



**REPORT OF THE
MIGRATION
DIRECTORATE**

2022

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2022



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1 INTRODUCTION

The last few years have been marked by a lot of political, security and social turmoil, which has also affected migration flows in the European Union (EU) and, consequently, also in Slovenia. The Covid-19 pandemic presented us with new challenges in the field of migration, highlighting the importance of preparedness for all situations, at the national, European and international levels, as well as of cooperation between various stakeholders, which is key to respond to multidimensional challenges.

In 2022, the asylum system in the Republic of Slovenia was under disproportionate pressure due to the large number of applications for international protection, where special emphasis should be put at the fact that at the level of the EU member states, the Republic of Slovenia was one of the countries with highest number of applicants for international protection per capita, which was regularly reported by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) in its weekly reports.

The year was marked the most significantly by the war in Ukraine, as a result of which the directive regulating temporary protection was used for the first time, which was followed by Slovenia acting in accordance with the principles of solidarity and implementing the Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons Act. This was a reminder for Europe and the world that migration trends are unpredictable and rapidly changing.

Among the major achievements in 2022, we note in particular the new mandate of the EUAA, which was restructured from an Office to an Agency in January 2022, gaining new competences that will help with effective implementation of Common European Asylum System. The first successes already show in relation to the legislative proposals being discussed as part of the new Pact on Migration and Asylum.

We expect that many challenges also await us in the coming year, yet we are sure that we will successfully tackle them. In doing so, our experience and resilience of the asylum and migration system, and cooperation in connection with the willingness to show solidarity in the most critical moments, will be of key importance.

Migration Directorate



2 LEGAL MIGRATION

2.1 LEGISLATION

2.1.1 Act Amending the Foreigners Act (ZTuj-2G)

Changes to the Act Amending the Foreigners Act (ZTuj-2G), which transposes into the national law Directive (EU) 2021/1883 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2021 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purpose of highly qualified employment, and repealing Council Directive 2009/50/EC, started to be drafted in 2022. It is a recast directive, which replaces Council Directive Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment. It stipulates the obligation to recognise professional experience gained by a foreigner in a certain occupation as proof of higher professional qualifications. Beneficiaries of international protection and seasonal workers will also be eligible for an EU Blue Card, while the amendments also introduce less strict conditions for mobility within the EU Member States, specifically short-term and long-term mobility.

Also envisaged are changes that are required to fulfil the obligations in accordance with the EU Regulation establishing a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) and the introduction of a temporary residence permit for digital nomads, thereby ensuring the implementation of the measures adopted at the Strategic Council for Digitalisation regarding the regulation of the status of digital nomads.

2.1.2 Draft Act Amending the Foreigners Act

With the aim of relieving the administrative units, which are experiencing an increased workload, the proposed Act Amending the Foreigners Act, which would be passed in a urgent legislative procedure and primarily address the issue of territorial jurisdiction, started to be drafted in 2022. Considering the current situation in certain administrative units, where the procedures for issuing residence permits take a disproportionately long time, and in view of the fact that certain administrative units experience a significant backlog in resolving, i.e. issuing residence permits, with an emphasis on backlog in issuing single residence and work permits. The proposed amendments contain a solution that, under certain conditions, will enable territorial jurisdiction to be transferred from more burdened to less burdened administrative units. This will speed up the processing of applications for the issuance of residence permits and residence registration certificates and will consequently significantly contribute to reducing the backlog in this area.

Taking into account the principle of economy of the administrative procedure and with the aim of eliminating unnecessary administrative barriers, the Act amending the Foreigners Act will also contain other solutions that will enable faster management of the procedures for issuing residence permits and residence registration certificates (possibility of serving extended temporary residence permits and permanent residence permits by mail, the storage of fingerprints submitted in the procedure for issuing the first temporary residence permit so that they can also be used in the



procedure of extending the temporary residence permit, eliminating the requirement of a written request from the administrative unit to supplement the application with fingerprints, the possibility of connecting the register of foreigners with the judicial database of final indictments and non-final judgements).

The condition of entry-level knowledge of the Slovenian language for the extension of a temporary residence permit for reunification is also abolished and free Slovenian language courses are reintroduced for all categories of foreigners who were entitled to free Slovenian language courses before the Act Amending the Foreigners Act was passed in 2021.

2.1.3 Act Amending the Foreigners Act (ZTuj-2F)

2.1.3.1 Implementing regulations

On the basis of the Act Amending the Foreigners Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 57/21; ZTuj-2F), which was passed in 2021, amendments to two implementing regulations were drafted in 2022, whereby amendments to four rules were also drafted due to the extensive changes. Additionally the order was adopted that determined the date from which permits or certificates are issued in accordance with the provisions of the amended Foreigners Act, specifically:

- Rules on the form for return decision (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 135/22;
- Rules on the method of means testing for sufficient funds in the issuing procedures for residence permits (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 103/22);
- Rules amending the Rules on the method of issuing a residence permit and a certificate on the rights of a border worker, the method of taking fingerprints, the method of marking termination and the price of a residence permit card and a certificate on the rights of a border worker (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 17/22);
- Rules on residence permits for citizens of the Swiss Confederation and the family members thereof (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 17/22);
- Rules on residence registration certificate and residence permit for citizens of European Union and their family members and family members of Slovenian citizens (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 17/22);
- Order on the publication of the date from which permits or certificates are issued in accordance with the provisions of the amended Foreigners Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 17/22);
- Rules amending the Rules on the passport form for aliens and the method of taking fingerprints (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 10/22).



2.1.4 Issuance of a new form of residence permits and residence registration certificates, as prescribed by Council Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002

As of 14 February 2022 foreigners are being issued a new form of residence permits and residence registration certificates, as prescribed by Council Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002 laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals (OJ L 157 of 15 June 2002, p. 1), last amended with Regulation (EU) No 2017/1954 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2017 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002 laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals (OJ L 286 of 1 November 2017, p. 9) and Regulation (EU) 2019/1157 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement (UL L 188 of 12 July 2019, p. 67).

As of 14 February 2022, residence permits and residence registration certificates are issued in the form of three separate documents/cards, specifically:

- Second-generation residence permit cards (marked with code AR in the OCR-B notation) to foreigners, third-country nationals (including those who are family members of a citizen of the European Union, a citizen of the Swiss Confederation or a Slovenian citizen),
- Residence permit cards for foreigners, citizens of the Swiss Confederation (marked with code CH in the OCR-B notation),
- Residence registration certificate cards for foreigners, citizens of the European Union (with code CE in the OCR-B notation).

All three cards are made from polycarbonate, feature security and protective elements that prevent counterfeiting. The data on the cards are laser engraved, including the signature of the holder of the residence permit or residence registration certificate, while the second-generation residence permit cards also have an installed memory medium, on which the biometric record of the image of the face of the holder of the residence permit is stored. If the holder has reached the age of six, a biometric record of two fingerprints is also stored. All three cards are produced and personalised by the selected contractor, i.e. the company Cetis d. d. from Celje, with which the Ministry of the Interior concluded an umbrella contract in November 2021.

Due to the new residence permit cards and residence registration certificates, the Register of Foreigners, which keeps records of residence permits/residence registration certificates for EU citizens, was upgraded, while the administrative units were provided with appropriate instructions for the use of the amended and supplemented transactions in the Register of Foreigners.



2.2 STATISTICS

Presented below in tables and charts is all the relevant data obtained from the official records of the Ministry of the Interior. It should be noted here that in the chapter on legal migration, the data is presented in the category of third-country nationals¹ and citizens of the European Union (hereinafter referred to as EU). In all subsequent references, citizens of members of the European Economic Area (hereafter referred to as: EEA) and citizens of the Swiss Confederation are also included in the category of EU citizens. The same applies for the category of residence registration certificates for EU citizens in all subsequent tables and charts, where residence registration certificates of EEA citizens and residence permits of citizens of the Swiss Confederation are also included.

2.2.1 Valid residence permits or residence registration certificates in 2022

On 31 December 2016, 231,132 people had a valid residence permit or residence registration certificate in the Republic of Slovenia. Of these, 107,483 third-country nationals had valid permanent residence permits and 95,162 had valid temporary residence permits. On 31 December 2022, EU citizens held 13,020 permanent residence registration certificates and 15,467 residence registration certificates.

Table 1: Number of individual types of valid residence permits or residence registration certificates on 31 December 2022

Permanent residence permit for citizens of third countries	Permanent residence registration certificate for EU citizens	Temporary residence permit for third-country nationals	Residence registration certificates for EU citizens
107.483	13.020	95.162	15.467
120.503		110.629	
TOTAL: 231.132			

¹ Citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are regarded as of 1 January 2021 as third-country nationals.



Chart 1: Number of individual types of valid residence permits and residence registration certificates on 31 December 2022

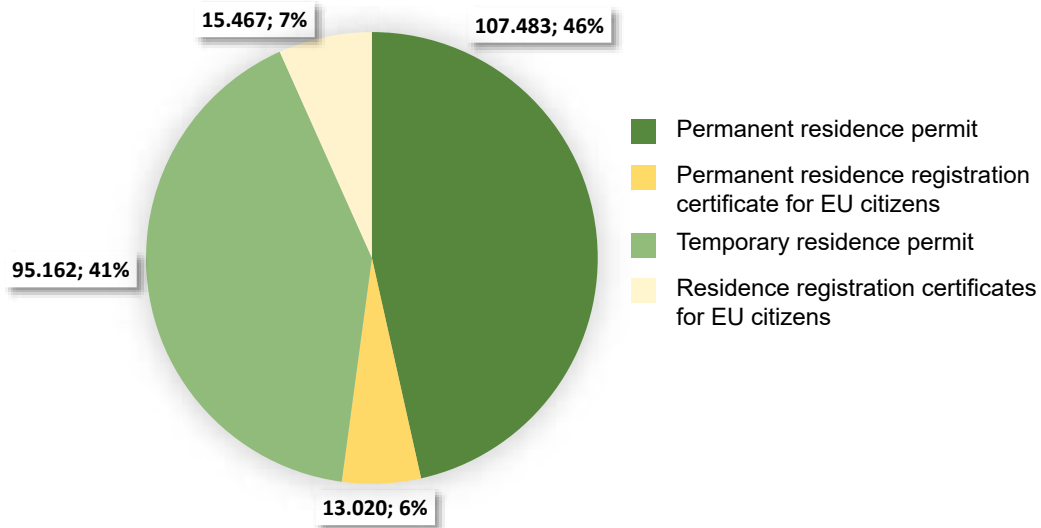
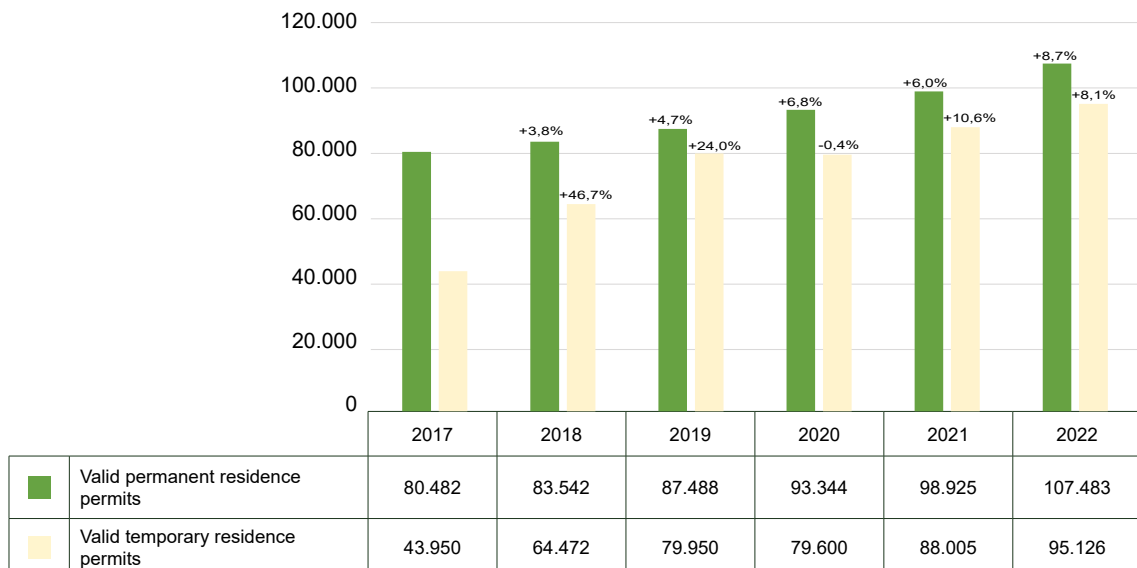


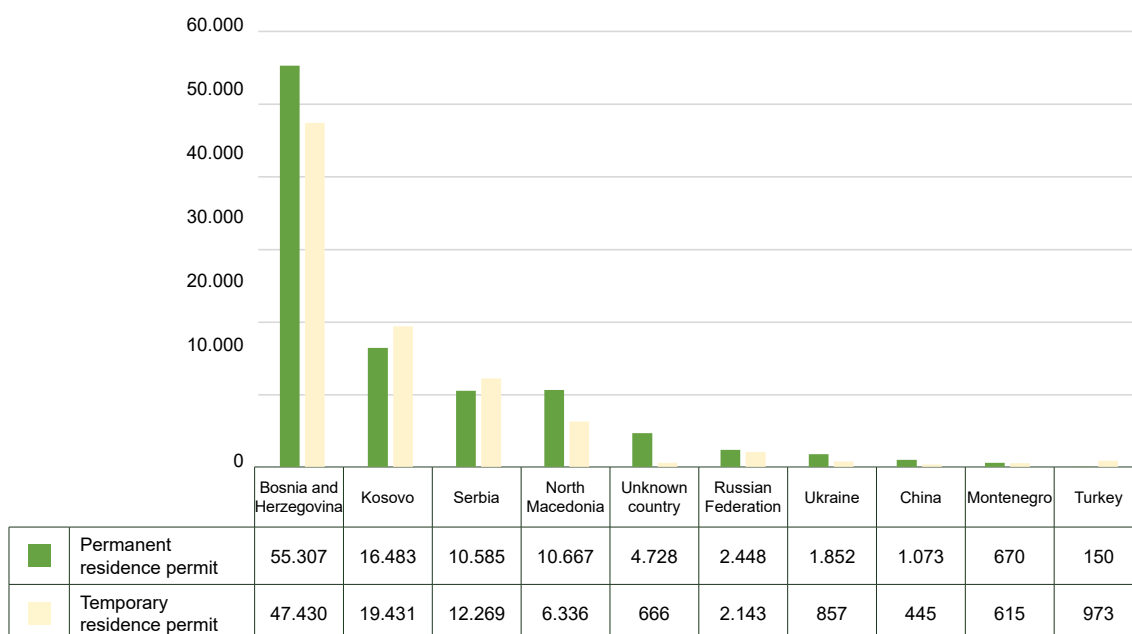
Chart 2: Trend in the number of valid temporary and permanent residence permits on the last day of the year (on 31 December) for the 2017-2022 period





The data indicates that on 31 December the largest number of valid residence permits were held by citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina (51%), followed by citizens of Kosovo (18%) and Serbia (11%).

Chart 3: Overview of the top ten third countries by the number of citizens who, on 31 December 2022, held valid residence permits in the Republic of Slovenia



In terms of the purpose of residence of third-country nationals, the largest number of them held a valid temporary residence permit for employment and work² – 66,218 (69% of all valid temporary residence permits), followed by family reunification with 17,787 permits (26% of all valid temporary residence permits).

² The Employment or work category covers all single permits (i.e. single permits for residence and work, for highly qualified employment - EU Blue Cards, for performing work as a self-employed person, for seeking employment or self-employment, for performing an internship, for posted workers, for an intra-corporate transferee, for cross-border worker and for seasonal work) and temporary residence permits issued for research work, educational work in higher vocational education or higher education sector and volunteer work.

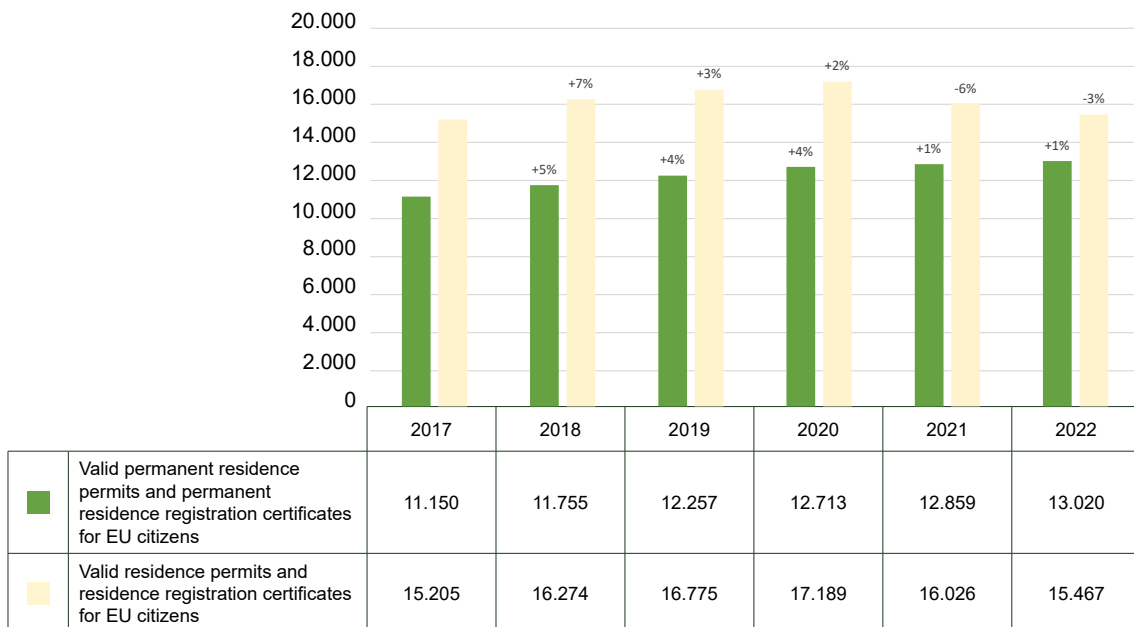


Table 2: Number of valid temporary residence permits on 31 December 2022 by reason or purpose of residence in the Republic of Slovenia

Reason/purpose	Number
Employment or work	66,218
Family reunification	17,787
Family reunification – family member of an EU or Slovenian citizen	4,593
Study	3,795
Other ³	2,769
TOTAL	95,162

On 31 December 2022 the largest number of EU citizens who held valid residence permits were from Croatia (46%), followed by Bulgaria (16%) and Italy (13%).

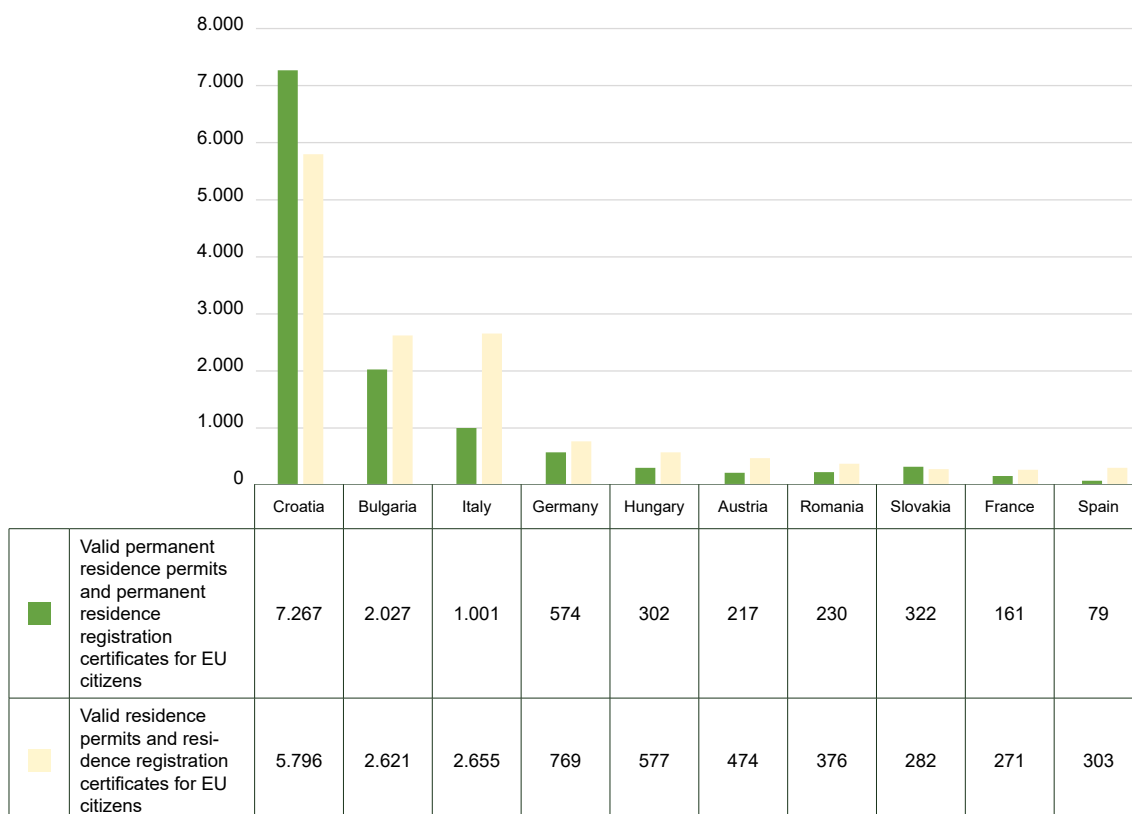
Chart 4: Trend in the number of valid residence permits or residence registration certificates for EU citizens on the last day of the year (on 31 December) for the 2017-2022 period



³ The Other category covers residence permits issued to a foreigner of Slovenian descent, a child of a foreigner, an EU citizen, a refugee or a person with subsidiary protection born in the Republic of Slovenia, a child of a person with international protection born abroad, victims of domestic violence, human trafficking or illegal employment, due to the interest of the Republic of Slovenia or other valid reasons.



Chart 5: Overview of the top ten third EU Member States by the number of citizens who on 31 December 2022 held valid residence permits and residence registration certificates



2.2.2 Residence permits or residence registration certificates issued in 2022

In 2022, 85,732 temporary residence permits were issued to third-country nationals and 5,218 residence registration certificates to EU citizens. 4,939 permanent residence permits were issued to third-country nationals and 651 permanent residence registration certificates to EU citizens.

Table 3: Number of issued residence permits or residence registration certificates in 2022

Permanent residence permit for third-country nationals	Permanent residence registration certificate for EU citizens	Temporary residence permit for third-country nationals	Residence registration certificates for EU citizens
10,326	651	85,732	4,939
10,977		90,671	
TOTAL: 101,648			



Chart 6: Number of issued residence permits or residence registration certificates in 2022

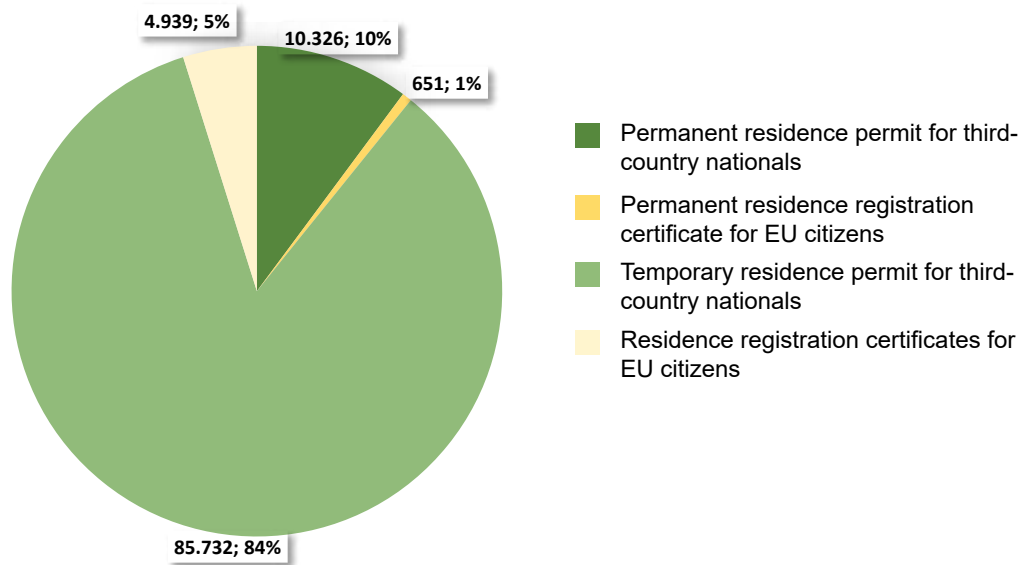


Chart 7: Number of issued temporary residence permits or residence registration certificates in the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2022 by the type of permit





Chart 8: Ratio between the issued first temporary residence permits and all temporary residence permits issued to third-country nationals in the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2022

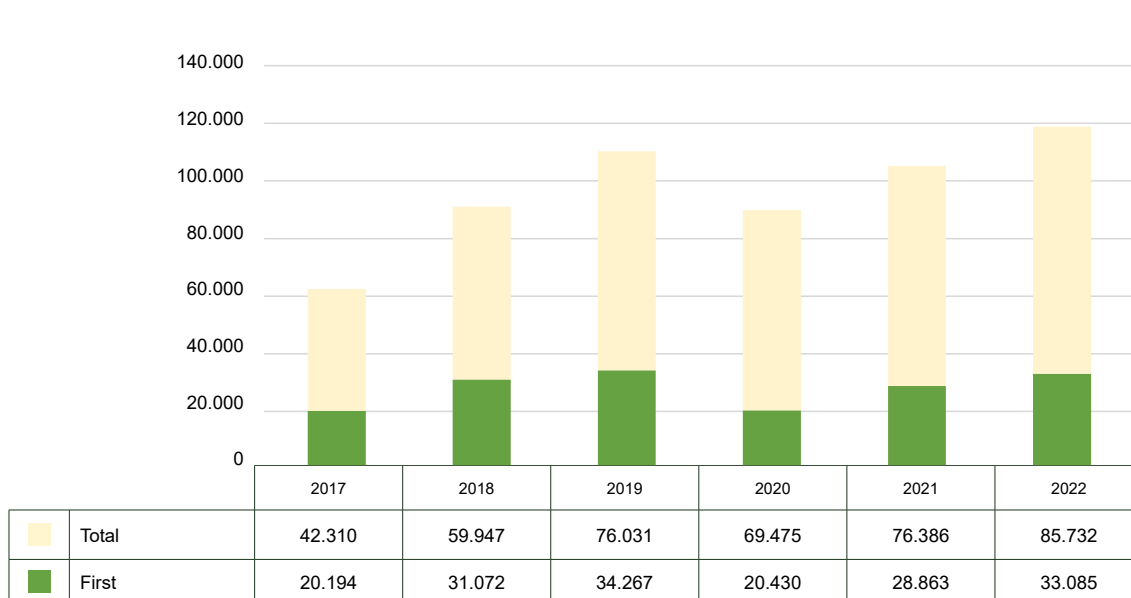


Chart 9: First temporary residence permits issued in 2022 by the reason or purpose of residence in the Republic of Slovenia

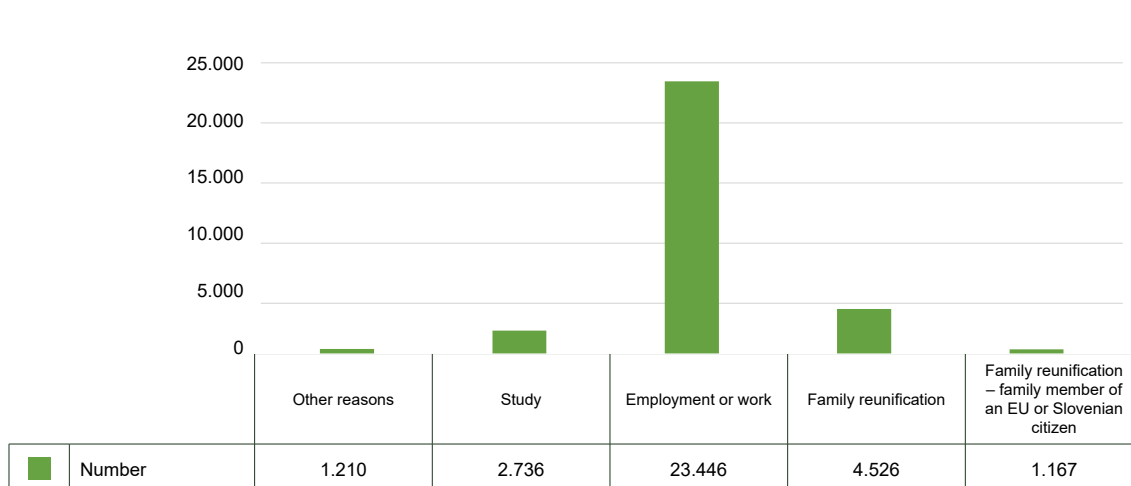
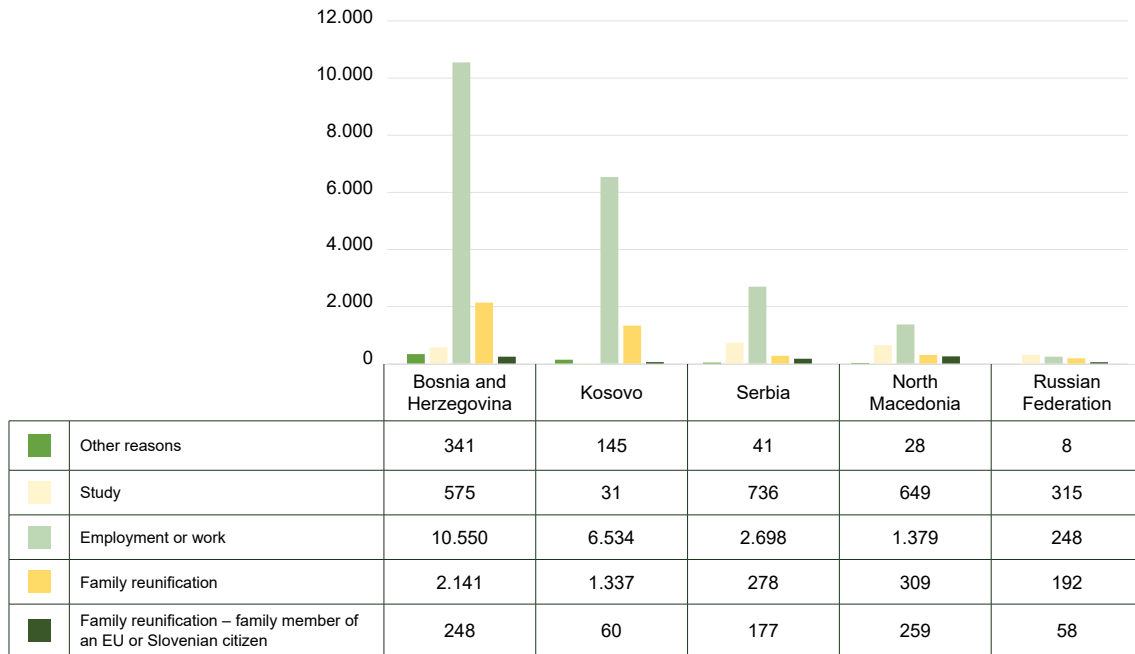




Chart 10: Overview of the top five third countries by the number of citizens who were issued first temporary residence permits in 2022 by reason or purpose of residence in the Republic of Slovenia



In procedures to issue residence permits, administrative units suspended the procedure in 6,847 cases, 379 applications were rejected, while 1,796 applications to issue residence permits/residence registration certificate were refused.

The table below shows data on suspended procedures and rejected and dismissed applications in 2022 by citizenship.

Table 4: Number of suspended procedures and rejected and dismissed applications in 2022 by type of citizenship

	EU citizens	Third countries	TOTAL
Suspension	926	5,948	6,874
Refused	16	1,780	1,796
Rejected	68	311	379
TOTAL	1,010	8,039	9,049

Administrative units also decided in procedures to terminate residence permits or residence registration certificates. The table below shows data on the number of terminations and reasons for the termination of permits or residence registration certificates by type of citizenship.



Table 5: Number of terminations and reasons for the termination of permits or residence registration certificates by type of citizenship

Terminations 2022	EU citizens	Third countries	TOTAL
Acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia	185	1,378	1,563
Acquisition of permanent residence permit	356	6,881	7,237
Renunciation	143	1,103	1,246
Emigration from the Republic of Slovenia	4	33	37
Death	71	256	327
Annulment	0	1,229	1,229
End of validity	9	190	199
Emigration from the European Union	0	10	10
Failure to meet the conditions for the issue of residence registration certificate	15		15
Subsequently found that the conditions for the issuance of residence registration certificate are not fulfilled	2		2
Termination of residence	0	1	1
Punishment – expulsion of a foreigner from the Republic of Slovenia	0	2	2
Acquisition of long-term resident status in another EU Member State		2	2
Acquisition of an EU Blue Card in another EU Member State		0	0
TOTAL	785	11,085	11,870

2.2.3 Procedures at the first and second instance within the competence of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia

In 2022, the Ministry of the Interior issued as the authority of first instance on the basis of paragraph three of Article 51 of the Foreigners Act (hereinafter referred to as: ZTuj-2) 10 temporary residence permits to foreigners whose residence in the Republic of Slovenia is in the country's interest.



In 2022, the Migration Directorate at the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia, as the authority of first instance, also received 75 applications to issue residence permits for family reunification with a person under international protection in the Republic of Slovenia filed pursuant to the ZTuj-2, of which 71 applications to issue permanent residence permits for reunification with a foreigner with granted refugee status in the Republic of Slovenia (31 applications of citizens of Syria, 14 applications from citizens of Somalia, 10 applications from citizens of Afghanistan, 4 applications from citizens of Cameroon, 4 applications from citizens of the Republic of the Congo, 3 applications from citizens of the Central African Republic, 3 applications from citizens of Iran, 1 application from a citizen of Eritrea, 1 application from a citizen of Senegal) and 4 applications to issue temporary residence permits for family reunification with a foreigner with recognised subsidiary protection in the Republic of Slovenia (for 4 citizens of Afghanistan).

In 2022, the Migration Directorate decided on 58 applications to issue residence permits for family reunification with a person under international protection in the Republic of Slovenia, of which 13 applications were granted and residence permits were issued, 33 applications were refused, while in 11 cases the procedure was suspended.

In 2022, the Migration Directorate as the authority of second instance received 73 appeals against decisions of administrative units, of which:

- 71 appeals in the procedure of the issue or termination of residence permits or residence registration certificates pursuant to the ZTuj-2;
- one appeal in the procedure of the issuance of a residence permit in accordance with the Act Regulating the Legal Status of Citizens of Former Yugoslavia Living in the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter referred to as: ZUSDDD);⁴
- one appeal in the procedure to determine monetary compensation in accordance with the Act Regulating the Compensation for Damage Sustained as a Result of Erasure from the Register of Permanent Residents (hereinafter referred to as: ZPŠOIRSP).

In 2022, the Migration Directorate decided on 73 appeals, specifically on:

- 72 appeals in procedures in accordance with the ZTuj-2;
- 1 appeal in procedures in accordance with the ZUSDDD;

2.2.4 Statistical data under the Act Regulating the Compensation for Damage Sustained as a Result of Erasure from the Register of Permanent Residents⁵

Tables 6 and 7 show the basic statistical data on the procedure to determine financial compensation and grant beneficiary status on the basis of ZPŠOIRSP in the period from 18 June 2014 to 31 December 2022 (data obtained from the record of decisions and payments of financial compensation, which is kept on the basis of Article 24 of the ZPŠOIRSP).

⁴ Act Regulating the Legal Status of Citizens of the Former Yugoslavia Living in the Republic of Slovenia Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 76/10 – official consolidated text – ZUSDDD).

⁵ The Act Regulating the Compensation for Damage Sustained as a Result of Erasure from the Register of Permanent Residents (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 99/13) entered into force on 18 December 2013 and has been applicable since 18 June 2014.



Table 6: Number of applications to determine financial compensation, applications for beneficiary status and actions

Number of submitted applications to determine pecuniary compensation in an administrative procedure	Number of submitted applications to be granted beneficiary status	Number of proposals submitted in initial proceedings to the State Attorney's Office of the Republic of Slovenia for the payment of pecuniary compensation	Number of actions lodged in judicial proceedings
8,047	86	90	383

Table 7: Number and type of decisions issued in the administrative procedure

	Granted	Refused	Rejected	Suspended
Number of decisions determining pecuniary compensation	5,779	1,961	190	91
Number of decisions granting beneficiary status	7	33	6	20
TOTAL	5,786	1,994	196	111

Table 8: Total amount of determined compensation (in EUR)

Total amount of compensation determined on the basis of final decisions in administrative procedure	26,702,450.00
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The payment of compensations determined in administrative procedures to beneficiaries has been smoothly administered. On the basis of the ZPŠOIRSP, the administrative units paid the beneficiaries a total of EUR 3,977,200 in 2014, EUR 5,135,686 in 2015, EUR 5,117,622 in 2016, EUR 5,178,900 in 2017, EUR 4,555,155 in 2018, EUR 1,752,844 in 2019, EUR 619,940 in 2020, EUR 288,737 in 2021 and EUR 40,740 in 2022. From the entry into force of the ZPŠOIRSP to 31 December 2022 a total of EUR 26,666,823 in compensation determined in the administrative procedure was thus paid out (source: Ministry of Public Administration, Administrative Units Service).

In addition to the requests to determine monetary compensation in the administrative procedure, 90 proposals for the payment of monetary compensation in preliminary proceedings were filed with the State Attorney's Office of the Republic of Slovenia, and the courts received 383 lawsuits for the payment of monetary compensation in judicial proceedings (the data was were obtained from the record of decisions and payments of monetary compensation kept on the basis of Article 24 of the ZPŠOIRSP) from the entry into force of the ZPŠOIRSP to 31 December 2022.



3 INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

3.1 LEGISLATION

Only one implementing regulation in the field of international protection was amended in 2022, specifically the Rules on the procedure for aliens who wish to apply for international protection in the Republic of Slovenia and on the procedure for accepting applications for international protection (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 173/21 and 131/22);

In addition, a decision was adopted on 31 March 2022 on the basis of which the Ordinance determining the list of safe countries of origin (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 47/22), which declared Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Egypt, Ghana, Gambia, Georgia, Kosovo, Morocco, Nepal, Senegal, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tunisia and Turkey as safe countries of origin, was issued.

3.2 ACTIVATION OF THE THIRD PHASE OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN

In July 2018, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the Contingency Plan of the Republic of Slovenia to provide housing and care in the event of an increase in the number of applicants for international protection and the implementation of international protection procedures. The Contingency Plan was drafted for the planning of activities in the event of a sudden or gradual increase in the number of applicants for international protection. The plan contains agreed scenarios and objectives, defines all necessary measures and authorities and establishes systems of possible response to new emergency situations. The measures and participation of individual authorities were defined in view of the different increases in the number of applicants.

The activation of the plan is carried out in several stages in view of the number of applicants or applications and is divided into two parts:

- support and accommodation of applicants for international protection (carried out in two stages: from 420 to 750 applicants and over 750 applicants);
- implementation of international protection procedures (carried out in three stages in view of the number of applications per month in three consecutive months: from 100 to 150 applications, from 150 to 250 applications and from 250 to 400 applications per month in three consecutive months).

In 2022, procedures for employing new civil servants were continued to be implemented as part of the third phase of the Contingency Plan.



3.3 STATISTICS

Presented below in tables and charts is all the relevant data from the official records of the Ministry of the Interior.

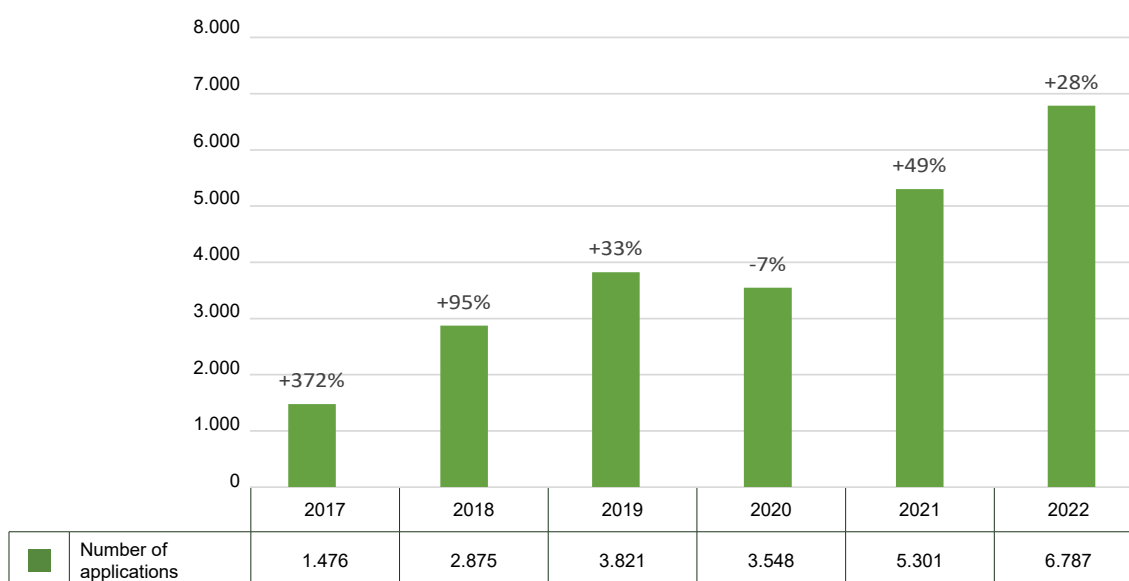
3.3.1 Structure of applicants in international protection procedures in 2022

The trend of an increase in the number of applications for international protection continued in 2022. Compared to the previous year, the trend has changed slightly, as in 2022 the applications were more evenly distributed on a monthly basis than in 2021, when only 24% were accepted in the first half of the year and most of them were submitted in the second half of the year. In the first half of 2022 3,748 applications were submitted (55% of the total in the year), for an average of 625 applications per month. In the second half of the year, however, the trend reversed slightly, as 3,039 applications were submitted, with an average of 507 applications per month. In comparison to 2021, the number of submitted applications for international protection increased by 28% in 2022.

Table 9: Number of applications for international protection in the past six years

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of applications	1,476	2,875	3,821	3,548	5,301	6,787

Chart 11: Change in the number of applications for international protection in the past six years





The trend also changed in 2022 in terms of list of countries of origin, from where the applicants for international protection come. Citizens of Afghanistan still represent the largest proportion of applicants, as they submitted 1,279 applications for international protection (19% of all submitted applications), followed by citizens of India (13%) and Bangladesh (12%) under the new trend. In 2021, 39 Cuban citizens submitted applications, which compares to as many as 603 in 2022. A similar trend is observed with Indian citizens, as in 2021 34 Indian citizens applied for international protection, compared to as many as 8,511 in 2022.

Table 10: Top ten countries in terms of the number of applications for international protection filed by their citizens in 2022

Country of origin	Number of applicants
Afghanistan	1,279
India	851
Bangladesh	825
Cuba	603
Pakistan	556
Morocco	380
Burundi	230
Turkey	200
Ukraine	195
Iraq	178

Chart 12: List of the top ten countries in terms of the number of applications for international protection filed by their citizens in 2022

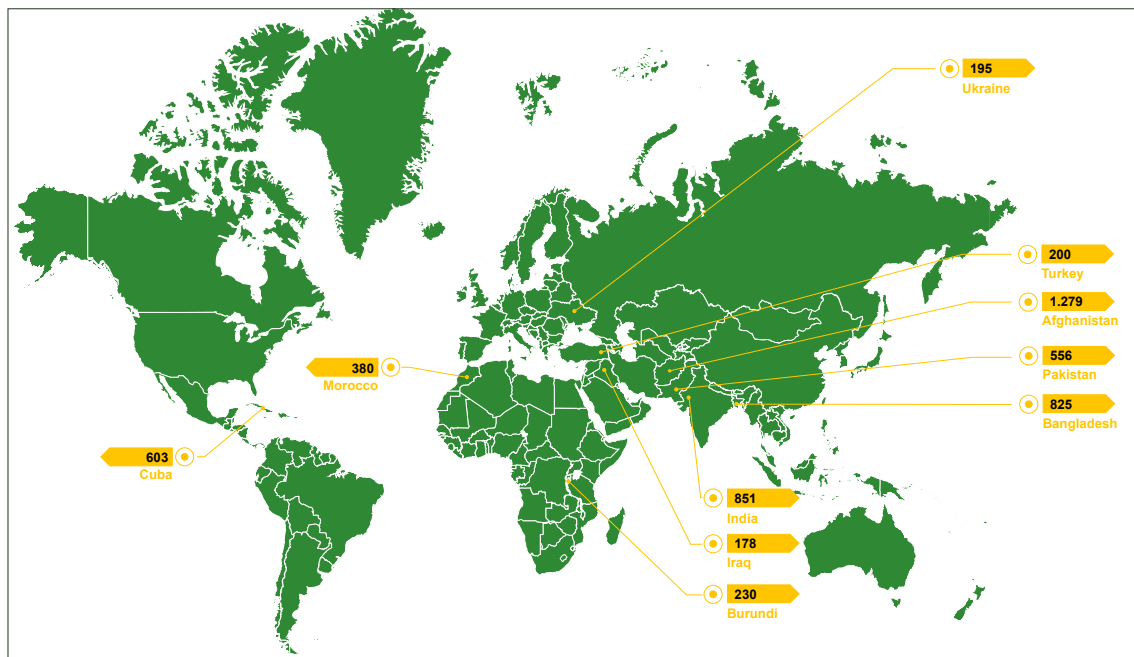
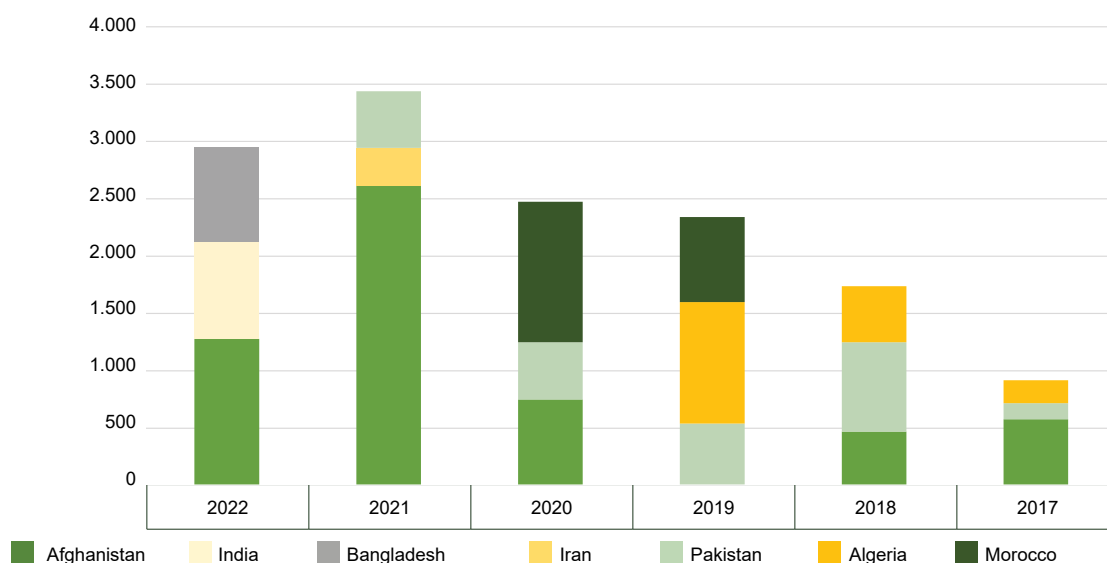




Table 11: Three most frequent countries of origin in the past six years

Year	Country of origin – number of applications					
2022	Afghanistan	1,279	India	851	Bangladesh	825
2021	Afghanistan	2,614	Pakistan	493	Iran	331
2020	Morocco	1,226	Afghanistan	751	Pakistan	498
2019	Algeria	1,060	Morocco	741	Pakistan	540
2018	Pakistan	780	Algeria	488	Afghanistan	470
2017	Afghanistan	578	Algeria	201	Pakistan	140

Chart 13: Change in the number of applications in the past six years by three most frequent countries of origin



Among all accepted applications in 2022, 130 applicants had previously submitted at least one application for international protection in the Republic of Slovenia. In 2022, 5,610 or 83% of applications for international protection were submitted by men, and 1,177 or 17% by women. As many as 63% of all applicants were people aged between 18 and 34.



Table 12: Number of applicants for international protection in 2022 by gender

Men	Women
5,610	1,177
TOTAL: 6,787	

Chart 14: Number of applicants for international protection in 2022 by gender

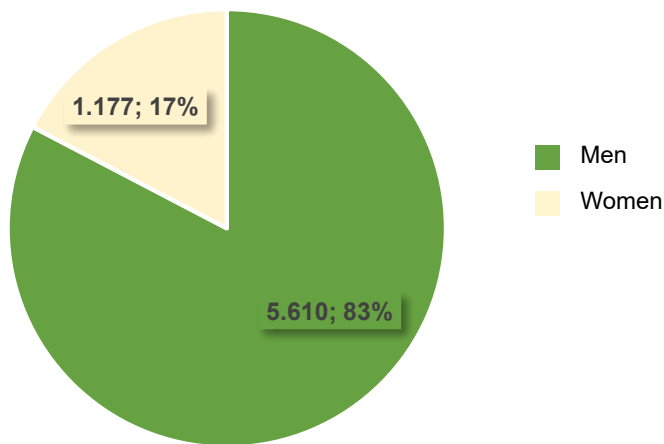


Table 13: Number of applicants for international protection in 2022 by age

Age	Number
0–13 years	712
14-17 years	359
18-34 years	4,247
35-64 years	1,442
over 65 years	27
TOTAL	6,787



Chart 15: Number of applicants for international protection in 2022 by age

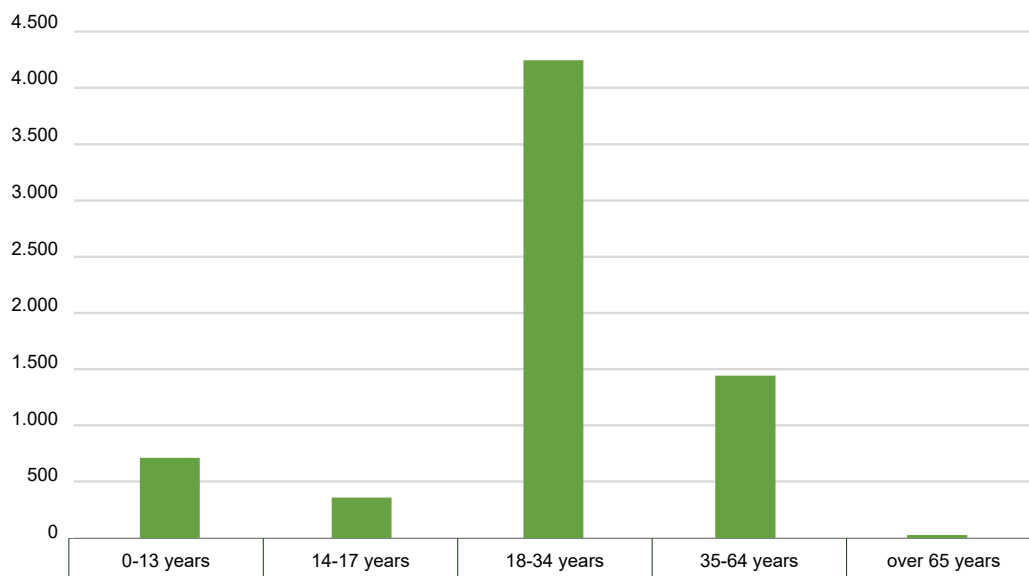
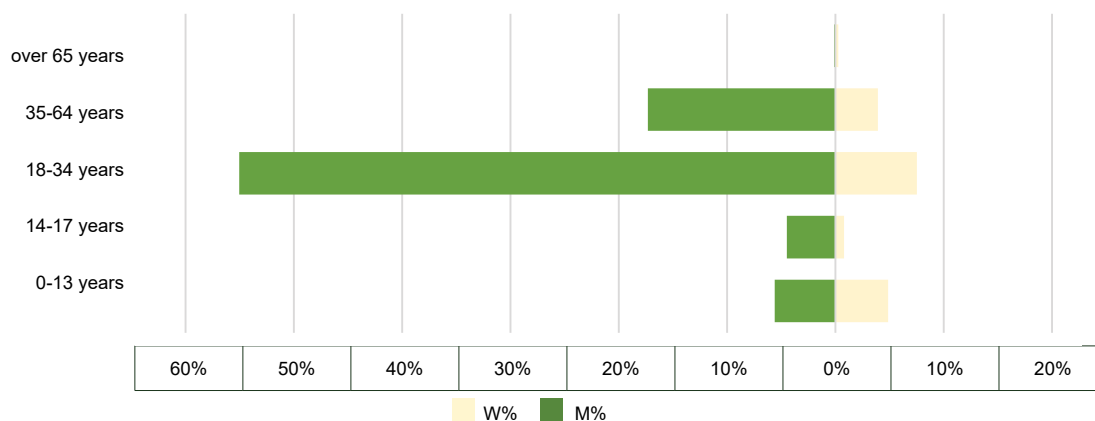


Chart 16: Structure of applicants for international protection in 2022 by gender and age (as a percentage)



3.3.2 Structure of applicants who are unaccompanied minors

Despite the overall increase in the number of submitted applications for international protection, the number of applications made by unaccompanied minors decreased in 2022 by 68% compared to 2021. Of all minors who applied for international protection, 24% came to the Republic of Slovenia without their parents or other legal representative, which is significantly less than in previous years (42% in 2021 and as many as 70% in 2020)



Table 14: Number of applicants who are unaccompanied minors in 2022 by country of origin

Country of origin	Number of applicants
Afghanistan	155
Kosovo	14
Burundi	13
Pakistan	10
Guinea	8
Bangladesh	7
Ukraine	6
Turkey	6
Gambia	5
Mali	4
Ghana	3
Morocco	3
Senegal	3
Sierra Leone	3
Burkina Faso	2
Guinea-Bissau	2
Iran	2
Syria	2
Republic of the Congo	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	1
Nigeria	1
Cuba	1
Nepal	1

Table 15: Number of applicants who were unaccompanied minors in 2022 by gender and age

Age	Boys	Girls
0–13 years	17	3
14-15 years	32	3
16-17 years	193	5
TOTAL	242	11

3.3.3 Decision making in international protection procedures

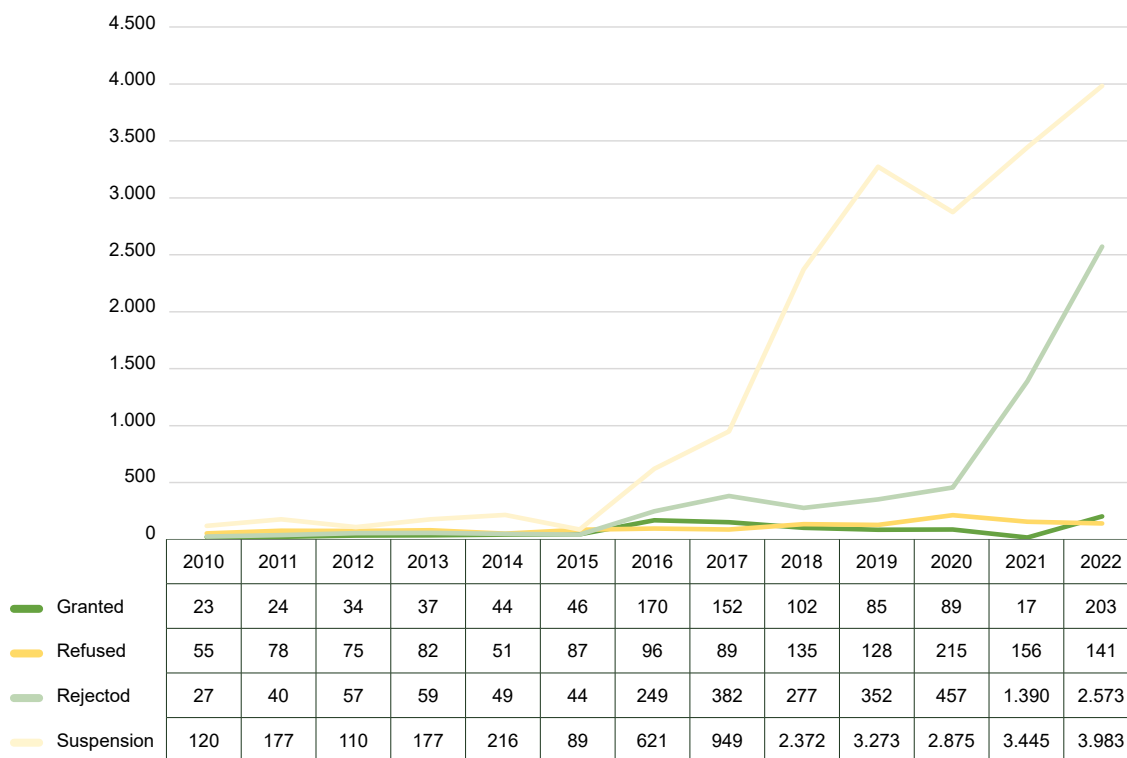
The trend of applicants voluntarily leaving the Republic of Slovenia continued in 2022, as a result of which 57% of resolved procedures were suspended. In addition, the number of applications for which it was later established that another EU Member State is responsible for their processing increased in the same period. There were as many as 2,573 such cases, or 85% more than in the previous year. Despite the number of the applications that were decided on based on substance increased by 100% compared to 2021, their proportion was only 5% in 2022, just like in 2021.



Table 16: Structure of resolved applications for international protection from 2010 to the end of 2022

Year	Type of decision				TOTAL
	Granted	Refused	Rejected	Suspension	
2010	23	55	27	120	225
2011	24	78	40	177	319
2012	34	75	57	110	276
2013	37	82	59	177	355
2014	44	51	49	216	360
2015	46	87	44	89	266
2016	170	96	249	621	1,136
2017	152	89	382	949	1,572
2018	102	135	277	2,372	2,886
2019	85	128	352	3,273	3,838
2020	89	215	457	2,875	3,636
2021	17	156	1,390	3,445	5,008
2022	203	141	2,573	3,983	6,900

Chart 17: Trend in the structure of resolved applications for international protection from 2010 to the end of 2022





Despite the increase in the number of filed applications for international protection, the decision-making time was reduced, because of which these procedures lasted for an average of 148 days in 2022 (210 days in 2021 and 288 days in 2020). The decision-making for all procedures took an average of 40 days in 2022 and was extended in comparison to 2021, when it was 26 days, mainly due to the need to determine the jurisdiction of another EU Member State to process applications.

3.3.4 People who also applied for international protection in another EU Member State

In accordance with the Eurodac Regulation⁶, fingerprints of the following categories of foreigners have been entered into the Eurodac Central Fingerprint System since 2004:

1. category – foreigners who apply for international protection in a Member State,
2. category – foreigners who are arrested for illegally crossing the state border and not returned to another country,
3. category – foreigners who illegally reside in the territory of an EU Member State, for whom the state decides to check whether they may have previously applied for international protection in another country.

Based on the fingerprints collected in the Eurodac database, which is the basic tool for implementing the Dublin Regulation, it can be determined whether an applicant had previously applied for international protection in another EU Member State or associated Member State and, in the event that they were arrested by the police for irregular entry into the EU, in which Member State they entered the EU. It is, meanwhile, determined in the proceedings conducted between Member States in accordance with the Dublin Regulation 604/2013⁷ which country is responsible for processing the applicant's application for international protection. In 2021, the Republic of Slovenia received, as part of the Dublin proceedings, 63% more applications to assume responsibility for the processing of applicants in the procedure for the recognition of international protection than in 2020, with the trend continuing in 2022, when 23% more applications were received than the previous year. In 2022, Slovenia confirmed responsibility for the processing applications in 1,693 cases (65%).

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 603/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in a Member State by a third-country national or a stateless person and on requests for a comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes, and amending Regulation (EU) No 1077/2011 establishing a European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice.

⁷ Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in a Member State by a third-country national or a stateless person



Table 17: Assumption of responsibility by the Republic of Slovenia for the processing of foreigners in the procedure for the recognition of international protection between 2020 and 2022

	Person admitted 2020	Persons admitted 2021	Persons admitted 2022
Positive replies	882	1,300	1,693
Implementation	84 (9.5%)	112 (8.6 %)	257 (15%)

In 2022, the Republic of Slovenia sent 46% more requests to other Member States to assume responsibility for the processing of applicants in the procedure for the recognition of international protection than in 2021. In 2022, the EU Member States assumed responsibility for the processing of applications in 1,408 cases or 71.22%, which is significantly more than in 2020 (21.85%) and 2021 (58.6%).

Table 18: Assumption of responsibility by other EU Member States for the processing of foreigners in the procedure for the recognition of international protection between 2020 and 2022

	Persons transferred 2020	Persons transferred 2021	Persons transferred 2022
Positive replies	313	792	1,408
Implementation	6 (1.9%)	5 (6.9%)	20 (1.4%)

3.3.5 Structure of people who were granted international protection status in 2022

In the 1995–2022 period, international protection was granted in the Republic of Slovenia to 1,212 people. In 2022, 203 people were granted international protection, of which 38 people were granted refugee status, and 164 people were granted subsidiary protection status. For the first time since 2003, the majority of people who were granted international protection were women. The most international protection statuses were granted to citizens of Ukraine (158) and Syria (14).

Table 19: Number of all people with granted international protection from 1995 to the end of 2022 by type of status and gender

Type of status	Gender		Total
	Men	Women	
Refugee status	570	253	823
Subsidiary protection status	162	138	300
Asylum for humanitarian reasons ⁸	55	34	89
TOTAL	787	425	1,212

⁸ In March 2006, changes to the Asylum Act (ZAzil) abolished asylum for humanitarian reasons and introduced subsidiary protection.



Table 20: Number of people with granted international protection status in 2022 by type of status and gender

Type of status \ Gender	Gender		Total
	Men	Women	
Refugee status	30	9	39
Subsidiary protection status	66	98	164
TOTAL	96	107	203

Table 21: Number of people with granted international protection in 2022 by country of origin

Country of origin	Number of people under international protection
Ukraine	158
Syria	14
Afghanistan	7
Iran	6
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4
Cameroon	4
Azerbaijan	3
Belarus	1
Burkina Faso	1
Guinea	1
Palestine	1
Senegal	1
Somalia	1
Central African Republic	1
TOTAL	203



3.3.6 Submitted legal remedies in international protection proceedings

In international protection proceedings, 175 lawsuits and 23 appeals against judgements of the Administrative Court were submitted in 2022.

Table 22: Submitted legal remedies by individual cases in 2022

	Submitted lawsuit	Submitted appeal
Restriction of movement	90	13
Application for international protection		
- rejected	54	4
- granted	4	
- dismissed	9	2
Request for the introduction of a new procedure	18	4
Total	175	23

3.4 CASE LAW

In 2022, the case law was dominated by court decisions related to restrictions of movement of applicants for international protection, and these were mainly judgements of the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia. In cases of lawsuits against the decisions of the Migration Directorate to reject the application for international protection as clearly unfounded, the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia mostly rejected these lawsuits and thereby approved the decisions of the Ministry of the Interior.

3.4.1 Notable examples of case law

Restriction of movement

At the end of 2022, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, following the applicant's appeal, issued an important judgement related to the restriction of movement, in which it clarified how long the restriction of movement may last in the event that the applicant's movement is restricted with the purpose of establishing certain facts on which the application for international protection is based, which could not be obtained without the imposed measure and there is a risk that the applicant may flee.

Afghanistan

The Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia ruled in a dispute related to full jurisdiction also in some cases in 2022, and granted one or another form of international protection to some



applicants. In connection with these judgements, the case law relating to Afghanistan should be noted, since most of the applicants asserted in lawsuits or preparatory applications the changed circumstances in Afghanistan (takeover of power by the Taliban in August 2021).

At the beginning of the year, the Migration Directorate filed for a review to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia to achieve that the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia ruled that the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia must also decide in its decision on the circumstances that occurred after the contested decision was issued and the applicant asserts them only in an administrative dispute. Previously, the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia referred such cases back to the Migration Directorate to decide on them again. However, a new issue arose in connection with these cases, as the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia rejected the lawsuit in one case, while granting subsidiary protection status to some applicants of the same kind, without justifying its decision. In relation to this, the Migration Directorate again filed complaints with the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, which in one case returned the matter to the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia to decide on it again, while informing the Migration Directorate in relation to one case that, due to the length of the procedure, it will hold the main hearing in 2023 and decide on the matter itself.



4 TEMPORARY PROTECTION

4.1 LEGISLATION

In 2022, temporary protection was activated for the first time since it was introduced in 2001. It was activated by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced people from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC⁹ and having the effect of introducing temporary protection and by activation of Directive 2001/55/EC, specifically for one year until 4 March 2023. In accordance with Directive 2001/55/EC, temporary protection will be automatically extended by two six-month periods, specifically until 4 March 2024, unless the Council of the European Union adopts a decision on the early termination of temporary protection. After 4 March 2024, the temporary protection in accordance with Directive 2001/55/EC can be extended by a decision of the Council of the European Union at the proposal of the European Commission for a maximum of one year, i.e. until 4 March 2025.

In order to activate temporary protection in the Republic of Slovenia, the Ministry of the Interior drafted the Decision establishing temporary protection for people displaced from Ukraine (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 32/22), which entered into force on 10 March 2022, and by which the Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 16/17 – official consolidated text; hereinafter referred to as: ZZZRO) was also activated. For temporary protection to be effectively implemented in the Republic of Slovenia, the Migration Directorate has prepared a number of guidelines for the work of the administrative units which, in accordance with the ZZZRO, are competent to make decisions in temporary protection procedures.

The Migration Directorate also prepared the following implementing regulations for the ZZZRO to be implemented:

- Rules on the application for granting temporary protection and on the identity card of people enjoying temporary protection (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 43/22) and
- Instructions amending the instructions on the procedure and method of dealing with people illegally entering the Republic of Slovenia during the period when covered by temporary protection (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 58/22).

Since the currently valid ZZZRO proved to be deficient and outdated in practice, the Migration Directorate participated in the drafting of the proposed amendment to the ZZZRO, which were included in the proposed Act on Intervention Measures for Comprehensive Regulation of the Situation of Displaced Persons from Ukraine and for Assistance to the Economy of the Republic of Slovenia Due to the Consequences of the Ukrainian Crisis (EPA 58-IX), which the Government removed from the legislative procedure by decision NO. 00704-192/2022/10 on 6 September 2022.

⁹ Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced people and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such people and bearing the consequences thereof.

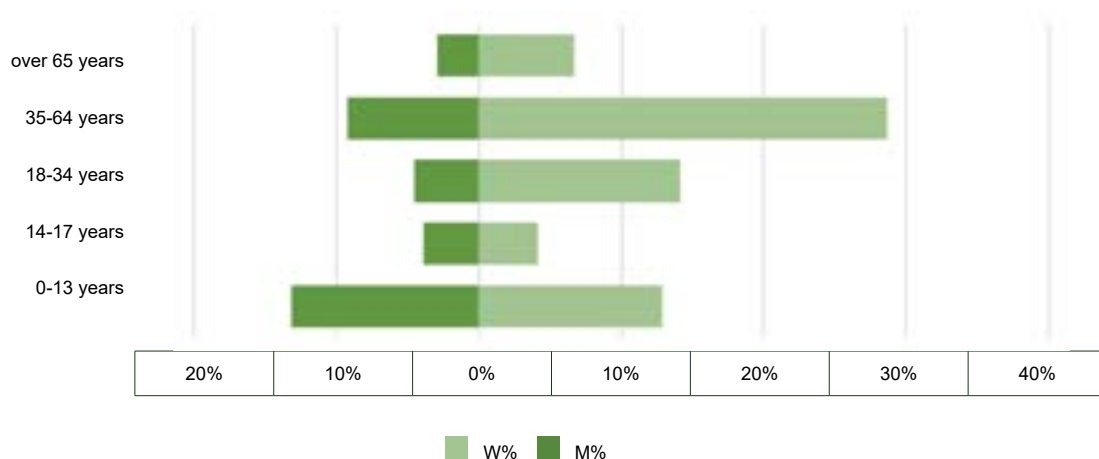


4.2 STATISTICS

On the basis of the ZZZRO, 8,451 applications for recognition of temporary protection were submitted in the period from 24 February 2022 to 31 December 2022. Of these, 2,835 (34%) applications were submitted by men, while women submitted a total of 5,616 (66%) applications. A total of 3,200 applications for temporary protection were received from the 35-64 age group, which represents the largest category in terms of the number of applications submitted. In the mentioned age group, 2,423 or 76% of applications were submitted by women, while 777 or 24% of applications were submitted by men. With 2,172 applications, the 0-13 age group is in second place in terms of the number of applications submitted. The structure of applicants in this group is balanced in terms of gender, with male applicants representing 50.7% and female applicants representing 49.3%.

In the same period, the administrative units resolved 8,109 applications and granted temporary protection to 7,668 people.

Chart 18: Structure of applicants for temporary protection by gender and age (as a percentage)



The Migration Directorate, as a body of second instance, also received 6 complaints against the decisions of the administrative units in the procedures for granting temporary protection to displaced people in accordance with the ZZZRO. All 6 complaints were refused.



5 RESETTLEMENT

On 1 December 2022, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted a decision with which, among other things, it decided that the Republic of Slovenia will accept 50 citizens of Syria or Afghanistan from Turkey, who can be granted refugee status.

In determining the number of people to be accepted by the Republic of Slovenia, in addition to the migration trends and crisis hotspots, essential statistical data on the number of applicants for international protection and people with international protection status, integration capacity and past experience in the field of resettlement (and relocation), based on the implementation plan for the relocation of 567 people from Italy and Greece and the permanent relocation of 20 people from third countries, was taken into account.

Based on the experience with projects of relocation and resettlement of people with recognised international protection to the Republic of Slovenia that have already been implemented, an implementation plan will be drafted in early 2023 to ensure the most effective implementation of the decision, as part of which the tasks of ministries, government services and other state bodies regarding accommodation and integration of people in the Republic of Slovenia will be determined. The implementation plan will also define the need to conclude an agreement on the forms and methods of cooperation with other European Union Member States, European Union institutions or international organisations working in the field of international protection and migration, as well as the timeline of the required activities.



6 DRAWING OF FUNDS FROM THE ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND

6.1 DRAWING OF FUNDS FROM THE ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

In the field of international protection procedures, the Ministry of the Interior, in accordance with the legislation in this field, provides basic procedural guarantees to foreigners who apply for international protection. Ensured as part of this service is information and legal counselling to foreigners in the field of international protection, free legal aid before the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, and translation and interpreting in this procedure. In cooperation with other competent bodies, the Ministry of the Interior also provides training for officials, legal representatives of applicants for international protection who are unaccompanied minors and others dealing with asylum-related problems; provides support in procedures to grant international protection, such as various expert opinions; and pays legal representatives for their work in helping unaccompanied minors.

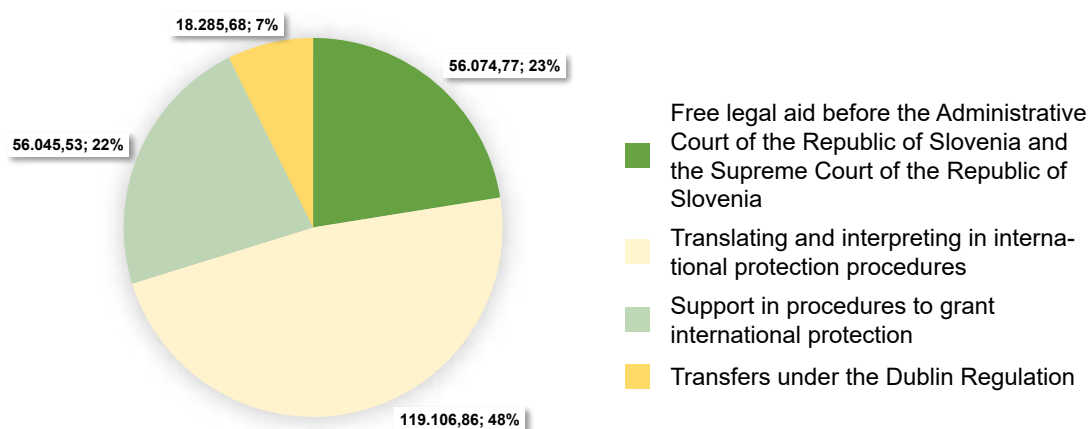
The table below shows the use of funds for international protection in 2022. EUR 249,512.84 was spent, of which EUR 187,134.63 or 75% from the AMIF fund and EUR 62,378.21 or 25% of own funds.

Table 23: Use of funds for international protection projects in 2022

Programme title	Spending in EUR
Free legal aid before the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia	56,074.77
Translating and interpreting in international protection procedures	119,106.86
Support in procedures to grant international protection	56,045.53
Transfers under the Dublin Regulation	18,285.68
TOTAL	249,512.84



Chart 19: Use of funds for international protection projects in 2022



6.1.1 Free legal aid in procedures before the Administrative Court and the Supreme Court

In accordance with the International Protection Act, support and legal aid in proceedings before the Administrative Court and the Supreme Court is provided by refugee counsellors appointed by the Ministry of Justice for five years. There are currently 36 people appointed as refugee counsellors. EUR 56,074.77 was spent on this activity in 2022.

6.1.2 Translating and interpreting in international protection procedures

When a person does not understand the official language in international protection proceedings, they are provided with an interpreter for a language they understand so that they can follow the proceedings. The assistance of an interpreter is provided upon receipt of the application and personal interviews. In 2022, the Ministry of the Interior had signed relevant contracts for copyrighted work, work contracts and framework agreements. EUR 119,106.86 was spent for this activity in 2022.

6.1.3 Support in procedures to grant international protection

The Ministry provides support in procedures to grant international protection, such as expert opinions to establish the age of applicants who are unaccompanied minors. Legal representatives of unaccompanied minors are paid for their work in the field of assistance to unaccompanied minors. EUR 56,045.53 was spent on the mentioned measures in 2022.



7 OTHER ACTIVITIES AS PART OF EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2022, representatives of the Migration Directorate participated in the drafting of various documents and legislative proposals in the field of legal migration and international protection organised by representatives of the European Union institutions (European Commission, Council of the European Union), the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA), the European Migration Network, the national contact point for integration and partner international organisations (UN, OECD, IOM, UNHCR and ICMPD).

7.1 EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR ASYLUM (EUAA)

As of the date of entry into force of the EUAA Regulation¹⁰ in January 2022, the EASO Office was transformed into the EUAA Agency. Regardless of the above, the Migration Directorate continued to actively cooperate with the EUAA both in the field of education and communication of information and by participating in various meetings and events.

The Migration Directorate, as the official contact point of the EUAA, participates in the meetings of the Management Board (senior officials) and regularly communicates with the EUAA as part of the various networks that cover the relevant elements of the asylum and reception system (Reception Network, International Protection Procedures Network, Dublin Network, network for cooperation with third countries, network for statistics, Vulnerability Experts Network) and other programmes (IDS, Query, Case Law). In 2022, the civil servants of the Migration Directorate replied to a total of 40 questionnaires from the Member States and the EUAA, made a contribution to the annual report and participated in the review and drafting of other relevant documents.

7.1.1 Education

In 2022, four civil servants of the Migration Directorate were trained as national trainers in accordance with the EUAA modules, specifically the Integration, Asylum Interview Method, Resettlement and Trafficking in Human Beings modules. The national expert on the Dublin Regulation participated in two training sessions for national trainers for the mentioned module.

In 2022, five employees of the Migration Directorate took part in the following training sessions: ad hoc training on temporary protection; Temporary protection: understanding the current legislative framework in relation to the war in Ukraine; Introduction to the legislative framework in connection with human rights and international protection in the EU; Introduction to communication for asylum and reception officers; Introduction to ethical and professional standards; Introduction to vulnerability, Communication with displaced children; Communication with persons who have experienced a traumatic event.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2021/2303 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2021 on the European Union Agency for Asylum and repealing Regulation (EU) No 439/2010



7.2 EUROPEAN MIGRATION NETWORK (EMN)

In 2022, the Slovenian national contact point (SI NCP) in the EMN further enhanced its activities after acquiring a greater role in 2021. Members of the SI NCP actively participated in working groups, made a contribution to the decisions of the steering committee and NCP meetings, participated in nine international conferences and events to strengthen capacities in the field of migration and asylum.

In 2022, the SI NCP provided 60 replies to 65 ad-hoc inquiries from the Member States and the European Commission and contributed to the EMN quarterly reports, the annual report on migration and asylum and the annual report on the protection of children in migration. In addition SI NCP provided contributions to various EMN outputs and their translations.

In 2022, the NCP participated in the preparation of answers for 12 informs and 3 studies:

- Inform on bilateral readmission agreements;
- Attracting and retaining international researchers;
- Mapping of mental health policies for migrants who are third-country nationals;
- Incentives and motives for voluntary departure;
- Access to services for beneficiaries of temporary protection;
- Arrangements for accommodation and housing for the beneficiaries of temporary protection;
- Application of the Temporary Protection Directive;
- Transition of unaccompanied minors into adulthood;
- Secondary movements of the beneficiaries of temporary protection;
- Preventing, detecting and tackling situations where authorisations to reside in the EU for the purpose of study are misused;
- The use of digitalisation and artificial intelligence in migration management;
- Third-country nationals, victims of human trafficking: detection, identification and protection (study);
- Integration of migrant women (study);
- Detention and alternatives to detention in international protection and return procedures (study).

In the annual report on the protection of children in migration and the inform on enhancing the prospects for displaced persons in non-EU first reception and transit countries, the SI NCP also played an active role in the conceptual design of the product.

Between 15 and 16 November 2022, the European Migration Network hosted the EMN Youth Day as part of the celebration of the European Year of Youth, which took place simultaneously in 14 Member States as a hybrid event. The SI NCP hosted a group of young people, with the first day being devoted to a discussion about the national migration system. In an interactive discussion, representatives of the Police and the Ministry of the Interior demonstrated how legal and illegal migration routes are treated through the prism of the national migration system and gave the



participants a closer look at European and national policies in the field of legal and illegal migration. The second day of the event was organized in the form of a video conference coordinated at the EU level, whose purpose was to see what young people think about the creation of migration policies. After the opening address by Michael Shotter, Director-General in charge of Horizontal Affairs and Migration in the European Commission, the participants took part in a simulation of the decision-making process in the field of migration and discussed the measures achieved with the other youth participants from the other Member States.

On 21 November 2022, the SI NCP hosted an expert meeting on the topic of combating trafficking in human beings, in particular when working with vulnerable groups such as unaccompanied minors. The event was attended by legal representatives of unaccompanied minors, social workers, civil servants who work in the procedures of international protection, return, reception and integration of third-country nationals, refugees and asylum seekers and representatives of NGOs engaging in humanitarian activities.

The following topics were discussed at the event:

- systemic arrangements to combat trafficking in human beings at the national and international levels,
- general indicators for the detection of trafficking in human beings,
- differences between trafficking in human beings and people smuggling,
- the role of the police in the phase of detection and recognition of trafficking in human beings, especially in relation to minors,
- national anti-trafficking policies of the EU Member States and statistics as covered by the EMN study on third-country nationals victims of trafficking: detection, identification and protection,
- the role of national reception centres in detecting and preventing trafficking in human beings.

7.3 CONFERENCE OF GENERAL DIRECTORS OF IMMIGRATION SERVICES - GDISC¹¹

In 2022, the Slovenian National Contact Point, which operates within the Migration Directorate and is part of the GDISC informal network, provided 9 replies to ad hoc inquiries from the Member States in the field of legal migration and international protection and participated in online conferences and meetings in the field of legal migration and international protection. In December 2022, representatives of the Migration Directorate attended an in-person meeting of a special legal network operating as part of the GDISC in Iceland, whose purpose is to facilitate the exchange of administrative practice and case law between European migration services and external organisations such as the EUAA.

In 2022, the Migration Directorate also began participating in a special IT network that operates as part of GDISC and appointed for this purpose a representative of the Migration Directorate as the contact point for this network. The purpose of the IT network is to facilitate the exchange of

¹¹ GDISC - General Directors of Immigration Services



expertise between GDISC member states and non-mandatory external organisations such as the EUAA and eu-LISA and the IGC on digitisation processes in the field of asylum and migration.

7.4 PARTICIPATION IN WORKING GROUPS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Council of the EU is assisted in its work by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) and the preparatory bodies of the Council, which represent more than 150 highly specialised working groups and committees.

In performing their duties, employees of the Migration Directorate participate in two working groups, specifically the Asylum Working Party and the Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion.

The Asylum Working Party deals with issues related to the Common European asylum system, the purpose of which is to establish an area of high protection standards, solidarity based on common, fair and effective asylum procedures, the equal level of reception conditions and the standardised status of beneficiaries of international protection.

The Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion deals with issues related to entry to and exit from the EU and integration, including the framework for legal entry and residence in the EU, issues related to the return of people who reside illegally in the EU, and issues related to the integration of persons who are not EU citizens and live and/or work in the EU.

7.4.1 Working party on integration, migration and expulsion (IMEX) - reception

In 2022, employees of the Migration Directorate participated in 4 meetings of the IMEX working party, at which proposals for two revised directives were discussed, specifically the Proposal for a Directive on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State and the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents.

7.4.2 Asylum working party

In 2022, employees of the Migration Directorate participated in 12 meetings of the Asylum Working Party, at which the Commission Proposal for a Council Decision on provisional emergency measures for the benefit of Latvia, Lithuania and Poland based on Article 78(3) of the TFEU was discussed; documents relating to the access to and convergence of asylum systems; Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council addressing situations of instrumentalisation in the field of migration and asylum; Amended proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a common procedure for international



protection in the Union and repealing Directive 2013/32/EU; and Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council addressing situations of crisis and force majeure in the field of migration and asylum.

In addition, employees of the Migration Directorate prepared a number of positions for a session of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) advisers and other sessions in its field of work in cooperation with European Affairs and International Cooperation Service and the Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels.

