

## ROMANIA

### Weekly Update #83

**12 February 2024**

#### Key figures

**152,342 refugees** obtained temporary protection in Romania.

**78,743 refugees** present in Romania.

**59,709 refugees** supported with cash assistance in 2023.

**91,775 refugees** provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023 and January 2024.

**6,923 refugees** supported with livelihood and employment services in 2023 and January 2024.

“ My son and I have been warmly welcomed by the kind citizens of Romania. Here, we have security, peace, and forged new friendships.”

**Tatiana, 48 years-old refugee from Mykolaiv, hosted in Romania.**

#### Highlights

On 8 February, the Government of Romania adopted a new memorandum to effect retroactive payments related to the assistance programme to refugees from Ukraine adopted in May 2023. The new memorandum establishes the disbursement of funds to all eligible individuals registered in the national assistance programme for refugees from Ukraine, covering the months that were pending payment. This assistance programme was established to replace the so-called “50/20 programme” and covers food and accommodation for refugees. ([Read more](#))

#### Response

UNHCR continues its information management efforts to enhance protection and identify solutions. On 7 February, UNHCR organised the "RefData MeetUp #2," in Bucharest. The event hosted over 65 governmental partners, local authorities, NGOs, academia, and other data-related actors to enhance understanding of refugee data in Romania. Key objectives included strengthening relationships with data-sharing partners, engaging new stakeholders, identifying data gaps, and promoting strategic decision-making through data analysis. Data-driven humanitarian response remains paramount to reach the most vulnerable refugees with services and assistance.



7 February, remarks by Ms Victoria Stoiciu, State Counsellor, Chancellery of the Prime Minister at RefData MeetUp #2, Bucharest

UNHCR is intensifying its efforts in shelter and education due to financial constraints faced by other humanitarian actors who cannot continue supporting directly important services. UNHCR will temporarily (February – June 2024) support two collective shelters at the student dorm of the University of Technical Construction Bucharest (UTCB) and the Edmond School in Bucharest and educational activities at the Educational Hub Uruguay. Projects are benefiting 180 vulnerable refugees in total. These initiatives are supporting elderly people, persons with specific needs and children. The decision of UNHCR was taken due to the critical importance of these projects in delivering services, and the profile of the vulnerable refugees and lack of alternatives in delivering the services.

Since 15 January, UNHCR has registered 1,000 vulnerable refugees from Ukraine for its winter cash assistance. This programme is designed to aid displaced refugee households in meeting their winter-related needs, particularly targeting new arrivals and the most vulnerable refugees in Romania. UNHCR will disburse 720 RON per person (160 US\$) per person in one instalment. Plans are ongoing to initiate payments in the upcoming days.

Over the week, UNHCR together with partners distributed 786 CRIs to 271 refugees in Timis, Arad, Galati, Suceava, Cluj, Targu Mures, and Tulcea. CRIs included clothing, bedding, hygiene kits, blankets, pillows, towels, and thermoses.

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 \(unhcr.org\)](#)