Georgia

February 2026

UNHCR assists forcibly displaced and stateless people, including refugees from Ukraine, and works with the government and partners on international protection, statelessness and internal displacement.

UNHCR coordinates the Ukraine refugee response and cooperates with the Government on the 2021 - 2030 Migration Strategy, implementation of Georgia's Global Refugee Forum (GRF) pledges and refugee inclusion.

UNHCR also supports protection and livelihoods for internally displaced people (IDPs) in Abkhazia.

POPULATION STATISTICS (as of Oct-2025) *

Refugees**	**29,665**
Asylum-seekers	**613**
Stateless persons***	**481**
Internally displaced persons (IDPs)	**299,498**
People in refugee-like situation in Abkhazia	**118**

**Figures include persons in refugee-like situation
**Figures include both displaced & non-displaced stateless persons

Top three countries of origin*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	29,194	Ukraine	102
Russian Federation	125	India	99
Syria	103	Türkiye	82

***UNHCR Refugee Data Finder*

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

Safeguarding access to essential services: The current funding environment has significantly affected the response. Support from NGOs and volunteer groups has decreased, making it essential to safeguard access to government services so that refugees continue receiving critical assistance.

Community-Based Protection (CBP): Supporting community spaces and refugee-led initiatives will remain a priority. These initiatives are vital for strengthening social cohesion and enabling displaced communities to participate actively in shaping the support they receive.

Employment and self-reliance: Helping communities secure livelihoods has become increasingly critical to foster longer-term stability. Support for small-scale entrepreneurship has been well received and impactful.

Cash assistance: Cash support has become concentrated on the most vulnerable, prioritizing those facing the greatest risk and ensuring that limited resources are used effectively to meet urgent needs.

Protection monitoring: Ongoing outreach continues to help identify critical gaps.

HIGHLIGHTS

Between September 2025 - January 2026, UNHCR provided counselling and support to over 1,000 individuals. In collaboration with partners and community stakeholders, these efforts addressed a wide range of needs, from legal assistance to employment counselling, highlighting the critical role of targeted support in protecting the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees. Up to 350 individuals in Tbilisi-administered territory have been provided with cash assistance by UNHCR to meet their basic needs.

During the same period, UNHCR provided legal counselling to 212 vulnerable IDPs in east Abkhazia, addressing documentation, legal status, and access to rights and services. In addition, 221 individuals received targeted cash assistance as well as food and hygiene items to meet immediate basic needs. A further 545 individuals benefited from Community-Based Protection initiatives, including community outreach and activities aimed at strengthening social support networks.



REFUGEE WOMEN AT THE IWA WINTER FAIR: SHOWCASING SKILLS AND CREATIVITY

Refugee women in Georgia showcased their talents and entrepreneurship at the International Women's Association (IWA) Winter Fair in Tbilisi, with UNHCR supporting their participation. Through handmade crafts and personal storytelling, they connected with thousands of visitors, including representatives of embassies and international organisations, highlighting refugee skills, livelihoods, and contributions to Georgia's cultural and social life.

Key Priorities

- **Asylum conditions:** In October 2025, a new law on International Protection entered into force in Georgia. The new law brought substantial changes to the asylum system, including the introducing of complex new procedures and reduced legal safeguards. UNHCR continues to work closely with the relevant authorities to monitor implementation and respond to emerging challenges. To ensure asylum-seekers can navigate these changes effectively, strengthening access to legal support is a priority. This includes providing tailored guidance on procedures and rights, and reinforcing partnerships with NGOs and civil society actors engaged in legal aid.
- **Community engagement:** UNHCR has been conducting community outreach to stay connected with forcibly displaced communities, monitor developments, and ensure continuous information exchange. Information sessions were held in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, and Batumi on the new Law on International Protection, with additional sessions organised on access to healthcare services. UNHCR set up and continues to engage with a Ukrainian CSO network, while also working with refugee and IDP-led initiatives, and NGOs to coordinate efforts, share updates, and address community needs.
- **Support for livelihoods and self-reliance:** UNHCR continues to assist refugees and asylum-seekers with employment opportunities, vocational training, and skills development, supporting around 170 individuals in from September 2025 to January 2026. In light of recent budgetary constraints and the anticipated reduction in cash-based interventions, promoting access to skills-building and sustainable livelihoods has become more crucial than ever.
- **Education and youth engagement:** UNHCR engages with youth through a range of activities that promote inclusion and foster more informed and inclusive narratives on forced displacement. Through collaboration with the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts, partnerships with universities, particularly in the regions, and public lectures delivered at the request of higher education institutions, UNHCR promotes dialogue on displacement, anti-discrimination, and social cohesion. Engagement with journalism students in Tbilisi, Batumi, and Kutaisi has been particularly important in addressing anti-migration attitudes and shaping public discourse. Complementing this, an event organised with the Public Defender's Office provided refugee youth with a lecture on anti-discrimination and inclusion, which was highly appreciated by participants.

Financial Information (as of 28 February 2026)

Financial Requirements for 2026

$ 6.3 M

Funding gap 63%
$ 4.6 M



Funded 37%
$ 1.7 M

- **Refugee integration:** The Ministry of Health provides integration services for refugees, including language learning, limited healthcare assistance, and support for refugee youth to access extracurricular activities. However, these services are currently confined to Tbilisi, highlighting the need for decentralisation to other locations, particularly Batumi. Refugees in Georgia also face major barriers to long-term integration, as naturalisation remains largely inaccessible and citizenship is rarely attained.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR collaborates with key ministries, UN agencies and international and national NGOs engaged in legal and social protection to support direct communication between refugees and the authorities.
- UNHCR collaborates with the UN Country Team and development partners in promoting the inclusion, protection and integration of forcibly displaced and stateless people, including through the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2026 – 2030, signed in December 2025.

Internally Displaced People

- In Abkhazia, UNHCR supports freedom of movement and access to rights and services for some 50,000 IDPs in east districts of Abkhazia while continuing to implement activities aimed at enhancing self-reliance, livelihoods and community-based protection. UNHCR works with partners under the Abkhazia Strategic Partnership and fosters partnerships with other agencies to promote community mobilization and complementarity of services for the most vulnerable IDPs.
- In Tbilisi-administered territory, UNHCR is engaged in community outreach through an IDP Volunteer network. UNHCR remains committed to assist the government in reviewing IDP policy.
- In 2025, UNHCR provided a grant to an IDP-led organisation that supports both refugees and IDPs through targeted community programmes.

Statelessness

- Georgia is a signatory to both the 1954 and 1961 UN Conventions on Statelessness. With UNHCR's support, key achievements include reducing the residency requirement for naturalization from 10 to 5 years, removing Stateless Determination Procedure fees, and providing free legal aid and healthcare access to stateless applicants as well as simplifying procedural standards.

UNHCR Presence in Georgia

Staff:

21 National Staff
3 International Staff
1 Field Unit in Sokhumi

Offices:

1 Country Office in Tbilisi
1 Field Office in Gali