

ROMANIA Weekly Update #144

28 April 2025

Key figures

182,948 refugees obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end March 2025).

2,275 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2025; 17,419 in 2024.

4,745 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025; 26,086 in 2024.

1,864 refugees

supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025; 9,286 in 2024.

We are grateful for UNHCR's financial support, which made a huge difference in our lives. It helped us meet our basic needs, adapt to a new country, and gave us hope for the future." Iryna, mother of a 7-year-old child, from Odesa, hosted in Constanta, Romania.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation As of 31 March 2025

\$39.0 million UNHCR's funding requirements 2025



Highlight

As of 28 April, the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) in Romania remains severely underfunded. At the end of first guarter, US\$ 10.3 M was received against an US\$ 82.8 M appeal for the RRP, covering only 12 per cent of needs and leaving an 88 per cent funding gap. Additionally, partners report an estimated reduction in funding (against expectations) of US\$19.5 M in the 2025-2026 RRP, resulting in a wide reduction of essential services which is expected to affect services and assistance to some 61,000 to 82,000 refugees (noting that individual refugees and/or families may receive multiple services and assistance, according to their needs). So far, 32 out of the 42 RRP partner organizations reported their difficulty to implement activities part of the plan. Legal assistance, support for victims and survivors of violence-especially women and children-sexual and reproductive health care and mental health services have been significantly reduced or discontinued by various organizations, impacting tens of thousands of refugees from Ukraine. Education, integration and employment services have also been reduced, with Romanian language classes (including for economic inclusion), youth programmes and vocational training suspended. Health services supported by RRP partners and key service centres have closed or are at risk of closure, while over 4,900 vulnerable refugees may not have access to cash assistance. Support for housing and basic needs is also being phased out-leaving many without critical aid necessary for daily survival and stability.

Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

UNHCR's newly renovated Community Centre at RomExpo in Bucharest continues providing refugees with access to critical services, including Temporary Protection issuance by the General Inspectorate for Immigration, integration support and MHPSS, while also offering opportunities to bring refugees and their communities closer together, strengthening their resilience, in safe spaces. The facility is also the main centre for UNHCR to support refugees with cash-based interventions. The newly designed spaces within the centre offer partners and refugee free options for organizing community engagement activities and events, with many programmes already planned for the coming months. The Community Centre at RomExpo continues to welcome up to 250 refugees from Ukraine on a daily basis.

On 24 April, UNHCR established a Youth Club in

Constanța. The club brought together nine boys aged from 14–18 years old from Ukraine, marking an important step in supporting refugee youth integration. The club provides a safe, engaging space for young people to connect with peers and the local community, easing their adaptation to life in Romania. Through shared activities, social interaction and peer support, the initiative fosters personal growth, confidence and meaningful friendships.



Meeting of Youth Club, Constanta, April 2025.

Last week, UNHCR and partners distributed over 2,130 core relief items (CRIs), including quilts, body towels, clothing pillows and sanitary napkins to 418 individuals. So far in 2025, UNHCR has distributed nearly 62,368 CRIs to 28,617 refugees from Ukraine and vulnerable members of the host community.

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 2025 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update – 2025.