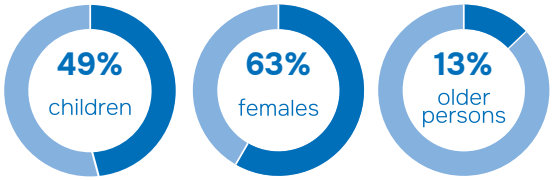
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency | Republic of Moldova

Operations Update
June 2025

Population figures

~132,900 Ukrainian refugees in Moldova:



~ 2.0 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

~ 75,800 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

~ 6,500 citizens of Ukraine have been granted resident permits, either permanent or temporary.

~ 1,800 individuals are in the asylum system:

1,163	506	143
asylum seekers under examination	humanitarian protection beneficiaries	Statelessness determination applicants

~ 20,800
refugees received cash assistance

~ 8,000
refugees supported with legal assistance

~ 15,800
refugees provided with information by UNHCR

~ 660
refugees supported with socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods

*Figures are for 2025 as of 30 June 2025

Highlights of the month

On World Refugee Day, UNHCR launched a children's book that tells a story—and invites little ones to continue it with colors. Written by Yuliia Ivashutkina, a refugee author from Ukraine, and illustrated by Ivanka Costru, a Moldovan artist specializing in children's books, the story is published in both Romanian and Ukrainian. Children listened to the story read by the author herself, then brought it to life with colors—sparking imagination, empathy, and connection among participants.

"In Bălți, refugees are not strangers—they're our neighbours and friends. On World Refugee Day, we honour their strength and reaffirm our commitment to being a place of safety and belonging."

-Alexandr Petkov, Mayor of Bălți

Supporting youth voices and safety

UNHCR, in partnership with the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (CNPAC), launched the third edition of the "Children Telling Stories" exhibition, which featured the voices and perspectives of nine adolescents who shared personal stories and photographs on the theme of "safe space." The initiative fostered self-expression and meaningful child participation, providing a platform for young people to share their experiences and aspirations.

In parallel, with UNHCR's support, CNPAC and the Moldovan National Youth Council organised a workshop on safe employment for 14 adolescents, including both refugee and local youth. The session covered key topics such as labour rights, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and access to youth employment services. By strengthening participants' knowledge of their rights and available resources, the workshop empowered them to make informed decisions—contributing to safer work experiences and greater resilience among adolescents facing socio-economic challenges.

Promoting well-being and equality for Roma adolescents

UNHCR's Roma-led partner Tarna Rom implemented targeted initiatives within the Roma refugee and host communities in the Left Bank, focusing on gender equality and adolescent well-being. Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention sessions were conducted with adolescent boys, building on the Girl Shine curriculum previously used with Roma girls in the same community. The sessions addressed gender roles, respectful relationships, and personal responsibility—fostering early attitudes of respect and equality. As a result, participants demonstrated greater awareness of harmful gender norms and showed increased confidence in promoting non-violent behaviours among their peers. In parallel, Tarna Rom delivered Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) sessions in Popeasca for 12 Roma adolescents. Through interactive learning on hygiene, healthy lifestyles, and adolescent reproductive health, the sessions enhanced participants' knowledge and encouraged healthier choices. This initiative supported improved health awareness and empowered young people within the Roma community to make informed decisions and reduce health-related risks.

Promoting disability inclusion

UNHCR and its partner Keystone carried out two monitoring missions to assess the needs of refugees with disabilities and ensure the inclusion of their perspectives in UNHCR's programming. The teams facilitated information sessions on disability rights and available services, and distributed essential items—such as wheelchairs, assistive devices, and hygiene kits—to support mobility, independence, and dignity. These efforts strengthened inclusive responses and built trust with the refugee community.

Sergio Vieira de Mello academic grants in action

UNHCR launched a new academic grants programme under the Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Chair (SVMC) initiative to strengthen academic engagement on forced displacement. The grants were made available to students and faculty from SVMC member institutions to support research, education, and community outreach on refugee-related issues. The programme supports the development of research, teaching tools, and outreach initiatives that deepen understanding of displacement and promote evidence-based policy dialogue. It encourages stronger collaboration between academia, communities, and decision-makers, and helps integrate refugee issues into academic curricula. By fostering inclusive engagement and building institutional capacity, the programme reinforces the role of universities in advancing protection and durable solutions for displaced populations.

Children in Ratuș, Criuleni, now enjoy a vibrant new playground at the "Curcubeu" Early Education Institution, thanks to support from UNHCR. They climb, swing, and explore in a safe and creative space designed to support learning, play, and inclusion. The playground brings together local and refugee children, helping them build friendships and grow with confidence. By investing in child-friendly spaces, UNHCR creates opportunities for every child to thrive.

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.

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For more information, please visit
the **Operational Data Portal for Moldova**
or the **Global Focus page for Moldova.**

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

acted, avve COPIII, people's advocate, Charity CCR, CDA, Humanitarian Aid Center of the Jewish Community of Moldova, CNPAC, CRS, Casa Mărioarei, Intersos, Keystone Moldova, Laotala, NCUM, tarna rom, UNAIDS

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