



## UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #46

5 May 2023

### PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

**8,183,357**

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe (2 May)

**5,065,235\***

Refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe (2 May)

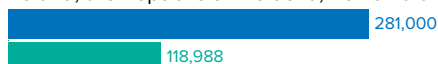
**5,352,000**

Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (23 January) [Internal Displacement Report](#)

### UNHCR REFUGEE RESPONSE 2023

■ Target ■ People reached

Refugees reached with cash assistance in Bulgaria, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia



Refugees reached with protection services (integration, legal support, social protection, accommodation)



Refugees reached with non-food items



\* The figure "Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe" may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons; or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe.

Ukraine. UNHCR psycho-social activities for children and families affected by the war in Dnipropetrovska Oblast February 2023 © UNHCR/Alina Kovalenko

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS






- Since 27 February 2023, the UNHCR series of regional [digital protection campaigns](#) on social media have reached 2.1 million Ukrainian-speaking people across 17 countries in Europe, with Poland, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and the Republic of Moldova leading the reach. The campaigns included graphics, videos and animations promoting [UNHCR Help sites](#) and covering online safety, preventing misinformation, reducing the risks of trafficking and exploitation, as well as informing about Blue Dot Hubs.
- Since the beginning of 2023 until early May, over 500,000 single users viewed the [UNHCR Help pages](#) in countries neighbouring Ukraine, speaking to the continued need for information on asylum in these countries. The UNHCR Help platform delivers country-based protection information to anyone wishing to consult it, but is particularly aimed at refugees, asylum-seekers and other forcibly displaced and stateless people, providing them with crucial information and web links on international protection, services for refugees, family reunification, COVID-19 information and other key issues.
- You can find out more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region on the [dedicated UNHCR Ukraine Emergency website](#).

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## UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Russia has increased its attacks with cruise missiles, [launching its first widespread aerial assault in more than a month](#) against Ukrainian civilian targets on 28 April, [killing at least 25 people](#) in the deadliest attack since January. Attacks were also [reported](#) in Donetsk city, where authorities said several civilians were killed and injured, and in Pavlohrad in central Ukraine, where [dozens of buildings were damaged](#). Meanwhile, mandatory evacuation of the civilian population from the territory of Donetsk oblast is still ongoing.
- As of 1 May 2023, OHCHR [recorded](#) 23,376 civilian casualties in the country: 8,574 killed and 14,441 injured. The actual figures are estimated to be much higher.

## UNHCR RESPONSE AND TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2023

 <p><b>1,07M</b></p> <p>people reached with assistance in 2023, out of a target of</p> <p><b>3.6 million</b></p> <p>people, some of whom will receive several forms of support.</p>	 <p><b>485,876</b></p> <p>people reached with protection services, out of a target of</p> <p><b>1.9 million</b></p> <p>people.</p>	 <p><b>372,519</b></p> <p>people supported with essential items, out of a target of</p> <p><b>1 million</b></p> <p>people.</p>	 <p><b>231,967</b></p> <p>people supported with cash assistance, out of a target of</p> <p><b>800,000</b></p> <p>people.</p>	 <p><b>73,323</b></p> <p>people received shelter/housing support, out of a target of</p> <p><b>720,000</b></p> <p>people.</p>	 <p><b>36,955</b></p> <p>people supported with safe access to multi-sectoral services in collective sites, out of a target of</p> <p><b>150,000</b></p> <p>people.</p>
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## UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Collective sites:** On 2 May, a joint advocacy [event](#) was organized by the Office of the Ombudsman of Ukraine and the UNHCR-led Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster on the "right to dignity in collective sites". During the event, data and findings on the humanitarian situation in collective sites were presented as a basis for discussion on how to ensure dignified living conditions while seeking long-term housing solutions.
- **Collective site repairs:** On 24 April, with UNHCR support, local authorities [opened](#) a new collective site for IDPs in Kyivska oblast. So far in 2023, UNHCR has provided shelter and housing support, including through such repairs of collective sites, to over 73,000 people.
- **Humanitarian convoys:** Reaching heavily affected communities in areas close to the front-line with life-saving assistance remains a priority for humanitarian actors. On 20 and 26 April, UNHCR participated in two interagency convoys, which delivered shelter kits, hygiene kits, sleeping bags, jerrycans, solar lamps, and tarpaulins to support nearly 12,000 residents of Kharkivska and Zaporizka oblasts. Since January, almost 40 humanitarian convoys have delivered aid to areas as close as a couple of hundred meters away from the front lines.
- **Immediate assistance:** Following the destruction of some 45 apartments by a missile strike in Uman on 28 April, UNHCR delivered assistance, including tarpaulins. Following the attack on Pavlohrad on 1 May, UNHCR and local partner Proliska [delivered](#) over 1,000 tarpaulins to affected people and the Emergency Department of Social Protection. Psychological support was also provided at four locations during aid distribution.
- **Emergency shelter:** On 25 April, UNHCR partner Proliska distributed over 100 emergency shelter kits for more than 100 people impacted by shelling in Donetsk and Dnipropetrovska oblasts. In April, UNHCR reached the milestone of having [repaired](#) 10,000 houses since the full-scale invasion started in February 2022. Over 5,000 houses were repaired last year and another 5,000 this year, with a combination of light and medium repairs realised through contractors, cash for repairs, and shelter materials for repairs.
- Find more information in the [regular Ukraine country operational updates](#) and on the [UNHCR Ukraine portal](#) page.

# REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

## Blue Dots

**36 Blue Dots Hubs** are operational in:

Bulgaria	5*	Poland	5	Slovenia	1
Hungary	3	Romania	7		
Moldova	10	Slovakia	5		

\* One Blue Dot Hub recently closed in Bulgaria.

## 77,200

Refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia so far in 2023.

The [Digital Blue Dot](#) is a regional website that provides localised and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. The website provides a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs with information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

## Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 2 May 2023)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. \*Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]) Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe

## COUNTRY UPDATES

### BULGARIA

**156,208**

refugees have registered for temporary protection

#### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**35,214**

refugees have received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

**32,352**

refugees have been reached through **5** Blue Dot Hubs

**7,964**

refugees received cash assistance

**4,847**

visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria Help Page

- **Advocacy:** UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, Kelly T. Clements, concluded her [visit](#) to Bulgaria and highlighted the need for continued responsibility-sharing across the European Union. She commended the authorities for their response to refugees fleeing Ukraine over the past year, highlighting that solidarity across Europe is possible and essential for a workable, fair common EU asylum system.
- **Coordination:** On 26 April, local authorities in Plovdiv approved the Memorandum of Understanding with UNHCR to strengthen collaboration on the inclusion of refugees. The signing ceremony will take place later in May.
- **MHPSS:** 3,603 refugees from Ukraine have been provided with mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) since 1 January 2023.

### CZECH REPUBLIC

**504,107**

refugees have registered for temporary protection

#### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**4,145**

refugees from Ukraine have received protection services

**13,510**

visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic Help Page

- **Accommodation:** According to the government, as of 2 May, 71,812 refugees were [staying](#) in free-of-charge emergency accommodation in dormitories, hostels, apartments, boarding houses and schools, and other facilities.
- **Capacity-building:** So far in 2023, 389 staff from the government, NGOs, and partners have been trained by UNHCR partners about core protection principles.

## HUNGARY

**35,030**

refugees have registered for temporary protection

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**7,750**

refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners

**7,760**

refugees have been reached through **3** Blue Dot Hubs

**24,291**

visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- **Coordination:** On 19 and 26 April, 21 staff from UNHCR and IOM were jointly trained on child protection as well as referral standards and procedures in the Budapest Helps! Community Center, IOM's information point at the railway station in Budapest, and the Zahony train station.
- **Protection monitoring:** UNHCR surveyed 85 refugee households in April. The results will feed into the Regional Protection Analysis #3 ([#2](#) was published in April).
- **PSEA:** On 26 April, 18 staff from partner ULE, responsible for housing and social counselling, were trained by UNHCR on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) principles
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Hungary data portal](#)

## POLAND

**1,583,563**

refugees have registered for temporary protection

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**19,600**

people were provided with protection support over the phone

**11,640**

people were counselled at the **5** Blue Dot Hubs and 6 Community Centres

**13,921**

refugees were reached with cash assistance

**224,432**

views to the UNHCR Poland Help Page

- **Mobile outreach:** During multifunctional mobile outreach visits to Mazowieckie, Podkarpackie and Slaskie Voivodeships, 251 refugees who are otherwise unable to reach UNHCR Community Centres, Blue Dot Hubs or cash enrolment centres received social and psychological counselling, and some were referred to specialised services. Main queries related to financial support, accommodation, employment, and healthcare.
- **Non-food items:** In the last two weeks, nearly 1,700 refugees received clothes, including winter boots, jackets and sweaters during a UNHCR distribution in 107 collective shelters in need of clothing in Lublin Voivodeship. Distributed items included received from private donors (in-kind donation).
- **Socio-economic inclusion:** On 21 April, UNHCR addressed 100 participants at a conference for business owners about employing foreigners, organized by the Labour Office and Caritas. On 22 April, UNHCR participated in a job fair in the city of Siedlce. A few hundred persons visited the fair, both refugee and host community, with close to 200 people visiting UNHCR stand. On 27 April, UNHCR addressed the [ASPIRE Stakeholder Summit](#) about challenges and opportunities of social and economic inclusion and education of the refugee population in Poland.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Poland data portal](#)



## REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

**107,480**

refugees from Ukraine recorded in the country

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**9,050**

refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

**7,700**

refugees have been reached through **10** Blue Dot Hubs as of 9 April

**74,278**

people have received cash assistance

**134,637**

visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page

- **Child protection:** On 14 April, UNHCR signed a Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) with the National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (CNPAC), with immediate effect. The agreement with CNPAC seeks to enhance child protection in schools, capacities of local authorities, NGOs, as well as among staff from reception and accommodation centres.
- **Protection access:** To better understand and systematically collect information relating to difficulties in registering for temporary protection (TP), UNHCR and partners are piloting the [TP monitoring tool](#). UNHCR continues facilitating information sessions and discussions about access to temporary protection organized by the General Inspectorate for Migration for local authorities, NGOs and refugee communities. UNHCR also continues to monitor access to TP through focus group discussions with refugees, as well as regular exchanges with partners and the government counterparts.
- **Protection monitoring:** During the reporting period, UNHCR visited eight Refugee Accommodation Centres (RACs), currently hosting some 310 refugees, to provide technical assistance to the authorities, including on communication with the refugee community and conducting safe identification and referrals of urgent protection cases. So far in 2023, UNHCR has monitored 62 RACs.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Moldova portal page](#)

## ROMANIA

**126,711**

refugees registered for temporary protection

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**30,00**

refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

**18,984**

refugees were reached with cash assistance

**23,956**

visits to the UNHCR Romania Help Page

**515**

refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

- **Accommodation and food assistance:** On 26 April, the government [issued](#) a decision modifying financial assistance conditions for temporary protection holders, which entered into force on 1 May. As opposed to the former 20/50 financial aid programme, which was paid to the families hosting TP holders, the new provisions foresee that each TP holder will receive a direct monthly payment for food, and each household an accommodation support. The aid stipulated in this decision will continue until the end of 2023, except for the most vulnerable people. To minimize potential protection risks and negative coping mechanisms during the roll-out of the new provisions, UNHCR plans to support refugees through a series of initiatives, including through a one-off cash assistance for the most vulnerable people, as agreed with the government. UNHCR will also set up information desks, accompany and support the most vulnerable refugees in gathering necessary documentation, opening bank accounts, translating their documents, particularly for persons with disabilities and other activities.
- **Socio-economic inclusion:** So far in 2023, 313 refugees were assisted with services by HEKS/EPER, including Romanian language courses and career coaching. Partners continued with various inclusion-promoting activities, such as a networking event for 24 refugee entrepreneurs by Jobs4Ukraine, or a workers' rights workshop by partner Ateliere Fara Frontiere for 30 refugees
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Romania data portal](#)

## SLOVAKIA

**114,192**

refugees registered for temporary protection

### UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

**9,900**

refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners as of 27 March

**17,788**

people been assisted with legal counselling at **5** Blue Dots

**2,636**

refugees have received cash assistance

**75,709**

visits to the UNHCR HELP Page

- **Capacity-building:** On 25 April, 30 lawyers and partner staff were trained by UNHCR on asylum and temporary protection to ensure quality counselling and consistent access to services for refugees in Slovakia.
- **Communicating with communities:** On 19 April, eight refugee volunteers were trained by UNHCR partner Mareena in Kosice to improve community volunteering and communication with communities on local services.
- **Social cohesion:** From 1 to 15 April, over 280 refugees and people from the host community participated in community activities in Banska Bystrica and Zilina regions, which were organized by UNHCR partner People in Need (PiN), including an array of activities for children. On 28 April, UNHCR's partner NGO People in Need inaugurated the "Crossroads" community centre in Prešov city, which will be open to refugee and host communities, including the Roma minority.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Slovakia data portal](#).

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### BELARUS:

- As of 11 April, **22,411 refugees** from Ukraine had been recorded in Belarus.
- **Protection monitoring:** From 25 to 26 April, UNHCR conducted a protection monitoring mission to Brest city to assess the situation of refugees. UNHCR discussed with refugees, local authorities and partners on the assistance provided. The partners highlighted the positive impact of the cash assistance and agreed to strengthen collaboration and accommodation assistance.

### ESTONIA

- As of 2 May, **45,076 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Anti-trafficking:** UNHCR participated in the government-led anti-trafficking roundtable on 18 April to discuss availability of anti-trafficking information along borders and issues related to statistical data on refugees from Ukraine.
- **Coordination:** On 19 April, UNHCR held a Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) coordination meeting with local NGOs, UN agencies, ministries of the Interior and Social Affairs and the Police and Border Guard Board. The primary agenda items included mental health, psychosocial assistance and support for refugees with specific needs. As a follow-up, UNHCR and the authorities will discuss implementation of vulnerability assessments.
- **Protection Information:** On 30 April, the Social Insurance Board (SIB) closed all information points for refugees from Ukraine in Jõhvi, Tartu and Pärnu. Instead, SIB will support refugees at the Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) service centre. Those in need of support can contact the government helpline or PBGB and SIB centres for assistance regarding short-term accommodation.

### LATVIA

- As of 2 May, **47,212 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Communication with Communities:** UNHCR visited Riga, Jelgava, Cesis and Liepaja between 18 and 21 April to meet with refugees from Ukraine and civil society, and to strengthen ties with the municipalities and other actors involved in the refugee response. The visits clarified on the kind of support UNHCR can extend to local actors in the coming months, including capacity-building.

- **Focus Group Discussions:** UNHCR attended online two focus-group discussions with refugees from Ukraine in Riga on 17 and 18 April, organized by local partner I Want to Help Refugees (GPB) on employment and social support. The main needs identified were lack of qualification validation opportunities, language classes, and the need for dialogue with local authorities. Discussions on social support revealed a need for information regarding services and a need for psychological services and recreational activities for children. Further actions will be discussed after a third focus-group discussion planned for May.

## LITHUANIA

- As of 2 May, **76,581 refugees** from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Coordination:** On 26 April, UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Security and Labour co-hosted an RRP partner coordination meeting focused on gender-based violence identification and response as well as fundraising strategies. UNHCR and IOM announced the formation of a task force for the development of a country-level PSEA plan, inviting all interested partners to join.
- **Counselling and other assistance:** So far in 2023, 2,230 refugees from Ukraine have been assisted by UNHCR partners the Red Cross Society and Artscape with individual counselling, community-engagement events, information sessions and creative educational activities.
- **Inclusion:** According to the [data provided by the Employment Service](#), over 24,000 refugees from Ukraine are employed in Lithuania, which is about 50% of all temporary protection holders of working age. Refugees were employed in all municipalities, with close to a third in Vilnius. Employment sectors are manufacturing, construction, transport and catering.

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

- **Visits to Primorskiy Krai:** UNHCR undertook a mission to Primorskiy Krai in the Russian far east from 24 to 27 April to meet with refugees from Ukraine and discuss their needs and intentions. UNHCR spoke with refugees hosted in two Temporary Accommodation Centres hosting a total of 83 refugees and with refugees living in private accommodation. Most refugees explained having reached the far east region on their own, and many were employed or studying. During the closing meeting with the authorities, UNHCR shared its recommendations, including addressing refugee needs for psychological support, improving information-sharing with refugees, and allowing for avenues for those who don't take up Russian citizenship. Additionally, 21 staff from the local ombudsman authorities participated in a seminar by UNHCR on the UNHCR mandate, humanitarian principles and other issues.
- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, **6,795 refugees** from Ukraine have been counselled in-person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while nearly 4,616 have been counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. Over 24,384 refugees have been counselled over the hotline by UNHCR and partners in the rest of the Russian Federation.
- **Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS):** So far in 2023, over 7,386 refugees have received psychosocial support through partners.



Ukraine. UNHCR-supported centre for war-affected children and families in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast February 2023 © UNHCR/Alina Kovalenko



## COORDINATION

### UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items. The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates eleven UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 400,000 people in collective sites in 2023. The Protection Cluster consists of 136 partners, including sub-clusters (57 partners under General Protection) and operates through five coordination hubs to reach an anticipated 7 million people in 2023. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 97 active partners across five coordination hubs, targeting 3.3 million people in 2023 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

### REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

[The 2023 RRP](#) aims at ensuring refugees' access to protection and assistance on a

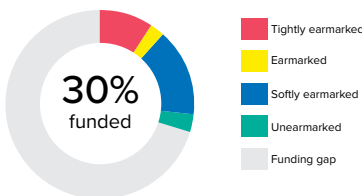
non-discriminatory basis, with a special focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. The 2023 plan places an emphasis on refugees' socio-economic inclusion, in recognition of the challenges faced by refugees due to their prolonged displacement. Support is foreseen to institutions, services and facilities used both by refugees and members of host communities, which will be crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between host and refugee communities. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs) led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, will continue working at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments.

## FINANCIAL UPDATES

### UNHCR Ukraine Situation Financial Update

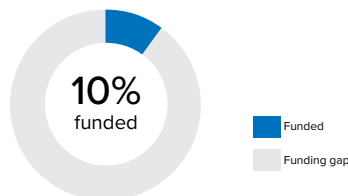
(as of 27 April 2023)

**\$ 1.1 billion**  
required (USD)



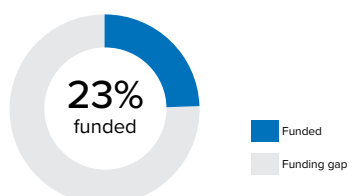
### Inter-Agency Financial Updates

**\$ 1.68 billion**  
required (USD)  
(as of 4 May 2023)



**Revised:**  
[Ukraine Situation: Regional  
Refugee Response Plan](#)

**\$ 3.95 billion**  
required (USD)  
(as of 4 May 2023)



**Revised:**  
[UN Flash Appeal \(Ukraine\)](#)

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