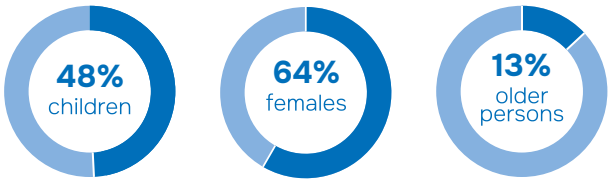
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency | Republic of Moldova

Operations Update
October 2025

Population figures

~100,200* Ukrainian refugees in Moldova:



~ 2.3 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

* Additional 37.8K Ukraine refugees from Romania and by air

Legal status in the country

83,394 citizens of Ukraine granted Temporary Protection.

6,330 citizens of Ukraine granted residence permits, either permanent or temporary.

818 individuals are in the asylum system, including statelessness determination applicants. *As of 31 July

720 Recognized refugees and beneficiaries of humanitarian protection.

~ 15,700
refugees received cash assistance

~ 12,000
refugees supported with legal assistance

~ 14,400
refugees provided with information by UNHCR

~ 1,300
refugees supported with socio-economic inclusion, including livelihoods

Highlights of the month

UNHCR organized a training on asylum application procedures for 15 decision-makers from the General Inspectorate for Migration and its regional offices. The session was designed to strengthen participants' knowledge of international asylum standards and enhance their ability to promote fair, consistent, and protection-oriented decision-making. By strengthening the expertise of national authorities, the training helps ensure a fairer and more effective asylum system in Moldova.

> **I'm happy here. People are kind, everyone welcomed us warmly. We are very grateful to Moldovans—they feel like our own**

Anastasia, a Ukrainian refugee living in Moldova

Strengthening Response to Gender-Based Violence

In October, UNHCR continued to strengthen the national prevention and response services for gender-based violence (GBV) through targeted capacity-building training. 48 staff from safe shelters under the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and 78 paralegals from the National Agency for Preventing and Combating Violence received practical training on survivor-centred and inclusive approaches. UNHCR also concluded a series of five training and coaching sessions for 24 protection desk staff and legal counsellors from its partner, the Law Centre of Advocates (CDA), enhancing their knowledge of GBV and child protection, safe disclosure, and referral mechanisms. These initiatives strengthen the national protection entities, ensuring that survivors of gender-based violence receive timely, informed, and dignified assistance.

Supporting Access to Education for Refugee and Roma Children

UNHCR further supported equitable access to education for refugee and Roma children, fostering inclusive communities across Moldova. Recognizing that language remains a major barrier to education, the Refugee Education Working Group (REWG), co-chaired by UNHCR together with UNICEF and Ministry of Education and Research, presented an updated mapping of Romanian language courses.

The mapping exercise identified 61 active classes and 1,247 learners nationwide. The findings highlighted the need to expand the offer of intermediate and advanced level courses to improve language acquisition and integration. To further assess educational inclusion for refugee and Roma children, UNHCR, UNICEF, and the Ministry of Education and Research conducted a joint field visit to two schools in Basarabeasca rayon, where 31 students are currently enrolled. The schools reported the shortage of qualified Romanian language teachers as a key challenge affecting learning outcomes for both refugee and local students. In support of the inclusion of Roma refugee children, Tarna Rom, in collaboration with UNHCR and UNICEF, organized two training sessions for 77 teachers from Anenii Noi and Nisporeni districts, on Roma history, child protection, and prevention of bullying and discrimination. These efforts promote inclusive environments for all children.

Promoting Child Protection and Well-Being

In October, UNHCR and its partners carried out several trainings to raise child protection awareness and promote mental well-being among refugee and local youth. 12 outreach activists from the Female Support Force and students from the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy were guided on child safeguarding principles and mandatory reporting in humanitarian settings. 14 refugee and local adolescents learnt to manage stress and build emotional resilience in a workshop facilitated by the National Centre for the Prevention of Child Abuse, in collaboration with the National Youth Council of Moldova. These activities collectively reinforced understanding of child protection and empowered both young people and frontline responders to build safe, supportive environments for children affected by displacement.

Strengthening Border Protection Practices

As part of its ongoing support to national authorities in strengthening border management, UNHCR implemented the second capacity-building session for 20 staff members of the Border Police on ensuring international protection at the border. The session emphasized upholding the principle of non-refoulement in line with national and international practices and standards. The training not only strengthened participants' knowledge and understanding of international protection practices but also served as a platform for sharing experiences and solutions to ensure respect of the fundamental rights of people seeking protection. This activity enhances Moldova's asylum and border management systems.

Female Support Force, in partnership with UNHCR, conducted two information sessions on access to education for refugee children. A total of 18 refugee caregivers received guidance on enrolment procedures for kindergarten, school, vocational schools, and university, as well as on the recognition of educational documents obtained in Ukraine. These sessions helped parents understand the education system in Moldova and support their children's learning and integration.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to Moldova, as well as those who have contributed to global UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds:

Australia | Austria | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | New Zealand | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea |United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America

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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:

acted, avve COPIII, people's advocate, CHARITY CCR, CDA, Humanitarian Aid Center of the Jewish Community of Moldova, CNPAC, CRS, CASA MĂRIOAREI, INTERSOS, KEYSTONE MOLDOVA, LAOTALA, NCUM, tarna rom, UNAIDS

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