

# ROMANIA

## Weekly Update #133

10 February 2025

### Key figures

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

**17,694 refugees** enrolled for cash assistance in 2024 and 2025.

**27,791 refugees** provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2024 and 2025.

**9,752 refugees** supported with livelihood and employment services in 2024 and 2025.

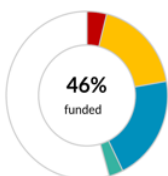
“**Nearly three years into the crisis in Ukraine, the support we receive is giving us hope and strength to rebuild. We are grateful for the assistance that sustains us in this challenging time.**” – *A refugee woman from Ukraine residing in Romania.*

### Funding Situation

as of 31 December 2024

**\$54.3 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024



### Highlight

Starting with February 2025, UNHCR, in partnership with the General Directorate of Social Assistance of the Municipality of Bucharest (DGASMB), distributes hygiene kits and baby diapers to refugees from Ukraine and to vulnerable members of the host community. So far, DGASMB assisted 483 individuals at the ROMEXPO Community and Service Center, marking an important step in supporting the vulnerable. The distribution of non-food items (NFIs) will continue throughout the month, with plans to distribute around 5,000 hygiene kits across ROMEXPO and DGASMB social service locations. As of January 2025, the Municipality Donation Centre RomExpo has integrated with the UNHCR service hub.

### Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

On 3 February, UNHCR and Sensiblu Foundation hosted an awareness session for elderly refugees in Bucharest to promote social engagement, personal development, and well-being. The event focused on building opportunities for socialization, local integration, and self-education to reduce isolation. Participants discussed community involvement, hobbies, the use of digital tools, and free resources like language courses and psychological support. They expressed interest in more initiatives, particularly on digital literacy, social rights, and healthcare access. In response, UNHCR will expand programs to better meet the needs of older individuals.

On 4 February, UNHCR and partner World Vision organized a painting workshop in Bucharest, led by a talented Ukrainian artist, with children participating. The workshop, that is part of a mental health and psychosocial support program, provided a safe space for children to explore their emotions through creative expression. The session aimed to promote emotional well-being by helping children process their feelings, reduce stress, and foster social connections with their peers. Through the act of painting, the children were able to express their experiences, build resilience, and feel supported within a community, highlighting the importance of creative outlets in healing and mental health recovery.



Painting workshop, February 2025. © UNHCR

On 5 February, UNHCR hosted an online Information Session for refugees from Ukraine residing in Ilfov County, focusing on social assistance and healthcare access. Attended by 24 participants, the session presented the available social benefits such as child allowances, maternity benefits, disability allowances, and Minimum Inclusion Income (VMI). The session covered eligibility criteria, required documentation, and benefit amounts. Additionally, the session aimed to clarify refugees' rights to healthcare access and the necessary procedures for receiving medical treatment.

From 3 to 7 February, UNHCR's partner World Vision reached over 80 refugees across six locations in Romania with information on available services. Support included pension registration in Ukraine, child allocation programs, free public transport for pensioners, assistance for low-income individuals and guidance for newly arrived refugees. Refugees also received help with CV writing, job search and professional orientation.

*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](#).*