Italy

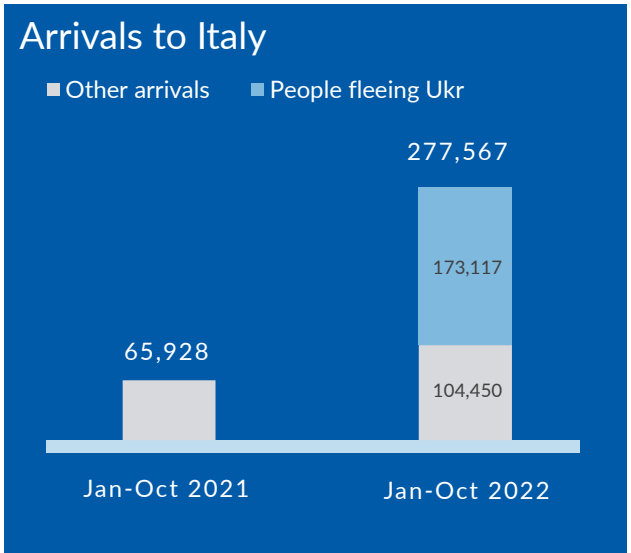
October 2022

Year to date, **85,282 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**, an increase of 60% compared to last year. An additional **173,117 refugees fleeing Ukraine** arrived in Italy, along with other land arrivals.

On 3 October, UNHCR participated in the activities organized for the **National Day of Remembrance and Reception** in Lampedusa, on the 9th anniversary of the tragic events of 2013.

In October, four minor refugee students arrived in Turin thanks to the study corridor initiative **Pagelle in Tasca**. They will be hosted by families and receive educational, legal and psychological support.

TOTAL ARRIVALS



Source: Ministry of Interior for arrivals by sea and from Ukraine. UNHCR estimates for arrivals by land and air.

KEY FIGURES (OCTOBER 2022)

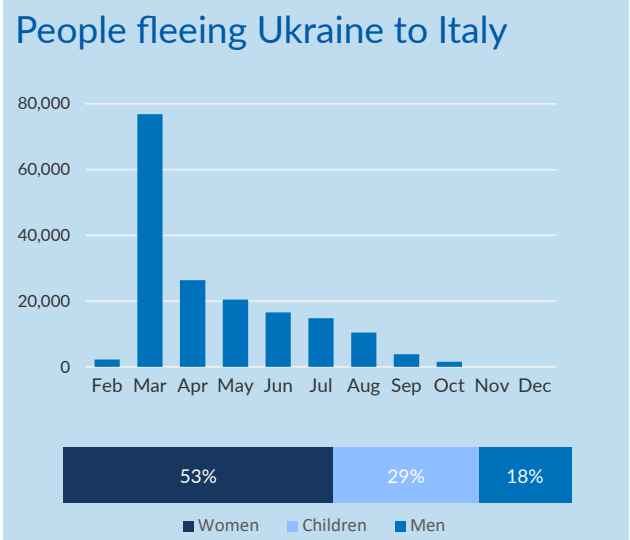
1,571
Arrivals from Ukraine to Italy by land, air and train (Source: Ministry of Interior, as of 3 November)

13,492
Sea arrivals to Italy disembarked at different sites across the country (Source: Ministry of Interior)

1,223
People fleeing Ukraine informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff at Fernetti and Tarvisio border crossing points (Source: UNHCR, as of 31 October)

10,687
Sea arrivals assisted and informed about asylum procedures by UNHCR staff following disembarkation (Source: UNHCR)

UKRAINE



Source: Ministry of Interior. Data refers to monthly air, land and train arrivals since 28 February 2022. Gender breakdown for children is not available.

SEA ARRIVALS

Source: Source: Ministry of Interior. In addition to sea arrivals, Italy also receives land and air arrivals. This chart focuses on sea arrivals only. Gender breakdown for children is not available.

- **Access to territory (sea arrivals).** In October 2022, Italy continued to receive significant numbers of refugees and migrants both via the Mediterranean Sea and via land, mainly through border crossing points in Friuli Venezia-Giulia. During this month, **13,492 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea**, bringing the year-to-date total to 85,282, an increase of 60% and 214% compared to the same period in 2021 and 2020, respectively. Persons arriving by sea in October mainly originated from **Egypt** and **Tunisia** (17% each), followed by **Bangladesh** (12%). Moreover, consistent numbers of arrivals originating from **Côte d'Ivoire** and **Guinea** were reported this month, representing 9% each of the overall number of monthly sea arrivals. In October, **departures from Tunisia** - mainly concerning Tunisian, Ivorian and Guinean nationals - **increased by 89%** compared to September, representing 40% of new arrivals. The other countries of embarkation were Libya (38%), Türkiye (20%), and Algeria (2%).[1] **Departures from Libya** were mainly composed of Egyptian, Bangladeshi and, in lower numbers, Syrian nationals, while **arrivals from Türkiye** mostly originated from Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran. No boats departing from Lebanon and Syria were recorded in October. UNHCR staff were present at disembarkation sites throughout the whole month, providing new arrivals with **relevant information on procedures to seek protection in Italy**.

UNHCR staff present at the disembarkation site in Lampedusa. ©UNHCR/ Alessio Mamo

- **Access to territory (land arrivals).** In addition to persons reaching shore in southern Italy, **over 2,325 land arrivals were recorded through Italy's northern borders with Slovenia in October**. Year-to-date, more than 10,380 (non-Ukrainian) refugees and migrants arrived in Italy travelling by land via South-East Europe, mainly originating from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, India and Nepal. Reception facilities continued working at full capacity, with several refugees and migrants sleeping rough in Trieste and Gradisca D'Isonzo. UNHCR staff regularly conducted **outreach activities** in the area, collecting testimonies from new arrivals and informing them on their rights and ways to apply for protection in Italy.

- **Ukraine situation.** **173,117 refugees from Ukraine arrived in Italy** between the start of the emergency in late February and the beginning of November, and more than 163,000 Ukrainian nationals applied for temporary protection.[2] UNHCR staff continued to be present at the north-eastern border crossing points of Tarvisio and Fernetti, ensuring that new arrivals were provided with information and relevant services in Italy, including for persons with specific needs. As of end October, **50,684 persons were provided with basic information about services and registration procedures** by UNHCR staff working at the Fernetti and Tarvisio border crossing points and **9,897 people - both adults and children - had accessed the Blue Dots** at the borders, receiving assistance by UNHCR staff, in close cooperation with UNICEF and other partners. Up-to-date information about services available to refugees are also available through the digital component of the Blue Dots, available online at the dedicated webpage and through the Telegram channel recently launched.

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

[2] For further information, see also Civil Protection, Mappe e dashboards Ucraina (last access 17 November 2022).

- **National Day of Remembrance and Reception.** On 3 October, UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF, together with the *Comitato 3 Ottobre*, organizations of the civil society and representatives of the institutions were in Lampedusa for the National Day of Remembrance and Reception. This was the **9th anniversary of the tragic shipwreck that occurred off the coast of Lampedusa in 2013**, in which 368 people, including 83 women and 9 children, lost their lives. UNHCR's Deputy Representative took part in a high-level roundtable together with other institutional representatives. UNHCR staff also joined the side activities organized by the *Comitato 3 Ottobre* in the framework of the Welcome Europe project. The objective is to **promote a culture of solidarity, welcome and dialogue**, based on respect for human rights and the humanitarian and legal imperative to save lives at sea among the youth. UNHCR continues to advocate for a more predictable and efficient state-led mechanism for search and rescue at sea at European level, able to ensure the opportunity, for those who arrive, to seek protection and rebuild their lives. UNHCR also advocates for the expansion of safe and legal pathways as an alternative to dangerous sea crossings.[3] In 2022 so far, **1,755 people have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean**, whom 74 percent on the Central Mediterranean route. This is confirmed as one of the most active and dangerous globally.

UNHCR staff engaging with students in the framework of the activities organized around the National Day of Remembrance and Reception in Lampedusa. ©Comitato 3 Ottobre

- **Policy developments.** In October, the *Tavolo Nazionale di Coordinamento*, chaired by the Ministry of Interior, adopted the **National Integration Plan** targeted at beneficiaries of international protection. In addition, the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Italian Presidency of the Council published the **National Anti-Trafficking Plan for 2022-2025**. UNHCR was consulted in both processes and contributed with relevant inputs and recommendations.

- **Integration**. In October, in collaboration with DLA Piper and Intersos, UNHCR launched the project **Know Your Rights** in Milan, a legal course for 25 refugees, asylum seekers and beneficiaries of other types of protection focusing on increasing core legal knowledge and associated soft skills.

- **Statelessness.** On 20-21 October, in Madrid, UNHCR organized consultations at European level on the identification of stateless people and statelessness determination procedures. During the session, the Italian office contributed with its country experience and **good practices**. Also thanks to the UNHCR *#IBelong* Campaign launched in 2014, Italy acceded to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness in 2015. UNHCR continues to advocate with the relevant institutions for advancements on the topic.

- **Joint external initiatives.** UNHCR signed a *memorandum of understanding* with the research centre IDOS, contributing also to the '**Dossier Statistico Immigrazione 2022**' with an article on labour integration. Joint events will be organized in the upcoming months to address relevant issues for beneficiaries of international protection in Italy.

[3] See also UNHCR, Giornata nazionale della Memoria e dell'Accoglienza. UNHCR-OIM-UNICEF: "Le ultime tragedie in mare devono indurre ad agire, chiediamo un'Europa più solidale", 2 October 2022 (in Italian, last access 15 November 2022).

- **External engagement.** In October, **UNHCR Representative**, Chiara Cardoletti, delivered a speech at the Festival dello Sviluppo Sostenibile, organized by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), concerning climate change and its consequences on global displacement. She also intervened at the conference organized by INC Non Profit Lab in collaboration with RAI, on a research conducted with regards to new humanitarian needs emerging from the recent international crisis. On 25 October, she received the Books for Peace International Special Award, recognizing UNHCR's commitment to the promotion of human rights, and awarded with the same prize a Syrian refugee playing in the ASD Roma Amputees Football team. UNHCR's Representative also conducted a mission to Turin, to visit the One-Stop-Shop inaugurated a few months ago and meet with all the institutional counterparts and implementing partners. Lastly, the office attended the 'Care for our common home' event organized by the Secretariat of State of the Holy See on 4 October, date in which the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement on climate change entered into force for the Holy See.

Antonio Imeneo, representative of Books for Peace, awards the UNHCR Representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino, Chiara Cardoletti, with the Books for Peace awards. ©Books for Peace

- **Fundraising**. In October, UNHCR raised **two million Euros from private donors** in Italy, totalling 50.8 million Euros since the beginning of the year. The major private donor in Italy contributing to UNHCR activities in Italy this month was Istituto Buddista Italiano Soka Gakkai, which committed to support the Community Matching programme in 2022 and 2023 with the aim to enhance integration and social cohesion of refugees with their host communities.

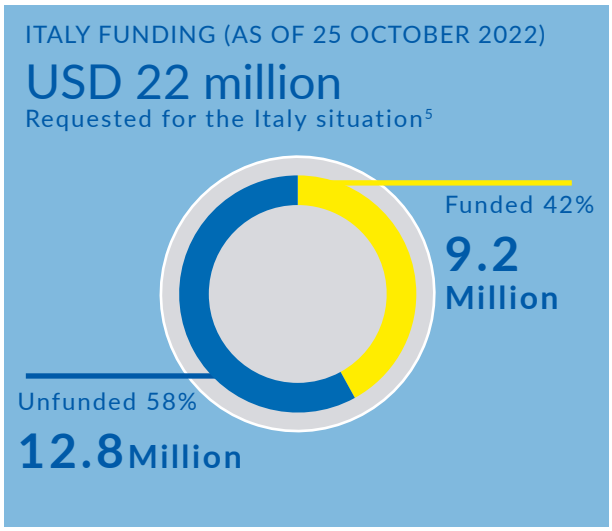
Pagella in Tasca, study corridors for minor refugees

On 12 October, the second group of four unaccompanied minors, beneficiaries of the project Pagella in tasca, study corridors for minor refugees, arrived in Turin. The participants in the project are minors between the ages of 16 and 17, originally from Darfur, Sudan, and refugees in Niger. They were selected on the basis of their motivation to study, following a careful assessment of their best interest. All four boys fled on their own to Libya, where they suffered mistreatment and exploitation, before finding protection in Niger. Thanks to a 12-month scolarship, the boys will enter Italy on a study entry visa, a possibility provided by law but never previously used for refugee minors, in order to earn a middle school diploma and then continue to upper secondary school or vocational training. They will be hosted by families selected and trained by the City of Turin, and will receive educational, legal and psychological support. The project is promoted by INTERSOS together with UNHCR and implemented thanks to a *memorandum of understanding* with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Italian Cooperation, the Interior and Labor, and the commitment of civil society, and the City of Turin.[4]

Pagelle in Tasca students arriving in Turin. @Fabio Bucciarelli/INTERSOS

[4] See also UNHCR, Arrivato in Italia il secondo gruppo di minori soli del progetto "Pagella in tasca", 12 October 2022 (in italian, last access 15 November 2022).

Financial information



UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to the Italy operation:

Government of Italy (Presidency of the Council of Ministers) | **Istituto Buddista Italiano Soka Gakkai** | **Enel Cuore Onlus** | **Intesa Sanpaolo** | **Accenture** | **Autostrade per l'Italia S.p.A.** | **European Union** | **Other private donors**

UNHCR is also grateful to the donors who have contributed to UNHCR operations globally, including Italy, with unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions.[6]

In particular, in the month of October, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Italian Citizens Abroad and Migration Policies also gave a contribution of EUR 1.5 million to support the health system, psychosocial services and socio-economic initiatives for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian returnees and host communities in Colombia; EUR 3 million in support of refugees through secondary health care in Lebanon; and EUR 1 million for the protection and solution assistance for refugees in Khartoum State, Sudan, through cash-based Interventions.

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LINKS

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

[5] Unearmarked funding is allocated and reallocated multiple times during the year to allow UNHCR to fund priorities activities.
[6] Unearmarked contributions are without restrictions on their use, allowing UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk globally. 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; Private donors Spain; Private donors Japan; United Kingdom; Netherlands; Denmark; Private donors Republic of Korea; Germany; Private donors USA; Japan; France; Switzerland; Private donors Italy; Belgium; Ireland; Private donors Canada; Private donors Sweden; Italy. Donors of softly earmarked contributions of USD 10 million or more are: Germany; Private donors USA; Private donors Japan; Private donors Sweden; Private donors Bahamas; United States of America; Private donors United Kingdom; Private donors Germany; Private donors Netherlands; United Kingdom; Private donors Italy; France; Private donors France; Private donors Spain; Private donors Switzerland; Austria; Norway; Private donors Australia; Japan; Private donors Denmark; Private donors Czech Republic.