



## UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #13

18 May 2022

Bulgaria. Refugees receive services at the crisis centre for refugees from Ukraine in BlackSea city of Burgas.  
 4 May 2022 © UNHCR/Dobrin Kashavelov

### UNHCR PUBLICATIONS

(11 – 18 May)

**Story:** Ukrainian teenager touches Slovenians with sensitivity at the piano (17 May)

**Story:** Ukrainian refugees find warm welcome in neighbouring Moldova (18 May)

**Video:** UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner Kelly Clements meets refugees in Moldova (18 May)

**Story:** My advice to other kids as a refugee from Ukraine? Appreciate what you have (18 May)

#### Previous Ukraine Situation Flash Updates

Flash Update #12 (11 May) available [here](#)

Flash Update #11 (5 May) available [here](#)

Flash Update #10 (28 April) available [here](#)

Flash Update #9 (21 April) available [here](#)

Flash Update #8 (13 April) available [here](#)

Flash Update #7 (6 April) available [here](#)

Flash Update #6 (30 March) available [here](#)

Flash Update #5 (24 March) available [here](#)

Flash Update #4 (18 March) available [here](#)

Flash Update #3 (15 March) available [here](#)

Flash Update #2 (11 March) available [here](#)

Flash Update #1 (8 March) available [here](#)

#### More information

The UNHCR [Hungary portal](#) page

The UNHCR [Moldova portal](#) page

The UNHCR [Poland portal](#) page

he UNHCR [Slovakia portal](#) page *(New)*

The latest Ukraine Emergency: [UNHCR Operational Response and Delivery Update](#) as of 16 May

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### REFUGEE MOVEMENTS FROM UKRAINE

**6,361,116**

Population movements to Ukraine (since 28 February 2022)

**1,887,500**

An estimated **2.8 million\*** applications for Temporary Protection in Europe

More details: Operational Data Portal  
[Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

### BACKGROUND

Since the onset of the Russian invasion, one-third of Ukrainians have been forced from their homes. This is the largest human displacement crisis in the world today. Some 8 million people have been displaced internally within Ukraine and some 13 million people are estimated to be stranded in affected areas or unable to leave due to heightened security risks, destruction of bridges and roads, as well as lack of resources or information on where to find safety and accommodation.

As of today, more than 6.3 million refugee movements have been recorded out of Ukraine. At the same time, authorities have reported more than 1.8 million movements back into the country. UNHCR estimates that as of last week, some 2.5\*\* million refugees had moved beyond countries neighbouring Ukraine.

Inside Ukraine, many people who are trapped are unable to meet their basic needs including food, water and medicines. The delivery of life-saving aid remains challenging, with a lack of safe humanitarian access. UNHCR and partners continue striving to reach hard-hit areas with life-saving assistance as part of inter-agency humanitarian convoys.

*\*Estimate based on most recent data available by country as of 18 May*

*\*\*Estimate as of 11 May*

## Key figures - UKRAINE

As of 16 May:

- **422,130** people reached with essential food and non-food items, winter clothes and shelter materials
- **170,761** people received protection assistance, advice and referrals at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines
- **331,000** people enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance. **166,630** have received their first payment.
- **68,204** people received assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas
- **46,488** sleeping spaces created / improved in **163** reception centres and collective centres

## SITUATION UPDATE

- As of 17 May, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (**OHCHR**) recorded **7,964 civilian casualties in the country: 3,778 killed – including 251 children - and 4,186 injured**. OHCHR notes that the **actual figures are likely considerably higher**.
- **Fighting continued in eastern and southern Ukraine** with shelling in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia oblasts. On 15 May, **missiles also hit Lviv Oblast** while a **military facility in the Yavoriv district, some 15km from the Polish border** was also destroyed.
- Mariupol local authorities reported that a **self-organized evacuation convoy of between 500 and 1,000 vehicles from Mariupol and areas in Zaporizhzhia Oblast which remained blocked for three days**, was able to reach Zaporizhzhia.
- Luhansk oblast local authorities reported that **an evacuation of civilians from Sievierodonetsk took place** for the first time in over a week and **17 persons were able to leave** toward Bakhmut (Donetsk oblast). Evacuations had been halted last week due to shelling, while some 15,000 residents reportedly remain.
- On 12 May, missiles were fired at Komyshuvakha town, Zaporizhzhia Oblast, hitting residential areas, killing one, injuring three, and damaging 60 houses. **Two schools were hit in the city of Novhorod-Siversky, Chernihiv Oblast**, killing three people. Sumy Oblast was also shelled, leaving one dead in Novi Virky, according to the Governor.
- The Luhansk Oblast Governor [stated](#) on 12 May that the region is without electricity and water, and that there is a severe gas shortage. He also stated that mobile communication is disrupted and the humanitarian situation dire. Little aid reportedly remains in warehouses and delivery is difficult due to damaged roads.
- On 12 May, the **UN Human Rights Council adopted a [Resolution on the Deteriorating Human Rights Situation in Ukraine](#)**, reiterating its demand for immediate cessation of military hostilities against Ukraine, and requested the Independent International Commission of Inquiry to conduct an inquiry to address the events in Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Kyiv and Sumy oblasts.

## TARGETS – UNHCR RESPONSE AIMS TO REACH 4.3M PEOPLE



**1.2 million** people will receive protection assistance and information



**1.5 million** people will be supported with essential food and non-food items



**1.08 million** people will receive multipurpose cash assistance



**140,000** people to receive shelter support, including through refurbishment of **40** reception and collective centres\*

*\* Targets updated to cover a 6-month period and subject to fulfilment of funding requirements*

## UNHCR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

### Protection

- **170,761 people have received targeted protection assistance** at border crossing points, online and in locations where people have fled.
- This includes **protection counselling and services**, including **psychosocial support and legal aid**. The overall figure includes some **72,250** people who received protection information, support or counselling; over **56,550** people who received information and counselling through hotlines; over **17,550** people who received legal counselling or assistance; over **15,350** people who received psychosocial support or psychological first aid; more than **5,350** who received social support. This is in addition to some **2,075** protection monitoring missions.
- **UNHCR also provides protection information and counselling** and replies to individual inquiries by email and telephone, responding to **approximately 250 emails and 100 calls a day**.
- On 12 May, UNHCR conducted monitoring visits to four accommodation centres in Poltava Oblast as well as a telerehabilitation centre accommodating persons with impaired mobility. UNHCR carried out **needs assessments focusing on shelter and long-term solutions for IDP housing**. On the same day, UNHCR with the Government Commissioner of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities carried out visits and assessments in Solotvyno and Tiatichiv (Zakarpattia Oblast). **Efforts will be made to support the facilities to provide appropriate care, medical supplies and domestic items.**
- **UNHCR Partner NEHEMIA began classes for displaced children and youth in seven temporary accommodation centres** in Uzhhorod, with some 140 to 320 displaced children and youth participating each week.

### Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- Since the beginning of cash enrolment in Ukraine on 17 March, **331,000 people have been enrolled by UNHCR** to receive cash assistance **and 166,630 of them have received their first payments**.
- **Cash enrolment continues in 11 oblasts** – Cherkasy, Chernivtsi, Dnipropetrovsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Khmelnytskyi, Lviv, Poltava, Ternopil, Vinnytsia, Zakarpattia and Zaporizhzhia.
- An **interactive Cash Working Group dashboard** showing overall progress can be accessed [here](#). A cumulative 655,000 people have received cash assistance through all 16 Cash Working Group partners.

### Core Relief Items

- To date, **422,130 people have benefitted from core relief items and food assistance across eastern, central and western Ukraine**. This includes some **82,500** people who received food assistance and **24,000** who received emergency shelter assistance; the remaining **315,500** people received core relief items or winter clothes.
- **UNHCR, as part of interagency humanitarian convoys, has reached some 68,200 people in the hardest hit areas with life-saving assistance since the beginning of the war**. Access to the hardest hit areas remains extremely challenging with continuing security risks, both for affected civilians as well as humanitarian actors.
- Last week, UNHCR delivered **1,000 mattresses, blankets and solar lamps as well as 455 hygiene kits for people in bomb shelters in Kharkiv**. UNHCR and partner Proliska also distributed hundreds of blankets, solar lamps, mattresses, towels and hygiene kits for people in both Avdiivka, Donetsk Oblast as well as in the Lviv area.
- So far, UNHCR has supported **163 reception centres and collective centres** run by the Government to increase their capacity to host IDPs. A total of **46,488 additional sleeping spaces** at these centres have so far been created.



- **141,182 people enrolled for cash assistance** in Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia as of 17 May
- **31 Blue Dots established** with UNICEF in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia
- **Some 75,000 people** received protection assistance, advice and referrals at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines
- **Over 1.9 million** page visits to UNHCR Help websites in Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia

## HUNGARY

### Key figures - HUNGARY



- **Over 7,900** people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners, including legal information provision, counselling and psychosocial support (since 21 March)
- **1 Blue Dot** operational
- **685** persons provided **with hot meals and core relief items**
- **1,333** people trained on protection, child protection, GBV, safe disclosure and referrals, PSEA

### Protection

- UNHCR and partners Cordelia, Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC), Menedék and Next Step have provided **information, counselling, psychosocial support and protection referrals to over 7,900 refugees** at Záhony train station, help/info points and temporary shelters across the country.
- This includes **283** persons provided with **legal counselling and information on temporary protection** by UNHCR at Záhony and **110** referrals made by UNHCR for persons with specific needs or vulnerabilities since 1 May.
- Since 25 February, **1,333 persons have been reached through capacity development trainings and initiatives by UNHCR and partners focusing on protection**, including volunteers, partner staff, humanitarian workers, caregivers and authorities. Protection training focused on legal protection, child protection, GBV and PSEA
- **The Blue Dot continues to operate at Záhony train station providing information, legal and social counselling, referral to specialized services for persons with vulnerabilities, as well as a safe space for families travelling with children who recently arrived in Hungary.** UNHCR held a meeting with the Budapest Municipality where it was agreed that UNHCR will establish an additional Blue Dot in the centrally located City Hall Park in Budapest in the coming weeks. UNHCR will continue rolling out Blue Dots at multiple locations, as well as establishing mobile teams.
- Last week, **UNHCR held a PSEA core principles training, with the participation of humanitarian partners**, taking part in the refugee response in Hungary. **UNHCR also facilitated a training on PSEA and Core Humanitarian Standards for 15 volunteers and staff at Záhony Train Station.** The participatory session concluded with the signing of the Code of Conduct and is the latest in a series of trainings organized by UNHCR to enhance the capacities of all service providers working with refugees in **Záhony**.
- UNHCR met with the **counter-trafficking focal point within the Ministry of Interior (Mol)** to explore areas for mutual cooperation. The Mol in coordination with the Prime Minister's Office has **printed 250,000 leaflets informing on the risk of human trafficking and on available services provided by key humanitarian actors.** The Mol is also updating an **information booklet developed for humanitarian actors and volunteers to facilitate identification and support to victims of trafficking.**
- Last week, UNHCR visited the Zubéta private school for children with special needs in Budapest, founded in early March to provide **educational activities for several Hungarian-speaking, mostly Roma children from Ukraine.** The visit aimed at building networks and identifying potential areas of support and is in line with UNHCR's efforts to promote social cohesion and support refugees' integration within host communities in Hungary.
- At the Protection Working Group led by UNHCR on 12 May, staff briefed humanitarian partners on the **recently launched grant programme for refugee-led organizations, including for GBV-specific projects.** UNHCR also **disseminated the finalized GBV referral pathways to all partners for their use and further dissemination, to improve awareness and access to relevant services for GBV survivors.**
- UNHCR partner Cordelia Foundation assisted **82 refugees (including 37 children) in temporary shelters in Budapest and Győr, providing individual and group therapy, as well as psychodrama therapy for those experiencing symptoms of distress and trauma associated with the conflict.**

- UNHCR in Hungary continues to **expand partnerships to enhance access to protection and support services for refugees**. In May, UNHCR signed partnerships with ULE association with a focus on identifying both **medium and longer-term accommodation through “solidarity housing” and subsidized rent**, in addition to social support and employment counselling; with NANE association for activities including **capacity-building for frontline staff and volunteers—notably interpreters and health staff**—as well as **development and of information materials** focusing on GBV and prevention; and with Hungarian Baptist Aid for activities including **employment counselling, child protection and education assistance, and integration support** including identifying longer-term shelter.
- UNHCR is co-leading the GBV sub-working group alongside UNFPA which includes 43 participant organizations, government institutions, and agencies. **UNHCR and UNFPA conducted a training for 17 representatives from different humanitarian sectors on GBV safety audit tools for identifying risks**. The adapted tools will be rolled out in the next weeks jointly with all sectors, in order to produce GBV mainstreaming plans per sector.
- In order to **ensure access to information**, UNHCR partner ACTED continues to distribute SIM cards to new arrivals at border crossing points and refugee accommodation centres. To date, **some 3,141 refugees have received SIM cards**. ACTED is also installing WIFI at key locations. **WIFI is already operational at Criuleni, Edinet and Floresti, while 17 new locations have been identified for the installation of network equipment**.

### Core Relief Items

- **UNHCR** is preparing to deliver **8,064 blankets currently in stock** in its warehouse in Hungary to Ukraine.
- Between 25 April - 15 May, UNHCR partner Next Step provided **hot meals and core relief items to some 685 refugees while undertaking basic needs assessments**.

### REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



#### Key figures - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

- **50,012** people have received multipurpose cash assistance as of 17 May from a target of **150,000 people**
- **1,302** refugees departed to Austria, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Spain as part of the EU Solidarity Platform
- **7 Blue Dots** operational, **7,961 refugees have been supported at the Blue Dots so far**
- **50,000+** received protection information through distributed materials
- **10,725** refugees received protection support via UNHCR-managed Green Line helpline

### Protection

- **There are currently seven Blue Dots operational in Moldova. Some 7,961 people** (more than 50 per cent children) received support provided by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners at Blue Dot centres.
- There are **Protection Desks at each of the 8 cash enrolment centres in Moldova**. When refugees are enrolled for cash assistance, persons with specific needs are identified by the Protection Desk staff. Protection Desk and enrolment staff also provide home visits for people with reduced mobility.
- **To date, 260 frontline partner, government and NGO staff have been trained on GBV safe disclosure and referral to increase access to support. Comprehensive GBV referral pathways have been developed**, shared and continue to be updated based on service mapping for all regions.

- Many people arriving are suffering from trauma and require mental health and psychosocial support. From 9 March to 16 May, **UNHCR partner INTERSOS provided psychosocial support to some 943 refugees**.
- So far in the context of the **Solidarity Platform**, 12 Member States - including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain - as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland have made pledges to transfer **19,870 refugees from Moldova**. So far, a total of **1,302 persons were transferred** from Moldova, including to Austria, France, Germany, Latvia and Spain by air and to Lithuania by bus. **UNHCR provided support to the vulnerability screening process** and collaborated with IOM on assistance for departure procedures, including through counselling refugees.
- UNHCR partners LCA, ACTED and INTERSOS are stationed **at border crossing points and refugee accommodation centres to provide transportation, protection monitoring, vulnerability screening and counselling**. A total of 48 refugee accommodation centres are regularly monitored and issues followed up by protection partners.

### Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- **Some 50,012 refugees have been enrolled and issued bank cards** for multipurpose cash assistance in Moldova since 25 March. Some 92% of those receiving cash assistance are female headed households. So far, **eight enrolment centres are operational, with mobile teams covering other locations or reaching those with specific needs**.

## Core Relief Items

- **Pre-positioned stock in warehouses in Moldova** currently includes:
  - **17,600** jerry cans
  - **9,208** kitchen sets
  - **19,992** solar lamps
  - **106,674** blankets
  - **3,050** tarpaulins
  - **4,655** tents
  - **3,144** winterization kits
  - **4,852** sleeping bags
- **UNHCR has also provided significant material assistance to the Government of Moldova** to increase capacities in the form of vehicles, laptops, generators and other office equipment.

## POLAND



### Key figures - POLAND

- **86,068 refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance** as of 17 May from a target of **360,000 people**
- **9 Blue Dots operating** and **7,641 refugees have been supported at the Blue Dots as of 16 May**
- **1.6 million visits** and over **3.5 million views of the UNHCR Poland Help Page**
- **Over 80,000 leaflets and materials with antitrafficking messages** distributed to raise awareness

## Protection

- There are currently **9 Blue Dots operating in Poland, including three in Warsaw, two in Krakow, two in Rzeszow, one in Poznań, and the latest in Gdynia which opened on 17 May.**
- **A total of 7,641 people have been counselled through the Blue Dots as of 16 May. Protection teams provided 4,161 interventions and over 1,526 referrals at the Blue Dots. Most people enquired about health and medical services, transport and financial support or cash assistance.** Most interventions included the provision of information and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), while referrals were to protection/social services, medical and mental health services.
- UNHCR has been present at border crossing points, reception centres and transit points since the onset of the crisis. **Field teams have conducted over 83 field monitoring visits** to identify issues and provide support as needed.

- **Significant efforts continue to be made towards raising awareness on trafficking** in coordination with La Strada International. **Posters, banners, and over 80,000 pieces of information, education and communication (IEC) materials have been distributed at border crossing points and reception centres with anti-trafficking messages** to raise awareness of immediate. Materials are also circulated via Telegram and UNHCR social media.
- Last week 2022, **UNHCR organized a 3-day training on child protection and best interest procedures for UNHCR staff and partners.** The training was attended by **28 participants from diverse organizations, including NGOs, UNICEF and UNHCR.**
- UNHCR and partner A21 **delivered a training to the 21 members of the Polish territorial army and 4 members of the and US and Canadian army on PSEA and Counter-trafficking** last week.
- The [UNHCR Poland Help page](#) continues to be the **most visited UNHCR Help country site globally.** It has surpassed **1.6 million visits and has almost reached 3.5 million views**, with some 120,000 visitors from Ukraine. Most visitors access the site from a mobile device. The Help site has been updated with additional health and MHPSS-related content and contacts and key GBV referral numbers and services. **UNHCR also launched its [child-friendly page](#) on the Help page.**
- Ukrainian refugees continue to register for a **PESEL (Polish ID number)** to access to services. As of 15 May, according to Poland's Office for Foreigners, **1,096,827 Ukrainian nationals have registered for the national PESEL number** allowing them access services such as health and social support; **47% of those who registered are children and 72% are female.**

- The Protection and Information Management Working Groups have published a [Protection Analysis](#) for Poland for May 2022.

## Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- **As of 17 May, 86,068 persons (41,424 families) have been enrolled for cash assistance in Poland** through five cash enrolment centres in Warsaw, Krakow, Poznań and Ostróda. Preparation for launching additional centres also continues, with trainings for staff in Gdynia ongoing this week.
- In Poznan, at the newly established cash enrolment centre, **an agreement was reached with 'Orange' to establish a presence outside the enrolment centre and provide free SIM cards to refugees.**
- **Coordination with the Blue Dot teams continues** to ensure protection presence at cash enrolment sites and integrated referral processes for identified persons with specific needs.

## Core Relief Items

- **Pre-positioned stock in warehouses in Poland** currently includes:
  - **46,832** blankets
  - **44,800** bed sets
  - **40,400** jerry cans
  - **10,010** hygiene kits
  - **9,550** mattresses
  - **8,600** tarpaulins
  - **6,188** kitchen sets
  - **6,048** solar lamps
  - **2,400** quilts
- **133 trucks have travelled from the logistics hub in Rzeszów, Poland, to Ukraine to dispatch** hundreds of thousands of core relief items to warehouses in Ukraine for distribution to IDPs in need.

## ROMANIA



### Key figures - ROMANIA

- **Over 3,700 refugees enrolled for cash assistance** as of 17 May from a target of **80,000 people**
- Some **15,700** refugees provided with information and counselling in person or over the phone
- **7 Blue Dots** operating in Romania
- **Over 10,600 people** supported to travel to Romania from Moldova through fast-track transfers

## Protection

- UNHCR continues to provide protection information and counselling in person as well as through hotlines. **As of 15 May, over 15,700 people have received protection support, advice, referrals and information in person or remotely through helplines**, including almost 400 people in the past week.
- **UNHCR and partner staff are working at the eight border crossing points.** Information requested largely focuses on legal status, notably temporary protection, cash assistance, transportation to other EU countries, long-term accommodation and food, employment, education and access to medical services.
- **There are currently seven Blue Dots operating in Romania.** With the support of UNHCR partner the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), legal advice/counselling is provided at the Light Blue Dots at Albita border crossing point and Huși transit area. Plans are ongoing to establish a Blue Dot with the full package of services at the new UNHCR cash enrolment site in Bucharest.

- On 13 May, UNHCR conducted a **comprehensive protection training focusing on child protection, GBV, AAP and PSEA**. The training was appreciated by the Government and was attended by **46 participants** from Government authorities, NGO partners, volunteers and refugees in Suceava. The same training will be conducted for Maramureș and Satu Mare next week, and for Iași and Galați in the near future
- **GBV Referral pathways, which include information on some 21 NGOs and three governmental institutions**, have been finalized and shared with all protection actors to **enhance access to information and protection services including psychosocial support for those in need of GBV** services and support. These referral pathways will be widely disseminated in order to **ensure access to specialized services for survivors of GBV**.
- UNHCR continues to identify opportunities to improve **access to information for refugees**. Last week, **UNHCR conducted a focus group discussion with some 20 refugees living in a centre in Iași**. Information was provided on the use of the [www.dopomoha.ro](http://www.dopomoha.ro) platform, temporary protection, enrolment and cash assistance.
- **UNHCR and IOM continue to jointly facilitate fast-track transfers from Palanca border crossing point with Ukraine, in Moldova, to Huși, Romania.** As of 16 May, **over 10,600 people had been transported to Romania through this mechanism**.

## Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- As of 17 May, over **3,700 persons have been enrolled to receive multipurpose cash assistance, of whom over 90% are women and children**. More than 2,000 refugees have already received their first payment.
- As of 15 May, some **7,000 families have requested appointments** since the launch of the online appointments tool on 29 April 2022. UNHCR is currently **adding additional cash assistance enrolment staff**. The programme is being scaled up to reach a total of 80,000 people. UNHCR will open additional enrolment sites in Bucharest, Brasov, Galati, Iasi and Suceava.
- On 11 May, **UNHCR conducted a training session for seven newly recruited cash assistance enrolment staff** on Code of Conduct, child protection, GBV and PSEA.
- Detailed Information about UNHCR's Cash Programme in Romania is being uploaded on [www.dopomoha.ro](http://www.dopomoha.ro) and on the [UNHCR Romania Help page](#).
- UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF met with both the World Bank and the Ministry of Labour in the last week to discuss the transition to the national social safety net system of the UNHCR cash assistance programme.



## Core Relief Items

- **Pre-positioned stock in warehouses in Romania** currently includes:
  - **97,980** bed sets
  - **46,899** quilts
  - **17,842** hygiene kits
  - **16,840** jerry cans
  - **10,981** kitchen sets
  - **5,120** solar lamps
  - **3,144** blankets
  - **2,565** tarpaulins
  - **1,176** tents
- Members of the Basic Needs Sub-Working Group (SWG) endorsed the **virtual warehouse system launched by UNHCR on 4 May** and several have begun uploading their data to the system, created to better coordinate the CRI stocks of various partners in Romania.

## SLOVAKIA



### Key figures - SLOVAKIA

- **2 Blue Dots** operating in Slovakia
- **1,402 refugees enrolled for cash assistance** as of 17 May from an enrolment target of **57,500 people, of which UNHCR will support 34,500 people**
- Over **240 frontline workers trained** on GBV, safe disclosures and referrals

## Protection

- **UNHCR is training supervisors and key partner staff coordinating Protection Desks to improve protection response at border crossing points and other locations.** “Training of trainers” sessions were held in Bratislava on 9 May, and in Kosice on 11 May. Protection Help Desks have been set up to support frontline workforce in addressing legal protection needs and manage protection incidents. The broader Protection Monitoring exercise will be rolled out as of 16 May.
- Access to reliable information and inclusion of refugees is a key priority. **A workshop on accountability to affected populations (AAP) was held for partner staff, government actors and other UN agencies to create a common understanding and develop concrete actions to be taken across sectors.** 36 participants attended.
- **UNHCR continues protection monitoring at border crossing points and at registration centres,** including Ubľa, Vyšné Nemecké and Velke Slemence border crossing points, and registration centres in Humenne and Michalovce. **UNHCR partner Slovak Humanitarian Council (SHC) operates in four registration centres (Humenné, Michalovce, Nitra and Žilina), supporting cash enrolment, identifying refugees with specific needs and referring refugees to relevant services.**

- **Two Blue Dots are operational at registration centres at Bottova in Bratislava, and in Gabčíkovo.** Further approval has been secured from the Vice President of the Police to set up Blue Dots at additional registration centres pending further protection training, including on PSEA.
- **UNHCR helped organize the first meeting of the Inclusion Sub-Working Group which was chaired by national NGO Persons in Need,** including key civil society actors, working on mid- to long-term inclusion strategies. **UNHCR has also initiated engagement with the Slovak Council of Disability to focus on services for persons with disabilities.**
- UNHCR is in the process of **developing new partnerships with several partners in order to expand the reach and breadth of protection activities, including interpretation and legal aid.** UNHCR is also in discussion with several **refugee-led organizations** regarding partnerships for the expansion of protection services. These should be finalized in the coming weeks.
- **UNHCR has trained more than 209 border police officers and frontline authorities** in eastern Slovakia on GBV response, safe disclosures and referrals, as well as child protection and PSEA. Furthermore, **more than 36 partner staff were also trained specifically on GBV risks and vulnerabilities and referrals.**

## Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- **To date, 1,402 people have been enrolled for cash assistance since cash enrolment began on 2 May. It is ongoing at four registration centres** (Bratislava, Michalovce, Nitra and Žilina). Of the enrolment target of 57,500, **UNHCR will support payments for 34,500 people** and UNICEF will support payments for the other 23,000 people.
- UNHCR has also received **1,400 online appointment requests for cash enrolment.** The appointments will be processed at the sites and by a mobile team. Discussions are ongoing on scale up of the sites and mobile team capacity.
- UNHCR performed the **first mobile cash enrolment team visit** to Humenné Reception Centre **enrolling 8 persons with disabilities or severe medical conditions on 15 May.**
- Cash enrolment is helping to improve data collection for persons with specific needs, **while some 20% of those enrolled had identifiable special needs.** The main needs identified were single parents and single woman traveling alone. **UNHCR is working with partners to strengthen referral pathways and providing additional training to data entry clerks on identification of persons with specific needs.**





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## Blue Dots

UNHCR and UNICEF are jointly establishing 'Blue Dots' in multiple countries receiving refugees fleeing Ukraine. To-date, a total of 31 are already operational including in:

Bulgaria	3
Hungary	1
Italy	2
Moldova	7
Poland	9
Romania	7
Slovakia	2

UNHCR has reinforced staffing for the Blue Dot roll-out with a total of 17 staff in seven countries, with one coordinator to ensure consistency in approach, provide support, and enhance assessment and quality assurance.

UNHCR is rolling out an accessibility checklist to make sure Blue Dot locations are accessible to everyone, including persons with disabilities. UNHCR is developing a joint Monitoring Framework and Feedback and Complaints Mechanism for all Blue Dots, together with UNICEF and other partners.

- As co-chair of the Cash Working Group, alongside the Government, UNHCR is coordinating with other agencies to harmonize the cash response plan. **UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and IFRC are developing a joint communication strategy on the cash programme in Slovakia** to ensure consistency in messages from all actors.

## Core Relief Items

- To date, **UNHCR has conducted rapid assessments of 24 tented shelters and transit facilities**, as well as temporary accommodation centres. Some need minor maintenance work, equipment to assist people with special needs and improvements to enhance their overall capacity as well as core relief items. UNHCR is following up to provide support.

## COORDINATION

### Ukraine

UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters as well as the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster which was activated as of 1 March in Ukraine. In addition, as co-lead of the Logistics Working Group in Ukraine, UNHCR is facilitating the movement of humanitarian convoys in coordination with OCHA.

The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster has established a national coordination office in Lviv and plans to establish sub-national offices in Chernivtsi, Dnipro, Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia. Both the Child Protection and GBV Sub-Clusters are similarly expanding their presence.

## Regional Refugee Response

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of the relevant governments. A Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) was developed in early March. A [revised version of the RRP extending through December 2022](#) has since been published bringing together the joint efforts of 142 partners.

Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, have been established at country level in **Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia** to support the efforts of the concerned governments. The structures are meant to be agile and will be adjusted as the situation evolves.

In **Hungary**, UNHCR chairs the RCF and co-chairs coordination groups on Basic Needs, Health, Protection, Child Protection, GBV, and Cash, as well as the PSEA and MHPSS task forces, which work with the Government's National Humanitarian Coordination Council.

In **Moldova**, an Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been established with more than 100 participating members. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs the Cash, Education, Information Management (IM), Protection, Accommodation & Transportation, and Logistics & Supply Working Groups; GBV and Child Protection Sub-Working Groups; the Gender Task Force; and the PSEA Network. The Government of Moldova has established a Single Emergency Management Centre under the Prime Minister's Office, where UNHCR represents the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, ensuring coordination between the two.

In **Poland**, UNHCR has established a Refugee Coordination Forum that includes local and international actors across eight sectors and working groups. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs the AAP, Basic Needs, Cash, IM, Logistics, and Protection Sector Working Groups, Child Protection and GBV Sub-sectors, the MHPSS Working Group, and the PSEA Network.

In **Romania**, UNHCR has set up the Refugee Coordination Model structure made up of eight sector Working Groups, one Anti-Trafficking Task Force and a PSEA network, which are co-led by UNHCR and other UN agencies, government counterparts and NGOs. UNHCR leads the Protection Working Group and PSEA network, and co-leads the Child

Protection Sub-Working Group, IM Working Group, Cash Working Group and Basic Needs Working Group. Leads and co-leads attend the governmental sectoral Working Group meetings. As such, governmental and humanitarian coordination structures are operating to mutually reinforce each other, under governmental leadership. A total of 23 international and national partners are part of the Refugee Response Plan for Romania. The Refugee Coordination Forum took place on 13 May. Over 100 participants were in attendance from 36 organizations, including the Counselor of State Turza.

In **Slovakia**, the refugee coordination structure has been streamlined to better complement government systems. UNHCR leads the RCF-Central and RCF-East and the Working Groups and Sub-Working Groups for Health, IM, Child Protection, Protection, Inclusion and Cash.

## FINANCIAL NEEDS

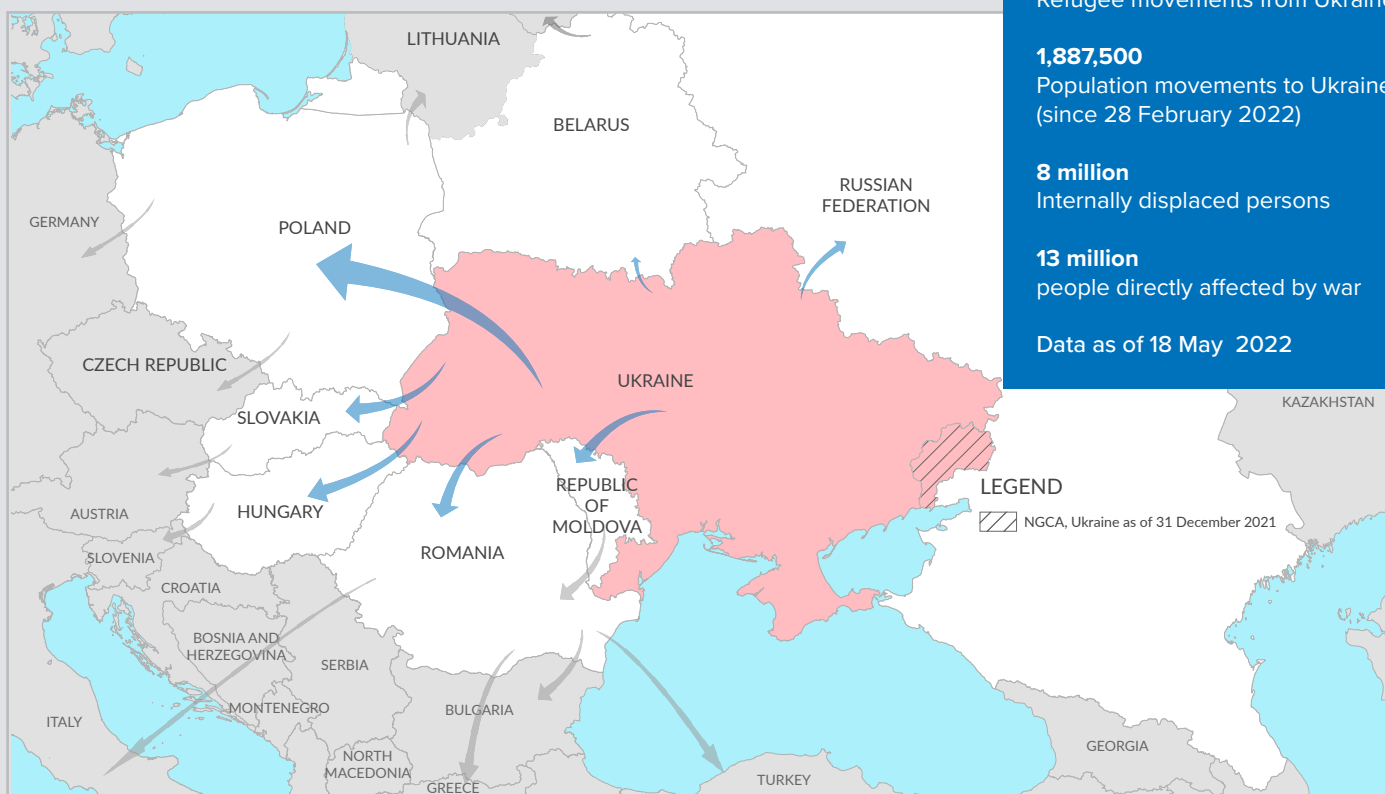
Links

**Revised:** [Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan](#)

**Revised:** [UN Flash Appeal \(Ukraine\)](#)

**Revised:** [UNHCR Ukraine Situation Revised Supplementary Appeal](#)

## ► UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.