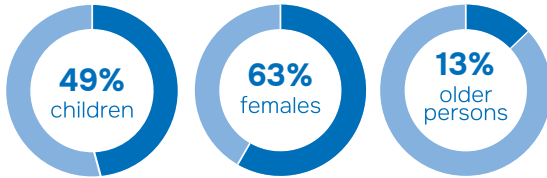


Population figures

~127,000 Ukrainian refugees in Moldova:



~ 1.8 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

~ 71,700 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

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

~ 1,400 individuals are in the asylum system:

754	708	151
asylum seekers under examination	humanitarian protection beneficiaries	Statelessness determination applicants



~ 19,600

refugees received cash assistance



~ 5,100

refugees supported with legal assistance



~ 1,800

refugees provided with information by UNHCR



~ 300

refugees supported with socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods

*Figures as of 31 March 2024

Highlights of the month



Larysa, 60, a Ukrainian refugee, rebuilt her life in Moldova after fleeing the war. Cash assistance from UNHCR, delivered in a safe, dignified, and discreet manner, enabled her and her husband to meet essential needs such as paying utility bills, buying food, and covering other household expenses. By receiving cash directly, they were able to make their own choices based on what mattered most to them—restoring a sense of control, independence, and stability.

[Read the full story on UNHCR's Moldova website](#)

Strengthening legal aid for asylum seekers in Moldova

In partnership with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), UNHCR organised a training to improve legal representation for asylum seekers in Moldova. The event brought together 15 attorneys from the National Legal Aid Council, alongside representatives of the General Inspectorate for Migration, the Law Centre of Advocates (CDA), and NIJ trainers—encouraging inter-institutional dialogue and collaboration. Participants strengthened their understanding of international and national asylum frameworks, procedural safeguards, and the role of legal aid in ensuring access to fair and efficient asylum procedures. The sessions focused on credibility assessment, standards of proof, client communication, and relevant case law from the European Court of Human Rights. By enhancing both individual expertise and institutional capacity, the initiative contributes to more consistent legal representation and supports Moldova's efforts to align asylum procedures with international standards, ensuring the rights of displaced persons are upheld.

I find Moldovans and Ukrainians very similar in their values. That's why I felt almost at home here in such a short time.

-Larysa

Ungheni leads the way: partnering with refugees for inclusive communities

Ungheni Municipality and the newly formed Ungheni Refugee Council signed a cooperation agreement to advance refugee inclusion and strengthen local integration efforts. Supported by UNHCR, this partnership aims to improve coordination between local authorities and refugee representatives, ensuring better access to services, support for community-led initiatives, and meaningful refugee participation in local decision-making. UNHCR's involvement reflects its commitment to fostering inclusive, community-based approaches that empower refugees and promote shared responsibility. The agreement marks an important step toward building more cohesive and resilient communities in Moldova, where the voices and contributions of displaced people are recognised and valued at the local level.

Together for Safety: Protecting People from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

As part of efforts to strengthen protection within the refugee response, Moldova's Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Network conducted two key capacity building sessions. The first brought together staff from nine local organisations for training based on the "Saying No to Sexual Misconduct" package, aimed at raising awareness and reinforcing prevention and response measures. In the second, the Network introduced the Misconduct Disclosure Scheme to five local organisations as a tool to prevent individuals with a history of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment from moving undetected between roles. This session also included Moldova-specific guidance and an overview of the legal framework with national laws. Together, the sessions enhanced local capacities for safe recruitment, promoted accountability, and supported the delivery of assistance in a safe and respectful environment.

Empowering Girls, Preventing Gender-Based Violence

UNHCR, in collaboration with Casa Marioarei, organised a five-day training for 12 mentors to implement the International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Girl Shine curriculum. The programme, tailored for adolescent refugee and Moldovan girls and their caregivers, aims to strengthen life skills, self-esteem, and support the development of healthier, violence-free relationships. In parallel, and in coordination with UNICEF and with support from People in Need, UNHCR trained 115 EduTech Labs staff to recognise gender-based violence (GBV) risks within educational settings and safely refer survivors to appropriate services. These combined efforts strengthen GBV prevention and response across both community and learning environments.



Refugee women from diverse countries came together at the Charity Centre for Refugees, UNHCR's partner, on International Women's Day. While such gatherings offer a valuable space for mutual support and expression, they also highlight the broader need for community-driven initiatives that empower women and support their integration. Women and children, who make up the majority of refugees in Moldova, often face heightened protection risks, economic insecurity, and barriers to accessing the labour market—making inclusive, community-driven support and opportunities for empowerment all the more vital.

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.

Australia | Austria | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | New Zealand | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America



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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.