

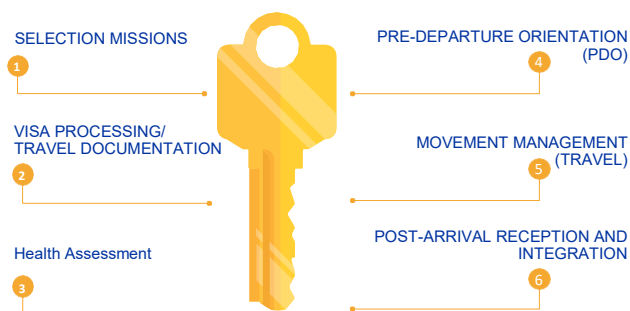
Refugee Resettlement – What is it?

“Resettlement is a protection tool and durable solution for those whose lives and liberty are at risk. It concerns the selection and transfer of refugees from a state in which they have sought protection to a third country that admits them – as refugees – with a permanent residence status.” (IOM)

In the EU, resettlement corresponds to the movement of refugees from a country outside of the EU to an EU Member State. Resettlement forms a core part of the external dimension of European Union asylum policy, and a way of demonstrating EU solidarity and responsibility sharing with third countries.

Assistance to Resettlement: IOM's Approach

IOM assists Member States in the resettlement process in 6 key phases of the process:



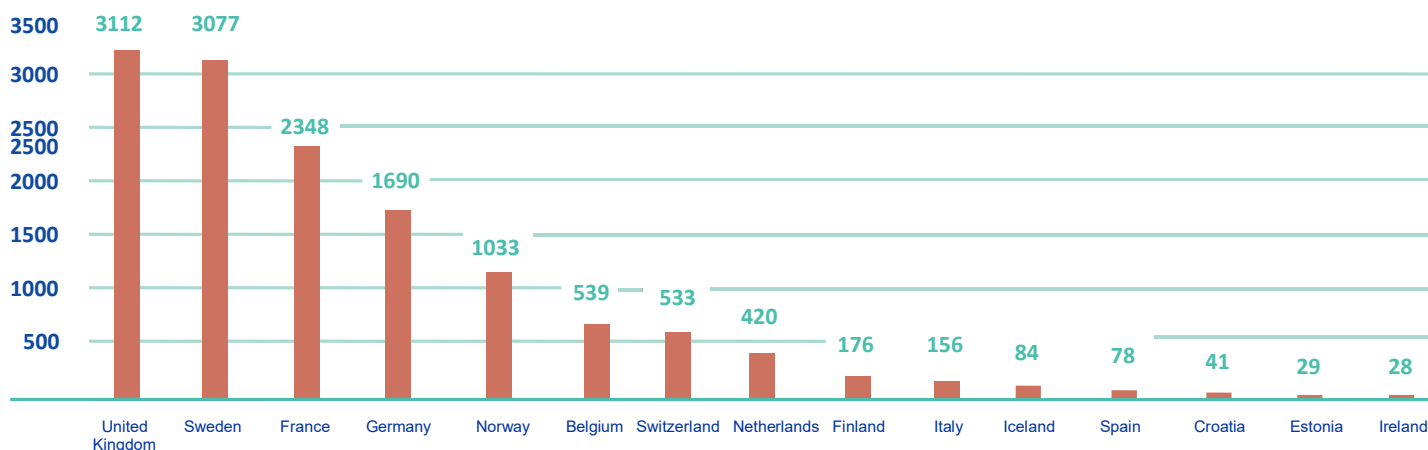
Guiding principles of IOM practice in assisting the resettlement of refugees:

- To contribute to the dignified and safe migration to all refugees.
- To ensure that refugees are well informed about the travel process and reception conditions before departure.
- To provide a safe place, during pre-departure orientation sessions, to share doubts and concerns through the adoption of refugee centered methodologies.
- To protect refugees in need of medical care through a detailed pre-departure health assessment, establishing appropriate communication channels for the transmission of clinical information, and ensuring a medical follow-up upon arrival.
- To prepare and inform reception entities with information about refugees to improve the reception process.
- To ensure the protection of refugee data and the appropriate handling of sensitive and confidential information.
- To monitor and evaluate the entire process by continually improving materials and procedures.

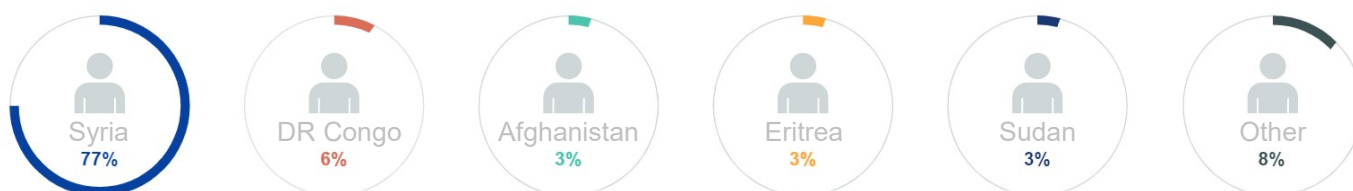
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE : IOM GLOBAL OPERATIONS

Between January and June 2018, IOM provided assistance in resettlement or in humanitarian admission programs to more than 39,000 refugees worldwide. The European Economic Area (EEA) area received 13,344 refugees under European and national programs.

EEA Countries which Received Resettled Refugees in 2018



Main Nationalities of Refugees Resettled in EEA in 2018 (%)



Protocol of Cooperation between SEF and IOM

Portugal committed to accepting 1,010 resettled refugees from Egypt (404) and Turkey (606) between 2018 and 2019, responding to the European Commission's call to ensure continuity in resettlement until a European Union mechanism is put in place. SEF has established with IOM a protocol for collaboration regarding resettlement assistance under this commitment for the period 2018-2019.

Continuum in Assistance to Resettlement: Main Activities

IOM's resettlement assistance activities are guided by the link between the pre-departure phase in Turkey and Egypt and the initial phase after the arrival in Portugal. To this end, IOM adopts working methodologies focused on promoting communication channels and collaborative work with the entities involved throughout the process, thus establishing a continuum in the resettlement assistance.



Pre-departure preparation

Support to selection missions in Turkey

- Logistical support and facilitation of contacts between the authorities of the country of resettlement and refugees proposed for resettlement by UNHCR.

Health Assessment

- Assessment of the health status of refugees prior to departure to ensure safe travel. This includes collection of clinical history, conducting physical exams, referral for specialty consultations, treatments and vaccination, if necessary.
- Transmission of clinical information relevant to reception and integration in Portugal, in order to promote continued medical follow-up after arrival. The information is transmitted to focal points in Portugal, according to the approved health assessment protocol.
- Prevention of public health issues.

Pre-Departure Orientation

- Transmission of information about Portugal, including reception conditions and available services.
- Training in the language of refugees (using an interpreter if necessary).
- Participatory, refugee-centered, interactive methodologies with various activities and hands-on exercises.
- Working with refugees in the management of expectations, formulation of realistic objectives and development of attitudes and skills necessary for the process of adaptation and independency in Portugal.
- Creating a safe space, with favorable conditions for sharing of concerns, expectations and doubts, where refugees are the main actors.

Movement Management

- Organization of the refugees' travels from Turkey and Egypt to Portugal.
- Assistance at the airport during boarding, transit and on arrival.
- Ensure medical escorts during the flight, whenever necessary.

Initial Support to Integration

Information Sessions with local actors

- Information sharing and awareness-raising on refugees' trajectories prior to arrival in Portugal (contexts of origin and first asylum), the resettlement process and pre-departure orientation undertaken by IOM (including methodologies and dynamics that prepare refugees for the process adaptation to the new country).
- Transmission of information on specific profiles and concerns of resettled refugees.
- Obtaining feedback and information to improve IOM's pre-departure orientation with refugees in the first country of asylum.

Meetings with key actors

- Sharing information about the resettlement process and the role of the entities involved.
- Identification of communication channels and procedures for collaborative work with the entities involved.
- Collection of feedback to improve the implementation process of activities related to resettlement assistance.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Collection of refugee feedback on the relevance of pre-departure orientation in the process of reception and integration.
- Collection of feedback from host institutions on the preparation of refugees prior to departure.



Pre-departure orientation
Cairo, 2019