

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #180

26 January 2026

Key figures

201,752 refugees
obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end December 2025).

46,649 refugees
supported with core relief items in 2025.

12,518 refugees
provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025 and 2026.

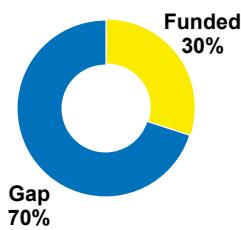
5,903 refugees
supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025.

“ We are sincerely grateful for the government social assistance we have received. It has been essential for our families and reflects the care and solidarity shown to Ukrainian refugees during this challenging time.”

Nina, a 42-year-old refugee from Odesa, Ukraine, living in Brăila, Romania.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

As of 30 November 2025
\$39.0 million
UNHCR's funding requirements 2025



Highlight

On 19 January, UNHCR Representative Pablo Zapata met with Romania's Minister of Investments and European Funds (MIPE), Dragoș Pîslaru, and senior officials to discuss refugee support and future cooperation. UNHCR presented its work in Romania and highlighted areas where refugee needs could be better addressed. The Minister shared MIPE's priorities for the 2021-2027 period and upcoming financial programmes. Both parties emphasised the importance of continued collaboration to strengthen support for vulnerable populations, including refugees and the Romanian communities that host them, and agreed to further explore joint initiatives under the European Social Fund+ programme.



On 19 January, the UNHCR Representative met with Romania's Minister of Investments and European Funds, Dragoș Pîslaru, and senior officials to discuss refugee support and future cooperation. Photo: UNHCR

Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

On 22 January, UNHCR participated in the SEISM 2025 lessons-learned recap meeting organised by the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) at the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI), which brought together more than 30 participants from partner institutions. The exercise, conducted in June 2025, tested Romania's preparedness for a major seismic event, with a focus on coordination between national authorities and civil society responders, rapid resource mobilisation, and the effectiveness of national procedures under pressure. During the meeting, UNHCR underscored the critical importance of clear and reliable communication channels in emergency preparedness and response and shared additional operational and technical recommendations based on its active contribution to the simulation. UNHCR remains committed to supporting national preparedness and response structures and to working closely with Romanian authorities and partners to ensure timely, coordinated, and protection-centred assistance for displaced and vulnerable populations in emergencies, including natural disasters and nuclear incidents. In 2025, UNHCR strengthened national emergency preparedness by donating its contingency stock of 208,542 core relief items (CRIs) valued at US\$ 6.65 million to DSU to address emergencies,

On 21 January, UNHCR hosted a creative workshop for children aged 6–12, where participants brought jar lanterns to life through their imagination. The session went beyond a simple craft activity, providing a safe and child-friendly space for sharing ideas, experimenting with colours, and collaborating with peers. The room buzzed with energy and creativity as children painted imaginative designs, crafted unique patterns, shapes, and characters, and made gifts for their friends. The workshop nurtured creativity, teamwork, and confidence, leaving participants proud of their achievements and inspired to continue expressing themselves through art.



On 21 January, children took part in creative and recreational activities at UNHCR's Community Centre at RomExpo. Photo: UNHCR

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to its 2025 and 2026 programmes. For more details: Romania Funding Update – 2025