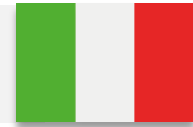




## Italy

### National developments in 2024



Italy experienced an increase in asylum applications alongside a decrease in staffing in 2024. In place since April 2023, the state of emergency due to increased migration flows remained and was extended for 2025.<sup>1</sup> Aiming to safeguard unaccompanied children in these circumstances, a protocol was signed to prevent the disappearance of unaccompanied foreign minors.<sup>2</sup> In addition, a new project was launched to promote family foster care placements.<sup>3</sup> The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies took on new duties related to unaccompanied minors in the asylum system,<sup>4</sup> and Decree No 98/2024 established procedures for the initial interview of minors upon arrival at a reception centre.<sup>5</sup>

In 2024, the Italy-Albania protocol was ratified,<sup>6</sup> with UNHCR assuming monitoring responsibilities<sup>7</sup> and civil society organisations raising concerns about this role.<sup>8</sup> As the asylum-processing centres in Albania became operational, the Immigration and Asylum Board (*Tavolo Asilo e Immigrazione*, TAI) noted irregularities in the procedures.<sup>9</sup> Various tribunals did not validate detention orders issued for applicants who were transferred to Albania<sup>10</sup> and made several referrals to the CJEU about the interpretation of the notion of a safe country of origin.<sup>11</sup> The Court of Cassation confirmed the judges' duty to scrutinise the safety of these countries.<sup>12</sup>

Access to the asylum procedure remained a key issue, as reported by civil society organisations.<sup>13</sup> Several measures were implemented with the aim of reducing processing times, for example through the EUAA's operational plan,<sup>14</sup> through an agreement between the Ministry of the Interior and UNHCR. With an agreement with the IOM, UNHCR provided registration experts and cultural mediators at police headquarters.<sup>15</sup> Challenges continued in reception conditions, with civil society organisations noting significant shortages in accommodation.<sup>16</sup> Poor conditions in pre-removal centres were noted by the Committee for the Prevention of Torture.<sup>17</sup> New tender specifications for reception services and services in pre-removal detention centres (CPRs) were issued.<sup>18</sup> The specifications aimed, for example, to strengthen assistance and support in CPRs, particularly for healthcare, and improve the quality of services. Following the publication in June 2023 of the vademecum on identification, referral and care of persons with vulnerabilities, specific activities were launched in 2024, for example seminars and refresher courses.

To enhance access to information, the National Commission for the Right to Asylum updated its practical guide for international protection applicants, with translations in 14 languages.<sup>19</sup> Additionally, a new welcome centre for migrants and refugees was opened in Milan, providing services such as legal aid, job placement, language support, and inclusion assistance.<sup>20</sup> The list of safe countries of origin was first updated by a ministerial decree,<sup>21</sup> and then included in primary norm by Decree Law No 158/2024.<sup>22</sup> The decree law also introduced procedural changes, such as the possibility to challenge suspension decisions of first instance courts before the Court of Appeal. Law No 187/2024 was adopted, converting Decree Law No 158/2024,<sup>23</sup> and it introduced new provisions: i) to allow a deferred refusal to entry order to be issued to applicants who are traced during surveillance activities at the external borders, including as a result of search and rescue operations, and are taken to areas designated for carrying out a border procedure; and ii) to reduce the timeframe to appeal a rejected asylum application to 7 days.

Through humanitarian admission programmes, Italy transferred victims of torture and ill treatment from Libya,<sup>24</sup> refugee students through university corridors,<sup>25</sup> Afghans and Palestinians.

The Court of Cassation ruled on several cases related to the Dublin procedure, particularly on the obligation to provide sufficient information<sup>26</sup> and the optional use of discretionary clauses in light of the *non-refoulement* principle and fundamental rights.<sup>27</sup>

In the framework of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, the European Commission assigned Italy the largest quota of applications to process in the border procedure, in accordance with the formula foreseen in the regulation.<sup>28</sup> Italy received technical support from the European Commission to prepare its National Implementation Plan.<sup>29</sup> A national coordination committee was established to oversee its execution and assess the resources required.<sup>30</sup>

#### More input from civil society:

- [Arca di Noè Società Cooperativa Sociale](#)
- [Association for Legal Studies on Immigration \(ASGI\)](#)
- [European Council on Refugees and Exiles](#)
- [European Network on Statelessness](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Jesuit Refugee Service Europe](#)
- [Save the Children](#)

# Italy

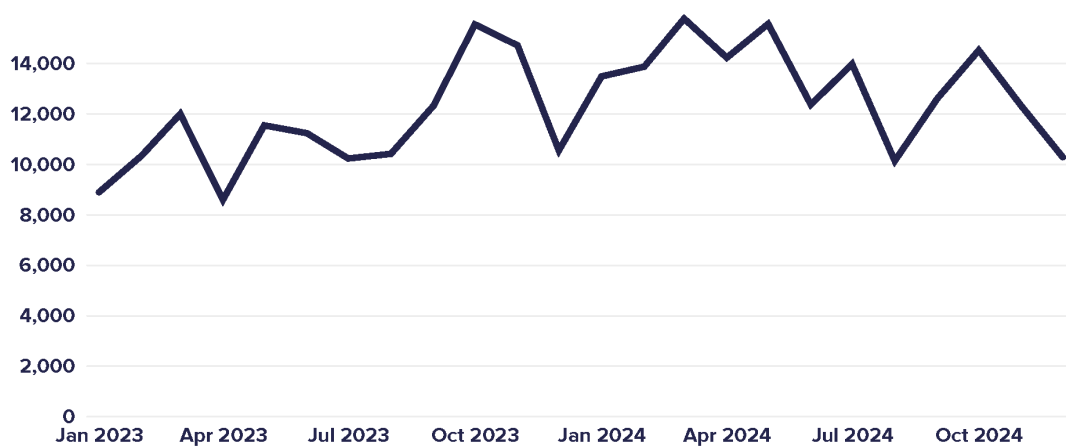
## Key indicators for 2024



Rank by number of asylum applications <b>3</b>	Rank per capita (applications per 1M inhabitants) <b>10</b>	Share of applications in EU+ <b>15.7%</b>	Recognition rate <b>19%</b>
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Indicator	2024	2023	% change	Top 3 countries of origin
Asylum applications	158,867	136,138	↑ 17%	Bangladesh (21%), Peru (10%), Pakistan (8%)
Pending cases (Dec '24)	227,127	162,091	↑ 40%	Bangladesh (19%), Pakistan (12%), Egypt (11%)
First instance decisions	85,203	42,972	↑ 98%	Bangladesh (20%), Pakistan (12%), Egypt (9%)
Refugee status	6,040	4,920	↑ 23%	Afghanistan (14%), Nigeria (11%), Côte d'Ivoire (9%)
Subsidiary protection	10,372	6,519	↑ 59%	Burkina Faso (33%), Mali (17%), Pakistan (8%)
Negative	68,791	31,533	↑ 118%	Bangladesh (24%), Pakistan (13%), Egypt (11%)

Evolution of asylum applications, 2023-2024



For more developments, please consult the [Asylum Report 2025](#) and the [National Asylum Developments Database](#).





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