

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #103

1 July 2024

Key figures

167,048 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania.

12,426 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2024.

12,885 refugees

provided with protection counselling services and legal support since January 2024.

4,993 refugees

supported with livelihood and employment services since January 2024.

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Learning Romanian has been very useful at my job. I even get better treatment from colleagues and neighbours if I speak the local language.

 A refugee from Ukraine hosted in Bucharest, Romania.

Funding Situation

As of 30 June 2024

\$54.3 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024



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

Highlights

On 28 June, the Government of Romania issued an Emergency Ordinance regarding humanitarian support and assistance by the Romanian State to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations coming from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine. It stipulates access to several social benefits, including state allowance for children, minimum income for inclusion, unemployment allowance, disability allowance, and monthly allowance for raising children. With issuance of this Emergency Ordinance, the current government assistance programme is being replaced with a new three-month programme for newly arrived refugees. Through a consultative process, UNHCR and other actors provided a set of recommendations on the draft, several of which were incorporated.

There has been an increase in the number of refugees from Ukraine requesting Temporary Protection (TP) permits in Romania. In May, the issuance of TP documents doubled from a monthly average of 2,000, to 4,000. This trend continued in the first two weeks of June as well.

Response

During last week, UNHCR. in collaboration with partner Save the JRS, Children. Help **Ukrainians** Association, and Life for Ukraine has distributed nearly 2,200 core relief items (CRIs), including hygiene kits, cooking utensils, and towels to around 1,240 refugees (including 350 elderly people) in Constanta, Navodari, and Galati. In 2024,



Distribution of core relief items in Constanta.

UNHCR and partners have distributed over 49,000 CRIs to 27,000 refugees from Ukraine in hosted Romania.

On 25 June, UNHCR conducted an information session on gender-based violence (GBV) for refugee women from Ukraine at UNHCR's integrated service hub in RomExpo. The session was focused on the basic concepts of GBV and soft techniques to prevent risk of GBV. Furthermore, since the beginning of 2024, UNHCR and partner Sensiblu Foundation have provided a series of services to 4,500 refugees from Ukraine aiming at prevention of and response to GBV.

On 26 June, along with the Minister of Education, the Ambassador of Ukraine and UN Agencies, UNHCR Representative participated in the consultation event titled "Young Voices of Ukraine – Children's Participation Forum" organized by Save the Children Romania. The event was a great platform for refugee children and youth to raise their voices and convey their ongoing challenges regarding education and wellbeing. Through consultations, the children and adolescents identified the areas of improvement in the collective response .

On 25 June, UNHCR participated in a panel discussion on inclusion of LGBTIQ+ persons in the workplace organized by the Romanian Diversity Chamber of Commerce. The Ambassador of France, several multinational companies, a leading NGO named Accept, representing the LGBTIQ+ community in Romania and a representative from the Romanian National Council for Combatting Discrimination were among the speakers. UNHCR also participated in the Pride March organized in Bucharest on 29 June.

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 and 2024 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2024 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)