

Romania

16-30 June 2022

Romania is currently hosting more than 80,000 refugees from Ukraine. Till the end of June, around 44,000 refugees from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection in Romania. Women and children represent ninety percent of the refugee population. The Government of Romania approved the national plan of measure for the protection and inclusion of refugees, addressing essential needs, including child protection, access to health care, education, housing and access to national labor market. UNHCR continues to respond to the emergency and the medium-longer term needs at borders and where refugees are settling, in coordination with partners and authorities.

KEY FIGURES*

86,154

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded in Romania as of 30 2022

42,742

Refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection in Romania as of 26 June 2022

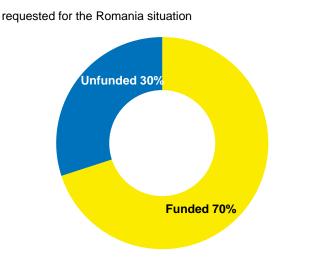
8,649

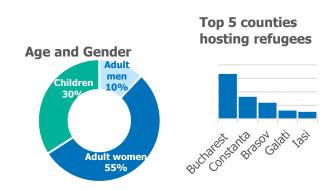
Refugees from Ukraine enrolled for UNHCR's multipurpose cash assistance in Romania as of 30 June.



On 20 June 2022 - the World Refugee Day – Romanian Football Federation organized a friendly football match with refugees UNHCR/Showvik Das Tamal.

FUNDING (AS OF 28 JUNE 2022) USD 147.4 million





*See the Operational Data Portal for the Ukraine Refugee Situation for more information.



Operational Context

The Government of Romania and host communities have responded with speed and generosity to the unprecedented arrival of thousands of people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. Over 1.28 million refugees from Ukraine have crossed border from Ukraine to Romania since 24 February and over 86,000 are currently present in the country. UNHCR, together with UN agencies and NGOs, is supporting the government's response through inter-agency coordination and a Refugee Response Plan (RRP) that aligns with the government's priorities and activities reflected in the national plan of measures to ensure protection and inclusion of refugees. UNHCR in Romania is responding to the needs of refugees through its field offices in Suceava, Galati and Iasi as well as in Bucharest. UNHCR also has a presence in Brasov with an active enrolment site for multipurpose cash assistance, as a significant number of refugees are currently residing there.

Key Developments:

On 29 June, the Government of Romania approved the "Emergency Ordinance on the Implementation of the National Plan of Measures for the Protection and Inclusion of Displaced Persons from Ukraine and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in Romania". The National Plan (NP) covers a wide range of essential interventions, focusing on key areas such as child protection, access to health care, education, housing, and inclusion in the national labor market. Persons with specific protection needs, and prevention of risks of abuse and exploitation are particularly addressed in the Plan. UNHCR and other UN Agencies, national and international NGOs worked closely with the Government of Romania to ensure complementarities and synergies between the National Plan and the Refugee Response Plan (RRP).

On 27 June, Ms. Vera Jourova, Vice-President of the European Commission, along with Dr. Arafat, DSU Head/State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), visited UNHCR's Cash Assistance Enrolment site in RomExpo in Bucharest, where integrated services are provided, including Temporary Protection Documentation by MOI, information on this status by European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), health services by WHO, and information on transport, accommodations and jobs by IOM.

Humanitarian Needs and Response At the border

- Between 16-30 June, the population of concern to UNHCR remained stable at 83,000-90,000 people, with some 128,642 Ukrainian refugees arriving in Romania. Pendular movements at border crossings continue being observed.
- Permanent presence at the border is being reinforced by UNHCR and partner staff. Additional UNHCR staff have been deployed to Galati, Iasi and Suceava. UNHCR's presence covers the four main border-crossing points between Romania and Ukraine (Halmeu, Sighet, Siret and Isaccea), and two border-points between Romania and Moldova (Albita and Sculeni).
- 12 Blue Dots, including seven 'Light Blue' Dots are operational, in partnership with UNICEF, the Child Protection Authority and NGOs (see also below).
- Initial identification and referral to Governmental services to vulnerable populations, including unaccompanied and separated children.

Protection

- As of 26 June 2022, 42,742 refugees from Ukraine (including more than 500 third-country nationals) obtained Temporary Protection Status in Romania. Provision of information on temporary protection, immediate referral to assistance providers according to needs as well as psychological and legal assistance.
- On 27 June, UNHCR Representative delivered a keynote presentation on European Qualification Passport for Refugees (EQPR). at the seminar organized by the Ministry of Education and the Council of Europe. Once fully implemented in Romania, the EQPR will facilitate refugees to access higher education/labor market without proof of qualification document from country of origin.



- Following the discussions with the City Manager and the Sub-Prefect of Galati on summer courses, UNHCR met with the County School Inspectorate on 27 June. UNHCR and the authorities agreed on the need to joint actions in order to strengthen ongoing initiatives and to address challenges that are mainly related to the lack of interest of parents and refugee children.
- Between 16-30 June, over 3,300 people received counselling from UNHCR and partner staff working at the eight border crossing points, reaching over 24,600 people until 30 June. Information requested largely focuses on legal status, notably temporary protection, cash assistance, transportation to other countries of the European Union, long-term accommodation and food, employment, education, and access to medical services.
- UNHCR continues to train partner staff who are implementing the comprehensive Regional Protection Monitoring System (RPMS) that addresses core protection principles, including accountability to affected people, gender-based violence and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). To date, UNHCR and the partner, Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), have recorded 80 RPMS responses. So far, UNHCR, REACH and CNRR have recorded more than 400 Protection Profiling questionnaires. Moreover, UNHCR has conducted two focus group discussions with refugees in Constanta in order to collect their most pressing needs.
- 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 Huşi,
 Romania. During the reporting period, 181 people were transported to Romania through this
 mechanism, reaching around 11,331 people until 30 June. UNHCR partner ACTED also provides
 transportation for people from border crossing points to other locations in Moldova and Romania.
- A dedicated email address has been launched to receive confidential complaints and feedback, including on PSEA. It has been integrated into PSEA messaging and piloted during UNHCR's mission to Iasi and Vaslui.
- UNHCR, UNICEF, the Child Protection Authority and NGOs, continue to strengthen the number of Blue Dots and strengthen the services provided with partners. There are currently five Blue Dots in Bucharest, Brasov, Husi, Sighet and Siret, and seven Light Blue Dots in Albita, Bucharest, Isaccea and Iasi. Light Blue Dots are planned for Constanta, Galati, Sculeni and Suceava. On 28 June, UNHCR (field and Bucharest) participated in the Participatory Review of Blue Dots hosted by UNICEF, at Husi, where participants highlighted the need of coordination at site and sharing of accurate information.
- The UNHCR Romania Help page has been visited over 54,686 times. Furthermore, UNHCR Romania has helped to set the national information platform at www.dopomoha.ro. UNHCR is consistently updating the national information platform when it is required. The platform is run in collaboration with the Romanian authorities, IOM and national NGOs and provides a space for reliable information on legal status, rights, and access to services. UNHCR and partner CNRR are also distributing information leaflets at border crossing points.
- UNHCR and partners continue to operate three 24/7 emergency phone lines, responding to calls for information and support. Over 300 calls continue to be received and addressed per day.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- New cash assistance enrolment centres were established in Galati and Iasi, bringing the total to five (Brasov, Bucharest, Galati, Iasi and Suceava) cash enrolment centres in Romania. Additional centres are planned for Constanta (south-east of Bucharest). UNHCR cash assistance programme has been designed in coordination with the Government, and complementary to its efforts to support refugees from Ukraine. NGO partners include AIDRom, have been supporting the programme since its pilot phase.
- Since the rollout of the cash distribution in Bucharest on 4 April, as of 30 June 8,649 refugees in 3,463 households (including 402 refugees with specific needs) have been enrolled to receive three-month multipurpose cash assistance, of whom 92% are women and children. Individuals can request appointments to be enrolled for cash assistance online at dopomoha.ro. Over 7,000



people have already received the cash assistance by UNHCR. In addition, <u>35 cash enrollers</u> have been trained on the use of registration tools.

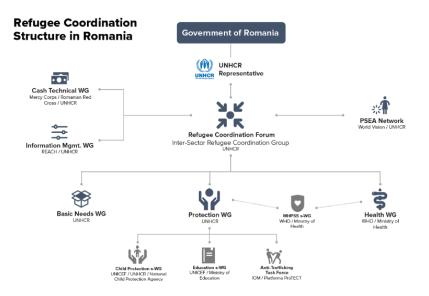
Core Relief Items

- 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 in Romania.
- Romania is a logistic hub and a corridor for receiving and delivering relief goods, including through convoys to Ukraine, delivering blankets, plastic sheets, solar lamps and kitchen sets, hygiene kits, tents, mattresses, bed linen, bedsheets and body towels. Since the start of the emergency, around sixty trucks of twenty-two tons capacity each, containing relief goods have been sent from Romania to Ukraine, while three trucks have been sent to Hungary.
- UNHCR and partners continue to assess collective centres in order to prepare additional support to enhance reception capacities, should this be needed. To date, 100 locations have been assessed by UNHCR partner REACH.

Working in Partnership

The Government of Romania is leading the emergency response for the refugees from Ukraine. UNHCR is supporting the response in close coordination with the Prime Minister's Office and the Department of Emergency Situations (DSU). UNHCR is engaging closely with other UN Agencies, Government Authorities and national and international NGOs through various Working Groups.

Inter-Agency Coordination



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 prevention of sexual one exploitation and abuse network. Working group leads and co-leads attend the Government's sectoral working group meetings, bringing in the contribution of UN agencies and NGOs, and bringing back policy decisions taken by the Government to inform the humanitarian response.

Coordination structures are in place and functioning, with technical sector working groups, taskforces and networks meeting held every two weeks. UNHCR chairs a weekly Inter-sector Working Group meeting to ensure cross-sectoral planning and response. Information Management support is ongoing to help sector leads to complete 5W mapping, providing tracking of ongoing partner activities, target populations, and response locations, as well as to disseminate information via the newly launched Operational Data Portal for Romania. The Romania Inter-Agency Operational Update, June 2022 has been released. The Refugee Coordination Forum Meeting was held on 24 June 2022 with participation of government officials, partners and donors. UNHCR Representative Mr Zapata delivered opening remarks and the Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator presented an overview of the RRP and synergies with National Action Plan of Romania during the meeting. WHO and UNICEF also shared updates on health and education activities respectively.

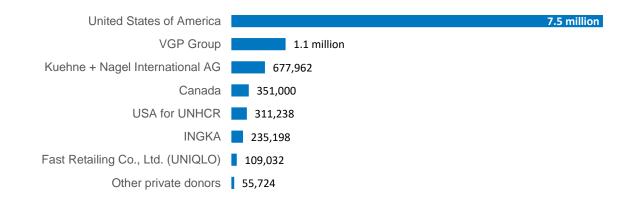
Following the approval of the National Plan (NP) on 29 June, the Inter-Agency team has added a filter to the 5Ws to link the RRP indicators with NP measures to demonstrate the alignment of activities with the NP.



Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to activities in Romania as well as to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

CONTRIBUTIONS | USD



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

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For more information, please visit the Global Focus page for the Ukraine Situation here.

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