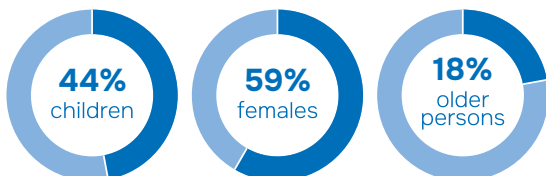


## Population figures

~ **116,600** refugees from Ukraine in Moldova:



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

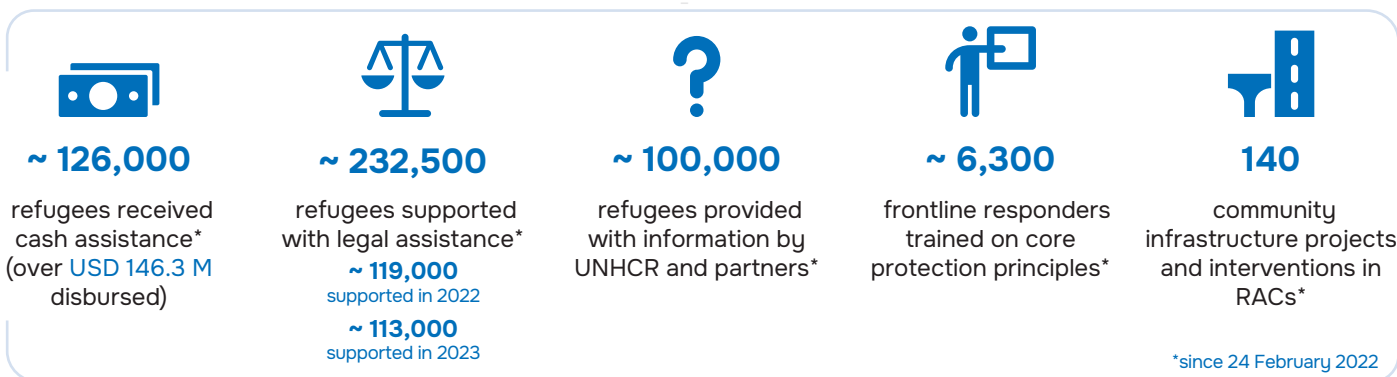
## Legal status in the country

~ **31,000** refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

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

~ **1,138** individuals are in the asylum system:

<b>206</b> persons with refugee status	<b>359</b> humanitarian protection beneficiaries	<b>573</b> asylum seekers under examination
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## Highlights of the month



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### The 3rd visit of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

On 19 January, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi conducted his 3rd visit to Moldova since the beginning of the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine. In his meetings with the President Maia Sandu, the Minister of Internal Affairs Adrian Efros, and the Minister of Labour and Social Protection Alexei Buzu, the High Commissioner thanked both Moldova and Moldovans for warmly welcoming refugees and reassured UNHCR's support to the country in 2024. In addition, he took part in a meeting hosted by the World Bank to discuss collective efforts in the humanitarian and development spheres within the country. Finally, Mr. Grandi met with refugees residing in a Refugee Accommodation Centre in Chisinau and gave an [interview](#) to the national newspaper Ziarul de Garda.

### Cash assistance linkage to legal status

In 2024, UNHCR will continue to provide cash assistance to vulnerable refugees from Ukraine and their families who reside in the Republic of Moldova. However, the program will undergo some changes. In order to access cash assistance, refugees will be required to obtain a more secure form of legal status in Moldova, including such as Temporary Protection, humanitarian protection, refugee status, asylum, permanent, or temporary residency. Also, new vulnerability criteria will enter into effect in 2024. These changes seek to ensure that the refugees receive protection and safety from the Moldovan authorities, and that the most vulnerable refugees continue to be supported.

UNHCR has been actively working to keep the refugees informed about these changes and has been supporting refugees' access to a legal status in Moldova. So far, UNHCR in coordination with the General Inspectorate for Migration and partners reaching over 800 refugees with information provided in-person.

### Increasing efforts for an evidence-based refugee response

On 4 January, UNHCR in collaboration with OHCHR published the [Data Disaggregation Factsheet](#). It is a tool of advocacy for increasing efforts in data disaggregation for an evidence-based humanitarian

response in Moldova. It also provides guidelines and recommendations to both humanitarian actors and donors on how to improve their data collection and interpretation of data on sex, age, disability and diversity-related across the project cycle.

” **Life may have taken unexpected turns but, we've found warmth here. Home, for now, is this shared space.** ”

**Taisia,**  
refugee from Ukraine living in an accommodation centre in Chisinau together with her husband



### One Minute Festival

As part of the selection process for the One Minute Festival finalists, UNHCR is holding a movie session with staff to vote for the best short films. 42 films were submitted, but only 39 were accepted as they met the deadlines and other criteria set out in the festival's Terms of Reference. The films are being reviewed by a committee, including a UNHCR representative who will vote based on feedback provided by colleagues. The award ceremony and exhibition of films will take place in April.



© UNHCR/ Monica Vazquez

During the first meeting of this year of the Commission on Asylum & Migration, the Moldovan Government reaffirmed its ongoing commitment to supporting the protection and inclusion of refugees. It was announced that temporary protection will be extended, and access to essential rights and services will continue to be guaranteed. UNHCR presented the 2024 Moldova Refugee Response Plan, a collaborative effort by the government, the United Nations, civil society, as well as refugee and local communities. The meeting took place on 24 January and brought together around 170 participants from over 90 organizations.

### Addressing gender equality and empowering women and girls

UNHCR and UN Women have developed and released the Moldova Gender Accountability Framework (GAF) report. The GAF is an inter-agency tool that helps humanitarian actors track their performance against global commitments to address gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. This exercise was carried out in Moldova in September 2023 to inform 2024 Refugee Response Planning efforts, and also to feed into global monitoring efforts related to gender inclusion in humanitarian responses.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to global UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

Top donors supporting UNHCR Moldova:

**Austria | Australia for UNHCR | Canada | Czech Republic | Denmark | European Union | Finland | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Liechtenstein | Norway | Republic of Korea | Switzerland | Sweden | United States of America | Private donors.**

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



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



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For more information, please visit the [Operational Data Portal](#) for Moldova or the [Global Focus page](#) for the Ukraine Situation.