UNICEF Romania refugee response – facts and figures

Situation overview

3,727,204  
Total border crossing from Ukraine and Moldova into Romania

2,181,423  
Back to Ukraine

95,390  
Staying in Romania

135,900  
Received temporary protection

44,760  
Estimated number of children in the country*

6,192  
Unaccompanied and separated children

24,806  
Ukrainian children enrolled in formal education

Our vision: from emergency response to protection for all

- Ukraine refugee response started at the onset of the war in Ukraine with the establishment of Blue Dot safe spaces along the borders to provide immediate assistance to the refugees arriving in Romania.
- The response has transitioned from a primarily emergency one to a wider framework for the protection of all vulnerable populations through integrated service models run by the local communities and authorities. Municipalities are being supported to access European Union funding to provide more sustainable response.
- The concept of Blue Dots – the highlight of the response previously – is now in the process of transitioning towards a “Blue Grid” approach involving a progressive handover of key response activities to local social protection authorities.
- As part of the refugee population settled inside the country, the response adapted and expanded to new areas to accommodate the developing needs of refugees: systems of education, health, and social protection.
- The integration of refugees is the ongoing phase of the response with the aim of gradually progressing into their long-term social inclusion.
- Lessons learnt, experience and knowledge built as part of the response to the Ukraine refugee crisis transcend the boundaries of Romania and can be a starting point for cross-border system strengthening as part of long-term emergency preparedness and response.

All phases of the response remain critical to the ongoing efforts to respond to the changing needs of the refugee populations

What we do: UNICEF and partners

UNICEF and partners provide a minimum standard of protection and care to different categories of refugees, especially the most vulnerable.

Services in safe spaces and hubs are dedicated to mothers and infants and young children, people and children with disabilities, adolescents and the elderly.

These services include but are not limited to: registration, immediate assistance and protection, provision of accommodation, meals, and supplies such as winter clothes, medical and learning kits, medical and legal referrals, education, mental health and psycho-social support.

For more information:
UNICEF website: unicef.org/Romania
UNHCR Data Portal: data.unhcr.org

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* Based on number of Temporary Protection permits issued as of 24/06/2023 (Source: UNHCR Data Portal)
### Progress to date

#### Child protection
UNICEF’s focus remains on identification, registration and protection of unaccompanied and/or separated children arriving in Romania, including children from residential care in Ukraine. UNICEF and partners identify their needs and seek to provide them with the most suitable forms of care and protection. Protection from all forms of violence – including gender-based violence, trafficking, and sexual exploitation and abuse – remains an integral part of the refugee response. Mental health and psychosocial support to different categories of refugee populations remains another key component of the response.

#### Education
Employing a three-tiered approach to provide access to education to all refugee children: 1) learning hubs and safe learning spaces, including for interaction with peers from Romania; 2) support to online education in Ukrainian; 3) distribution of learning materials. In 2023, the focus is increasingly on accelerating integration of the refugee schoolchildren into the education system of Romania.

#### Basic Needs
In 2023, UNICEF will continue ensuring access of refugee populations to potable water, hygiene and sanitation, and winter clothes – including as part of contingency plans and emergency preparedness.

#### Accountability to affected populations
Accountability to affected populations is mainstreamed into all interventions through information sharing and development of feedback mechanisms on different channels – including personal interaction and outreach via social media with messages on safe and healthy behaviours and access to services available in Romania.

#### Social policy and protection
UNICEF works with partners to support the integration of refugee populations into the social protection system of Romania, raise their awareness on the protection of unaccompanied and separated children, and support their access to social assistance programmes.

### Funding overview

UNICEF remains grateful to our government and civil society partners for continued efforts to help us reach all refugee populations in Romania. Funds received by donors are of utmost importance for sustaining the Ukraine refugee response.

#### 2023 Ukraine Response Budget

**Legend**
- Reached 2022
- Reached 2023
- Remaining target

- **Health interventions** focus on primary health care services, including immunization and provision of medical supplies. In 2023, healthcare provision and nutrition support will continue, combined with efforts to strengthen the capacities of frontline health workers and the overall healthcare system of Romania.

- **Child protection**
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- **Social policy and protection**: UNICEF works with partners to support the integration of refugee populations into the social protection system of Romania, raise their awareness on the available social benefits, support capacity building of decentralized authorities, and facilitate refugees’ access to social assistance programmes.