

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



EUROPE



## Mission

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organisation with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and others who are forcibly displaced.



## Vision

JRS in Europe works towards a Europe where human rights, protection, hospitality, integration, and reconciliation all have a place to flourish within a larger vision for inclusive and welcoming societies.

People served in Europe

# 184.287



56.817

Livelihoods



18.376

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support



38.645

Peacebuilding & Reconciliation



16.342

Education



11.360

Advocacy & Communication



10.540

Legal Assistance



9.332

Healthcare



3.168

Pastoral care



19.707

Emergency aid

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## JRS EUROPE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The International Armed Conflict between Russia and Ukraine has displaced millions of people, constituting the largest humanitarian crisis in Europe since the Second World War. Since the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) has been on the frontlines of humanitarian response, working with those who have been forced to flee their homes.

The One Proposal presents the coordinated unified response from the Society of Jesus to the crisis. In the first year of the One Proposal implementation, the organizations of the Jesuits have served and accompanied 56,042 people fleeing violence. Coordinated by JRS Europe and the Xavier Network, and in collaboration with JRS country offices, NGOs, and local partners, the Society of Jesus has provided 82,111 short-term and medium-term assistance activities in areas such as emergency aid, shelter, psychosocial support, education, and integration.

"We have much to be thankful for in this first year of working together at One Proposal. Deep gratitude to all partners and benefactors, but first and foremost to the teams, communities, and offices that carry forward the mission of nurturing hope for so many Ukrainian refugees and displaced people. We will continue to walk together towards a society where we can live together and grow as humankind."

JRS Europe is committed to making CHANGE happen. JRS Europe believes education is crucial to fostering inclusive and welcoming societies. To this end, we promote critical thinking skills among young people on the positive contribution of forced migrants and refugees to society through a combination of a fact-based course and storytelling. CHANGE online platform hosts this year new awareness-raising projects in the field of education.



On the one hand, U-CHANGE develops an innovative methodology to promote critical thinking among young people, and facilitate civic engagement with the goal of social inclusion. On the other hand, CHANGE Environment educates young students on the issues of environmental change and human migration, and how they interact.

We also developed "Detention under the spotlight", together with the JRS country offices, to collect detention visitors' observations in a systematic way, compare them, look for trends, identify good practices and formulate recommendations for improvement. JRS currently visits people in immigration detention in 11 countries across Europe: Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Kosovo, Malta, North Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom. In three more countries—Croatia, Ireland, and Italy—JRS used to regularly visit detention in the past and strives to resume detention visits as soon as possible.

On 4 March 2022, the Council of the European Union unanimously activated the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) for people fleeing from Ukraine. This landmark decision has allowed millions of refugees immediate and collective access to protection, rights, and essential services in the EU Member States. We strongly welcome this measure and encourage that such measures be applied with other migrant communities in similar situations, to promote equal treatment of refugees.

Despite this measure, 2022 remained a year of stagnation for the European Pact. Although negotiations on the New Pact on Migration and Asylum continued, pushbacks and deaths at the EU external borders were reported daily, and people seeking protection were treated as security threats.

As we look to the year 2022, it allows us to express our gratitude to our donors, supporters, staff and volunteers. None of what we do to further our mission would be possible without your unwavering dedication.

**Alberto Ares SJ**

*Regional Director, JRS Europe*

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## THE ONE PROPOSAL

The International Armed Conflict between Russia and Ukraine has displaced millions of people, constituting the largest humanitarian crisis in Europe since World War II. Since the beginning, the Jesuit Refugee Service has been on the frontlines of humanitarian response, working with those who have been forced to flee their homes.

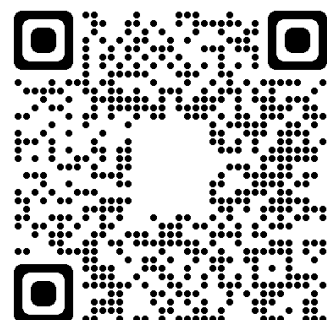
In the first year of its implementation, the organisations of the Jesuits have served and accompanied 56,042 people fleeing violence. Coordinated by JRS Europe and the Xavier Network, and in collaboration with JRS country offices, NGOs, and local partners, the Society of Jesus has provided 82,111 short-term and medium-term assistance activities in areas such as emergency aid, shelter, psychosocial support, education, and integration.

60% of the services were under the first key strategic objective "Welcome", which focuses on short-term and emergency aid through shelter and emergency aid. Meanwhile, 30% of activities were medium-term help in areas like psychosocial support, health, education, and housing, which fall under the second strategic objective "Protect". The last 10% were shared between the "Integrate" and "Promote" objectives which aim to provide long-term support through employment, awareness raising and integration activities.

### Activities overview



READ MORE ABOUT THE ONE PROPOSAL AND THE PEOPLE ACCOMPANIED





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<b>People Served in 1 year</b>	<b>56.042</b>
<b>3 year* projection</b>	<b>73.168</b>

\*The projection was done at the start of the project and will be revised annually.

**Countries involved in the response**

- Ukraine
- Neighbouring countries
- Countries of secondary movement



The One Proposal, the coordinated unified response from the Society of Jesus to the crisis, encompasses a wide range of services to be provided to a projected 73,168 people over the course of 3 years. It addresses the needs of forcibly displaced Ukrainians across Europe, from the immediate humanitarian response and emergency assistance in Ukraine and its neighbours to long-term programmes to promote and integrate refugees.

The response is structured around five key strategic objectives that aim to put people at the centre of the intervention:

- **Welcome:** ensure refugees are welcomed across Europe by accompanying them and listening to their stories, and by walking together without prejudice and without fear.
- **Protect:** defend the inalienable rights of displaced people, ensuring their fundamental freedoms, and respecting their dignity.
- **Promote:** safeguard the individual and social conditions for access, choice, growth, and human development for those displaced by the conflict by encouraging programmes which involve refugees as active protagonists.
- **Integrate:** foment social interaction, inclusion, and integration, aiming to reduce economic and social marginalisation, and support more cohesive, inclusive, and robust societies.
- **Institutional Strengthening:** scale-up our strength, capacities, and networks to provide a large-scale high-quality response to the needs of refugees.

These strategic objectives will guide the activities in all sectors, such as shelter, accommodation & non-food items; emergency aid, relief & assistance; legal assistance; health; psychosocial support; education; livelihoods; awareness & advocacy; integration & peacebuilding; and capacity building.



## ADVOCACY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE UKRAINE CRISIS

In 2022, all advocacy plans had to be quickly readjusted in light of the unexpected and dramatic start of the war in Ukraine as a result of the Russian invasion. The large displacement of people that followed prompted a generally positive response on the side of the EU, with the swift activation of the temporary protection regime. At the start of the war, as well as in the following months, JRS welcomed the EU efforts and, often in partnership with other NGOs, encouraged policy makers to support the large efforts of private citizens in welcoming Ukrainian refugees. Throughout the year, JRS also advocated for an extension of the protective attitude shown to Ukrainian refugees towards all other forcibly displaced people seeking for protection in Europe.

### Examples of Ukraine-response related activities:

- Christian group recommendations for an EU welcome to refugees from Ukraine.
- NGO meeting with EU Fundamental Rights Agency director on the situation in Ukraine (4 March)
- Meeting of the JRS Advocacy taskforce—focus on Ukraine (18 March)
- Christian group meeting with EU Ukraine Solidarity Platform coordinator (16 May)

## DETENTION UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

In 2022 we continued our work as a network to systematise the way we collect and analyse the observations made by JRS detention visitors throughout Europe. During this year's Detention Visitors Support Group – Bringing Hope without Losing Hope, the participants received specific training to learn how to distillate observations that are relevant for advocacy and communications work, and how to record and refer them using a JRS database.

On the topic of detention, at the end of the year we launched the first edition of a new series 'Detention under the spotlight', in which we highlight a problematic issue related to detention in a specific country, illustrated by a story of someone we met. The first edition was from the UK.



## ADVOCACY ON EU POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES ON ASYLUM AND MIGRATION

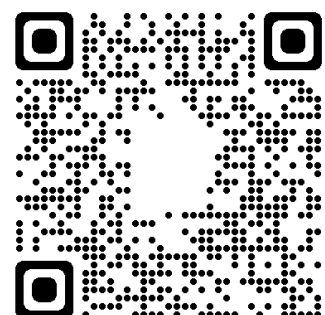
Negotiations on the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum went on in 2022. JRS, often in coalition with other NGOs, continued to reach out to policy makers within EU institutions and agencies to put forward legislative amendments and policies to ensure the respect of refugees and asylum seekers' rights. Next to reacting to existing political and legislative processes, as a network we also tried to open a discussion on broader, long-term reflections, such as on models of reception for asylum seekers.

### Examples of EU-Pact related activities:

- Meetings and contacts with MEPs, EP groups advisors and EP secretariat
- Meeting of the JRS Advocacy taskforce on reception of asylum seekers (1 March)
- ECRE Annual General Conference—organization and moderation of the panel discussion 'Reception of asylum seekers: from the borders to the heart of European societies'
- Christian group meeting with the Czech Permanent Representative in the framework of the Czech Presidency of the EU (7 October)
- Participation in the activities of the Frontex and the EUAA respective Consultative Forums on Fundamental Rights
- Annual in-person meeting of the JRS Advocacy taskforce (30 November, 14 December)



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the European Union**

## CHANGE AND U-CHANGE

After more than 2 years of implementation and over 40,000 students engaged, the educational and raising awareness programme CHANGE concluded with a three day celebration of both the CHANGE and the U-CHANGE programme.

## CHANGE AMBASSADORS

40 Students and 10 teachers selected from Belgium, Italy, Malta, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and Hungary met in Brussels to share their experiences in the CHANGE programme and the actions they had taken as student ambassadors. Students also got the opportunity to visit the European Parliament and learn more about the EU institutions.

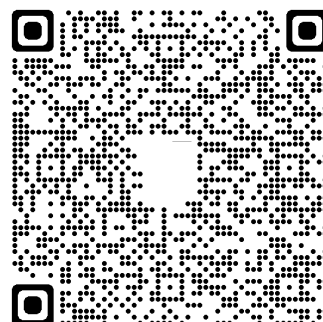
## UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

JRS Europe held an event in the Museum of Natural Sciences in Brussels. The University of Comillas presented at the event the U-CHANGE report which assessed the data of 3,000 students participants of the CHANGE project from 9 european countries. The report was put into context with best practices in educational programs with a panel discussion with different NGOs working in the education sector.

The 6 key lessons of the study are:

1. CHANGE mobilises learning and critical thinking.
2. Some entrenched prejudices remain.
3. Presence of refugee population in classrooms has a big impact.
4. There are three clear student profiles.
5. The context of application is heterogenous and it is not neutral.
6. Not all stages have the same participation.

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## 2022-2024 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The Jesuit Refugee Service network in Europe publishes the new Strategic Framework for 2022-2024, once again reinforcing its mission to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and forcibly displaced people.

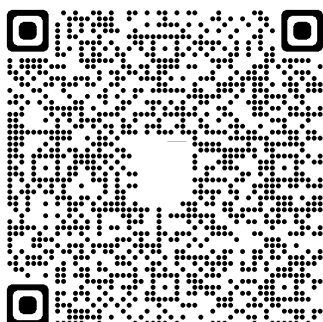
Acting as a guidepost for JRS's work in the region, the Strategic Framework aims to identify common purposes between countries within the network, to rearticulate the mission and founding values, and to formulate the goals for the next three years. The document was developed through a process of discernment and consultations, where JRS Europe and the 22 country offices worked together to produce a truly shared result.

JRS in Europe works towards a Europe where human rights, protection, hospitality, integration, and reconciliation all have a place to flourish within a larger vision for inclusive and welcoming societies. All JRS offices share a common base of values and core competencies, working together through shared guiding principles, working channels, advocacy and communication strategies, as well as a gender-sensitive approach.

Over the next three years, JRS in Europe will continue to work on four common programmatic areas:

1. Social Inclusion and Integration
2. Access to Protection
3. Detention
4. Awareness Raising

### ACCESS THE DOCUMENT







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# 454

migrants accompanied in detention centres

**In terms of immigration detention, 2022 showed a regrettable return to normality. After the two-year health crisis, more people were placed in immigration detention, and the Belgian government approved a plan to open new centres. JRS Belgium kept its presence in the administrative detention centres for migrants of Bruges, Caricole and Merklplas. JRS also strengthened the advocacy work through active participation in the Move coalition, and the launch of a new annual monitoring report sharing data on migrant detention, showing testimonies within the detention centres in Belgium.**

JRS Belgium supported 37 families with children in detention, providing psychosocial and/or legal support. JRS observed that children in return proceedings are traumatised by the unexpected arrest. Children aged 12 and up often do not attend school and have no access to leisure activities, even though this is their right.

In 2022, JRS continued with the innovative Alternative To Detention (ATD) pilot project, that started in September 2020. JRS Belgium implemented home-based case management for families without legal residence, to find sustainable solutions for them. This included rigorous legal analysis of their case and the elimination of bottlenecks in other areas of life, which impede thinking about the future. In 2022, JRS assisted nine families in starting a residence procedure. An external mid-term evaluation showed that home counselling has strengthened the families' ability to actively engage with their case, make informed decisions about their future but, above all, improve their well-being and coping mechanisms.

Finally, JRS Belgium continued with JRS Europe's Project CHANGE. Over the last two school years, 39 schools and 4,442 (Dutch speakers, French speakers, and also English speakers) pupils participated in workshops, meetings and actions under CHANGE. The project will continue to be implemented going forward.





**44.389**  
overnight stays offered to  
376 guests

© JRSFrance

**In 2022, JRS France celebrated the 15th anniversary of the "JRS Welcome" programme. Throughout the year, 376 guests were welcomed thanks to 1,552 different hosts, for a total of 44,389 overnight stays. The programme "Cool Welcome" also offered short-term accommodation (1-2 nights) for 178 asylum seekers in Paris.**

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, JRS France began to respond to the demands and challenges posed by the arrival of people displaced from Ukraine. JRS France hosted Ukrainians through autonomous or semi-autonomous accommodations, made available by private individuals.

In total, 21 displaced families were hosted for 6,930 nights. In addition, JRS France opened a new French class specifically for Ukrainian refugees; accompanied 20 individuals in their search for work or studies; and invited 12 individuals to participate in various "JRS Jeunes" activities. Nearly 130 volunteers were involved in accompanying more than 150

Ukrainians, and 13 Ukrainian- or Russian-speaking volunteers lent their services as translators.

JRS France is constantly striving to share its experience with the rest of society, to raise awareness about the reception of asylum seekers, to inform about current migration issues or to transmit our expertise on specific topics. In 2022, 39 interventions were organized to the benefit of 2,496 people, including secondary school students, associative partners, private sector, elected and institutional representatives, and the general public.

The outcome of years-long work on interculturality were condensed in the publication of the book "Le pari l'interculturalité" ("betting on interculturality"). This is the result of multiple discussions with French and displaced people, brought together by JRS France staff. The book offers a framework for understanding the encounters we live, and, without naivety, some keys to overcome the challenge of living together while respecting our differences.



# +600

refugees received counselling on prospects in Germany

© Martina Schneider

**In 2022, the Accompany project was launched by JRS Germany in Berlin. This was an important addition to the hardship counselling, in which more than 600 refugees received information on prospects in Germany. An apprenticeship offers good prospects, but many face hurdles to passing the exams. The dual training system in Germany is a challenge because practical training is supplemented by regular school attendance.**

Good performance at school is just as important as practical learning in the company. To ensure that the training goes well, the young people in the Accompany project are accompanied by volunteer mentors. Clear agreements are made between them, and are binding for a fixed period of time. All those involved in the project are supported in discussions and seminars.

To support Ukrainian refugees, JRS enlisted the help of a Ukrainian psychologist. Professional support for

those fled after the invasion was not readily available in Germany, especially in rural areas. The psychological support provided by JRS is also offered online and was used 120 times in 3 months.

To alleviate the plight of Ukrainian refugees, the Jesuits at the Ukama Centre in Nuremberg, with the support of JRS, took in two women and their children. The Ukama Centre also offered church asylum to four people. They were taken in for a limited period of time, while they were at risk of being deported.

JRS also worked to improve the lives of African women living in rural Brandenburg, who have found limited opportunities to create an independent and secure life, and further limitations due to lack of childcare.

The political activities of JRS focused on the implementation of the positive refugee policy approaches in the coalition agreement of the governing parties at the federal level.





# 7.001

refugees reached by the project Magazi

**In 2022, JRS Greece was officially registered as an NGO dealing with international protection, migration and social integration issues. This was also aided by ISO-9001 certification.**

The Pedro Arrupe Center facilitated the integration of refugee and migrant children through an after-school mentoring programme for 124 children in the school year 2021–2022 and 170 students in 2022–2023. The Pedro Arrupe Center also distributed a monthly food basket for 15 vulnerable families per month. In addition, 2,175 meals were served to the students with the highest risk of food shortages.

JRS Greece's non-formal education project, "Magistories", provided access to education for children, teenagers and adults to learn new skills, and share their knowledge and cultures. Creative and cultural activities were conducted to allow beneficiaries to exchange experiences. In 2022, 199 new enrolments took place (127 adults and 72 children).

The Women Day Centre (WDC), which

aims to empower asylum seekers, refugees, and migrant women in vulnerable situation, received 514 registrations in 2022.

Baby items which were distributed at the Woman Day Center. This allowed social workers to follow up with mothers and their babies monthly. JRS has registered more than 163 mothers.

The project Magazi, where JRS offers a free shop with clothes, shoes, household goods, toys, and milk continued in 2022 with 2,360 registered beneficiaries in total (reaching more than 7,001 people). Of them, 778 are new registers that took place in 2022.

Finally, to cover the most basic needs, JRS Greece also managed the FoodBasket project, where food and NFIs were provided to the most vulnerable families attending our projects. Social workers did interviews to collect all the necessary information and to ensure that the family fits the project's criteria. To date, 196 families are registered and 35 families were receiving food families on monthly basis.

# 2.499

refugees supported by JRS Hungary  
in 2022

**In 2022, JRS Hungary supported 2,499 beneficiaries. This incremented support was possible thanks to generous donations and the shared project: the One Proposal.**

To address the needs of the increased influx of refugees, the team welcomed a foreign language teacher focused on the enrolment of Ukrainian children, language teaching and school accompaniment. To better equip educators for appropriately attending to Ukrainian children in schools, teachers' workshops were organized in Budapest and Győr, including consultations with teachers in seven schools.

JRS Hungary introduced a new social aid scheme, with support for medical expenses, food and personal hygiene items, and housing costs. In addition, JRS provided housing opportunities for students in higher education, individuals, and families through the medium- and long-term housing programme.

The CHANGE project, coordinated by JRS Europe, ended in August 2022.

JRS Hungary was directly involved in 21 schools with a total of 1,782 students. JRS Hungary also participated in the U-CHANGE project, focused on the evaluation of the aforementioned project, and organized a garden party in June for professional partners, policy makers and school principals, and another in July for students, teachers and artists, linked to a literary competition and a photo exhibition. Finally, the Change Environmental project with nine international participants started in January 2022 and JRS Hungary worked with the Fényi Gyula Jesuit High School in Miskolc on the curriculum and translations.

JRS Hungary also developed a language book for young children arriving in a new school environment. The book was a success with over 1,500 copies.

JRS collected 35 out-of-use bikes, repaired them in cooperation with a bike shop, and made them available for beneficiaries.

Finally, JRS Hungary developed an e-booklet on community-based support for parishes and church communities and made it accessible for free.





**4.136**  
 refugees reached  
 through JRS services

**In response to a record of 13,600 international protection applicants and 70,000 Ukrainian refugees, JRS Ireland enhanced its national outreach programme. There were 4,136 beneficiaries of JRS services, including 592 Ukrainian refugees.**

JRS Information and Advice Clinics were extended to all forms of temporary accommodation procured for arriving asylum seekers, and the National Resident Helpline freephone continued to be provided. The SEEAP initiative also assisted more than 400 individuals to access protection and more effectively navigate the early stages of the process.

In response to the accommodation crisis, JRS Ireland advocated to senior policymakers for a government response that delivers a long-term solution. A Hardship Fund was also established to provide assistance to the increasing number of asylum seekers in need.

JRS' priority focus on the provision of reception and orientation support to protection applicants was maintained

through the digitisation of the Fáilte project, with the JRS Ireland Welcome Website translated by visitors more than 17,000 times. The Fáilte project information and mental health services were "exported" to accommodation centres.

For the first time in two years, the JRS Summer Programme was run, with more than 500 forcibly displaced benefitting. Young people were involved in delivering the CHANGE project National Day and representing Ireland at the regional events in Brussels. JRS Ireland also launched a new briefing paper seeking to inform reforms of the age assessment process for age disputed unaccompanied minors.

In its role as Chair of the Limerick Integration Working Group, JRS Ireland coordinated the development and rollout of the award-winning Limerick United Against Racism (LUAR) campaign. Meanwhile the Connecting Communities project, which aims to enhance the long-term integration of refugees and forcibly displaced persons exiting state accommodation, supported 151 persons.



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# 18.000

people accompanied by Centro Astalli through different activities

**In 2022, Centro Astalli – JRS Italy accompanied 18,000 people. Activities followed three lines of action: attention to refugee women, with a specific focus on survivors of gender-based violence; reduction of the digital divide; and work and employability.**

Centro Astalli has developed rehabilitation and recovery processes for refugee women who have suffered GBV both in their countries of origin, and in those of transit or arrival, aimed at improving and strengthening their autonomy and inclusion.

Moreover, Centro Astalli launched a series of activities in support of the Ukrainian population, mainly women and minors, who arrived in Italy following the conflict, with the aim of promoting acceptance and social inclusion.

In 2022, a mapping of companies and work options available to foreign and/or vulnerable persons was done. Furthermore, to bring out and enhance individual resources and potential, workshops were carried out to promote

active participation and the strengthening of the beneficiaries' capacity for self-promotion and self-determination.

The digitization of many Italian Public Administration services represents a problem for many refugees. Centro Astalli has accompanied refugees in this phase of transition, to try to counter the negative consequences of the digital divide. The aim of the initiative is to prevent this digitization from becoming a reason for exclusion for forced migrants. With this objective in mind, Centro Astalli opened two help desks dedicated to accompanying people, and developed information sheets and guidelines.

In 2022, Centro Astalli also focused on the issue of housing autonomy. From university co-housing to the project "Communities of hospitality" and transitional housing semi-autonomies, there are various solutions that seek to respond to the housing needs.



100

participants in French  
Language courses

**In 2022, JRS Luxembourg doubled its French language training courses from four to eight, to be able to welcome 100 adult trainees, up from 40 last year. This increase was caused by the influx of Ukrainian refugees under temporary protection arriving in the country. The service was made possible by volunteer teachers, coordinated by a small team.**

JRS also opened alphabetisation classes for underage refugees, waiting to be integrated in "welcoming classes" of secondary schools. 44 young people aged 13 to 17 attended for an average of six weeks. In the course, students were introduced to the Latin alphabet and taught basic sentences in French.

Efforts in non-formal education for young refugees within the Karibuni project became visible in public through the participation of 10 young people in a certified formation on conflict prevention in schools, called S-Team, offered by national youth service SNJ. This training is offered in schools and day centers

for pupils. JRS Luxembourg is the first association working in the field of asylum to have participated in this initiative.

In 2022, JRS Luxembourg welcomed, for the first time, volunteers from the European Solidarity Corps. This first experience was a success and JRS Luxembourg is thankful for their enthusiasm and commitment.

With regards to asylum seekers under the Dublin Regulation (15% of all asylum requests presented in Luxembourg in 2022), JRS extended its service from those under house arrest, accommodated under permanent control, in tents placed in an exhibition hall (SHUK), to those imprisoned in a detention centre (CR). To accomplish this, six new visitors were incorporated, four of them successfully. In 2022, JRS reached out to 186 persons in SHUK and CR.

JRS also joined the 11-member Luxemburgish refugee Council. Being only three years old, and a small NGO, JRS Luxembourg appreciated its collaboration in the OAK project and its participation in the advocacy network of JRS Europe.



# 549

forcibly displaced people served and accompanied

**To reflect on the 20 years since the first major disembarkation of migrants into Malta, JRS launched the campaign Home | 20 Years of Struggle and Hope, which, through three main events, aimed to create a safe space for encounter, sharing of experiences and the arts. The events, accompanied by a strong social media campaign, fresh branding and online news coverage, were a huge success, harnessing interest from the general public and collaboration with other NGOs in Malta.**

JRS Malta and Moviment Graffiti organized again a commemoration for the thousands of lives lost at sea by inviting people to bring a used pair of shoes to give a concrete visual of the number of those dead in the waters. The event was well attended by representatives of the migrant community and NGOs.

Within the collaborative cross-country project FAB! Together—a project focusing on family-based care for children in migration—JRS Malta

organised two Human Libraries.

One of JRS' most significant publications in 2022 was a research study on youths in transition, highlighting the concerns of migrant youths, their shared dreams and the fact that their rights and needs are not being addressed. The publication aimed to ensure that asylum seekers are able to seek protection in Malta, and that they are received with dignity, and provided with the information, assistance and support they need from the moment of their arrival.

In the area of employment, JRS Malta carried out two projects: ESF and Julia Taft. ESF supported in basic integration services, such as CV development, job search support, and assistance in finding English classes. The Julia Taft project worked on addressing the barriers faced by asylum seekers to find and retain legal and stable employment, while also building an effective support system for refugees and asylum seekers. To achieve this, information sessions on employment rights, interview skills, work ethics and other soft skills were held.





# 37.045

people accompanied by  
the One Proposal project

**JRS Poland was established in October with a main office in Warsaw and activities in: Gdynia, Poznań, Nowy Sącz and Warsaw. It was created by the two Jesuit Polish Provinces that had been serving those displaced by the conflict in Ukraine, and builds upon an existing network of Jesuits in Poland. Since its creation, JRS Poland has managed to grow from two part-time staff members to 34 employees, and serve 37,045 people in Poland.**

In the first weeks of the conflict, JRS Poland helped people evacuating Ukraine, providing transportation for over 30,000 refugees. In Poland, they were supported with translations and information provision about aid.

All incomers were offered basic need supplies— 490 packages with food and hygiene kits were distributed, and 650 packages were given in charities shops in Gdynia and Jastrzębia Góra. Furthermore, JRS Poland provided short-term accommodation for 290 refugees.

JRS Poland also assisted 200 refugees

with transportation to other countries, distributed food and clothes vouchers to 80 refugees, 26 food parcels, and 200 kits with medical supplies.

JRS also continued offering shelter by adapting premises in Jesuit houses in Gdynia and Warsaw and equipping 20 rooms in the new shelter in Warsaw. This allowed JRS to accommodate 65 refugees for longer terms. JRS Poland also focused on psychosocial support, organising 276 hours of therapy for 50 children and 65 adults. Youth therapeutic group and psychological consultations were created in Poznań, as well as referral to MHPSS institutions, and weekly group meetings focused on integration in Nowy Sącz.

To foster education, JRS Poland supported refugees with 19 full scholarships, provision of school materials to 60 children, day care for 21 children, and Polish and English language classes for 539 people. This was accompanied with employment training, which resulted in 18 refugees being employed externally, 20 employed in JRS Poland and 7 at Jesuit houses.



# 60-80

people participating in  
each language course



**JRS Austria's activities in 2022 focused on three complementary projects: LocugeeLiving, LocugeeLanguages and LocugeeHelp.**

The LocugeeLiving programme accompanies around 12 young people living in JRS apartments. The lengths of each person's stay and needs vary, and JRS aims to provide the best support to accompany them through encouragement and education support, especially with German language.

The small project "Locugee-awakening potentials" has continued to provide legal assistance, psychological advice, spiritual accompaniment, help in finding apartments, dealing with doctors, and facilitating communication with school boards. A unique and special effort was directed towards a women group from Ukraine. This help included childcare and teaching of the German language at the same time so that mothers could really dedicate themselves to studying.

The year 2022 marked the launch of the new project LocugeeLanguages.

After receiving many requests, JRS Austria decided to launch its own professional level German language classes. The project aims to address a huge gap between the needs of the community of people served and the current offer in Vienna.

The new programme has been greatly appreciated, with particular praise for the teacher: a highly motivated Syrian student studying English and German at the University of Vienna. His is supported by half a dozen of volunteers who assist him.

This is complemented with a special class focused on alphabet learning, which has helped overcome the stigma of not being able to read or write. By advertising the course as a way of improving reading and writing skills, the class has been grabbed the attention of a larger audience who would otherwise may not have applied. In addition, the course offers additional activities such as museum visits, tours around Vienna, small trips and social events.

Each course lasts ten weeks and 60 to 80 people participated in each one.



**There has been increased contact with refugees who are affected by a Dublin non-entry decision. Since Switzerland does not respond to their asylum application, but returns them to their first registration Schengen country, JRS Switzerland established reliable contacts with the victims of this system to accompany them properly.**

JRS Switzerland actively participated in protests against violence and human rights violations at the borders of the European Schengen area: on Palm Sunday with a human chain from the Church of the Holy Trinity to the Federal Palace in Bern; and in June, with the action "Call by their Name", in which 12 cities in Switzerland and Germany commemorated the refugees drowned in the Mediterranean, frozen to death at the Polish border, or killed in other ways.



©Christoph Albrecht SJ



**JRS Slovenia continues to be the only NGO visiting the detention centre on a regular basis, offering psychosocial support and pastoral care.**

JRS Slovenia joined JRS Europe network research project "Detention under the spotlight" to research detention conditions around Europe. JRS Slovenia's contribution highlights the conditions in Slovenia's detention centre and offers recommendations to improve them.

Since 2003, JRS Slovenia has broadcasted a monthly radio programme "Building a more open society", which deals with refugee, development, and migrant issues. This programme presents listeners with a positive view of refugees and migrants, but also raise awareness about migrants and refugees who are already living in Slovenian society.





## JRS South-East Europe

**JRS Croatia focused on: integration of persons under international protection; reception and assistance of ukrainians under temporary protection; and humanitarian assistance at the Transit point for migrants in Rijeka.**

The Transit point in Rijeka was formed in cooperation with Rijeka city, Red Cross, Caritas and the Archdiocese. At Rijeka, JRS provided thousands of people with basic humanitarian aid, clothes, shoes, medical assistance, and sanitary facilities.

JRS worked with several partner institutions to provide emergency aid, protection, language courses, creative workshops, employment assistance, psychosocial support, educational courses, self-defense courses for women, assistance to single mothers and medical support to people with disabilities.

JRS also implemented a project with UNHCR to create a model of effective support for the integration of refugees within the communities of Catholic parishes, through the assessment of the needs of refugees and local

parish capacities. The project "Migranti U ZAJednici" was implemented with the city of Zagreb to contribute to quality social inclusion, strengthening capacities and improving the socioeconomic situation of persons with approved international protection, as well as the socioeconomic-cultural development of society and the system of integration. Intercultural meetings for women and children were initiated, 10 language courses, and educational workshops were organized.

JRS Croatia is a member of the coordination for asylum and integration, and through it JRS participated in over 20 round tables and conferences. JRS is also a partner of the cities of Sisak and Zagreb in EPIC and SHAPE, two European projects, which aim to improve the integration of migrants at the local level and the inclusion of migrants in the design and implementation of integration policies.

In partnership with JRS Serbia and JRS BiH, the IPA3D project was held with the goal of transferring knowledge of JRS to colleagues from partner organizations.





**JRS BiH operated two temporary reception centers in Bihać and two in Sarajevo, providing basic humanitarian aid and enhancing quality of life through educational activities. JRS organized IT workshops, a hair salon, intercultural workshops, and language courses (Bosnian, German & English), as well as psychosocial support.**

JRS also monitored and served refugees in the outreach locations near the European Union borders, providing basic humanitarian supplies, medical services and psychosocial support.

The Daily Center in Bihać was established within the JRS house to offer basic humanitarian aid and psychosocial, educational, and creative activities.

JRS also documented refugees' stories and experiences to raise awareness about their struggles and dreams. To further amplify their voices and those welcoming them, JRS launched "Blessing of Travelers" on Radio Marija. When a new refugee route opened in

Rijeka, JRS experience in providing support to refugees in BiH proved beneficial in organizing aid for refugees, offering basic humanitarian aid, shower facilities, sanitation, and distribution of hot meals.

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, JRS provided support to refugees meeting their basic needs and offering medical services, psychosocial support, education and integration activities.

JRS actively collaborated with local communities in interactions with refugees through the organization of various festivals, such as street food festivals, promoting social cohesion and understanding among different cultures.

Throughout the year, JRS encouraged volunteerism and collaborated with volunteers from various organizations, including MAGIS, Sant Egidia, Christian Refugee Relief, and Jesuit Volunteers. All our volunteers underwent training in all JRS activities. Their dedication and enthusiasm contributed to the successful implementation of activities and support provided to refugees.

## JRS South-East Europe

**During 2022, 550 asylum seekers registered in Kosovo, and 21 who granted the status. The number of detainees was lower than previous years, due to the opening of a new reception centre where migrants are accommodated for up to 15 days prior to deciding whether to ask for asylum in Kosovo or leave the country.**

JRS Kosovo is still the only NGO supporting detainees—in close collaboration with the Ministry of Interior Affairs—by providing apartments (paid by the Ministry), and offering food and non-food items, psychological support, and medical support, among other services.

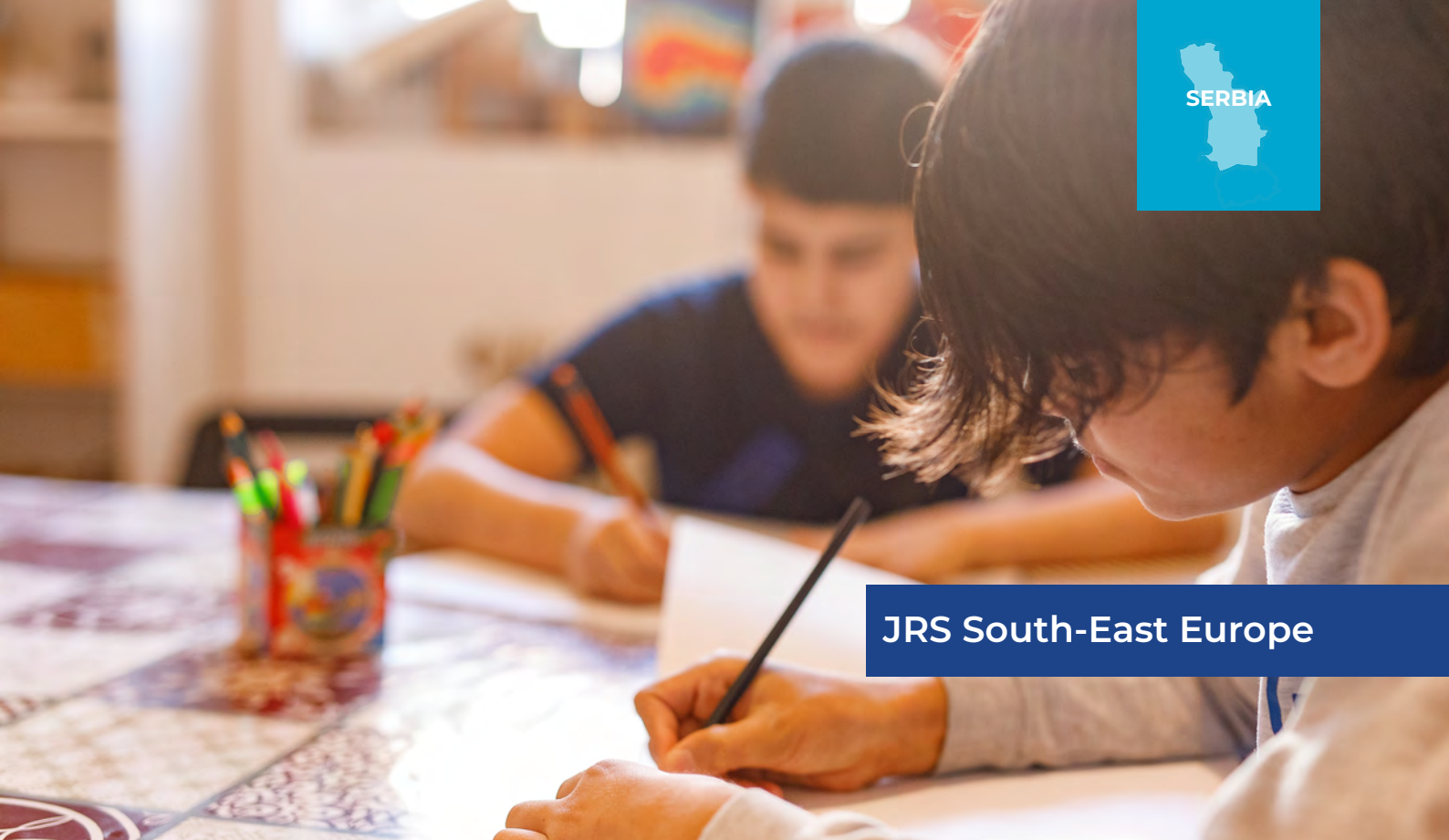
JRS continued to work to improve the quality of life for refugees and asylum seekers in Kosovo by offering support in the basic social services and material needs to all persons of concern. In addition, JRS offered medical support to every asylum seeker (when they arrived at the reception centres, and followed up cases when needed).

JRS also continued to provide computer courses and Albanian language courses in Magure and the JRS office.

For the first time, JRS implemented a new working methodology with refugees to support their integration process. As per an agreement with the Ministry of Interior Affairs, JRS started integration trainings and the accredited language courses. The integration trainings consisted of four training modules, which were combined with social and cultural activities. For the accredited language courses, refugees were required to have at least B1 level proficiency to be eligible for a job position.

During 2022, JRS Kosovo started to work with repatriated women and girls. Thanks to a new partnership with Deaconess Foundation in Finland, JRS started to implement a new four-year project which hopes to empower repatriated women and girls through professional vocational trainings and employment. The first year of the project was mostly spent identifying repatriated women and girls and potential employers.





## JRS South-East Europe

**Serbia experienced a large influx of Ukrainian refugees, most of whom continued towards Western Europe. From about 148,500 Ukrainian citizens who entered Serbia, only around 3,500 were in the country by the end of year. Most of them stayed in privately rented accommodation or with acquaintances.**

To provide support for those families, JRS Serbia organized cash cards distributions in over 20 municipalities of Serbia, where they also met with beneficiaries, and offered a listening ear and additional support for those who need it the most. These cards could be used for food, non-food items and medication.

To further help with the refugees' integration, Serbian language online classes were organized. To help foster a welcoming environment in local schools and communities, JRS also organized seminars for teachers on the topics of tolerance, refugees, and integration. There was high interest among schoolteachers in central Serbia,

overachieving the initial objectives by 30%. These encouraging results indicate the need for future engagement in similar work in the following years.

JRS Serbia also continued its sheltering of unaccompanied and separated minors in the Pedro Arrupe house in Belgrade. This continuation of the 2021 programme was complemented by the purchase of two apartments, which act as transitional accommodation for young asylum seekers. Ownership of these apartments increased the sustainability of the Integration Programme for children and youth.

After moving beneficiaries into the apartments, JRS intensified its support work, and engaged an integration officer to help with socialization, integration, and cultural visits and excursions. These transitional apartments for asylum seekers are first of their kind in Serbia, especially since social housing is still limited to the local population. JRS Serbia continues to advocate for government apartments for asylum seekers as the best way to support their integration in the Serbian society.





## JRS South-East Europe

**In 2022, JRS North Macedonia made several legal accomplishments: a positive verdict from the Administrative Court Skopje; three extended positive decisions from the Sector for Asylum for Granted Subsidiary Protection in North Macedonia for vulnerable beneficiaries; an extended temporary residence under humanitarian reasons; and four public hearings for beneficiaries of JRS North Macedonia. In addition, JRS managed to organize four workshops with national stakeholders.**

JRS North Macedonia continued its accompaniment of asylum seekers temporarily accommodated at the reception centre for asylum seekers by providing food packages twice a week that allow them to cook their own food. The food packages were arranged, as much as possible in line with the health conditions and dietary requirements of the asylum seekers. In addition, JRS provided basic hygiene kits and medicines, and organised visits

to dentists, doctors, and ophthalmologists according to the needs of the beneficiaries.

Accompaniment also continued at the reception centre for foreigners in Skopje, where JRS supports forced migrants with weekly food packages and daily coffees, as well as hygiene sets twice a month. Moreover, to counteract the negative impact of movement restriction on psychosocial health, JRS equipped a room with sports and training facilities, providing a space where asylum seekers can be physically active.

JRS is also present at the temporary transit Centre in, providing forced migrants and asylum seekers with legal advice, counselling and assistance in starting the asylum procedure, as well as food, coffee, and cakes. JRS also organised activities both for children and adults to provide some relief and entertainment, such as picture books, colouring books, wooden crayons and language books for children, and chess, cards, dominoes, and board games for adults.



# 39.000

migrants assisted by JRS  
Romania

**In 2022, JRS Romania has aided more than 39,000 migrants and refugees, with a special focus in assisting Ukrainian refugees.**

In terms of emergency aid, essential supplies such as food, hygiene items, and winter clothes were distributed to those in need. This was complemented by providing non-food items, and ensuring accommodation in hotels, apartments, and temporary shelters.

Legal assistance was offered through information and support for refugees to navigate legal processes. Weekly visits from medical teams and referrals to health services constituted the core of the health accompaniment. Psychosocial support was provided through individual and group counselling sessions.

To ensure access to education, child-friendly spaces were established in JRS offices and hotels and tablets were also distributed to facilitate online learning.

To expand its reach and impact, JRS Romania collaborated with partner

organizations such as Caritas Austria, CORE, Project Hope, Choose Love, Plan Japan, the International Rescue Committee, UNICEF, and World Vision, among others. This gave JRS the opportunity to enhance activities, assist more beneficiaries, and provide additional support and resources to those affected by the conflict.

JRS was also a party to the UN Inter-Agency Coordination mechanism, contributing to discussions on education and child protection, and was involved in the governmental platform coordinated by the Emergency Situations Department.

The overall aim of JRS' work was to provide comprehensive support. By addressing immediate needs, such as emergency aid, shelter, legal assistance, and health care, JRS has positively impacted the lives of over 39,000 individuals. Additionally, initiatives in education, livelihoods, psychosocial support, awareness/advocacy, and integration/peacebuilding have contributed to empowering refugees and creating a more sustainable future for them.



**+200**

people supported by  
Hospitality Communities

**2021 was particularly challenging due to the crisis in Afghanistan. 2022 was not far behind, as it brought the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.**

The significant increase in work and teams highlighted the need to restructure the organization and adapt its structural dynamics. The teams are now divided into two main areas, accompaniment and reception, with the aim of improving communication, follow-up, and monitoring. Support teams were strengthened, including those focused on mental health, employment, social support, housing, and interpretation.

A new temporary refugee reception centre in Vila Nova de Gaia with a capacity of 100 people was opened specifically to welcome Ukrainian and Afghan families. In partnership with the insurance company Fidelidade, a telephone helpline in Ukrainian was set up to provide basic information and an insurance programme to help Ukrainians with housing deposits was launched.

JRS also expanded the Hospitality

Communities project to more than 10 cities across the country, mobilizing more than 150 volunteers and local partners to facilitate the reception of more than 200 people. To consolidate its national presence, JRS Portugal has started the construction of a reception centre in Vendas Novas.

In partnership with BNP Paribas, the Talents and Skills Academy project was developed to enable migrants and refugees to develop their skills and abilities. JRS also launched a podcast series called "Stories from Our Country".

The advocacy team launched the "Livro Branco 2022" (White Paper on the Rights of Migrants and Refugees) on the rights of migrants and refugees, an important tool to raise awareness among policy makers with migrants' testimonies and recommendations for more effective legislation and public policies on these issues.

Finally, JRS organized a photo exhibition called "Next Door Neighbours", which offers perspectives from Afghan families.





# +500

individuals offered  
temporary shelter at JRS

**JRS Ukraine refocused its activities in February to assist internally displaced people from the areas most affected by the war. Over 500 individuals were sheltered in JRS centres.**

The main basic needs of Internally Displaced People were housing and food. The JRS centre was designed to accommodate 24 individuals. However, it periodically was forced to host around 35-40 people simultaneously. To improve living conditions, JRS rented an additional house for 25 people. Due to disruptions in food supply within the country, the organization arranged for the procurement of food from abroad.

As a result of massive bombings targeting power stations, the country's energy system was damaged. To address this issue, generators and other equipment were purchased to overcome the most challenging moments.

To facilitate better adaptation and integration into the local environment, the organization assisted in enrolling children in schools and daycare centres.

Information was provided to adults regarding their rights and opportunities to access assistance from the government. Additionally, legal and procedural consultations were provided, such as assistance with obtaining lost documents or disability status.

JRS Ukraine also involved volunteers, who with their attention and skills, were able to provide psychosocial accompaniment through joint celebrations and workshops on various activities such as baking, pottery, and traditional egg painting.

To better respond to the challenges caused by the war, a series of meetings were held with various organizations working with internally displaced people. The exchange of information and experiences helped assess the current situation accurately and organize mechanisms for supporting effectively. JRS Ukraine conducted monitoring visits to other centres established by governmental and charitable structures to familiarize with the residents' needs and provide appropriate humanitarian assistance.



1,507

people served by JRS UK in 2022

**2022 was marked by a hardened and hostile Governmental approach to asylum seekers. Against the cruel Nationality and Borders Act and the so-called "Rwanda Plan", JRS UK campaigned for a just and humane asylum system. While the Illegal Migration Bill Nationality and Borders Act were passed, no refugee was sent through the "Rwanda Plan". These efforts continued with the fight against the extensive use of disused military barracks as asylum accommodations. Through research into the detrimental effects on asylum seekers of being held at Napier Barracks, JRS UK campaigned for the closure of all asylum camps.**

This year was also marked by the invasion of Ukraine. The public response in the UK to Ukrainian refugees was very generous; it revealed and awakened public sympathy. Within weeks of the conflict, more than 130,000 Britons had offered up their homes for refugees. JRS UK appealed for the welcome shown

for Ukrainian refugees to be extended to all refugees. This was done through different channels; JRS UK was able to respond swiftly to BBC requests and provide interviews with frontline JRS staff in Poland.

Key in JRS UK work during 2022 were communities, where JRS aims to enable hospitality, rather than hostility. One of the projects, led by the new Community Projects Coordinator along with the Refugee Activities Coordinator, is a Community Kitchen, where refugees teach each other, volunteers, and staff how to make a meal. This is eaten together in accompaniment. These are joyful occasions with singing and dancing involved.

The Emilie House, a JRS UK safe house for women, continues providing a place to foster skills and relaxation for the women residing there. With new volunteer-run classes on embroidery and piano, the courses offered continue to expand, fostering inclusivity, reflection and teamwork while providing new skills and a sense of ownership of the produced pieces.





**+41.000**

people accompanied by  
SJM Spain

**SJM Spain continued to accompany people facing barriers to their migration process, and lacking access to basic rights and social services.**

The lack of safe and legal pathways for those seeking protection continues leads to exclusion and puts peoples' lives at risk—the tragic date of 24 June, which saw least 27 people die at the border between Nador and Melilla remains a grim example of this. SJM has witnessed the dynamics of dehumanisation of migrants, accentuated in spaces such as detention centres, but which are also present in other areas, such as employment.

In 2022, SJM Spain continued its work in hospitality, with community reception resources, some of which opened for Ukrainian refugees, and visits and legal actions in detention centres. Additionally, SJM also focused on the accompaniment of young migrants without adult referents, migrant women in domestic work and care, protection at the southern border, interreligious dialogue,

training and employment, citizenship and participation, and leisure spaces, among other areas. More than 41,000 people were accompanied by the SJM network throughout the year.

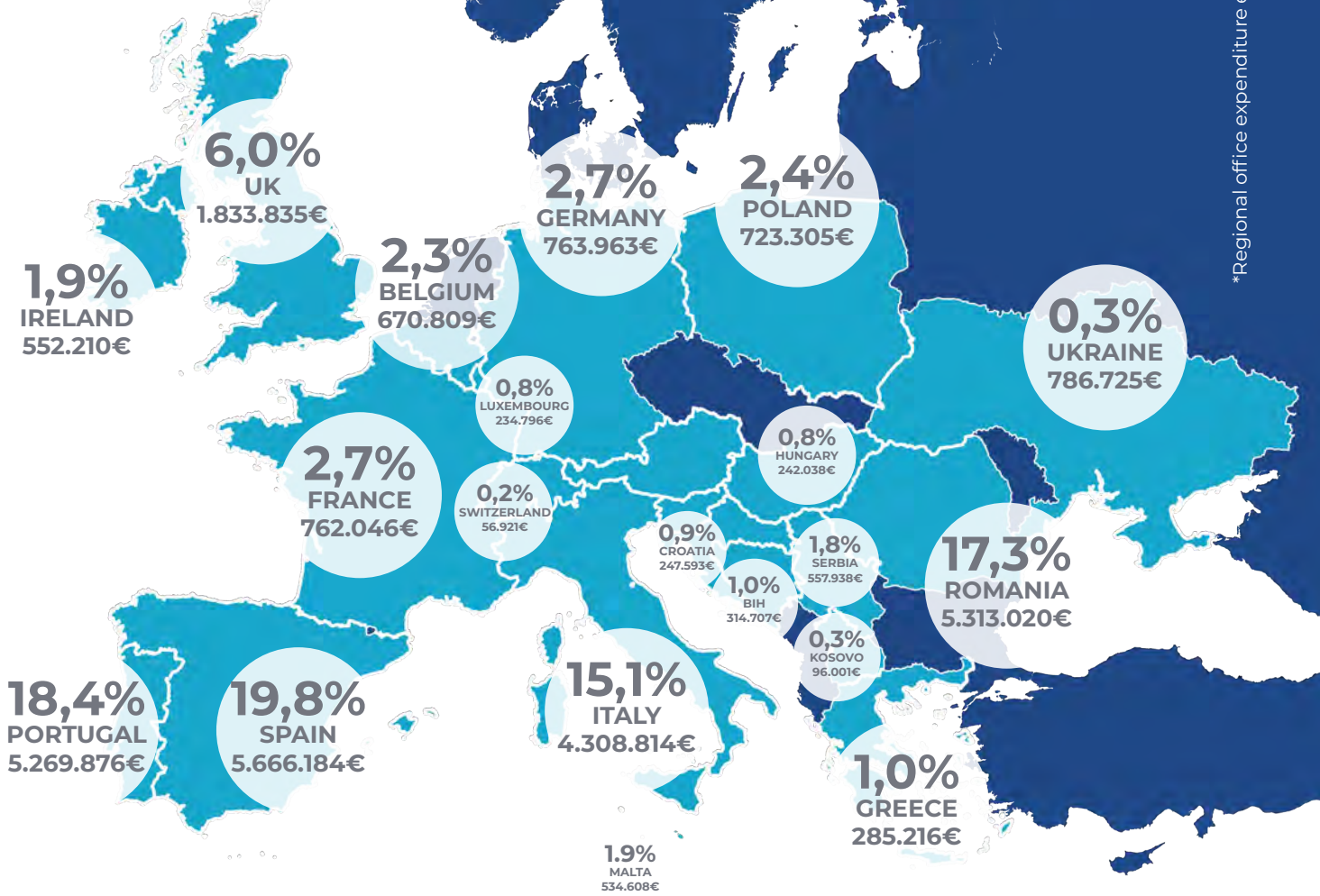
SJM introduced new communication tools to raise further awareness on the reality of the migrant population, with the hope of changing public perception towards these groups. Through awareness-raising videos, the podcast Semillas, and reports and publications, SJM has helped to start a dialogue on certain issues.

Legal and political advocacy work remains a key part of SJM's work, to ensure that the rights enshrined in the law are guaranteed, as well as to generate political and legal reforms that protect the integrity of migrants. In this way, in 2022 SJM carried out an extensive analysis of the reform of the Foreign Regulation, through the figures of arraigo (integration) for administrative regularisation, as well as by initiating strategic litigation channels.



# COUNTRY OFFICES

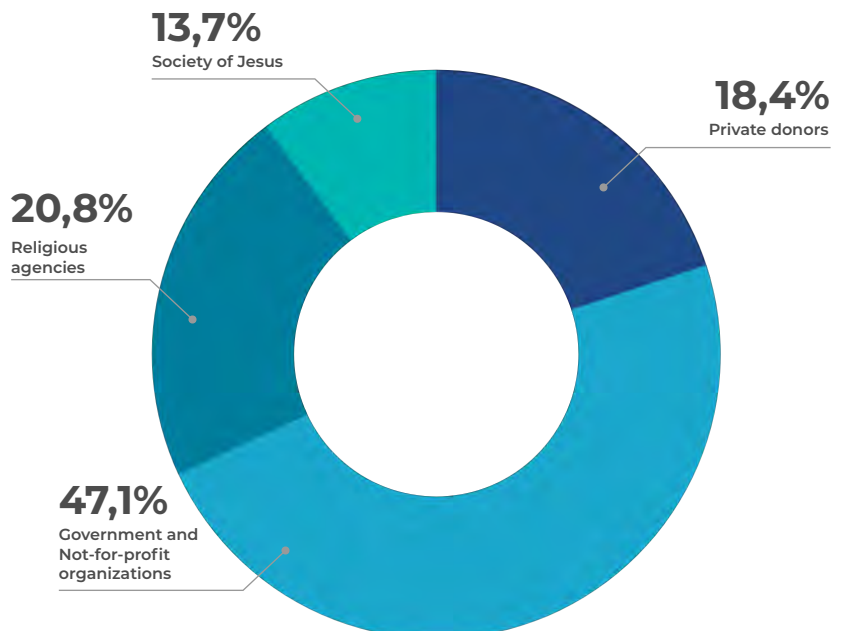
Expenditure 2022



\*Regional office expenditure equals 2,6%.

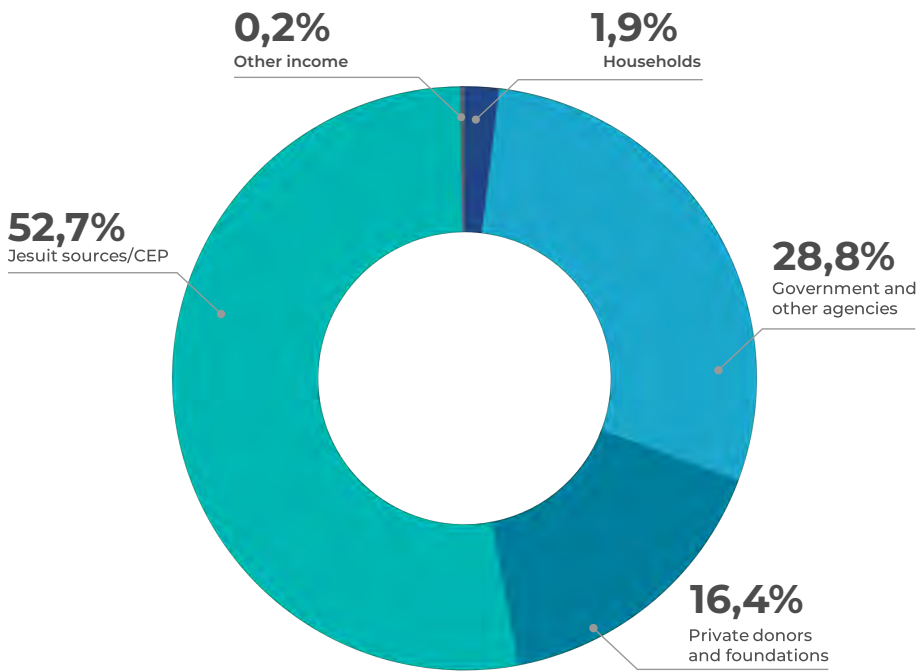
## Income 2022

Society of Jesus	4.113.622,38 €
Private donors	5.542.331,41 €
Religious agencies	6.262.356,34 €
Government and Not-for-profit organizations	14.165.227,59 €
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30.083.537,71 €</b>



# REGIONAL OFFICE

Income 2022



Jesuit sources/CEP	500.085,73€
Private donors and foundations	155.246,02€
Government and other agencies	273.071,20€
Households	17.994,50€
Other incomes	2.336,23 €
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>948.733,68 €</b>

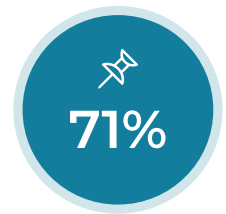
Expenditure 2022



**Organizational support**  
123.174,48 €



**Advocacy and communications**  
89.895,03 €



**Programmes**  
521.947,28 €

# Thank you

**JRS Europe thanks the donors who made our work possible in 2022.** Your support helped JRS Europe to accompany people, advocate for their rights, provide needed services and raise awareness on the issues they face as well contribute to building diverse and inclusive societies across Europe. We would like to thank Accelerations.com, Arise Foundation, CAFOD/DEC, Catholic Mission Australia, CMMB, Communauté Jésuite Opstal, COVIVIO, Erasmus+, EU-AMIF, EPIM, European Solidarity Corps, Fidelity Europe Foundation, Fondation Gratitude, Fundación EO, Gulbenkian Foundation/JRS PT, Irish Province SJ, JCEP, Jesuiten Weltweit, Jesuitas Valladolid, JRS USA, JRS International, Linsi Foundation, LDS Charities, Macao Province SJ, Oak Foundation, Polish Scouts U.S., Porticus, Renovabis, Xavier Network, Zusters van het Heilig Hart, as well as individual & anonymous donors. JRS Europe also thanks all donors supporting the One Proposal project.



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**IBAN: BE 49 2100 9067 7571**

**Swift code: GE BA BE BB**

**Account name: JRS Europe**



## CONTACT

**Jesuit Refugee Service  
Europe**

Chaussée de Wavre 205, 1050  
Ixelles, Brussels – Belgium

 +32 (0) 2 554 02 20

 [europe.admin@jrs.net](mailto:europe.admin@jrs.net)

**[WWW.JRSEUROPE.ORG](http://WWW.JRSEUROPE.ORG)**

