

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #30

20 January 2023

Key figures

106,706 refugees currently in Romania (as of 16 January 2023)

107,686 refugees registered for temporary protection in Romania (as of 16 January 2023)

43,129 refugees supported with multi-purpose cash assistance

67,165 refugees provided with information and counselling in person or over the phone

14,748 refugees supported to travel to Romania from Ukraine-Moldova border through fast-track transfers.



I fled the war in Ukraine, but my relatives are still there. As a single woman, I felt lost and didn't know where to go. Someone told me about RomExpo and that is where I learned about various types of assistance available for refugees. For example, I was able to find urgent accommodation and to register with an employment agency. I hope to start working soon and to find a possibility to bring my relatives to a safe place too.

- A refugee woman from Ukraine hosted in Bucharest.

Highlights

On 16 January, Ms. Tytti Tuppurainen, Finnish Minister of European Affairs and Ownership Steering visited UNHCR's integrated service hub for refugees at RomExpo, accompanied by State Secretary Ms. Daniela Gitman. During the visit, State Counsellor Ms. Madalina Turza, and UNHCR's Representative Mr. Pablo Zapata walked her through the services extended by the government authorities, NGOs, EUAA and UN Agencies. During the visit the Finnish Minister had the opportunity to discuss the needs of and services provided to refugees from Ukraine currently hosted in Romania.

On 19 January, the embassies of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden also jointly visited RomExpo. During the joint visit, delegations had the opportunity to discuss with UNHCR and partners operating in the site and in the nearby social store run by the Municipality of Bucharest.

Response

In continuation of UNHCR's winter assistance, nearly 15,000 clothes, 2,200 cooking pots and hygiene materials have been distributed at the Clothing & Relief Item Shop run by Bucharest Municipality for refugee located at RomExpo. UNHCR is preparing to hand over another batch of core relief items (CRIs) to the shop in the following week.

Similarly, this week, UNHCR and the Brasov Municipality assisted 1,450 refugees from Ukraine with CRIs. UNHCR together with the CATTIA centre distributed winter clothes, blankets, bedding, baby care items and kitchen items.

On 19 January, UNHCR participated in the local integration coordination meeting lead by the Prefecture in Constanta. During the event, UNHCR presented an overview of its response to the refugee hosted in Constanta and the challenges faced by refugees.

UNHCR continues its field missions to conduct monitoring missions and collect needs of refugees from Ukraine. UNHCR in Suceava conducted a visit to Iasi county and coordinated activities supporting refugees with national institutions working on health, education and child protection. Likewise, UNHCR in Galati recently conducted a needs assessment mission to Constanta where a large refugee population is residing.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2022 programmes. For more details: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/romania-funding-2022>



UNHCR Representative Mr. Pablo Zapata, and State Counsellor Ms. Madalina Turza presenting various services available at RomExpo to Finnish Minister Ms. Tytti Tuppurainen and Secretary of State Ms. Daniela Gitman.



Refugees from Ukraine receiving core relief items at the CATTIA Center in Brasov on 16 January 2023.