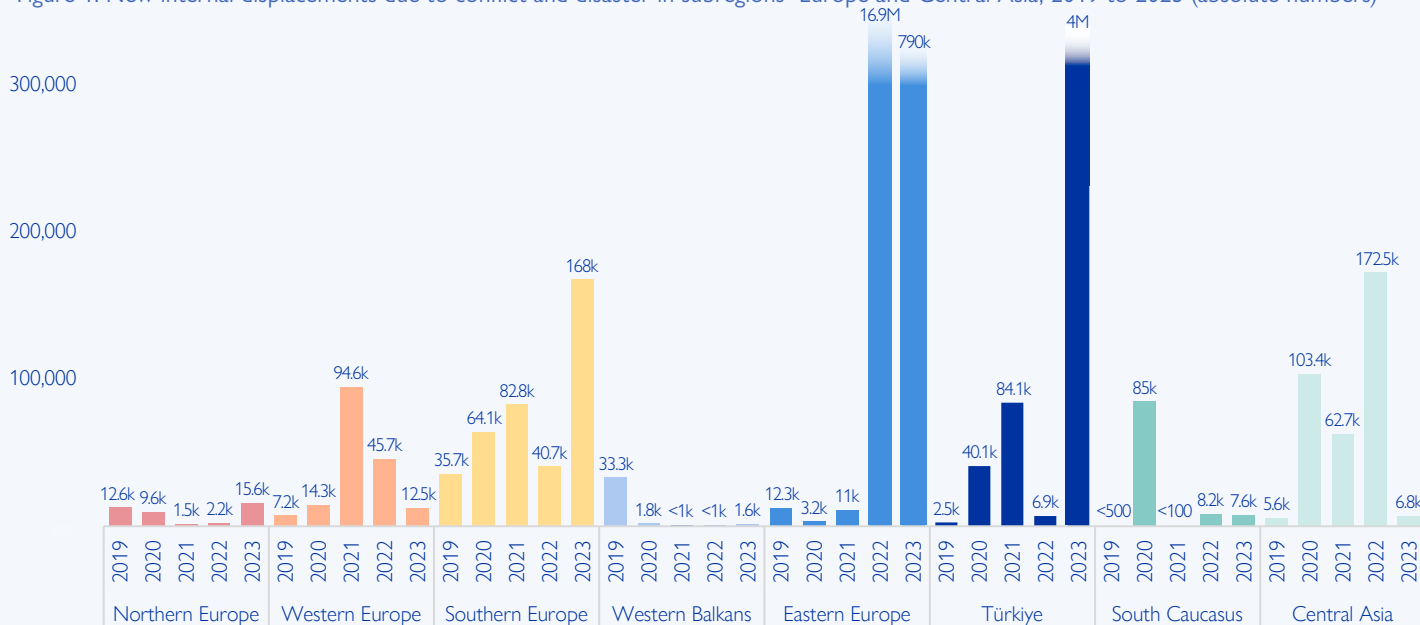


# INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

## 2019 to 2023

Figure 1: New internal displacements due to conflict and disaster in subregions<sup>1</sup> Europe and Central Asia, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024. Note: This graph counts instances of new displacement each year, not individuals displaced. It does not reflect the stock number of IDPs.

### CONFLICT



In the last five years, **17** out of the 51 countries, territories and areas (C/T/As) experienced some degree of conflict-related displacement.<sup>2</sup>

### DISASTER\*



In the last five years, **30** out of the 51 C/T/As experienced some degree of disaster-related displacement.<sup>2</sup>

### STOCK IDPs (end of 2023)



**7,444,713** internally displaced persons (IDPs, stock number) by end of 2023 in 51 C/T/As (88% due to conflict and 12% due to disaster). This includes long-term, generational displacement as well as newer displacement.<sup>2,3</sup>

\*This refers to internal displacement due to disaster from natural hazards, which will be referred to as "disaster" throughout the report.

This report examines the volume of internal displacement in 51 countries, territories, and areas (C/T/As) in the regions of Europe and Central Asia (ECA) during the five-year period of 2019 to 2023, while also delineating internal displacement due to conflict and disaster (due to natural hazards, hereinafter referred to as disaster).<sup>4</sup> Data from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) are predominately used for this report, complemented by data from national authorities where possible and relevant.<sup>5</sup> IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data is among the primary sources for IDMC's Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID). Both IOM and IDMC employ the definition of an IDP formulated in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.<sup>6</sup>

Hotspots of conflict-related internal displacement occurred in recent years in the South Caucasus<sup>7</sup> due to the flare up of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan (2020 to 2023), in Central Asia<sup>8</sup> due to the border dispute between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (2021 and 2022), and in Ukraine as a direct result of the invasion by the Russian Federation in February 2022. Disasters triggered relatively smaller volumes of internal displacement in the ECA region between 2019 and 2023; however, disaster-related internal displacement was witnessed in more countries (30 countries) in the ECA region compared to conflict-related displacement (17). Furthermore, in several sub-regions, such as Eastern Europe, Europe, Western Balkans and Türkiye, new displacements were exclusively or mostly triggered by disasters (IDMC, [2020](#); [2021a](#); [2022](#); [2023a](#); [2024](#)).

Table 1: New internal displacements by year due to conflict and disaster, 2019 to 2023 and IDPs stock, end of 2023 by subregion<sup>1,9</sup> (absolute numbers)

<b>CONFLICT</b>						
<b>COUNTRY/REGION</b>	<b># OF NEW INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS</b>					<b>STOCK, # OF INDIVIDUALS IN INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AS OF THE END OF 2023</b>
	<small>(the number of times someone is internally displaced is counted rather than the total number of people)</small>					
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	
Ukraine	60	74	40	16,870,323	713,911	3,689,088
Russian Federation	-	-	-	7,054	60,006	60,140
Eastern Europe	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Balkans	-	-	-	-	-	301,143
Türkiye	2,000	-	-	-	-	1,099,493
South Caucasus	-	84,797	-	7,600	5,070	976,221
Central Asia	770	254	61,268	166,444	-	4,118
Northern Europe	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Europe	-	-	-	-	-	248,325
Western Europe	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>85,125</b>	<b>61,308</b>	<b>17,051,421</b>	<b>778,987</b>	<b>6,378,528</b>

<b>DISASTER</b>						
<b>COUNTRY/REGION</b>	<b># OF NEW INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS</b>					<b>STOCK, # OF INDIVIDUALS IN INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AS OF THE END OF 2023</b>
	<small>(the number of times someone is internally displaced is counted rather than the total number of people)</small>					
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	
Ukraine	-	2,030	1,997	1	598	-
Russian Federation	11,697	248	5,622	2,712	14,862	1,157
Eastern Europe	592	826	3,338	1,063	567	-
Western Balkans	33,316	1,783	749	513	1,605	-
Türkiye	540	40,983	84,131	6,938	4,053,002	822,010
South Caucasus	136	160	85	623	2,538	39,372
Central Asia	4,811	103,131	1,424	6,078	6,850	24
Northern Europe	12,559	9,592	1,540	2,179	15,626	3,401
Southern Europe	35,713	64,073	82,841	40,746	168,034	15
Western Europe	7,286	14,329	94,606	45,698	12,457	206
<b>Totals</b>	<b>106,509</b>	<b>237,562</b>	<b>276,322</b>	<b>106,860</b>	<b>4,275,130</b>	<b>865,845</b>

Source: *IDMC, 2024*. Notes: IDMC provides a stock number of IDPs in the country at a given time. IDMC started collecting conflict-induced IDP stock numbers in 2009 and disaster-induced IDP stock numbers in 2008. The stock number includes individuals who became displaced before 2008/2009. Disaggregating the stock number by year of displacement to analyze 2019 to 2023 exclusively is not possible.

Over the five-year period between 2019 and 2023, almost four out of five new instances of displacement were attributed to conflict (78%) and the remaining fifth were triggered by disaster. The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation was the largest contributor to conflict-induced displacement, with almost 17 million new instances of internal displacement in 2022 and over 700,000 in 2023; Almost all (98%) of conflict-related internal displacement occurred in Ukraine. The largest contributor to disaster-induced displacement in ECA during the five-year period were two destructive earthquakes in southeastern Türkiye (and north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic) in 2023, with over 4 million new instances (IDMC, 2020; 2021a; 2022; 2023a; 2024).<sup>10</sup> Over 1.5 million Syrian holders of Temporary Protection (TP) lived in the south-east of Türkiye before the earthquakes (PMM,

2024). Thus, those who were affected by the earthquake were displaced a second time.

Across the ECA region, 865,845 individuals who had fled disasters remained in displacement by the end of 2023. Although this marked a large increase in disaster-induced IDPs from years prior,

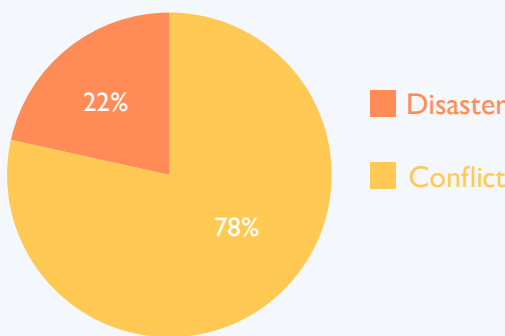
**Disaster-induced internal displacement tends to be less often protracted than conflict-related internal displacement.**

they constituted only 11 per cent of all IDPs in C/T/As in ECA by the end of 2023, while conflict-induced IDPs numbered 6.4 million and constituted 89 per cent of the total.

Individuals displaced internally due to disaster often return home soon after the hazardous event. Excluding displacement due to the earthquakes in Türkiye, over 100,000 new internal displacements occurred each year due to disaster<sup>11</sup>; however, only five per cent of individuals who were originally displaced due to disaster remained in internal displacement by the end of 2023, virtually all of which were in Georgia (89%) and mostly from a period before 2019.<sup>12</sup>

Thus, disaster-induced internal displacement tends to be less often protracted than conflict-related internal displacement, which has become increasingly protracted globally. Conflict IDPs tend to remain in internal displacement for longer periods of time. Additionally, they may not return when the conflict has ceased or waned due to the lack of durable solutions to their displacement and return.<sup>13</sup>

Figure 2: Proportion of new internal displacements due to conflict and disaster, 2019 to 2023 (% of total)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

### Internal displacement by region

The following figures on conflict- and disaster-related internal displacement are based on reported and/or confirmed instances. IOM and IDMC consider citizens and non-citizens who are habitual residents of the area from which they were displaced in the reporting of instances of displacement and stock number of IDPs. This may lead to the potential exclusion of non-citizen, non-habitual residents from the data, such as regular and irregular migrants, refugees, and other groups.

Figures in some countries may be over or underreported. For the countries represented by IDMC data, the methodology of counting instances of internal displacement varies by country due to the fact that the data originates from different or a combination of sources.<sup>14</sup> Any aggregation and comparison of countries should

take into serious consideration the aforementioned differences in context and limitations around recording of numbers.

Some events challenge the definitions of the original trigger of displacement (either conflict or disaster). One such event was the destruction of the Kakhovka dam in Ukraine in 2023, which caused floods and an ecological crisis and subsequent displacement. IOM categorizes the displacement related to this event under conflict (IOM Ukraine, 2023c).

### Ukraine

The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation triggered enormous waves of internal displacement and flight from the country. IOM's DTM in Ukraine recorded the presence of 6.5 million IDPs by mid-March 2022 (less than one month into the invasion), which rose to 8 million by the beginning of May 2022, and gradually decreased (albeit oscillating) to 3.5 million by early April 2024.<sup>15</sup>

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 17,589,034 new internal displacements recorded (see Table 1). Only 4,626 (0.02%) of the new internal displacements were due to disaster. In Ukraine, 61 per cent of disaster-induced internal displacement between 2019 and 2023 was caused by floods while 27 per cent was triggered by wildfires and the remaining 12 per cent by storm.

**IDP stock:** 3,689,088 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023. All (100%) of those who remained in internal displacement by the end of 2023 had displaced due to conflict (IDMC, 2024). The conflict in Ukraine continued into 2024: by April 2024, the number of individuals in internal displacement decreased further to 3.5 million (IOM Ukraine, 2024).

Figure 3: IDPs in Ukraine 2022 to 2024 (million)



Source: IOM DTM Ukraine.

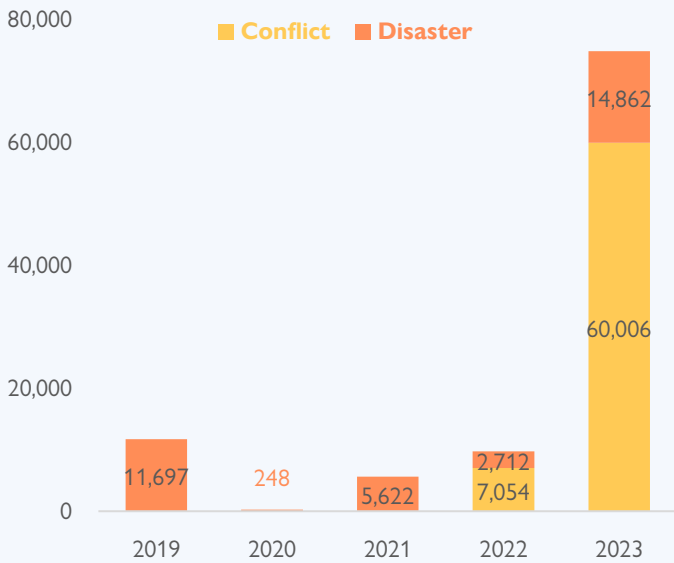
## Russian Federation

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 102,201 new internal displacements: nearly 66 per cent was attributed to conflict while 34 per cent was attributed to disaster. Government officials of the Russian Federation reported 7,054 security-related internal displacements in 2022 related to the Ukraine war (IDMC, 2023a).

In addition, 60,006 internal displacements in 2023 refers to people internally displaced due to the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Disaster-induced internal displacement was primarily provoked by floods (70%), storms (18%) and wildfires (12%). A small proportion was caused by erosion (1%) (IDMC, 2024).

**IDP stock:** 61,297 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023: the majority (98%) of those who remained in internal displacement by the end of 2023 had displaced due to conflict (IDMC, 2024).

Figure 4: New internal displacements in Russian Federation, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



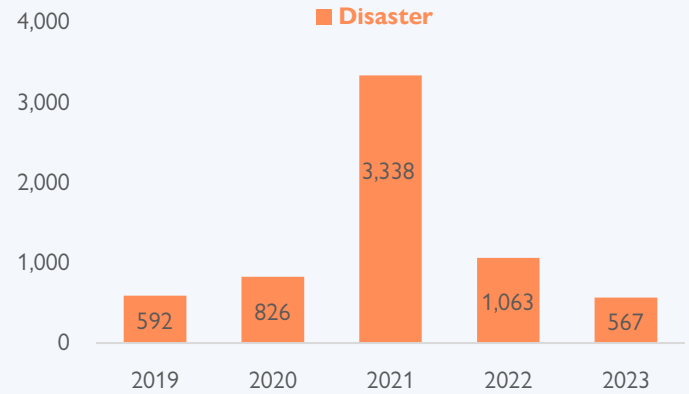
Source: IDMC, 2024.

## Eastern Europe<sup>16</sup>

Belarus, Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 6,386 internal displacements in Eastern Europe, all of them due to disasters. More than half (52%) were primarily provoked by storms, followed by floods (47%). As of end of 2023, no individuals remained displaced in Eastern Europe (IDMC, 2024).

Figure 5: New internal displacements in Eastern Europe, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

## Western Balkans

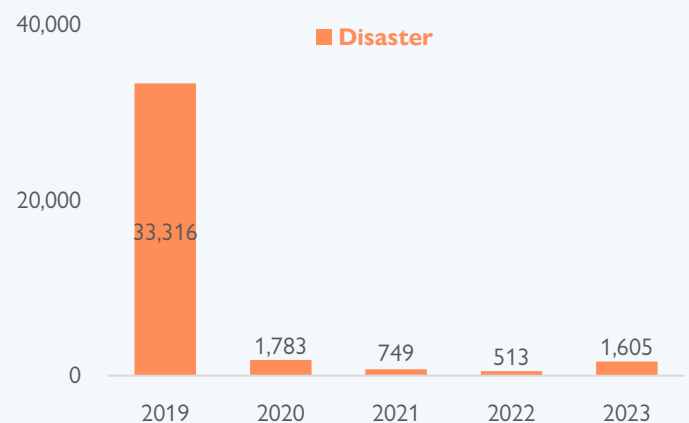
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Kosovo<sup>1</sup>

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 37,966 new internal displacements in the Western Balkans: all of the incidents of internal displacement during this time period were attributed to disaster.

Almost nine out of ten (88%) of the new cases occurred in Albania. Earthquakes triggered the majority of internal displacement in this region (86%, which was almost exclusively attributed to 6.4 magnitude quake in Albania in 2019), followed far behind by floods (14%), storms (1%) and wildfires (<1%) (IDMC, 2024).<sup>17</sup>

**IDP stock:** 301,143 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023: all had displaced due to conflict (IDMC, 2024).

Figure 6: New internal displacements in Western Balkans, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

## Republic of Türkiye

Between 2019 and 2023, in the Republic of Türkiye there were 4,187,440 new internal displacements: almost all (99.9%) of the incidents of internal displacement were attributed to disaster. On 6 February 2023, two strong earthquakes in southeastern Türkiye and northern Syrian Arab Republic occurred, immediately affecting more than 18.1 million people (DFS and iMMAP, 2023). In 2023, 4 million new displacements were recorded due to the earthquakes (IDMC, 2024). Ten per cent of the population in the eleven provinces affected by the earthquakes were Syrians under TP (PMM, 2023).

In the last five years, in the Republic of Türkiye, 98 per cent of the disaster-related internal displacement incidents were due to earthquakes, and a smaller number were caused by wildfires (2%) (IDMC, 2024).

**IDP stock:** 1,921,503 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023: 57 per cent of which were initially displaced due to conflict and 43 per cent due to disasters (IDMC, 2024).

Figure 7: New internal displacements in Republic of Türkiye, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

## South Caucasus Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 101,009 new internal displacements in the South Caucasus: almost all (96%) of which were attributed to conflict and only four per cent to disasters. Armenia and Azerbaijan both reported new internal displacements due to conflict in the five years, while none were reported in Georgia (IDMC, 2024).

Over three decades of conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan have generated numerous displacement events. In 2020,

Azerbaijan reported 83,997 new internal displacements, while Armenia recorded 800 (Center for Preventive Action, 2023; IDMC, 2020b).<sup>18</sup>

In September 2023, the latest escalation caused over 100,000 refugees to arrive in Armenia<sup>19</sup> – these are not represented in the graph on internal displacement, which shows only smaller numbers of evacuations due to the conflict both on the Armenian and on the Azerbaijani sides. Georgia and Azerbaijan experienced internal displacement due to disasters, the majority of which was due to floods (69%), followed by mass wasting<sup>20</sup> (17%), storms (9%) and earthquakes (4%) (IDMC, 2024).

**IDP stock:** 1,015,593 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023, 96 per cent of those had originally displaced due to conflict (IDMC, 2024). Almost two-thirds of the IDPs in the South Caucasus (658,000 out of 1 million) were in Azerbaijan, according to government officials (IDMC, 2024).<sup>21</sup>

Figure 8: New internal displacements in South Caucasus, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

## Central Asia Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 351,030 new internal displacements in Central Asia: almost two-thirds (65%) of the incidents of internal displacement were due to conflict while just over one-third (35%) were attributed to disaster. From 2019 to 2022, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan experienced internal displacement due to conflict, while Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan did not. In 2023, no displacement was reported due to conflict (IDMC, 2024).

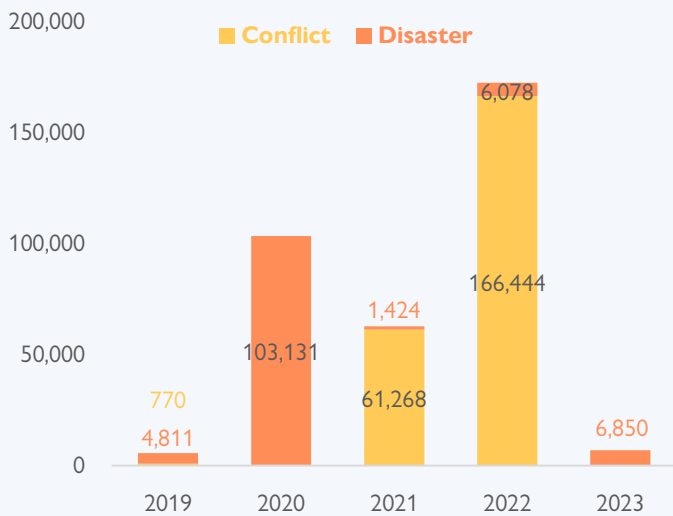
In 2021, a border dispute between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan led to clashes causing 46,268 new internal displacements

in Kyrgyzstan and 15,000 in Tajikistan. In 2022, the dispute continued, and further clashes caused an additional 166,329 internal displacements in Kyrgyzstan. Kazakhstan reported relatively low instances of conflict-induced internal displacement in 2022 (115 instances) (IDMC, 2022; 2023a).

In the last five years, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan experienced internal displacement due to disaster. Floods were responsible for nine out of ten of new internal displacement instances (89%), followed far behind by mass wasting (7%), earthquakes (2%) and wildfires (2%). Storms collectively triggered less than half of one per cent of internal displacement instances in Central Asia during the period covered in this report.

**IDP stock:** 4,142 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023: 99 per cent of those had displaced due to conflict (IDMC, 2024).

Figure 9: New internal displacements in Central Asia, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



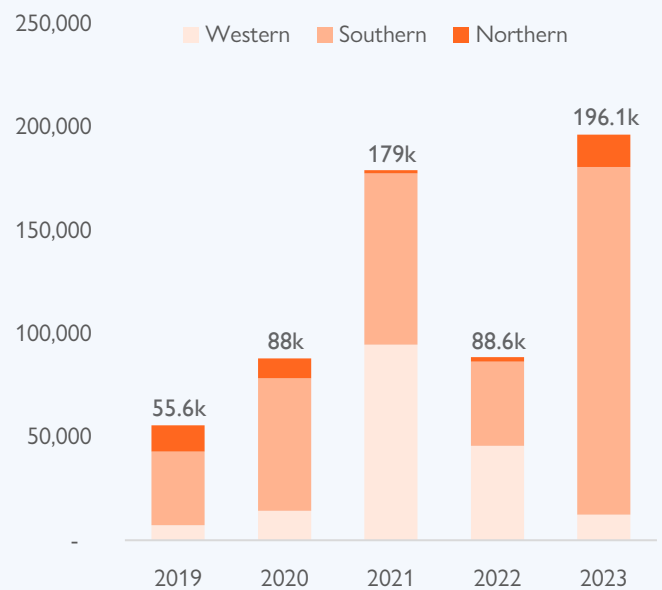
Source: IDMC, 2024.

### Northern<sup>22</sup>, Southern<sup>23</sup> and Western<sup>24</sup> Europe

Between 2019 and 2023, there were 607,279 new internal displacements in the rest of Europe exclusively due to disaster: 64 per cent in Southern Europe, followed by 29 per cent in Western Europe and 7 per cent in Northern Europe. In the last five years, wildfires were responsible for more than half (51%) of the internal displacement instances, followed by floods (22%), storms (15%), earthquakes (9%), mass wasting (1%) and volcanic activities (2%) (IDMC, 2024).

**IDP stock:** 251,947 individuals in internal displacement as of the end of 2023: 99 per cent of this group are IDPs due to the long-term intercommunal violence in Cyprus and the hostilities in 1974, and because Cypriot children can inherit IDP status (IDMC and NRC, 2014).

Figure 10: New internal displacements due to disasters in Northern, Southern and Western Europe, 2019 to 2023 (absolute numbers)



Source: IDMC, 2024.

### Key findings

- Between 2019 and 2023, 78 per cent of internal displacements in the ECA region were triggered by conflict or violence compared to 21 per cent caused by disaster due to natural hazards.
- Most internal displacement (97.8%) caused by conflict or violence in this five-year period can be attributed to the war in Ukraine.
- The cause of displacement heavily influences the duration of displacement. Almost all of those who were displaced by disasters returned to their area of origin within a 12-month timeframe after the disaster. Conflict-induced IDPs, however, were much more likely to remain displaced for extended durations, with many in situations of protracted displacement with little to no resolution.
- Disaster-related internal displacements across the region were mostly triggered by earthquakes (84%), followed by wildfires

(8%), floods (6%) and storms (2%). A smaller proportion was triggered by mass wasting (0.4%) and volcanic activity (0.2%). However, the main types of disaster that had the greatest impact on displacement between 2019 and 2023 varied at the sub-regional and national level in the five-year time span:

**Ukraine:** Floods were responsible for more than half (61%) of disaster-related displacement, while wildfires triggered 27 per cent and storm 12 per cent;

**Russian Federation:** Almost two-thirds (70%) of displacement instances were triggered by floods while 18 per cent by storms and 12 per cent were caused by wildfires;

**Eastern Europe:** Storms were responsible for more than half (52%) of disaster-related displacement, while floods triggered 47 per cent of disaster-related displacement;

**Western Balkans:** Earthquakes caused most disaster-related internal displacements in Albania (98%), while floods caused almost all related displacements in Bosnia and Herzegovina (93%), Kosovo<sup>1</sup> (100%), Montenegro (100%) and Serbia (80%). In North Macedonia, by contrast, wildfires (100%) were the main causes of disaster-induced internal displacements;

**Republic of Türkiye:** Earthquakes caused most of the disaster-related internal displacement in Türkiye, at 98 per cent. Due to the scale of displacement and needs in the aftermath of this disaster, the recovery and rebuilding period is exceptionally long ([IOM, 2024b](#)). Wildfires accounted for 2 per cent;

**South Caucasus:** In Georgia, most of the disaster-related internal displacement was due to mass wasting at 40 per cent, followed by floods at 38 per cent and by storms at 22 per cent. In Azerbaijan, floods caused about 93 per cent of the disaster-related displacement, while earthquakes were the driver of 7 per cent;

**Central Asia:** Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan experienced internal displacement due to disaster. Floods were responsible for the vast majority of internal displacement instances in Kazakhstan (94%) and Uzbekistan (100%), while mass wasting was the primary cause for disaster-related internal displacement instances in Kyrgyzstan (61%) and in Tajikistan (58%);

**Rest of Europe (Northern, Southern and Western Europe):** Wildfires were responsible for than more than half (51%) of the internal displacement instances, followed by floods (22%), storms (15%), earthquakes (9%), volcanic activities (2%), and mass wasting (1%) ([IDMC, 2024](#)).

## Implications for programming

The [2022 Action Agenda on Internal Displacement](#) outlines an integrated approach across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to (1) find durable solutions to internal displacement, (2) prevent future displacement crises, and (3) ensure better protection and assistance for IDPs and host communities.

All IDPs, irrespective of the cause of displacement, have a right to adequate assistance and to a dignified and durable return. Understanding differences in humanitarian and protection needs and gaps, barriers to durable solutions, and displacement patterns across those displaced by disaster due to natural hazards, those displaced by conflict and/or those affected by both, can help inform humanitarian and durable solutions action. Data efforts and capacities on internal displacement data must therefore be further strengthened at the national level to better inform both preventive and reactive action. This was highlighted as a key recommendation in the [High-Level Panel Report on Internal Displacement](#).

In line with IOM's [Strategic Plan \(2024-2028\)](#), IOM will support States to find solutions and implement development-oriented approaches addressing internal displacement. IOM's Strategic Objectives<sup>25</sup> can further guide its efforts towards achieving the Action Agenda Goals:

### Goal 1: Durable Solutions

The vast majority of those who remained internally displaced in the region by the end of 2023 (stock), more than 99 per cent, were displaced due to conflict or violence, with many facing long-term displacement. A durable solution is reached when an IDP no longer requires assistance and protection that is specific to their displacement and can enjoy their rights without discrimination on account of their displacement. The [Inter-Agency Standing Committee Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons](#) provides detailed guidance on how to achieve durable solutions.

While the primary responsibility to facilitate durable solutions to internal displacement is that of the affected State, a whole-of-society approach accompanied by a whole-of-government approach can improve sustainable reintegration in areas of origin or integration in other places within the country. IOM should leverage their global expertise in working with national and local governments to promote solution prospects that are development-oriented, with an emphasis on a community-based, protection-sensitive and rights-based approach.

Due to the increasingly protracted nature of internal displacement, IOM has developed the [Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations \(PRDS\) Framework](#) which reflects contemporary

mobility dimensions, adopts a resilience-based approach to crises, and considers the impact of internal displacement on population groups beyond IDPs, such as other migrants and host communities. It is particularly applicable in contemporary contexts where conditions for durable solutions are not met and where mobility strategies can be leveraged to support resolutions to displacement. The PRDS Framework focuses on (1) strengthening coping capacities; (2) fostering self-reliance; and (3) addressing root causes of crises and displacement.

Programming dedicated to recovery, peace- and resilience-building in areas of origin and/or areas of integration can help bridge between humanitarian and development programming. This contributes to making solutions more sustainable while simultaneously addressing potential drivers of secondary internal displacement.

## Goal 2: Better Prevention

The notable impact of disasters on internal displacement in the region necessitates urgent action to strengthen disaster risk reduction and management (see [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#)), including early warning systems and preparedness – particularly in disaster-prone areas. As particularly slow-onset disasters are closely linked with climate change, increasing investment in and building synergies between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction is crucial and should ensure the inclusion and participation of migrants.

Equally, mitigating drivers to internal displacement, including through multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance, anticipatory action, alongside peacebuilding and stabilization efforts, remain crucial to reduce displacement risks and impacts while addressing underlying causes of crises.

## Goal 3: Effective Assistance and Protection

Humanitarian and protection programming to support States to address the needs of IDPs and host communities should be tailored, taking into consideration differences in needs based on migratory status, age, gender and diversities and specific needs resulting from the cause of displacement. This is particularly important for situations of protracted displacement. A ‘solution-oriented’ approach should be embedded in the crisis response from the start of an emergency, to facilitate a pathway towards solutions, sustainable peace, and development.

Ensuring accountability to and inclusion of affected populations can be enhanced by consulting the [IOM Migrants in Countries in Crisis \(MICIC\) Guidelines](#), which define migrants – who are often not counted among IDPs and not included in preparedness or response – as non-citizens present in a country during a conflict or disaster. The Guidelines outline principles, guidelines, and

practices to protect and improve responses targeting migrants in countries experiencing conflict or disaster at preparedness, emergency response, and post-crisis stages.

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- \* All hyperlinks were active at the time of writing this report.



## Endnotes

1. Following the geographical regions adopted by the United Nations, in the proposed analysis the 51 C/T/As in the ECA region are defined in the following subregions: Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), Eastern Europe (Belarus, Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine), Northern Europe (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom), Southern Europe (Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain) and Western Europe (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland). Cyprus, part of UN DESA Western Asia, is included in Southern Europe for the sake of the ECA analysis, while Israel is not factored into the number of new displacements and the Republic of Türkiye, Ukraine, and the Russian Federation are analyzed separately. \*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). Data was not available for all 56 C/T/As covered by IOM's Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia.
2. Including Israel.
3. In some countries, namely Azerbaijan, children and grandchildren of IDPs are counted in the total number of IDPs, while other countries report only those who are IDP status holders. This should be considered when comparing aggregations and countries.
4. Disaster-induced displacement can be hard to measure due to the slow onset of some of the disasters, such as drought, deforestation, desertification, sea level rise, etc. Few governments monitor displacement related to slow onset disasters such as drought (IDMC, 2021b).
5. It is important to note the IDMC's methodologies for tracking displacement: "We use two similar but distinct methodologies to produce displacement estimates related to conflict and violence, and disasters. In the case of conflict- and violence-induced displacement, we conduct situational monitoring in certain countries after we learn of the occurrence of displacement, and report the country-wide estimates of new displacement during the year and the total number of people internally displaced at year's end. In contrast, we monitor and report cases of disaster-induced displacement on an event-by-event basis. For each of these events, we collect information from different sources and generate the most comprehensive and reliable displacement estimate for that disaster." IDMC also provides the total number of people internally displaced at year's end for disaster-induced displacement. For more information, please visit <https://www.internal-displacement.org/database/methodology/>.
6. See IDMC Monitoring Tools. "Internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border;" Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, 1998. Both IOM and IDMC include non-citizens who are habitual residents of the place from which the displacement occurred in the number of instances of displacement or stock number of IDPs.
7. Comprising of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.
8. Comprising of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan.
9. Israel not included.
10. The two earthquakes were of 7.7 and 7.6 magnitude and affected more than 18.1 million people (DFS and iMMAP, 2023).
11. Please note that instances of displacement could include the same individual displacing more than once in a given year.
12. People originating from densely populated mountain areas in Georgia have been displacing since the early 1980s due to decreasing livelihood prospects from the impacts of disasters. For many years the definition of an IDP did not include those internally displaced due to disaster. This meant disaster IDPs were not protected as IDPs, and they were defined as eco-migrants. The Georgian government established the Agency for Internally Displaced Persons, Ecomigrants and Livelihoods in 2019. Estimates of the number of eco migrants varies (Lyle, 2012; Human Rights House, 2011; State Commission on Migration issues, 2021).
13. See the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons: <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/other/iasc-framework-durable-solutions-internally-displaced-persons>.
14. For more information, please visit <https://www.internal-displacement.org/database/methodology>.
15. Data from all rounds conducted at various points between 2022 and 2024 can be found at <https://dtm.iom.int/ukraine>.
16. There are no data for the Republic of Moldova.
17. Wildfires occur often in the region but do not account for a high proportion of displacement because they tend to occur in sparsely populated areas, such as forests.
18. This does not include the 90,000 who fled to Armenia in 2020 (IOM Armenia, 2020).
19. UNHCR, 2023.
20. Mass wasting, or mass movement, include landslides, mudslides, rock fall, and slumping.
21. Please note that the stock number of IDPs in Azerbaijan is provided by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva (IDMC, 2020b). The total number of IDPs in Azerbaijan includes children of IDPs who displaced decades prior (World Bank, 2020).
22. The data presented for the subregion comprises Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom.
23. The data presented for the subregion comprises Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. There are no data for the Holy See.
24. The data presented for the subregion comprises Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands and Switzerland. There are no data for Liechtenstein and Monaco.
25. Objective 1: Saving lives and protecting people on the move. Objective 2: Driving solutions to displacement. Objective 3: Facilitating pathways for regular migration.