

# Türkiye

May-July 2022

## Key Figures (as of 31 July)

### 4 million

**Refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye** including around over 3.65 million Syrians under temporary protection and close to 330,000 international protection status holders and asylum-seekers of other nationalities. While 98.6% of Syrian refugees live across Türkiye in 81 provinces, 1.3% are hosted in seven temporary accommodation centres managed by the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM).

### 10,584

**Refugees have been submitted for resettlement consideration** to 13 countries in 2022 so far. 5,144 refugees have departed for resettlement to 14 countries, 79% of whom were Syrian and 8% Afghan.

### 22,302

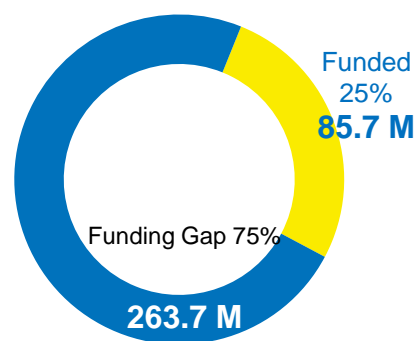
## Calls answered on the UNHCR Counselling Line in July.

Most of the callers, the majority Syrian (57%) followed by Afghan nationals (22%), enquired about resettlement opportunities followed by financial assistance. Over 2,500 calls came through UNHCR's dedicated GBV line, some 800 of whom chose to be connected to an operator for counselling.

## Funding (as of 5 July)

### USD 349.4 million

requested for UNHCR operations in Türkiye



To address the protection needs of refugees and asylum seekers in Türkiye, UNHCR undertakes a range of activities, thanks to the generous support of its donors.

In addition to conducting door-to-door protection assessments through its partners, UNHCR utilizes online tools such as [the Help Website](#), [Services Advisor](#) and [UNHCR Türkiye Information Board on Facebook](#); tools crucial for providing reliable and updated information on protection services.

This way, the protection situation is constantly being assessed, and necessary responses are being offered to persons forced to flee their homes due to persecution and war.

Read more [here](#).

UNHCR Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Ambassador Mohamed Abdi Affey, visited Türkiye on an official mission, 6-7 June. Ambassador Affey held consultative meetings with senior government officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), the Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB), the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) and members of the diplomatic corps. The visit took into consideration Türkiye's key role, and its engagement and investments in the Horn of Africa, particularly Somalia, which would help to improve the refugee response in host countries and create a conducive environment for voluntary returns as part of the durable solutions for Somali refugees as envisaged in the Nairobi Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by IGAD countries.



Ambassador Mohamed Affey and President Serkan Kayalar of TIKA during the Special Envoy's mission to Türkiye in June.



UNHCR Representative participates in a panel discussion on global compacts and policies during the conference on parliaments and global compacts in Istanbul.

In cooperation with the Global Compact on Refugees team at headquarters, UNHCR participated in the [conference on Parliaments and the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees](#) organized by the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) and the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (GNAT) on 20-21 June with a focus on bringing about stronger international cooperation and national implementation. The Speaker of the GNAT, Mustafa Şentop, mentioned in a news conference, that bringing together parliamentarians to discuss and look at possible solutions would help to raise more awareness on global migration, stressing that solutions should be as global as the problem is. Around 300 parliamentarians and officials from 50 different parliaments, including 16 speakers and deputy speakers and senior Turkish officials attended the event. UNHCR's Türkiye

Representative was a panellist in a session on international governance standards, global compacts and global policy agendas, while UNHCR's GCR team at headquarters took part in the panel session on responsibility and fair burden sharing. UNHCR underlined GCR objectives, achievements and way forward, along with messages to parliamentarians on how they could support refugee protection and inclusion, domestically and internationally. The conference also held a special session on the experience of Türkiye as the country hosting the highest number of migrants in the world.

The Representative was on [mission to the southeast region of Türkiye](#), in Kilis, Gaziantep, Mardin and Şanlıurfa during the first week of July. In addition to meeting governors, provincial directors of migration management, mayors, and visiting verification and voluntary repatriation processing areas, the Representative also met with staff, partners, and university representatives, and visited livelihoods and social cohesion projects implemented by UNHCR and partners. The Representative also signed a Letter of Understanding with the Mayor of Kilis to strengthen the ongoing partnership between UNHCR and Kilis Municipality for the protection and provision of services to people in need of international protection in Kilis and to support social cohesion among the communities. Kilis is the province in Türkiye with the highest proportion of Syrians to the Turkish population.



UNHCR and Kilis Municipality sign a Letter of Understanding in Kilis.

## World Refugee Day



World Refugee Day events took place in various provinces across Türkiye, including Ankara, Izmir, Istanbul, central Anatolia and the southeast region of Türkiye under the global theme 'Whoever, wherever, whenever... seeking asylum is a human right'.

Partners, refugee communities and local authorities celebrated refugees' experiences as an opportunity to foster social cohesion between the host community and refugees. Events were held in the form of panel discussions, such as with Izmir Metropolitan University, held at Izmir Kültürpark with 180 attendees, including staff of municipalities, city councils, hospitals, and NGOs as well as distinguished academics. The discussion

focused on the idea of inclusive cities, and touched upon discrimination, hate speech, the dissemination of false facts about refugees, as well as managing solutions through public institutions and the media. Other events included visits to touristic areas, picnics and outdoor events for the refugee community; one of these took place in Niğde, through UNHCR's partner, Yetim Eli Association, which organized a barbecue and outdoor event in a natural environment with the participation of some 3,000 people in cooperation with local officials of the governorate, municipality and provincial directorates. Another, in Manisa, was held with joint efforts of UNHCR and Yunusemre City Council and consisted of an art exhibition by refugee and Turkish artists, and a concert of the Izmir Musicians Association with Turkish, Arabic and Farsi songs. Officials of Yunusemre municipality and city council, Manisa PDMM and NGOs took part in the event.

A World Refugee Day Fair organized by the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migrants (PRM) was held in Ankara at the residence of the US Ambassador. Many refugee-led and refugee-inclusive social cooperatives and initiatives in Türkiye supported by UNHCR, Support to Life (STL) and TRC participated in the fair and sold their products, including [MADE51](#). UNHCR facilitated the participation of the cooperatives in the fair in coordination with PRM.

On media and social media platforms, the Turkish president, high-level officials, parliamentarians, UN agencies and NGOs contributed to WRD messages and marked the generosity of Türkiye hosting the largest number of refugees globally, UNHCR Representative had around 10 media engagements on World Refugee Day and the launch of [UNHCR's Global Trends Report](#). Many were one-on-one interviews and live transmissions on TV, where he took the opportunity to underline the refugee context in Türkiye and globally, the need for greater social cohesion and inclusion, and a call for greater international responsibility sharing.

One of the main events of this year's WRD was a photo exhibition at the Istanbul Atatürk Cultural Centre, entitled "Life through my Eyes" of photographs taken using analogue cameras and developed in a dark room by Turkish and refugee children from Mardin. The children captured light and shadows and people who have a deep significance to them from unique angles. A music group from DRC who found refuge in Türkiye many years ago took to the stage during the event in Istanbul and performed to a large crowd.



Elif (10) said, "I wanted to take a selfie in a different way. I wanted it to be something that belongs to me."

## Social Cohesion and Harmonization



On 26 May, the cooperation between PMM and UNHCR in social cohesion and harmonization was formalized through an [exchange of letters](#). The framework of cooperation reflects the priorities of both institutions in attaining social cohesion and builds on past cooperation where various events, both online and in person, took place between relevant officials, stakeholders and refugee committees.

UNHCR and PMM initiated a series of [on-the-job visits](#) to be conducted in 2022 to discuss human trafficking related procedures implemented in the provinces. The first on-the-job visit was conducted to Kars, Iğdır and Ağrı PDMMs, 27 June-1 July. The mission delegation discussed human trafficking procedures implemented in the provinces at PDMMs and attended provincial coordination commission meetings on anti-human trafficking, in which representatives of provincial directorates, law enforcement units, public prosecutors' office, bar associations, municipalities, and NGOs participated. Additionally, on 4-5 July in Ankara, a meeting was held with the participation of 17 PDMM, 5 PMM and UNHCR staff where the findings of 2021 activities conducted within the scope of UNHCR-PMM cooperation were presented, and the outline of standard operating procedures comprised of principles and procedures related to identification and protection of human trafficking victims was discussed. On 30 July in



Ankara, PMM, UNHCR and the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye (TIHEK) hosted a Summit on Combatting Human Trafficking in Türkiye to mark the 30 July World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The panel discussions addressed prevention, protection of victims' rights, prosecution, partnerships and the use of technology in the trafficking of human beings.

From 19-21 July 2022, the first round of a series of [protection trainings](#) was conducted in Ankara with 31 PDMM staff, comprising protection desk interviewers and protection desk coordinators from various PDMMs. The training covers specific protection themes including gender-based violence, child protection, human trafficking, interviewing techniques, stress management and code of conduct along with sessions specific to the functions of protection desks. The pre- and post-tests conducted at the training indicated an increase from 79 to 84 per cent in the level of knowledge on the topics covered.

PMM and UNHCR are facilitating a series of [thematic consultation and evaluation meetings on migration management and social cohesion](#) with the participation of various academics from migration research centres in order to strengthen the dialogue between academia and public institutions by supporting Türkiye's Harmonization Strategy and National Action Plan and contributing to policy processes on migration management in Türkiye. The first was held on 15 June and another was held on 21 July, and focused on the role of the local authorities in social cohesion in Türkiye, where the participants discussed their relevant experiences and observations, and worked on policy recommendations pertaining to social cohesion.



## Engaging at the Local Level

Through UNHCR's Cooperation Protocol with [the Justice Academy of Türkiye \(JAT\)](#), a [training of trainers](#) was organized in Izmir, 12-15 May, for 33 judges working at first instance administrative, civil, criminal and appeal courts, and prosecutors who would serve as trainers at planned regional trainings. The training, covering a wide range of issues, including protection procedures, jurisprudence, human rights and identification of persons with special needs, was delivered by academics, representatives of PMM, judges, lawyers and UNHCR staff.

UNHCR organized and facilitated a [municipal coordination event on refugee inclusion and participation in municipalities](#), 12-13 May in Adana, co-hosted by UNHCR and the Union of Municipalities in Türkiye (UMT), aimed at strengthening coordination among municipalities and empowering local structures through increased capacity sharing. One hundred participants from 30 district, provincial and metropolitan municipalities, UN agencies, I/NGOs, and donors attended the event. High-level representatives of Adana Metropolitan Municipality, PMM, UMT and UNHCR provided opening remarks. The discussions and good practices described focused on leaving no one behind, harmonization, collaboration and coordination.

UNHCR Representative gave the keynote address at [the International Symposium on Migration and Refugee Law](#) on 11 May organized by the Faculty of Law of Çağ University in Mersin. The symposium was held online and explored areas related to refugee law, the European migration crisis, temporary protection, legal frameworks and migration, environment and climate change. The Representative's keynote address focused primarily on irregular migration at sea.

On 27 May, UNHCR organized and facilitated a panel discussion on [displacement related to climate change](#) at an International Forum on Sustainable Development, Urban Agriculture and Biodiversity in Konya, where over 300 representatives of municipalities and local governments gathered to discuss sustainable development and urban agriculture. The panel highlighted the need to prepare for climate change, to mitigate risks and build resilience in a refugee-inclusive manner as envisioned in a whole of society approach. The forum was organized by UNHCR partner, WALD, together with AGRICITIES and Konya Metropolitan Municipality. UNHCR's Deputy Representative took part in the panel discussion and talked of the situation of refugees with regards to climate change.

In cooperation with Karatay Municipality in Konya, UNHCR will support a project on [sanitary systems training](#). The kick-off meeting of the project took place on 16 June at Karatay Municipality. The vocational course on sanitary systems will benefit 300 people, aged 18–40 years, half Turkish and half refugee communities, residing in Karatay. The beneficiaries will receive soft-skills training on basic precautions of occupational health and safety in the workplace, and refugee beneficiaries will be directed to Karatay public education centre to learn Turkish, a requirement for the sanitary systems training. The intervention strives to enhance social cohesion between the two communities through mixed vocational courses and conflict resolution skills training. The kick-off meeting saw the participation of UNHCR and officials from Karatay Municipality and Konya Chamber of Commerce. The training will take place during the second half of 2022.

In May, UNHCR organized an [induction training for UNHCR-supported personnel working in the institutions of the Directorate General of Child Services of the Ministry of Family and Social Services](#) in Antalya with the participation

of 30 managers and 76 staff from 24 provinces. The sessions covered child protection related information, mechanisms, communication, counselling and interview techniques, as well as first aid and response to crises delivered by the Ministry staff. UNHCR delivered sessions on international standards and national frameworks on international protection, child protection, Best Interests Assessments and Best Interests Determination as well as Code of Conduct and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Sessions related to employment procedures and personnel rights and responsibilities were delivered by the employment service provider.

Another [training](#) was organized in Antalya for 100 [social workers serving in child protection mobile teams](#) from 71 provinces at the Ministry of Family and Social Services' Directorate General of Child Services. The training was held 14-17 June and included sessions on risk factors for families and children, working with trauma and crisis, social services provided to foreigners in Türkiye, case management, psychosocial support, family visits, supervision, self-care, and other aspects.



Refugee-led organizations and committees in Izmir increase their advocacy skills.

UNHCR and Izmir City Council organized a [workshop on strengthening refugee participation in local representation mechanisms](#) for 30 participants from refugee-led organizations, refugee committees and local NGOs. Participants discussed issues on voluntarism, advocacy, and representation.

Eighty female entrepreneurs from refugee and host communities in Gaziantep completed a [capacity and business development training](#) as part of a training for social cooperatives in Gaziantep, carried out by UNHCR and Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce. The training initiative strives to increase the capacity of women entrepreneurs and women's cooperatives working in agriculture, to support their business ideas, and develop and market their products more effectively, while increasing the accessibility of cooperatives to financial opportunities.

UNHCR's protection team reviewed the currently existing set-ups for [complaints, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse \(PSEA\), and feedback mechanisms](#) regarding refugees' and asylum seekers' access to services. All service providers working with UNHCR were given relevant posters to be disseminated for awareness-raising. UNHCR continues to support partners to develop robust PSEA prevention and response mechanisms, including implementation of a survivor-centred approach to SEA victims/gender-based violence survivors. On 6 July, the team organized a [training covering community-based protection](#), accountability to affected people (AAP) and feedback and complaints response mechanisms (FCRM) for 48 ASAM staff both in the field and in their head office. The training modules included an understanding of community and community engagement, working with refugee community structures, good practices, conducting participatory sessions and the establishment and management of effective, safe and confidential FCRMs.

## Education

A [30-year celebration event of the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative, known as the DAFI scholarships](#), took place online on 12 May with the participation of YTB, the German Embassy and UNHCR in Türkiye with over 200 DAFI scholarship holders. DAFI graduates and current scholarship holders discussed how the scholarship had contributed to their studies, and described their overall experience at university, through volunteer opportunities and later with work opportunities. Six students shared some art work and talked about how DAFI had changed their academic experience and encouraged volunteerism for them.

Eight refugee students will be joining Luiss University in Rome through a [complementary pathway scholarship](#) which has been awarded to them. UNHCR has been coordinating Türkiye's involvement with Progetto Mediterraneo (an education complementary pathway offered by Luiss University in Rome). UNHCR reviewed over 2,500 applications to identify potential candidates for 15 bachelor degree scholarships offered in the Mediterranean region. Luiss university has one of the highest rates of employability following studies in Italy. UNHCR is working with the Turkish authorities on facilitating the necessary documents required for the students' travel and enrolment.

In May and June, UNHCR and YTB facilitated various trainings on [problem solving and conflict resolution](#) across Türkiye. One training took place in collaboration with Necmettin Erbakan University, where around 100 students from host and refugee communities were trained on interactive social problem solving and conflict resolution techniques. On 28-29 May, another training was organized for students and academics of Harran University in Şanlıurfa to promote the role of youth as agents of change in their communities.



Students at Harran University in Sanliurfa receive problem solving and conflict resolution skills training.

Approximately 120 Turkish and international students, the majority of whom were Syrians as well as students from Zambia and Chad participated. Another training benefitting over 100 students took place in Konya on 3-4 June.

In July, at the [Human Rights Academy on International Protection and Refugees international summer school](#) in Çeşme organized by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, UNHCR gave a presentation on the principle of non-refoulement in the international and national legal framework. The summer school included participants from Türkiye, Syria, Lebanon, Poland, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Georgia and Bulgaria. UNHCR's spokesperson also gave a presentation on the Global Compact on Refugees and Refugee Response.



Participants of the training on teaching methods for teachers and PEC managers which took place in June.

In cooperation with the Ministry of National Education, UNHCR organized a [4-day training](#) in Ankara in June [on teaching methods](#) for 55 teachers and managers of public education centres (PECs). Trainees learned 'teaching Turkish as a foreign language' techniques, curriculum development and methods to improve speaking and writing skills, as well as conflict resolution. The training was organized to increase the effectiveness of language courses in PECs and support the role of teachers and managers as facilitators to establish positive relations between refugees and the host community. It is part of a larger project to help

Syrians and persons in need of international protection in Türkiye receive vocational training and learn Turkish.

## Inter-agency

UNHCR's protection team delivered a presentation on the "[Legislation, Policies, and Reporting Channels for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse \(SEA\) Allegations in Türkiye](#)" to the UN Country Team on 30 May. The presentation provided an opportunity for UNCT members to gain an understanding of international and national legal frameworks related to PSEA as well as good SEA prevention and response regulations of NGOs, universities, trade unions and bar associations.

On 23 June, UNHCR attended a [focus group discussion \(FGD\) on violence against women](#): aspects of prevention, intervention and policies, organized by the Ministry of Family and Social Service's Directorate General of Women's Status. The FGDs were facilitated by academics from the Social Sciences University of Ankara and was organized within the scope of a research project commissioned by the directorate general. UNHCR contributed to the discussion with inputs related particularly to risks faced by refugee women, as well as on the implementation of the national legislation. UNFPA and UN Women also participated in the discussions.

Between 29-30 June, UNHCR organized a [training for IOM mobile teams in Edirne](#) which was delivered to 12 staff of the IOM Edirne and Kırklareli mobile teams, including interpreters, field, health and social workers and project assistants. The training was designed at the request of IOM to help the teams carry out their work efficiently, and covered general principles of international protection, rights and services in Türkiye as well as pushback incidents.

UNHCR Türkiye launched the [Ukrainian translation of the Services Advisor Türkiye website](#). The platform is now available in seven languages; those most spoken by refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye (Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, Pashto and Ukrainian) in addition to Turkish and English. New features have been added, such as bulk import, harmonized cash activities on taxonomy, as well as some attributes with regards to services.

## Thanks to donors for their support to UNHCR Türkiye in 2022

USA | European Union | France | Norway | Sweden | Netherlands | Denmark | United Kingdom | Germany | Switzerland | Belgium | Ireland | Italy | Private donors

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## LINKS

[UNHCR Türkiye website](#) | [Regional Portal - Syria Regional Refugee Response](#) | [Regional Portal - Mediterranean](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Services Advisor](#) | [UNHCR Help](#) | [UNHCR Türkiye Information Board](#) | [Good Practices Portal](#)