



UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #31

23 September 2022

Ukraine. Oksana and her children came to the multi-purpose cash center to enroll for UNHCR cash assistance, July 2022 © UNHCR/Alina Kovalenko

UNHCR PUBLICATIONS

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More information

- The UNHCR [Hungary portal](#)
- The UNHCR [Moldova portal](#)
- The UNHCR [Poland portal](#)
- The UNHCR [Romania portal](#)
- The UNHCR [Slovakia portal](#)

The latest Ukraine Emergency: [UNHCR Operational Response and Delivery Update](#) as of 21 September

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KEY FIGURES

7,400,013
refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe

4,070,306
refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe

6,975,000
estimated number of IDPs in Ukraine
Source: Internal Displacement Report



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

CONTEXT

Since the beginning of hostilities, nearly one-third of Ukrainians have been forced from their homes. This is one of the largest human displacement crises in the world today. Within Ukraine, nearly 7 million people remain displaced by the war.

As of today, UNHCR estimates there are over 7 million refugees present across Europe. Over 4 million refugees from Ukraine have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes. Some 13.1 million movements out of Ukraine have been recorded since 24 February, with over 6 million movements recorded back into the country.

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

Hostilities continue in eastern and southern Ukraine, with more reports of civilian casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure, including wider-scale disruptions in power and water supplies.

UNHCR RESPONSE – WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS



As large areas in Kharkivska oblast are becoming newly accessible to the humanitarian agencies, UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies are working to assess needs and deliver aid to communities. On 16–17 September, as part of an inter-agency humanitarian convoy of 13 trucks, UNHCR delivered more than **35,000 items** including thermal blankets, tarp and solar lamps.

Over the past week, **30 houses** were finished with repairs and insulation in Kyivska oblast so that families could stay in a warm home during the harsh winter months. Works continue in over **250 homes** with many more underway. **1,126 sleeping spaces** have been newly created or improved through construction works at collective centres.

The results of the second round of Collective Sites Monitoring (CSM), conducted in July 2022 by the UNHCR-led CCCM cluster and partners, have been published

[online](#). The findings touch on the population profile, type of buildings used as collective sites, movement intentions, type of assistance provided, etc.

From 12 to 16 September, UNHCR partner Proliska delivered **200 Emergency Shelter Kits (ESKs)** to newly accessible communities in Kharkivska oblast. A further 100 ESKs were delivered to Zaporizka oblast and 300 ESKs to Dnipropetrovska oblast to support rapid repairs of damaged homes

To date, **854,459 people have benefitted from core relief items and food assistance across eastern, central and western Ukraine**. This includes **159,472** people who received food assistance and **35,253** who were in receipt of shelter kits.



Close coordination and communication with the Government remains a key priority. On 13 September, UNHCR joined the first coordination meeting on newly accessible territories where state authorities discussed urgent needs of the conflict-affected population.

KEY FIGURES IN UKRAINE (AS OF 22 SEPTEMBER)



2.1 million

people reached with assistance to date



817,939

people reached with essential food and non-food items, winter clothes and shelter materials



559,248

people have received cash assistance to support their basic needs



716,588

people received protection assistance, advice and referrals at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines



184,473

people have received assistance through

265

humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas.



107,975

sleeping places were improved with items such as beds and mattresses in a total of

390

reception and collective centres

UNHCR RESPONSE TARGETS*



4.3 million

The number of people UNHCR aims to reach



1.2 million

people will receive protection assistance and information



1.5 million

people will be supported with essential food and non-food items



1.08 million

people will receive multipurpose cash assistances



140,000

people to receive shelter support, including through repairs and insulation of

8,200

homes

*The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements detailed on the last page.

KEY FIGURES - REFUGEE HOSTING COUNTRIES

420,178

have received cash assistance in Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia as of 22 September.

36

Blue Dots established with UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

[Digital Blue Dots](#)

8

regional warehouses have been established in Hungary (4), Moldova (2) Poland (1) and Romania (1) to store non-food items and non-standard items for the regional response, pre-positioning as of 21 September, inter alia: 52 refugee housing units, 5,514 winterization kits, 9,112 tarpaulins, 14,037 tents, 20,088 solar lamps, 24,763 kitchen sets, 32,780 jerry cans, 15,9470 sleeping bags, 217,509 quilts, 267,830 blankets, 319,607 bed sets, 361,023 mattresses, 661,138 hygiene kits.



UNHCR has released a second **intentions survey**, [Lives on Hold: Intentions and Perspectives of Refugees from Ukraine](#), conducted among refugees from Ukraine hosted in 43 countries across Europe and beyond. The report, based on 4,800 responses collected between August and September, presents the intentions of refugees from Ukraine, an in-depth analysis of the factors influencing their decisions, and key insights into their current socio-economic situation and profiles. Among key findings, the majority of refugees, some 81 per cent intend to return home but only 13 per cent plan to do so in the next three months. The main impediment to return reported by refugees is the safety and security situation in places of origin, along with concerns about lack of access to basic services and adequate living conditions.

HUNGARY

KEY FIGURES - HUNGARY

29,903

refugees registered for temporary protection

26,579

people provided with protection support by UNHCR and partners

3

Blue Dots

87,668

visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page



Protection

- UNHCR and partners have so far provided information, counselling, psychosocial support and protection referrals to **26,579 refugees** from Ukraine at border crossing points, help/info points and temporary shelters countrywide. To date, some 7,009 people have received assistance at the three currently operational Blue Dots in Hungary.
- UNHCR has a daily presence at the Záhony train station to ensure adequate information provision for newly arriving refugees, while waiting for registration by the police. UNHCR provides individual counselling and information on rights and services in addition to legal advice and specific information on administrative procedures for staying in Hungary.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

KEY FIGURES - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

91,772

refugees from Ukraine estimated to have remained in the country

86,784

people have received cash assistance

9

Blue Dots

58,714

refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

332,551

visits to the UNHCR help page



Protection

- To date, **30,705 people** have received support provided by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners at the nine Blue Dots in Moldova, including **15,061 children**.

Queries regarding documentation and the asylum procedure have been the most frequently asked questions to legal service providers.

- UNHCR manages the Green Line, a free helpline (0800 800 11) to address refugees' and host communities' questions, needs and concerns. Since mid-April, **35,989 calls** have been received. UNHCR has supported the training of over 90 per cent of Green Line call centre staff on handling PSEA (Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) disclosures and how to report on them.
- 3,134 people** have been trained on protection issues across Moldova. This includes **2,599 frontline partners**, government and NGO staff who have been trained on GBV (Gender-Based Violence) safe disclosure and referral mechanisms in order to support the rollout of guidelines on referral pathways. Several referral pathways covering the entire country have been updated, while the [GBV pocket guide](#) has been translated into Romanian and distributed among partners.
- UNHCR partner INTERSOS continues to identify people most in need of protection assistance, including those in need of psychological first aid (PFA) and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). The services are provided at the main border crossing points - Palanca and Tudora, as well as in the Palanca Bus Hub. To date, **2,854 refugees** have been provided with PSS/PFA assistance, with those presenting severe psychological symptoms being referred to specialized mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

POLAND

KEY FIGURES - POLAND

1,391,344

refugees registered for temporary protection

281,852

people have received cash assistance

6

Blue Dots

5,559,657

visits to the UNHCR Poland help page



Protection

- 5,559,657 visits** have been made to the UNHCR Poland Help page to date. UNHCR continues to develop approaches to communicating with communities. **11,790 calls** have been received through the counseling hotlines since they were launched in late July. The counselling lines operate in four languages and the phone numbers are available via the HELP website. The main issues queried by refugees relate to school enrolment challenges, cash assistance, employment and housing issues.
- There are six Blue Dots, including two in Warsaw and two in Krakow, five community centres operating in Poland and one interagency mobile community outreach team; some previously established Blue Dots have since transitioned to serving as community centres. **35,733 people** have been counselled

through the Blue Dots as of 19 September. The largest number of queries and referrals were related to health and medical services, transport, financial support, protection and social services, child protection services and MHPSS.



Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- To date, **279,572 individuals** have received cash assistance. A total of seven cash enrolment centres are operating either directly by UNHCR or by partners.

ROMANIA

KEY FIGURES - ROMANIA

67,064

refugees registered for temporary protection

19,936

refugees received cash assistance

39,328

refugees provided with information and counselling in person or over the phone

6

Blue Dots

72,153

people supported to travel to Romania from Moldova

- As of 11 September, space to accommodate **52,610 people** has been made available by local authorities and civil society; out of these, 7,634 are occupied. UNHCR continues to conduct regular reception monitoring visits and assessments of reception sites and residential care facilities. UNHCR is also determining needs for core relief items and other assistance in the accommodation facilities to offer support.
- UNHCR and IOM continue to jointly facilitate fast-track transfers from Palanca border crossing point with Ukraine, to Huși, Romania. As of 17 September, **12,741 people** had been transported to Romania through this mechanism.
- IKEA, NESsT and the Cisco Foundation, in coordination with UNHCR, have launched the [Refugee Employment Initiative](#), with applications closing soon, to support 15 enterprises with EUR 75,000 of funding and/or up to EUR 20,000 in grants and business support. The initiative aims to create 2,000 jobs by providing financing and business assistance to enterprises that work or plan to work with refugees and migrants in Poland and Romania.



Protection

- UNHCR continues to provide protection information and counselling in person as well as through hotlines. As of 11 September, over **39,328 people** have received protection support, advice, referrals and information in person or remotely through helplines. This includes **26,367 people** who were supported in person and over 12, 961 people who received support through helplines.
- The UNHCR Help website has received **72,153 visits** as of 18 September. A [Telegram channel](#) has been activated with gradually increasing outreach.



Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- 19,936 people** have received cash assistance as of 22 September. The cash assistance enrolment centre in RomExpo in Bucharest is fully operational, with additional legal and health referral services available from UN Agencies and NGOs on site. In addition to the enrolment centre in Bucharest, there are four others in Brasov, Galati, Iasi and Suceava. UNHCR plans to open either an additional enrolment site or deploy a mobile enrolment team.

KEY FIGURES - SLOVAKIA

94,334

refugees registered for temporary protection

31,606

refugees have received cash assistance

3

Blue Dots

321,132

visits to the to the UNHCR Slovakia Help page



Protection

- The [UNHCR Help page](#) has been updated with FAQs – available in Slovak, Ukrainian, and English – on access to education, providing information to parents and/or guardians on enrolment in kindergartens and other schools in Slovakia.
- UNHCR’s public [Telegram channel](#) for Slovakia has increased its reach in recent weeks, with nearly **1,800 followers** and 10,000 views as of 18 September.
- Three Blue Dots are in operation in Bratislava, Michalovce and Košice, with over **1,000 people** assisted at the locations in the past week.
- On 13 September, UNHCR held focus group discussions with school staff and Ukrainian students in Nitra, where some **400 refugee children** from Ukraine are currently enrolled in primary schools. The main challenges were related to the lack of space to accommodate refugee children, lack of equipment, challenges with the different curricula, and language barriers. UNHCR and UNICEF plan to continue engaging and advocating with the Ministry of Education to address these concerns, as well as facilitate the hiring of Ukrainian teachers into Slovak schools.

OTHER COUNTRIES



Protection

- **Belarus:** UNHCR regularly monitors access to territory and asylum procedures and provides asylum-related counselling through the Refugee Counselling Service (RCS) in every region of the country. From beginning of March to end of August 2022, UNHCR and the RCS have counselled a total of 1,618 refugees from Ukraine on asylum procedures and access to services, such as humanitarian and financial assistance, health services, employment, and education. UNHCR also carried out several visits to Temporary Accommodation Facilities (TAFs), where Ukrainians were hosted upon arrival. UNHCR supports the most vulnerable refugees from Ukraine, such as elderly people, persons with serious medical conditions, women at risk, single parents, and persons with disabilities with one-time emergency cash assistance. A total of 628 individuals have received cash assistance to date.
- **Estonia:** UNHCR carried out meetings between 29 August and 4 September with over 60 refugees, who raised concerns about language barriers to access the labour market, as well as difficulties to see a doctor and understand governmental digital services. UNHCR has also monitored arrivals of Ukrainians from the Russian Federation and provided support and information on available assistance according to their intentions.
- **Georgia:** UNHCR supports the efforts of the government in responding to the arrival of Ukrainians. It has provided expertise as well as material support, such as complementary cash assistance for Ukrainians with specific vulnerabilities for a defined period of time. To identify additional needs UNHCR is collaborating with World Vision International on a set of needs assessment and intention surveys, with the Georgian Red Cross Society on a general needs assessment focusing on healthcare and food, as well as with PMCG Research on access to services and integration programmes.

• **Lithuania:**

- UNHCR continues to visit border crossing points to observe population movements and reception centres to evaluate their conditions. UNHCR is supporting the Ministry of Social Security and Labour to prepare new accommodation facilities for potential new Ukrainian arrivals in the context of the upcoming winter season.
- UNHCR and NGO Centre Against Human Trafficking and Exploitation (KOPZI) trained 20 people, including Lithuanian police, SBGS (State Border Guard Service), Migration Department, refugee reception centres and NGOs to identify trafficking-related risks as well as prevent and respond to trafficking incidents when providing protection, support and services to refugees from Ukraine.

• **Russian Federation:**

- UNHCR carried out several visits to Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) as of March 2022, in Rostov, Vladimir, Bryansk, Voronezh, Kaluga, Tula, Kazan, Lipetsk and Volgograd regions, to review the situation of Ukrainian refugees. UNHCR held individual and group meetings with refugees, received briefings from the regional authorities and the Russian Red Cross Society branches on their activities in support of the refugees.
- Since 24 February, UNHCR partner the Russian Red Cross Society has provided in-person counselling in the Russian Federation to 9,167 refugees and displaced persons from Ukraine in the border regions. Main queries include how to obtain humanitarian, legal, financial and medical assistance; PSS; access to education, and re-establish family links. In other regions, UNHCR and partners have provided counselling in person and by phone to 52,901 persons. Queries include information on temporary protection and asylum, how to obtain a temporary residence permit or Russian citizenship, and access to the labour market, social rights, education and humanitarian assistance.

Blue Dots

UNHCR and UNICEF are jointly establishing 'Blue Dots' in multiple countries receiving refugees fleeing Ukraine. To date, a total of 36 are already operational including in:

Bulgaria	6	Moldova	9	Slovakia	3
Hungary	3	Poland	6	Slovenia	1
Italy	2	Romania	6		

Responding to the critical need of safety, stability, updated and accurate information and specialised protection services, UNHCR and UNICEF have jointly established the Blue Dot Safe Space, Protection and Support Hubs, spaces where refugees can find information, support and referrals for health care, education, psychosocial support and more, all under one roof. Services available at Blue Dot hubs aim to assist all refugees, with a specialised focus on children and those at greatest risk, people with disabilities, people who might have been trafficked, survivors of violence and refugees from the LGBTQI+ community.



Core Relief Items

- **Latvia:** In Latvia, following a request from the Ministry of the Interior, UNHCR is providing foldable beds with mattresses for immediate accommodation of refugees and displaced people from Ukraine . UNHCR is engaged in communication with local authorities, IOM and NGOs about possible cooperation on the establishment of transit reception and information points at external borders. The implementation is currently under discussion.

Ukraine

UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters as well as the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster which was activated as of 1 March in Ukraine. In addition, as co-lead of the Logistics Working Group in Ukraine, UNHCR is facilitating the movement of humanitarian convoys in coordination with OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs). The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster has established a national coordination office in Lviv and plans to establish sub-national coordinators in Dnipro, Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia. Both the Child Protection and GBV Sub-Clusters are similarly expanding their presence.

Regional Refugee Response

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of relevant governments. A Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) was developed in early March. A revised version of the RRP extending through December 2022 has since been published, bringing together the joint efforts of 142 partners. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, have been established at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments. The structures are intended to be agile and will be adjusted as the situation evolves.

UNHCR leads the Refugee Coordination Forum (RCF) at country-level in **Hungary** to ensure a harmonized response within existing government structures and among inter-agency partners, NGOs, volunteers and other stakeholders, with associated working groups (Protection, including Child Protection and Education, and Basic Needs – including Shelter, Food, and Non-Food Items) and two cross-cutting task forces (the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support) to effectively coordinate inter-agency partners' response.

In **Moldova**, an Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been established with more than 70 participating members. UNHCR leads the RCF and co-chairs the Cash, Education, Information Management (IM), Protection, Accommodation & Transportation, and Logistics & Supply Working Groups; GBV and Child Protection Sub-Working Groups; the Gender Task Force; and the PSEA Network. The Government of Moldova has established a Single Emergency Management Centre under the Prime Minister's Office, where UNHCR represents the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, ensuring coordination between the two.

In **Poland**, UNHCR leads the overarching refugee coordination structure in Poland, in support of the Government-led response. The thematic sector working

groups include Protection (with sub-sector working groups on Child Protection, Gender-based Violence, Counter-trafficking, Third-Country Nationals, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support); Health; Education; Shelter; Basic Needs, including Food Security, Water and Sanitation and Core Relief Items; and Logistics. In addition, there are transversal working groups on Cash, Information Management, Accountability to Affected Populations and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

In **Romania**, UNHCR has set up the Refugee Coordination Model structure made up of eight sector Working Groups, one Anti-Trafficking Task Force and a PSEA network, which are co-led by UNHCR and other UN agencies, government counterparts and NGOs. UNHCR leads the Protection Working Group and PSEA network, and co-leads the Child Protection Sub-Working Group, Information Management Working Group, Cash Working Group and Basic Needs Working Group. Leads and co-leads attend the governmental sectoral Working Group meetings. As such, governmental and humanitarian coordination structures are operating to mutually reinforce each other, under governmental leadership. A total of 23 international and national partners are part of the Refugee Response Plan for Romania.

In **Slovakia**, a response-wide Refugee Consultation Forum (RCF) is in place that meets alternatively in Bratislava and in eastern Slovakia and is co-chaired by the Government and UNHCR. Within the RCF, seven working groups and sub-working groups are operating (Anti-Trafficking, Cash, Child Protection, Health, Information Management, MHPSS, Protection and Inclusion) as well as a UNHCR-led PSEA Task Force while Accountability to Affected Persons (AAP) is mainstreamed across all groups and made an RCF standing agenda item. UNHCR also convenes a regular humanitarian and development Donor Group. In early June, the Prime Minister announced the reactivation of a Steering Committee dedicated to integration. This body, created in 2014, to 'find solutions for foreigners and looking at ways to integrate them', is now being reactivated and tasked with the inclusion and integration of Ukrainian refugees. RCF partners are furthermore supporting the ongoing engagement of the Slovak Republic with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) as a means of systematizing and sharing good practices with other countries facing similar challenges, and in view of cultivating pledges related to its national response for the Global Refugee Forum in 2023.

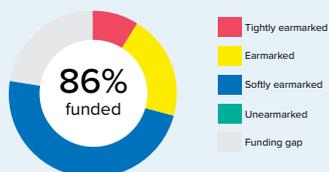
FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Financial Update

(as of 30 August 2022)

\$ 1.417 billion

required (USD)

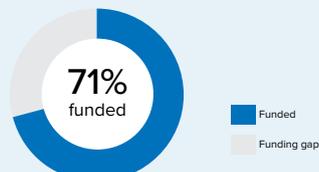


Inter-Agency Financial Updates

(as of 23 September 2022)

\$ 1.85 billion

required (USD)

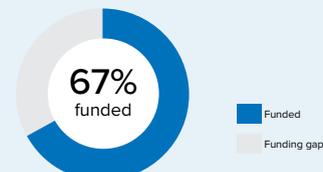


Revised:

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

\$ 4.29 billion

required (USD)



Revised:

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

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 20 September 2022)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The majority of refugees from Ukraine initially fled to countries in the immediate vicinity. However, border policies applicable to Ukrainian nationals have allowed refugees to travel. Refugees may choose particular destination countries. Others have decided to stay closer to home, waiting for the security situation to improve.

KEY FIGURES

7.4M

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe*

4.1M

Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe*

Statistics are compiled mainly from data provided by authorities. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures represent an estimate. Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments to figures may occur, including retroactively.

*Estimate based on most recent data available as of 20 September.



Disclaimer: 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