

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #82

5 February 2024

Key figures

152,342 refugees obtained temporary protection in Romania.

78,743 refugees present in Romania.

59,709 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023.

91,775 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023 and January 2024.

6,923 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2023 and January 2024.

“**“** Despite being pensioners and my husband being disabled, we are thankful for support from humanitarian organisations. We cannot participate in the government programme due to difficulties proving my husband’s disability.”

Svitlana 62 years-old refugee from Odessa, hosted in Romania.

Population Movements

Currently there are 78,400 refugees from Ukraine in Romania. Over the past two months, the overall population of refugees from Ukraine in Romania has decreased from 85,000 individuals in December 2023 to 78,400 as of 28 January 2024. UNHCR and its partners have observed that some of the most vulnerable refugees left Romania, both to Ukraine and to other European countries, as they cannot continue sustaining rent and other expenses without financial support which has suffered delays over the past months. Dwindling assistance and services provided by humanitarian organisations further compounds this situation. In addition, seasonal end of year movements affected the overall refugee presence in Romania. UNHCR and partners are monitoring movements at border areas.

Response and Institutional Relations

UNHCR Representative met with the General Inspector for Border Police a.i. on 29 January, to reaffirm the cooperation between the institutions in matters pertaining to international protection, and then met also with the CNRR Director and respective teams to review issues of common interest for follow-up.

In January, UNHCR’s partner the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR) provided over 3,400 protection services to refugees throughout Romania.

On 31 January, UNHCR, Jobs for Ukraine, the Regional Employment Agency (AJOFM) and Social Assistance Directorate organized an awareness session on job opportunities for 23 refugees from Ukraine in Bistrița. The session provided information on how to navigate the Services Advisor tool and access livelihoods-related support through AJOFM and the [Jobs for Ukraine platform](#). Since 2023, UNHCR and partners provided 6,923 employment services and information to refugees from Ukraine.



Awareness session on job opportunities for refugees from Ukraine in Bistrița.

On 26 January, UNHCR in Timisoara together with partners, held an artistic session titled "2024 at heart". The initiative was held at AIDRom Multifunctional Centre in Timisoara and reached refugees from Ukraine and refugees hosted at the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Timisoara. The initiative was part of a series of six arts and crafts workshop dedicated to strengthening mental health and social cohesion through art.

UNHCR supports refugees from Ukraine with core-relief items (CRIs). Over the week, UNHCR together with partners distributed 385 CRIs to 183 refugees in Suceava, Galati, Constanta, and Timisoara. Since 2023, UNHCR has delivered 143,380 CRIs including clothing, bedding, hygiene kits, blankets, pillows, towels, and thermoses to vulnerable refugees from Ukraine throughout Romania.

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 \(unhcr.org\)](#)