



International Rescue Committee Italia

# PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT

**JANUARY - MARCH 2026**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**01. Introduction**

**02. Map of operational sites**

**03. Operational and political context**

**06. Protection at Borders:  
people arriving in Trieste from  
the Balkan Route**

**09. Refugee.Info**

**10. Methodology**

**12. Glossary**

**17. Contacts**



# Introduction

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 operational sites



## BALKAN ROUTE

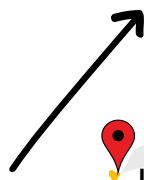


The Western Balkan Route is one of the **main migratory pathways via land**. It typically involves crossing multiple countries in the Balkans, often starting from Türkiye and moving through countries such as Bulgaria, Greece, North Macedonia, Serbia, and others in the region. **Trieste**, despite being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



## 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.



## 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.



Lampedusa



Definitions of terms in **yellow** can be found in the [glossary](#) on p. 12

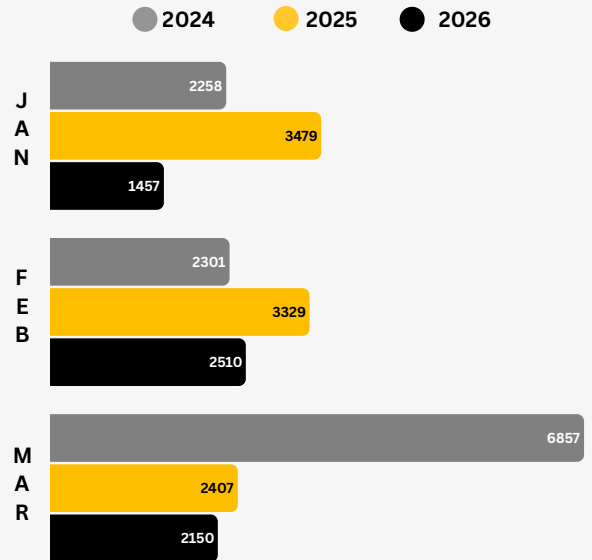
## PEOPLE ARRIVING BY SEA

From **January to March 2026**, a total of **6,117 people arrived in Italy by sea**, a **34% decrease** compared to the **same period in 2025** (9,215). In line with trends observed in 2025, the majority of newly arrived third-country nationals came from **Bangladesh, Somalia, Pakistan, and Sudan**.

During the same period, **unaccompanied children (UAC)** represented around **21% of all sea arrivals**, with **1,314 arrivals recorded out of the total 6,117**. Despite the overall decline in arrivals, **the number of UACs increased by 14% compared to January–March 2025**.

Source: Ministry of Interior, Cruscotto Statistico Giornaliero. Month of [March 2026](#).

### COMPARISON OF PEOPLE ARRIVING BY SEA, BY MONTH



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

In the first two months of 2026\*, nearly **930 crossings** in the Western Balkan were recorded, dropping by **38%** compared with the same period last year.

\*Data for the month of March 2026 is not available yet.

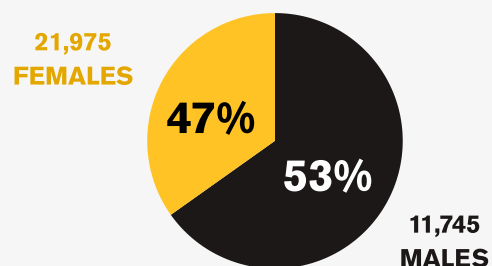
Source: Frontex, number of border-crossing [Jan-Feb 2026](#)

## BENEFICIARIES OF TEMPORARY PROTECTION

In March 2026, the number of individuals registered as beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (TP) in Italy **dropped sharply**, recording **33,720** beneficiaries of TP, a **47% decrease** compared to the end of February 2026, when **64,085** beneficiaries of TP were registered.

This fall is **not** indicative of an actual departure of beneficiaries from Italy: according to [Eurostat](#), it was **caused by the simultaneous expiration of a large number of permits at the end of the month**, linked to the annual permit renewal procedure.

Source: Eurostat - Beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month by citizenship, age and sex - [monthly data](#)





## RECEPTION CENTERS

As of March 31, 2026, **137,330** people are being hosted in the Italian reception system, a figure that remained broadly stable compared with March 2025, when 136,803 people were registered. This total includes:

- **45** in **hotspots** (reception upon arrival).
- **97,349** in **first-level reception centers** (CPA - governmental first reception centers; and CAS - centers for extraordinary reception).
- **39,936** 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** and **Emilia-Romagna** (9%).

In the other regions in which IRC operates, Piemonte, Sicily, Calabria and Friuli Venezia Giulia (FVG), the percentage of people in reception centers was 8%, 7%, 5% and 3% respectively.

Source: Ministry of Interior, Cruscotto Statistico Giornaliero. Month of [March](#) 2026.

## UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN



# 14,994

UAC in Italy  
as of March 31 2026

As of **March 31**, 2026, there were **14,994** registered UAC in Italy (**-7%** compared to the same period of **2025**, when there were **16,187** UAC). **88%** of them were **boys**, and **12%** **girls**. **The most common age group was 17 years old** (56%).

The most common countries of origin among male UAC were **Egypt** (37%), **Bangladesh** (12%) **Ukraine** (11%), while the majority of female UAC came from **Ukraine** (78%), followed by **Ivory Coast** (3%) and **Eritrea** (2%). Most UAC were located in **Sicily** (20%), **Lombardy** (14%) and **Campania** (12%).

During this quarter, the total number of newly arrived UAC (**1,618** - **98%** boys and **2%** girls) **decreased by 33%** compared to the previous quarter (October - December 2025), when **2,421** UAC entered the Italian territory (**98%** boys and **2%** girls).

In particular, during this quarter, **449** UAC arrived in Italy in January (**97%** boys and **3%** girls), **582** in February (**99%** boys and **1%** girls) and **587** in March (**97%** boys and **3%** girls).

Source: Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, [Monthly data on Unaccompanied Children 2026](#).



In the first quarter of 2026, Italy continued to pursue a dual strategy of aligning its migration framework with evolving EU policies while further externalizing migration control.

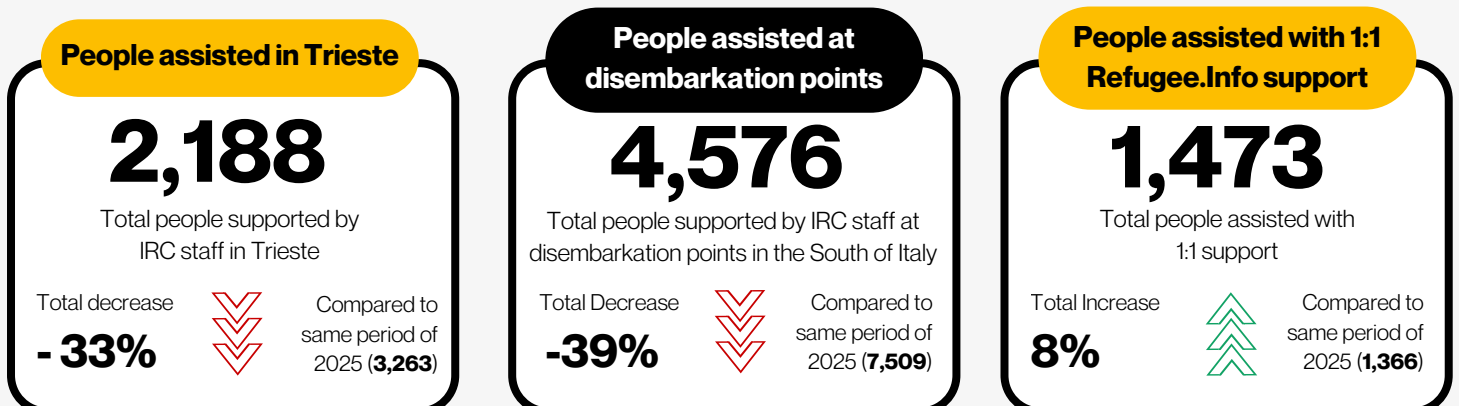
Within the broader framework of EU migration policy developments, on February 10, the Italian government welcomed amendments approved by the European Parliament introducing an EU-wide list of “safe countries of origin” and revising the “safe third country” concept. Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi described the outcome as a “major success,” emphasizing that the new framework reflects Italy’s longstanding approach and marking what he called a “turning point” in EU migration policy aligned with Italian priorities.

This alignment was accompanied by developments concerning transparency and oversight in the implementation of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. On March 3, the Lazio Administrative Court ruled that the Ministry of the Interior must grant access to Italy’s National Implementation Plan (NIP), overturning a prior refusal based on public security concerns. The decision, prompted by a Freedom of Information request filed by a journalist, reaffirmed transparency as a core element of democratic oversight and clarified that the NIP constitutes a programmatic document shaping future migration policies and public spending. Despite the ruling, the document had not been made public as of March 31, reinforcing concerns over limited transparency and the exclusion of civil society from the drafting process.

At the same time, Italy continued to support externalized migration control measures. In early January, reports emerged of plans to establish a new Maritime Rescue Coordination Center (MRCC) in Benghazi, eastern Libya, with financial backing from the European Commission. According to NGOs, the center would replicate the Tripoli model established in 2017. The project, partially funded through the EU’s European Peace Facility, raised concerns regarding the implications of extending cooperation with Libyan actors in migration management.

Finally, domestic political dynamics introduced new uncertainty. On March 23, the government was defeated in a constitutional referendum on judicial reform, rejected by approximately 54% of voters. Although centered on the judiciary, the government campaign had explicitly linked the reform to migration governance, with the government arguing that courts were hindering deportation procedures and migration management measures. The outcome may carry implications for the government’s political positioning ahead of the next general election expected by 2027.

## PEOPLE WE SUPPORTED AT A GLANCE





## BALKAN ROUTE

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

REPORTING PERIOD:  
JANUARY - MARCH 2026

### PROTECTION CONCERNS REPORTED BY STAFF IN TRIESTE



#### ACCESS TO ASYLUM



Definitions of terms in **yellow** can be found in the [glossary](#) on p. 12

Access to the asylum procedure for newly arrived people in Trieste remained **severely constrained** during the reporting period, with no meaningful improvements compared to previous quarters. Practices by **Questura** officials previously identified as unlawful continue to be systematically reported to IRC staff, including **requests for documents not required by law, informal phone checks, and denial of access accompanied by informal instructions to seek asylum in other countries**. In several cases, individuals were issued expulsion orders despite having expressed their intention to apply for asylum. Legal appeals have been initiated to challenge these practices, resulting in court decisions obliging the **Questura** to register asylum applications.

As a result of these practices, a **significant number of people remain excluded from the asylum procedure on a daily basis**. On average, between 15 and 30 individuals per day were observed sleeping rough while attempting to access the procedure, facing waiting times ranging from two weeks to up to two months. **Discriminatory patterns persist**, particularly affecting individuals of Nepalese nationality, who are frequently subject to additional documentation requirements such as passports, visas, or Temporary Residence Cards obtained in other countries.



#### UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN (UAC)

When contacted by NGOs, including IRC, emergency services (112) stated that they no longer assist with the identification and referral of unaccompanied minors, and instead instruct organizations to advise minors to present themselves directly to the **Questura**.



This practice places an undue burden on children and appears inconsistent with existing child protection obligations, which require the immediate identification of unaccompanied children once reported. Many UACs are subsequently **denied access to the *Questura*** or **asked to prove their age through documentation they do not possess**. Some reported being informally advised by police cultural mediators to declare themselves as adults in order to access the procedure, exposing them to further risks and undermining child-specific safeguards.



## SPECIAL PROTECTION STATUS HOLDERS IN CONDITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS

A growing number of Afghan nationals are experiencing homelessness and turning to IRC outreach teams for support. Once they receive ***Protezione Speciale*** ('special protection') status, the local authority terminates their reception immediately, leaving them little time to secure alternative housing. Many are left without accommodation and forced to shelter in the Old Port, which heightens their exposure to further vulnerability. They also turn to IRC staff for legal assistance in appealing the decision, seeking recognition of international protection.



## ACCESS TO RECEPTION

Regarding access to reception for asylum seekers, some **procedural changes** have led to **partial improvements**. Individuals holding asylum request formalizations were able to **access accommodation in a few days**, and the local Prefecture has been carrying out **transfers to other regions**, approximately 30-40 people per week, on a regular basis. However, **access remains uneven**. Emergency dormitories hosting women and families waiting to access formal reception consistently operate at full capacity, including facilities such as [Spazio 11](#) (a Solidarity Waiting Room in Trieste). Despite these improvements, **more than one hundred individuals per night continued to find shelter in abandoned buildings in the Old Port area**, including newly arrived people and asylum seekers unable to formalize their applications.



## OLD PORT AND EVICTIONS

Eviction operations in the Old Port, now routinely carried out by the local Prefecture, continued throughout the reporting period. **Two large-scale evictions conducted in January and February affected more than 300 individuals**, who were subsequently transferred to reception facilities in other regions.

These eviction operations show that, alongside regular weekly transfers to other regions, it is necessary to establish emergency reception facilities in order to prevent **the cyclical re-emergence of informal settlements**, prolonging exposure to precarious and unsafe living conditions.

# BALKAN ROUTE

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

REPORTING PERIOD: JANUARY - MARCH 2026



Definitions of terms in **yellow** can be found in the [glossary](#) on p. 12

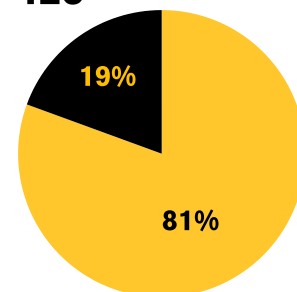
Total number of people supported

**2,188**

**-33%**

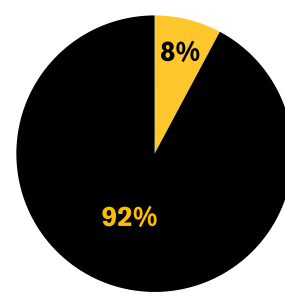
compared to the previous quarter (3,263)

Children 425



Adults 1,763

Female 171



Male 2,017

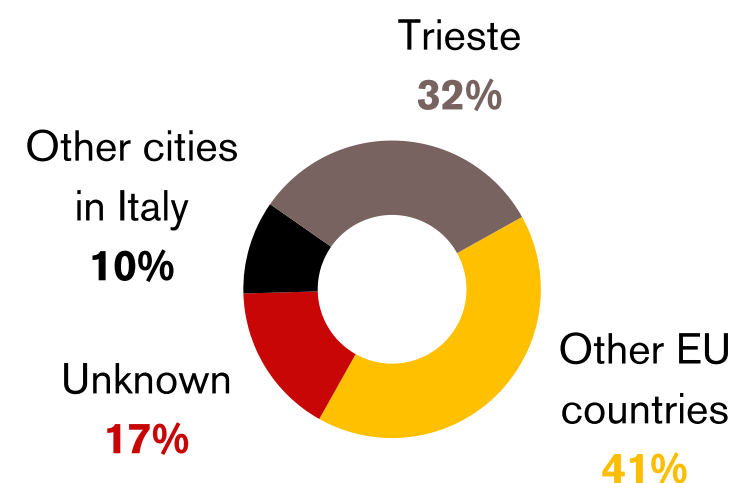


**915**

**42%**

Coming from Afghanistan

### MIGRATORY INTENTIONS



### MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Afghanistan	915	42%
Nepal	447	20%
Bangladesh	266	12%
Turkey	211	10%
Pakistan	147	7%
Egypt	47	2%
India	35	2%
Iraq	32	1%
Sudan	17	1%
Other	71	3%

### MAIN DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES

**1,498**



Single Adult Men

**68%**

out of the total individuals supported



2 out of 4 single adult men are from Afghanistan

49% of this demographic intends to **stay in Italy**, while 37% is **in transit to other European countries**, mainly France. The intended destinations of the remaining 14% is unknown.

IRC supported an average of **17 newly arrived single men** every day

**91**



Single Adult Women

**4%**

out of the total individuals supported

The main countries of origin of single women are **Nepal** (87%), **Iraq** (5%) and **Pakistan** (1%)

65% of single women **planned to stay in Trieste**, and 3% in other Italian cities. 26% expressed intention to **reach other European countries**, specifically Spain. The destination of the remaining 6% is unknown.

IRC supported on average **1 newly arrived single woman** every day

**344**



Unaccompanied Children (UAC)

**16%**

out of the total individuals supported



More than 4 out of 5 UAC are from Afghanistan

The majority of UAC (86%) report to be **in transit towards other countries**, mainly to Switzerland and France. 10% intends to **stay in Italy** and the intended destination of the remaining 4% is unknown.

IRC supported an average of **4 newly arrived UAC** every day

**70**



Family Units

**12%**

Representing 255 individuals, including 81 children

The main countries of origin are **Türkiye** (33%), **Nepal** (30%) and **Afghanistan** (13%)

The majority of family units intend to stay in Italy (53%). 14% intends to travel to other countries, mainly to **Germany** and the intended destination of the remaining 33% is unknown.

IRC supported an average of **1 newly arrived family unit** every day

From January to March 2026, the IRC Italy program in Trieste at the Italian-Slovenian border reached **2,188** newly arrived people — a **33% decrease** compared to the previous quarter (3,263, Oct–Dec 2025), and a **18% increase** compared to the same period in 2025 (1,852).

The largest **nationality group** remained **Afghan** (42%), consistent with the previous quarter (44%), followed by **Nepali** (20%, increased from 12% in the last quarter) and **Bangladeshi** (12%, increased from 10%). Notably, **Türkiye** dropped from 12% to 10%, and Pakistan from 10% to 7%.

In terms of **migratory intentions**, the share of people intending to move to other EU countries remained stable around 40%. However, the **proportion intending to stay in Trieste increased from 28% to 32%**, while intentions to settle in other Italian cities dropped from 15% to 10%. Overall, 42% of all people assisted expressed their intention to seek asylum in Italy.



## WEBSITE VISITORS AND TOP ARTICLES

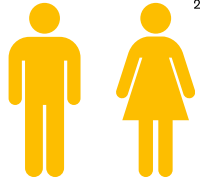
**60,808**

Total number of active website users

Total increase **+356%**



Compared to same period of 2025 (12,779)



**Male 57%**

**Female 43%**

Top 4 articles visited on Refugee.Info website <sup>5</sup>	Active Users
'How to check the status of your <b>permesso di soggiorno</b> online'	3,104
'How to come to Italy through <b>Decreto Flussi</b> '	2,578
'How to check the status of your <b>permesso di soggiorno</b> online'	1,397
For those living in Italy more than 5 years: <b>permesso di lungo periodo</b> '	1,288

## TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION

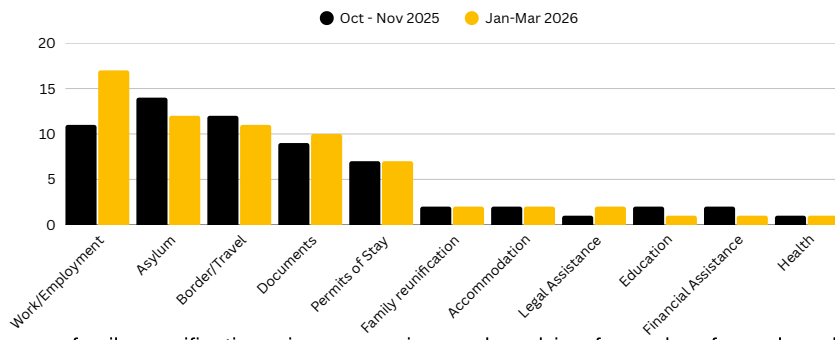
**1,458<sup>1</sup>**

Unique clients provided with individualized support (i.e., two-way communication with a moderator)

During the reporting period, Refugee.Info website recorded a significant increase in active users, reaching over **60,000** compared to approximately 17,000 in the previous quarter (**+237%**). Two-way interactions remained relatively stable, with 1,458 users engaging through direct communication channels, corresponding to an average of around 16 users per day.

Most users contacted the platform from outside Italy with questions on family reunification, visa conversion, and applying for asylum from abroad, confirming Refugee.Info's role as a key source of information on legal pathways, asylum procedures, and migration options. Users also sought clarification on rights linked to residence permits and the use of the *ricevuta* for work and travel abroad. As a result, the **Border/Travel category** continued to grow. The need for legal support remained a cross-cutting concern, reflected in the high volume of messages related to **Asylum, Documents** and **Permits of Stay categories**. Users reported challenges accessing asylum and reception procedures in Italy, including delays in permit issuance and renewal, obstacles to registering asylum applications, and difficulties accessing reception services. The **Work/Employment category** also increased significantly this quarter, driven largely by queries related to the **Decreto Flussi**, including application procedures, employer searches, **nulla osta** verification, processing timelines, and suspected scams.

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



## CLIENT PROTECTION CONCERNS <sup>3</sup>

### REQUESTS FROM ABROAD AND LEGAL PATHWAYS

During the quarter, most Refugee.Info users contacted the platform from outside Italy, mainly from Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Nigeria, Algeria, Sudan, Libya, Syria, Lebanon, and Afghanistan. Requests mainly concerned **asylum applications from abroad, family reunification, visas, and legal pathways such as humanitarian corridors** and the **Decreto Flussi**. Many users also reported scams, fraudulent intermediaries, unclear procedures, and long waits for updates on resettlement cases, highlighting ongoing risks of exploitation.

### BARRIERS TO ACCESS ASYLUM

Users in Italy reported prolonged delays in accessing **Questura** to file asylum claims or renew permits, often struggling to secure appointments without legal assistance. Many were **unable to apply for asylum for months**, affecting access to reception. Individuals in reception centres also reported insufficient information on their asylum procedures and overall process in Italy. In Milan, users reported obstacles to accessing procedures, noting that police officers at the local questura do not provide information about NGOs scheduling appointments through the "**Prenota Facile**" system.

### BARRIERS IN ACCESSING RECEPTION AND HOUSING

**Limited reception capacity left many newly arrived asylum seekers without accommodation** or waiting in precarious conditions, with many requesting support to access shelters and emergency dormitories. Users also reported difficulties accessing the private housing market, including **landlords refusing to provide documents for idoneità alloggiativa** and barriers to obtaining residence registration, even when renting.

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 13,400 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.

Source: Zendesk - Analysis based on a sample of 1492 Oct-Dec 2025 and 1328 for Jan-Mar 2026. 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.



# 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.

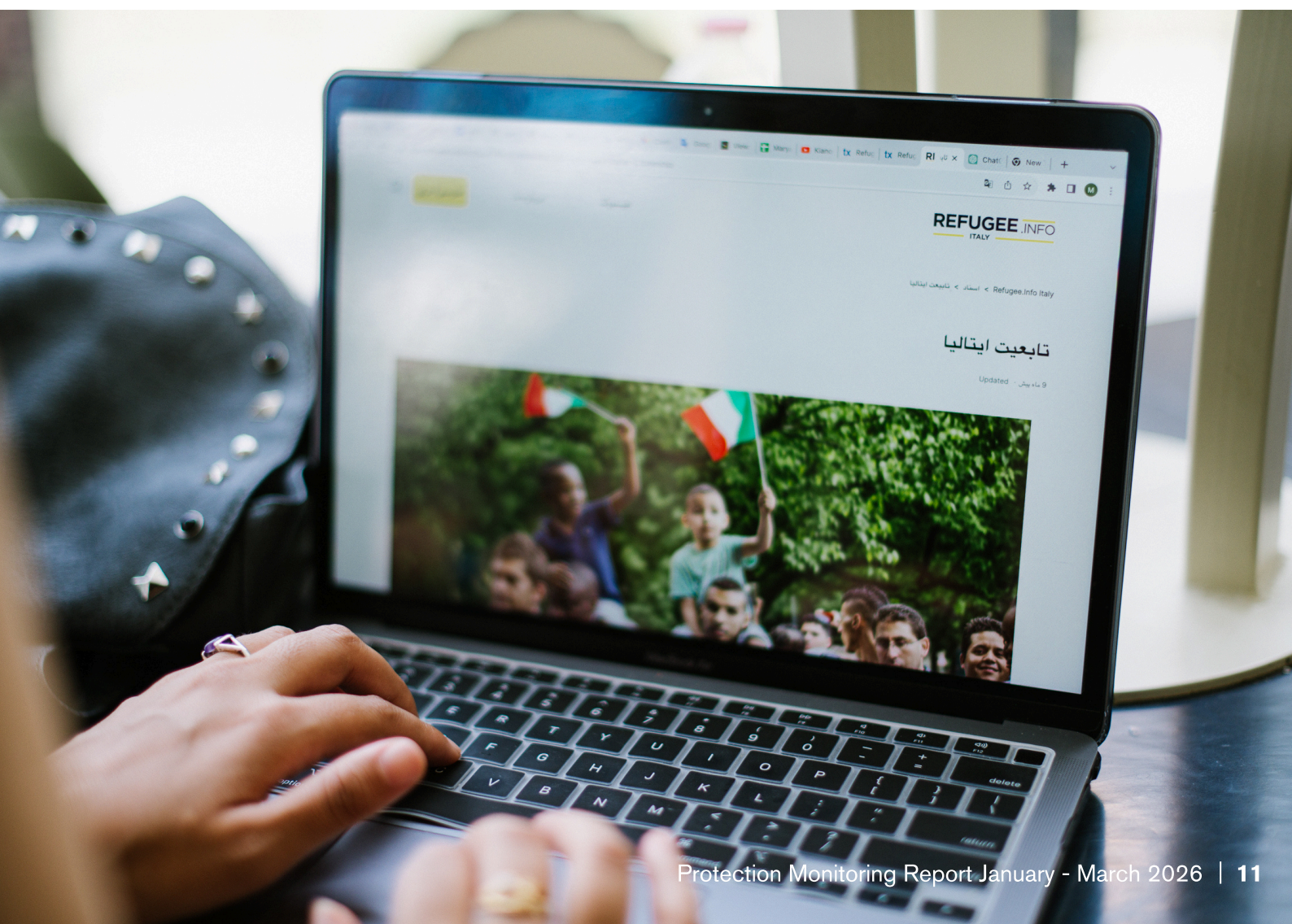
Monitoring data is collected using the following methods:

- **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%20per%20il%20Riconoscimento%20della%20protezione%20internazionale%20\(CCTT,Frontiera%20o%20presso%20le%20Questure.](https://asylum.dlci.interno.it/chi-siamo#:~:text=Le%20Commissioni%20Territoriali%20per%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-ENG.pdf> (p.14)

### **Idoneità Alloggiativa - Housing Suitability Certificate**

The Housing Suitability Certificate is issued by the technical office of the Local Municipality where a property is located. This document confirms whether the house is compliant with current health and safety regulations and determines the number of individuals allowed to live inside it without overcrowding.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/articles/5388944707863>

## 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>

### **Nulla osta - No Impediments**

A “nulla osta” is an official authorization issued by a competent public authority stating that there are no legal obstacles to proceeding with a specific administrative action, such as applying for a visa, family reunification, or work authorization. Different types of nulla osta exist depending on the procedure, and each is issued by the relevant competent authority.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/articles/5388944707863>

# 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-ISEF>

## **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 ‘00’, 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)

## **Prenota Facile - Easy Booking**

PrenotaFacile.it is an online platform that allows migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees to register and book an appointment at the Questura in the city where they live.

Source: <https://italiahello.it/en/articolo/prenotafacile-it-what-is-it-and-when-is-it-needed/>

## **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/>

### **Ricevuta del permesso di soggiorno – Permit Receipt**

The residence permit receipt ('Ricevuta del permesso di soggiorno' in Italian) is a very important document that proves a person is not irregular in the country while waiting for the renewal or conversion, or the first release of the residence permit. It is an official, legally recognized document within Italian territory. It shows that someone has officially applied for a residence permit ('Permesso di soggiorno' in Italian) or its renewal or conversion.

Source: <https://italy.refugee.info/en-us/articles/16727883574557>

## 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>

Make a donation to

# Fondazione International Rescue Committee ETS

IBAN

IT60T0306909606100000195017

Donate your

# 5x1000

using our Tax Identification Number

# 97941860153



Visit our website:

[rescue.org/eu/country/italy](https://rescue.org/eu/country/italy)



Contact us at:

**Tessa Piccinin**, Project and MEAL Officer IRC Italy  
[tessa.piccinin@rescue.org](mailto:tessa.piccinin@rescue.org)

Rescue.org 