Regional Bureau for Europe

UKRAINE SITUATION
FLASH UPDATE #37
16 December 2022

BACKGROUND

While close to 7.9 million refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, 4.7 million refugees from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes.

According to the IOM Ukraine Internal Displacement Report, by 5 December, there were over 5.9 million people displaced by the war within Ukraine. According to the report, some 680,000 people have been newly displaced within the last month.

KEY FIGURES (as of 06 December)

7,832,493 refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe

4,805,531 refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe

5,914,000 estimated number of IDPs in Ukraine (as of 5 December)

Source: Internal Displacement Report

More details: Operational Data Portal
Ukraine Refugee Situation

UNHCR PUBLICATIONS

Brief: Displacement patterns, protection risks and needs of refugees from Ukraine: Regional protection analysis #1 (26 Oct)

Previous Ukraine Situation Flash Updates are available here

The latest Ukraine Emergency: UNHCR Operational Response and Delivery Update (14 December)

More information
The UNHCR Hungary portal
The UNHCR Moldova portal
The UNHCR Poland portal
The UNHCR Romania portal
The UNHCR Slovakia portal

Join our mailing list to receive regular updates

Hungary: Dog therapy helps relieve stress of Ukrainian refugee children. November 2022 © UNHCR/ Zsolt Balla
UNHCR REGIONAL BUREAU FOR EUROPE 16 December 2022

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

Due to repeated missile attacks on energy infrastructure, 12 million Ukrainians have been disconnected from the electricity grid and all of Ukraine’s thermal and hydroelectric power plants have been damaged. This situation is compounded by the onset of harsh winter conditions and plummeting temperatures, aggravating the existing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

KEY FIGURES IN UKRAINE (as of 14 December)

- **3.69 million** people reached with assistance to date
- **1,439,704** people reached with essential food and non-food items (NFIs), winter clothes
- **858,654** individuals received cash assistance from UNHCR to support their basic needs. Inter-agency Cash Working Group partners have reached 4.32 million people with cash assistance (dashboard)
- **145,229** people received shelter support through interventions in collective centres and damaged homes
- **1,115,722** people received protection assistance, advice and referrals at border crossing points, transit, and reception centres and through hotlines, including psychosocial support and legal aid
- **480,520** people have received assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas
- **480,520** people have received shelter support, including through repairs and insulation of 8,200 homes

UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS - UKRAINE

- **Over 1 million people** have now been reached by UNHCR and partners with winter support. Of these, 280,841 people received cash for winter, 801,185 people were given winterized items and 12,525 people benefited from shelter support.
- Generators for heating points remain a priority for oblast authorities. UNHCR has so far distributed **55 generators to 12 oblasts**, to be installed at heating points, which are makeshift centres provided by the authorities, with an additional 54 generators in the pipeline.
- **Over 3.69 million people** have by now been reached by UNHCR and partners with protection services and assistance in form of cash, essential items and shelter support, while UNHCR continues to support and complement the national authorities’ response to help ensure sustainability, recovery and durable solutions. Find more information in the regular Ukraine country operational updates
- Responding to winter-specific needs, nearly 11,200 pieces of winter clothes and shoes were distributed to the people affected by war in Dnipropetrovska, Zaporizka, Kharkivska, Poltavskia, Sumskia, Donetska and Khersonska oblasts over the past week.
- Heating points and shelters are being equipped in coordination with local authorities: 250 electric and solid fuel heaters were provided to Mykolaiv City authorities, 60 solid fuel heaters to partners in Zhytomyrska oblast and three solid fuel heaters to equip heating points in Donetska oblast, which can accommodate 3,000 people.
- Some 400 internally displaced people in Zakarpatska and Ivano-Frankivska oblasts were provided with psychosocial support sessions over the past week by UNHCR partners, who noted that many are experiencing severe anxiety due to the beginning of the winter season and frequent electricity cuts.

UNHCR RESPONSE TARGETS*

- **4.3 million** The number of people UNHCR aims to reach
- **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 assistances
- **140,000** people to receive shelter support, including through repairs and insulation of 8,200 homes

*The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements detailed on the last page.*
UNHCR continues to work closely with the national authorities as well as partners to prepare contingency plans in the region. Preparedness measures include the procurement of an adequate stock of essential relief items, including thermal blankets, mattresses, clothes and other items stocked in UNHCR warehouses in the region.

463,820 people had received cash assistance in Bulgaria, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia as of 15 December.

38 Blue Dot Hubs established with UNICEF in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

The regional Digital Blue Dot has been launched in Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland and Romania. The website provides localized and up-to-date information about services available to refugees in each country, a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs, information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

BULGARIA

146,659 refugees registered for temporary protection

103,133 people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners

50,255 people had been reached through 6 Blue Dots

2,161 people have received cash assistance

CZECH REPUBLIC

466,872 refugees registered for temporary protection

1,290 people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners

HUNGARY

32,628 refugees registered for temporary protection

10,839 people had been reached through 3 Blue Dots

103,536 visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

From the onset of the refugee crisis, UNHCR and partners have reached 47,423 people with protection support at locations across Hungary, including at Blue Dot Hubs, the Zahony railway station and accommodation shelters.

More than 8,000 people have received legal support from UNHCR partners the Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Menedék Association.

During a round table organized by UNHCR on 6 December, 47 participants from 19 different organizations, including OSCE, the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, and the European Commission, exchanged on the heightened vulnerability of people fleeing Ukraine to tech-facilitated labour exploitation, human trafficking and gender-based violence risks on-line. The meeting took place in the framework of the project Wise Browsing, Safe Posting, which was launched in Hungary in August 2022 to tackle the misuse of social media platforms by individuals and criminal networks.
UNHCR organized three local Refugee Coordination Forums in Otaci, Ungheni, and Palanca this week. Participants from local authorities, civil society organizations and the refugee community agreed on enhancing coordination mechanism in NFI distribution in Ungheni and introducing legal support and case management in Otaci.

**POLAND**

- **1,529,355** refugees have registered for temporary protection
- **40,371** people were counselled at the 6 Blue Dots and 5 Community Centres
- **5.7 million** views to the UNHCR Poland Help page

- Some 60 companies and over 1,000 jobseekers participated in two job fairs organized by UNHCR in Warsaw on 6 December and Krakow on 8 December. Over 600 conditional job offers were made.
- Protection Sector Recommendations on the application of the Temporary Protection Directive in Poland were published on 9 December. They include, inter alia, advice to ensure that Ukrainians who temporarily leave their residence in Poland do not lose their protection status, suggestions to prevent digital exclusion, and proposals to better address needs of persons with disabilities.
- As part of winterization efforts, thermal upgrade works have started in two out of eight selected shelters in the Lubelskie region and in four shelters in the Podkarpackie border region.

**ROMANIA**

- **91,766** refugees registered for temporary protection
- **30,671** people have received cash assistance
- **57,498** refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners, in-person and over hotlines
- **89,384** views to the UNHCR Romania Help page

- In response to the harsh weather conditions, UNHCR has been distributing household items in various areas of the countries, including 900 blankets, 960 bed linen sets and 195 hygiene kits to refugees in the north of Romania bordering with Ukraine. Over 500 persons received blankets and bed linen in the city of Iasi.
- Over twenty public institutions and NGO representatives participated in two roundtables on gender-based violence (GBV) organized by UNHCR partner Sensiblu Foundation in Bucharest and Suceava last week.
### SLOVAKIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>102,675</strong></th>
<th>refugees registered for temporary protection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>28,824</strong></td>
<td>people been assisted with legal counselling at 3 Blue Dots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26,997</strong></td>
<td>refugees have received cash assistance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- UNHCR’s helpline had received nearly 10,739 calls as of 9 December. Queries related to registration for temporary protection, winterization assistance, employment, cash assistance, access to food assistance, protection services, and education.
- UNHCR partner Mareena finalised a situational analysis, which maps integration services in five cities (Bratislava, Košice, Nitra, Banská Bystrica and Trenčín), including community support networks. Based on this analysis a series of consultations with municipalities and other local actors were initiated to identify areas for improvement to facilitate integration of refugees from Ukraine.

### OTHER COUNTRIES

#### Belarus
- Over 2,100 people have received in-person counselling from UNHCR partners until the end of November, and 1,686 calls were recorded on the counselling line so far.
- UNHCR and partners have to date helped 2,635 refugees from Ukraine with the delivery of household items, including winter blankets, bedding, kitchen items and hygiene kits.

#### Estonia
- As of 6 December, 40,510 refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- In the reporting period, UNHCR visited three border crossing points in Narva, Luhamaa and Koidula to monitor access to territory, and interview some refugees entering the country and monitor the application of exits for temporary protection holders.

#### Latvia
- As of 6 December 43,592 refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- As the temperatures in the border areas are down to -16 degrees Celsius, UNHCR partners "I Want to Help Refugees" (GPB) and "Your Friends" continue to provide warm food and winter clothes to refugees crossing into Latvia.

#### Lithuania
- As of 6 December, 71,367 refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection in Lithuania.
- In the reporting week, UNHCR partner the Lithuanian Red Cross Society has provided individual counselling and assistance for 395 refugees from Ukraine in Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipėda, Šiauliai, Panevėžys, and Alytus to facilitate their inclusion and access to rights and services.

#### Russian Federation
- To date, UNHCR and local partners have counselled over 82,597 people, either in person or over the phone. Queries relate to humanitarian assistance (winter items), temporary protection and asylum, temporary residence permits, access to the labour market, social rights, education and health care.
- Additionally, in the regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov and Voronzh, the Russian Red Cross Society – UNHCR main partner in the area - has provided counselling to over 16,170 people as of 9 December.
- The UNHCR Russia Help Page has received 87,190 visits to date.
Ukraine

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads the Protection, Shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI), and Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Clusters. Cluster coordinators ensure a timely and appropriate approach among humanitarian partners for delivering protection services and conducting protection advocacy; providing emergency and temporary shelter solutions, and distributing essential household and other non-food items; and supporting management and service delivery in collective sites hosting IDPs. All UNHCR-led Clusters have national coordination structures based in the capital, Kyiv, as well as sub-national coordinators in various hubs covering the West, North, Centre and South-East. UNHCR also co-chairs the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Protection Strategy Working Group and the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection across the response, and promotes meaningful engagement and participation of people affected by war throughout the humanitarian programme cycle.

Regional Refugee Response outside Ukraine

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of relevant governments. An initial Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) was developed in early March. A revised version of the RRP extending through December 2022 was published in April bringing together the joint efforts of 142 partners. The recalibrated RRP was published in October, to adjust for winter-related needs and other emerging priorities. 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 intended to be agile and will be adjusted as the situation evolves.
FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Financial Update
(as of 8 December 2022)
Addendum to the Revised Supplementary Appeal (revised)

$ 1.4 billion required (USD)

95% funded

Inter-Agency Financial Updates
(as of 15 December 2022)
Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan (revised)

$ 1.79 billion required (USD)

74% funded

UN Flash Appeal Ukraine (revised)

$ 4.29 billion required (USD)

75% funded

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe as of 06 December 2022

SITUATION OVERVIEW
The majority of refugees from Ukraine initially fled to countries in the immediate vicinity. However, border policies applicable to Ukrainian nationals have allowed refugees to travel. Refugees may choose particular destination countries. Others have decided to stay closer to home, waiting for the security situation to improve.

KEY FIGURES

7.8M Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe

4.8M Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe

Statistics are compiled mainly from data provided by authorities. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures represent an estimate. Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments to figures may occur, including retroactively.

*Estimate based on most recent data available as of 06 December.

Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe