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Icon for global developments in asylum

To set the broader context within which asylum-related trends in Europe emerged, this section provides an overview of key themes in forced displacement at the global level. A combination of crises, including new and ongoing conflicts, climate shocks, geopolitical unrest, violence and persecution, led millions of people to flee their homes in 2022. [1](#)

The Russian invasion of Ukraine caused the fastest and one of the largest forced displacement crises since World War II. [2](#) Other pre-existing, profound situations of displacement around the world persisted or grew, pushing the number of people displaced globally to historic highs in 2022, reaching approximately 103 million. [3](#)

Key issues in the field of asylum in 2022

[Section 1.1 Focus on unaccompanied minors](#)

1.1. Focus on children and unaccompanied minors

icon showing women and girls in the context of asylum

1.2. Women and girls in the context of displacement

Section 1.3 Physical and mental health

1.3. Physical and mental health as a daily concern

Section 1.4. Climate-induced displacement

1.4. Climate-induced displacement

Section 1.5 Global developments on statelessness

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- [1](https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2022/3/622755294/covid-19-climate-crisis-worsen-inequalities-displaced-women-girls.html)United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (2022, March 8). *Covid-19 and climate crisis worsen inequalities for displaced women and girls*. <https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2022/3/622755294/covid-19-climate-crisis-worsen-inequalities-displaced-women-girls.html,%20checked%20on%201/31/2023>
- [2](https://www.unhcr.org/statistics/unhcrstats/635a578f4/mid-year-trends-2022.html)United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (November 2022). *Mid-Year Trends 2022*. <https://www.unhcr.org/statistics/unhcrstats/635a578f4/mid-year-trends-2022.html>
- [3](https://www.unhcr.org/statistics/unhcrstats/635a578f4/mid-year-trends-2022.html)United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (November 2022). *Mid-Year Trends 2022*. <https://www.unhcr.org/statistics/unhcrstats/635a578f4/mid-year-trends-2022.html>