UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Operations Update
10 July 2023

Refugee and Moldovan children attending arts workshops in the community event 'A Day at the Park' organized by UNHCR and partners in Chisinau. ©Laolalta

Figures at a glance

106,034 refugees from Ukraine remaining in Moldova

- **59%** females
- **46%** children
- **20%** elderly

869,163 arrivals from Ukraine since 24 February 2022

Key response figures

- **117,468** refugees received cash assistance since 24 February 2022 (over **USD 103.2M** disbursed)
- **152,087** refugees supported with legal assistance since 24 February 2022
- **2,279** refugees now hosted in **53** refugee accommodation centres supported by UNHCR
- **5,040** refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid since 24 February 2022

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"I haven't have my eyes checked in a long time. Eye care is usually expensive but I got two pairs of prescription glasses for free here."

Valentina, a refugee from Ukraine who benefitted from services provided at a temporary eye clinic in Chisinau with the support of the Ministry of Health, OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation, the local NGO Low Vision and UNHCR. Click here to read more.

Recent highlights

- In May and June, UNHCR and partners carried out an EU+ Air Transfers rapid intentions survey, with around 1,200 refugees interviewed across the whole country. The results show that 94% of the interviewed refugees intend to remain in the Republic of Moldova and 70% have friends or relatives in the country. So far, under the EU Solidarity Platform, UNHCR facilitated air transfers to EU+ countries for 2,282 persons fleeing Ukraine.
- On 6 July, UNHCR jointly with the General Inspectorate for Migration presented good practices during a Conference on Statelessness organized by the UNHCR Office in Azerbaijan and the State Migration Service of Azerbaijan. The conference was organized in the context of UNHCR's campaign to end statelessness by 2024. Earlier in June, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova voted to amend the Citizenship Law to allow for the granting of Moldovan citizenship to children born in the country to foreign-born parents who would otherwise meet the conditions of being stateless, regardless of the legal status of their parents. In the Republic of Moldova, UNHCR advocated over the past six months for this amendment.
- Also on 6 July UNHCR organized a training for local NGOs and other organizations in the Transnistrian region to explain the process of registration for temporary protection with a focus on the pre-registration phase. The training was organized at the request of the refugee community and reached around 25 participants.

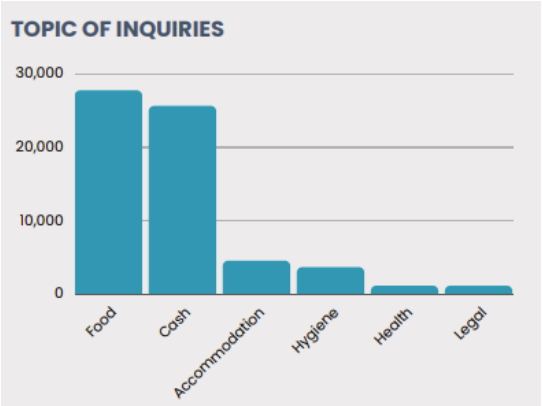
Other activities during the reporting period

In late June, UNCHR in collaboration with the Refugee Coordination Forum published new information on Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP). The report highlights that since the onset of the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the Refugee Response Green Line has answered over 70,000 calls from refugees and host communities, with the majority of them concerning food and cash assistance. Nine out of the 15 Green Line operators are refugees themselves.

Last week, the Office of the Ombudsman of Ukraine visited the Republic of Moldova to explore possibilities of offering more information to stateless people and Roma refugees who fled Ukraine. UNHCR and the Danish Refugee Council facilitated the visit of the two Ukrainian representatives to two Refugee Accommodation Centres and a Community Centre in Chisinau and Causeni.

On 4-5 July, the Government of the Republic of Moldova and UNHCR, in collaboration with the Danish Refugee Council and partners, organized a two-day workshop for around 30 participants from government, humanitarian and legal aid providers on Ukrainian and Moldovan legislation. The sessions in Chisinau focused on key legal issues faced by refugees and potential solutions.

In June and July, UNHCR and partners carried out joint visits in rural and remote areas, including the districts of Ocnita, Stefan Voda, and Balti municipality. The teams reached over 50 refugee and local households, including Roma communities, to clarify how to apply for temporary protection, provide mental health and psychosocial support services, legal counselling, monitor high-risk protection cases, and share information on complaint mechanisms.



Extract from the AAP factsheet– topics of inquiries addressed through the Refugee Response Green Line.

UNHCR assisting refugees from Ukraine before their departure to Switzerland in the framework of the EU+ Air transfers programme. © UNHCR/ S. Abdulrahman

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For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for Moldova or the Global Focus page for the Ukraine Situation.