

Conference on Resettlement, Humanitarian Admission, and  
Complementary Pathways to Refugee Protection

# THE SPANISH RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM AND OTHER PATHWAYS TO PROTECTION

Berlin, November 24, 2023

## DIFFERENT MINISTRIES/ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM



## RECEPTION AND INTEGRATION: THE NATIONAL RECEPTION SYSTEM

### National Reception System (NRS) aimed at:

- Applicants and beneficiaries of International Protection
- Applicants and beneficiaries of Temporary Protection
- Resettled refugees

### Responsible actors for implementing reception conditions:

- MISSM (through the Directorate General for the Management of the NRS)
  - Public reception centres managed directly by the Directorate General
  - Centres and programs managed by NGO's but funded and supervised by MISSM (currently 98% of places in NRS).



## THE SPANISH NATIONAL RECEPTION SYSTEM

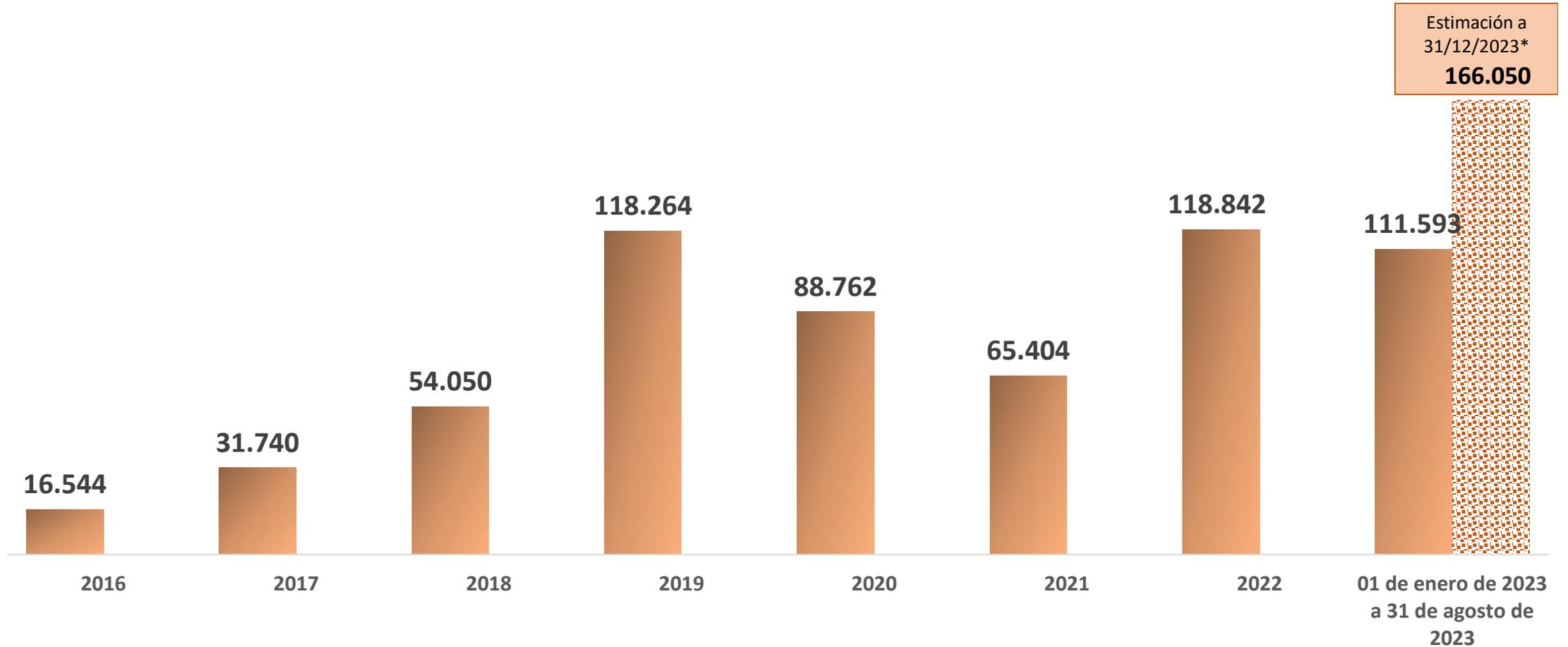
- Integration itineraries are implemented in **three phases**:
  - Phase 0: assessment and referral
  - Phase 1: living in a reception center (6 months for resettled refugees)
  - Phase 2: financial aids for independent or shared housing (up to 12 months for resettled refugees)
- **18 months** duration of the integration itineraries for resettled refugees (extendable to 24 months for vulnerable cases)
- **Professional support** during all phases (language, employment, legal advice, psychological support, etc.)
- **Territorial distribution** according to the resources of the NRS and the profile of resettled refugees (family links, medical needs).



## COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMMES

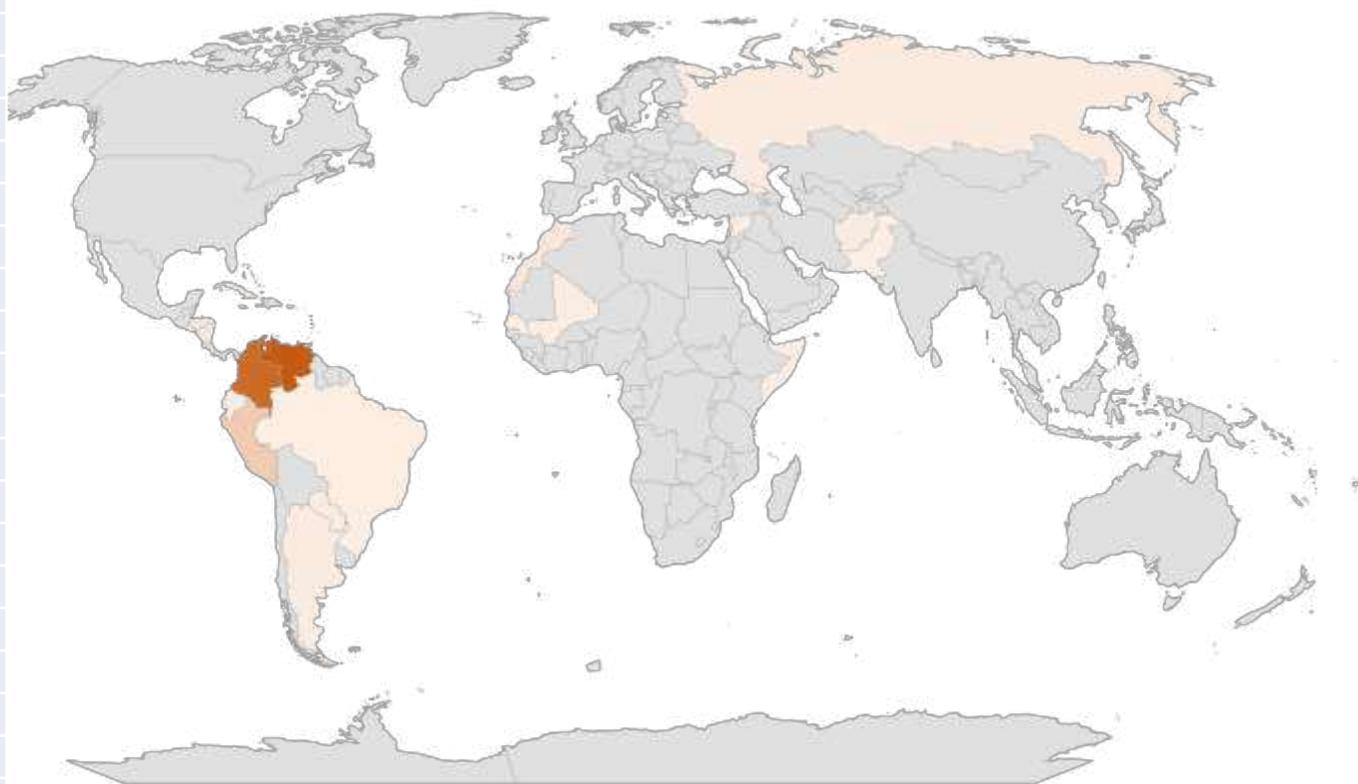
- Are an alternative and a complement to the NRS for the reception and integration of resettled refugees.
- Through community sponsorship, resettled refugees gain the support of local groups of citizens (sponsors) which facilitate integration in the host society.
- So far, three pilot programs have been implemented in Spain (*Basque Country, Navarra and Comunidad Valenciana*).
- Since 2019, community sponsorship agreements have been signed with Regional Governments, UNHCR and Social Entities with expertise in the field of migration and integration.
- The program is similar to the NRS regarding timeline, the amount of financial aid or professional services provided.
- There is will to expand these programs so that they can receive a higher number of resettled refugees.

## A RECEPTION SYSTEM UNDER PRESSURE EVOLUTION OF ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IN SPAIN IN RECENT YEARS



## A RECEPTION SYSTEM UNDER PRESSURE ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IN SPAIN BY NATIONALITY IN 2023 (AUGUST)

Nacionalidad	Nº	%
Venezuela	41.659	37,3%
Colombia	37.047	33,2%
Perú	9.905	8,9%
Honduras	2.719	2,4%
Cuba	2.176	1,9%
Marruecos	1.969	1,8%
Nicaragua	1.855	1,7%
Rusia	1.263	1,1%
Siria	1.176	1,1%
El Salvador	1.082	1,0%
Afganistán	842	0,8%
Argentina	840	0,8%
Mali	752	0,7%
Senegal	741	0,7%
Paraguay	700	0,6%
Ecuador	689	0,6%
Georgia	551	0,5%
Brasil	521	0,5%
Somalia	436	0,4%
Pakistán	403	0,4%





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# A RECEPTION SYSTEM UNDER PRESSURE RECENT HUMANITARIAN CRISES

## AFGHANISTAN

- ANTÍGONA I (August 2021): 2.169 people evacuated directly from Kabul's airport.
- ANTÍGONA II and III (October 2021 / July and August 2022): 601 people evacuated from Pakistan.
- Additionally, more than 3.800 Afghan nationals have arrived in Spain by their own means since 2021, with the support of the Spanish Embassies in neighboring countries such as Pakistan, Iran or India.
- Currently, around 1.175 Afghans are still in the Reception System.

## UKRAINE

- More than 181.000 Ukrainians have been granted temporary protection in Spain.
- More than 14.600 are still in the NRS, down from almost 20.000 in August 2022.



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## SPAIN'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THESE CRISES

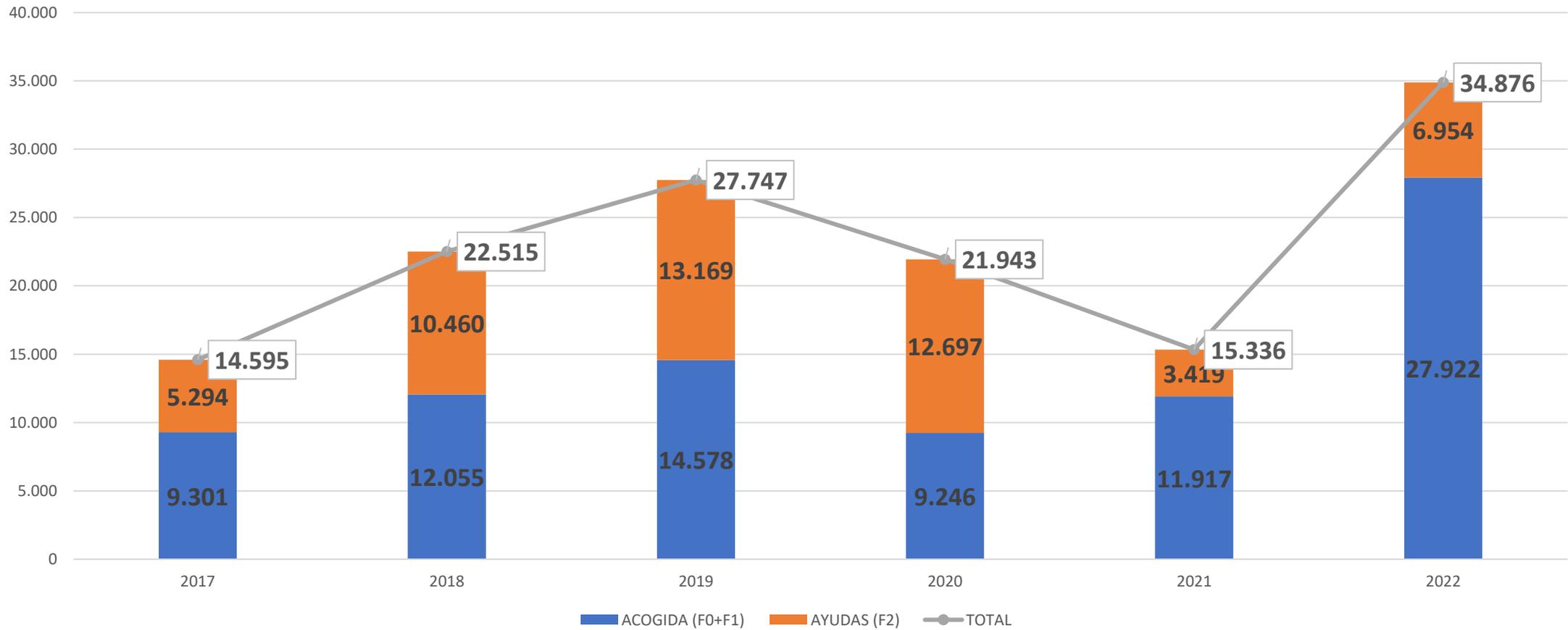
### ➤ Strengthening the reception system by:

- Increase in reception capacity.
- Reinforcement of the staff and structure of the Directorate-General for the Reception System Management.
- Foreseen opening of new publicly-run reception centres (up to 5.700 new places for 2025).
- Change in the system of funding of the NGOs that manage reception centres and integration programs to favor long term planning.

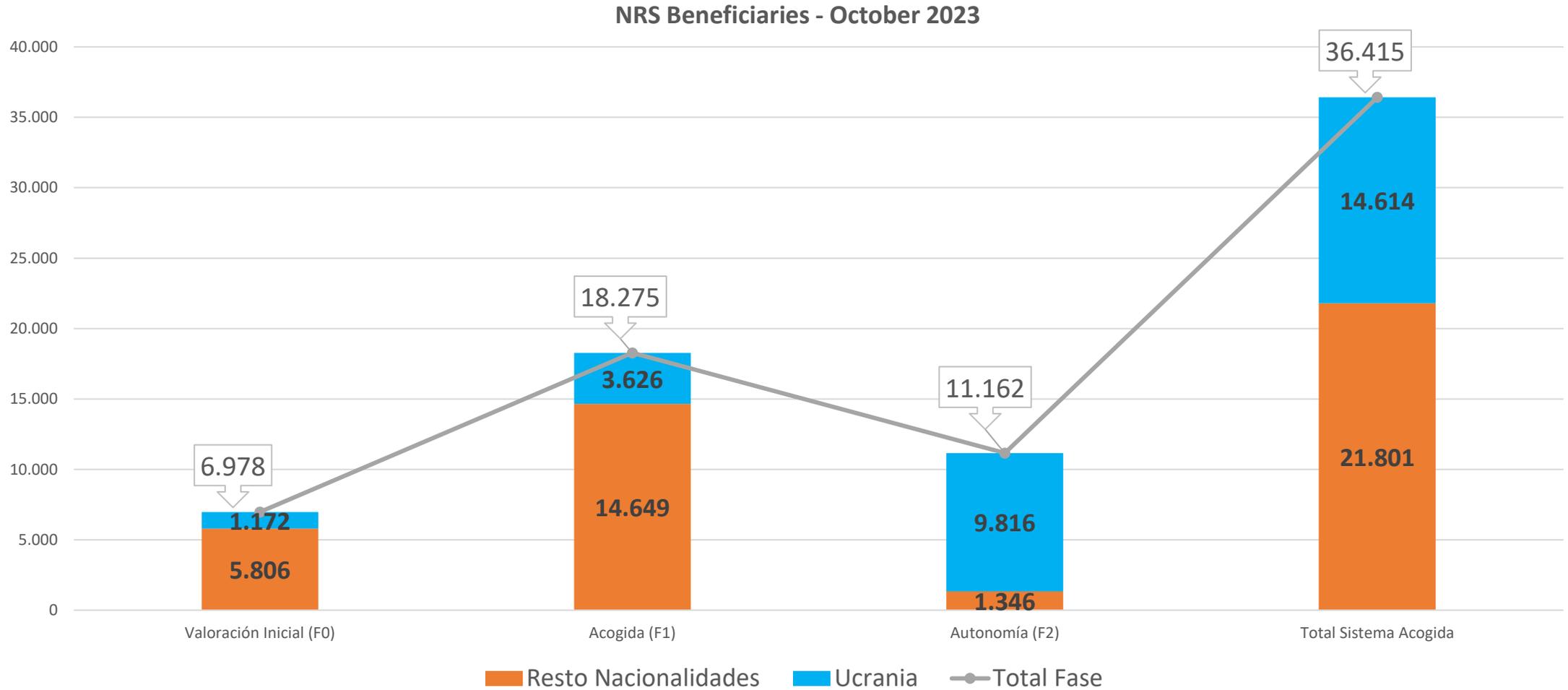
As a result of these refugee crises, the NRS has been strengthened. This will allow for:

- ✓ a better capacity to react to future crises
- ✓ to comply with other international commitments such as the annual resettlement quotas.

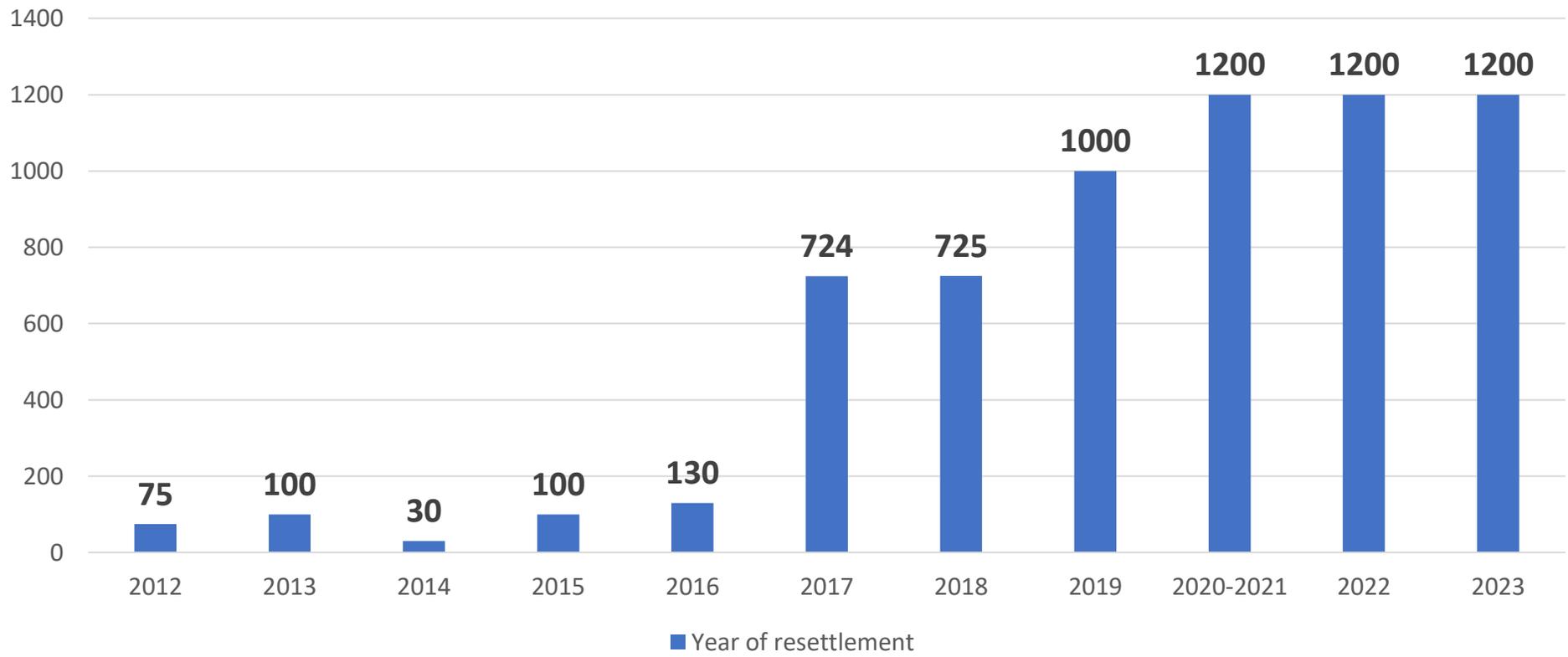
# EVOLUTION OF THE CAPACITY OF THE RECEPTION SYSTEM



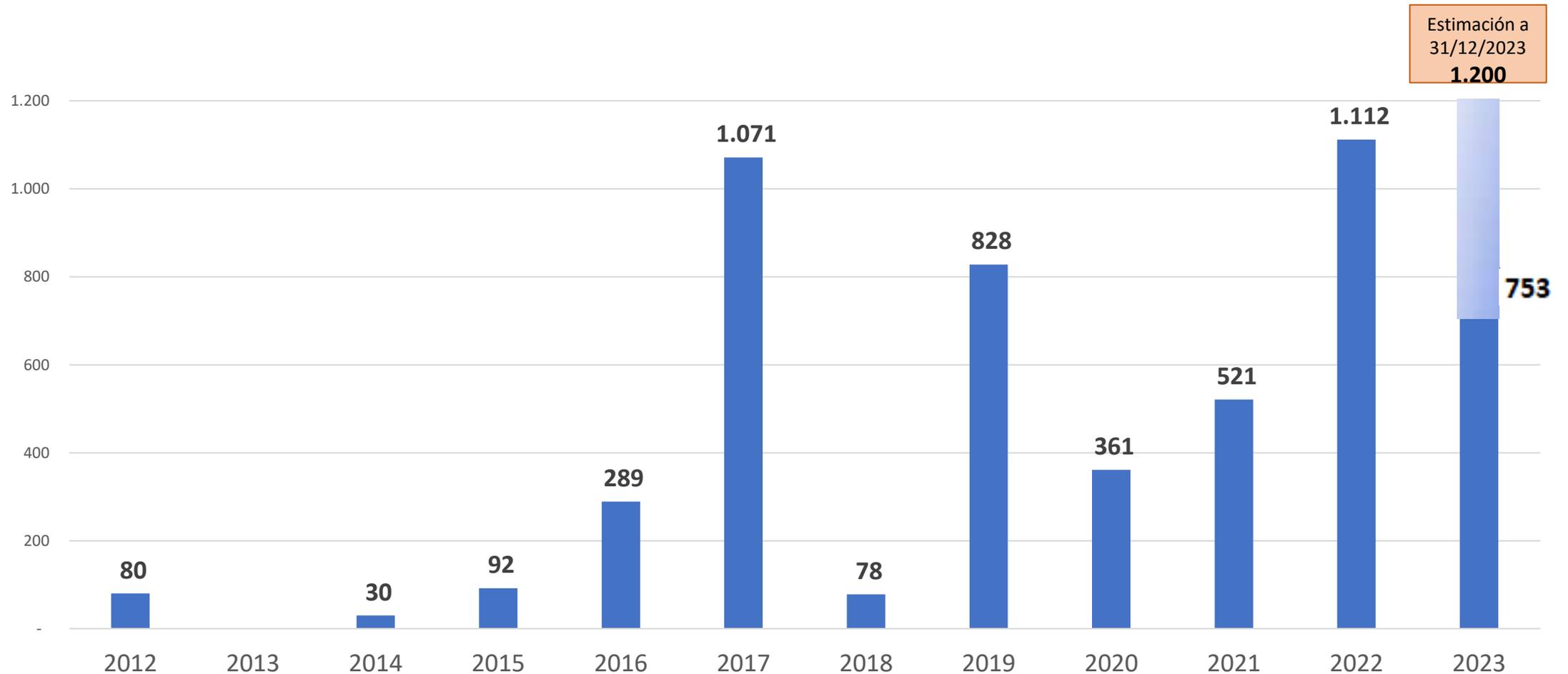
# NATIONAL RECEPTION SYSTEM BENEFICIARIES IN OCTOBER 2023



Despite these difficulties the same **resettlement quota** has been maintained in recent years

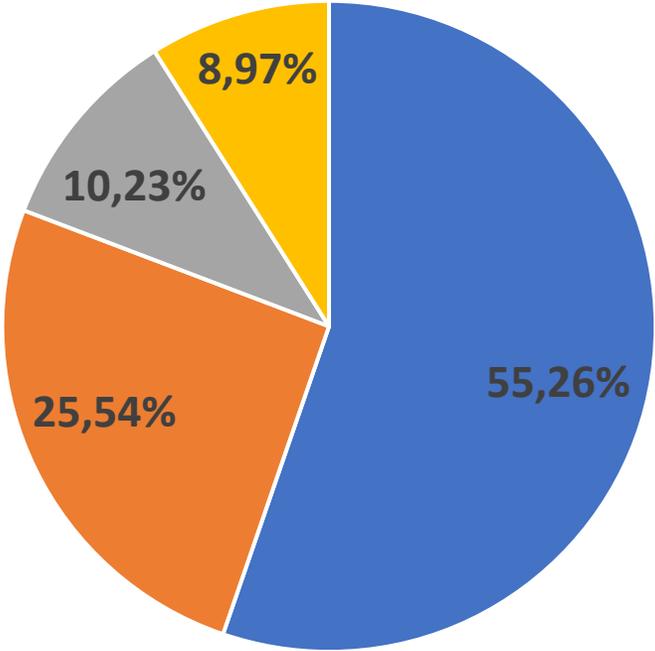


# And the number of effectively resettled refugees has been growing...



# Resettled refugees per country of first asylum

**5.662**  
**resettled refugees**  
**since 2012**



■ Líbano ■ Turquía ■ Jordania ■ Otros



## NEW COMPLEMENTARY LABOR PATHWAYS

- In May 2023, the Spanish Council of Ministers approved a new complementary pathway linked to job opportunities in Spain.
- The quota of potential beneficiaries of this new program is yet to be finally approved. Tentatively, 2.000 refugees until the end of 2025.
- This quota will be in addition to the National Resettlement Programs which will continue to be approved annually.
- It will be implemented primarily from countries in the Central and South American Region (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador).
- As in the case of resettlement, beneficiaries, mainly families, are admitted in Spain with the recognition of refugee status, but candidates for this program must accept the employment contract that is offered to them in order to be accepted.
- In addition to access to employment, the NRS will provide support in different areas (access to housing, education, health system, psychological, etc.), monitoring the program and providing one-time specific financial aids until the main applicant begins to receive remunerations.
- Main idea: accelerated route to autonomy and self-sufficiency.



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- **Thank you for your attention!!**

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