

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #112

2 September 2024

Key figures

162,045 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania (as of 30 June).

16,410 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2024.

17,280 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support since January 2024.

6,494 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services since January 2024.



As the government program for Ukrainian refugees ended in June, it has become difficult for me to foresee my future while living in the UTCB dormitory. I urge UNHCR to keep this option open for those of us in collective accommodation, as there are many vulnerable and elderly people like myself who rely on this support.

- *Olena, an elderly refugee from Ukraine, hosted in UTCB Dormitory in Bucharest Romania.*

Funding Situation

As of 31 July 2024

\$54.3 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024



Highlight

On 27 and 29 August, UNHCR, in partnership with Romania's Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) and the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU), conducted site assessment visits to accommodation centres in Iasi and Suceava. These visits aimed to identify sustainable mid-term accommodation solutions for the most vulnerable refugees from Ukraine who cannot achieve self-reliance. UNHCR's partner, the Romanian Center for Comparative Migration Studies, will analyse the collected data from the five centres to gain insight into their operational status and needs. This analysis will support data-driven decision-making for future longer-term accommodation solutions.

Response

On 29 August, UNHCR conducted an awareness session with 25 Roma refugees from Ukraine at the Roma Education Center in Bucharest. The session, attended by both adolescents and adult refugees, focused on the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and demonstrated soft techniques of self-defence. This centre, managed by the Roma Education Fund (REF),



29 August, GBV session with Roma refugees from Ukraine.

provides essential educational and integration support for Roma refugees from Ukraine. The participants communicated a strong interest within the Roma community in continuing discussions on GBV, with many attendees eager for more opportunities to engage and learn.

On 28 August, UNHCR Romania carried out a field mission to Medias and Sibiu in central Romania and coordinated activities in partnership with two refugee-led organisations. During this mission, there were discussions as part of the Participatory Assessment process, which informs UNHCR programming, where refugees shared their concerns and needs regarding access to documentation, services, and information. They also discussed the main concerns faced by their children in Romania. In addition, UNHCR conducted two awareness-raising sessions for refugee women on digital safety and how to protect themselves online. A similar focused group discussion was also conducted in Cluj-Napoca (north-east Romania) with elderly people and people with disability.

Following the issuance of the Ministry of Education Order No. 5679/2024 on Methodology for national exams, UNHCR and CNRR have submitted a set of recommendations to remove the de facto barriers and challenges faced by refugee students in accessing the national exam and Baccalaureate. The recommendations were developed based on the discussions held during a national conference held on 30 July in the presence of the Ministry of Education, NGOs and UN agencies.

The Inter-Agency coordination platform has developed a survey to map access to social benefits available for the refugees from Ukraine granted temporary protection (TP) in Romania as stipulated in the Emergency Ordinance 96/2024. The tool is intended to be used by partners to monitor effective access and identify potential challenges that TP beneficiaries face. This will inform advocacy efforts on a local and national level.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for 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](#).