

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #42

10 March 2023

Ukraine. UNHCR repaired the house of family in Borodianka, 28 February, 2023
© UNHCR/ Victoria Andrievska

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

8,108,448

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe (7 Mar)

4,890,639*

Refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe (7 March)

5,352,000

Estimated number of IDPs in Ukraine (23 Jan) Link : [Internal Displacement Report](#)

UNHCR RESPONSE 2023

96,290

People received cash assistance in Bulgaria, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia

41,045

Refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia

47,100

Refugees from Ukraine received protection services (integration, legal support, social protection, accommodation, awareness raising sessions)

* The figure "Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe" may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons; or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

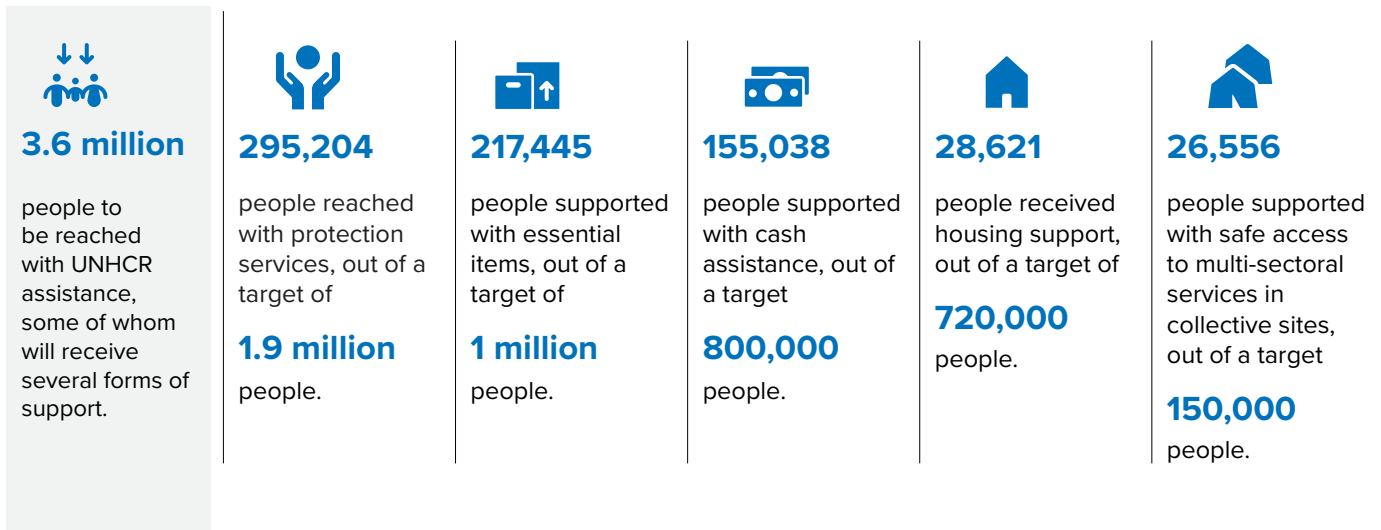
- Since the beginning of 2023, some 2.2 million border crossings have been noted from Ukraine to neighbouring countries, whereas some 1.7 million border crossings have been noted back to Ukraine, based on the government's data. While these movements are pendular, the exits continue exceeding the returns, which speaks to the rising number of refugees fleeing the shelling and missiles targeting civilian infrastructure, as well as resulting power outages.
- On 7 March, an event on the role of national and local NGOs as frontline actors in the Ukrainian refugee response was held on the margins of UNHCR's Standing Committee. The side event was organized by UNHCR, along with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) and the EU Permanent Delegation to the UN. Drawing on an [initial rapid assessment report](#) commissioned by ICVA and UNHCR in 2022, the event shared lived experiences of local actors' engagement in the response. The panel featured interventions from the [NGO Polish Migration Forum](#), and a refugee-led organization, the National Congress of Ukrainians of Moldova, who gave insights about their role in the refugee response, and formulated recommendations to the international community on how to strengthen engagement and support for local actors. UNHCR Director of External Relations Dominique Hyde [stressed](#) that national and local organizations play a critical role in protecting and assisting refugees, equipped with knowledge of the context they are vital partners and must be further supported
- You can find out more about the situation and the response on the [dedicated UNHCR Ukraine Emergency website](#).

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UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- On 4-5 March, Russian forces continued artillery shelling and missile attacks in [nine regions of Ukraine](#), resulting in civilian casualties and damage to residential areas. Intense shelling has compounded an already precarious humanitarian situation in the town of Bakhmut. Local authorities in Zakarpatska expect to receive up to 1,000 internally displaced people evacuated from hot spots, such as Bakhmut, in the upcoming weeks.
- The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres [visited](#) Ukraine on 8 March to show the United Nations full commitment and to seek solutions. This is Guterres third visit in less than a year. The Secretary-General noted the UN had been on the ground throughout the invasion, delivering aid to millions. *"I want to express my deep solidarity with all the victims of the war. To those who have lost their lives and to their loved ones. To those who have seen their hopes dashed or had to flee in search of survival"*.
- As of 6 March, OHCHR [has recorded](#) 21,793 civilian casualties (8,173 killed and 13,620 injured) since the beginning of the war. This includes a total of 589 civilian casualties recorded in February 2023 alone.

TARGETS 2023



UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- Generators:** Since the distribution started in 2022, UNHCR has delivered 114 generators benefitting more than 267,000 people across the country. For example, UNHCR delivered two high-capacity generators to support invincibility points and critical civilian infrastructure in Ivano-Frankivska oblast, expected to benefit some 1,000 people per month.
- NFIs:** In Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, Kharkivska, Khersonska, Poltavska, Sumska, and Zaporizka oblasts, UNHCR's local partner Proliska provided over 9,000 individuals with over 21,500 non-food items (NFIs), including sleeping mats, solar lamps, kitchen sets, pillows, thermos flasks, and jerry cans, with a focus on individuals and settlements recently affected by shelling. 16 heating points in Lvivska and in Volynska oblast were also supported with NFIs.
- Inter-agency convoys:** On 3 March, UNHCR joined an [inter-agency](#) convoy that delivered blankets, bedding and kitchen sets, hygiene items and solar lamps to cover the basic needs of some 4,500 people in the Kherson region, which has been severely affected by the hostilities in late 2022.
- Monitoring:** During **136 monitoring visits** over the last two weeks to the border crossing points with Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, UNHCR assisted **431 people** with protection counselling, **115 people** with legal assistance and **23 people** with social accompaniments services.
- Protection and psychosocial support:** Over the last two weeks, during more than 130 monitoring visits in Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Poltavska, Sumska and Zaporizka oblasts, over 740 internally displaced persons were supported with protection counselling on financial aid, medical care, social benefits, documentation and legal assistance. In Zakarpatska and Ivano-Frankivska oblasts, more than 1,150 internally displaced persons were provided with protection counselling.
- Housing:** 45 families in Mykolaivska oblast were supported with emergency shelter kits (ESKs) by UNHCR partner TTA. Repairs were completed in a collective site in Lvivska oblast hosting 100 internally displaced persons, increasing the capacity of the site up to 275 people.
- Find more information in the [regular Ukraine country operational updates](#) and on the [UNHCR Ukraine portal](#) page.

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

Following the global launch of the 2023 [Ukraine Situation Regional Refugee Response Plan](#) (RRP) on 15 February, the RRP country chapters for [Bulgaria](#), [Estonia](#), [Hungary](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Poland](#), the [Republic of Moldova](#), [Romania](#), and [Slovakia](#) have been published. The Czech Republic 2023 RRP chapter will be launched next week. Country chapters present critical overviews of needs and risks refugees from Ukraine face, while proposing context-specific strategies to meet them.

Blue Dots

40 Blue Dots have been established by UNHCR and UNICEF in:

| | | | | | |
|----------|----|----------|---|----------|---|
| Bulgaria | 6 | Poland | 8 | Slovenia | 1 |
| Hungary | 3 | Romania | 7 | | |
| Moldova | 10 | Slovakia | 5 | | |

The [Digital Blue Dot](#) is a regional website that provides localised and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs, information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 07 March 2023)



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. *Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]) Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe

COUNTRY UPDATES

BULGARIA

153,170

refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

17,100

refugees have been reached through **6** Blue Dot Hubs

1,331

refugees received cash assistance

1,400

visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria Help Page

- **Blue dot hubs:** On 27 and 28 February, UNHCR and UNICEF conducted a rapid protection assessment of the Blue Dot Hub in Ruse with a view to transform it into a community center and ensure sustainability beyond the emergency response.
- **Health:** So far in 2023, over 1,900 refugees from Ukraine have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid (MHPSS).
- **NFIs:** Within the reporting period, UNHCR and partner Bulgarian Red Cross Society (BRC) distributed NFIs, mostly blankets and hygiene kits, to over 1,200 refugees in Burgas, Dobrich and Varna.

CZECH REPUBLIC

495,569

refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

301

refugees from Ukraine have received protection services as of 28 February

4,761

visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic Help Page

- **Employment and risk of labour exploitation:** During a workshop on 23 February, some 100 representatives of government, academia and NGOs discussed employment among refugees from Ukraine, including risks of labour exploitation and human trafficking in this context. The workshop was conducted jointly with IOM and partner Slovo 21.

HUNGARY

34,248

refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

2,842

refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners

2,885

refugees have been reached through **3** Blue Dot Hubs

13,735

visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- **Coordination:** UNHCR [launched](#) the RRP 2023 [Hungary Chapter](#) on 7 March. Some 100 people from the government, NGOs, diplomatic community, and partners were in attendance.
- **Employment and risk of labour exploitation:** During a workshop on 22 February, 31 people representatives of government and NGOs discussed risks of labour exploitation and human trafficking in this context among refugees from Ukraine. The workshop was conducted jointly with IOM and partner Menedek.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Hungary data portal](#)

POLAND

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 1,564,711 refugees have registered for temporary protection | UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023 | | | |
| | 10,849 people were provided with protection support over the phone | 7,170 people were counselled at the 8 Blue Dot Hubs and 6 Community Centres | 9,024 refugees were reached with cash assistance | 129,179 views to the UNHCR Poland Help Page |

- **Coordination:** UNHCR [launched](#) the RRP 2023 Poland Chapter in Warsaw on 23 February. Some 200 people from the government, NGOs, diplomatic community, and partners were in attendance.
- **Inclusion:** Some 200 refugees [participated](#) in the Rzeszow Job and Educational Fair on 1 and 2 March to engage with companies. UNHCR attended to help with translations and legal advice.
- **Protection:** In 2023, over 3,151 refugees have received legal counselling by UNHCR's partners ELIL, Safe Passage and Halina Nieć Legal assistance (HNLAC). The main queries related to residency and documentation, social and financial benefits.
- **NFIs:** During the last two weeks, UNHCR distributed winter clothes for 186 refugees in collective accommodation in Malopolskie and Lubelskie.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Poland data portal](#)

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| 107,728 refugees from Ukraine recorded in the country | UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023 | | | |
| | 7,770 refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners | +5,000 refugees have been reached through 10 Blue Dot Hubs | 72,356 people have received cash assistance | 83,483 visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page |

- **Coordination:** On 3 March, the Moldova 2023 RRP chapter was [launched](#), with some 130 people from the government, UN Agencies, NGOs and others attending.
- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, nearly 12,740 people called the counselling hotline.
- **Temporary protection:** UNHCR and the General Inspectorate for Migration launched a joint campaign on 28 February about temporary protection (TP) registration using communication materials in Ukrainian, Russian, Romanian, and English, which have been shared on [websites](#), [social media](#) and broadcasted on TV.
- **Protection:** So far in 2023, UNHCR partner INTERSOS has provided 288 people with psychosocial support and psychological first aid.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Moldova portal page](#)

ROMANIA

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| 118,855 refugees registered for temporary protection | UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023 | | | |
| | 17,210 refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners | 11,764 refugees were reached with cash assistance | 14,823 visits to the UNHCR Romania Help Page | 253 refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid |

- **Protection monitoring:** Some 100 people, including refugees, authorities, embassies, and RRP partners attended the [one-year mark event](#) organized by the UNHCR-led Inter-Agency coordination platform on 24 February reflecting on the refugee response in Romania and commending the solidarity.
- **Fast-track to Romania:** So far in 2023, UNHCR and IOM have helped 693 refugees to reach Romania from Moldova through the fast-track transfer agreement.
- **Integration:** So far in 2023, partner Ateliere Fara Frontiere (AFF) has assisted nearly 300 refugees with counselling, Romanian language courses and other services. Meanwhile, partner HEKS/EPER has so far enrolled 95 refugees into Romanian language courses.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Romania data portal](#)

SLOVAKIA

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| 110,968 refugees registered for temporary protection | UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023 | | | |
| | 9,050 refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners | 8,890 people been assisted with legal counselling at 5 Blue Dots | 1,819 refugees have received cash assistance | 64,470 visits to the UNHCR HELP Page |

- **Coordination:** On 27 February, UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior [launched](#) the 2023 RRP Slovakia chapter with the participation of the government, diplomatic community, NGOs and other actors. Meanwhile, on 3 March, UNHCR and the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a framework of cooperation to advance refugee coordination, as well as to promote and monitor human rights.
- **Counselling:** Some 1,800 refugees from Ukraine reached out to the [UNHCR-UNICEF hotline](#) in 2023, while over 9,000 refugees were counselled by partners SHC and Mareena.
- **Inclusion:** 25 refugees attended an information session on taxation for refugees employed in Slovakia organized by UNHCR partner SME SPOLU on 4 March.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Slovakia data portal](#).

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

- As of 28 February, **20,983 refugees** from Ukraine had been recorded in Belarus.
- So far in 2023, 73 refugees received food packages and hygiene kits from the partner Belarusian Red Cross Society and 22 refugees received bedding sets from UNHCR via the Refugee Counselling Service.

ESTONIA

- As of 27 February, **43,485 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- On 1 March, UNHCR visited the accommodation facility in Sõmera on the island of Saaremaa, hosting more than 120 refugees, and met with the authorities to discuss challenges faced by refugees from Ukraine, including longer-term housing and lack of capacity at schools.

LATVIA

- As of 27 February, **46,048 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- During the reporting week, the Information Centre in Riga managed by UNHCR NGO partner “I want to help refugees”, in cooperation with other NGOs, responded to 52 queries raised by refugees, related to food, clothes, hygiene items, and employment opportunities.

LITHUANIA

- As of 27 February, **75,197 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- UNHCR partner Lithuanian Red Cross Society conducted 3 field visits to different reception centers in February. The Red Cross Society found that the overall reception and protection conditions of Ukrainians accommodated in the centres run by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour met basic standards.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

- So far in 2023, **2,080 refugees** have received psychosocial support through UNHCR partners.
- So far in 2023, **17,370 refugees** have been counselled in person and over the counseling lines by UNHCR and partners in the Russian Federation.

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI). The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates 11 UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 400,000 people in collective sites in 2023. The Protection Cluster consists of 136 partners, including sub-clusters (57 partners under General Protection) and operates through five coordination hubs to reach an anticipated 7 million people in 2023. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 97 active partners across five coordination hubs, targeting 3.3 million people in 2023 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

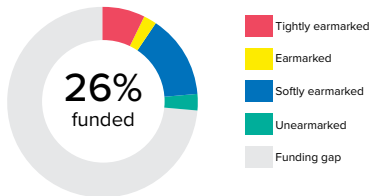
[The 2023 RRP](#) aims at ensuring refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, with a special focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. Whereas the 2022 RRP focused primarily on the urgent provision of protection services and humanitarian assistance, the 2023 plan places an emphasis on refugees' socio-economic inclusion, in recognition of the challenges faced by refugees due to their prolonging displacement. Support is foreseen to institutions, services and facilities used both by refugees and members of host communities, which will be crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between host and refugee communities. As in 2022, inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs) led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, will continue working at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Ukraine Situation Financial Update

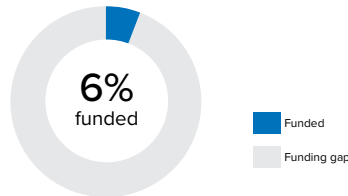
(as of 7 March 2023)

\$ 1.1 billion
required (USD)



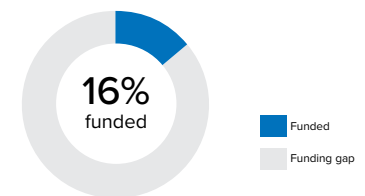
Inter-Agency Financial Updates

\$ 1.68 billion
required (USD)
(as of 9 March 2023)



Revised:
[Ukraine Situation: Regional
Refugee Response Plan](#)

\$ 3.95 billion
required (USD)
(as of 9 March 2023)



Revised:
[UN Flash Appeal \(Ukraine\)](#)

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