

# ROMANIA

Weekly Update #76

11 December 2023

## Key figures

**149,018 refugees** granted temporary protection in Romania.

**83,403 refugees** present in Romania.

**62,270 refugees** supported with cash assistance programmes in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

**88,789 refugees** provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

**6,672 refugees** supported with livelihoods and employment services in 2023.

“From the beginning of the war, Romania welcomed us and provided us with shelter. We met extremely kind people who helped us with housing, food and clothing.”

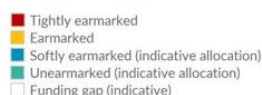
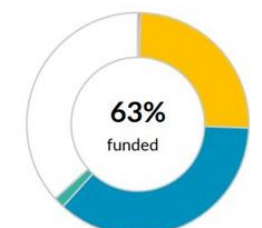
Oksana, a 34-year-old refugee from Vinnytsia, Ukraine, hosted in Romania.

## Funding Situation

As of 31 October 2023

**\$59.5 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



## Highlights

The “Humanitarian Law and Refugee Law National Contest- 2023 edition”, the only one of its kind in Romania, was held from 8-10 December with the participation of over 20 students, was organized by the Romanian Red Cross Committee, UNHCR, The Ministry of Justice, the National Defence University “Carol I”, The National Commission for Humanitarian Law, SIMA-Students in Moots Association and the law firm Beatrice Onica-Jarka & Associates. The contest was vibrant with students displaying knowledge and commitment. UNHCR Representative opened the event and handed over the UNHCR award to the Bucharest University winning team for the refugee law section, while the overall contest was won by the “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu.



Winning teams of the Nicolae Titulescu Moot Court Competition, December 2023.

## Response

As part of its support to inclusion, the system established by UNHCR’s partner Romanian Council for Refugees, CNRR to facilitate medical translation and guidance services for refugees includes five partnerships with Romanian hospitals. As a result, 400 persons benefited from an interpreter and 200 received help to translate their medical documents.

On 5 December, the Inter-Agency Coordination team conducted a round table discussion in Cluj-Napoca, engaging with representatives from nine non-governmental organizations. The focus of the meeting was to deliberate on local coordination needs as well as to empower local stakeholders and actors as part of UNHCR ongoing localization efforts. So far in 2023, seven local coordination networks were established throughout Romania including more recently in Suceava.

UNHCR in Galați held a community-based protection training session on "Identification and Empowerment of Community mobilisers". During the event, over 25 members of the refugee community participated. The training helped to develop new or enhance existing community structures with a view of enhancing refugees’ capacity to advocate for solutions, and plan for meaningful engagement with organisations, local authorities, and the host community.

So far in 2023, UNHCR and partners assisted nearly 7,000 refugees from Ukraine with various livelihood services in Romania. During the year, UNHCR and partners provided Romanian language courses and vocational training to almost 1,000 refugees. In addition, partners are supporting refugees with tailored information to access the local labour market or establish new business in Romania.

On 3 December, the Bucharest UN House was lit in purple, joining the advocacy campaign for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, event coordinated with the Romanian Diversity Chamber of Commerce. UNHCR continues to provide tailored assistance to ensure access to rights for refugees with disabilities.

UNHCR is supporting over 3,200 vulnerable refugees from Ukraine in Romania, with winter cash assistance, complementary to other types of support by UNHCR and partners, such as the core-relief items, including bedding, hygiene kits, and clothing.

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 2023 programmes. For more details: [Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus \(unhcr.org\)](https://www.unhcr.org/romania/funding-update-2023)