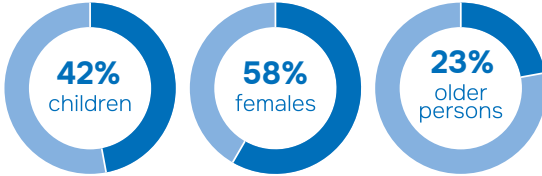


Population figures

~135,000 refugees from Ukraine in Moldova:



~ 1.9 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

~ 65,000 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

~ 7,000 citizens of Ukraine have been granted resident permits, either permanent or temporary.

~ 1,600 individuals are in the asylum system:

212 persons with refugee status	458 humanitarian protection beneficiaries	931 asylum seekers under examination
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~ 52,000

refugees received
cash assistance



~ 26,000

refugees supported
with legal assistance



~ 36,000

refugees provided
with information by
UNHCR



~ 1,400

frontline responders
trained on core
protection principles

*Figures as of 31 December 2024

Highlights of the month



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Hannah, a Ukrainian refugee, and mother of a child with autism, established a specialised centre in Moldova to support children, including those with autism spectrum disorders. Focused on early diagnosis, therapy, learning, and adaptation, the centre offers vital assistance to families. This was made possible through business training and support from UNHCR in collaboration with ACTED, empowering refugees and vulnerable Moldovans to pursue entrepreneurship.

Enhancing Child Protection

UNHCR strengthened child protection efforts and youth leadership through targeted training programs. From December 18–20, 25 child protection specialists and Roma mediators attended sessions on protection fundamentals, roles, and effective communication, facilitated by AVE Copiii and the Roma-led NGO Tarna Rom. Additionally, on December 9, the Ukrainian Task Force of the Moldovan National Youth Council hosted a workshop on social media responsibility and psychological support for adolescents. These activities enhanced the skills of child protection professionals, empowered youth leaders, and promoted greater community engagement to safeguard children and families, improving the protection framework for vulnerable groups.

Combating Gender-Based Violence

During the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, UNHCR and partners, including UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, and IOM, organized 45 activities to raise awareness about GBV and promote gender equality. These included art installations, marches, debates, and workshops. A Self-Defence and Conflict De-escalation Training of Trainers (ToT) equipped 29 participants from civil society organizations, women-led groups, and the National GBV Agency—with skills to replicate techniques in their communities. These efforts fostered resilience, sustained anti-violence initiatives, and promoted safer environments.

“ I saw mothers struggling, and I knew I must create a space for our children

—Hanna, founder of the Children Development Center.”

Safeguarding lives, strengthening standards

To combat sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in humanitarian contexts, UNHCR partnered with UN Women, Church World Service, and WeWorld to pilot the updated IASC Learning Package on Sexual Misconduct. Using the regionally developed Kateryna Case study, the training provided practical tools for preventing and addressing SEA. Concurrently, a Joint Inspection Unit mission evaluated inter-agency PSEA mechanisms in Moldova, praising advancements while identifying challenges like underreporting. Complementing these efforts, research by "Life without Violence" highlighted barriers to reporting GBV, including SEA, such as stigma, lack of trust in authorities, and inadequate support services. Recommendations included awareness campaigns, targeted training, and expanding survivor-centred services. These initiatives strengthen protection systems, promote accountability, and create a safer environment where survivors are empowered to report incidents and receive the support they need.

Localising refugee inclusion

The Cities of Solidarity Initiative, led by UNHCR in collaboration with local and regional authorities, strengthens refugee inclusion and protection in urban settings. Formal partnerships with Chişinău, Ungheni, Cauşeni, and Otaci have paved the way for local inclusion action plans addressing education, social protection, and community integration. These plans are embedded within broader municipal development strategies to ensure sustainability. Ungheni's action plan is currently in public consultation, Cahul's draft plan is under review, and Chişinău's plan is being developed. By aligning local strategies with refugee needs and enhancing localisation efforts, the initiative fosters inclusive, sustainable solutions that benefit refugees and host communities, promoting cohesive and resilient urban communities.

Advancing health and HIV services for refugees

UNHCR, in partnership with UNAIDS Moldova, hosted a regional conference on December 4-5, 2024, in Chişinău to address the health and HIV service needs of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Moldova and Ukraine. The event brought together government, UN agencies, NGOs, and refugee communities to explore healthcare access, innovative service delivery, and the integration of HIV-positive refugees into national systems. Discussions highlighted regional best practices and challenges, with insights from Moldova, Romania, Poland, and Germany. Moldova's efforts, including antiretroviral therapy for over 300 HIV-positive refugees and health services for 8,000 individuals, served as a model for sustainable solutions. The conference emphasized the importance of collaboration and a rights-based approach, strengthening regional healthcare systems to ensure continuity of care for vulnerable populations affected by the situation.



Educators from across Moldova, teaching both local and refugee children, celebrate completing an innovative training programme. The training equipped educators with tools to integrate children with behavioural disorders into schools and activities. This UNHCR-supported initiative in collaboration with the Don Bosco Foundation has positively impacted over 1,200 individuals, fostering inclusive environments for all children to thrive.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to global UNHCR programmes.

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

Our work would not be possible without UNHCR's implementing partners.



UNHCR Moldova is also thankful for the cooperation of Moldovan authorities at all levels, other UN agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations.