



# UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #59

10 November 2023

Budapest, Hungary - Refugee children from Ukraine take part in activities during the opening of the children's corner in Devai Inn Community Center, run by UNHCR partner Mandak Haz. © UNHCR Vica Wachslar

## PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE:

**5,850,100\***  
refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 7 Nov)

**392,100**  
refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 14 Oct)

**6,242,200**  
refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 7 Nov)

**3,674,000\*\***  
Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (as of 06 Nov) (Source: [IOM](#))

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

## UNHCR REFUGEE RESPONSE 2023 (as of 9 November 2023):

■ Target   ■ People reached

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



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



People reached with non-food items



## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Paula Gaviria Betancur, visited Ukraine from 30 October – 4 November in her role as co-lead of the IDP Protection Expert Group (IPEG). The visit was organized with the help of the Ukrainian Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights and facilitated by UNHCR.
- Between 1 September – 31 October, in line with its [2023-2024 winterization plan](#), UNHCR has helped 71,157 people in Ukraine with cash support for winter energy needs as well as a further 75,938 people with essential and winterized non-food items (NFIs). A further 11,603 people accommodated in collective sites benefited from with care and maintenance interventions to make them more resistant to harsh winter conditions. The winterization response remains UNHCR's priority in the coming months. In coordination with the Government of Ukraine, and contributing to the broader [Ukraine Winter Response Plan](#), UNHCR's winterization response will target 900,000 vulnerable, displaced and war-affected people between 1 September 2023 - 29 February 2024.
- To find out more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region, see [UNHCR's Ukraine Situation Operational Data Portal](#).

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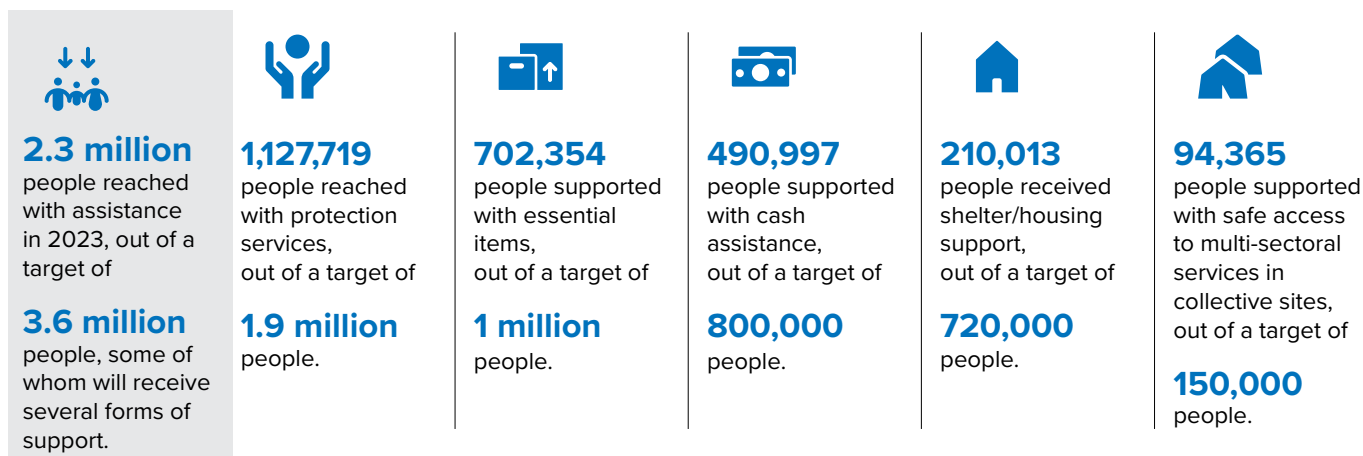
\* Europe corresponds to all Europe sub-regions as identified by Eurovoc (European Union, Thesaurus Eurovoc. Volume 2, Subject-oriented version, Publications Office, 2005), therefore including EU and non-EU countries belonging to Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe, and Western Europe, plus Türkiye.

\*\*There has been a significant reduction in the IDP figure in Ukraine based on the latest IOM Internal Displacement Report, from 5.1 million to 3.7 million. It is important to note that this is not due to a significant return of IDPs, but rather primarily to a change in the methodology used in calculating the number of IDPs. The new baseline population figure used to extrapolate IDP estimates now takes into account the absence of some 6.2 million refugees from Ukraine who are no longer in the country. Baseline data is consolidated by UNFPA.

# UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- During the reporting period, there was an increase in the number of attacks on both civilian areas and energy sector facilities by Russian forces, resulting in numerous casualties and disruption or suspension of power supplies.
- **On 25 October**, Russian forces attacked an area near the Khmelnytska Nuclear Power Plant in Khmelnytska oblast damaging buildings and power lines, causing power cuts for approximately [1,860 residents](#) in adjacent towns. The power plant's operations and connection to the national electricity grid [remained unaffected](#), as confirmed by the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- **On 30 October**, shelling by Russian forces [damaged](#) a thermal power plant in Donetsk oblast, resulting in power supply losses for three coal mines and 35 villages, affecting 18,300 people. Berislav, Novoberislav, Shliakhove, and Tomaryne in Khersonska oblast were also cut off from the power supply due to [shelling](#).
- **On 2 November**, Russian forces conducted more than [118 bombardments](#) in Ukrainian towns and villages over 24 hours, with both frontline and non-frontline areas affected. This marked the highest number of attacks in a day since the beginning of the year.
- **On 3 November**, the Ukrainian air force [reported](#) that Russia forces conducted one of the largest drone attacks in weeks, causing damage to or destruction of residential properties, energy facilities, schools, hospitals, and other public buildings. The regions most affected included Donetsk oblast in the east, Khersonska oblast in the south, and the city of Kharkiv, among others.
- **On 5 November**, Russian forces [launched](#) a major air attack on the Black Sea port of Odesa, wounding at least eight people, setting ablaze trucks loaded with grain and damaging one of the city's principal art galleries. The Interior Ministry reported that 20 multi-storey buildings were damaged. Water, electricity and telecommunications services were disrupted in parts of the city. UNESCO also [condemned](#) the attack.

## UNHCR RESPONSE AND TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2023 (as of 10 November 2023)\*



Reached figures are subject to data cleaning and retro-active corrections may occur.

## UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Emergency response:** UNHCR and its partner Rokada [provided](#) emergency shelter materials to assist those affected by attacks in Khmelnytska oblast at the end of October. In response to shelling in Borova village, Kharkivska oblast, Rokada also delivered 150 OSB sheets (wooden boards) and 150 pieces of plastic sheeting to support around 50 families in quickly repairing damaged doors and windows. Following the overnight attack on Kharkiv on 3 November, UNHCR's partner Proliska immediately [delivered](#) plastic sheeting and OSB sheets to 53 individuals to cover their damaged houses, along with offering psychological support to those affected.
- **Rehabilitation:** UNHCR gave building materials to local authorities in Chernihiv city to repair a damaged art museum and create and equip a social space for children, adults, older persons and people with special needs to access a range of free services including psychological rehabilitation and art classes. The space also aims to promote the inclusion and social cohesion of displaced people in the community.
- **Social Protection:** UNHCR is providing laptops to local authorities to improve their ability to offer social protection services. In Odesa, 10 laptops were donated to the local Department of Social Protection for easier registration of displaced individuals and state living allowance distribution. In Zhytomyrska oblast, UNHCR's partner, Stabilization Support Services (SSS), provided three workstations to the Department of Social Protection in Romanivska village, enhancing their capacity to aid displaced persons and others affected by conflict.
- Find more information in the [regular Ukraine country operational updates](#)

# REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND COUNTRY UPDATES

## BLUE DOTS

**26**

Blue Dots Hubs are operational in:

|          |   |         |   |          |   |
|----------|---|---------|---|----------|---|
| Bulgaria | 5 | Moldova | 7 | Slovakia | 6 |
| Hungary  | 3 | Poland  | 4 | Slovenia | 1 |

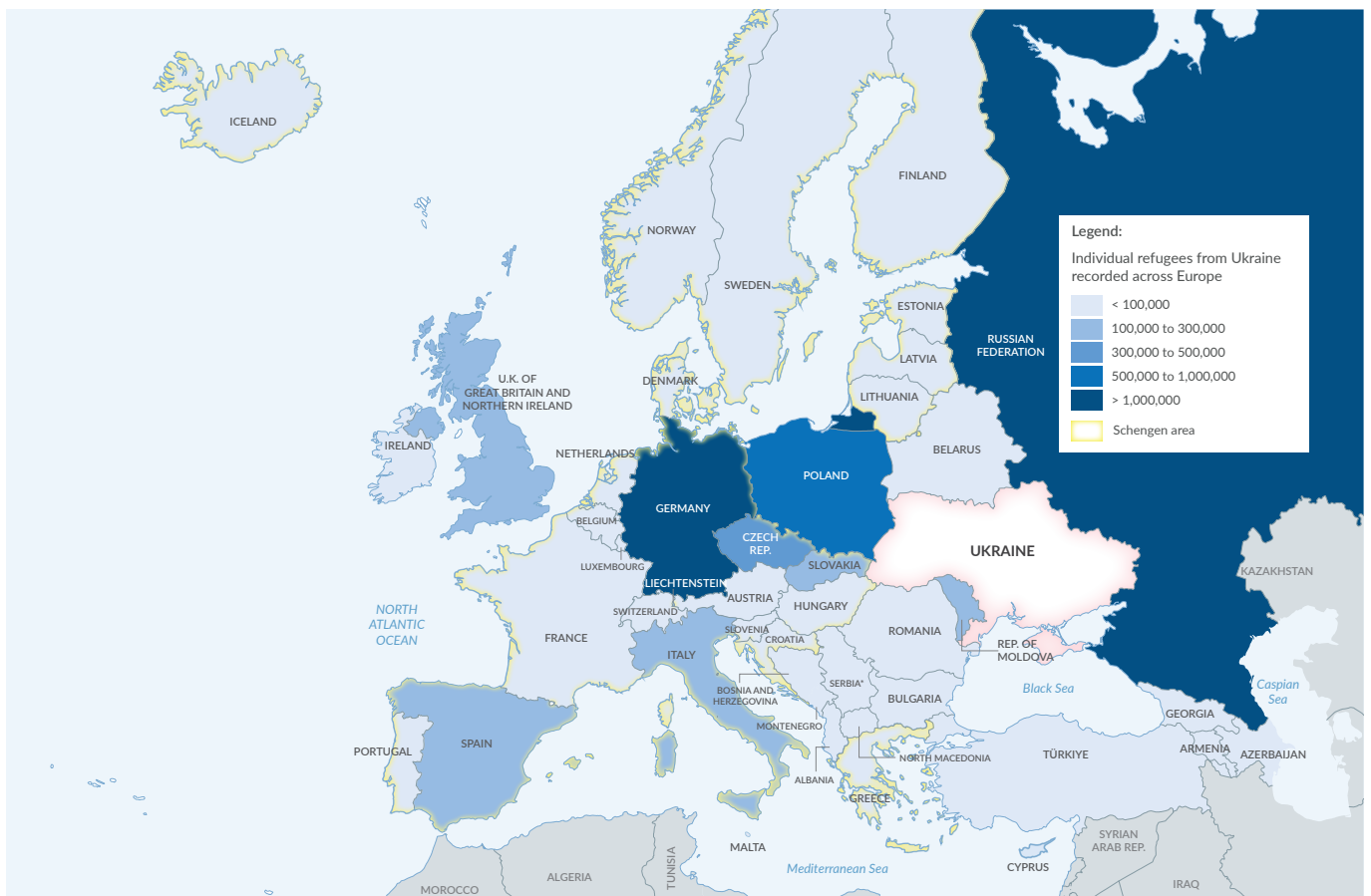
Three Blue Dot hubs has been recently closed in Moldova. All Blue dot hubs have closed in Romania.

**235,030**

Refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia so far in 2023 (as of 24 October).

The [Digital Blue Dot](#) is a regional website that provides localized and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, 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 07 November 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

More information available on the UNHCR [Ukraine operational data portal](#) page.

# COUNTRY UPDATES

## BULGARIA

|  |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <b>52,245</b><br>refugees have been recorded | <b>UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES</b> (as of 18 October 2023)  |  |  |   |
|  | <b>90,018</b><br>refugees have received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners | <b>69,170</b><br>refugees have been reached through <b>5</b> Blue Dot Hubs | <b>12,648</b><br>refugees received cash assistance | <b>19,491</b><br>visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria <a href="#">Help Page</a> |

- Coordination:** On 31 October, UNHCR organized a workshop for RRP partners, addressing concerns related to proposal writing and funding applications. Representatives from nine local civil-society organizations (CSOs) attended.
- Socio-economic inclusion:** UNHCR partner Caritas reported that seven refugees from Ukraine have found new employment with the assistance of inclusion centres within the last two weeks. These refugees have primarily secured jobs in sectors such as beauty services, hospitality, accounting, social services, and trade.
- Counselling:** So far in 2023, 61,179 refugees have received protection counselling, 29,839 refugees have been counselled in-person at border-crossing, transit and information points, and over 1,718 people counselled via hotline.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>366,010</b><br>refugees have been recorded | <b>UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES</b> (as of 29 October 2023)              |   |   |
|   | <b>12,505</b><br>refugees from Ukraine have received protection services | <b>6,191</b><br>refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid | <b>26,393</b><br>visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic <a href="#">Help Page</a> |

- Inclusion:** On 3 November, UNHCR conducted the first round of educational workshops under the education campaign “Hello Czech Republic”. Approximately 60 students at a high school in Pardubice participated in a bespoke 2-hour workshop, covering refugee issues, international protection and the importance of solidarity with vulnerable individuals. The project’s objectives include countering racism and xenophobia while fostering a safe and respectful school environment. In 2023, the campaign is coordinated by the NGO Partner/Slovo 21.
- Coordination:** On 1 November, UNHCR met with the Ministry of Interior to discuss its 2024 operational response plans. The plans emphasize cooperation with partners, focusing on inclusion, cooperation with municipalities, GBV prevention, MHPSS, support for vulnerable groups, communications with communities and information provision. The Ministry of Interior confirmed alignment with government priorities and expressed interest in coordinating efforts to gradually integrate protection services into national mechanisms and reduce the two-tier system primarily supporting refugees from Ukraine.

## HUNGARY

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>53,375</b><br>refugees have been recorded | <b>UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES</b> (as of 5 October 2023)                                 |  |  |
|  | <b>22,041</b><br>refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners | <b>18,758</b><br>refugees have been reached through <b>3</b> Blue Dot Hubs | <b>61,288</b><br>visits to the UNHCR Hungary <a href="#">Help Page</a> |

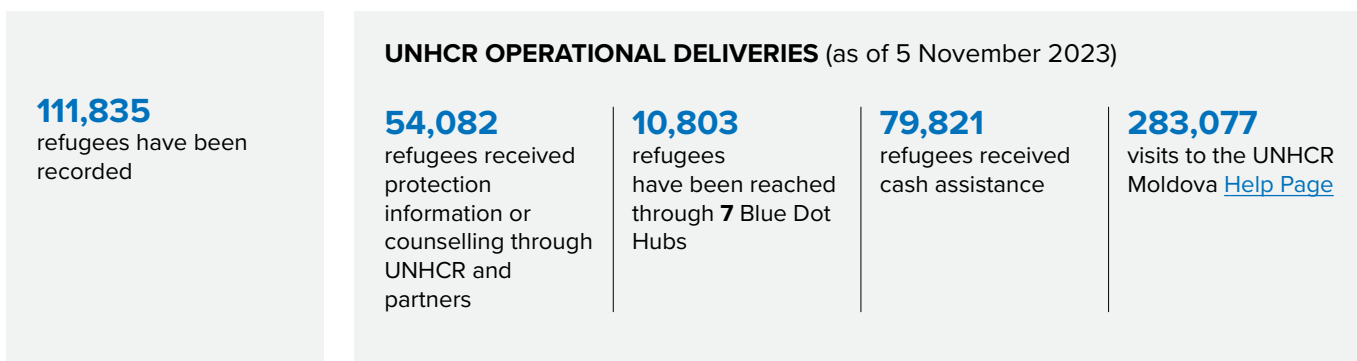
- **Cash:** UNHCR initiated its winter cash program on 27 October in Hungary, providing one-time financial support of some USD 300 to 500 beneficiaries aged 60 or older. The online application has closed after reaching its target, with a waiting list option available until 10 November. Enrolment began on 2 November and will continue at various centres.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Hungary data portal](#)

## POLAND



- **Inclusion:** On 29 October, the [Artolution mural](#) was officially unveiled in Lublin. The mural, a collaboration between Labirynt Gallery and Artolution, was designed and created by refugees and the local community. The painting of the mural occurred between 23 – 28 October 23, and the unveiling event brought together several dozen attendees, including representatives of cultural institutions, local NGOs, and media. The event was translated into Ukrainian, English, and Polish sign language.
- **Protection:** On 24 October, UNHCR and the German Embassy jointly hosted an inter-agency briefing, featuring presenters from UNHCR, WHO, and the local NGO ‘Homo Faber.’ The event centred on presenting [findings](#) from the recent multi-sectoral needs assessment (MSNA) published on 2 November. The MSNA for Poland is part of a regional inter-agency needs assessment, aimed at understanding the needs of refugees, their access to basic services, service gaps, and their priorities for the upcoming year.
- **Socioeconomic inclusion:** UNHCR joined LEI and Absolvent Days Warsaw on 24 October during the autumn jobs fair. UNHCR hosted a round table discussion on ‘Career Prospects in Poland. How to start a career on the Polish labour market?’ where key speakers included refugees from Ukraine. The Fair attracted over 4,000 participants who had a chance to visit stands of over 100 employers, participate in workshops and more.
- **Cash assistance:** So far in 2023, 32,222 refugees have received cash assistance.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Poland data portal](#)

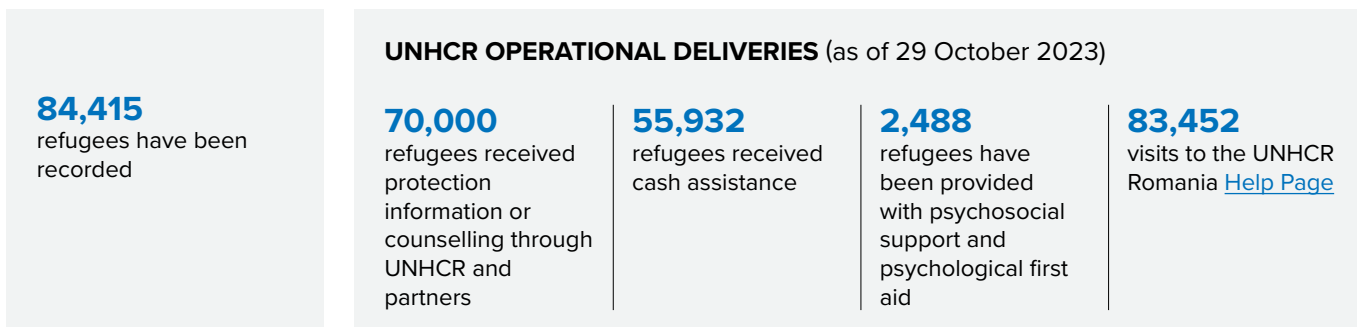
## REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



- **Capacity building:** UNHCR conducted PSEA (Preventing and Responding to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) training sessions for 130 people, including implementing partners, the Ombudsman Office, the Refugee Green Line, and UN Agencies. These sessions covered fundamental PSEA concepts and principles, a survivor-centred approach, mandatory reporting, and reporting mechanisms. These efforts are in line with the PSEA Network Capacity Building Plan for 2023.
- **Inclusion:** On 25 October, UNHCR provided four wheelchairs to refugees with disabilities in the Transnistria region. Additionally on 26 October, UNHCR in collaboration with partner Keystone, conducted two semi-structured Interviews with refugees with disabilities.

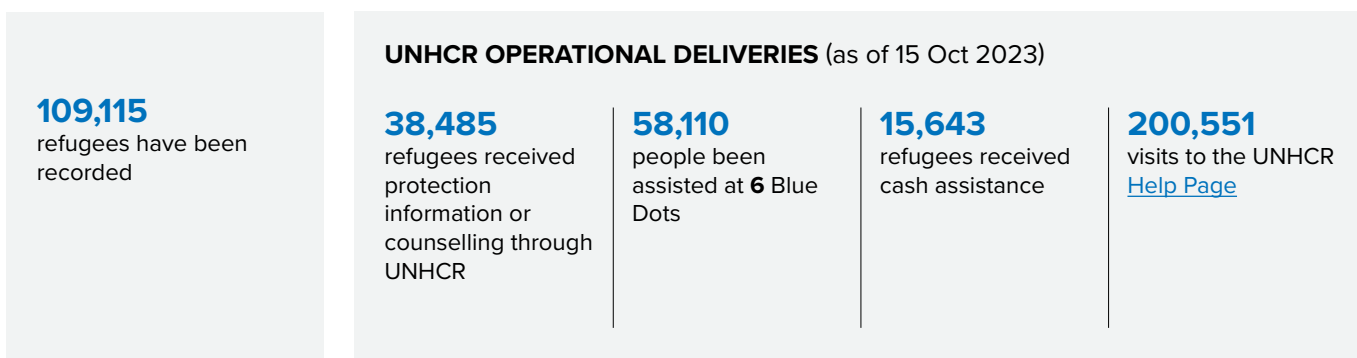
- **EU+ Air Transfer programme:** During the reporting period, UNHCR facilitated the departure of 9 individuals to Spain under the EU+ Air Transfer program. UNHCR referred an additional 35 individuals to pledging states, with clearance granted to 15. UNHCR conducted a monitoring mission to Palanca at the Southern border and distributed information materials about the EU+ Air program. Additionally, UNHCR conducted a training for data entry at the new enrolment centre in Comrat, which opened on 1 November.
- **Socio-economic inclusion:** On 28 October, Laolalta and the Volunteer Academy, with the support of UNHCR, organized a Hackathon at a community centre in Cahul. The event brought together refugees and local community members to collaborate and compete for the opportunity to realize their project ideas through grants. Approximately 30 participants formed teams and selected project ideas for implementation. Five teams presented their projects, with the best project eligible to receive funding for implementation, with a maximum of USD 5,000 under the Community Support Initiative.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Moldova portal page](#)

## ROMANIA



- **Socio-economic inclusion:** So far in 2023, UNHCR and its partners have provided employment assistance to 5,630 refugees. This week, UNHCR and partners assisted refugees at job fairs in Bucharest, Braşov, and Galaţi, offering services including translation, counselling, employer connections, and CV-building support. Partner organizations Ateliere Fără Frontiere and Jobs4Ukraine conducted separate CV-building workshops.
- **CRIs:** During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners distributed some 1,600 core relief items (CRIs) such as bedding, clothing, hygiene kits, and thermoses to around 400 vulnerable refugees in seven counties. In parallel, focus group discussions were held in Bistriţa, Brăila, and Buzău to better understand refugees’ challenges and needs, in preparation for upcoming CRI distribution efforts as winter approaches.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Romania data portal](#)

## SLOVAKIA



- **Accommodation:** During the reporting period, UNHCR’s national partner, the Slovak Humanitarian Council (SHC), continued providing shelter and information to refugees from Ukraine entering Slovakia through Ubla and Velke Slemence border crossing points. SHC assisted 721 people in total and conducted various activities, including information provision, psychosocial counselling, registration, and aid distribution. They also organized programs for children and adolescents, covering areas such as language courses, sports, and therapeutic workshops. In total, 2,445 refugees benefited from SHC’s services during the reporting period.

- **Inclusion:** Between 26-27 October, UNHCR's national partner, SME SPOLU, organized the first Ukrainian Community Forum, bringing together Ukrainian refugee-led and community-based organizations, including those supported by UNHCR. The event facilitated collaboration and capacity-building, through the participation of Ambassadors from Ukraine, Germany, Canada, and other diplomatic missions, as well as humanitarian organizations. UNHCR stressed the importance of community events that enhance support for refugees.
- **Cash:** So far in 2023, 21,190 individuals (9,455 households) have been registered for UNHCR's Cash for Protection programme, concluded by end-October.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Slovakia data portal](#).

## OTHER COUNTRIES

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### BELARUS:

- As of 1 November, **37,039 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Belarus.
- **Coordination:** On 23-24 October, UNHCR participated in a meeting in Belarus, organized by the Belarusian Red Cross (BRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on enhancing family links' restoration capacity. The meeting was attended by representatives from government entities, including the State Border Committee (SBC), Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### ESTONIA:

- As of 29 October, **50,450 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded.
- **Counselling:** On 31 October, Tartu's central Ukrainian Information Centre closed, shifting refugee assistance to district-based regional social assistance centers. The move follows the completion of a one-year project funded by the European Social Fund. Refugees can now seek help from regional centers based on their residence, offering services, benefits, and counseling.

### GEORGIA:

- As of 4 October, **27,397 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Georgia.
- **Cash assistance:** The Government has so far provided cash assistance to more than 3,500 refugee families from Ukraine. Additionally as of 10 November, UNHCR has also provided up to 900 refugees from Ukraine with multi-purpose cash assistance as well.
- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, more than 4,200 refugees from Ukraine have been counselled on social, legal and protection related matters by UNHCR and its partners.

### LATVIA:

- As of 15 August, **32,470 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Latvia.
- **Counselling:** In October, the Information Centre in Riga, managed by UNHCR partner 'I Want To Help Refugees' (GPB), addressed at least 96 inquiries from refugees from Ukraine. The main queries pertained to Latvian language courses, document completion, social support, transportation services, and medical assistance. In 2023, GPB has assisted approximately 4,350 refugees and asylum-seekers through this Information Centre and other outreach activities in border areas and municipalities.

### LITHUANIA:

- As of 27 October, **50,690 refugees** from Ukraine have been recorded in Lithuania.
- **Counselling:** Since 1 July, some 9,700 individuals received protection-related services, including outreach activities, helplines, legal assistance, and psychosocial support. Child protection services addressed the needs of 2,360 children, providing mental health support, recreational services, and assistance at safe spaces.
- **Cash and in-kind support:** Since 1 July, some 39,662 refugees received cash and in-kind assistance. Cash assistance reached 7,200 individuals while food items were provided to 15,550 individuals, while 17,000 received hygiene kits and first-aid kits.

### RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, 15,577 refugees from Ukraine have been counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while 11,553 have been counselled in the border regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Voronezh. Over 47,736 refugees have been counselled via the telephone hotline by UNHCR and partners.
- **MHPSS:** So far in 2023, 22,467 refugees have received psychosocial support through partners in the Russian Federation.

# COORDINATION

## UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI). 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.

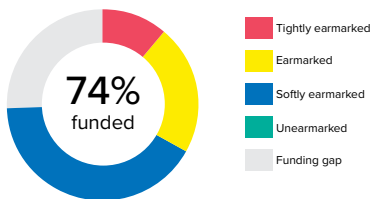
## REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

The 2023 RRP aims to ensure refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, with a particular focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. The 2023 plan also places an emphasis on refugees' socioeconomic 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 remain crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between refugee and host communities. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums led by UNHCR, as well as 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

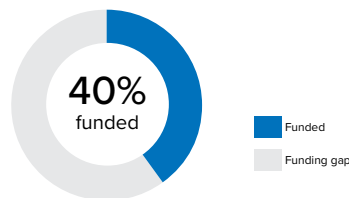
### UNHCR UKRAINE SITUATION FINANCIAL UPDATE

**US\$ 1.1 billion** required (as of 31 October 2023)



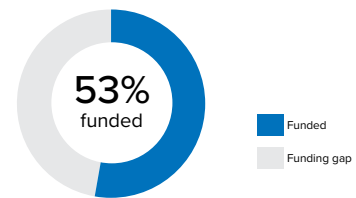
### INTER-AGENCY FINANCIAL UPDATES

**US\$ 1.68 billion** required (as of 25 October -2023)



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

**US\$ 3.95 billion** required (as of 12 October 2023)



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

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