

# ROMANIA

Weekly Update #132

3 February 2025

## Key figures

**179,737 refugees** obtained temporary protection in Romania (as of 31 December 2024).

**17,647 refugees** enrolled for cash assistance in 2024 and 2025.

**27,495 refugees** provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2024 and 2025.

**9,548 refugees** supported with livelihood and employment services in 2024 and 2025.

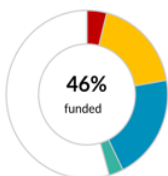
“ I am truly thankful for the support provided to vulnerable individuals like me throughout Romania. It has been a lifeline during these challenging times.” – *Olena, refugee teenager from Ukraine residing in Romania.*

## Funding Situation

as of 31 December 2024

**\$54.3 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024



## Highlight

On 28 January, UNHCR hosted a kick-off webinar with 2024 implementing partners Romania. The meeting was dynamic and engaging, giving each organization the opportunity to present their activities and outline their roles within the collaborative effort. Participants shared insights into their core initiatives, emphasizing how their work aligns with the broader goals of the partnership. Key UNHCR units provided updates on strategic objectives, timelines, audit recommendations, financial monitoring, key messages for successfully implementing the Protection Strategy, data handling and indicator reporting. The meeting fostered a strong sense of shared purpose and collaboration, laying the foundation for a successful partnership moving forward.

## Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

UNHCR provides humanitarian support to refugees by distributing core relief items (CRIs) to address their most urgent basic needs. Last week, UNHCR, in collaboration with partners, distributed CRIs including clothes, blankets and hygiene kits in Brasov, Galati, Bucharest and Iasi. Since the start of 2025, UNHCR has distributed over 6,900 CRIs to some 4,200 refugees.



CRI distribution at Independent Midwives Association. January 2025. © UNHCR

On 29 January, as part of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, UNHCR held a digital safety session hosted by its partner World Vision Romania in Bucharest. Teenagers participated in a training focused on online self-protection. After the event, participants emphasized the session's importance and relevance to their integration into the Romanian community. Moving forward, UNHCR plans to collaborate further with refugee-led organizations to offer digital safety sessions for people from diverse backgrounds.

UNHCR's partner Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) has provided protection services around 1000 refugees in the first month of 2025. UNHCR, together with CNRR is providing refugees across Romania with protection services, legal support, assistance to access health services, language course, school enrolment, social protection, accommodation and awareness raising sessions. CNRR is also present at major border crossings with the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to provide counselling and support to refugees.

On 29 January, UNHCR participated in a conference in Bucharest on the integration of African migrants, refugees, and Roma community members, organized by HIAS. The event was attended by around 20 participants from various organizations, including International Organisation for Migration, Department for Emergency Situation, Ateliere fără Frontiere, and the Cameroon Association in Romania. During the event, HIAS shared the findings of their recent survey which highlights challenges such as language barriers, underemployment due to difficult qualification equivalence, and labour exploitation. Participants agreed that further joint advocacy is essential to support integration efforts, particularly for vulnerable groups like Roma refugees and African migrants.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to 2024 and 2025 programmes. For more details: [Romania Funding Update – 2024](#).