

Romania

1 – 15 May 2022

The Government of Romania, civil society, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and other UN and international organizations continue to respond to the emergency, both at the border and in areas where refugees are settling. UNHCR is working with authorities and inter-agency partners in supporting access to services and rights, as per the temporary protection status accorded. Close coordination with the Government, which leads the response, is ensured at national and local levels.

KEY FIGURES*

944,197

Ukrainian refugees arrived in Romania, between 24 February and 15 May

857,077

Ukrainian refugees departed Romania, between 24 February and 15 May

87,120

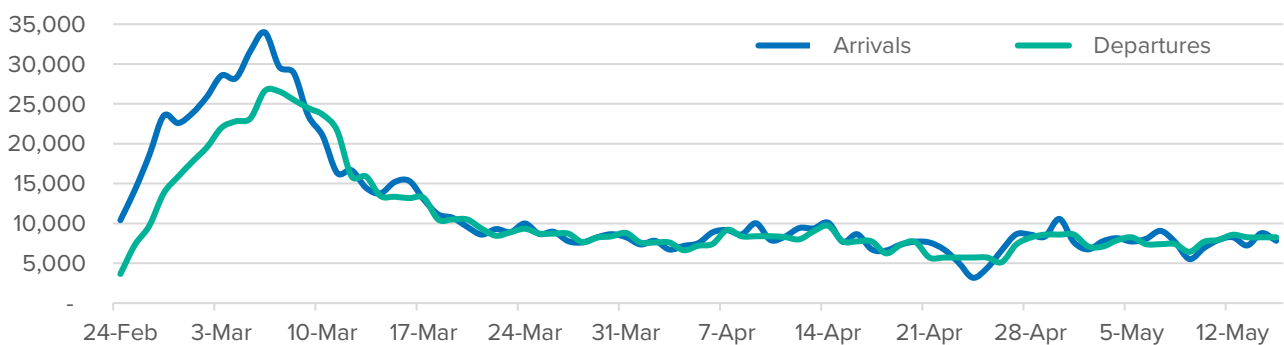
Ukrainian refugees remain in Romania, between 24 February and 15 May



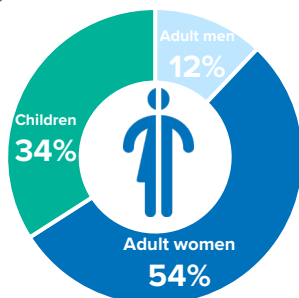
Women with children and elderly, entering Romania from Ukraine at the Siret border crossing point. © UNHCR/Stefan Lorint

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

24 February to 15 May



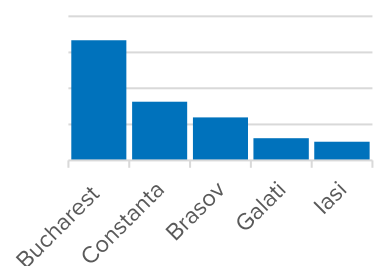
Age and Gender




22,729

registered for temporary protection

Top 5 counties hosting refugees



UNHCR Response

At the border

- **Permanent presence at the border** by UNHCR and partner staff has been established at field level covering the four main border crossing points between Romania and Ukraine (Halmeu, Sighet, Siret and Isaccea), and two other border points between Romania and Moldova (Albita and Sculeni).
- **Provision of information** on temporary protection, immediate referral to assistance providers according to needs as well as psychological and legal assistance.
- **Seven Blue Dots, including three 'Light Blue' Dots at borders are operational**, in partnership with UNICEF, the Child Protection Authority and NGOs (see also below).
- **Initial identification and referral to Governmental services** of vulnerable populations, including unaccompanied and separated children.

Protection

- Over **15,700 people**, to date, **have received counselling** from UNHCR and partner staff working at the eight border crossing points. Information requested largely focuses on legal status, notably temporary protection, cash assistance, transportation to other EU countries, long-term accommodation and food, employment, education and access to medical services.
- UNHCR and UNICEF continue to increase the number of Blue Dots and strengthen the services provided with partners. There are currently **seven Blue Dots operating in Romania, including three 'Light Blue' Dots**. With the support of UNHCR partner the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), legal advice/counselling will now be provided at the Light Blue Dots at Albita border crossing point and Huși transit area. Efforts are also underway to set up cash assistance enrolment at the Brasov Blue Dot, with CNRR's presence for the provision of legal advice/counselling. In addition, plans are on-going to establish a Blue Dot with the full package of comprehensive services at the upcoming UNHCR cash enrolment site in Bucharest in Romexpo.
- **UNHCR and IOM** continue to **jointly support the authorities of Romania and Moldova by facilitating fast-track transfers** from Palanca border crossing point with Ukraine, in Moldova, to Huși, Romania. To date, **more than 10,500 people** have been transported to Romania through this mechanism. UNHCR partner ACTED also provides transportation for persons from border crossing points to other locations in Moldova and Romania.
- **Gender-based violence referral pathways**, which include information on some 21 NGOs and three Governmental institutions, have been finalized and shared with all NGO protection actors to enhance access to information and protection services including psychosocial support for those in need of gender-based violence services and support. UNHCR is also in discussion with the National Agency for Equal Opportunities between men and women and Domestic Violence (ANES), on further areas of collaboration on gender-based violence, including through hotlines for domestic violence.
- On 13 May, UNHCR conducted a **comprehensive protection training** focusing on child protection, gender-based violence, accountability to affected people and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. The training was **attended by 46 participants** from Government authorities, NGO partners, volunteers and refugees in Suceava. The same training will be conducted for Maramureș, Satu Mare, Iași and Galați.

- UNHCR **child protection** teams are collaborating with UNICEF, the National Child Protection Authority and county-level child protection authorities on the identification and registration tool the Government is developing for unaccompanied and separated children, contributing inputs for the national-level tool's development.
- UNHCR is developing partnerships with several national organizations **providing** specialized care for children with heightened vulnerabilities (including autism, children with visual and auditive disabilities), **persons with physical disabilities and LGBTQI+** refugees.
- In Iasi, following a two-way communication established with some refugees living in private accommodations, UNHCR started identifying family needs for core relief items.
- Information is being shared with refugees about the enrolment process and cash assistance to be implemented in Iasi.

Communications and provision of information

- **UNHCR Help content** delivered through **допомогти / Допомога** platform ("help" in Ukrainian) developed jointly with the authorities (Department for Emergency Situations, also known as DSU), IOM, Code for Romania and civil society.
- **Provision of information** directly to arrivals at the border through leaflets and posters at the checkpoints.
- UNHCR and partners maintain three **24/7 emergency phone lines**, responding to calls for information and support. Over 300 calls are being received and addressed per day.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- Since the rollout of the cash distribution and enrolment pilot in Bucharest on 4 April, over **3,300 individuals** (around **1,250 households**), to date, have been enrolled to receive multipurpose cash assistance, of whom over 90% are women and children. Individuals can request appointments to be enrolled for cash assistance online at www.dopomoha.ro
- Over **2,000 individuals** have benefited from the cash assistance by UNHCR.
- Around **7,000 families**, to date, have requested for appointments since the launch of the online appointments tool on 29 April 2022.
- UNHCR is currently training additional **cash assistance enrollers**. The programme is being **scaled up to reach a total of 80,000 people**. The Office will open additional enrolment sites in Bucharest, Brasov, Galati, Iasi and Suceava.
- Detailed information about UNHCR's Cash Programme in Romania is being uploaded on www.dopomoha.ro and on the [UNHCR Romania Help page](#).

Core Relief Items

- UNHCR has three warehouses in Bucharest for storing core relief items. UNHCR uses its storage hub to deliver humanitarian assistance inside Ukraine and pre-position items for needs in Romania.
- Pre-positioned stock in Romania for **needs in Ukraine** currently includes: 75,696 blankets; 28,200 jerry cans; 9,164 solar lamps; and 2,025 kitchen sets.
- As of 13 May, 30 trucks have been dispatched to Ukraine with **96,054 blankets**, **8,400 plastic tarpaulins**, **38,400 jerry cans** and **10,008 solar lamps**.

Inter-Agency Coordination

On 27 April, UNHCR and partners launched the updated [Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#). This updated inter-agency Regional RRP was developed in accordance with the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) and builds on the initial RRP launched on 1 March. This Plan now covers activities from March through December 2022. It outlines the multi-partner, multisector response strategy and financial requirements of 142 partners supporting the host Governments of Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, and other countries, including Belarus, Bulgaria, and the Czech Republic, to provide protection services and urgent humanitarian assistance to refugees from Ukraine, third-country nationals – including those in need of international protection and others who want to return to their countries of origin – other persons in need, and impacted host communities.

Within the Romania chapter of the RRP, cross-cutting priorities include:

- Accountability for affected people,
- Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
- Age, gender and diversity
- Cash Assistance

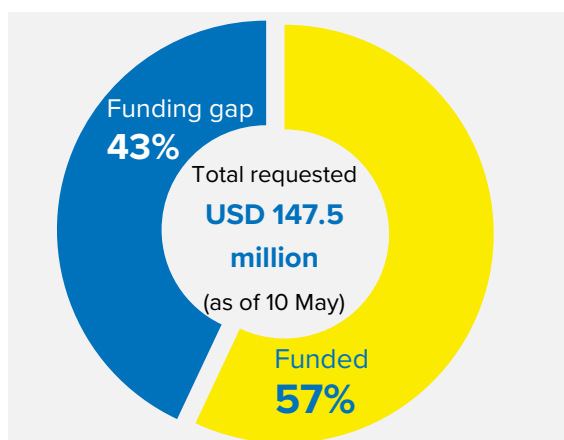
Sectoral priorities include protection, basic needs, health and nutrition, education and livelihoods and inclusion. The Romania chapter will support the upcoming Government of Romania's National Action Plan.

In agreement with the Government of Romania, UNHCR has set up the Inter-Agency Refugee Coordination Model structure made up of eight sector working groups and sub-groups, one anti-trafficking task force and one prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse network. Working group leads and co-leads attend the Government's sectoral working group meetings, bringing the contribution of UN agencies and NGOs, and bringing back policy decisions taken by the Government to inform the humanitarian response. As such, Government and humanitarian coordination structures are operating to mutually reinforce each other, under Governmental leadership. A total of 23 international and national partners are part of the Refugee Response Plan for Romania.

The Refugee Coordination Forum took place on 13 May. Over a 100 participants were in attendance, including the Counselor of State Turza.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for government donor contributions to the response in Romania by Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.



Note: The financial requirements for Romania include requirements for the operation's regular programme and the Ukraine Situation. The percentage funded (57%) and total funding amount (\$83,780,763) are indicative, and this leaves an indicative funding gap of \$63,688,524 representing 43% of the financial requirements.

USEFUL LINKS

Ukraine situation: Revised Supplementary Appeal
 UNHCR's Ukraine Situation page
 Operational Data Portal

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