ROMANIA

Weekly Update #193 **27 April 2026**

Key figures

208,164 refugees
obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end March 2026).

47,171 refugees
supported with core relief items in 2025 and 2026.

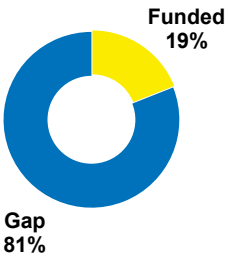
14,800 refugees
provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025 and 2026.

5,836 refugees
supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025 and 2026.

"I had the privilege of facilitating a session of the Romanian Speaking Club at UNHCR's Community Centre at RomExpo, where participants build confidence through interactive, discussion-based language practice. It has been a truly rewarding experience, and I look forward to the sessions ahead." Andrei, a host community volunteer supporting refugees, Bucharest, Romania.

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation

As of 31 March 2026
$23.4 million
UNHCR's funding requirements 2026



Highlights

On 22 April, DSU convened the 200th meeting of the "DSU–GOV Humanitarian Support / BeReady" platform. *Photo: DSU*

On 22 April, the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), led by State Secretary Dr. Raed Arafat, convened the 200th meeting of the "DSU–GOV Humanitarian Support / BeReady" platform with the presence of authorities, including State Counsellor Ms. Luminița Odobescu, UN agencies, and NGOs. Since its inception, UNHCR has actively supported this coordination mechanism, which remains central to the refugee response in Romania. Four years after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, continued collaboration among national and local authorities, international organizations and civil society is critical to advancing refugee inclusion and ensuring access to reliable information and essential services. At the meeting, the UNHCR Representative reaffirmed the organization's commitment to supporting the Government of Romania in delivering inclusive, sustainable responses. He emphasized the platform's role in identifying solutions to evolving challenges and highlighted its complementarity with the Refugee Response Plan (RRP).

The Inter-Agency Coordination Unit has finalised its assessment of the Q1 2026 funding situation for the revised RRP. Of the US$48.6 million appealed for by the 43 RRP partners to address the needs of refugees under the plan, only US$5 million (10 per cent) were received by end of the first quarter of 2026. Significant funding shortfalls were identified in most sectors, most notably education, child protection, and livelihoods. 13 partners did not receive any funding against their appeals. Detailed findings are presented in the accompanying Inter-Agency infographic. The results of this assessment will inform ongoing resource mobilisation efforts to help ensure the continued delivery of essential support to refugees in 2026.

Response and Advocacy

From 22 to 24 April, UNHCR contributed to a national debate on the EU Pact on Asylum and Migration, organized by its partner, the Romanian National Council for Refugees (CNRR). UNHCR facilitated two sessions addressing its mandate, key aspects of the Pact and the interpretation of refugee status criteria in this context. Some 40 participants from across Romania, including judges, lawyers, legal advisers, and representatives of the General Inspectorate for Immigration and the General Inspectorate of the Border Police took part in the event. Discussions focused on strengthening institutional capacity across the asylum procedure. Participants emphasized the need for practical guidance and continued training to support implementation of the Pact.

UNHCR in Romania has continued its long-standing partnership with the One World Romania international documentary and human rights film festival, supporting the festival's 19th edition for the tenth consecutive year. Running until 29 April, the festival features more than 40 documentary films that explore contemporary global challenges, highlighting stories of resilience, solidarity and the protection of fundamental rights. On 26 April, UNHCR supported the screening of *A Fox Under the Pink Moon*, which portrays the experiences of a young Afghan refugee in Iran. A discussion with audience participation followed the screening, fostering dialogue and enhancing understanding of the challenges faced by refugees and the importance of international protection.

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 – 2026