



# SYRIANS IN SOUTHERN EUROPE

## UNHCR REGIONAL UPDATE



Apr 2015

### KEY FIGURES

**3.9Mln**

Syrian refugees

**7.5Mln**

Syrians internally displaced

**96%**

Of Syrian refugees have fled to surrounding countries

**1.7Mln**

Syrian refugees in Turkey

**1.2Mln**

Syrian refugees in Lebanon

**627,000**

Syrian refugees in Jordan

**53%**

Of Syrian refugees are less than 18 years old

### FUNDING

**USD 1,342,533,176**

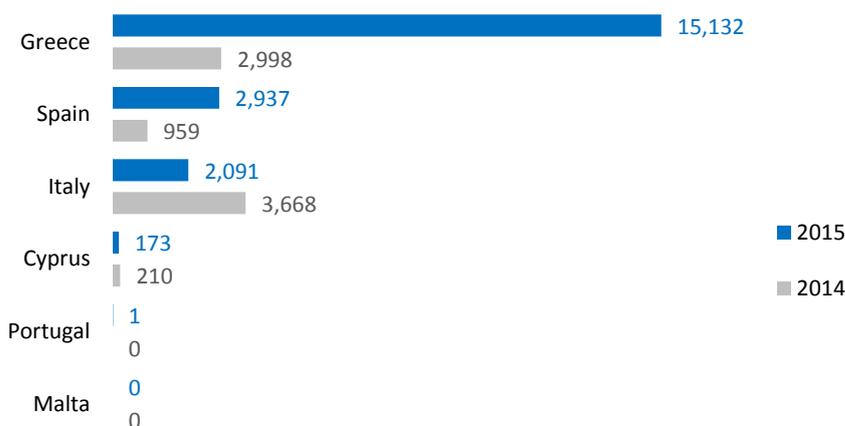
Requested for assistance and protection



### REGIONAL OVERVIEW

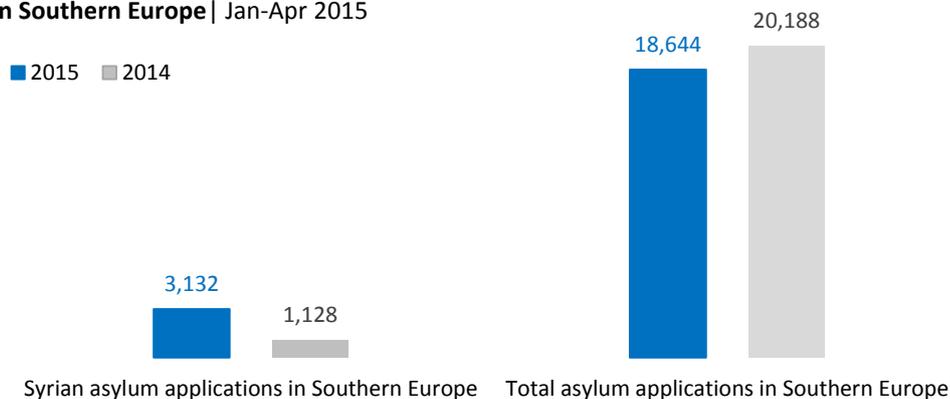
- Almost 20,500 Syrians arrived so far in Southern Europe in 2015.
- Some 235,000 Syrians applied for asylum in Europe (28), Norway and Switzerland since 2011, less than 6% of Syrians who fled the conflict.
- In 2015, 3,132 new asylum applications were registered from Syrians in Southern Europe, almost three times more than the same period of 2014 (1,128 applications).
- The vast majority of Syrians coming to Europe do not apply for asylum in Southern Europe, but rather proceeds towards northern EU countries. Only 3% of Syrians asylum applications were lodged in Southern Europe.

Syrian arrivals to Southern Europe | Jan-Apr 2015\*



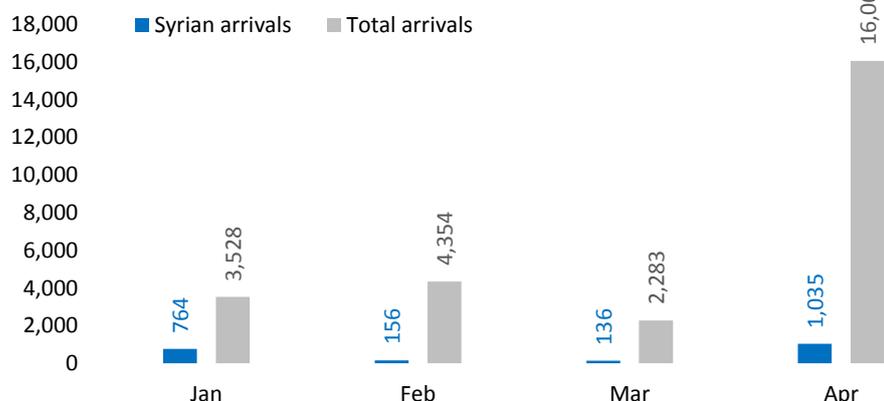
\*Data for Cyprus and Portugal refers to new asylum applications; data for Italy refers to sea arrivals.

Syrians asylum applications in Southern Europe | Jan-Apr 2015



## ITALY

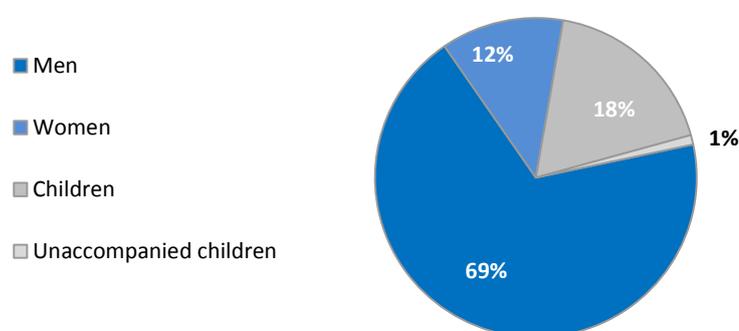
### Arrivals by sea | Jan-Apr 2015



26,228 sea arrivals to Italy as of March 2015. Syrians were the fifth largest group, with 2,091 new arrivals (8% of the total). In 2014, 42,323 Syrians arrived to Italy by sea.

Among 2,091 Syrian arrivals, there were 20 unaccompanied children. The total number of Syrian children arrived so far in 2014 is 396 (17%).

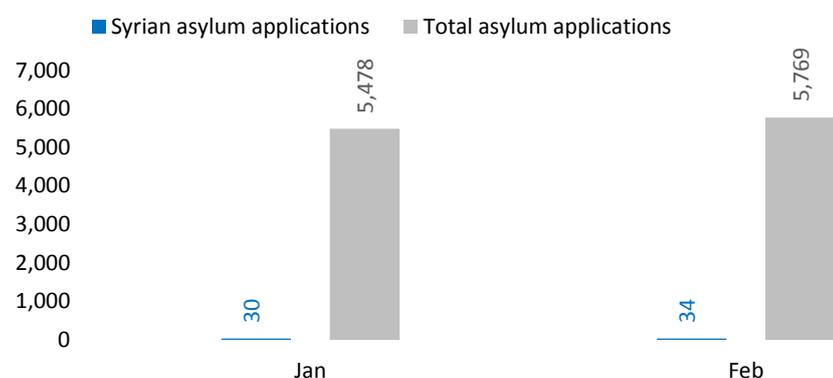
### Demographics of Syrian arrivals | Jan-Apr 2015



In Jan and Feb 2015, Syrians lodged 64 asylum applications, less than 1% of total applications in Italy (11,247).

Recognition rate for Syrians in 2014: 94% (60% refugee status, 34% subsidiary protection). In 2014, 229 Syrians were granted refugee status and 84 received subsidiary and humanitarian protection.

### New asylum applications | Jan-Feb 2015



Many Syrians who apply for asylum in Italy proceed elsewhere before their first instance interview. These cases are closed as rejected.

The majority of people who arrived to Italy by sea departed from Libya.

## PORTUGAL

In 2015, 301 individuals arrived to Portugal, 1 of them was Syrian.

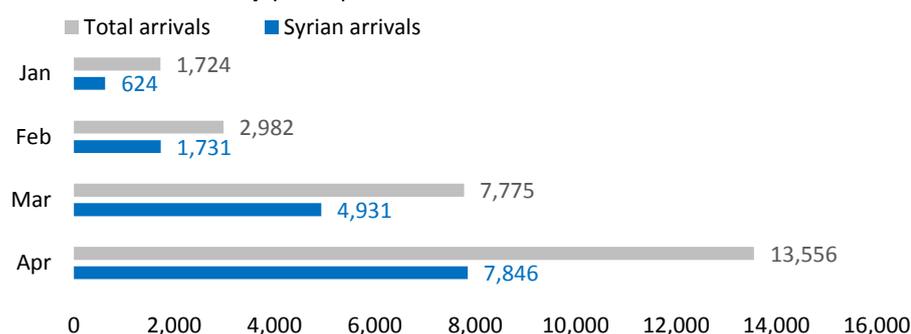
In 2014, there were 146 Syrians out of 506 total arrivals.

As of Apr 2015, 301 persons applied for asylum in Portugal, 300% more than the same period of 2014. 1 of them was Syrian.

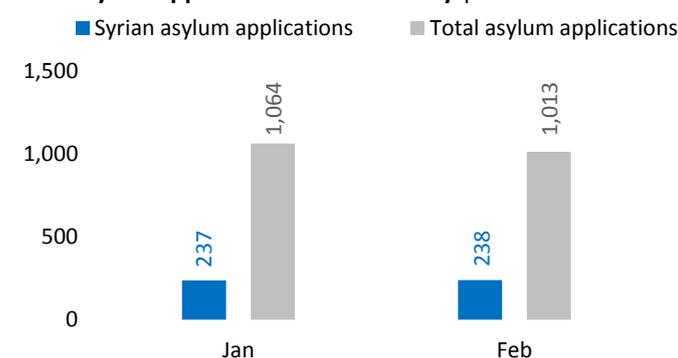
Portugal pledged to resettle 23 Syrian refugees in 2014.

## GREECE

### Arrivals in the country | Jan-Apr 2015



### New asylum applications in the country | Jan-Mar 2015



According to figures communicated to UNHCR by local Police and Coastguard authorities at the border areas, some **15,132** Syrians were recorded as new arrivals in the first four months of 2015. Many of them came from Turkey.

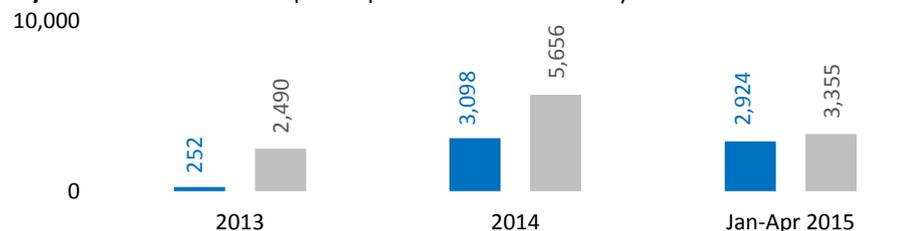
The number of Syrians arrived in 2015 is 3 times higher than the total number of all arrivals for the same period in 2014 and entail **58%** of total arrivals in 2015.

As of March 2015, **2,992** persons applied for asylum in Greece, including **772** Syrians. In 2014, out of **9,432** asylum applications, **786** were lodged by Syrians.

Recognition rate for Syrians in 2015 is **99,8%**. In 2014, under the new asylum procedure, recognition rate was **99,6%**.

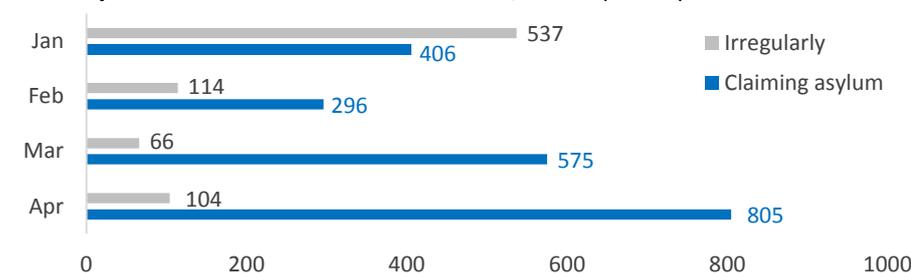
## SPAIN

### Syrian arrivals in Melilla | Jan-Apr 2015



In March and April 2015, **80%** of Syrians nationals entered Melilla claiming int. protection, whereas in the same period of 2014, all Syrians entered irregularly.

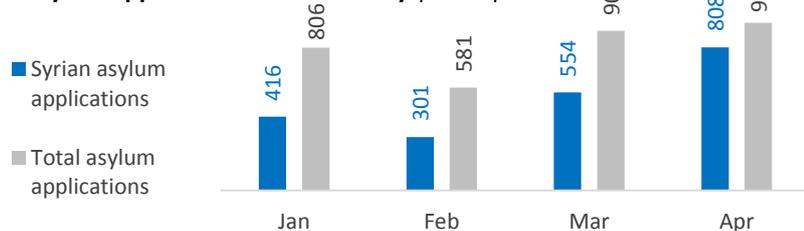
### How Syrians cross the land border Morocco/Melilla | Jan-Apr 2015



In 2015, almost **3,000** Syrians have entered in Spain at the Ceuta and Melilla borders, where UNHCR is present since Jul 2014. Some **1,270** of them lodged an asylum application in Melilla in the first three months of the year, five times the total for the same period of 2014 (**230**).

Syrians who apply for asylum in Melilla stay an average of 2/3 months at the Reception Centre before being transferred to Spain's mainland.

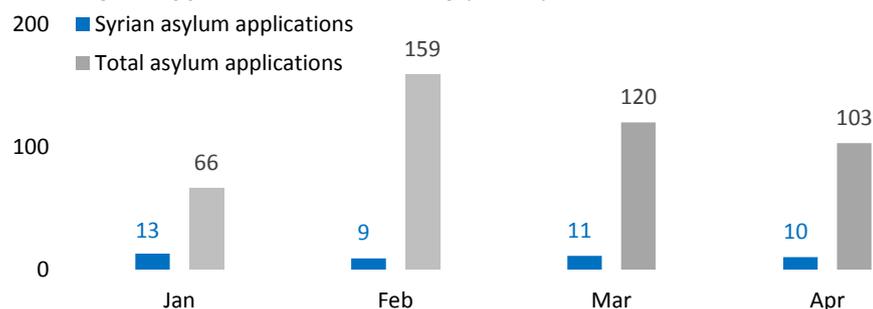
### New asylum applications in the country | Jan-Apr 2015



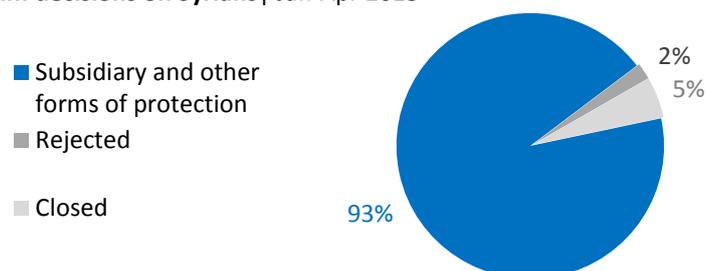
In 2014, **122** Syrians were granted refugee status and **1,044** received subsidiary protection. Total recognition rate in 2013: **98.7%**.

## MALTA

### New asylum applications in the country | Jan-Apr 2015



### Asylum decisions on Syrians | Jan-Apr 2015



In 2015, **91** individuals arrived to Malta, 87 in one boat and 4 through medical evacuation. **None** of them was Syrian.

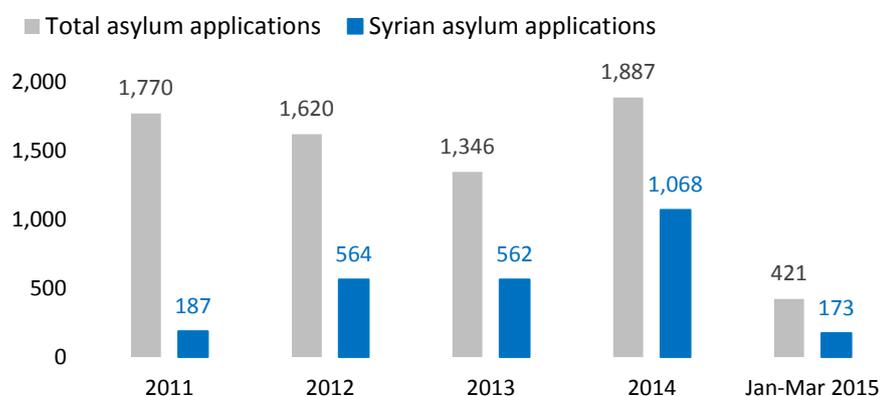
**251** Syrians who applied for asylum in Malta in 2014 came via regular means.

**43** Syrians applied for asylum in Malta in 2015, some **10%** of the total applications (**448**).

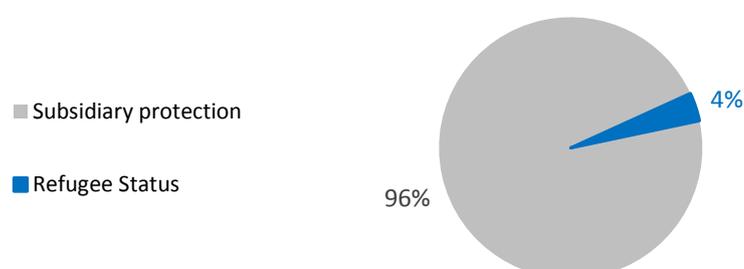
In 2015, there were **56** decisions on Syrians. **52** were granted subsidiary protection, three cases were closed, and one was rejected. Recognition rate of Syrian applicants in 2014: **98.5%**.

## CYPRUS

### New asylum applications in the country | 2011 - Mar 2015



### Positive decisions on Syrians | 2015



In 2014 there were between **6,000 and 8,000** Syrians present in the country. Many of them were already there under another status and became sur place refugees. New arrivals came mostly in an irregular manner.

In 2015, Syrians presented **173** asylum applications, some **41%** of total applications in the country (**421**).

In 2014, Syrians presented **1,068** asylum applications, **57%** of total asylum applications in the country. In 2013, Syrians lodged **562** applications.

In 2015, **8** Syrians were granted refugee status while **220** Syrians were granted subsidiary protection. In 2014, **3** Syrians were granted refugee status. In addition, **926** Syrians were granted subsidiary status.

#### Contacts:

Carlotta Sami, Senior Regional Public Information Officer, [sami@unhcr.org](mailto:sami@unhcr.org), Tel: +39 06 80212316, Cell +39 335 679 4746  
Ilosto Ilosto, Public Information Consultant, [ibba@unhcr.org](mailto:ibba@unhcr.org), Tel: +39 06 80212326, Cell +39 331 635 5517