

Slovakia

February 2023

UNHCR provides **assistance and protection** to individuals fleeing Ukraine under Temporary Protection - supporting the Government of Slovakia.

To identify **vulnerable individuals**, UNHCR and partners carry out monitoring and profiling at border crossing points and registration centres to identify issues, provide support, and make referrals.

UNHCR is leading the coordination of the **Refugee Response Plan (RRP)** in support of refugees from Ukraine as well as the people and governments of host countries.

KEY FIGURES

(as of 31 January 2023)

1,129,733 total arrivals of non-Slovaks from Ukraine since 24 February 2022.

914,968 total non-Slovak departures to Ukraine since 24 February 2022.

78% of the Ukrainian arrivals to Slovakia are women and children.

107,515 applications for Temporary Protection status in Slovakia.

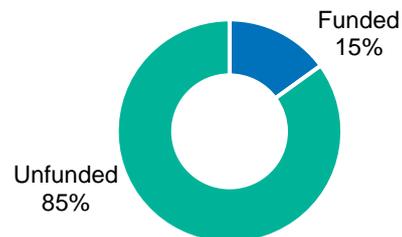
More than **58,000** Refugees and vulnerable Third Country Nationals have enrolled for interagency cash assistance and **19,782** were provided one-time winter cash assistance by UNHCR.

2023 FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

(as of 31 January 2023)

USD 55.4 million

Information relates to the Representation for Central Europe, which covers the Czech Republic, Hungary, Republic of Slovakia, and Slovenia.



Source: UNHCR
© UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

OVERVIEW

Since war broke out in Ukraine, Slovakia has been transformed from a transit country to a country of destination, with more than a million arrivals as of end of 2022, and over 100,000 individuals applying for Temporary Protection status here.

While the initial influx has stabilized, the volatile security situation in Ukraine leaves open the possibility of a large exodus in the future. Some refugees have moved on to other countries in Europe and elsewhere, but many have remained in Slovakia.

UNHCR has built up its presence to support coordination for the response, provide protection, life-saving cash assistance, and other support in line with the Government-led efforts.



Mother and daughter undergoing registration at Bottova Centre in Bratislava.

© UNHCR / Zsolt Balla

Main Activities

Access to territory and protection: Monitoring and analyzing the situation of people in need of international protection seeking access to the territory and support, at Slovakia's border with Ukraine.

Coordination: UNHCR leads and coordinates humanitarian actors via the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) for the Slovak Republic in support of Government-led efforts.

Legal Assistance: Provision of legal counselling for seekers of Temporary Protection to ensure they have access to information and legal support.

Community-based protection: Support to refugee-led organizations and other community structures, enhancing their capacity to inform refugees about their rights, services offered, and to respond to their needs.

Child Protection: Working towards strengthening the national child protection system to ensure inclusion of refugee children in available services and procedures through reinforcing existing capacities, coordination with the Government and other stakeholders, and technical support as requested by the child protection authorities (Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, and Family).

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Advocacy for the inclusion of persons under Temporary Protection in national health, legal, and protection systems, and seeking to support them in strengthening the capacity to prevent, mitigate and provide a comprehensive adequate and safe response to GBV.

Integration: UNHCR champions and supports community-based approaches, promotes social cohesion and integration objectives through projects that involve both refugee and local communities, and advocates for long-term inclusion of refugees in Slovakia. This is achieved through mapping of, and awareness raising about, local services available to refugees, employment advice and other employment support – especially for refugee women, as well as other activities such as vocational trainings.

Education: Advocacy for the inclusion of displaced learners from Ukraine into the national school system, expanding access to quality tertiary and higher education for refugees, and building the capacity of the national education system to accommodate displaced learners.

Cash-Based Assistance: Supports the Government by providing short-term emergency cash assistance to meet the material needs of people who had to flee Ukraine, including one-time winter cash assistance.

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA): Leading the PSEA Task Force with the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights (SNCHR), and coordinating inter-agency activities to raise awareness on PSEA and increase capacity to prevent and respond sexual exploitation and abuse in Slovakia.

Blue Dots – Safe Spaces, Protection and Support Hubs: Blue Dots are support hubs that bring together critical protection services and information for those fleeing the war in Ukraine, with a particular focus on supporting those at greatest risk. UNHCR, jointly with UNICEF, has established three Blue Dots in Slovakia: at Bottova Reception Centre in Bratislava, Kosice, and Michalovce.

Working with Partners

UNHCR works with five Partners to respond to the most pressing needs of individuals fleeing Ukraine under Temporary Protection in Slovakia: **the Slovak Humanitarian Council, Human Rights League, People in Need, Mareena, and SME SPOLU (“We are together”)**, a Refugee-Led Organization. UNHCR leads the refugee coordination structure in Slovakia for humanitarian partners, in support of the Government response.

Financial Information

The total recorded contributions for the UNHCR Multi-Country Office (covering the Czech Republic, Hungary, Republic of Slovakia, and Slovenia) as of end of 2022 amounted to US\$ 57.6 million. UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds. So far, recorded contributions in 2023 amount to US\$ 8.5 million.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Earmarked contributions for the Slovakia operation amount to some US\$ 454,129:

Japan US\$ 454,129

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS¹ | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of softly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

Private donors USA 11.6 million | Private donors Sweden 6.6 million | Private donors Switzerland 6.1 million | Private donors Luxembourg 5.1 million | Private donors Germany 4.8 million | Private donors Netherlands 2.6 million | Private donors Spain 2.1 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS² | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.

Sweden 77.6 million | Norway 63.1 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Netherlands 34.1 million | Germany 23.1 million | Switzerland 18.9 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.9 million

CONTACTS

Danijela Popovic-Efendic, Head of National Office

popovicd@unhcr.org Cell +421 949 593 649

Russell Fraser, External Relations Officer

fraser@unhcr.org Cell +421 949 489 441

¹ Due to their earmarking at the region or sub-region, or to a related situation or theme, the other softly earmarked contributions listed are those which can potentially be used for Hungary MCO. Where a donor has contributed \$2 million or more, the total amount of the contributions is shown.

² Contributed without restrictions on its use, unearmarked funding allows UNHCR critical flexibility in how best to reach refugees and other populations of concern who are in the greatest need and at the greatest risk. Where a donor has contributed \$10 million or more, the total amount of the contribution is shown.
For more information: <http://reporting.unhcr.org>