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icon for resettlement

Resettlement means the admission following a referral from UNHCR of third-country nationals or stateless persons from a third country to which they have been displaced to the territory of a Member State, and who are granted international protection and have access to a durable solution in accordance with EU and national laws. 947

Resettlement and complementary pathways for admission are an expression of international solidarity, involving several national and international stakeholders. EU resettlement schemes are based on national pledges corresponding to the number of third-country nationals that Member States commit to admit. They aim to manage migration based on predictable timelines and ensure common grounds for eligibility, while carrying out rigorous security checks.

In 2023, EU+ countries strived to fulfil their resettlement commitments while facing particular challenges at the national level. Priorities needed to be reshuffled amid a shortage of accommodation places to host resettled refugees. At the same time, emergency situations struck third countries in which refugees at risk were waiting to be transferred, such as the earthquake in Türkiye and changes imposed by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

The role of civil society organisations continued to be important in the implementation of resettlement and complementary pathways, including humanitarian admission programmes. The organisations participated in the referral of refugees, contributed to the success of evacuations of refugees at risk and supported in the safe transfer of selected refugees, depending on the agreements signed with EU+ countries. In 2023, their role in the provision of reception services, in particular housing, was key to ease pressure on reception systems in some countries.

icon for resumption of resettlement programmes

3.14.1. National commitments for resettlement and humanitarian admissions

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icon for complementary pathways for admission

3.14.2. Complementary pathways for admission

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- 947EU LEG. (2021, July 7). *Regulation (EU) 2021/1147 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund* [PE/56/2021/INIT, Document 32021R1147].

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