

EUROPE RESETTLEMENT



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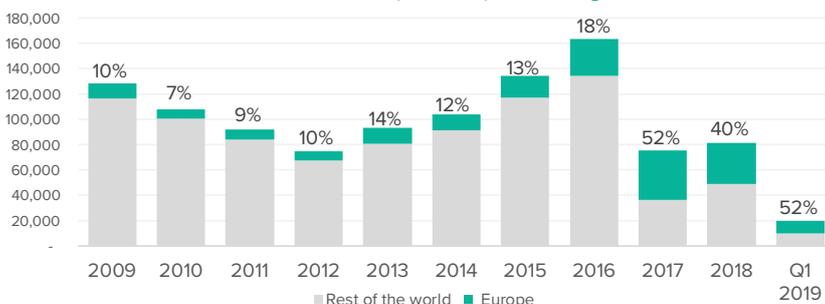
Ireland. Nola (second from right) welcomes a Syrian family to Dunshaughlin. This rural town is piloting the first citizen-led resettlement programme. Unlike traditional refugee resettlement models where the state provides settlement and integration services, this scheme involves private citizens supporting displaced people with financial, emotional and practical help in the community.

Overview

In the first three months of 2019, just over 10,200 refugees were submitted by UNHCR for resettlement¹ to 17 countries in Europe.² This is already almost one third of the total submissions made in 2018, and 60% of the average rate of 16,960 submissions per year during the previous 10 years.

Europe's proportion of resettlement submissions globally in 2019⁴ is 52%. Between 2008 and 2016, this proportion increased from 7% to 18%, before substantially increasing to 52% during 2017 and 40% during 2018. The increase in 2017 is primarily due to a significant decrease globally in the scale of some States' resettlement programmes, most notably by the United States of America, but also to an increase of resettlement places made available by European states.

Resettlement submissions to Europe compared to global trends³



Resettlement submissions to Europe³

2019	10,205	in 17 countries
2018	32,363	in 20 countries
2017	38,881	in 25 countries
2016	28,651	in 27 countries
2015	17,209	in 19 countries

Resettlement arrivals to Europe⁵

2019	7,567 ³
2018	26,081
2017	27,450
2016	18,175
2015	11,175

¹ See www.unhcr.org/resettlement.html for more background information on resettlement. The figures presented in this factsheet reflect UNHCR *submissions* of resettlement cases to resettlement countries. Following submission, the timescale can vary in each resettlement country before a case is accepted and the refugees depart from their previous country of asylum and arrive finally in the country of resettlement.

² Europe comprises 50 countries, including the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, South-Eastern Europe (inc. Kosovo (S/RES/1244(1999))), Turkey and Eastern Europe (exc. Kazakhstan). Countries receiving resettlement submissions in 2019 are shown on the map on page 2.

³ Source: Resettlement submission and departure data from rsq.unhcr.org. Departure figures reported by UNHCR may not match resettlement statistics published by States as government figures may include submissions received outside of UNHCR's resettlement processes. Only data on resettlement cases referred by UNHCR is available for 2019.

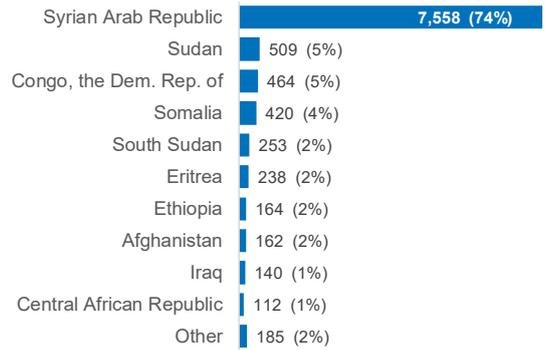
⁴ All references to 2019 refer to the period between January and March.

⁵ Resettlement arrival data is from Eurostat for the EU and Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein, and are potentially accessible for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe on rsq.unhcr.org.

⁶ All lists are ordered in terms of the number of resettlement submissions, in descending order.

Country of origin

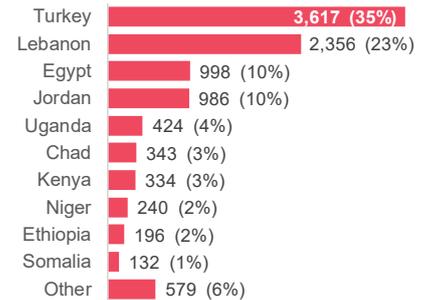
The vast majority of refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in 2019⁴ originate from Syria (74%), consistent with 2018, with the resettlement of Syrians to Europe having increased significantly in scale between 2013 and 2016 in parallel to growing refugee numbers. In total, 92% of refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in 2019 originate from just six countries: Syria, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea.⁶ 16% of submissions to Europe are from East Africa and just 0.4% are from West Africa.



Country of asylum

Over three-quarters of the refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe in 2019⁴ have been registered in just four countries: Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan.⁶

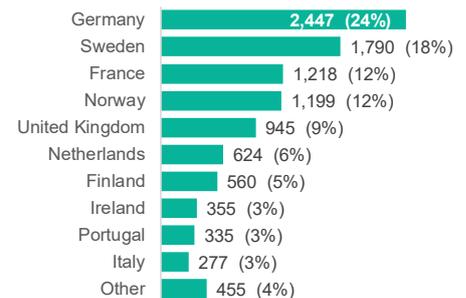
Refugees submitted for resettlement to Europe were typically registered in the following countries: **Syrians:** Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan or Egypt; **Sudanese:** Chad, Egypt or Libya; **Congolese (DRC):** Uganda, Malawi or Kenya; **Somalis:** Kenya, Ethiopia or Egypt; **South Sudanese:** Ethiopia or Egypt; **Eritreans:** Niger or Egypt; **Ethiopians:** Somalia.⁶



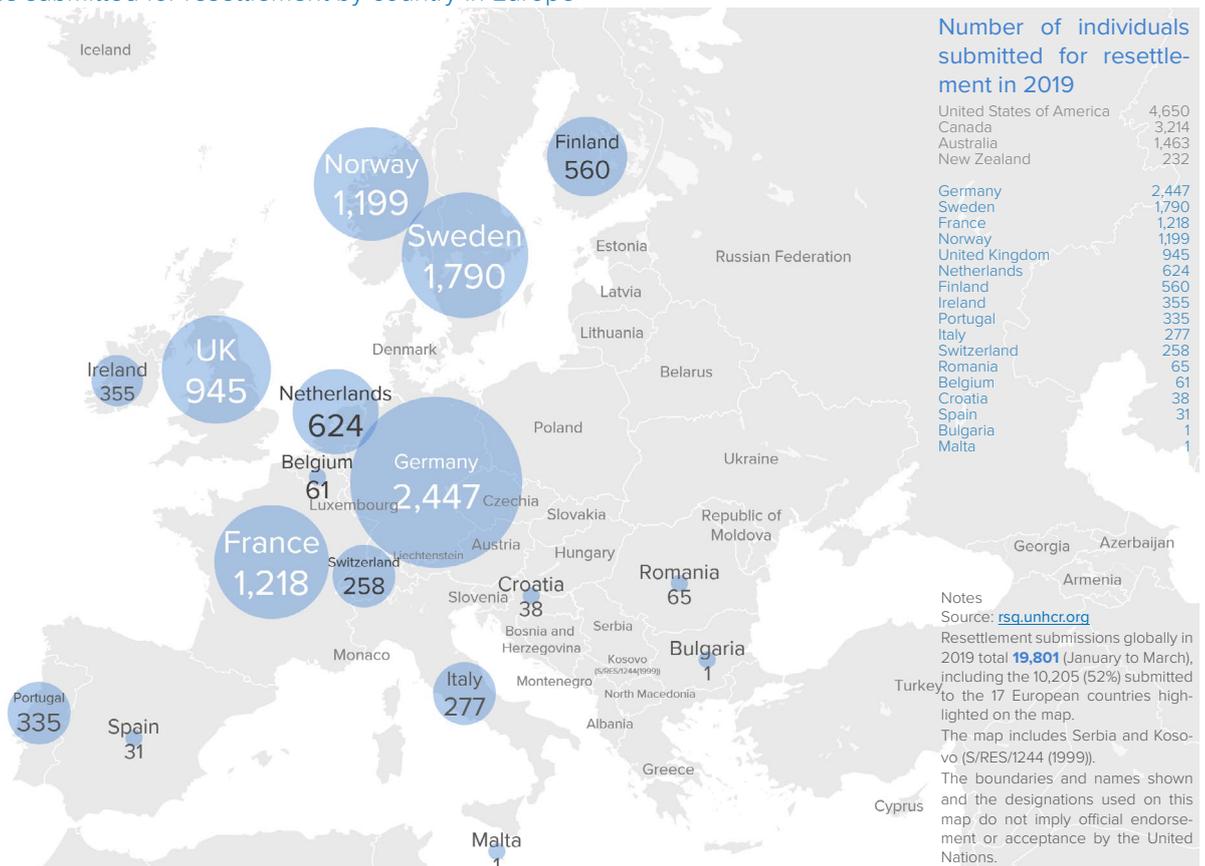
Country of resettlement

In 2019,⁴ six countries in Europe (Germany, Sweden, France, Norway, the UK and the Netherlands)⁶ have received 81% of all resettlement submissions.

Of the 17 countries in Europe to which resettlement submissions were made in 2019, 9 resettled predominately Syrians (defined as submissions comprising at least 80% Syrians). Only Sweden, France, Norway, the UK and the Netherlands⁶ have resettled substantial numbers of other nationalities of refugees, including from Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, South Sudan and Eritrea.⁶



Number of refugees submitted for resettlement by country in Europe



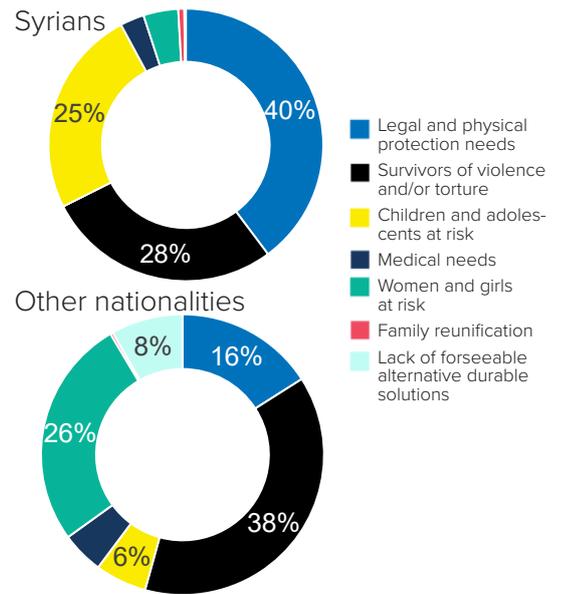
Categories of resettlement submissions

As an important protection tool that is used to address cases that cannot be provided with appropriate protection and support in their countries of asylum, resettlement cases in 2019⁴ were most commonly submitted to European countries based on legal and physical protection needs (34%), to provide adequate protection to survivors of torture and/or violence (30%), and to children and adolescents at risk (20%).⁷

For nationalities other than Syrians (26% of submissions overall), fewer cases were submitted based on legal and physical protection needs (16%). By contrast, more cases were submitted to provide adequate protection to survivors of torture and/or violence, women and girls at risk, and due to the lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions in protracted refugee situations (38%, 26% and 8% respectively).

Overall, just 1% of cases submitted to European countries were under the emergency submission procedures, while 7% were regarded as urgent.⁷

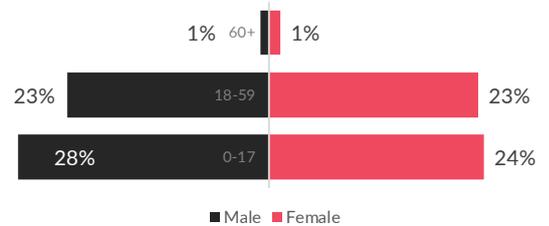
Of the 1,338 resettlement cases (5,056 individuals in total) on which a decision was made in 2019 by European countries, 92% were accepted, consistent with acceptance rates in previous years, as well as globally.



Demographics

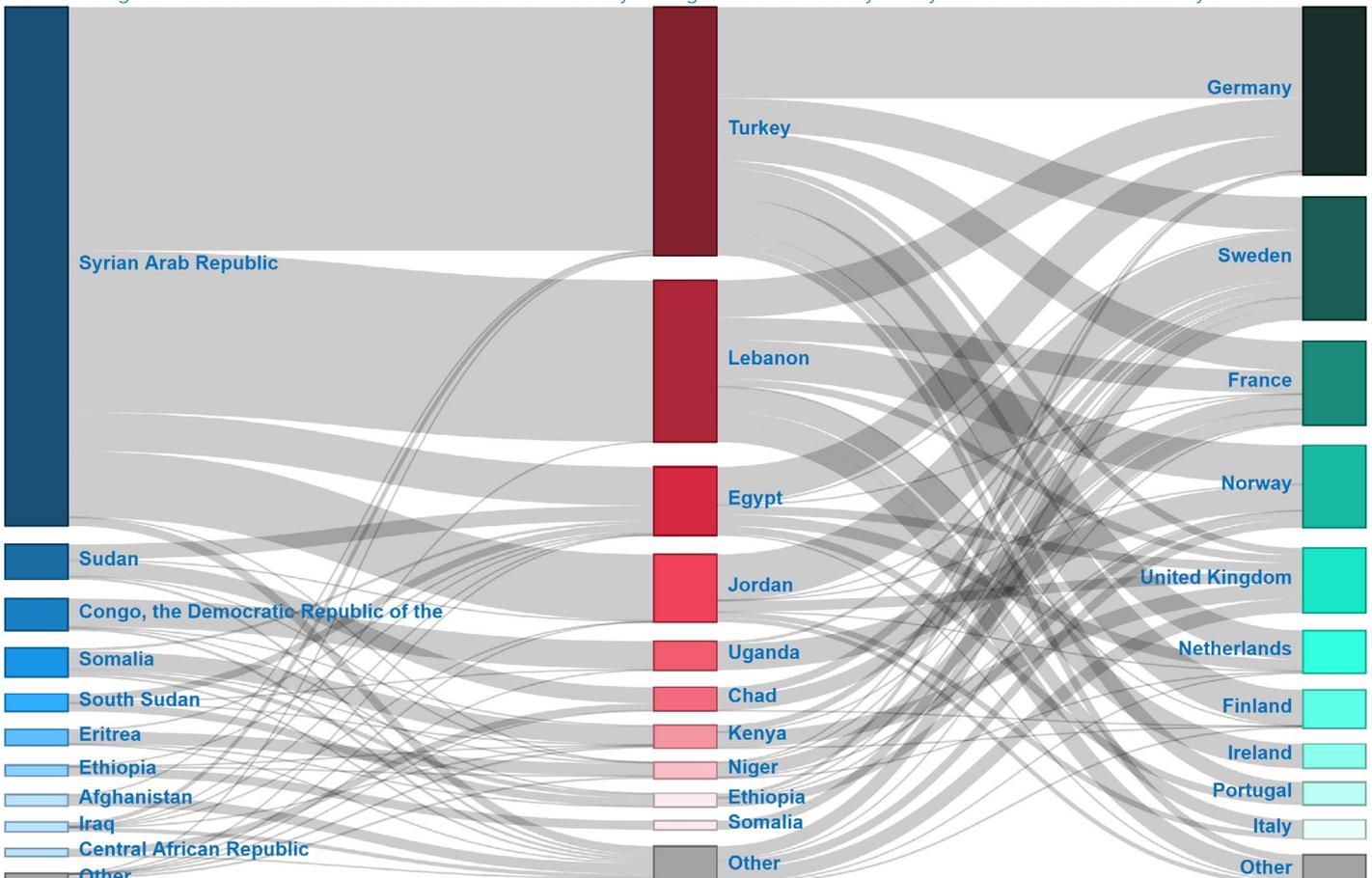
In 2019,⁴ 52% of those people whose resettlement cases were submitted to Europe were children, 46% were aged between 18 and 59, and 2% were over 60 years old. Overall, submissions of men and boys compared to women and girls were close to equal (52% versus 48%). This demographic profile is very consistent with submissions in 2018 and also by both the country of origin and country of resettlement.

Each case submitted to Europe included 4 people on average in 2019.



Flow of refugees

Flow of refugees submitted for resettlement in 2019 from country of origin via their country of asylum to the intended country of resettlement



⁷ See the [UNHCR Resettlement Handbook](#): chapter six (resettlement submission categories) on page 243 and section 6.1.1 (resettlement priority levels) on page 246.