

Hungary

December 2022

UNHCR has been present in **Hungary since 1989**, working in close coordination with state entities including local and municipal authorities, UN agencies, and NGOs.

UNHCR alongside government counterparts ensure refugees and asylum-seekers secure **essential rights, access to basic services** and **legal and protection assistance**.

Directly and through partners, UNHCR provides much-needed assistance to refugees **across a range of basic needs and protection sectors**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

1.8 M total border crossings to Hungary from Ukraine (as of 1 December)

32,564 applications for temporary protection in Hungary (as of 1 December)

28,379 positive decisions taken (as 1 December)

40 Asylum applications

International Protection provided by Hungary

10 Refugee status granted

17 Subsidiary Protection

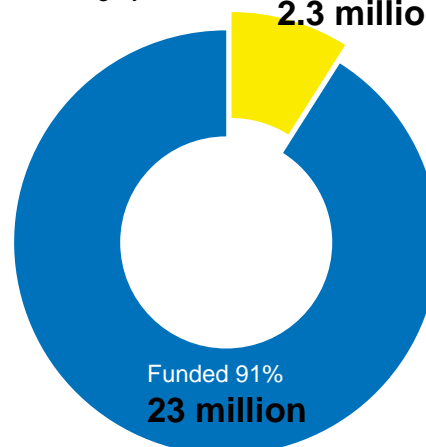
FUNDING (AS OF 10 NOVEMBER 2022)

USD 25.3 million

requested for Hungary

Unfunded 9%

2.3 million



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

56 Total Staff

21 International Staff

Offices:

1 Multi-country office in Budapest, also supporting national offices in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia.



Traumatized by the war back home, refugees from Ukraine in Hungary are finding helpful ways to maintain their mental health. UNHCR partner Next Step offers dog therapy sessions to refugee kids in the BudapestHelps! Community Center, jointly run by Budapest Municipality, IOM and UNHCR. ©UNHCR Z.Balla

Working with Partners

UNHCR works in close coordination with Hungarian Government counterparts to support refugees and asylum-seekers while maintaining positive collaborations with state entities including local and municipal authorities, UN agencies, NGOs, humanitarian partners, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders who are providing assistance to those seeking protection. UNHCR supports the government in systems strengthening that ensures a harmonized response within the existing government structures.

UNHCR has 12 active partnership agreements with the following organizations:

- **Cordelia Foundation** – provides psycho-social counselling and mental health support (MHPSS) for asylum-seekers, refugees and family members who have experienced trauma and distress.
- **Hungarian Baptist Aid** – delivers humanitarian assistance including counselling and psychological support, in addition to child protection and education assistance, advice with accessing the labour market, and integration support including identifying longer-term shelters.
- **Hungarian Charity of the Order of Malta** - supports with reception conditions logistics, shelters humanitarian assistance, “Blue Dot” information centres and integration services.
- **Hungarian Helsinki Committee** – offers assistance and legal support to refugees, including those in detention.
- **Hungarian Red Cross** – provision of dignified services in transitional housing including WASH, first aid and basic healthcare, skills development, community engagement, and restoring family links.
- **Mandak House** – supports reception conditions, humanitarian assistance, social counselling, education/mentoring for children and outreach.
- **Menedék** – offers counselling, language courses and social, educational and cultural programs supporting refugees and migrants in Hungary, in addition to job and housing assistance.
- **NANE** – provides capacity-building for frontline staff and volunteers—notably interpreters and health staff—as well as development and circulation of information materials focusing on GBV and prevention.
- **Next Step** – supports community-building, skills development, and empowerment of refugees in Hungary
- **Hungarian Reformed Church Aid** – Provides counselling as well as food, and humanitarian assistance
- **Romaversitas** – strengthening access to education and information provision, and provides tailor-made solutions for the integration of Romani refugee children through small-scale education grants to NGOs.

- **ULE Association** – provides advice and support in accessing mid-to-long term accommodation through ‘solidarity housing’ and subsidized rent, in addition to social support and employment counselling.

In addition to the partnership agreements, UNHCR supports **Refugee Led Organizations (RLOs)** that have been actively supporting the Ukraine crisis response from the beginning. While their overarching aim is to support refugees in their basic needs, accessing services and providing them with mental and psychosocial support, they also emphasize the importance of community building and inclusion. Currently, UNHCR has grant agreements with Unity, Lexis, and the Foundation of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

Main Activities

- UNHCR observes compliance of the national legal framework with international refugee law to allow for access of all refugees, in a non-discriminatory manner, to the asylum system, temporary protections and other solutions. This is further supported through **advocacy, capacity development and strategic litigation**. UNHCR provides legal assistance (**counselling, representation, aid, information provision**) for refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons while contributing to strengthening the national systems for the protection of persons with specific needs and vulnerable persons, including Victims of Trafficking.
- **Provision of information** remains key to ensuring refugees are able to access key services, make decisions, and actively participate in their service delivery. UNHCR and partners are working to ensure refugees and asylum-seekers have access to information through relevant channels allowing for feedback response mechanisms and participation to be integrated throughout the process. Refugees can access important and up-to-date information on the [UNHCR Help page](#) and [Telegram channel](#).
- UNHCR and partners are actively supporting refugees arriving in Hungary to meet their **basic needs** and access **protection and emergency assistance**, such as receiving psycho-social support, finding short and long-term accommodation, and accessing specialized services while ensuring integration in the social safety net.
- UNHCR focuses on enhancing and scaling up **national protection capacities** providing additional support and technical expertise. UNHCR also supports inclusion focused **capacity-building, empowerment, and community events** for refugee communities, in collaboration with partners and refugee-led organizations, focusing on the most vulnerable.
- UNHCR is **identifying those with specific vulnerabilities**—including people with specific needs, those with disabilities, and unaccompanied and separated children — for referral to specialized services in Hungary. Additionally, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and protection from gender-based violence (GBV) is prioritized through inter-agency networks and PSEA mechanisms and systems.
- UNHCR leads and coordinates the **Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF)** at country-level in Hungary. The RCF includes partners from national organizations, refugee-led organizations, UN agencies and other inter-agency partners. Within the framework of the RCF, there are

five working groups (Protection – including Child Protection and Education, and Basic Needs – including Shelter, Food, and Non-Food Items) and two cross-cutting task forces (PSEA, MHPSS) to effectively coordinate inter-agency partner's response.

External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is especially thankful for the contributions to Hungary

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LINKS

For further information, please visit the [UNHCR Central Europe Website](#).