

Liechtenstein

February 2021

The Principality of Liechtenstein regularly provides **financial support** to UNHCR. As in other countries, the number of asylum applications dropped in 2020.

Most applications are rejected as inadmissible. This is due to the fact that Liechtenstein participates in the Dublin system and that many applicants come from **safe countries of origin**.

UNHCR promotes the integration and inclusion of persons of concern into Liechtenstein's rural communities.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Refugees	138*
Asylum-seekers	23
Stateless people	1

*incl. provisionally admitted persons

TOP THREE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Syrian Arab Rep.	32	Iraq	9
China	31	Somalia	5
Country 3	25	Albania	5

Data source: UNHCR 2020 Mid-Year Statistical report and UNHCR [data finder platform](#)

COVID-19 PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Advocacy: UNHCR regularly monitors the situation of persons of concern during the pandemic in Liechtenstein and provides advice to the relevant stakeholders in the country.

Inclusion of persons of concern: persons of concern are included in COVID-19 protection concepts in the same way as the local population. This also applies to the vaccination programme in Liechtenstein.

Communication with Communities: The refugee-community in Liechtenstein is very small. Communication channels are mostly rather direct, informal, and uncomplicated.

Health: More information about vaccination plans available [here](#) (Liechtenstein) and [here](#) (UNHCR).

HIGHLIGHTS

Community-based

UNHCR is implementing a more **participatory approach** and published a brochure to promote such an approach for all stakeholders.

Specific needs

UNHCR published a study on the identification and follow up to **specific needs** in the asylum procedure and suggested improvements.

Family reunification

UNHCR advocated for **family reunification** with TV-spots and a video with explanations for refugee communities.

Statelessness

UNHCR continued its advocacy for the introduction of a dedicated procedure for the recognition of statelessness and actively raised awareness among the general population of the problems faced by stateless persons.



From Syria to Vaduz: Liechtenstein becomes a new home for two Kurdish girls

For almost three years, Jwana and Rozana have been living with their mother in Triesen thanks to the UNHCR resettlement programme with Liechtenstein. More [here](#).

Key Priorities

- **Asylum procedures:** UNHCR continuously advocates for an asylum procedure which is fair and efficient and for removing admissibility criteria not in line with international law.
- **Solutions/Integration:** UNHCR advocates for the introduction of a subsidiary protection status with rights aligned to those of refugees. In addition, the Office monitors the implementation of the new integration strategy.
- **Resettlement and Complementary Pathways:** Liechtenstein offered in October 2013 to resettle one Syrian family from Jordan. Based on the success of this resettlement case, Liechtenstein accepted in February 2015 five additional families. These arrived in Liechtenstein in three groups between July and September 2015. Due to the rising number of asylum applications in 2015 (150 instead of 65 in 2014, significantly above the five-year average of 83) and Liechtenstein's participation in the EU relocation programme, Liechtenstein has not accepted any new resettlement case since then.
- **Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance:** UNHCR advocates for the introduction of community-based approaches and issued an information booklet for this purpose.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR *advocates* for:
 - a fair and efficient asylum procedure,
 - the introduction of a subsidiary protection status,
 - an effective integration strategy.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR maintains regular contact with all relevant governmental entities, the courts and civil society actors such as the Liechtenstein Refugee Council and the Liechtenstein Human Rights Association.
- **External Engagement:** Our external engagement aims at fostering public awareness of the importance

of refugee protection, the need for resettlement places and the improvement of the legal framework.

Statelessness

- In 2009, Liechtenstein acceded to both the 1954 relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. However, there is no specific procedure for the recognition of statelessness. Though law provides stateless persons, recognized as such, with the right to have a travel document issued, it does not result in a residence title.

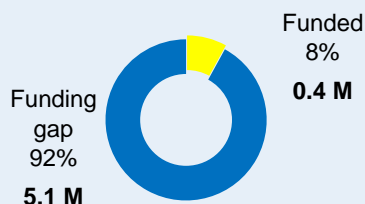
UNHCR Presence in Liechtenstein

There is no UNHCR presence in the Principality of Liechtenstein. It is covered by the Country Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, based in Bern, Switzerland.

Financial information* (February 2021)

*information relates to the Representations for Austria and to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, to the Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, the Liaison Office in Vienna and the presence in Portugal

Financial requirements
USD 5.2 M



UNHCR is grateful to the major donors of unearmarked contributions* to the 2021 global programmes (USD, as of February 2021):

Norway 80 M | Sweden 66.9 M | Netherlands 36.1 M | Denmark 34.6 M | Germany 22.1 M | Switzerland 16.4 M | Ireland 12.5 M | Belgium 11.9 M

*Unearmarked contributions allow UNHCR for critical flexibility in how best to reach populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Above are donors of USD 10 million or more.

UNHCR is grateful to the Principality of Liechtenstein for contributing USD 524,026 in 2020, including their regular contribution of USD 413,651 and an additional amount of USD 110,375 for the COVID-19 response.