

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #140

1 April 2025

Key figures

179,822 refugees obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of February 2025).

736 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2025; 17,419 in 2024.

3,795 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025; 26,086 in 2024.

1,605 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025; 9,286 in 2024.

“ I am grateful for the support received. This helped me with medical exams, medicines and participating to Romanian language classes.”
Yeliseeva, a refugee woman from Ukraine hosted in Bucharest, Romania.

Funding Situation

As of 28 February 2025

\$39.0 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2025



■ Tightly earmarked
■ Earmarked
■ Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
■ Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
■ Funding gap (indicative)

Highlight

On 28 March, the Ambassador of Japan in Romania H.E. Mr. Takashi KATAE, together with the UNHCR Representative, Mr. Pablo Zapata, visited the Katya Centre in Brasov, which is supported by UNHCR. During the visit, H.E. Mr. KATAE observed activities supporting the socio-economic inclusion of Ukrainian refugees, organized with the help of World Vision and Katya Hub. The Japanese delegation also met with several Ukrainian refugees who have started new businesses in Romania and learned more about their contributions to the local economy.



Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Mr. Takashi KATAE visiting Katya Centre, Brasov, March 2025.

Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

On 21 March, UNHCR together with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) and the Centre for the Comparative Study on Migration released a [paper presenting recommendations for sustainable accommodation centres in Romania for refugees from Ukraine](#). Based on the 2024 site assessment of five centres in Bucharest, Galati, Iasi, Suceava and Timisoara, the document highlights challenges like securing funding, infrastructure gaps and limited access to services. It offers recommendations to improve sustainability, living conditions and emergency preparedness, focusing on long-term housing for vulnerable refugees from Ukraine and other at-risk groups. The document also underscores the vital role of collective centres in meeting the urgent shelter needs of refugees in crisis situations.

On 26-27 March, UNHCR participated in a roundtable organized by its partner, the Romania National Council for Refugees (CNRR), to strengthen asylum capacity. The event, attended by 34 judges, lawyers, decision-makers and legal counsellors, focused on recent European legal developments, challenges in asylum procedures and Romania's efforts to align with the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. Discussions emphasized how these legal updates impact refugees' rights and access to asylum, aiming to improve the system to better support those in need of protection. UNHCR also shared insights on global displacement trends and the refugee definition, ensuring policies better address refugees' needs and facilitate their integration.

On 25 March, 127 Sudanese refugees were evacuated from Libya to the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Timisoara. At the ETC refugees are receiving support from UNHCR and its partner AIDRom prior their final resettlement to a third country. At the ETC, these families find safety, have their basic needs met and acquire essential skills as they go through the resettlement process. Since its opening in 2008, the ETC supported the resettlement of 4,220 refugees to a third country.

On 1 April, UNHCR, in its capacity as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination platform, convened a meeting of Refugee Response Plan partners. The gathering brought together representatives from 33 appealing partners to discuss the impact of the current complex funding landscape on refugees. The discussions focused on identifying remedial actions, including the development of evidence-based advocacy and the enhancement of referral pathways. Particular emphasis was placed on strengthening support in the most affected areas of work and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable populations to ensure a more effective and equitable humanitarian response. Discussions on joining forces for funding opportunities were also held.

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 2025 programmes. For more details: [Romania Funding Update – 2025](#).