



Protection Working Group

Meeting Details	
Date	<i>16 November 2022 - Next meeting on 30 Nov 2022</i>
Time	<i>10.00 am</i>
Chair	<i>Andrew Painter, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR, Sector Coordinator; Carolina Cazaciuc, Coordinator on Refugee Rights, Ombudsperson Office, Co-Chair</i>
Reporting	<i>Sean Sager, Protection Officer, UNHCR</i>
Email	painter@unhcr.org , carolina.cazaciuc@ombudsman.md , sager@unhcr.org
Agenda	
<p>Welcome & Review of Agenda (10:00-10:10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Situational update (10:10-10:20) (INTERSOS and CDA) <p>• Updates (10:30-10:50)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection Advisory Group (PAG)• 2023 RRP Update• CP SWG Update• Temporary Protection (TP) Update <p>• Presentations (10:50-11:30)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OHCHR Presentation on Hate Speech <p>• AOB</p>	



Participants			
<i>Carolina Cazaciuc, Ombudsperson</i>	<i>Verica Recevi, DRC</i>	<i>Vitalie Popov, Refugee Response Line</i>	<i>Gianna Zoukidou, OHCHR</i>
<i>Sean Sager, UNHCR</i>	<i>Casey O`Neil, Church World Service</i>	<i>Virginie M. Montcrieff, IOM</i>	<i>Emilija Davidovic, IRC</i>
<i>Carolina Sclifos, UNHCR</i>	<i>Dania Trevi, INTERSOS</i>	<i>Tanita Cotarcea</i>	<i>Dustin Achgill</i>
<i>Hanna Ursol, UNHCR</i>	<i>Daniele David Ciujas, UN Women</i>	<i>Tamara Ropot, UNHCR</i>	<i>Daniele David-Cimpoes, UN Women</i>
<i>Andrew Painter, UNHCR</i>	<i>Dina Zamfiov, UNHCR</i>	<i>Simona Ruznic, Terre des Hommes</i>	<i>Maxim Tiltu</i>
<i>Olga Bitca, UNHCR</i>	<i>Adrianna Ysern Zarranz, UNHCR</i>	<i>Petru Lupu, UNHCR</i>	<i>Ludmila Ciocan, Keystone</i>
<i>Adel Sasvari, Oxfam</i>	<i>Nicolae Radita, Prime Minister Advisor in Human Rights</i>	<i>Nataliya Yakubovska, NRC</i>	<i>Liz Devine, Medecins du Monde</i>
<i>Sukru Baydilli, AAR Japan</i>		<i>Eloi Rouillon, Bibliothèques sans Frontières</i>	<i>Khatuna Margulia, OHCHR</i>
<i>Yui Kirade, AAR</i>		<i>Wolfgang Moser</i>	<i>Irina Rotaru, CERI</i>
<i>Aida Arakelyan, HI</i>	<i>Andi Szenasi, REACH</i>	<i>Andrea Quaden, PIN</i>	<i>Inna Grinco</i>
<i>Anatol Donu, CCR</i>			



Summary of discussions and agreements/ action points

Agenda	Discussion	Agreements/ Actions
<p>Agenda Point 1</p> <p>Welcome & Review of Agenda</p> <p>Carolina Cazaciuc, Coordinator on Refugees Rights, Ombudsperson Office, Co-Chair.</p> <p>carolina.cazaciuc@ombudsman.md</p>	<p>The PWG co-chair welcomed participants, thanked them for their presence, and encouraged them to attend in person for future meetings, in order to have more engaging discussions. She presented the agenda, and no objections were raised.</p> <p>If any modifications are necessary to minutes of the PWG, please contact: sager@unhcr.org</p>	<p>Agenda presented and agreed</p>
<p>Agenda Point 2</p> <p>Situational Updates</p> <p><i>Dania Trefi, Protection Manager, INTERSOS</i></p> <p>protection.manager.moldova@intersos.org</p> <p><i>Svetlana Jioara</i></p>	<p>INTERSOS provided a situational update from Palanca bus station. In the past 2 weeks, the number of arrivals remains low, except for evacuations from private organizations such as <i>Be an Angel</i> and <i>Gloria</i>. After arriving to the bus station for a short period of time, the buses continue to Chisinau and further to Romania.</p> <p>Most of the arrivals from the past 2 weeks came from Kharkiv, Donetsk, Odesa, and Mykolaiv oblasts. Arrivals showed high levels of stress. The demographics of arrivals were predominantly single moms with children, accompanied elderly</p>	<p>N/A</p>



<p>CDA/LCA svetlana.jioara@cda.md</p>	<p>people, and refugees from the Roma community. Arrivals also included men fleeing from conscription who need legal documentation support; they are referred to CDA accordingly.</p> <p>Arrivals mentioned that many cities in Ukraine are experiencing power and water cuts for many hours, especially in Odesa and Odesa oblast, and some areas of Mykolaiv as well. According to some arrivals, Ukrainian soldiers announced that people should leave Kherson as soon as possible due to the security situation. They also reported that men of military age are not allowed to leave the country, regardless of if they have more than 3 children, which is the current exemption criteria for men in Ukraine. Regarding evacuations, the organization “Gloria” continues to bring refugees from Ukraine; most intended to stay in Chisinau, some continued to Romania and further to Germany.</p> <p>CDA provided an update from both Palanca and Otaci BCPs. In the past two weeks, 13 asylum seekers were registered at Palanca BCP. A low influx of pedestrian arrivals was noted, but an increase in arrivals by vehicles was reported, especially in the days following targeted missile attacks. The majority of arrivals to Palanca BCP intend to move onwards from Moldova to another EU country. Those who are returning to Ukraine expressed intentions to visit with relatives, check belongings, or fix their documents, before returning their current country of residence.</p> <p>Regarding evacuation, a bus organized by the organization “Be an Angel” brought 40 people through Palanca bus station. Another evacuation organized</p>	
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	<p>by the organization “Team Humanity” transported 30 individuals, with the intention to go to Germany. However, they stopped in Carpineni and were admitted to a RAC in the area. The case was referred to UNHCR and is being followed up with accordingly.</p> <p>At Otaci BCP, the situation remains the same as the previous weeks, with most people coming to shop or withdraw money from ATMs. It was reported that during missile attacks, the BCP closes, and there are frequent electricity disruptions from the Ukrainian side. People are being encouraged to cross at all BCPs during these periods.</p> <p>Following the updates, UNHCR PWG co-chair confirmed that Be an Angel is still providing evacuations from Ukraine to Moldova, but with no further forward movement to Europe. Everyone should be aware that this could lead to the accumulation of vulnerable individuals staying in Moldova.</p>	
<p>Agenda Point 3</p> <p>Update on Protection Advisory Group (PAG)</p> <p><i>Andrew Painter, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR</i></p> <p>painter@unhcr.org</p>	<p>UNHCR PWG co-chair provided an update on the Protection Advisory Group (PAG). The selection process is now finished, and the organizations have been informed of their selection. The organizations selected are DRC, NRC, OHCHR, CDA, HelpAge, and UNICEF. The PAG will convene soon, with the intention to start discussing about strategic documents to bring to the PWG to develop further.</p>	<p>PAG members to meet before the next PWG in order to discuss important issues and strategic documents</p>



	<p>A question from IOM was posed in regards to efforts made to include local NGOs to the PAG, as the current composition is heavily represented by international organizations and INGOs. The PWG co-chair confirmed that an invitation was disseminated to all PWG members and smaller organizations were encouraged to participate. The current PAG will continue in its current form, and it is likely that another call for proposals will be made in 6 months or 1 year, at which time national NGOs can re-apply.</p>	
<p>Agenda Point 4</p> <p>Update on RRP</p> <p><i>Andrew Painter, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR</i></p> <p>painter@unhcr.org</p>	<p>UNHCR PWG co-chair provided an update on the RRP process. The sector leads are now in the process of going through all the submissions for the RRP. Protection, GBV, and CP are all going through the submissions in order to identify duplications, overlap of activities, confirm details, etc. PWG members should expect to be contacted regarding their submissions. Other than that, the Inter-agency team is currently developing the narratives in coordination with the different sector leads, which will be included in the 2023 RRP Report.</p>	<p>Sector leads to review submissions and reach out to PWG members where needed.</p>
<p>Agenda Point 5</p> <p>Child Protection & GBV Updates</p>	<p>The GBV Sub-Working Group (SWG) is currently going through RRP submissions from partners. 20 projects have been proposed by different organizations and the sector leads are currently seeking clarity on activities, budgets, overlap, as well as working on the narrative for the 2023 RRP Report.</p>	<p>GBV SWG to share details of 16 Days Against GBV campaign/activities with PWG members.</p>



<p><i>Carolina Sclifos, Child Protection Associate</i> sclifos@unhcr.org</p> <p>Fatima Alwahaidy, GBV Co-chair, UNFPA alwahaidy@unfpa.org</p>	<p>The GBV SWG continues to update its referral pathways, which can be accessed on the google drive. Members also recently participated in the PSEA rollout workshop.</p> <p>The current focus of the GBV SWG is planning the campaign for the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV. Due to the current situation regarding energy in Moldova, much of the campaign will be focused on online social media activities, with limited in person activities planned, due to concerns of energy consumption. Details of the campaign and the calendar with corresponding activities for will be shared with PWG members.</p> <p>Recently UNFPA opened an orange space in the train station. CDA is also present. There are two rooms available and if there are any organizations who want to utilize the space, they should contact UNFPA.</p> <p>UNHCR Child Protection Associate provided updates on the Child Protection Sub-Working Group (SWG). They have finalized the referral pathways and shared with member of CP SWG, with updates ongoing. Last week, members of the CP SWG participated in the mandatory reporting training, with 187 participants taking part. There is a need for other trainings and support of BMA and guardianship authorities working in the CP sector. Today is the CP SWG and PWG members were encouraged to come.</p>	
<p>Agenda Point 6 Presentation on Hate Speech</p>	<p>OHCHR Human Rights Officer, Martina Gastaldello, gave a presentation on Introduction to Hate Speech. The session began with a Survey Monkey on hate speech to gauge the knowledge of participants on the issue.</p>	<p>Presentation to be disseminated to PWG members.</p>



<p>Martina Gastaldello, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR martina.gastaldello@un.org</p>	<p>The presentation then started with an overview of key concepts, such as freedom of opinion and expression, and equality and non-discrimination, as well as an outline on restriction to freedom of expression.</p> <p>Other topics covered in the presentation included example of hate speech from European case law, acts of hate speech and how to counter them, discrimination against Roma, and how to integrate responses to hate speech into our humanitarian response.</p> <p>The full presentation was disseminated to PWG members and can be found on the UNHCR Data Portal for additional reference.</p>	
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Information collection and relevant links
<p>Moldova operational data portal: https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine/location/10784</p> <p>UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe: The Implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive - Six Months On (October 2022) https://reliefweb.int/report/poland/unhcr-regional-bureau-europe-implementation-temporary-protection-directive-six-months-october-2022</p>

If necessary, feel free to add extra rows in the matrix above.