



IRC ITALY

# PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

► MAP - IRC SITES IN ITALY	2
► INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT	3
► REFUGEE.INFO	5
► PROTECTION AT THE BORDERS People arriving via land from the Balkan Route in Trieste	6
► METHODOLOGY	8
► GLOSSARY	9



# PROTECTION MONITORING

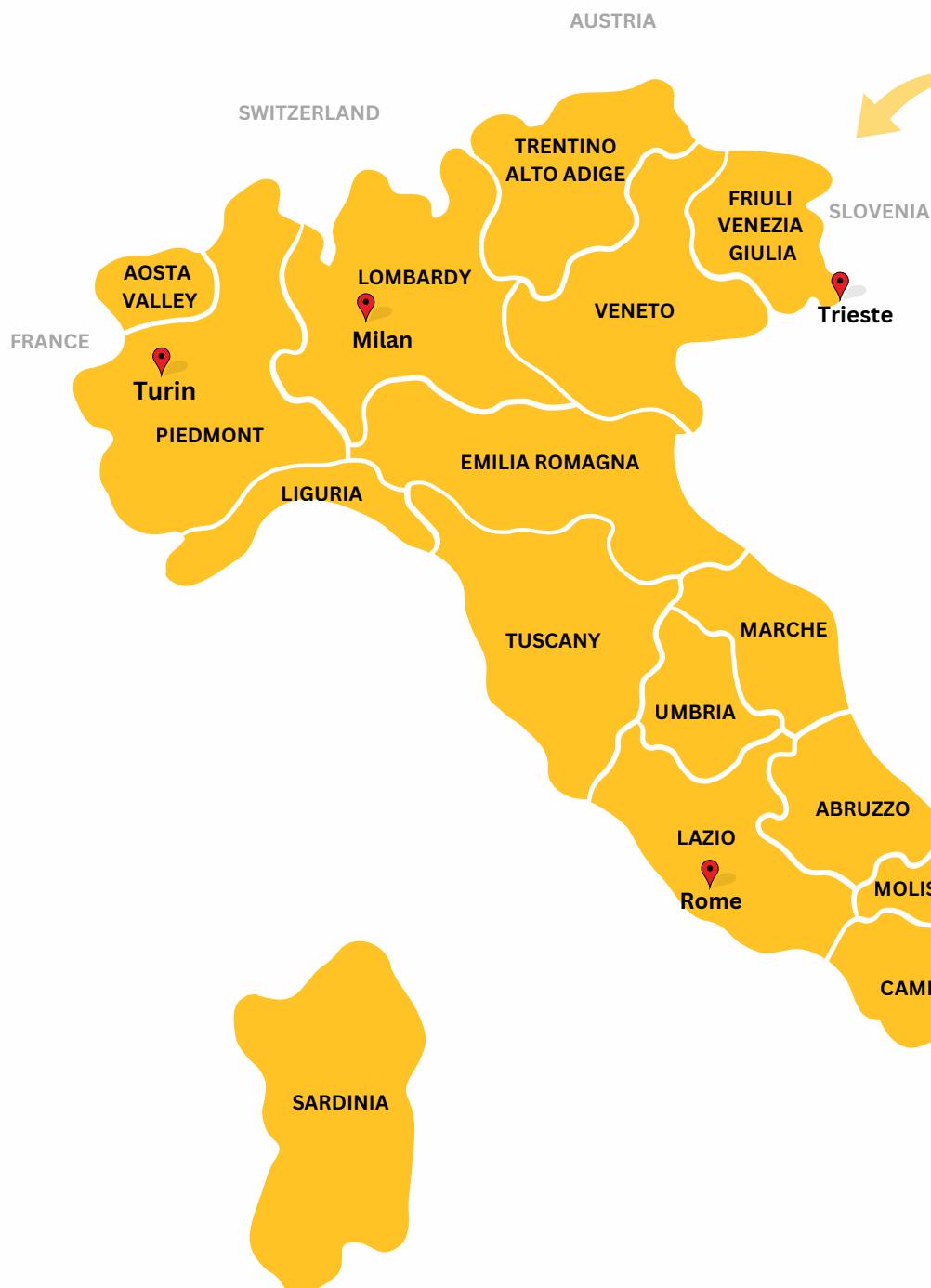
Protection monitoring is the **systematic and regular collection, verification and analysis of information over an extended period of time**, in order to identify violations of rights and protection risks for populations of concern, facilitate the prevention of these violations and risks, and inform effective responses. It means collecting primary and/or secondary data and analyzing them over time to identify trends in the needs expressed and risks faced by the populations of concern.

Protection monitoring is an important tool for both interventions and advocacy. Collecting and sharing high quality information on these issues is essential to making sure that IRC is able to respond to these needs through programming, referrals and advocacy activities.

As part of its dedicated efforts to enhance its protection monitoring activities, IRC Italy produces **quarterly protection monitoring reports**. These reports are a reflection of IRC Italy's commitment to systematically oversee and assess the protection conditions of individuals encountered and supported. They capture the profiles, vulnerabilities, protection risks, and needs of IRC clients in Trieste and the rest of Italy, together with significant migration-related context updates covering the whole country. They provide numbers and insights on **clients who use IRC's digital information service, Refugee.Info, individuals arriving in Trieste via the Balkan Route.**

# MAP OF ITALY

Pinpoints indicate operational sites of IRC in Italy



## BALKAN ROUTE

The Western Balkan Route is one of the **main migratory pathways via land**. It typically involves crossing multiple countries in the Balkans, often starting from Turkey and moving through countries such as Bulgaria, Greece, North Macedonia, Serbia, and others in the region. **Trieste**, despite being located by the sea, is one of the **main entry points in Italy for people arriving from the Balkan Route**.



## EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

This route leads from Greece either overland through Albania and the Balkans or directly by sea to Italy, forming a key link for migration from the Middle East and South Asia to Europe.



## CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

This route begins in North African countries such as Libya, Tunisia, and Egypt, with people attempting sea crossings to reach Italy. Common landing points include Lampedusa, Sicily, and Calabria.

Lampedusa

## Introduction and context

## POLITICAL CONTEXT

**In the final quarter of 2025, the Italian government's efforts continued to focus on externalizing migration control while positioning Italy as a key testing ground for forthcoming EU policies.**

One year into the implementation of the [Italy–Albania deal](#), Italy reaffirmed its commitment to this controversial arrangement, despite limited results and sustained legal obstacles. The Albania-based detention centres have been operational since 14 October 2024, marked by the transfer of the first asylum seekers. Yet by July 2025, only [111 people](#) had passed through the facilities, as Italian courts [repeatedly halted](#) the use of the centers and [referred](#) key legal questions to the Court of Justice of the European Union.

**Bilateral cooperation between Rome and Tirana was further consolidated** on November 14, two years after the original deal was signed, when Italy and Albania concluded a [new, wide-ranging agreement](#) during the [Italy–Albania Summit](#) in Rome. The agreement expands collaboration beyond migration management to include infrastructure, defense and security, energy, the environment, health, innovation, and training.

At the same time, **Italy played a prominent role in testing key components of the forthcoming EU Pact on Migration and Asylum**. Between October 13 and 27, Frontex, the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA), and Europol, in cooperation with Italian authorities, conducted a [pilot of the new EU Screening Regulation in Lampedusa](#). The [two-week trial](#) involved 240 newly arrived people and aimed to assess the practical application of the Screening Toolbox developed jointly by Frontex and the EUAA. According to Frontex, the pilot tested the system under real operational pressure, strengthened inter-agency cooperation, and helped identify risks and best practices ahead of the Pact's entry into force in June 2026.

Italy's central role in Mediterranean migration dynamics was also formally acknowledged at the EU level. In its [first Annual Asylum and Migration Report](#), published on November 11, the European Commission classified **Italy** as being **under “migratory pressure”** due to a disproportionate number of arrivals following search and rescue operations at sea. Alongside Greece, Cyprus, and Spain, Italy will therefore be eligible to access the EU's Solidarity Pool once the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum enters into force.

On November 2, the [Italy–Libya Memorandum of Understanding](#) was automatically renewed for another three years, as neither party moved to revoke or amend the agreement. On the basis of the MoU, signed in 2017, Italy has been providing material and technical support to the Libyan Coast Guard.

Definitions of terms in yellow can be found in the glossary on p. 9

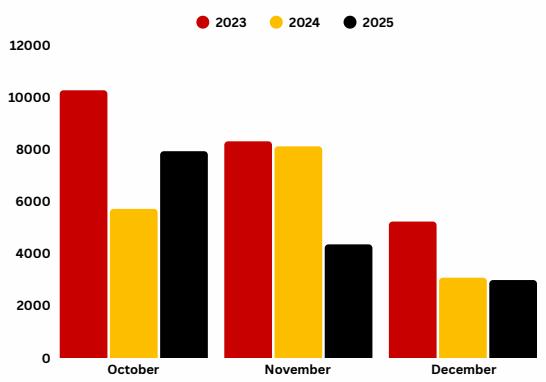
## PEOPLE ARRIVING BY SEA

From **October to December 2025**, a total of **15,288 people arrived in Italy by sea**, a **10% decrease** compared to the **same period in 2024** (16,926). In line with trends observed in 2025, the majority of newly arrived third-country nationals came from [Bangladesh, Egypt, Eritrea, and Pakistan](#).

**Unaccompanied children (UAC) accounted for approximately 18% of sea arrivals in Italy since January 2025** (12,142 out of 66,296), marking a **5% increase** compared to **2024**, when they made up 13% of arrivals (8,752 out of 66,617).

Source: Ministry of Interior, Cruscotto Statistico Giornaliero. Months of [October](#), [November](#), and [December](#) 2025.

Comparison of People arriving by Sea, by Month



## PEOPLE ARRIVING BY LAND FROM THE NORTH-EAST BORDER

Between January and November 2025\*, approximately **9,350 people** - **39% less** compared to the same period in 2024 - are estimated to have travelled through the **Western Balkans countries** (known as the **Balkan Route**), as part of mixed migration movements.

\*Data for the month of December 2025 is not available yet.

Source: [UNHCR, Operational Data Portal](#)

Between October and December 2025, IRC staff working in Trieste provided information and support in accessing services to **3,263 people arriving via land from the Balkan Route**, corresponding to a **7% increase** compared to the same period in 2024 (3,036).

For further details, please see the “People arriving via land from the Balkan route in Trieste (Italian-Slovenian border)” snapshot at page 6.

# PEOPLE ARRIVING FROM UKRAINE

## Disclaimer

The data normally used to update this section from the [Italian Department of Civil Protection](#) are unavailable for the current quarter. To ensure consistency and maintain data integrity, this section has not been updated for this quarter. Regular reporting will resume if the relevant data becomes available.

For data referring to the previous quarter, please refer to the [IRC Italy Protection Monitoring Report: April - June 2025](#).

## RECEPTION CENTERS

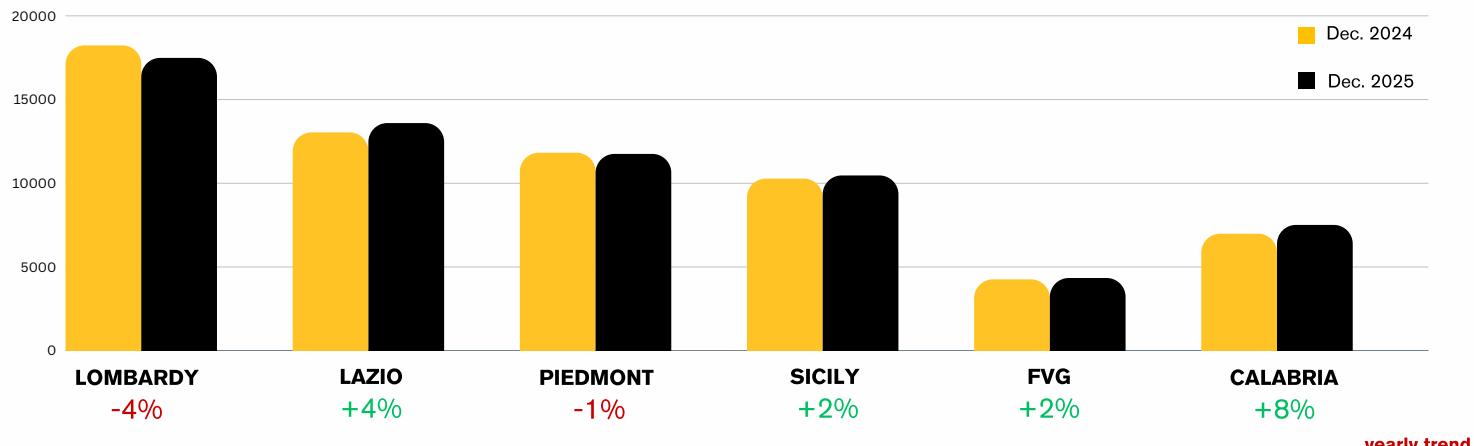
As of December 31, 2025, **142,233 people are being hosted in the Italian reception system** (a **2% increase** compared to people registered as of December 2024: 139,141), including:

- **292 in hotspots** (reception upon arrival).
- **102,333 in first-level reception centers** (CPA - governmental first reception centers; and CAS - centers for extraordinary reception).
- **39,608 in second-level reception centers** (SAI - Reception and Integration System).

The regions with the highest number of individuals in reception centers were **Lombardy** (12%), **Lazio** (10%) and **Emilia-Romagna** (9%).

In the other regions in which IRC operates, **Sicily**, **Calabria** and **Friuli Venezia Giulia (FVG)**, the percentage of people in reception centers was **7%**, **5%** and **3%** respectively.

### PEOPLE IN THE ITALIAN RECEPTION SYSTEM IN REGIONS WHERE IRC OPERATES



Source: Ministry of Interior, Cruscotto Statistico Giornaliero. Months of [October](#), [November](#), and [December](#) 2025.

yearly trend

## UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN



UAC in Italy as of  
December 31  
2025

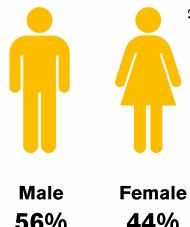
As of **December 31**, 2025, there were **17,011** registered UAC in Italy (**-9%** compared to the same period of **2024**, when there were 18,625 UAC). **89%** of them were **boys**, and **11%** **girls**. **The most common age group was 17 years old** (56%). The most common countries of origin among male UAC were **Egypt** (34%), **Bangladesh** (11%) **Ukraine** (10%), while the majority of female UAC came from **Ukraine** (77%), followed by **Ivory Coast** (4%) and **Eritrea** (2%). Most UAC were located in **Sicily** (22%), **Lombardy** (13%) and **Campania** (11%).

During this quarter, the total number of newly arrived UAC (**2,421**) **decreased by 40%** compared to the previous quarter (July-September 2025), when **4,060** UAC entered the Italian territory. In particular, during this quarter, **945** UAC arrived in Italy in October (**98%** boys and **2%** girls), **858** in November (**98%** boys and **2%** girls) and **618** in December (**99%** boys and **1%** girls).

Source: Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, [Monthly data on Unaccompanied Children 2025](#).

## WEBSITE VISITORS AND TOP ARTICLES

18,080

Total number of active website users<sup>5</sup>

Definitions of terms in yellow can be found in the glossary on p. 9

Top 4 Article visited on Refugee.Info website<sup>5</sup>Unique visitors<sup>5</sup>

'How to check the status of your permesso di soggiorno online'

564

'Italian citizenship'

418

'For those living in Italy more than 5 years: Permesso di Lungo Periodo (ex carta di soggiorno)'

376

'Your right to travel'

351

1,366

Unique clients provided with individualized support<sup>1</sup>

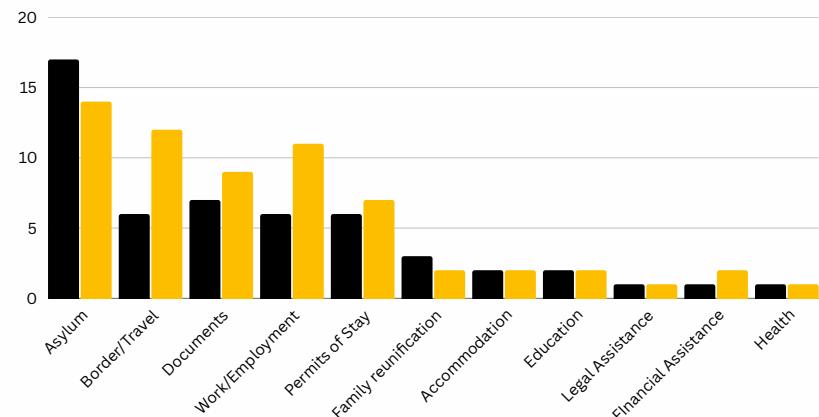
(i.e., two-way communication with a moderator)

Between October - December 2025, two-way communication was primarily driven by requests related to asylum procedures, border and travel movements, documentation, work and employment, and permits of stay. As shown in the chart, **asylum remained the most frequent topic overall** but declined from 17% (July-September 2025) to 14% between October-December 2025. Despite this decrease, users continued to report **significant protection risks linked to complex and fragmented administrative procedures**, including prolonged delays at Questure offices in registering asylum applications (C3) and issuing or renewing residence permits.

At the same time, **border and travel-related requests doubled** (from 6% to 12%), reflecting a growing number of messages from third countries and other EU Member States seeking information on legal entry options, Dublin procedures (the EU rules determining which Member State is responsible for examining an asylum application), and the possibility of applying for international protection from abroad. Requests concerning **work and employment also rose sharply** (from 6% to 11%), alongside more moderate **increases in documentation-related enquiries** (from 7% to 9%) -mainly administrative support requests concerning various types of documents such as identity cards, travel documents and transport tickets- **and permits of stay** (from 6% to 7%). This trend aligns with increased enquiries related to the **Decreto Flussi** and residence permit receipts, with users seeking clarification on their rights in relation to work, services and mobility as further detailed below.

Top two-way communication topics<sup>4</sup>

● Jul - Sep 2025 ● Oct - Nov 2025

Client protection concerns<sup>3</sup>

## DECRETO FLUSSI AND RISK OF EXPLOITATION

During the quarter, Refugee.Info received **many requests from people outside Italy**, mainly from **Algeria, Sudan, Tunisia, Lebanon, Egypt, Pakistan and Iran**. Most concerned the **Decreto Flussi**, with frequent reports of alleged **fraud, paid intermediaries and falsified documents**, highlighting risks of exploitation linked to limited safe pathways. Other users sought updates on resettlement, humanitarian corridors, or **guidance on Dublin procedures** and access to asylum in Italy, pointing to persistent protection gaps.

## ASYLUM, RECEPTION AND DOCUMENTS

Users consistently reported prolonged delays in accessing **Questura** to register asylum applications or renew residence permits, often without the possibility of securing appointments in the absence of legal support. Many reported being **unable to formally apply for asylum for months, with direct consequences for access to reception, resulting in homelessness or reliance on emergency shelters**. Requests for support to access both institutional reception and emergency accommodation were recurrent. The lack of valid identity documents frequently led to exclusion from basic services, including healthcare, housing, employment and banking.

## ECONOMIC HARSHNESS AND LABOUR EXPLOITATION

Users increasingly sought information and support to **find employment or regularise informal work arrangements**.

Moderators collected **recurring reports of unpaid wages, exploitative conditions and irregular labour, particularly in domestic work and agriculture**.

Requests for guidance on work permits, social assistance and eligibility for welfare benefits also increased.

This snapshot presents findings from a quarterly analysis of data collected from IRC's digital information service, **Refugee.Info (RI)**, which provides refugees and migrants with multilingual, accessible, actionable and accurate information nationwide through instant messaging apps, social media and a website.

<sup>1</sup> Two-way communication refers to conversations between clients and Refugee.Info moderators online through Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp and Telegram. Source: Zendesk

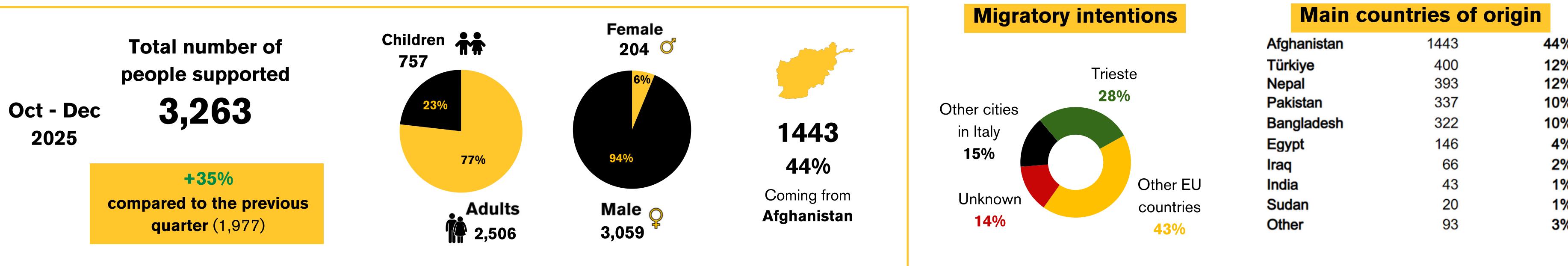
<sup>2</sup> Source: Google Analytics 4 (GA4), based on a sample of 6,355 users.

<sup>3</sup> This finding is not based on quantitative data, but on observations collected from field staff (3 Refugee.Info moderators) through a monthly survey for protection monitoring purposes.

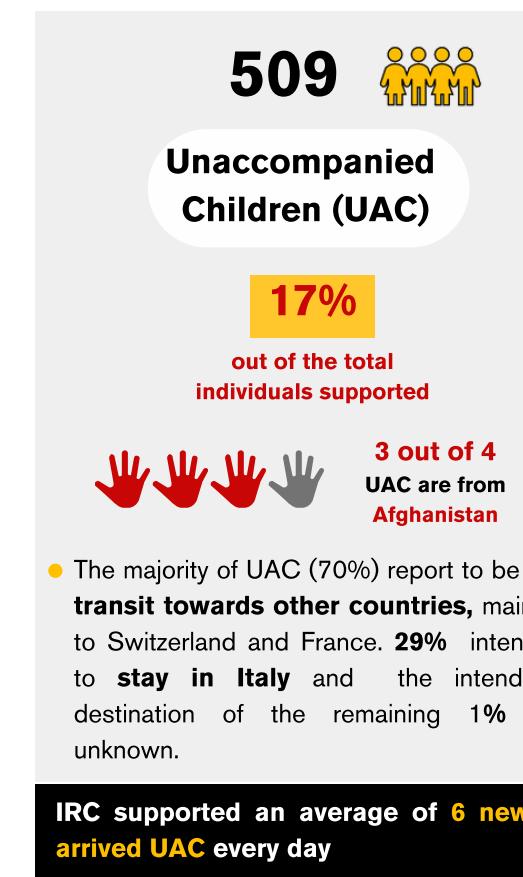
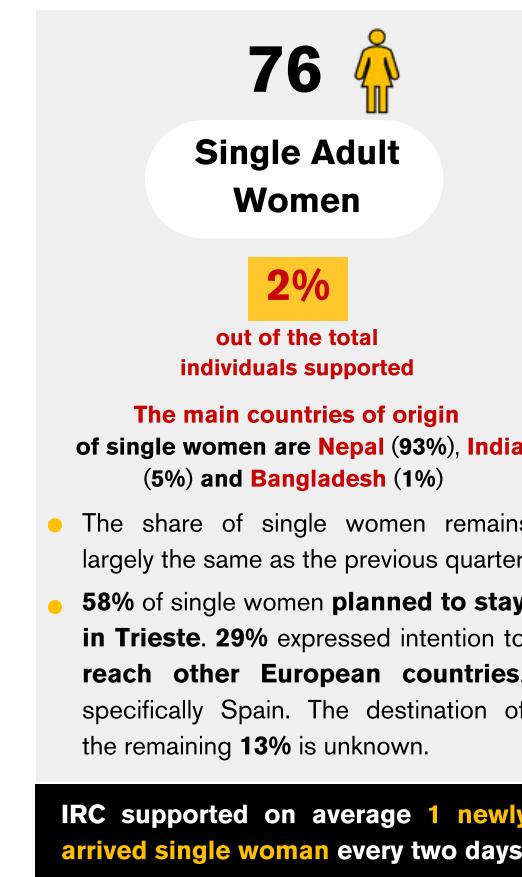
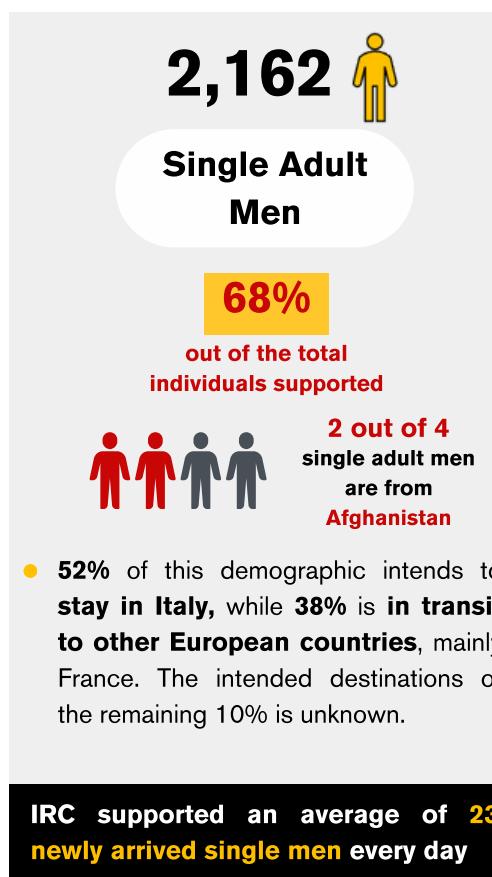
<sup>4</sup> Source: Zendesk - Analysis based on a sample of 1,525 for Jul-Sep '25 and 1,750 for Oct-Dec '25. The graph is based on the **percentages of messages received on specific topics in relation to the total number of messages for each quarter**.

<sup>5</sup> Source: Google Analytics 4 (GA4). Unique users visiting the website are calculated as active users, i.e anyone who has an engaged session or when GA4 collects the "first\_visit" event or a specific event parameter relating to time. Disclaimer: The reported data for this quarter may be understated as a result of recent changes to the website domain and temporary indexing disruptions.

### People arriving via land from the Balkan Route in Trieste (Italian-Slovenian border)



#### Main demographic profiles



In 2025, the IRC Italy programme in Trieste, at the Italian-Slovenian border, reached **9,761** newly arrived people, representing a **27% decrease** compared to 2024 (13,460).

Methodological note: annual figures are likely underestimated compared to previous years due to a reduced data collection capacity throughout July and August 2025.

In the last quarter of 2025, **3,263** people were reached, marking a **7% increase** compared to the same period in 2024 (3,036) and a **22% increase** compared to the previous quarter (Jul-Sep 2025) (2,669).

**Afghanistan remained the most represented nationality**, consistently accounting for 44% of individuals reached.

The majority of people met reported being in transit to other countries (43%).

Between October and December 2025, the **protection situation in Trieste remained critical**, further confirming the structural inadequacy of institutional migration management highlighted in recent years. Despite the eviction carried out on October 1, **hundreds of newly arrived migrants and asylum seekers continued to seek shelter in the Old Port area**.

A **further eviction** was carried out on December 3, resulting in the **transfer of 155 individuals to other regions**, once again without prior coordination with civil society actors operating on the ground. This represented the **fifth eviction within a year and a half** and consolidated evictions as a **de facto standard operating procedure** adopted by the Prefecture to manage migration in the city.

One of the **primary drivers** of the continued presence of **informal settlements in Trieste** remains the **systematic obstruction of access to the asylum procedure**. As documented in the report [Accesso Negato – Trieste 2025](#) (Denied Access), published by IRC and local partners on December 17, 2025, newly arrived asylum seekers continue to face unlawful and discriminatory practices at Trieste's **Questura**. These include repeated refusals to register asylum applications, the arbitrary request for documentation not foreseen by law, delayed or denied appointments, and the informal rejection of applicants previously fingerprinted in other EU Member States without an individual assessment. As a result, **people are left on average up to three weeks sleeping rough before being able to formalize their asylum claims**, directly contributing to homelessness and protection risks. In response to these barriers, dozens of individuals moved to Gorizia province to seek access to the asylum procedure. Although their applications were registered there, they remained without access to reception, forcing many to continue sleeping rough in Trieste. This situation exposed serious gaps in inter-provincial coordination and **generated tensions between the municipalities of Trieste and Gorizia**, highlighting the absence of a coherent regional approach to asylum reception and allocation.

[Accesso Negato – Trieste 2025](#) further documents cases of **individuals who were issued expulsion orders despite having clearly expressed their intention to seek asylum**. Several of these cases were challenged by legal actors before domestic courts, which ordered the Questura to accept the asylum applications, reaffirming the primacy of the right to seek asylum and the obligation of authorities to register asylum applications without delay. In mid-December, IRC Italy and local partners formally presented the findings of the report to the Head of the Questura and the Immigration Office, **calling for an immediate halt to unlawful practices and the establishment of a direct referral channel for individuals with specific vulnerabilities**. While the meeting represented an important occasion to discuss the concerns raised by civil society organizations, concrete changes in practices had yet to be observed by the end of the reporting period.

With respect to reception, a **partial improvement was recorded in December**, when the Campo Sacro reception facility expanded its capacity **from 75 to 140 places** and transfers from Trieste to other regions became more regular.

While these measures represent a step forward, they remain insufficient to address the scale and structural nature of protection gaps at the border, particularly in the absence of guaranteed and immediate access to asylum procedures. Without a comprehensive, rights-based approach that links reception capacity, asylum registration, and coordination with civil society, the **cycle of homelessness and emergency responses in Trieste is likely to persist**, with negative consequences for both affected individuals and the wider community. During the quarter, **at least four migrants lost their lives in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region** while living in homelessness, highlighting the severe consequences of institutional abandonment and the acute risks faced by individuals excluded from reception, especially during winter months, such as exposure to cold, declining physical and mental health, and the lack of basic protections.

This snapshot depicts the numbers of newcomers from the Balkan Route encountered by International Rescue Committee Italy and Diaconia Valdese in the Trieste central station area during the reporting period. The data was gathered through individual and group interviews with people supported with legal orientation and first aid. The monitoring activity is carried out during the entire daytime, and partially in the evening, of every weekday of the year, and in the evening on weekends and holidays.

Please note that these figures refer only to newly arrived individuals physically encountered and supported by IRC and Diaconia and might not comprehensively depict the actual numbers of individuals arriving in and moving through Trieste.

More info here: <https://www.rescue.org/eu/country/italy/reports#trieste>

# METHODOLOGY



In recent months, IRC Italy has strengthened its efforts to systematically and regularly monitor the protection situation of its clients. Monitoring activities aim at identifying shifts in the protection landscape by assessing rights violations, protection risks faced by the affected population, and the information and services needs of people supported. Kindly note that IRC Italy's monitoring efforts do not cover the entire country, rather are limited to reporting observations made and clients reached through IRC programs. The **introduction** and **political context** are the only exceptions, as they are based on secondary data.

Monitoring data is collected using the following methods:

- **Protection at the Borders (Trieste):** the city of Trieste is one of the main entry points in Italy for people traveling through the Balkan Route. The team, composed of the Area Manager and three field protection assistants, gathers client-related data (e.g. gender, age, nationality, vulnerabilities, pushbacks) while disseminating information and Non-Food Items. All data collected through individual and group interviews is anonymous and documented in a spreadsheet connected to a Dashboard.
- **Refugee.Info (RI):** [Refugee.Info](#) is IRC's digital information service which provides refugees and migrants with multilingual, accessible, actionable and accurate information nationwide through instant messaging apps, social media and a website. The RI team tracks the number of messages that are sent to and received by moderators per topic, by tagging messages with "labels". These labels sort the messages into categories. The team also uses labels for clients' ages and genders, and labels indicating if any messages were sent to/from Ukrainian clients or Afghan clients.
- Since November 2022, moderators of Refugee.Info and field staff in Trieste have been asked to complete a monthly qualitative questionnaire which serves as an observation tool. The answers to this questionnaire allow IRC staff to monitor changes in the most prevalent migrant profiles and demographics, the most frequently asked questions and requested services, barriers to accessing services, and discriminatory practices faced by clients.

The results of these monitoring activities are presented in this **Protection Monitoring Report**, which is produced on a quarterly basis. The aim of the report is to provide a summary of the current protection context, highlight developments over the reporting period in terms of demographics, protection concerns and information and services needs, and highlight any trends. It consists of an **introduction** with information on the current political context, as well as national data on migration flows and the reception system in Italy, followed by **two snapshots on Trieste** (People arriving via land from the Balkan Route in Trieste) and **Refugee.Info project**.

A **glossary** of Italian context-specific terms along with their definitions is presented at end of the report.

# GLOSSARY

This glossary will be updated every quarter with Italian context-specific terms contained in the Protection Monitoring Report. All the terms featured within the glossary throughout the report are marked in yellow.



## A

### **Anagrafe – Office of Vital Statistics or General Registration Office**

The Anagrafe is the population register in which each municipality keeps track of the numbers of the population residing in the area and the changes occurring in it due to natural and civil causes (birth, marriage, death, emigration, etc.).

Source: <https://www.treccani.it/vocabolario/anagrafe/>

### **Azienda Sanitaria Locale (ASL) – Local Health Department**

The Azienda Sanitaria Locale (or Unità Sanitaria Locale, USL) is a local health department where people register to get an Italian health card and be assigned a GP (general practitioner doctor).

Source: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/41893/terms-and-acronyms-that-asylum-seekers-need-to-know-in-italy>

### **Assegno Unico Universale per i Figli - Single and Universal Allowance for Dependent Children**

The Assegno Unico Universale per i Figli is a financial benefit granted by the Italian government to people with dependent children under 21 living in Italy, or to people with dependent children with disabilities of any age. It may be granted to third-country nationals, provided that they meet some income and residence permit-related requirements.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388918400663-Financial-support-and-bonuses-in-italy>

## C

### **Carta d'identità – Identity card**

It is an identification document that is issued by the local municipality (Comune – Anagrafe) once an individual has been registered as a resident there.

Source: <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/41893/terms-and-acronyms-that-asylum-seekers-need-to-know-in-italy>

### **Centro Assistenza Fiscale (CAF) - Fiscal Assistance Center**

Organizations, listed in a specific register kept by the Revenue Agency, which give fiscal assistance to taxpayers, including third-country nationals, in matters of tax compliance.

Source: <https://www.agenziaentrate.gov.it/portale/web/english/nse/glossary#C>

### **Centri di accoglienza straordinaria (CAS) - Centers for Extraordinary Reception**

Despite the name, CAS (Centers for Extraordinary Reception) are the most common reception facilities for asylum seekers and have the most available spots. CAS are usually managed by civil society organizations and can take the form of big reception centers or apartments. Services available in CAS include food and accommodation, medical attention and support accessing the national healthcare system, social assistance, and cultural mediation.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388911887383-Your-right-to-stay-in-a-reception-center>

### **Centri di primo arrivo (CPA) - Governmental First Reception Centers**

CPA (First Reception Centers) are governmental centers for people who have expressed their will to seek asylum. While in these centers, people undergo the identification and fingerprinting process (if not done in the hotspot), submit their asylum application and wait until the Territorial Commission decides on their case. If they are identified as vulnerable, after submitting their asylum application they may be prioritized for transfer to a second level reception center. Services available in the CPA include food and accommodation, medical attention and support accessing national healthcare system, social assistance and cultural mediation.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388911887383-Your-right-to-stay-in-a-reception-center>

### **Codice Fiscale - Social security number**

The Codice Fiscale is the Italian social security number, made up of numbers or a combination of numbers and letters on the basis of the individual's first name, family name, date and place of birth. A Codice Fiscale is required for a number of different activities, such as opening an Italian bank account or signing a job contract.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388910816151-Italian-Social-Security-number-Codice-Fiscale->

### **Commissione Territoriale per il Riconoscimento della Protezione Internazionale - Territorial Commission for the Recognition of International Protection**

The Territorial Commissions for the Recognition of International Protection are the authorities who examine applications for international protection. The activities of the Territorial Commissions are coordinated by the National Commission for the Right to Asylum, based in Rome, which is also responsible for the revocation and withdrawal of international protection status.

Source: [https://asylum.dlci.interno.it/chi-siamo#:~:text=Le%20Commissioni%20Territoriali%20oper%20il%20Riconoscimento%20della%20protezione%20internazionale%20\(CCTT,Frontiera%20o%20presso%20le%20Questure,](https://asylum.dlci.interno.it/chi-siamo#:~:text=Le%20Commissioni%20Territoriali%20oper%20il%20Riconoscimento%20della%20protezione%20internazionale%20(CCTT,Frontiera%20o%20presso%20le%20Questure,)

### **Comune – Municipality**

The Comune is an administrative division, roughly equivalent to a township or municipality. The Comune is responsible for many basic civil functions such as a registry of births and deaths, registry of deeds, local residency (residenza), parking permits, garbage tax, etc.

Source: <https://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/comune>

# D

## **Dichiarazione di ospitalità - *Declaration of hospitality***

The dichiarazione di ospitalità is a mandatory written communication that every landlord/host must produce to inform the Italian authorities that they are hosting someone in their house. It is compulsory for non-EU citizens, even if they are hosted for one day only.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5392450690711-Italian-Declaration-of-hospitality-Dichiarazione-di-ospitalit%C3%A0>

## **Decreto Flussi - *Flows Decree***

The decreto flussi is an annual policy in Italy regulating the entry of non-EU nationals for work purposes through a quota system. It sets limits on the number of foreign workers allowed to enter the country each year for seasonal, non-seasonal, or self-employment roles, often prioritizing specific industries like agriculture and tourism or countries with migration agreements with Italy. Employers must apply for authorization to hire workers within the quotas, and individuals require a work visa to enter.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/en-us/articles/20563713139101>

# E

## **Esenzione X22 (Assistenza sanitaria stranieri provenienti dall'Ucraina) - *X22 exemption (Healthcare exemption for foreigners from Ukraine)***

The X22 Exemption is a healthcare exemption which is issued to Temporary Protection holders at the time of enrollment in the National Healthcare System and when choosing a General Practitioner and/or Free Pediatrician, following the foreigner's declaration of non-employment. With X22, Temporary Protection holders are exempted from paying the co-pay ('ticket sanitario' in Italian) to access public healthcare services in Italy.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388954753175-Your-right-to-public-healthcare>

# H

## **Hotspot - *Reception upon arrival***

The hotspots are centers, located on EU external borders, where the registration, identification, fingerprinting and medical screening of asylum seekers take place. These operations should be carried out within 48 hours of the asylum seeker's arrival (72 hours in exceptional circumstances).

Source: <https://openmigration.org/en/glossary/>

# I

## **Indicatore Situazione Economica Equivalente (ISEE) - *Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator (ISEE)***

The ISEE is an indicator of a family's economic condition, issued by the National Institute for Social Security to people with income and assets in Italy. An ISEE is needed to apply for social financial benefits in Italy.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388954323607-ISEE>

## **“Invito” a formalizzare la domanda di asilo - *“Invitation” to formalize the application for international protection***

The expression of willingness to apply for asylum (or international protection) should not be confused with the formalization of the relevant application, which happens even weeks after the expression of willingness to seek asylum - although it must take place within a short time frame according to the provisions of the current legislation (Legislative Decree 25/2008). From a procedural point of view, the expression of willingness is filed through an “invitation” issued by the territorially competent police headquarters or border police to formalize the application for international protection on the indicated date.

Source: <https://www.rescue.org/sites/default/files/2023-08/Abandoned%20Lives%20in%20Trieste%202022-FNG.pdf> (p.14)

# M

## **Minori Stranieri Non Accompagnati (MSNA) – *Unaccompanied Children (UAC)***

Also sometimes called ‘unaccompanied minors’, MSNA are children (i.e., people under the age of 18, as defined in article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child) who are outside their country of origin, have been separated from both parents and other relatives, and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.

Source: <https://www.rescue.org/eu/glossary>

# N

## **Non-Food items (NFIs)**

Non-Food items (NFIs) are items other than food used in humanitarian contexts, when providing assistance to those affected by natural disasters or war or in situation of need.

Source: <https://www.unhcr.org/sy/21-non-food-items-nfis.html>

# P

## **Patronato**

Patronato is a fiscal assistance center (see definition of CAF above). While the CAF deals strictly with tax assistance, Patronato offers clients a variety of services, ranging from social security assistance to filing claims to apply for various types of benefits.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388954323607-ISEE>

## **Permesso di soggiorno - Permit of stay (or residence permit)**

An authorization issued by the authorities of a State that allows a foreigners to reside in their territory in accordance with national and regional regulations.

Source: <https://immigrazione.it/docs/2017/glossario-asilo-migrazione.pdf>

## **Permesso di soggiorno UE per soggiornanti di lungo periodo – EU long-term permit**

An EU long-term permit may be issued to third-country nationals who have lived in Italy for at least 5 years. It allows permanent residency and does not have an expiration date. Also known as 'ex carta di soggiorno', 'permesso illimitato', or 'OO', this permit prevents people from being expelled from Italy, except in the case of severe State security reasons.

Source: <https://immigrazione.it/docs/2017/glossario-asilo-migrazione.pdf>

## **Poste Italiane - Italian postal service**

Poste Italiane is a provider of financial and postal products and services. It offers a range of products: mail and distribution services; payments, mobile data provider and digital services to individuals and corporate institutions. Among these, there are essential services for migrants, such as the possibility to open a basic bank account and to request the permit of stay and its renewal. The company offers these products and services through multi-regional area offices, post offices, branches and online services.

Source: <https://www.poste.it/>

## **Prefettura – Prefecture**

A Prefettura is a territorial division of the Ministry of the Interior. In Italy, a Prefetto is the Government's representative in a local province. The Prefetto's office is called the Prefettura. There is a Prefettura located in each of the 110 provinces in Italy. Within this office, there is an immigration desk that provides intervention, consultation, and collaboration to protect the rights of migrants.

Source: [https://www.unhcr.org/it/wp-content/uploads/sites/97/2020/07/Guida\\_pratica\\_rifugiati.pdf](https://www.unhcr.org/it/wp-content/uploads/sites/97/2020/07/Guida_pratica_rifugiati.pdf)

## **Protezione speciale - Special protection**

Special protection is a form of national protection that may be granted to individuals who do not qualify for international protection if, in case they were sent back to their country of origin, they would be in danger of persecution based on factors such as race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, citizenship, religion, political beliefs, or personal and social circumstances, or of violations of Italy's constitutional and international obligations. Additionally, consideration is given to the potential risk of these individuals being forcibly relocated from their country of origin to another country where they could face persecution, torture, or cruel and degrading treatment based on the aforementioned criteria.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388907043095-For-people-who-do-not-qualify-for-international-protection-Permesso-per-Protezione-Speciale>

## **Protezione temporanea - Temporary protection**

Temporary protection is an exceptional measure to provide immediate and temporary protection in the event of a mass influx or imminent mass influx of displaced persons from non-EU countries who are unable to return to their country of origin. This measure was activated for Ukrainian refugees on March 4th, 2022.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5457658294813-For-people-fleeing-war-in-Ukraine-Permesso-per-Protezione-Temporanea>

# Q

## **Questura - Police headquarter**

The Questura is a territorial office of the State Police that works under the direction of the Ministry of the Interior. Its primary task is to ensure the maintenance of public order and security within the province. The Questura also deals with paperwork related to passports, residence permits, and regularization of foreigners, including international protection applications.

Source: <https://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/960>

# R

## **Residenza – Residency**

Residency is the place where a person has their habitual stay (Article 43 of the Civil Code). Jurisprudence dictates that residency is determined by an individual's physical presence in a certain place (with occasional absences), and their intention to remain there. Residency is evidenced by registration in a public registry of residents, in which each person must register themselves and those under their authority or guardianship.

Source: <https://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/residenza-diritto-civile/>

# S

## **Silos**

The Silos is a huge and crumbling privately owned building located next to the Trieste train station. Until June 2024, this building served as an informal settlement for migrants and asylum seekers who lacked access to adequate reception facilities, often finding shelter in tents set up inside. However, on June 21, 2024, the Silos was cleared by Italian authorities, and is no longer used as an informal settlement by people arriving in Trieste.

Source: <https://www.rescue.org/press-release/empty-silos-crowded-streets-irc-warns-critical-conditions-trieste>

## **Sistema di accoglienza e integrazione (SAI) - Centres within the Reception and Integration System**

SAI is a publicly funded network of local authorities and NGOs that provides shelter to unaccompanied children, beneficiaries of international protection, vulnerable asylum seekers and people who have obtained some other residence permits for specific reasons (such as beneficiaries of national protection).

The SAI system consists of small reception structures where assistance and integration services are provided.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388911887383-Your-right-to-stay-in-a-reception-center>

## **Servizio Sanitario Nazionale (SSN) - National Healthcare Service**

The SSN is Italy's public health system. It is organized under the Ministry of Health and is administered on a regional basis (see 'Azienda Sanitaria Locale above'). It provides healthcare to all citizens for hospital care, emergency care and primary care provided by general practitioners and pediatricians. Those who are registered to SSN have the same rights and duties of Italian citizens including the co-payment of fees for the services provided (ticket). The contribution varies according to the financial situation of the applicant.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/hc/en-us/articles/5388954753175-Your-right-to-public-healthcare>

# T

## **Tessera Sanitaria - Italian health card**

The Tessera sanitaria is the Italian health card that gives access to health care services. It can be used to book medical checks and get medicines. It also referred to as the TS-CNS, which stands for "tessera sanitaria — carta nazionale dei servizi" (in English, health and national services card), as it gives access to some public services. For third-country nationals, the Tessera Sanitaria will be valid for the same time as their residence permit.

Source: <https://www.agenziaentrate.gov.it/portale/web/english/nse/glossary/#R>

# CONTACT US:



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