

UNHCR supports the government to provide **essential aid and protection services** to refugees and asylum seekers, with a focus on facilitating **socioeconomic inclusion** and **social cohesion**.

UNHCR assists Bulgaria to strengthen its asylum system in line with international and EU standards. In the second half of the year, following the release of the European Commission's common implementation plan,

UNHCR focuses its support to the Government for the development **national implementation plan** for the **EU Asylum and Migration Pact**.

## KEY FIGURES

**76,852**

Ukrainian refugees in Bulgaria with valid registration for temporary protection by 28 February 2025

**643**

Asylum new applications in 2025

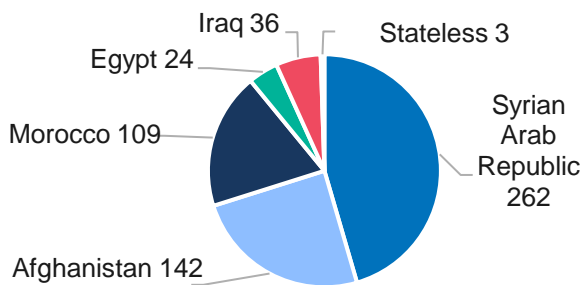
**77**

Unaccompanied children applying for asylum in 2025

**33**

Unaccompanied children with valid temporary protection as of February 2025

## ASYLUM SEEKERS: COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



Total asylum applications registered in 2025: **643**  
(State Agency for Refugees data)

## SERVICES PROVIDED IN FEBRUARY 2025



**692** people received **legal assistance**



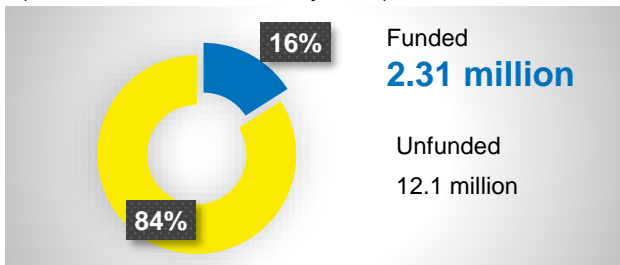
**692** people benefitted from **livelihoods and economic inclusion services**



**339** people received **mental health and psychosocial support services**

## FUNDING: USD 14.5 MILLION

(Received as of 28 February 2025)



## TP REGISTRATIONS IN BULGARIA BY REGION

Map showing the districts where TP holders are located



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Iryna, Ukrainian refugee in Bulgaria, after successfully graduating from Lesaffre Baking Academy. Her transformation journey from an advertising manager to a baker can be seen [here](#).

@UNHCR/Dobrin Kashavelov

### Bulgaria Extends Temporary Protection and Humanitarian Aid for people fleeing from Ukraine

The Bulgarian Council of Ministers has extended temporary protection for Ukrainians until March 4, 2026, in line with the European Commission's directive. Those under protection must re-register by 30 April 2025. Additionally, the humanitarian aid program for displaced Ukrainians, initially adopted in 2022, has been extended again until the end of March 2025.

### Bulgaria Maintains Support but Opposes Troop Deployment to Ukraine

Bulgaria firmly rejects sending troops to Ukraine while continuing political, military, economic, and humanitarian aid. President Rumen Radev and Prime Minister Rosen Zhelyazkov reaffirmed this stance, with Parliament passing a declaration against troops deployment. Bulgaria supports Ukraine's sovereignty and calls for a diplomatic resolution while emphasizing that any military decisions rest with Parliament.

### Premiere of a Bulgarian Movie with a Powerful Story about Forcibly Displaced People

UNHCR partnered to the premiere of *The Hunter's Autumn*, a film exploring resilience and human connection through the journey of an unaccompanied refugee child finding support from locals. The screening was followed by a discussion featuring Khaled, one of the faces of UNHCR Bulgaria's *Food for Thought* campaign, who shared his experiences as a refugee from Afghanistan. The event brought together diplomats, media, and representatives from state and humanitarian organizations.

#### UNHCR PRESENCE IN BULGARIA

##### Staff:

33 National Staff

11 International Staff

##### Office:

1 Country Office in Sofia

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:

**Australia | Austria | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Liechtenstein | Norway | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Private donors**



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For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for Bulgaria.

In Bulgaria we protect the people forced to flee together with:



**Ukraine**  
Support & Renovation  
Foundation



Фондация за  
достъп до права  
Foundation for  
Access to Rights



**CRWB**  
Съвет на жените  
бежанки в България



**Каритас**



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