Italy

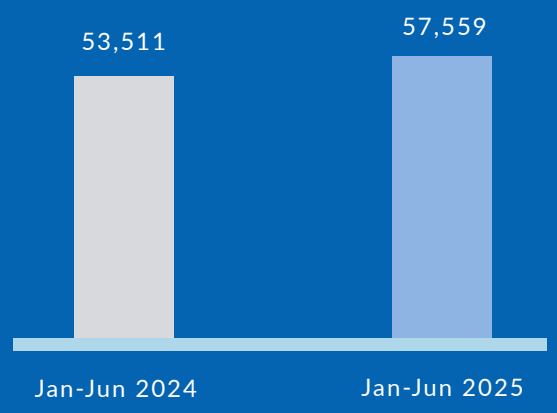
June 2025

In June, **7,089 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**. Most originated from Bangladesh (30%), Egypt (16%), and Eritrea (10%). **21 per cent were children**. Other people reached Italy via land and air.

On 25 June, the **third humanitarian evacuation flight in 2025** with 71 refugees and people in need of international protection arrived in Italy, in the framework of the MoU signed in December 2023 with the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs and several Italian NGOs.

On 27 June, UNHCR signed an **MoU on labour mobility for refugees and stateless persons** with the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, and Labour, alongside Talent Beyond Boundaries, Pathways International, and Diaconia Valdese.

TOTAL ARRIVALS



Source: Ministry of Interior for arrivals by sea. UNHCR estimates for arrivals by land and air. Please note that arrivals from Ukraine are not included in the chart.

KEY FIGURES

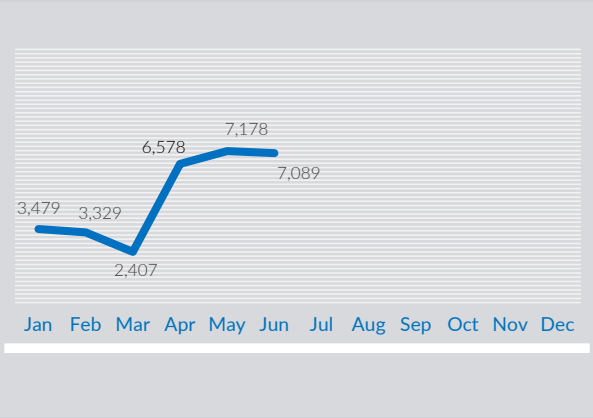
30,060

People reached Italy by sea disembarking in different ports across the country in January-June 2025. 26,122 (87%) were informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff and partners following disembarkation. (Source: Ministry of Interior and UNHCR)

205,307

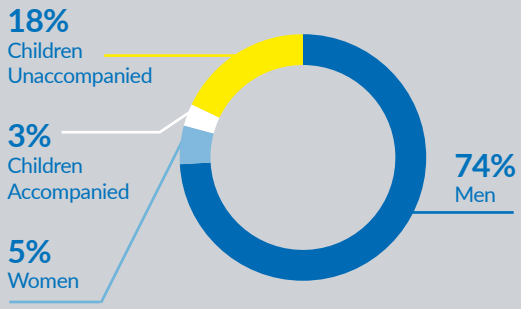
Temporary protection applications of people fleeing Ukraine as of beginning of May 2025. 70% of applicants are females. (Source: Civil Protection)

SEA ARRIVALS BY MONTH IN 2025



Source: Ministry of Interior. In addition to sea arrivals, Italy also receives land and air arrivals. This chart focuses on sea arrivals only.

SEA ARRIVALS BY GENDER AND AGE IN 2025



Source: Ministry of Interior. Please note that the chart refers to the latest cumulative data available. Gender breakdown for children is not available.

Arrivals

- **Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In June, **7,089 people reached the Italian shores in 168 disembarkations**, a 45 per cent increase compared to the same month in 2024. Among arrivals, 21 per cent were children (26% in May). **Thirty per cent originated from Bangladesh** (up from 25% in May), followed by **Egyptians** (**16%**, up from 11% in May) and **Eritreans** (**10%**, down from 26% in May). Other nationalities arriving in significant numbers included Iranians (5%); Pakistanis, Sudanese, Somalis, and Tunisians (4% each); and Guineans, Algerians, and Ethiopians (3% each). In June, **the majority of sea crossings departed from Libya** (**83%**, 5,908 persons), followed by 11 per cent from Tunisia (749 persons), 3 per cent from Algeria (226 persons) and 3 per cent from Türkiye (206 persons). Around **half of the people arriving by sea in June** (43%, 3,030 people) **were disembarked in Italy as a result of Search and Rescue (SAR) operations**.[1]
- **Access to territory (land arrivals).** Around **500 people who reached Italy by land** were intercepted in June by the Border Police at Italy's northern borders with Slovenia, bringing the total estimated number of detected arrivals to around 2,700 as of June 2025. Those arriving by land via south-eastern Europe mainly originated from **Bangladesh**, **Afghanistan, Morocco, Pakistan, and Egypt**. 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 collecting testimonies.

Resettlement and complementary pathways

- On 27 June, UNHCR signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on labour mobility for refugees** with the Ministry of Interior, (MoI) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFA), Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (MoL), Talent Beyond Boundaries, Pathways International, and Diaconia Valdese. The MoU establishes priority procedures for work authorizations, streamlined access to visas, travel documents, and residence permits, and tailored support for family reunification. Enabled by Law 50/2023, the programme allows qualified refugees residing in third countries to enter Italy safely and legally for employment. Four pilot projects have already been launched, involving 70 refugees from Colombia, Egypt, Uganda, and Jordan, who will work in sectors such as aviation, shipbuilding, IT, and jewellery. Italy is among the first countries globally to establish a regular labour mobility pathway for refugees, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees and demonstrating the potential of public-private partnerships in advancing protection and inclusion.[2]

Signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on labour corridors for refugees to Italy. ©UNHCR

- On 23 June, the third group of six refugees from South Sudan arrived in Italy from Egypt through the **"Navigating the Future: Discovery and Training of Talents in International Shipbuilding"** programme. This initiative is one of four pilot labour mobility pathways led by UNHCR, in collaboration with Orienta Società Benefit, to support the integration of refugees into Italy's shipbuilding sector. Before arrival, participants completed comprehensive training in IT (with a focus on programming languages), civic orientation, and Italian language instruction to support their integration.[3]

[1] For further information on sea arrivals in Italy, please refer to the Italy page of the UNHCR data portal.

[2] See also: Rifugiati: Firmato oggi il protocollo d'intesa per i corridoi lavorativi per apolidi e rifugiati, 27 Junel 2025.

- On 25 June, UNHCR signed a **MoU with the Prefecture of Turin** and other regional and local institutions to enhance the Spazio Comune centre. Established in 2022 through a partnership between UNHCR and the Municipality of Turin, Spazio Comune provides integrated services to support the reception, inclusion, and participation of refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants. The new agreement strengthens institutional coordination and expands the range of services offered, reinforcing inclusive local integration, and is part of UNHCR's broader Spazio Comune programme, active in seven major Italian cities.[3]

People in need of international protection evacuated from Libya who arrived in Italy. ©UNHCR/Alessandro Penso

- On 25 June, **71 refugees and people in need of international protection were evacuated from Libya to Italy**. The group included 55 adults and 16 accompanied minors from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia and Sudan. The evacuation is the third one organized in 2025 through an MoU signed in December 2023 between the MoI, MFA, UNHCR, and several civil society organizations, including ARCI, Comunità di Sant'Egidio, the Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy, and NIHMP, which has so far enabled the safe arrival of 588 persons. Upon arrival, the evacuees were welcomed in various Italian regions by the Comunità di Sant'Egidio, with the support of religious associations and congregations, and by the network of Circoli Rifugio di Arci, supported by funds from the Italian Buddhist Institute Soka Gakkai.[4]

Specific needs

- On 4 June, the MoI's Central Working Group on Vulnerabilities, with the support of UNHCR, organized the last webinar of the cycle aimed at strengthening the methodology for implementing the Handbook for the Identification, Referral, and Care of Persons Living with Vulnerabilities at the local level. The session brought together 54 participants representing 25 Prefectures, as well as key local stakeholders—including focal points from Regional Health Plans and anti-trafficking organizations—from Italy's Northwestern regions.
- On 13 June, the Ministry of Interior (MoI), UNHCR, and UNICEF jointly convened a **large-scale webinar focused on mitigating gender-based violence (GBV) risks and enhancing child protection mechanisms within reception settings**. The event gathered 212 participants, including staff from Prefectures, staff of reception facilities, and operators of SAI (Reception and Integration System) projects across Northwestern Italy. The session aimed to present the related Toolkit and strengthen the capacity of the reception system to effectively identify, prevent, and respond to GBV and child protection- related risks.

Asylum system

- In June, UNHCR strengthened its engagement in the prevention of and response to trafficking in persons, with a particular focus on refugees and asylum seekers. On 27 June, UNHCR participated in a conference on trafficking in persons held in Bari, organized by the Apulia Region. The event presented the outcomes of six years of coordinated, multi-agency efforts to prevent, combat, and respond to trafficking.

[3] See also: RIFUGIATI, TORINO: cresce lo Spazio Comune per l'integrazione, 25 June 2025.

[4] See also: LIBIA, IN ARRIVO 71 RIFUGIATI CON I CORRIDOI UMANITARI, 25 June 2025.

Training

- Throughout June, UNHCR continued to deliver **training sessions** as part of the Master's programme jointly organized by LUISS University, UNHCR, and the Territorial Commission for the Recognition of International Protection in Rome. The sessions focused **on key themes related to asylum and international protection**.
- On 27 June, UNHCR participated in the **closing ceremony of the 34th edition of the Course on Refugees and Migrants at La Sapienza University**. Organized by the Faculty of Political Science in collaboration with UNHCR, the Italian Council for Refugees (CIR), and Caritas, the course concluded with the awarding of certificates to 161 students who successfully passed the final exam, to which UNHCR took an active role.

PUBLIC EVENTS

World Refugee Day. On 19 June, the UNHCR Representation for Italy, the Holy See, and San Marino marked **World Refugee Day** with an event hosted at LUISS University in Rome. The event opened with welcoming remarks from Luigi Gubitosi, President of LUISS University, followed by an address from Cardinal Fabio Baggio, Undersecretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. A **roundtable discussion on solidarity and shared responsibility** brought together key institutional partners, including representatives from the Ministry of the Interior (MoI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Labour (MoL), the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), the Italian Association for Human Resources Management (AIDP), and the National Network of NGOs working on asylum and migration.[5]

Mawuwa Mudini, a refugee who arrived in Italy through the labour mobility programme. ©UNHCR

The event also featured a powerful **testimony from Mawuwa Mudini**, a refugee who arrived in Italy from Uganda through one of UNHCR's labour mobility pathways. Davide Tavaniello, CEO and Co-founder of Hippocrates Holding S.p.A., also addressed the audience, emphasizing the role of corporate social responsibility in responding to humanitarian crises. The programme included a performance by **UNHCR Goodwill Ambassadors** Greta Scarano and Francesco Pannofino.

The event concluded with the award ceremony of the 7th edition of the "Welcome. Working for Refugee Integration" programme, which recognized 227 companies and civil society organizations for their efforts in supporting refugee employment in Italy in 2024. Since its launch in 2017, the programme—implemented in collaboration with the Adecco Foundation and supported by the MoL, Confindustria, and Global Compact Italy—has engaged over 950 companies and facilitated more than 50,000 pathways to labour inclusion.[6]

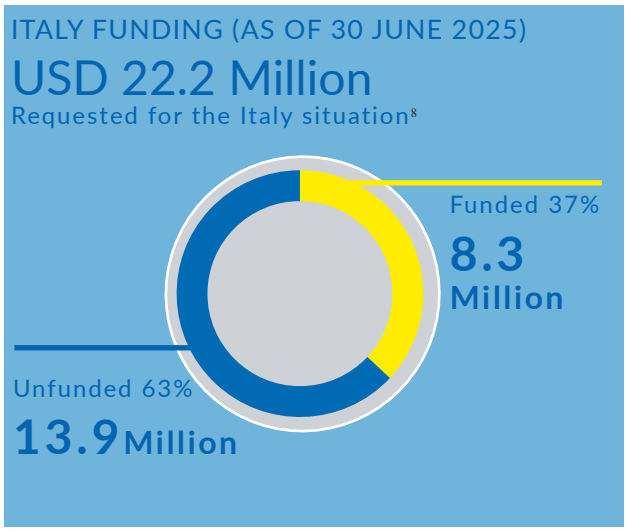
Global Trends. On 13 June, UNHCR released its annual Global Trends report, providing data and analysis on forced displacement worldwide. By the end of 2024, UNHCR estimates that 123.2 million people were forcibly displaced globally—an increase of 7 million (6%) compared to the end of 2023. While global displacement has nearly doubled over the past decade, the rate of increase slowed in the second half of 2024. The full report of the Global Trends covering 2024 is available here.[7]

[5] See also: GIORNATA MONDIALE DEL RIFUGIATO, UNHCR: nuovo sondaggio mostra che il sostegno pubblico ai rifugiati è stabile nonostante la fragilità globale, 18 June 2025.

[6] See also: Inclusione rifugiati: più di 950 aziende premiate per oltre 50 mila percorsi lavorativi grazie a "Welcome" dal 2017, 19 June 2025.

[7] See also: NUOVI DATI UNHCR: il numero di persone sradicate dalla guerra si mantiene a livelli allarmanti, sono oltre 122 milioni, 11 June 2025.

Financial information



- UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors to the UNHCR Multi-country office (MCO) in Italy in June, and throughout 2025, including for unearmarked, softly earmarked, and tightly earmarked contributions.[9]

Fundraising

- UNHCR MCO Italy is grateful for the generous contributions from the private sector and individuals. In June, **2.4 milllion euros** were raised. Among the private donors, a special thanks goes to Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A. and Dieci Trust Onlus for their contributions.
- UNHCR MCO Italy is grateful to the Italian MFA / Directorate-General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies for the **4.5 million euros** contribution, provided in June 2025, in support of UNHCR's activities to provide basic needs and essential services to forcibly displaced people in Libya, and for the **6 million euros** allocated to support Syrian refugees, IDPs, and returnees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and the Syrian Arab Republic. UNHCR MCO Italy also thanks the MFA / Directorate-General for Development Cooperation for the **4 million euros** contribution in support of UNHCR's activities promoting voluntary, safe, and sustainable returns to Syria.

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LINKS UNHCR data portal - UNHCR Italy - Twitter - Facebook - LinkedIn - Global Focus

[8] 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.

[9] 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, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), España con ACNUR, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Switzerland, Japan for UNHCR, Republic of Korea, Australia, France, Ireland, Private donors in the Republic of Korea, Germany, Belgium.