



Budapest, Hungary – Some 200 refugee jobseekers from Ukraine met with potential employers from Hungary at the UNHCR Job Fair in May. Refugees received information about the job opportunities and the hiring process, as well as were able to apply for positions on the spot. NGOs, partners, municipality representatives and state employment services were also present to provide information and counselling about access to employment, labour rights and local employment regulations. © UNHCR / Zsolt Balla



5,942,300*

refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe (as of 16 May 2024)

541,200

refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe (as of 27 March 2024)

6,483,500

refugees from Ukraine recorded globally (as of 16 May)

3,548,000**

Estimated number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (as of April 2024)

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal Ukraine Refugee Situation



Navigating Health And Well-Being Challenges For Refugees From Ukraine (May 2024) To read more about this Inter-Agency analysis, <u>click here</u>.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Against the backdrop of large-scale attacks by the Russian Federation across Ukraine, with a sustained focus on targeting energy infrastructure and a ground offensive in Kharkivska region, UNHCR continues to prioritize life-saving humanitarian assistance to people living close to the frontline and newly regained areas of the country:

- UNHCR and NGO partners Proliska and Right to Protection (R2P), as part of the Inter-Agency response and in support of government efforts, have been supporting evacuees at the transit centre in Kharkiv city. From 10 May to 3 June, almost 12,800 people arrived at the transit centre. UNHCR and local NGO partners are providing them with emergency cash assistance, legal assistance, psychosocial support, essential items, and transportation from frontline areas. Between 10 May and 3 June, UNHCR's NGO partner R2P has enrolled over 2,400 evacuees for cash assistance. The emergency cash assistance is being transferred to people's accounts within two days.
- To respond to the needs of families affected by almost daily attacks in the Sumska region in May, UNHCR's partner Proliska delivered emergency shelter kits to almost 500 people to quickly repair damaged homes. Proliska also provided essential items, including blankets, thermoses, and solar lamps to over 200 people, and was on-site to offer psychosocial and legal support to affected families. In addition, Proliska helped evacuate 108 people living in areas of active hostilities and under mandatory evacuation orders. UNHCR's partner R2P meanwhile helped 139 evacuees (92 families) from Bilopillia and Vorozhba hromadas with emergency cash assistance, including helping to find temporary accommodation and cover basic needs while they search for a new shelter.
- In eastern Ukraine, UNHCR's partner Proliska assisted 1,045 people affected by new attacks in May across the Dnipropetrovska, Donetska, and Zaporizka regions. Assistance included essential items, such as blankets and mattresses, which aimed to help replace lost or damaged items as a result of missile strikes that damaged civilian infrastructure, educational and medical institutions, private businesses, apartment buildings and private houses.

* Europe corresponds to all Europe sub-regions as identified by Eurovoc (European Union, Thesaurus Eurovoc. Volume 2, Subject-oriented version, Publications Office, 2005), therefore including EU and non-EU countries belonging to Central and Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe, and Western Europe, plus Türkiye.

** Source: IOM - There has been a slight reduction in the IDP figure in Ukraine based on the latest IOM Internal Displacement Report, from 3.7 to 3.5 million IDPs between December 2023 and April 2024.

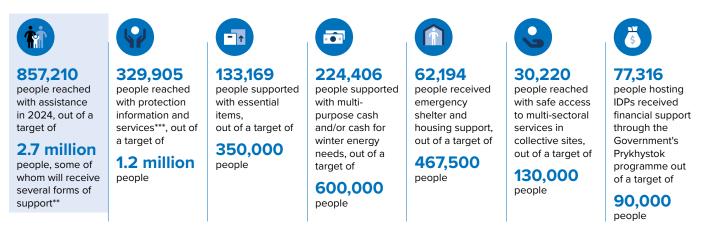
UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Emergency cash assistance: As of 31 May 2024, out of the 224,406 people supported through multi-purpose cash so far in 2024, around 11,000 people received emergency cash assistance. This modality allows for fast delivery of cash assistance following attacks, helping families cope with the shock of the situation and meet their most urgent needs, while at the same time supporting local markets. The emergency cash assistance was delivered across 24 regions, with the highest number of people reached in Kharkivska, Donetska, Sumska, Dnipropetrovska, and Odeska regions.
- Livelihoods and incusion: On 24 May, UNHCR and NGO partner Neemia jointly with Oblast Administration, City Council and Employment Centre <u>organized</u> and held the second large-scale Job Fair in Uzhhorod (Zakarpatska oblast). About 50 relocated and local employers took part in the event from various fields: IT, education, service, manufacturing, construction, medicine, law enforcement, etc.
- Protection: On 6 June, UNHCR published the Ukraine Protection Response Update #1. It outlines that UNHCR's protection response has reached 264,416 people from January to April 2024, supporting some 66,000 people each month on average with protection interventions. Of the 264,416 people reached with protection support, 76 per cent are females. 30 per cent were older people, while some 11 per cent were minors. Over 24,000 people supported had some type of disability. In addition, UNHCR and partners promoted legal and policy developments through over 70 advocacy and judicial interventions aimed at improving access to rights for forcibly displaced, stateless and other war-affected people. 42

per cent of those supported lived in six regions, including Dnipropetrovska, Odeska, Kharkivska, Kyivska, Sumska and Mykolaivska.

- Recovery and durable solutions: On 10 May, UNHCR participated in the Inclusive Community Recovery Forum in Kyiv, which brought together nearly 500 people including Government officials, local authorities, civil society organizations, community leaders and other partners. It was organized by the Government of Ukraine, the Government of Germany, and the UN. It was an important milestone towards the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Berlin, scheduled on 11-12 June 2024. Separately, on 24 May, UNHCR, its NGO partner Neemia, authorities and the Employment Centre jointly organized the second job fair in Uzhhorod, Zakarpatska region. About 50 relocated and local employers took part in the event from various fields, such as IT, education, service, manufacturing, construction, medicine, law enforcement, etc.
- Social cohesion: In Chernihivska region, northern Ukraine, around 1,700 children and youth, including children with disabilities, will have access to various recreational activities provided at three child friendly spaces. These spaces were opened by UNHCR and partner Rokada, in cooperation with local authorities. UNHCR and ILO also renovated a kindergarten in Kyivska region, increasing its capacity to welcome more children, including those who have been internally displaced and who reside with their parents in the shelter provided by the authorities. UNHCR provided materials to repair the roof and premises, while ILO provided funds to purchase equipment.

UNHCR RESPONSE & TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2024* (as of 31 May 2024)



*Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance. **The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements. ***Also includes calls to hotlines.

Russia's invasion places a generation of Ukrainian children under severe strain



Kharkiv, Ukraine – The persistent pattern of destruction, that has marked more than two years of war, forces many schools to adopt online or underground classes. The situation is particularly concerning in the front-line regions. In the current academic year, nearly one million children – a quarter of all Ukrainian children enrolled in school – have been unable to attend in-person learning, particularly affecting those with disabilities or special educational needs. Frequent air raid alarms and power outages have further disrupted their education, leading to significant learning losses and long-term implications for their development. (Link) © UNHCR/Nikola Ivanovski

250.800

a target of

people

515,000

people reached with protection

information and services***, out of

2024 REGIONAL TARGETS*



372,300

people reached with different forms of assistance in 2024*, out of a target of

850,000

people, some of whom will receive several forms of support**

* The targets are subject to the receipt of the funding requirements.

** Includes individuals benefiting from multiple forms of assistance and services.

*** Also includes calls to hotlines.

REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE ACROSS EUROPE (as of 15 May 2024)



63.700

190,000

people

people targeted for multi-purpose

cash assistance, out of a target of

57.800

267.000

people

people supported with socio-

economic inclusion, including

livelihoods support by UNHCR

and partners, out of a target of

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

More information available on the UNHCR <u>Ukraine operational data portal</u> page.

PROTECTION

2024 TARGET

2) 515,000

Refugees from Ukraine supported with protection information and services through UNHCR and partners.

- Bulgaria: On 15 17 May, UNHCR delivered two workshops on resilience and communication for 40 participants, including caseworkers, legal advisors, and registration staff from the State Agency for Refugees. Both workshops aimed at strengthening the participants knowledge and skills in the respective areas, focusing in particular on building resilience and communicating with persons with specific needs.
- Georgia: On 29 May, UNHCR led an interagency coordination meeting for organizations involved in the Ukraine response. Topics discussed included preliminary findings from the ongoing participatory assessment.
- Hungary: Since 1 January 2024, 7,237 refugees have been provided with access to information, legal assistance, and various social services by UNHCR and IOM at Budapest Helps! Community Center. The centre provides services, such as language classes, community support and cultural activities. During the reporting period, 109 refugees received information about their status and access to services. Most requests for information received by UNHCR were related to financial aid and assistance, accommodation and housing, registration, and documentation.
- Latvia: On 15 May, over 100 participants attended an event co-organized by UNHCR, the Ministry of Interior and other partners entitled 'Reception of refugees from Ukraine in Latvia: stakeholder meeting'. Interventions touched on education of refugees from Ukraine, and included an exchange with the Nordic experts to discuss how Latvia could further strengthen its overall integration capacity to welcome refugee children in schools. Latvian participants were interested in learning about examples from Finland and Denmark on how to build a welcoming school environment.
- Lithuania: On 20 May, UNHCR met with municipal authorities to establish contacts and discuss the situation of refugees from Ukraine in the municipality. During the meeting, participants discussed municipal housing provided for 32 persons, noting that the majority of adults are employed, and children attend educational institutions. On 31 May, a monitoring visit to two municipal accommodation sites was also conducted.
- Moldova: On 3 May, the gender-based violence (GBV) Sub-Working Group, co-chaired by UNHCR and UNFPA, conducted a full-day workshop with 26 participants to address GBV risk mitigation, identification of vulnerable groups, and planning interventions. On 24 May, a consultation with 30 actors in Rezina, east Moldova, explored barriers to disclosing GBV and sexual exploitation and

abuse (SEA), part of a broader study by the association National Coalition Life Without Violence, and supported by UNHCR. Finally, on 28 May, a Safety Walk Workshop was held for 25 local partner staff to teach proactive identification of GBV risks through safety walks.

- Poland: From 11 to 23 May, some 150 Roma refugees from Ukraine, mostly women and children, arrived by train in Przemyśl, south-east Poland, from Dnipropetrovska and Zakarpatska regions in Ukraine. UNHCR coordinated the response with the authorities and humanitarian actors, regularly monitoring the situation and providing information. From 17 to 23 May, refugees stayed at the railway station pending identification of shelters. They were subsequently relocated to shelters, with the support of humanitarian partners.
- Russian Federation: In May 2024, 791 refugees from Ukraine were counselled in person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while 685 were counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. So far in 2024, nearly 11,000 refugees from Ukraine were counselled in urban areas and in border regions. A total of 3,168 refugees were counselled via the hotline by UNHCR and partners in May, bringing the number of calls in 2024 to over 17,300.
- Slovakia: On 23 May, UNHCR conducted a GBV training for staff of the partner Human Rights League in Bratislava, focusing on legal aspects of GBV in Slovakia and in the broader EU region. In cooperation with UNFPA, UNHCR also provided a two-day GBV training to peer advisors for the partner's organisation, the League for Mental Health.

BASIC NEEDS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

2024 TARGET



People are targeted for multi-purpose cash assistance by UNHCR and partners.

- Czech Republic: On 14 May, UNFPA Ukraine agreed to extend access to its 'Aurora' online platform for refugees from Ukraine in the Czech Republic. This decision was possible through UNHCR advocacy. The 'Aurora' platform delivers psychological support to GBV survivors in Ukraine, who can get specialized remote, confidential and anonymous psychotherapeutic support. UNHCR will actively promote the service within refugee communities in the Czech Republic to enhance access to counselling by psychotherapists. On 22 May, UNHCR also organized a training with IOM for Ukrainian refugee-led organizations (RLO) in Prague, Ostrava, Pisek, Brno, and Pribram, to brief on the basic concepts of the mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).
- Romania: UNHCR, together with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), has been carrying out site monitoring of collective accommodation centres to ensure short and mid-term availability to the most

vulnerable refugees. So far, 15 collective accommodation centres have been identified in the border areas and cities where a large number of refugees were residing. The exercise also aims to mobilize resources for accommodation centres to enhance the current capacity of DSU and ensure a sustainable response.

 Russian Federation: During May, UNHCR undertook field missions to Arkhangelsk, Krasnoyarsk, and Veliky Novgorod to meet with and better understand the needs of refugees from Ukraine currently staying in Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) in the Russian Federation, as well as those staying in private accommodation. In Krasnoyarsk, UNHCR met with the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Krasnoyarsk region, which shared that 50 refugees from Kherson have so far received housing certificates in the region, allowing them to purchase property through state support.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND LOCALIZATION

2024 TARGET



People are targeted with safe access to multisectoral services in collective sites by UNHCR and partners.

- Bulgaria: During the <u>national Refugee Coordination</u> <u>Forum</u> on 14 May, the Inter-Agency Coordination team facilitated an information session on UNHCR's Refugee-Led Innovation Fund to interested refugee-led organizations (RLOs), so support socio-economic inclusion.
- Czech Republic: UNHCR through partner NGO/Slovo 21 facilitated 5 workshops in Karlovy Vary, Jihlava, Dolní Cerekev and Prague for school aged children in the framework of the 'Hello Czech Republic' education campaign aiming at building safe school environments and combating prejudice. A total of 233 children participated in interactive education activities touching on migration and refugee themes. Moreover, the partner delivered 11 ongoing Czech language courses for adult Ukrainian refugees in Prague and Znojmo, and an online information seminar related to temporary protection for its beneficiaries.

- Hungary: On 16 May, UNHCR held a job fair for refugees in Budapest at a partner's community center, Devai Inn. More than 200 attended, with at least 100 registering in employment databases with attending companies. 19 exhibitors including twelve companies took part, as well as labor agencies who provided information about job opportunities. Four NGOs, two municipalities – including the Budapest Municipality – and the local government office informed refugees about local labor regulations, labor rights and services they offered. IOM assisted participants with CV and cover letter writing skills development, and there was an opportunity to have a professional CV photo taken.
- Poland: During the reporting period, UNHCR signed two Letters of Understanding, one with the University of Dabrowa Gornicza in Krakow and another one with the University of Rzeszów to establish bilateral cooperation. The collaboration aims to enhance research, public dialogue, academic content, and community involvement focused on refugee protection and solutions in Poland. Moreover, in May, UNHCR signed three small grant agreements in Krakow. On 24 May, the call for proposals for the grant program "Let's Act - Culture and Inclusion" was launched in Rzeszow, south-east Poland. The small grant programme aims to raise awareness about cultural diversity and encourage understanding and acceptance among different social groups, including refugees. So far, UNHCR has signed 19 small grant agreements with refugee-led and community-based organizations.
- Romania: As of 4 June, some 809 refugees from Ukraine were enrolled in Romanian language courses provided by UNHCR in Bucharest, Brasov, Constanta, Cluj, lasi and Suceava, to foster economic inclusion and access to work. UNHCR aims to provide this support to 2,000 refugees seeking employment in Romania, while providing specific counselling programs to support labour inclusion. In addition, UNHCR and partners are also discussing possible solutions for childcare arrangements while parents are studying or working.
- Slovakia: On 16 May, UNHCR's national partner Human Rights League (HRL) organized a seminar on property and mortgages for 32 refugees from Ukraine at the Integration Centre in Košice. The seminar was also attended by two representatives of the National Bank of Slovakia, who answered questions on documents needed to obtain a loan, conditions for foreigners in obtaining a loan, and the method of obtaining and repaying a mortgage.

Workshop on access to education in Podkarpackie – southern Poland

Rzeszów, Poland – On 27 May, in cooperation with Podkarpackie Board of Education, the municipality of Rzeszów, and UNHCR partner PSAR, UNHCR organized a workshop on education at the newly opened municipal International Integration Center Feniks in Rzeszów (link).

The workshop was entitled: Integration of Ukrainian children in the Polish school system in Podkarpackie - current situation, protection risks, and challenges to the integration process.

Discussions touched on the amendments to the so-called Special Act legislation, through which Poland is set to introduce mandatory education for refugees from Ukraine in Polish schools starting in the coming school year 2024/2025.



Photo © UNHCR

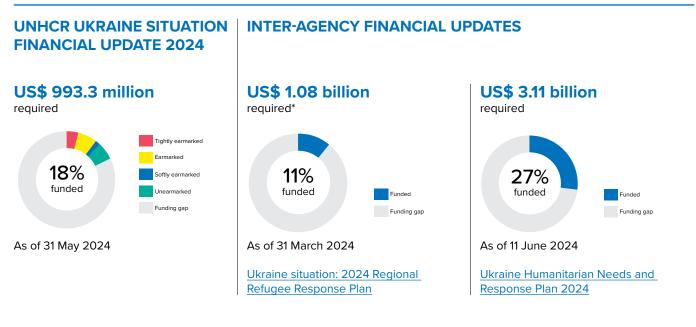
UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs). The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates 18 UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 157,000 people in collective sites in 2024. The Protection Cluster consists of 166 partners, including sub-clusters, and operates three coordination hubs to reach an anticipated three million people in 2024. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 98 active partners across three coordination hubs, targeting 3.9 million people in 2024 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

Through the 2024 Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP), 313 partners in Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia work towards ensuring refugees have effective access to legal status, protection and rights in their host countries and that refugees with specific needs and vulnerabilities have access to targeted support and assistance. The plan also aims at strengthening refugees' socio-economic inclusion in their host communities and increasing their self-reliance, while at the same time reinforcing social cohesion between refugees and their hosts. In support of the government-led responses across the region, UNHCR leads and coordinates the implementation of the inter-agency RRP in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, collaborating and consulting with authorities, aid agencies, civil society, and with affected populations. To learn more about the 2023 RRP response, please see here.

FINANCIAL UPDATES



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