Europe have also adjusted their stock estimates for different reasons (including de-deduplications and de-activations). Onwards movements outside of Europe have also been observed, with over 403,600 refugees from Ukraine recorded outside of Europe by November 2023, compared to 230,000 by end 2022.

ARRIVALS IN EUROPE VIA THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NORTHWEST AFRICAN MARITIME ROUTES

Between January - November 2023, 252,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Europe through the Mediterranean and Northwest African maritime routes, resulting in a 74 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. Meanwhile, arrivals in November decreased 45 per cent compared to previous month but increase by 48 per cent compared to November 2022.

In line with seasonal trends in Italy, total arrivals decreased by 19% per cent in November when compared to the previous month and by eight per cent compared to November 2022. Of the 8,300 refugees and migrants who arrived in Italy over November, 64 per cent departed from Libya, 34 per cent from Tunisia and two per cent from Türkiye.



Total arrivals from Tunisia between January - November 2023 increased by over 300 per cent, while the number of arrivals from Libya remained similar to the same period last year. Most arrivals from Tunisia originated from Guinea, Tunisia, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, while most arrivals from Libya originated from Bangladesh, Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Pakistan.

In Spain, some 6,200 refugees and migrants arrived over November, a 65 per cent decrease compared to the previous month. Of all arrivals in November, 76 per cent landed on the Canary Islands. Arrivals via the Northwest African maritime route decreased by 70 per cent, and by 32 per cent through the Western Mediterranean route in November when compared to the previous month.

In Greece, throughout November, some 4,800 refugees and migrants arrived by both land and sea, a 33 per cent decrease compared to the previous month, but a 67 per cent increase when compared to November 2022. Majority of arrivals are from the Syrian Arab Republic, Palestine and Afghanistan. Border authorities in Türkiye reported rescuing, or intercepting, some 4,800 refugees and migrants at sea throughout November. Further, some 800 refugees and migrants arrived in Cyprus by sea in November, a 24 per cent decrease compared to the previous month.

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

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE[9]

In November 2023, 2,000 people arrived in, or transited through, the subregion as part of mixed refugee and migrant movements. Resultantly, there were 41 per cent fewer arrivals when compared to the previous month and 40 per cent less than in November 2022. Between January and November 2023, 30,200 people arrived in, or transited through, the subregion, 14 per cent fewer than in the same period in 2022. Of the overall arrivals so far in 2023, 5,277 were Afghans, a 34 per cent increase compared to the same period last year.

In November 2023, 175 people submitted asylum applications, nearly the same compared to the previous month (176). Nine positive first-instance decisions were issued in November (one refugee status and eight subsidiary protection status), while 18 applications were rejected and 106 were closed.

As of the end of November, 568 asylum applications were pending decisions across the subregion. So far this year, 144 positive first instance decisions were issued across the subregion (44 refugee status and 100 subsidiary protection status), 165 asylum applications were rejected, and 853 asylum applications were closed after applicants did not respond or were no longer present in the country of application.

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

[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] 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] Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, IOM, September 2023.
[8] In preparation for UNHCR's Annual Statistical Review 2023, and publication of our Global Trends Report in June 2023, a thorough review of all statistics related to refugees from Ukraine was undertaken (for details please refer to Ukraine Refugee Situation - Data Explanatory Note).
[9] Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]).