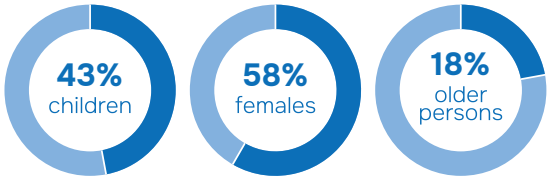
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency | Republic of Moldova

Operations Update
September 2024

Population figures

~124,000 refugees from Ukraine in Moldova:



~ 1.8 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

~ 60,000 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

~ 7,000 citizens of Ukraine have been granted resident permits, either permanent or temporary.

~ 3,000 individuals are in the asylum system:

208	437	2,188
persons with refugee status	humanitarian protection beneficiaries	asylum seekers under examination

~ 50,000
refugees received cash assistance

~ 21,000
refugees supported with legal assistance

~ 30,000
refugees provided with information by UNHCR

~ 980
frontline responders trained on core protection principles

*Figures as of 30 September 2024

Highlights of the month

During the Chișinău Marathon, UNHCR, alongside partners Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR) and INTERSOS, engaged over 200 persons through interactive activities. These fun learning games raised public awareness about refugees, stateless persons, mental health, and the Roma refugees. Over the two-day event, attendees gained valuable insights into these critical issues and the ongoing efforts to support vulnerable communities.

"We're preparing the kids for this event [Chișinău Marathon], giving them a chance to experience something new while growing their connection to Moldova."

Victoria Oleksich, Co-founder
Sporting Chișinău Football Club

Cultivating solidarity

As part of the ongoing efforts to support refugee inclusion and in alignment with the Cities of Solidarity initiative, UNHCR organized a workshop in Ungheni focused on integrating humanitarian and development needs into local services. The workshop brought together local government representatives, humanitarian organizations, and community leaders to discuss challenges and opportunities in supporting refugees. Key topics included coordinated service delivery, understanding local contexts, and strategies for mobilizing resources and expertise. This initiative highlights UNHCR's commitment to fostering collaboration across sectors, which is essential for creating resilient environments where refugees and host communities can thrive.

Sports for Inclusion at Chișinău Marathon

UNHCR supported the Chișinău Marathon for the third consecutive year, continuing its commitment to promoting sports activities for all. The yearly event brought sports enthusiast from across Moldova, celebrating solidarity and resilience. By participating, UNHCR emphasized the importance of physical well-being and social cohesion while raising awareness about the refugee experience. This is part of the ongoing efforts to foster inclusion and encourage active participation of refugees in local life, helping to build stronger, more connected communities.

Enhancing the educational environment for Roma refugee children

UNHCR, in collaboration with UNICEF, the Roma Task Force, partners Tarna Rom and AVE Copiii, the Ministry of Education, and local Directorates of Education, provided training to 94 teachers in three schools where local and refugee Roma children are enrolled this year. The training focused on Roma history and culture, inclusive education, and best practices for supporting Roma children's educational inclusion. This initiative aims to enable teachers to create a more inclusive and culturally sensitive learning environment, which is expected to improve Roma children's educational experiences, foster their social integration, and reduce dropout rates.

Strengthening national human rights institutions

With the support of UNHCR, Moldova's People's Advocate Office held an international conference on "Human Rights Protection Mechanisms and the Role of National Human Rights Institutions in the European Union and Beyond" in Chisinau. The event brought together over 70 participants, including Ombudspersons and representatives from national human rights institutions across Europe, as well as key stakeholders from European institutions, the Council of Europe, UN agencies, and civil society. UNHCR strives to ensure that national policies, practices, and laws comply with international standards by strengthening national human rights institutions such as Moldova's Ombudsperson. These efforts enhance the protection and support available to refugees, ensuring their rights are upheld and enabling them to rebuild their lives with dignity and security. The conference fostered valuable dialogue on the role of human rights institutions in safeguarding refugee rights and emphasized the need for collaboration between national bodies and international agencies.

Refugee and local voices: empowering communities

UNHCR is supporting grassroots organizations with small grants to empower both local and refugee-led initiatives, focusing on vulnerable refugees and marginalized groups. Along with financial support, UNHCR provides comprehensive training in project management, fundraising, advocacy, and community engagement, equipping organizations to operate more effectively and address community needs. The initiative also promotes collaboration with local authorities, fostering joint solutions to improve refugee integration and service delivery. By strengthening these organizations through financial and capacity-building efforts, UNHCR aims to create sustainable, inclusive communities where refugees and locals alike can thrive. This approach not only enhances social cohesion but also empowers refugees to take an active role in shaping their own futures within their host communities.

In collaboration with Acted, UNHCR has awarded grants to ten Ukrainian refugees as part of a joint entrepreneurial training program aimed at fostering sustainable business development. The initiative equips refugees with the skills and resources needed to start and grow their own businesses in Moldova, supporting both their economic independence and integration into local communities. Through this partnership, UNHCR and Acted Moldova are helping refugees rebuild their lives and contribute to the country's economy.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to global UNHCR programmes.

Austria | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Liechtenstein | Norway | Netherlands | Spain | Switzerland | Sweden | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | United States of America | Private donors.

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For more information, please visit
the **Operational Data Portal for Moldova**
or the **Global Focus page for Moldova.**

Our work would not be possible without UNHCR's implementing partners.

UNHCR Moldova is also thankful for the cooperation of Moldovan authorities at all levels, other UN agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations.