

Collective Accommodation Site Assessment

From February 24, 2022, to August 31, 2024, millions of refugees have fled Ukraine, with 6,900,866 entering Romania. Approximately 177,000 of these refugees have registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in the country. To address their immediate needs, particularly for accommodation, the Romanian Government, in collaboration with civil society and local authorities, established several collective centers nationwide.

To monitor the situation and identify the needs of these centers, the Romanian Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, together with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU), through the county level inspectorates for emergency situations (ISU), and the Center for the Comparative Study of Migration (CSCM) developed a Site Assessment tool to gain insight into the operational status and needs of collective centers, and to support data-driven decision-making for future longer-term accommodation solutions.

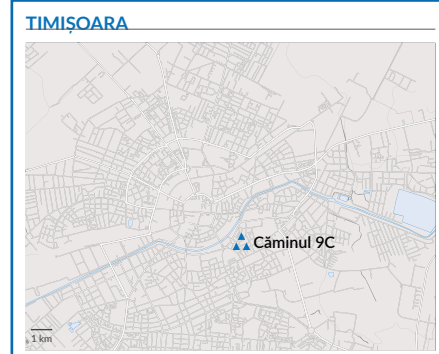
This factsheet summarizes the aggregated findings from the assessment applied in the Căminul 9 C Universitatea Politehnica Timișoara Center. The data presented is indicative of the situation in the monitored site at the time of data collection. The purpose of this factsheet is to provide focused information on the conditions, challenges and opportunities in the collective center. It serves as a reference for central and local authorities, international organizations, NGOs, and other stakeholders, offering insights into the ongoing needs and issues faced by these centers.

Methodology

The data collection methodology employed in this study was designed to comprehensively assess the collective centers across Romania and comprised both quantitative and qualitative components.

The quantitative component focused on gathering numerical data regarding collective centers. This data was collected by ISU and the UNHCR Timișoara Field Office on August 19, 2024, in Timișoara. The goal was to analyze the conditions, capacity, and challenges faced by the collective centers assessed across Romania.

The qualitative component consists in an interview with the UNHCR staff who visited the centers. These conversations provided valuable context, deepening the understanding of how the centers operate and highlighting the specific challenges and needs observed on the ground, but also opportunities for strengthening them.



Collective site profile



81,600
AVERAGE MONTHLY
COST (IN RON) FULL
CAPACITY

5
AVERAGE # PEOPLE
HOSTED PER MONTH

68
TOTAL
CAPACITY

Center is equipped
for persons with
disabilities **YES**

Type of building **DORMITORY**

TYPE OF MANAGEMENT	SOURCES OF FUNDING	STRUCTURAL ISSUES
<p>Public local institution (Universitatea Politehnica Timișoara)</p> <p>Students occupy other sections of the building, which may reduce the available space for refugees as the academic year begins.</p>	<p>Current government assistance program</p> <p>Future funding is uncertain, with no secured funding moving forward.</p>	<p>Minor roof damage</p> <p>Limited privacy</p> <p>Shared bathroom, kitchen and laundry spaces</p> <p>Rainwater leaks</p>

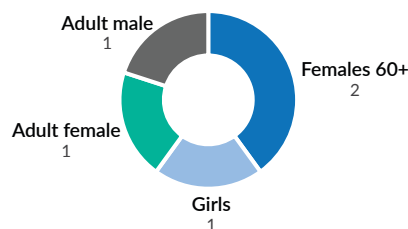
Collective site overview

No restrictions to accommodate**

Pet friendly

Guarded center

Indication of the gender and age breakdown of the people accommodated at the time of data collection



*Average calculated based on the data from the past 6 months

**Restrictions can refer to the lack of certain facilities/ services to accommodate people with specific needs, the gender of the people accommodated, the family composition or habits.

Services Availability

The center currently has in place referral systems for essential services such as child protection, psychosocial support, and access to healthcare, but faces challenges in management support and staff training. With its funding primarily from government programs and future financial security uncertain, the center's long-term viability is at risk. As university space constraints and external dependencies grow, enhancing partnerships and securing diverse funding sources are critical for sustaining assistance and expanding support for refugees.

<p> WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="67 526 430 672">TOILETS & SHOWERS</td> <td data-bbox="430 526 782 672">SHARED GENDER SEPARATION</td> </tr> </table>	TOILETS & SHOWERS	SHARED GENDER SEPARATION	<p> Health</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="782 526 1149 806">HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE VICINITY</td> <td data-bbox="1149 526 1508 806">FEMALE DOCTORS AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR WOMEN</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="782 672 1149 806">REFERRALS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE VICINITY	FEMALE DOCTORS AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR WOMEN	REFERRALS TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT	
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<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="67 672 430 1133"> <p> Food Assistance</p> <p>NO FOOD ASSISTANCE RECEIVED IN THE PAST MONTH</p> </td> <td data-bbox="430 672 782 1133"> <p> NFIs (Non-Food Items)</p> <p>NO NFIs NEEDED FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF THE CENTER</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>Local NGOs provide limited help with food and non-food items, but more support is needed to ensure sustainability.</p>	<p> Food Assistance</p> <p>NO FOOD ASSISTANCE RECEIVED IN THE PAST MONTH</p>	<p> NFIs (Non-Food Items)</p> <p>NO NFIs NEEDED FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF THE CENTER</p>	<p> Communication</p> <p>LACK OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION ASSISTANCE</p> <p>The center's management does not assist with providing information, documents, or other administrative needs. Most assistance comes from external sources.</p>				
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KEY CHALLENGES AND NEEDS



- Building Use Dynamics:** The center's dual function as a university dormitory poses a potential challenge as the available space for refugees may decrease, leading to further constraints.
- Lack of Trained Staff:** The absence of specific training for staff working with refugees is a significant gap. This can impact the quality of care and support provided, particularly for vulnerable individuals.
- External Dependency:** Support in terms of information, food, and non-food items, comes from external sources like NGOs. This external dependency might lead to inconsistencies in service provision.
- Funding Uncertainty:** The lack of secured funding specifically for refugee assistance poses a risk to the long-term viability as an accommodation option for refugees from Ukraine.

Stakeholder Mapping

Local Institution (Universitatea Politehnica Timișoara): Manages the day-to-day operations but lacks involvement in assisting refugees with information, documents, or administrative needs.

Government Programs: Currently the primary source of funding but presents uncertainty regarding future financial security.

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs): Provide vital services such information about rights, social and educational activities, and limited food/non-food items.

Recommendations

Prepare for Space Constraints: Plan for potential reductions in available space by identifying alternative accommodation for refugees if the student population grows.

Staff Training: Implement training programs for staff focused on working with refugees, including cultural sensitivity, trauma-informed care, and legal documentation processes.

Improve Management Support: Develop a system within the management structure to assist refugees with information, documents, and other administrative needs.

Local Partnerships: Engage with local businesses and community groups to supplement the resources provided by NGOs.

Enhanced Coordination with NGOs: Strengthen partnerships with local and international NGOs to increase the provision of food, non-food items, and specialized services.

Secure long-term funding: Explore partnerships with international organizations, private donors, and foundations to secure additional funding.