ROMANIA

Weekly Update #165 **22 September 2025**

Key figures

190,491 refugees obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end July 2025).

41,996 refugees supported with core relief items in 2025; 45,071 in 2024.

9,278 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025; 26,086 in 2024.

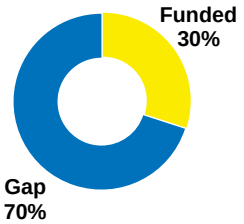
5,508 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025; 9,286 in 2024.

"It is extremely valuable for us to have the opportunity to practice the Romanian language here at the UNHCR's Community Centre. It is a chance to improve our language skills, communicate with native speakers and deepen our understanding of Romanian culture. We are truly grateful for this opportunity and the support we receive." Olena, a 37-year-old refugee from Ukraine, living in Bucharest, Romania.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

As of 31 August 2025

$39.0 million
UNHCR's funding requirements 2025



Highlight

On 18 September, UNHCR held a partnership closing event with the Dr. Max Foundation.

At the end of September, UNHCR's partnerships with the Dr. Max Foundation, the Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for Social Services (FONSS), and CityMakers will conclude due to funding constraints faced by the office in 2025. Since 2022, these organizations have played a vital role in supporting refugees: the Dr. Max Foundation provided targeted prevention and response services for refugees from Ukraine affected by violence, establishing essential support systems in key host cities; FONSS worked with UNHCR to assist refugees with cash for rent, provided support to persons with specific needs, conducted child protection activities, promoted refugee community empowerment and engagement, and assisted refugees accommodated at the Nicolina collective centre in Iași; and CityMakers, in collaboration with UNHCR's partner the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), delivered community empowerment activities in Baia Mare. With the closure of these partnerships, more than 2,600 very vulnerable and at-risk refugees will be directly affected by the reduction in services. This development follows the recent closure of the two UNHCR's field offices in Constanța and Suceava, and the overall reduction in programmes of other UNHCR partners that continue their activities.

Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

On 18 September, Ukrainian refugees attend the Romanian Speaking Club at UNHCR's Community Centre at RomExpo.

On 18 September, the Romanian Speaking Club at UNHCR's Community Centre at RomExpo in Bucharest held a special session dedicated to communication with public authorities and social services. Through interactive exercises, group discussions, and practical vocabulary building, participants strengthened their Romanian skills for everyday interactions with public institutions. The session boosted refugees' confidence in navigating essential services and supported their independence. The Speaking Club actively fosters integration and community engagement.

During 15–19 September, UNHCR collaborated with local authorities and civil society in Bucharest to provide essential relief items (CRIs), such as hygiene and bedding items, to the most vulnerable refugees to help meet their basic needs. At UNHCR's Community Centre at RomExpo, the General Directorate of Social Assistance of Bucharest Municipality (DGASMB) assisted 320 refugees and vulnerable members of the host community with CRIs. By ensuring access to basic essentials, these distributions help uphold dignity and strengthen resilience among those most at risk. Since the beginning of 2025, UNHCR has supported 41,996 people with 138,716 CRIs.

On 28 September, UNHCR in collaboration with NGO Green Revolution (Roaba de Cultură) and partners of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP), will host the fourth and final edition of "Together in the Park", building on the previous events on 21 June, 27 July, and 30 August celebrating social cohesion, multiculturalism, and the power of community. The open-air event on the theme "Fun, Art and Games – bringing communities together through play, arts and culture" will feature multi-cultural arts, games, and workshops for children, bringing together refugees, migrants, and the host community in Bucharest. The event will take place at Roaba de Cultură in Herăstrău Park (Regele Mihai I Park) in Bucharest from 3.30 p.m.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to 2025 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update – 2025