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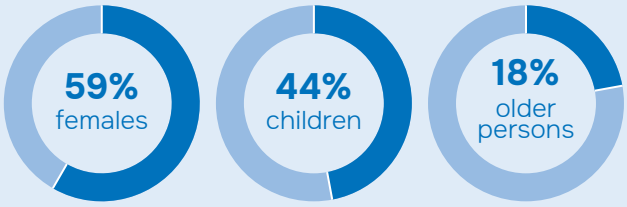
From 25 November to 10 December 2023, UNHCR and partners conducted over 40 activities throughout Moldova as part of the #16days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The activities included a night march for women's safety in the streets, storytelling and photography workshops, movie sessions followed by debates, awareness raising among children at schools, and a charity bazar in support of survivors of GBV. Both refugees and host community members participated in the events. Also, a training was organized for 50 police officers on how to support LGBTIQ+ persons, persons engaging in the sale and exchange of sex, persons living with HIV and persons who use drugs.

Population figures

120,600 refugees from Ukraine in Moldova:



About **1.4 M arrivals** since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

Around 27,700 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

Nearly 7,000 citizens of Ukraine have been granted resident permits, either permanent or temporary.

Around 1,140 individuals in the asylum system: 206 persons with refugee status, 357 humanitarian protection beneficiaries, 585 asylum seekers under examination.

126,000
refugees received cash assistance since 24 February 2022 (over USD 146.3M disbursed)

182,000
refugees supported with legal assistance since 24 February 2022 (as of 30 November)

2,300
refugees now hosted in 44 refugee accommodation centres supported by UNHCR

Highlights of the month

Joining efforts to support the inclusion of people with disabilities

On 18 and 20 December, UNHCR, the European Disability Forum and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection organized the first Dialogue on Disability within the Refugee Response in the Republic of Moldova. On the first day, UNHCR and several Organizations for People with Disabilities (OPDs) visited two community service centres, with the purpose of enhancing the integration from a disability perspective in activities, and strengthening collaboration with organizations that represent people with disabilities. The second day featured a technical roundtable where solutions for a better inclusion of the refugees with disabilities were discussed along with a series of presentations of organizations supporting people with disabilities, including OPDs. The event saw the participation of the Ambassador of the EU delegation, the US Ambassador and over 100 participants from UN Agencies, government institutions, NGOs, and refugees.

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Dialogue on Disability within the Refugee Response in the Republic of Moldova.

Moldova reaffirms its commitment to refugees at the Global Refugee Forum

On 13- 15 December, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Adrian Efros, the Minister of Labor and Social Protection, Alexei Buzu, as well as representatives of the National Congress of Ukrainians in Moldova and the Women's Platform "ROMNI", who represented the civil society, attended the Global Refugee Forum. The Government announced nine pledges, focusing on the inclusion of refugees, protection of children's rights, promotion of gender equality, reduction of the risk of gender-based violence, and the provision of comprehensive services for refugee survivors.

Mainstreaming Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in the Refugee Response

On 18 December, UNHCR provided PSEA training for 10 Roma mediators residing in the Transnistrian region. The mediators were instructed about the basic principles of PSEA, acceptable and unacceptable behavior of a humanitarian worker, the victim-centered approach necessary when interacting with survivors of SEA, as well as available channels of reporting SEA allegation on the territory of Moldova. This was the last of over 50 SEA trainings carried out in 2023, which reached over 1,300 humanitarian workers.

> **People with disabilities can work, learn, create a family and lead an active and independent life, if they are approached in society as equals, and their rights are respected. When given adequate support, people with disabilities can actively contribute to community life.**
>
> **Victoria Boțan**,
> Representative of Motivație NGO

© Minister of Internal Affairs

UNHCR and IOM supported the government's General Staff Exercise aiming to enhance prevention, preparedness, and response to power outages in the Republic of Moldova, as well as ensure a swift and coordinated approach. The exercise organized on 19 -20 December by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, and the Ministry of Energy, counted with the participation of 12 other ministries.

Children's rights are human rights

On 4 – 5 December, UNHCR partner the National Centre for Preventing Child Abuse (CNPAC) hosted two workshops for Refugee Accommodation Centre (RAC) staff. Participants provided inputs to draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for child protection in RACs, and participated in a session facilitated by a psychologist on conducting interviews with children. On 15 December, a final roundtable event was organized to validate the SOPs with representatives from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Also in December, CNPAC won the General Award for an Outstanding Human Rights Achievement during a Gala Ceremony organized in Chisinau. The award is a recognition of CNPAC's efforts in promoting and protecting human rights between January 2022 – November 2023.

Financial information

(December 2023)

Financial requirements	Funded 91%	Gap 9%
$ 115.5 M	$ 105.1 M	$ 10.4 M

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The UN Refugee Agency

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For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for Moldova or the Global Focus page for the Ukraine Situation.

Our work would not be possible without UNHCR's implementing partners.

ACTED, people's advocate OMBUDSMAN, avve COPII, CASA MĂRIOAREI, CHARITY CCR, CDA Centrul de Drept al Avocaților, CNPAC, CRS CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, INTERSOS, LAOTAVLA, tarna rom

UNHCR Moldova is also thankful for the cooperation of Moldovan authorities at all levels, other UN agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations.