UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION UPDATE

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #49 **2 June 2023**

Key figures

133,975 refugees granted temporary protection in Romania.

94,160 refugees present in Romania (as of 28 May 2023).

35,761 refugees supported with cash assistance in 2023. 43,129 refugees supported in 2022.

41,818 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2023. 65,000 refugees assisted in 2022.

1,933 refugees supported with livelihoods & employment services in 2023.

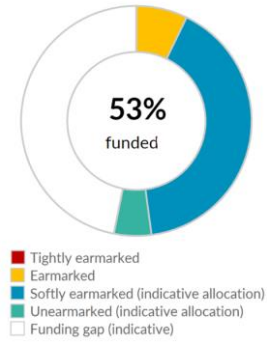
I felt disoriented when I arrived in Romania last week with my two children. After visiting RomExpo, I feel more confident than before. Now I know where to seek support. I think about the future in brighter colours.
–Irina, a refugee mother from Ukraine hosted in, Romania.

Funding Situation

As of 1 June 2023

$59.5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023



Highlights

UNHCR, in coordination with partners of the cash working group, is aiming to support 35,000 vulnerable refugees from Ukraine with cash assistance. The aid will help refugees during the time between completion of the 50/20 programme and full implementation the new governmental assistance. Since the establishment of the new UNHCR's cash programme, 25,000 vulnerable refugees have received necessary codes to collect the cash assistance (568 RON per person). So far in 2023, UNHCR assisted 35,761 refugees with cash assistance.

To support refugees from Ukraine in accessing the new governmental assistance programme, UNHCR and partners continue to provide dedicated counseling (via phone and in person) and proactively disseminating information in Bucharest and other major cities in Romania. Last week, UNHCR disseminated information at the accommodation centres in Galați county with participation of 100 refugees. More than 700 refugees have been counselled on the change in programme by UNHCR's partner CNRR at RomExpo, Bucharest during May. UNHCR is also supporting refugees in registering for job opportunities through the National Employment Agency (ANOFM). Since the beginning of 2023, nearly 42,000 refugees received protection and counselling services in person (24,000) or through hotlines. In addition, more than 44,500 refugees have received UNHCR's HELP Page and Digital Blue Dot (Operated jointly with UNICEF) and 19,344 refugees reached through social media channels.

Population Movements

The number of refugees from Ukraine present in Romania has been stabilizing over the past weeks, from its peak of 113,000 in February, to the current 94,000 (as of 28 May). The decrease was anticipated as many refugees who arrived during winter months expressed that they came with a view to return in spring/summer. Through its field offices in Suceava, Iasi, and Galati, UNHCR is monitoring movements -including reasons for return- and providing assistance to new arrivals at main border crossing points. Refugees who arrived recently expressed needs for information and counselling on asylum procedure and available services including phyco-social support and legal support. Pendular movements are ongoing with some 8,000 – 9,000 Ukrainians entering and exiting Romania daily.

Response

On 1 June, to celebrate International Children's Day, UNHCR together with UNICEF and partners, participated in multiple activities throughout Romania. During the day, multiple partners together with local authorities organized several educational and recreational activities, including for over 300 refugee children in Center for Civic Resources (CRC) in Constanța, the ISU facilitated transit centre in Rădăuți, an Emergency Transit Centre in Timisoara and an orphanage in Brasov (under the legal care of Romania's child protection authority).

Celebration of World Children's Day in Rădăuți

UNHCR and partners continue to provide tailored career counselling and Romanian language courses to refugee job seeker. So far in 2023, 875 refugees have been provided with career counselling and information. In addition, UNHCR and partners assisted 494 refugees from Ukraine with language and vocational courses to support them during their search of job opportunities in Romania.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2023 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update - 2023 | Global Focus (unhcr.org)