ROMANIA

Weekly Update #145 **5 May 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.

4,916 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025; 26,086 in 2024.

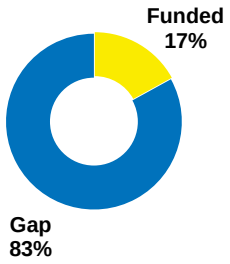
1,993 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025; 9,286 in 2024.

"We are very grateful for any help during such difficult time as we feel we are not abandoned to our fate." Olena, a 37 year-old refugee living in Constanta, Romania with her mother and son.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

As of 31 March 2025

$39.0 million
UNHCR's funding requirements 2025



Highlights

Meeting with the State Secretary from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bucharest, May 2025.

UNHCR continues to advocate for the support to refugees from Ukraine in Romania. During the week, UNHCR Representative, Pablo Zapata met with the State Secretary, Luca Niculescu from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the meeting, UNHCR reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting the government-led refugee response, highlighted the most pressing needs of refugees from Ukraine in Romania and the current challenging funding context for the implementation of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP) in the country.

Meeting with the State Secretary Helena Raicu, Bucharest, May 2025.

On the same day, UNHCR Representative, Pablo Zapata met with Secretary of State Helena Raicu and the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (ANPDCA) to reaffirm their joint commitment to protecting refugee children in Romania. This collaboration is vital to improving the lives of the most vulnerable. UNHCR acknowledged ANPDCA's leadership, especially in co-chairing the Child Protection working group and proposed a joint work plan focused on awareness-raising, capacity-building for best interest determination and media outreach.

Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

On 29 April, a UNHCR delegation led by the Representative, met with authorities and refugees in Suceava County. In meetings with the Prefect, Traian Andronachi and the Director and representatives of the General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection (DGASPC), UNHCR provided an overview of its support to refugees in the county and on its future support in the County. In addition, UNHCR Representative met with the refugee-led organizations (RLOs) EDNAE Organization and Active Ukrainians from Rădăuți in which organisations highlighted the needs of refugees in the areas such as healthcare and social protection, as well as their commitment towards inclusion. UNHCR reaffirmed its support to RLOs and Romanian community-based organizations -12 supported financially in 2025- and donated IT equipment.

On 22–23 April, UNHCR, in collaboration with actor Tiberiu Roșu and with support from the Sensiblu Foundation, held an intercultural theatre workshop in Constanța with over 20 Romanian and Ukrainian youth. The sessions fostered emotional expression, intercultural understanding and social connection. Initially reserved, participants gradually overcame language and cultural barriers, leading to open, meaningful exchanges. For many, the workshop was not just creative—it was a step toward healing and belonging.

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.