ROMANIA

Weekly Update #210 **24 August 2026**

Key figures

215,532 refugees obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end June 2026).

1,949 refugees supported with community-based protection activities in 2026.

5,976 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2026.

1,872 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2026.

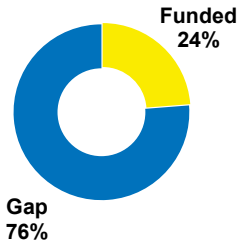
"UNHCR's Women's Club gives us a chance to reflect - on both the joyful moments and the challenges we face. Being together reminds us that, despite everything, life is happening now, and we can still find moments of joy, connection and support." Angela, a 58-year-old refugee from Chornomorsk, Ukraine, living in Constanța, Romania.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

As of 30 June 2026

$23.4 million

UNHCR's funding requirements 2026



Highlight

This week, UNHCR is stepping-up its support to Refugee-led Organizations (RLOs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) through the in-kind donation of 17 computers, enhancing their operational capacity and enabling them to better implement activities that support refugee communities. In 2026, and for a third-year, following a comprehensive evaluation process 9 organizations representing diverse refugee and host communities across 8 counties in Romania received UNHCR grants to support their activities addressing the needs of refugees while fostering social cohesion and inclusion. Partnering with RLOs and CBOs is central to UNHCR's commitment to meaningful refugee participation. These organizations are uniquely positioned to identify community priorities, deliver culturally and linguistically appropriate support, build trust, and develop sustainable, locally led solutions that strengthen protection and promote refugee self-reliance. Overall, over 1,500 refugees directly benefit from empowerment and community integration activities; more than 300 refugee women and girls receive psychosocial support, skills development opportunities, and access to safe spaces that promote well-being and social inclusion; over 300 refugee children and youth participate in educational, sports, and recreational activities that foster integration and personal development; around 400 refugees engage in cultural exchange programmes, leadership training and mentorship activities that support self-reliance and integration; and some 200 refugees undertake communication and employability training initiatives.

Response and Advocacy

On 20 August, UNHCR and its partner the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR), as co-chairs, convened an *ad hoc* Refugee Response Plan's Protection Working Group meeting to discuss the implementation in Romania of EU Council Decision 2026/1912, on the extention of temporary protection, with the participation of 10 organizations. Participants shared field updates on the application of the new eligibility criteria and asylum-related inquiries, noting developments and informing on implementation across the country. UNHCR and its partners continue to monitor implementation of the Decision and to consult with the General Inspectorate for Immigration (GII) to clarify the eligibility criteria.

During the past week, CNRR, provided 158 legal counselling and protection sessions to Ukrainian refugees through community outreach and individual case management. Support addressed key protection and inclusion needs, including access to temporary protection and related rights, asylum procedures, social assistance and child benefits, employment, accommodation, health and disability services, and education.

During the week, UNHCR organized a series of community-based activities for refugees in Constanța and at its Community Centre for refugees in Bucharest, promoting psychosocial well-being, social inclusion, language skills and community engagement. In Constanța, UNHCR held a Women's Club session combining psychosocial support, creative self-expression and reflection on participants' hopes and aspirations, as well as a Youth Club volleyball activity promoting teamwork, physical activity and peer connection. The activities provided safe and supportive spaces for refugees to develop practical skills, express themselves, build confidence and connect with others. In Bucharest, activities included a Women's Club session on setting personal boundaries, an English language activity for children and a Romanian Speaking Club for adults focused on practical vocabulary related to opening a business in Romania. Overall, the activities contributed to psychosocial well-being, social inclusion and community connection, while encouraging learning, creativity, active participation and stronger links among refugees and with the host community.

On 21 August, UNHCR hosted a Youth Club activity in Constanța promoting teamwork, physical activity and peer connection. *Photo: UNHCR*

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 its 2026 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update – 2026