
Report on the health of refugees and migrants in the WHO European Region


[https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2018/12/18/default-calendar/international-migrants-day](https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2018/12/18/default-calendar/international-migrants-day)

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Migration is a part of the history of human civilization. It represents “a courageous expression of the individual’s will to overcome adversity and to live a better life”, as stated by WHO. In this era of globalization, more and more people are moving to other places, driven by necessities, by hunger, poverty, discrimination, war, need for work and change of life.

On September 19, 2016 the United Nations General Assembly adopted a set of commitments during its first ever summit on large movements of refugees and migrants to enhance the protection of refugees and migrants. These commitments are known as the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (NY Declaration). The NY Declaration reaffirms the importance of the international protection regime and represents a commitment by Member States to strengthen and enhance mechanisms to protect people on the move. It paves the way for the adoption of two new global compacts in 2018: the global compact on refugees and the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

December 18 is the International Migrants Day. On this day, WHO will launch the highly anticipated “Report on the health of refugees and migrants in the WHO European Region” and the new Migration and Health Technical Guidance series. These are part of the Migration Health Knowledge Management (MiHKMa) project at UN City in Copenhagen, Denmark.

There is need to collate evidence to inform policies and fill knowledge gaps in the area of migration and health. This is the first WHO report creating an evidence base to support evidence-informed policy-making to meet the health needs of refugees and migrants, and of host populations.

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