



**UNHCR in Türkiye**  
April 2025

**96,100** vulnerable refugees have been resettled from Türkiye since 2016. **1,170** have been resettled so far in 2025. (10,756 in 2024).

**TOP** resettlement countries receiving refugees from Türkiye are Germany, Canada, France and the Netherlands.

**14,300** refugees, including women at risk, refugees with medical needs, and children and adolescents at risk, submitted to **15** resettlement countries in 2024. Most were from Syria, Afghanistan, and Iran.



*It was 4:17 A.M. We were all in bed, asleep. I woke up to feed the baby. Then the shaking (earthquake) started. After that terrifying experience, we lost everything again and had to move from place to place. Going back to Afghanistan was not an option because we have daughters, and we want our girls to be educated.*

*We are thankful for this opportunity to live here and hope this is our last destination. Now, all we want is stability and education for our children.*

Habib and Muska, Afghan refugee parents of two daughters, resettled from Türkiye to Slovenia in 2024. (Watch a [short video](#) of their story).

**Context**

Having sought protection from persecution in their home country, many refugees cannot go home because of continued conflict and risk of persecution. They often live in perilous situations or have specific needs that cannot be addressed in the country of first asylum. In such circumstances, UNHCR considers refugees for resettlement to a third country. A dedicated team within UNHCR in Türkiye carefully assess the refugee claims and vulnerabilities of the cases, matches their profiles with the criteria of resettlement countries, and submits the cases to the resettlement countries for consideration. UNHCR in Türkiye operates one of the largest resettlement programmes in the world.



*A Syrian refugee family resettled from Türkiye to Spain.*

**Resettlement**

Upon receiving referrals from the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), UNHCR identifies potentially suitable cases and schedules face-to-face interviews with eligible refugees. The interviews are conducted by UNHCR staff trained in protection-sensitive interviewing techniques, who assess the refugee claim and vulnerabilities of each case. Suitable cases are submitted to resettlement countries based on their criteria. If a refugee case is accepted for resettlement, UNHCR works closely with PMM to obtain exit permits and secure necessary travel documents. International Organization for Migration (IOM) then arranges for pre-departure cultural orientation and medical checks and arranges the flight to the resettlement country.

**Complementary Pathways**

While resettlement remains a critical protection tool, it is available for a very limited number of refugees. As a result, the expansion of complementary pathways is essential to address the needs of refugees in Türkiye. Refugees can pursue work or study opportunities, reunite with family members, or seek private sponsorship in third countries. These complementary pathways can provide more solution options to refugees beyond resettlement. UNHCR Türkiye seeks to identify and address barriers that refugees face when applying for these programmes to allow more refugees to access these opportunities.

In 2024 UNHCR in Türkiye directly assisted nine refugees to reunite with family members in Romania and Switzerland. Furthermore, UNHCR assisted five students to go to Lithuania and Slovenia through scholarships. In January 2025, UNHCR in Türkiye and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement to facilitate higher education in Japan for Syrian refugee students in Türkiye. The “Japanese Initiative for the future of Syrian Refugees” scholarship will be provided to students.

**Learn more:** [Web Story 1](#) | [Web Story 2](#) | [Web Story 3](#)

*UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the refugee response. UNHCR in Türkiye is also thankful to donors who are contributing to 2025 programmes. For more details: [UNHCR Türkiye Funding Update – 31 March 2025](#).*

