



Global Route-Based Migration Programme 2025-2030

A route-based approach to humanitarian assistance and protection for people on the move in Europe and Central Asia



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IFRC APPROACH TO MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

As a global humanitarian network with a permanent presence in 191 countries, the IFRC approaches migration from a purely humanitarian perspective. The IFRC focuses on the needs, vulnerabilities and potential of migrants, irrespective of their legal status, type, or category. The “deliberately broad” approach of the IFRC includes refugees, asylum

seekers, labor migrants, stateless migrants, and migrants deemed irregular by public authorities. This approach is complemented by the Movement’s 2009 Policy on Internal Displacement, which reaffirms the longstanding commitment and practice of addressing the needs of individuals and communities affected by internal displacement.

“

I came all the way from Turkey, passing through difficult paths, until I finally reached Montenegro. After days of walking and struggling, I arrived at the Božaj camp in Montenegro, tired and hungry. The Red Cross workers welcomed me with kindness and gave me a food package, for which I am truly grateful. I hadn’t eaten in three days, and even though I still need to wait another 24 hours to be officially registered, that meal brought me some strength and relief. They also gave me a SIM card with internet access, allowing me to contact my parents and let them know I’m safe and currently in Montenegro. Being able to reassure them means so much to me. I’m incredibly grateful for everything they’ve done – it’s a kindness I’ll never forget

Refugee from Iran

”

“

Since the Migration Mobile Team started, migrants have started to approach the Team. Then I realised how useful the team’s role is. Many migrants in the camps approach the Mobile Team to express their needs and I am happy to be able to help.

Loukia Koumbari, Protection Officer, Cyprus Red Cross Society

”

“

I am Lhou and I come from Algeria. I have signed a volunteer contract with the Slovenian Red Cross.

I would like to tell you about my experience of my volunteer work, but foremost I would like to thank the Slovenian Red Cross for their work in offering material and non-material aid to other people. They always try to find solutions for the easier and better lives of migrants. My story in the Humanitarian Service Point started with my wish and talent to help other migrants who will stay in Slovenia for a while to fix their bicycles. But we also mustn’t forget about those who have just arrived in Slovenia and also need help. The Slovenian Red Cross helps them with providing them with essential aid such as donations of SIM cards, clothing, shoes and hygiene kits, information etc.

Thank you.

Lhou, HSP volunteer and beneficiary from Alger

”

**The Global Route-Based
Migration Programme in
Europe supported**

**317,000
PEOPLE ON
THE MOVE
in 2022-2024.**



THE CHALLENGE

Around the world, people on the move – migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and other displaced people – undertake perilous journeys along land- and sea-based migratory routes in search of safety or a better life, often enduring great hardship and facing countless risks, harm, discrimination and vulnerability. One of the critical concerns for people on the move, at all stages of their journey, is the ability to access essential and life-saving assistance and protection.

People on the move – migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and other displaced populations, face extraordinary risks to their lives, safety, dignity, human rights, and wellbeing. This multi-year and multi-country program aim to leverage the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's presence in countries of origin, transit, and destination to enhance humanitarian assistance and improve protection for people on the move along migration routes. As a Global Programme, it engages the Africa, Europe, and MENA regions. It draws on the Movement's wide-ranging expertise, opportunities for enhanced coordination, and cross-border collaboration along the route, as well as its collective influence in shaping the global narrative of and for migrants, advocacy, and humanitarian diplomacy. Implementation of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in Europe is further disclosed, explaining its empirical overall operation and performance on country level.

In Europe, people on the move arrive through different land and maritime routes, including the three-trans-Mediterranean (Eastern, Central and Western Mediterranean), Atlantic and Balkan routes. Through the years, the Western Balkan and Central Mediterranean routes were the most active for crossings of migrants attempting to enter the European Union, however, the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece has experienced significant increases.¹ The

overall crossings in the Balkan route have shown diverse trends, from an increase of 136% on border crossings in 2022 and decrease in 2024.² This reduction was attributed to the increasingly restrictive border policies put in place by various countries in the region. Bearing in mind the policy landscape in the Europe region, this trend of decreased crossings can be forecasted, but shift to more dangerous routes that migrants will take is expected. Reflection on data brings a conclusion that the Western Balkan route continues to be a substantial transit route for migrants attempting to enter the European Union. Current trends on registered arrivals are marked with notable increase along the Eastern Mediterranean route³ to Greece and along Western Africa-Atlantic route⁴ to the Canary Islands. Another observation shows that migrants are spending less time in individual transit countries: the average duration of migrants' stay varied across the region. This underscores the urgent need for enhanced cross-border collaboration to address the challenges of a rapidly evolving migration crisis.

Furthermore, the steady reach of Red Cross National Societies suggests that official figures may not fully capture reality on the ground, as an increasing number of migrants remain unregistered and avoid contact with authorities. Migration remains a highly politicized issue in Europe, with anti-migration rhetoric gaining prominence.

¹Data UNHCR
²Western Balkans mixed movements UNHCR
³Sea Arrivals Data, UNHCR
⁴Sea Arrivals Data, UNHCR

PROPOSED SOLUTION

CONTINUATION OF SUPPORT: FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME

In response to increasing humanitarian needs along key migratory routes, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched its Global Route Based Migration Programme ("The Global Programme" or "The Programme") in 2021.⁵ This multi-regional and multi-year programme, bringing together the humanitarian operations of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East regions, aims to improve the safety and dignity of approximately 990,350 people⁶ in Europe and Central Asia in 2025-2030, ensuring that the most vulnerable are protected from harm and are able to meet their basic needs.

Global Route-Based Migration Programme is operationalized through a network of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies facilitating a continuous approach to the delivery of protection and humanitarian assistance along major migration routes. It also allows for the provision of an enabling environment for the seamless exchange of wide-ranging expertise and information as well as enhancing coordination, consistency and cross-border collaboration.

The Global Programme is framed around three pillars:

1. Scaled up and **enhanced humanitarian assistance and protection** along migration routes, with a focus on humanitarian service points (HSP).
2. **Strengthening the capacities of National Societies** at the local and community levels to assist and protect people on the move, including through strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration along migration routes.
3. **Fostering global and local humanitarian diplomacy and evidence-based advocacy** to address humanitarian assistance and protection needs of people on the move along migration

routes.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Under the IFRC route-based programme **18 National Societies** are engaged in the **Europe region** namely the Red Cross and Red Crescent National societies in: **Albania, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkiye and United Kingdom.** Among them, the National Societies of Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia have been actively implementing activities and have received support through the Programme during the past period. The Italian Red Cross, British Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross have contributed as donors to the Programme, with the Italian Red Cross also involved in implementation in Italy. Additionally, the Spanish Red Cross and Belgian Red Cross are implementing activities in country under the Programme framework, although they have not received direct funding through it. The Turkish Red Crescent plays a key role by providing technical support.

Under **Pillar 1**, National Societies deliver targeted humanitarian assistance and protection at critical locations along migration routes, focusing on people in vulnerable situations on the move. This support can be delivered from HSPs as safe neutral spaces offering humanitarian services at key transit locations, by presence of National Societies in reception/transit centres along the route, as well as from National Society's branches.

Support provided includes information and safe referrals, first aid, primary health care, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), alongside the distribution of food, non-food items, hygiene

TARGET REACH

990,350 PEOPLE

RESOURCES REQUIRED

CHF 18.3 MILLION

⁵IFRC Global Route Based Migration Programme

⁶The forecast is estimated number of people targeted under pillar one, according to National Societies present along the routes.

kits, WASH supplies and connectivity. Migrants also receive protection assistance like legal support, child protection activities, support to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and trafficked people or Restoring Family Links (RFL) activities. All these activities incorporate a Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach to build trust with migrants and host communities and ensure social cohesion. Safeguarding and protection from sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (PSEAH) is embedded across all programme components. All HSPs, reception centres, and outreach activities have clear safeguarding protocols, including referral pathways for GBV, trafficking, and child protection risks. National Societies ensure that all staff and volunteers receive PSEAH training, and that complaints mechanisms are in place and accessible.

In the Europe Region, continuous efforts are contextualized towards innovative approaches and implementation of tools to further support migrants.

With this, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)⁷ for migrants was piloted, bringing insights and recommendations for the opportunities of its use along the route.

Strengthening host communities is equally essential. Investing in their resilience not only enhances social cohesion but also fosters values of tolerance, inclusion, and non-discrimination. Recognized as trusted and capable partners, host communities are central to the Programme, which supports both migrants and host communities by building knowledge, raising awareness on migration challenges, and the vulnerability and needs of migrants. Activities aim to reduce tensions and foster mutual understanding through inclusive, protection-sensitive approaches. Joint initiatives with host communities include health promotion in schools and among the elderly, first aid training, and educational and capacity-building actions rooted in Red Cross expertise.

COMMON MODALITIES FOR PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN SERVICES IN EUROPE



HUMANITARIAN SERVICE POINTS (HSP)

© IFRC. Photo by Hungarian Red Cross

Humanitarian Service Points are a flagship Red Cross and Red Crescent model for providing assistance to people on the move. HSPs aim to provide a neutral space along migratory routes for migrants to access a welcoming and safe environment, alongside a variety of essential services that might otherwise be

inaccessible to them. HSPs operate in key locations along the route in a fixed or mobile modality. Meeting the needs of migrants, mobile HSPs are designed by National Societies to deliver humanitarian assistance in outer areas, border regions or where it is needed.

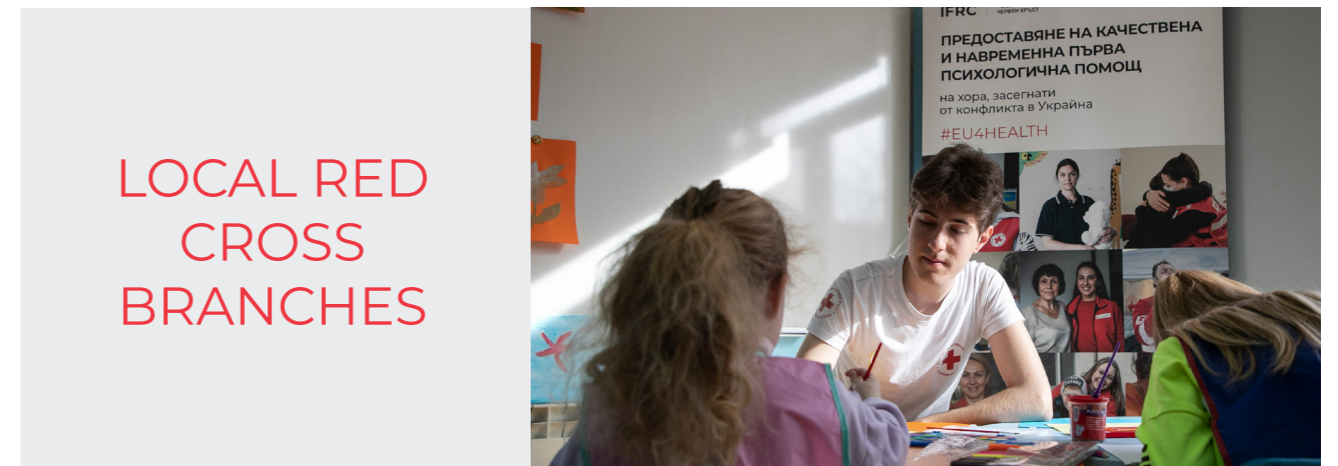
⁷CVA - Feasibility Assessment, 2023



© IFRC. Photo by Mikkel Ostergaard

Mobile Teams in transit, reception, and detention centers are established by the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. In many cases, the Red Cross Red Crescent Mobile teams are the only entity enabled by authorities to enter and support migrants

in the transit or detention centers. Meeting the needs of migrants, mobile teams are organized with paramedics, medical doctors, logistics, interpreters or other profiles to better provide humanitarian assistance.



© IFRC. Photo by Nora Peter

Red Cross Local Branches are for many migrants the spot to feel safe and receive the essential assistance along the routes. Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in Europe have invested in training

and equipment of local staff and volunteer to meet the needs of migrants along the route. Branches provides a full range of assistance and protection activities.

Under **Pillar 2**, migrants, displaced people, and host communities receive more effective and inclusive assistance and protection through a comprehensive capacity strengthening approach that reinforce local response systems. Capacity building is approached as both an operational and institutional investment, aimed at reinforcing the ability of National Societies and other local actors, to deliver timely, context-specific, and protection-sensitive support.

and diversity. Components such as simulations, joint planning exercises, and real-time scenario-based learning strengthen emergency preparedness and responses and coordination at local and cross-border levels. Capacity self-assessment tools are used to identify strengths and gaps, guiding tailored support interventions. In this context, National Societies are also supported to strengthen their emergency preparedness using IFRC tools like the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) process, drawing on successful experiences in other regions.

At the operational level, the programme supports structured training for staff and volunteers in key areas such as migration and protection, safeguarding, humanitarian principles, and inclusive service delivery, with a strong emphasis on understanding the different needs of people based on their gender, age, disabilities

Institutional capacity strengthening is pursued through the integration of new skills, tools, and protocols into National Societies' standard operating procedures, contingency plans, and preparedness frameworks.

The development of localized and scalable guidance tools ensures sustainability and relevance, while community feedback mechanisms are embedded to strengthen accountability and responsiveness.

The Programme reinforces peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange across the IFRC network, enabling National Societies to share the best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches. Particular attention is given to cross-border and route-based collaboration, boosting the continuation and reach of assistance across countries of origin, transit, and destination.

To ensure inclusivity and wider impact, the Programme also builds the capacities of local actors critical to the humanitarian ecosystem. Leveraging the Red Cross' community presence, strong local ties, and auxiliary role to public authorities, it fosters collaboration with local authorities, schools, health centres, and civil society to strengthen migration governance, improve referral and protection pathways, and coordinate responses along migration routes.

Under **Pillar 3**, the Programme facilitates more streamlined coordination and engagement with authorities and other stakeholders, designed to close service gaps, increase their institutional capacity to develop and implement sensitive policies and practices thereby enhance migrant protection, dignity, and rights. Stakeholder mapping and engagement strategies are conducted along the route to identify platform and actors that needs to be targeted for dialogue.

Drawing on their auxiliary role, National Societies share insights, evidence-based advocacy efforts,

and foster strategic partnerships with key migration stakeholders to influence policy and extend their reach and influence.

Complementing wider IFRC efforts to advance policy dialogue, peer National Societies also offer valuable experience to support others in positioning themselves and their branches as auxiliaries to public authorities and in taking on subsidiary roles in migrant assistance and protection.

The successful implementation of the Programme requires a robust and well-structured coordination mechanism in the region where multiple National Societies operate across diverse migration settings. Since its inception, regular coordination platforms have been established, providing National Societies with dedicated spaces to exchange on operational contexts, emerging challenges, and key migration trends.

To fully harness the collective experience and expertise across the network, the IFRC will continue to lead the coordination of the Programme. This includes facilitating the exchange of information, best practices, and lessons learned, while also introducing innovative approaches to implementation that leverage the strengths of the IFRC network.

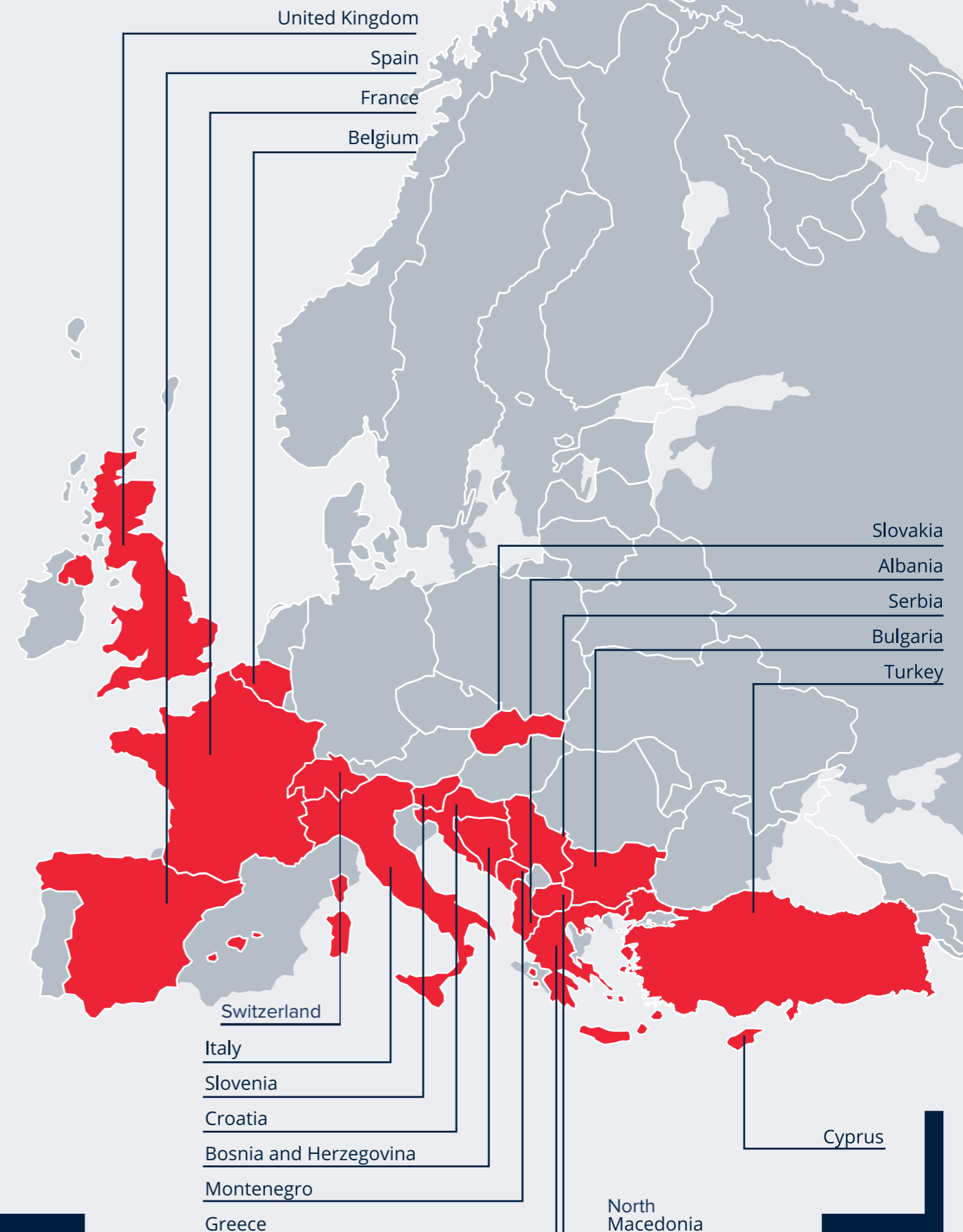
At the heart of the Programme's coordination model is the leadership of local implementing National Societies, who guide operational planning through consolidated national plans. This unified approach is led by IFRC and supported by bilateral and multilateral financial and technical contributions from the British Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent.



© IFRC. Photo by Italian Red Cross

MAP OF THE PROGRAMME IN EUROPE

Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies part of the programme:



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE ALONG THE MIGRATION ROUTE IN EUROPE

The following section outlines the priorities and activities of the National Red Cross Societies involved in the Programme, highlighting their contributions across its three core pillars:

ALBANIAN RED CROSS



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Albania is experiencing increased mixed migration flows in country as it continues to play a dual role as both a destination and transit country within the Western Balkan route. In recent years, the country has experienced complex and evolving migration dynamics, with a significant number of migrants using its territory primarily as a transit point en route to European Union (EU) countries. According to UNHCR protection monitoring data, a total of 4,307 individuals arrived at Albania's borders as part of mixed movements in 2023. In 2024, as of the latest reporting period, 1,388 individuals have been recorded. Although fluctuating, these figures represent a continued and notable migration flow through Albania. As part of the broader Balkan migratory route, the presence of smuggling networks pose significant risks to migrants and refugees. Moreover, certain areas along the route, still affected by the remnants of past conflicts, remain contaminated with landmines. These conditions substantially increase the risk of severe injury or death for those crossing through these hazardous regions.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Albanian Red Cross** – through Mobile Humanitarian Service Points deployed in strategic locations to provide information, first aid, food, water, psychosocial support, and protection services – ensures outreach even in remote or high-transit areas. The National Society (NS) provides an implementation of a multi-layer humanitarian response to address the evolving needs of migrants along key routes.

Complementing this, Albanian Local Red Cross Branches are able to deliver sustained support through

anti-trafficking awareness, safe referral pathways, and Restoring Family Links services. These services are designed to be flexible and responsive, ensuring that assistance reaches those most in need, regardless of their location or legal status.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

Albanian Red Cross prioritize the development of staff and volunteer capacity in protection, humanitarian diplomacy, gender inclusion, and mental health to ensure high-quality, principled service delivery. Safeguarding measures and accountability systems, including feedback mechanisms help tailor services to the needs of specific vulnerable groups such as women, children, and persons with disabilities. The National Society draws on the wider Red Cross network's expertise to enhance its operational capacity. It is actively engaged in national and regional coordination mechanisms to enhance protection and access to services for migrants in vulnerable situations.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The National Society is partnering with the UNHCR to deliver targeted assistance and protection, ensuring that this program complements ongoing efforts and avoids duplication. Through its established relationships with key government stakeholders, including the Ministry of Interior and the Directorate for Asylum and Migration, the National Society is well-positioned to advocate for the rights and dignity of people on the move. Its participation in inter-agency forums and working groups enables it to

influence policy, share field insights, and promote the integration of humanitarian perspectives into national strategies. The Albanian Red Cross works extensively with government authorities and other stakeholders, including UNHCR and IOM in the field of migration and

displacement, ensuring good coordination of action between the National Societies and the relevant authorities, as well as the full utilization and long-term impact of strengthening of the Albanian Red Cross capacities

The **Albanian Red Cross** aims to reach 12,500 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 1800 people under Pillar 2 and 900 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

BELGIAN RED CROSS



© IFRC. Photo by Stephen Ryan

Belgium is both a destination and transit country for migrants, primarily along the Central Mediterranean route.⁸ As part of the Schengen area, it upholds open internal borders but enforces strict external border controls. In 2024, Belgium experienced a 15% increase in asylum applications compared to the previous year.^{9,10} Studies have shown that migrants in Belgium face significant health risks, including higher mortality rates from cardiovascular diseases and external causes.¹¹ The country is also grappling with a reception crisis, as overcrowded asylum centers and systemic delays have left people, including unaccompanied minors, without access to shelter.

The **Belgian Red Cross** operates one Mobile Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) in the Hainaut province, providing essential support to people on the move to address the immediate needs. These services include information provision, Restoring Family Links services that reconnect separated family members, offering charging stations to allow people to power their devices, and providing free calls and Wi-Fi to help individuals communicate with loved ones and access crucial information. Additionally, referrals are made to local services or organizations for further assistance, while essential provisions such as food and water are distributed to ensure sustenance. Non-food items, including hygienic kits, clothes, and winter kits, are also given to help people survive harsh conditions. To support mental well-being, social activities like playing

games and engaging in discussions are organized to create a sense of community and normalcy. These services aim to provide critical aid and support to those affected by crisis and displacement.

Another service provided by the National Society is Refugee Medical Point. Operated in Brussels, it offers unconditional, low threshold assistance, ensuring dignified access to essential health and protection services. It provides free basic medical care, psychological support and health related social guidance, regardless of status, and serves as a safe, neutral and confidential space where people can receive timely care, information and referrals to appropriate services.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Belgian Red Cross strengthens its branches and promotes cross-border collaboration to improve migration responses. It trains volunteers on migration issues and Restoring Family Links to better support migrants and reconnect separated families, enhancing both local and cross-border coordination. It is actively involved in regular cross-border coordination and initiatives of the programme. In upcoming years, it aims to mainstream the IFRC's HSP approach in more local branches, as well as developing a Safe Referrals approach.

⁸Mixed Migration Flows to Europe, IOM

⁹Eurostat

¹⁰European Commission

¹¹Causes of death of undocumented migrants

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Belgian Red Cross engages in global and local humanitarian diplomacy to support migrants. It participates in local committees with city mayors and civil society to address migrant needs and works

Based on funding opportunities, the **Belgian Red Cross** aims to reach around 150 people on the move with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme annually in 2025-2030.

RED CROSS SOCIETY OF BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA



© IFRC. Photo by Julie Bergstrand-Christensen

Bosnia and Herzegovina is mainly a transit country on the Western Balkan route for migrants aiming to reach Western Europe, with irregular migration remaining a pressing concern. The political context is complex, with varying degrees of cooperation among entities regarding migration management. In March 2024, the average length of stay for migrants in BiH increased to 30 days, up from 21 days in January. Notably, entries from Serbia decreased from 90% to 75%, while entries from Montenegro rose from 5% to 15%, suggesting shifts in migration routes within the region.¹² Reports highlight significant presence of vulnerable children in the region.¹³ While the percentage of unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking children among migrants has remained stable, the absolute number of such minors has increased, indicating a rise in both relative and total terms.¹⁴

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Red Cross Society in Bosnia and Herzegovina** operates one Mobile Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) in Una Sana Canton, offering vital humanitarian services to people on the move. Humanitarian services provided through the mobile HSP for people in transit include a range of essential support along with information provision. These services encompass first aid to address immediate health needs, food and hygiene provisions to ensure basic well-being, and non-food items to support individuals in their journey. Additionally, efforts are made to Restore Family Links

with the Federal Police to raise awareness of migrant vulnerabilities. The organization also collaborates with the French, German, Dutch and British Red Cross and the EU Red Cross office on cross-border cooperation, sharing field evidence and advocating for stronger collective action on migration issues.

(RFL), reconnecting separated loved ones, while psychosocial support is offered to help individuals cope with the emotional challenges of displacement. These services aim to provide comprehensive assistance to people in transit, addressing both their physical and emotional needs.

One Temporary Reception Centre is managed by the Service for Foreigner's Affairs, while the National Society is in charge for providing humanitarian services in Blažuj, located in Sarajevo Canton. As the National Society assumed responsibility from IOM for service provision in two reception centers, it now delivers essential humanitarian support to people on the move. This includes information provision, first aid and medical assistance, as well as first aid workshops designed to equip individuals with basic care skills. Food and non-food items are distributed to meet immediate needs, while WASH services ensure a safe and clean environment. Additionally, referrals are made to connect individuals with further assistance and resources as needed. These services aim to support the health, well-being, and dignity of those in transit.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina conducts key training sessions to enhance its operational capacity. Trainings focus on Advanced

First Aid, Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI), RFL, and Information Management (IM). The National Society is actively engaged in cross-border initiatives to foster regional cooperation, including in-person coordination forums of the programme such as study visits, and Human Trafficking learning initiatives with other NSs along the route, along with participation at the International School on Migration in North Macedonia. These exchanges significantly boost the capacities and motivation of staff and volunteers, contributing to a unified approach in implementing migration programs. Additionally, the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina organized the first Balkan Regional Conference, which focused on the evolving needs surrounding migration work and the importance of interregional cooperation. To strengthen its efforts, the Red Cross continues to put strong efforts in data collection of migrant needs and vulnerabilities, ensuring informed decision-making and effective response strategies in migration-related activities.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina reached a significant milestone with the signing of a Declaration of Intent with the United Nations, marking the first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between a UN agency and a Red Cross National Society in the region. This agreement paved the way for a transition period during which the National Society assumed management of two transit centers

previously operated by IOM. The National Society now plays an active role in inter-agency coordination meetings led by IOM, contributing to a more unified and effective response to migration challenges.

In addition to its operational role, the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken a leading position in advocacy, hosting key conferences that bring together government representatives, UN agencies, international NGOs, and local actors to discuss the rights and humanitarian needs of people on the move. These efforts have strengthened the National Society's ability to influence and advocate for more humane migration policies.

The Joint Declaration of Intent with the United Nations also reinforces collaboration on several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to migration and disaster response, further enhancing the National Society's visibility and engagement within the UN system. Moreover, the Red Cross is an active member of the "Community of Practice on Humanitarian Negotiation in BiH," fostering dialogue and the exchange of best practices among key stakeholders. Regionally, the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina, together with the Red Cross of Montenegro, co-facilitated discussions on mixed migration during the 14th Mediterranean Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, underlining its leadership in regional humanitarian diplomacy.

The **Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina** aims to reach 22,500 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 6100 people under Pillar 2, and 5800 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

BULGARIAN RED CROSS



© IFRC. Photo by Dimitrina Popova & Romualdas Kaminskas / Bulgarian RC

Bulgaria continues to serve as a transit country on the Eastern Mediterranean route, connecting migrants – primarily from the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa – to Western Europe. The majority of arrivals continue to enter through Türkiye, however with increased border controls and security measures put in place in 2024, arrivals into Bulgaria have for the first time in several years decreased during the first quarter of 2025.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Bulgarian Red Cross** operates three Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) that support people on the move in Sofia, Plovdiv, and Burgas. Humanitarian services for people on the move provided through HSPs include the distribution of food items and hygiene materials, as well as efforts to Restore Family Links, helping reconnect separated loved ones. Psychosocial support (PSS) is also offered to people

¹²Western Balkans Migrant Mobility, IOM

¹³Save the Children International

¹⁴Data on unaccompanied minors, European Union Agency for Asylum

through direct consultations in some HSPs and via the NS' PSS call center. These activities were designed to assist individuals in coping with emotional challenges, while also providing them with safe referrals to connect them to additional resources and services. Additionally, information provision and counseling are available and provided to guide individuals through their journey, ensuring they have the knowledge and support needed during difficult times.

The Bulgarian Red Cross is present in four reception centres in Vrazhdebna, Ovcha Kupel, and Voenna Rampa in Sofia, as well as Harmanli in the Haskovo Region near the Turkish border and in one transit center in Pastrogor, also in the Haskovo Region. The reception and transit centers are open and allow access within set operation hours, with each of the centers falling under the authority of the Ministry of Interior. Humanitarian support for migrants in reception and transit centers focuses on addressing both immediate and long-term needs. This includes monitoring the conditions and needs of individuals to ensure appropriate responses, as well as distributing hygiene supplies to maintain health and cleanliness for those residing in the centers. Additionally, cleaning supplies are delivered to maintain sanitary living conditions within the centers. Information provision is offered to guide individuals through their situation and to provide them with support to access other services available through Government agencies and other NGOs. To support children, child-friendly activities, including educational and creative programs, are organized to provide a sense of normalcy and care. Furthermore, the Restoring Family Links services are active in each center and are an essential hub for meeting communities and supporting efforts associated with tracing missing people and helping newly arrived people to contact family members back home.

The **Bulgarian Red Cross** aims to reach 90,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 1200 people under Pillar 2, and 600 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

Through the Programme, the Refugee-Migrant Unit of the Bulgarian Red Cross organize exchanges between regional branches along one of Bulgaria's main migratory routes. These exchanges also provide practical learning for field teams, including training on refugee and migration law, Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), and resilience and burnout prevention. The National Society is actively engaged in cross-border collaboration such as the participating at the International School on Migration organized by the Red Cross of North Macedonia, strengthening bilateral ties.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The National Society maintains active communication and collaboration with key stakeholders, including both governmental and non-governmental organizations, with a particular emphasis on engagement with UN agencies. It participates in all meetings of the National Refugee Coordination Mechanism.

The NS enjoys unrestricted access to all types of reception facilities, both open and closed, and operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Interior, including its Migration Directorate and Border Police. It also works in close partnership with the State Agency for Refugees, its primary governmental counterpart.

The Bulgarian Red Cross has been actively involved in the national implementation of the EU Asylum Pact. As part of this process, it has been appointed to the official working group alongside all relevant state stakeholders responsible for drafting the new legislation. They have already submitted several advocacy messages, clearly articulating the National Society's position in relation to the Pact. They remain firmly committed to continued engagement on issues affecting migrants and refugees in Bulgaria.

CROATIAN RED CROSS



© IFRC. Photo by Jarkko Mikkonen

Croatia is primarily a transit country on the Western Balkan route, with migrants aiming to enter the EU. As an EU and Schengen member-state, Croatia has strengthened border controls that furthers reshapes regional mobility dynamics. There are many vulnerable groups of migrants who are travelling through or staying in Croatia, so often their vulnerabilities remain unidentified and consequently they do not get appropriate care, assistance, and protection. These developments underscore the need for enhanced protection measures for migrants.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Croatian Red Cross** is present in three Detention Centers in Ježevo, Trilj, and Tovarnik. These centers are operated by the authorities. Humanitarian services include information provision, protection activities, and psychological first aid (PFA) to help individuals navigate the challenges of migration. Efforts are also focused on Restoring Family Links, with these services provided on a weekly and semi-monthly basis to ensure consistent care and support for migrants in need.

The Croatian Red Cross operates with local branches along the migration routes, with teams also conducting visits to police stations and facilities housing for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). Red Cross branches provide essential services for migrants, including information provision, distribution of humanitarian aid such as food, water, basic hygiene items, and clothing, along with shoes and food for babies, particularly for irregular migrants. For UASC, additional support is provided in the form of hygiene items, clothing, and psychosocial support to help them cope with their circumstances and ensure their well-being during their migration journey.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Croatian Red Cross focuses on enhancing the capacity of its staff and volunteers to better support migrants, particularly those with irregular status,

while strengthening cooperation with national and international partners. Training courses are delivered to equip staff and volunteers from local Red Cross branches with the knowledge to address the challenges faced by migrants, including their rights in Croatia. Coordination initiatives under the programme bring together staff from various regions, fostering strategic alignment and information exchange on migration issues. In addition to internal trainings, the Croatian Red Cross led a study visit to exchange knowledge with organizations such as UNHCR, the Croatian Law Center, and the Ministry of Interior, including field trips to a reception center and detention facility, engaging Balkan Red Cross-National Societies. The Croatian Red Cross also strengthens its cross-border collaboration by participating in key forums and exchanges with neighboring National Societies.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Croatian Red Cross plays a central role in advocating for and supporting vulnerable migrant populations in Croatia. As a key member of various coordination groups, it is well-positioned to promote migrant rights and address their needs through both governmental and non-governmental channels. The National Society is a member of several working groups aimed at supporting migrants and refugee and engages in regular meetings with national stakeholders, including the Ministry of the Interior, where it raises issues identified through its operational work with migrants. Notably, the Croatian Red Cross is the only organization in the country with access to all types of migrants, including those held in detention, allowing it to advocate more effectively for their rights and needs. Special attention is given to the protection of UASC – a particularly vulnerable group. The Croatian Red Cross works closely with detention center staff to raise awareness about challenges faced by vulnerable groups of migrants. A key advocacy activity of the National Society is the workshop “Towards the Migration and Asylum Pact - Strengthening Cooperation and Reviewing Best Practices,” held with authorities and detention center staff.

The **Croatian Red Cross** aims to reach 11,160 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 145 people under Pillar 2, and 180 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

CYPRUS RED CROSS SOCIETY



© IFRC. Photo by Cyprus Red Cross Society

Cyprus serves as both a destination and transit point on the Eastern Mediterranean route.¹⁵ As an EU member-state, it faces challenges with arrivals, particularly by sea. In 2023, Cyprus had the highest rate of first-time asylum applicants per capita in the EU, with 13 applications per 1,000 residents.¹⁶ Developments on migration in Cyprus underscore a complex migration landscape, marked by policy shifts aimed at controlling migration and ongoing challenges migrants face, including legal hurdles, exploitation, and inadequate living conditions.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Cyprus Red Cross Society** maintains a strong presence across key migrant reception and detention facilities through mobile teams that deliver essential humanitarian services.

At the Pournara Reception Centre in Kokkinotrimithia (Nicosia), the Cyprus Red Cross Society provides a range of support services, including psychosocial support, distribution of non-food items, help with medical prescription costs, Restoring Family Links, and guidance through information and safe referrals to additional support services.

In Kofinou (Larnaca), the National Society is present in both the accommodation centre and the accommodation and pre-departure centre in Limnes, offering similar humanitarian assistance. Services include the provision of non-food items, support with medical prescription costs, Restoring Family Links, and comprehensive information and referral services to help migrants access further resources.

The Cyprus Red Cross Society also operates in the Menoyeia Detention Centre (Larnaca), where mobile teams provided psychosocial support to help individuals cope with the emotional challenges of detention, alongside Restoring Family Links and information/referral services.

The reception, accommodation, and pre-departure centres are managed by the Cyprus Asylum Service, while the detention centre falls under the responsibility

of the Cyprus Police.

Beyond these facilities, the Cyprus Red Cross Society supports migrants through its six local branches in Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Famagusta, Paphos, and Polis Chrysochous. Assistance includes the distribution of food and non-food items to meet basic needs, provision of information and counseling services, and emergency response support to ensure timely relief during critical situations.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Cyprus Red Cross Society is actively engaged in supporting migrants through strong collaboration with both national and international stakeholders operating in the country. In addition to strengthening the capacity of its local branches to ensure high-quality assistance tailored to migrants' needs, the National Society has conducted a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise. This initiative aims to establish safe referral pathways and foster effective cooperation with external organizations.

The National Society maintains regular engagement with its local branches and government-run migrant centres to better understand evolving needs and enhance the quality of support provided. Furthermore, its active participation in cross-border initiatives within the Movement facilitates the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, contributing to more coordinated and impactful humanitarian responses.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

As part of its humanitarian diplomacy efforts under the Global Route-Based Migration Programme, the Cyprus Red Cross Society has initiated strategic dialogue with government authorities to advocate for sustainable solutions, including future coverage of medical expenses for migrants. The National Society has also convened coordination meetings with the Cyprus Asylum Service and UNHCR to address reception-related needs and strengthen engagement with a broad range of stakeholders.

These advocacy efforts have led to tangible outcomes, such as securing access for Cyprus Red Cross Society mobile teams to operate within reception centres. The National Society continues to actively participate in coordination platforms focused on the needs of migrants, both in detention facilities and within the wider community, reinforcing its commitment to inclusive and rights-based humanitarian action.

The **Cyprus Red Cross Society** aims to reach 120,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 144 people under Pillar 2, and 1900 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

FRENCH RED CROSS



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France is both a destination and transit country due to its strategic location along major migration routes such as the Western Mediterranean, Atlantic, and Balkan pathways. Although part of the Schengen area, France has reinforced internal border controls in recent years.

In 2024, asylum applications rose to 153,715 (+8% compared to 2023). Channel crossings from France to the United Kingdom also continued to increase: more than 45,000 people made the journey in 2024, and at least 82 lost their lives attempting it.

At the same time, growing precariousness among migrants is observed, with many living in informal camps in degrading conditions and facing significant obstacles in accessing rights, healthcare, and reliable information, among others.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **French Red Cross** operates three Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) across France.

At the French-UK border, a mobile team supports migrants in transit living in informal settlements. It provides information, safe referrals, and Restoring Family Links services, including Wi-Fi, free calls, tracing support, and assistance after shipwrecks. A mobile infirmary and hygiene services are also available, along with prevention and protection activities for unaccompanied minors. A tea-and-coffee corner and listening space create a welcoming and safe environment. In Paris and Lyon, which serve as central hubs for both transit and longer-term migrants, mobile

teams operate mainly in informal camps. In Paris, the team works primarily at night and provides medical services through a doctor-staffed truck, Restoring Family Links support, distribution of essential items, and safe referrals. The tea-and-coffee corner and listening area offer space for rest, conversation, and guidance. In Lyon, the focus is more on access to hygiene, with a shower truck and installation of drinking water stations, as well as first aid activities.

Finally, a rotating national HSP called Repair Lab truck travels to various informal sites along major migration routes. It helps migrants repair, protect, and customize personal belongings through hands-on workshops, emphasizing participation "by and for the people themselves." The team also provides information on rights and available services, facilitates referrals to additional support networks, and offers psychosocial support. Each site includes a tea-and-coffee area with music to create a warm, welcoming atmosphere that encourages engagement and builds trust.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The French Red Cross actively collaborates with its counterparts across Europe, maintaining regular contact to share information, experiences, and good practices. With the British Red Cross, they collaborate on a joint positioning on the Channel situation and the protection of vulnerable people. In the Alpine region, strong ties with the Italian Red Cross allow for harmonized support for people crossing the border,

¹⁵Mixed Migration Flows to Europe, IOM

¹⁶Migration and asylum in Europe, Eurostat

while collaboration with the Spanish Red Cross focuses on public awareness and outreach activities.

To support the replication of the Repair Lab in other regions, the French Red Cross has developed an open-source toolkit, translated into English and shared with other National Societies. This resource has facilitated bilateral cross-border collaboration with the Slovenian and Italian Red Cross Societies. French Red Cross representatives also participate regularly in cross-border programme events and provide training and expertise to strengthen local branches in implementing the Repair Lab approach.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

In addition to its joint positioning and humanitarian diplomacy efforts, the French Red Cross is advancing innovative approaches to migrant support as part of its strategic engagement in the Global Route-Based Migration Programme. With support from the French Red Cross Foundation, the National Society launched an anthropological action-research project to examine the psychosocial impact of repair activities. Led by an independent researcher, the project explores how repair can serve not only as a practical service but also as an entry point to psychosocial support, representing a pioneering approach within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The **French Red Cross** aims to reach 90,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 60,000 people under Pillar 2, and 420,000 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

HELLENIC RED CROSS



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Greece functions as both a destination and a primary transit country on the Eastern Mediterranean route. As an EU and Schengen member-state, it has faced scrutiny over its border practices. In 2024, Greece recorded over 54,000 migrant arrivals by sea, making it as the second-highest recipient country in southern Europe after Italy.¹⁷ Paths to Greece are noting a much riskier route as well, from eastern Libya to the southern mainland of Greece. The Mediterranean Sea remains very dangerous for migrants. In 2024, at least 2,452 deaths were documented, underscoring the urgent need for safer migration pathways.¹⁸ In contrast, 2025

¹⁷Reuters

¹⁸IOM

The research highlights repair as a therapeutic process that fosters emotional resilience, restores dignity, and supports social reintegration. Preliminary findings reveal a wide range of psychosocial benefits, including relief from material deprivation, meaningful engagement, and a renewed sense of security and optimism. Repairing personal belongings also revives professional skills, promotes self-reliance, and enhances self-worth.

These insights are being integrated into the French Red Cross's programmatic strategy, reinforcing its role in shaping inclusive and dignified responses for migrants and displaced populations.

has seen a more intense and concentrated surge in numbers, especially in southern Greece. The island of Crete – previously not a central entry point – has become a new hotspot, with over 8,000 arrivals by mid-year. A particularly sharp spike occurred in July, when over 1,200 migrants arrived in just three days, some landing directly on tourist beaches in Crete and the nearby islet of Gavdos. These migrants are primarily coming from Libya, often in overloaded fishing boats, and include people from South Sudan, Syria, and Bangladesh.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Hellenic Red Cross** provides vital humanitarian assistance to people on the move through its two multifunctional centers located in Athens and Thessaloniki, and three educational health stations situated in Athens, Kallithea, and Liosia. The multifunctional centers provide a variety of services, including information provision, telephone support, social services, referrals, counseling, language classes, psychosocial support for both children and adults, case management, orientation sessions, restoring family links, and cash and voucher programming. The educational health stations offer essential healthcare services such as vaccinations, first aid and psychological first aid, mental health care, oral and dental services, child and maternal health monitoring, and management of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. Additional services include information provision, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) management, mediation for access to public health centers, interpretation, and health and hygiene promotion sessions.

The Hellenic Red Cross also operates one mobile health team in Athens, extending humanitarian assistance to people on the move who may not have access to fixed service points. The team provides support through scheduled information provision and awareness activities, as well as emergency health responses, primarily in urban areas and accommodation facilities. The services include basic health care and targeted primary health care, such as health screenings, general practitioner and nursing consultations, vaccinations, medical first aid, and psychological first aid. Additionally, the team facilitates mediation and access to the Humanitarian Response Center (HRC) and public primary health care centers. Medical and protection referrals are made, alongside health and hygiene promotion sessions. Outreach activities include information and awareness campaigns, as well as health-related activities at sports and cultural events. In emergency health response, the team delivers first aid and prehospital trauma life support services to ensure immediate care in critical situations.

The Hellenic Red Cross also implements an accompanied referrals program in public health facilities across Athens and the surrounding areas, aimed at supporting people on the move in accessing the healthcare system. Humanitarian services for migrants include accompanying interpretation and health mediation services, ensuring migrants have access to health services and reducing social exclusion. These services facilitate effective communication between migrants and health professionals, promoting better understanding and care. They are provided in both primary and secondary health care units of the National Health System, ensuring comprehensive support for migrants' health needs.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Hellenic Red Cross is committed to enhancing its branches' capacity and deepening cross-border collaboration to ensure more effective humanitarian response. Building on its experience, the National Society organized a Technical Peer Support Mission in Cyprus, sharing lessons learned from Greece's migration program. The mission report provided concrete recommendations for future programming, particularly in the area of scenario-based planning.

Hellenic Red Cross representatives continue to actively engage in international exchanges and networks, including initiatives within the programme framework, the International School on Migration, and the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Europe Network Forum. These engagements strengthen knowledge-sharing, foster partnerships, and bring valuable expertise back to the branches.

The National Society places particular emphasis on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI). Staff and volunteers have received training on PGI, including a jointly organized introductory session with the British Red Cross. Capacity building in MHPSS is also a priority, with over 600 staff and volunteers trained in Psychological First Aid and community-based approaches. In addition, the Hellenic Red Cross is reinforcing its Restoring Family Links (RFL) services by conducting specialized training and hosting major RFL events, while also participating in global initiatives such as the HSP training. Through these actions, the National Society is both strengthening its internal branch structure and actively contributing to cross-border humanitarian collaboration, ensuring that support to vulnerable communities is coordinated, inclusive, and sustainable.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Hellenic Red Cross plays a key role in various humanitarian diplomacy efforts, contributing to collective actions aimed at protecting vulnerable individuals affected by migration. One of the key initiatives is its collaboration with the Ministry of Migration and Asylum to pilot tools that assess and prioritize the best interests of children in migration, thereby enhancing child protection in decision-making processes. The Hellenic Red Cross is actively engaged in numerous working groups and networks, including the National Rapporteur for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, UNHCR meetings on Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence, the Global Protection Cluster, and several other national and international protection agencies. In advocacy, the organization's multifunctional centers produce monthly reports that analyze services provided to refugees, identify vulnerabilities, and address challenges faced in migration contexts. Its Migrant Bureau Officer in Athens strengthens the Hellenic Red Cross'

advocacy efforts, facilitating the creation of position papers, consultations with migration authorities, and

media engagement, including press releases and participation in broader migration discussions.

The **Hellenic Red Cross** aims to reach 455,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 5400 people under Pillar 2, and 53,000 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

ITALIAN RED CROSS



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Italy is both a destination and a major entry/transit country on the Central Mediterranean route, with disembarkations concentrated in Lampedusa, Sicily, Calabria, and Puglia. Sea arrivals remain high in recent years. The Central Mediterranean continues to be one of the deadliest sea corridors, with ongoing fatalities and high-visibility incidents off Lampedusa. These dynamics force a constant balancing act between border management, reception capacity, and Italy's obligations under EU and international refugee law.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Italian Red Cross** plays a key role in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to migrants at disembarkation points, transit centers, and through its six Humanitarian Service Points (HSP). In Lampedusa, it supports hotspot management, including logistics, distributions, transfers, and facility maintenance, while also delivering medical care, psychosocial support, and protection services in coordination with partners like UNHCR, IOM, and UNICEF.

Similar services are provided in Calabria's transit centers, supporting arrivals via the Turkey route. The six HSPs – located in Rosarno, Susa, Gorizia, Bolzano, Catania, and Trapani – offer tailored support such as referrals, health screenings, legal guidance, and basic assistance. These efforts ensure access to life-saving aid, protection, and pathways to longer-term support for migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees.

Across all activities related to people in transit and to assistance at every level, the Italian Red Cross plays a central role in the national reception system. The organization currently manages around 30 reception centers throughout Italy, providing essential services, protection, and support to individuals and families in vulnerable situations.

Among the Italian Red Cross' most significant initiatives is Prevention from Human Trafficking

through Integrated Humanitarian Assistance to Migrants Arriving at Coastal and Island Regions of the EU (PIHMAC). Led by the Italian Red Cross and funded by the EU AMIF Programme, PIHMAC strengthens early identification and protection of potential victims of trafficking at key landing points in Italy, Spain, and Greece through a coordinated, victim-centred and gender-sensitive approach.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Italian Red Cross invests in training staff and volunteers for migration response, including through their migration course launched in 2024. Volunteers now support operations at HSPs, Lampedusa, and Calabria transit centers. A 2023 agreement with the Ministry of the Interior strengthened National Society's role in managing migration emergencies.

Training covers vulnerability identification, case management, MHPSS, and anti-trafficking. Cross-border collaboration is also promoted, such as the joint visit with other National Societies.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Italian Red Cross plays a key role in humanitarian diplomacy, working with government authorities, UN agencies, and civil society to improve migration governance and protection systems. The National Society also promotes coordination among institutional and humanitarian actors, advocates for migrant rights, and supports family reunification and anti-trafficking efforts. Since 2022, it has contributed to the national Vulnerability Working Group, helping standardize support for vulnerable migrants, especially in high-pressure areas like Lampedusa.

It helped shape a new national project to improve reception centers with tailored services for vulnerable groups, set to launch in 2025.

RED CROSS OF MONTENEGRO



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Montenegro serves as a transit country on the Western Balkan route, with migrants aiming to reach EU countries. The political context involves cooperation with EU agencies to manage migration flows. As part of the Balkan migratory route, the occurrences of smuggling networks in Montenegro deepens dangers for migrants. Additionally, certain areas along the Balkan route remain contaminated with landmines which are remnants of past conflicts. Migrants, unfamiliar with these dangers, risk severe injury or death when crossing these regions.¹⁹

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Red Cross of Montenegro** provides essential humanitarian assistance to people on the move through one fixed Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) located in Rozaje and one mobile HSP operating in Niksic. Humanitarian services include the information provision, provision of food, water, and hygiene kits to meet basic needs, along with first aid and first aid materials to address immediate health concerns. Psychosocial support is offered to help individuals cope with emotional challenges, while referrals connect people to further assistance. Additionally, efforts are made to Restore Family Links (RFL).

The Red Cross of Montenegro is also present in the reception center for asylum seekers in Bozaj, which is operated by national authorities. Humanitarian assistance includes information provision, the distribution of essential items such as food, water, and hygiene kits, along with first aid and medical supplies to address urgent health needs. Psychological support services are offered to assist individuals in managing emotional challenges, while safe referrals help connect people to further resources. Efforts are made to Restore Family Links, ensuring separate families are reunited. Medical counseling is provided, and health prevention services are implemented to safeguard well-being. Additionally, SIM cards to support the RFL and a mobile app are available to facilitate communication and access to important services.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Red Cross of Montenegro is actively involved in building the capacity of volunteers and staff who support migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees, aiming to enhance the effectiveness of humanitarian operations and improve communication, coordination, and service delivery. This includes a Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) course for volunteers, focusing on communication with beneficiaries, community engagement, channels, and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), community-based health, and first aid. Expanding on its training efforts, the Red Cross of Montenegro has the experience in delivering a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) course for volunteers and staff, as well as a RFL training. The National Society actively promotes collaboration and peer learning through regional exchanges and joint initiatives with sister National Societies. For example, it has engaged in a regional exchange with the Swiss Red Cross and other National Societies in the region to discuss migration trends and challenges. In addition, National Society staff regularly participate in cross-border events and programmatic initiatives, strengthening regional cooperation and shared learning.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The National Society is a significant actor in improving the migration system in the country through active participation in reports, meetings, and collaboration with government agencies and international and national partners. The National Society regularly submits reports to the Ministry of Interior, including multiple submissions to the Working Group on the Strategy for Integrated Migration Management, offering suggestions and recommendations for system improvements. It has also submitted reports to the Working Group for Chapter 24 (Rule of Law), addressing challenges faced by migrants and refugees and recommending solutions. In the context of amendments to the Law on Foreigners, the Red Cross of Montenegro has provided feedback to improve migrants' access to services and their rights,

¹⁹Migrants Warned of Dangers of Land Mines on the Balkan Route, International Organization for Migration

particularly in the area of health protection. The National Society also works closely with the Ministry of Interior – the lead agency for asylum and migration – in line with a signed Memorandum of Understanding. The Red Cross of Montenegro has regular meetings with UN partners – including UNHCR, UNICEF, and IOM – to coordinate efforts and avoid service overlaps. It has also regular dialogue with representatives from the Ministry of Interior and the Directorate for Foreigners to discuss the regulation of Red Cross activities in migration programs and Reception

Centers. Additionally, the Red Cross of Montenegro holds the experience of organizing key forums with authorities, including representatives from various ministries, hospitals, and NGOs, to address challenges in healthcare for migrants, particularly regarding communicable diseases. This collaborative effort led to commitments from institutions and organizations to advocate for better cooperation and problem-solving.

The **Red Cross of Montenegro** aims to reach 26,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 1590 under Pillar 2, and 19,500 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

RED CROSS OF NORTH MACEDONIA



© IFRC. Photo by Caroline Haga

North Macedonia acts as a transit nation on the Western Balkan route, with migrants seeking passage to EU countries. The government collaborates with international organizations to manage migration. In the fourth quarter of 2024, North Macedonia recorded over 3,000 migrant transits, a 15% increase from the previous quarter.²⁰ Its mountain regions are linked to its external border characterizing the route as extremely dangerous for the people on the move.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Red Cross of North Macedonia** delivers humanitarian assistance to people on the move through one fixed and mobile HSP located in the village of Lojane and the surrounding border region with Serbia. Humanitarian services include the information provision, provision of food, water, and hygiene items to meet basic needs, along with first aid and first aid kits to address immediate health concerns. Medical supplies and transport services are offered to ensure access to necessary care. Psychosocial support is available to assist with emotional well-being, while referrals connect individuals to additional resources. Efforts to restore family links help reunite separated families. A child-friendly space is provided for young people, and Wi-Fi is made available for communication. Additionally, sanitation and WASH services are offered to maintain a safe and clean environment.

The Red Cross of North Macedonia is also present in two transit centers located in Gevgelija and Kumanovo with mobile teams, both operated by national authorities. Humanitarian services include the information provision, provision of food, water, and hygiene items, along with first aid and first aid kits to address immediate health concerns. Psychosocial support is offered, while medical supplies ensure access to necessary health care. Non-food items are distributed, and safe referrals are made to additional services. Restoring Family Links services are also provided to help reunite separated loved ones.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Red Cross of North Macedonia plays a central role in advancing cross-border collaboration and branch development within the Global Route-Based Migration Programme. The National Society actively engages with neighboring and regional Red Cross Societies to foster cooperation, peer learning, and coordinated responses to migration challenges.

A flagship initiative is the annual International School on Migration. This learning platform brings together young staff and volunteers from Red Cross Societies in Serbia, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, Montenegro, Croatia, Russia, Italy, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Spain,

and North Macedonia. It serves as a key space for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and strengthening regional networks on migration issues.

In addition, the Red Cross of North Macedonia hosts and contributes to several cross-border exchanges, including regional meetings focused on harmonizing approaches to MHPSS along the Balkan route. These efforts ensure a more coherent and effective response to the needs of migrants moving across borders.

To reinforce operational capacity, the National Society has also developed a digital system for volunteers and staff to assess and monitor the needs of migrants in real time, improving evidence-based decision-making. Complementing this, it is investing in training for cultural mediators, ensuring that frontline staff and volunteers are better equipped to support migrants in a sensitive and inclusive manner.

Through these initiatives, the Red Cross of North Macedonia strengthens its own branches while contributing to a coordinated, cross-border humanitarian response across the Balkan migration route.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

Through the International School on Migration, the Red Cross of North Macedonia has established a recognized platform for raising awareness on the needs and rights of migrants among both host communities and participating National Societies. The School also serves as a forum for advocacy with government representatives. Each year, the National Society convenes a high-level panel discussion

with the Minister of Interior, addressing sensitive issues related to migrant protection and access to humanitarian support.

To strengthen coordinated responses, the Red Cross of North Macedonia maintains active cooperation with government ministries, UNHCR, IOM, and other partners, ensuring a unified and inclusive approach to migration challenges. It has hosted a national workshop on refugee protection, bringing together municipal authorities, government representatives, and international stakeholders to highlight the role of local actors in delivering effective humanitarian support. Similar efforts are pursued through national panel discussions on migration policies and humanitarian assistance, creating space for dialogue between policymakers and humanitarian actors.

To combat xenophobia and promote solidarity, the National Society launched a public caravan featuring Virtual Reality (VR) technology and a documentary film on migration, complemented by awareness-raising activities under the IFRC's global #NotAlone campaign.

At the institutional level, the Red Cross of North Macedonia ensures sustained engagement in coordination mechanisms, regularly participating in meetings organized by the Center for Crisis Management and the Ministry of Demography, Social Policy, and Youth. These efforts strengthen cooperation between humanitarian actors and state institutions, advancing both local and global humanitarian diplomacy objectives.

The **Red Cross of North Macedonia** aims to reach 44,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 2550 under Pillar 2, and 1850 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

RED CROSS OF SERBIA



© IFRC. Photo by Red Cross of Serbia

Serbia serves as a primary transit country on the Western Balkan route, with migrants aiming to enter the EU. The political context includes coordination with EU and UN agencies to address migration challenges.

The primary routes for migrants into Serbia remain its borders with Bulgaria and North Macedonia. In October 2024, 48% of migrants entered from Bulgaria, while 36% came through North Macedonia.²¹ In January

²⁰Europe Arrivals, IOM

¹⁹Serbian Migrant Mobility, IOM

2024, an estimated 1,300 refugees and migrants transited through the Western Balkans, marking a 14% increase compared to the same period in the previous year.²² The Western Balkans, including Serbia, have seen evolving smuggling dynamics, posing significant protection risks for migrants.²³

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Red Cross of Serbia** provides continuous humanitarian assistance to people on the move through its presence in two migration centres, where it operates permanent Protection, Empowerment, and Prevention (PEP) Points. These points serve as hubs for delivering essential services, including anti-trafficking information sessions, distribution of clothing and non-food items, first aid workshops, and the provision of accurate, relevant information. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) is also offered to address emotional well-being, alongside safe referrals to specialized services. Restoring Family Links services are conducted through dedicated tracing efforts, and child-focused activities are implemented to ensure the protection and well-being of children in transit.

In addition to its work in migration centres, the Red Cross of Serbia provides humanitarian support through its local branch in Belgrade, in the Palilula municipality. Services include the distribution of food and non-food items, first aid, medical supplies, and anti-trafficking awareness. The branch also offers psychosocial support, information provision, and safe referrals, while continuing efforts to restore family links and address the immediate needs of migrants in urban settings.

The National Society also engages with host communities along migration routes through community-based PEP activities. These initiatives aim to strengthen social cohesion, build community preparedness, and foster a supportive environment for both migrants and residents. Activities include awareness sessions on human trafficking and migration-related risks, as well as information on available services. Special attention is given to children and youth, with programming designed to promote empathy, tolerance, and mutual respect. These efforts contribute to community resilience and help reduce exposure to risky or exploitative situations.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Red Cross of Serbia is actively strengthening its operational capacity to support people on the move through targeted training and regional collaboration. The National Society has invested in equipping staff and volunteers with the skills needed to respond effectively to migration-related challenges, particularly

along the Balkan route. Over one hundred team members have participated in foundational trainings such as Caring for People on the Move and Human Trafficking Awareness, alongside advanced first aid courses to enhance emergency response capabilities.

In addition to internal capacity-building, the Red Cross of Serbia conducts first aid training for external partners, including representatives from institutions such as the Commissariat for Refugees and Migrants, Border Police, and local schools. These trainings help strengthen the broader response system by enhancing the ability of key actors to provide timely and effective assistance to migrants.

The National Society has also hosted regional trainings focused on human trafficking and vulnerability along migratory routes, bringing together participants from neighboring National Societies. It actively engages in cross-border exchanges and joint activities, contributing to harmonized approaches and stronger coordination across the region. The Red Cross of Serbia maintains active participation in programme-level meetings, reinforcing its commitment to collaborative action, and continuous learning within the Movement.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Red Cross of Serbia actively engages in humanitarian diplomacy at both national and regional levels, leveraging dialogue, coordination, and evidence-based advocacy to improve protection and assistance for people on the move. On International Migrants Day, the National Society organizes events that bring together staff, volunteers, and representatives from neighboring Red Cross National Societies to exchange experiences and best practices in migrant support.

At the local level, the Red Cross of Serbia participates in interagency coordination meetings held across various cities, where key actors address issues affecting both migrant and host populations – including violence, exploitation, family separation, and access to healthcare. The National Society plays an active role in the Working Group for Mixed Migration Flows, contributing to the development of laws and procedures related to human trafficking cases.

As part of its advocacy and awareness efforts, the Red Cross of Serbia has hosted educational sessions at institutions such as the University of Belgrade, aimed at informing future professionals about human trafficking and exploitation. It also regularly publishes resources such as the Civil Society Services Mapping, which analyzes available services for migrants and asylum seekers across Serbia. To complement these efforts, the National Society convenes interagency

cooperation meetings to foster joint initiatives and strengthen collective action against human trafficking risks.

The **Red Cross of Serbia** aims to reach 130,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 730 under Pillar 2, and 25,000 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.



© IFRC. Photo by Marko Kokic

As an EU and Schengen member-state, Slovakia participates in regional efforts to manage migration. As of September 2024, Slovakia hosted 122,242 refugees from Ukraine, reflecting its role in providing refuge amid ongoing regional conflicts.²⁴ The country's strategic position in regional migration routes should be underlined along with its active role in shaping migration policies within the EU framework.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Slovak Red Cross** plays a vital role in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move, with a strong operational presence through 15 local branches strategically located in key border regions across the country. These branches serve as frontline responders, delivering essential services that include the distribution of food and water, non-food items to support daily living, first aid to address immediate health concerns, and information provision to help migrants navigate available support systems.

Beyond basic assistance, the National Society is deeply engaged in protection activities, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups such as children, and individuals at risk of exploitation. The Slovak Red Cross has demonstrated its capacity to respond to various migration situations at the border, including sudden influxes and prolonged displacement, by rapidly mobilizing resources and coordinating with national authorities and humanitarian actors.

A key achievement was the implementation of Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs), which offer a safe and dignified space for migrants to access services, receive protection-oriented support, and be referred to specialized care when needed. These HSPs reflect the National Society's commitment to upholding humanitarian principles and ensuring that assistance

is delivered in a neutral, impartial, and needs-based manner.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Slovak Red Cross is actively investing in strengthening its institutional capacity to respond to migration and displacement through a comprehensive Migration and Displacement training module. This module is designed to equip staff and volunteers with the knowledge and tools needed to address the complex needs of people on the move. It integrates key thematic areas such as Health, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), and Restoring Family Links (RFL). The training is highly interactive, incorporating practical tools such as role plays, simulations, and a migration-themed educational game to deepen understanding and facilitate the application of humanitarian principles in real-world contexts.

In addition to internal capacity-building, the Slovak Red Cross has extended its training efforts to external partners, including representatives from the Commissariat for Refugees and Migrants, Border Police, and local schools. These first aid and protection-focused trainings enhance the ability of frontline institutions to provide timely and coordinated assistance to migrants, particularly in border regions and emergency settings.

The National Society also actively contributes to cross-border collaboration, participating in regional initiatives, joint trainings, and peer exchanges with neighboring Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies. These efforts reinforce the Slovak Red Cross's role as a key actor in regional preparedness

²²Western Balkan Dashboard, UNHCR

²³Mixed migration in the Western Balkans, DRC

¹⁹Slovakia, UNHCR

and protection, while promoting collaboration and cooperation within the IFRC Network.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Slovak Red Cross plays an active role in humanitarian diplomacy, fostering strong collaboration with key stakeholders at both national and international levels to improve the protection and assistance of migrants. The National Society maintains close working relationships with state institutions such as the Bureau of Border and Foreign Police, the Migration Office, and the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs, and Family, ensuring coordinated responses to migration-related challenges. In addition, the Slovak Red Cross works in partnership with intergovernmental organizations including IOM, UNHCR, and UNICEF, as well as national NGOs such as the Slovak Humanitarian Council and the Human Rights League. These partnerships enable the National Society to contribute meaningfully to policy discussions and operational coordination

platforms. It regularly participates in both scheduled and ad hoc coordination meetings, including the Steering Committee for Migration and Integration, the Refugee Coordination Forum led by UNHCR, and the NGO Coordination Meeting on Irregular Migration.

The Slovak Red Cross also engages directly with government authorities to address pressing issues faced by migrants, particularly those related to legal status, access to accommodation, and protection from exploitation. Through its advocacy and public engagement efforts, the National Society has played a visible role in shaping the national migration discourse.

As part of the IFRC's #NotAlone campaign, the Slovak Red Cross developed impactful communication materials, including videos and personal stories, that highlight the lived experiences of displaced individuals and their host families. These materials serve not only to raise awareness but also to foster empathy and solidarity among the broader public.

The **Slovak Red Cross** aims to reach 1050 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 360 under Pillar 2, and 21,000 people under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

SLOVENIAN RED CROSS



© IFRC. Photo by John Engedal Nissen / IFRC

Slovenia serves as a transit country on the Western Balkan route, with migrants moving towards Western Europe. As an EU and Schengen member-state, it collaborates with neighboring countries to secure its borders. Despite the overall reduction in people officially transiting the country, Slovenia continues to experience significant transit migration flows with 46,192 persons passing in 2024. In response, the Slovenian government has implemented measures such as reintroducing border controls with Croatia, Italy, and Hungary in October 2023.²⁵ These developments underscore the complex challenges Slovenia faces as a transit nation within the broader European migration context.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Slovenian Red Cross** provides essential humanitarian assistance to people on the move through its Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) located in Ljubljana. Services include the distribution of non-food items such as clothing, footwear, and hygiene kits to meet basic needs. Restoring Family Links (RFL) services are offered to help reconnect separated family members, including access to internet and phone services, SIM card distribution, and support in tracing missing relatives. Prevention activities are implemented to protect family unity and prevent separation, with additional support provided in cases of death and family reunification.

Medical services are facilitated through cultural mediation, interpretation, and translation, ensuring migrants can access healthcare without language barriers. The National Society also provides first aid and first aid training workshops, alongside psychosocial first aid and ongoing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to support emotional well-being. Legal aid, financial support, and social inclusion activities are offered to promote stability and integration. Information sharing and referrals ensure individuals are connected to additional services and resources.

The Slovenian Red Cross is present in three reception centres, Vic and Kotnikova in Ljubljana, and Logatec, all operated by national authorities. In these centres, humanitarian assistance includes information provision, first aid training for staff and beneficiaries, and RFL services. Repair workshops help migrants restore essential personal items, and material aid is distributed to meet immediate needs.

Through its 56 local branches across the country, the Slovenian Red Cross extends humanitarian support to migrants in both urban and rural areas. Services include the provision of food and non-food items, financial support, RFL, information dissemination, and referrals to ensure access to further assistance. These efforts reflect the Slovenian Red Cross's commitment to a comprehensive, protection-sensitive approach to migration, aligned with Movement-wide standards such as Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), and MHPSS, ensuring that humanitarian assistance is accessible, dignified, and responsive to the evolving needs of people on the move.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Slovenian Red Cross actively strengthens its institutional capacity and regional cooperation through ongoing participation in key cross-border meetings within the IFRC network. These platforms enable the exchange of best practices, lessons learned and coordinated approaches to the evolving migration context along key migratory routes. Through these engagements, the National Society contributes to and benefits from shared learning on service delivery models, protection strategies, and operational challenges faced by National Societies and other actors in the region.

As part of the Programme, the Slovenian Red Cross benefits from dedicated exchanges with Balkan National Societies, focusing on common challenges and coordinated responses to migration-related issues

The **Slovenian Red Cross** aims to reach 57,000 people with humanitarian assistance and protection under Pillar 1, 300 under Pillar 2, and 300 under Pillar 3 of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in 2025-2030.

in the region. These exchanges help foster stronger alignment and solidarity across borders.

In parallel, the Slovenian Red Cross invests in the continuous training of its staff and volunteers. Recent sessions have included specialized training on RFL, psychological support services, protection and human trafficking in the migration context, and capacity-building for interpreters working directly with migrants. These trainings ensure that frontline teams are equipped with the knowledge and tools to respond effectively and sensitively to the needs of people on the move.

Through peer-to-peer collaboration, the Slovenian Red Cross received a Humanitarian Repair Lab Backpack and technical support from the French Red Cross. This initiative helped launch repair activities in Slovenia, restoring essential belongings and supporting migrants' psychosocial well-being.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Slovenian Red Cross actively engages in humanitarian diplomacy, using its auxiliary role to advocate for better protection and assistance for migrants. A key milestone is the MoU signed with the Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants (OSIM), enhancing aid delivery in reception centres. This formal partnership allows the National Society to participate in regular coordination meetings with OSIM, the Ministry of the Interior, and other stakeholders, ensuring its voice is heard in key decision-making processes.

The Slovenian Red Cross is an active member of the SGBV Working Group and the Working Group of the Social Chamber of Slovenia, contributing to the development of educational content and policy recommendations related to migration. Demonstrating its policy engagement, the National Society co-signed proposals for amendments to the Foreigners Act and the Law on International Protection, which were submitted to the government, highlighting its capacity to influence legislative processes through its auxiliary role.

In collaboration with UNHCR, the Slovenian Red Cross has organized a series of information sessions across multiple cities to raise awareness about temporary protection, a key legal mechanism for displaced individuals. These sessions also introduced participants to services such as Tracing (RFL), cultural mediation, and the broader humanitarian support provided by the National Society.

²⁵Asylum Information Database, European Council on Refugees and Exiles

SPANISH RED CROSS



© IFRC. Photo by Spanish Red Cross

Spain functions as both a destination and transit country on the Western Mediterranean and North-West African/Atlantic (Canary Islands) routes. After record movements toward the Canaries in past years, arrivals fell in last period, while a new uptick emerged toward the Balearic Islands from Algeria and the Central Mediterranean, shifting pressure to different reception points. Spain's asylum demand remains very high.

Humanitarian assistance and protection

The **Spanish Red Cross** provides humanitarian assistance at disembarkation points across the Canary Islands, Balearic Islands, and mainland Spain, covering basic needs, health and specific reception need screening due to vulnerabilities. In Irun, a specialized Humanitarian Service Point (HSP) offers short-term shelter, hygiene services, and support for vulnerable cases, including trafficking.

Beyond initial reception, the National Society manages accommodation and social support for undocumented migrants through the national Humanitarian Assistance Program, identifying vulnerabilities and international protection needs, including cases of unaccompanied children or trafficking risks and plays a key role in the Refugees Programme, offering housing, healthcare, education, and legal aid. Assistance is also provided at the Madrid and Barcelona airports.

Restoring Family Links is available at disembarkation points, and psychosocial support is integrated across all services to help migrants cope with distress and access protection.

As part of its social cohesion programme, the National Society has community activities in formal and informal settlements in different parts of the country where migrants living there can access information, referral and basic services.

Strengthening branches and cross-border collaboration

The Spanish Red Cross invests in building the capacity of its staff and volunteers supporting migrants, offering specialized training in protection, gender-based violence, children on the move, conflict resolution, and anti-trafficking. It also supports civil society and technical partners through capacity-building initiatives.

Global and local humanitarian diplomacy

The Spanish Red Cross plays a key role in humanitarian diplomacy on migration, partnering with the Spanish Government to support reception activities and advocate for migrants' rights. It collaborates with national and international organizations – including IOM, UNHCR, and others – to ensure coordinated, comprehensive support through referral systems.

Its anti-trafficking efforts combine advocacy, training, and direct assistance for survivors. The National Society also uses KoboCollect for secure data management and real-time monitoring, enhancing accountability and safeguarding beneficiary right.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

To maintain and expand the programme across Europe, funding is needed to support National Societies based on identified needs along migration routes. The total requirement for the **2025–2030 period is CHF 18.3 million to reach 1,689,709 persons.**

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	TOTAL
Pillar 1 activities	1,840,100	2,188,680	2,267,691	2,127,838	2,199,624	2,201,354	12,825,287
Pillar 2 activities	233,500	285,175	302,132	303,496	309,393	313,575	1,747,271
Pillar 3 activities	211,500	247,700	250,458	255,327	258,758	257,253	1,480,996
IFRC coordination	233,419	413,419	413,419	413,419	413,419	413,419	2,300,517
TOTAL	2,518,519	3,134,974	3,233,700	3,100,080	3,181,194	3,185,601	18,354,071



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ANNEX I

ACHIEVEMENTS IN EUROPE IN 2022-2024

The section below highlights the key achievements and milestones of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme in Europe during the 2022–2024 implementation period, showcasing the programme’s strengths, coordination approach, and added value within and beyond the region.



316,976
Migrants supported

23
Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) active

50,289
Members of host communities supported

2,615
Staff & volunteers received technical training



46
Cross-border exchanges



ANNEX II

SUCCESSFUL CASE STUDIES

As part of the Global Route-Based Migration Programme’s lessons learned, a series of case studies have been developed to showcase the key activities carried out by National Societies and highlight their impact.

- Mobile team in Temporary Reception Centre by Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina (link to publication: [Case study - Red Cross Society of Bosnia & Herzegovina](#))
- Mobile migration team by Cyprus Red Cross Society (link to publication: [Case study - Cyprus](#))

[Red Cross Society](#)

- Humanitarian assistance in reception centers by Red Cross of Montenegro (link to publication: [Case study - Red Cross of Montenegro](#))
- Local Red Cross Branch Palilula by Red Cross of Serbia (link to publication: [Case study - Red Cross Serbia](#)) and
- Humanitarian service point by Slovenian Red Cross (link to publication: [Case study - Red Cross Slovenia](#)).

IFRC NETWORK

VALUE PROPOSITION



The worldwide operational network and permanent local presence along migratory routes in countries of origin, transit and destination fostering cross border initiatives.



The long-standing commitment and experience in providing assistance and protection to people on the move, irrespective of their legal status, and along migratory routes.



The cross-sectoral nature of the approach of National Societies is well aligned with a holistic route-based approach addressing the myriad of needs of vulnerable people on the move, irrespective of their legal status or category.



The unique role of National Societies as partner of choice for governments, humanitarian and development organizations and donors



The auxiliary role position enables humanitarian diplomacy with and on behalf of people on the move as well as in favour of policies that support social inclusion and non-discrimination.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 14 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard-to-reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

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