

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #64

18 September 2023

Key figures

142,624 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

86,586 refugees present in Romania (as of 10 September 2023).

52,273 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

66,703 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

4,880 refugees supported with livelihoods and employment services in 2023.



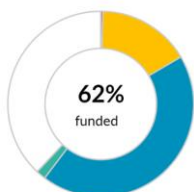
Humanity is stronger than any weapon. We must stay positive and keep supporting those who need our help the most. – Valentina, a Romanian manager employing refugees from Ukraine

Funding Situation

As of 31 August 2023

\$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

Highlights

On 14 September, the UNHCR Representative, along with the Representatives in Poland and Bulgaria, briefed donor representatives in a meeting on the sides of the EXCOM's Standing Committee meeting in Geneva. Some 13 donors attended the briefing where the main achievements and current challenges in the refugee response -covering both the 2023 Refugee response Plan and the UNHCR Operation- were discussed.

Over the last two weeks, 65 refugees accommodated at the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Timișoara have been resettled to Norway. Many of the refugees currently accommodated at the ETC in Timisoara have been evacuated from Libya. Currently the ETC is hosting 47 refugees that are awaiting their departure to a third country. UNHCR continues to provide a range of support, including psycho-social, medical and educational to the refugees accommodated there. Since 2008, 3,600 refugees have been resettled to third countries through the ETC.

Response

UNHCR continues the roll-out of the cash for protection programme for vulnerable refugees in Bucharest and throughout Romania. During the week, UNHCR enrolment teams conducted assessments in Bucharest, Iași, Galați and Suceava counties, reaching over 870 refugees. Since the start of the programme in July 2023 more than 9,200 refugees from Ukraine have been assessed. So far 4,151 refugees from Ukraine were found eligible for the financial assistance and received the first instalment.

As a co-lead of the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network in Romania, UNHCR organised a day-long training of trainers on PSEA in Timișoara. In total 19 participants from different NGOs and authorities took part in the training that focused on presenting the PSEA Network and inviting participants to join it but also discussing about safety and security risks and risk mitigation. So far this year, UNHCR has provided training on core protection principles to 606 individuals from partners organisations, NGOs and authorities.

UNHCR and partners continue to support refugees to prepare for employment opportunities. This week, UNHCR together with HEKS EPER and Ateliere Fără Frontiere held different workshops with 19 refugees from Ukraine focused on job searching techniques, CV building skills and ways of seeking employment. In addition, UNHCR and partners are counselling refugees on employment opportunities and helping them in learning Romanian. So far in 2023, UNHCR provided over 4,880 refugees with different livelihood services.

On 7 and 8 September, UNHCR participated in the "Support for Ukrainian Refugees through Media" event that was organised by UNESCO and the Center for Independent Journalism in Bucharest. Pablo Zapata, UNHCR Representative, delivered a keynote speech highlighting the role of media in building inclusive societies and outlined main results of the awareness campaign conducted by UNHCR in July/August 2023. In addition, UNHCR facilitated a session on ethical communications guidelines for 15 journalists present at the event. The workshop aimed at increasing refugees' access to reliable information on issues of concern and facilitate their inclusion.



UNHCR Representative delivering keynote speech at the event "Support for Ukrainian Refugees through Media" on 7 September..

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)