# ROMANIA

**Weekly Update #184** **23 February 2026**

## Key figures

**201,752 refugees**
obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end December 2025).

**46,884 refugees**
supported with core relief items in 2025 and 2026.

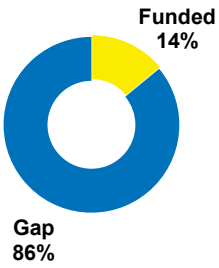
**13,294 refugees**
provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025 and 2026.

**5,784 refugees**
supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025 and 2026.

*"I truly value the opportunity to lead creative activities for children. This session felt especially meaningful - particularly as my own children could take part and support me. Most importantly, it created a space for connection and communication, which we all need." Anna, a 39-year-old refugee and community facilitator from Ukraine living in Bucharest, Romania.*

### UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

**As of 31 January 2026**
**$23.4 million**
UNHCR's funding requirements 2026




## Highlight

On 17 February, UNHCR in Romania organized a seminar marking 20 years since Romania's accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The event, bringing together 17 participants from state and government institutions, civil society and UN Agencies, highlighted Romania's obligations under the two conventions and also analyzed the level of implementation of these obligations. UNHCR and the invited speaker from JRS raised awareness about the importance of establishing a dedicated procedure for determining statelessness and a legal status for stateless persons. The event also highlighted the fact that early identification of stateless persons and recording of their claims for a subsequent determination of statelessness is a requirement in the new EU Pact on Migration and Asylum.

On 17 February, UNHCR held a seminar marking 20 years of commitment to international statelessness standards in Romania. *Photo: UNHCR*

## Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

During the past week, UNHCR partner, the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), continued to provide counselling and legal information to Ukrainian refugees across the country, addressing a wide range of protection and social assistance concerns. Councillors responded to requests for support with Temporary Protection permits, as well as enquiries regarding state assistance. Following the discontinuation of funding for accommodation centres, CNRR counselled vulnerable people at risk of homelessness, including families facing serious medical and financial hardship, and raised these concerns during coordination meetings with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU). CNRR also supported refugees encountering obstacles in accessing healthcare, particularly difficulties registering with family doctors and the National Health Insurance system. In addition, CNRR provided guidance on practical matters such as opening bank accounts and exchanging Ukrainian driving licences, while engaging with partners to strengthen coordination and ensure refugees continue to receive accurate, up-to-date information and referrals. Since the beginning of 2025, UNHCR and its partners provided protection counselling services and legal support to 13,294 refugees.

Through its community-based programmes, UNHCR creates opportunities for Ukrainian refugees to develop skills, strengthen resilience, and foster meaningful connections. On 16 February, the UNHCR Community Centre at RomExpo hosted a creativity masterclass for children, bringing together 19 refugees for an afternoon of artistic expression and connection. The session was facilitated by a Ukrainian artist and active member of the UNHCR Women's Club, highlighting the vital role that refugee volunteers play in strengthening their own communities. Through guided activities, children were able to explore their imagination while building confidence and forming new friendships. Participants responded enthusiastically, with community members noting that the session offered a valuable opportunity for meaningful social engagement. Beyond providing a structured recreational activity, the masterclass promoted positive interaction between children and caregivers and contributed to ongoing community-based support efforts. Above all, it created a safe and welcoming space where children could express themselves freely and strengthen their sense of belonging.

On 16 February, the UNHCR Community Centre at RomExpo hosted a creativity masterclass for children. *Photo: UNHCR*

*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 2025 and 2026 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update – 2026*