

Russian Federation

April 2022

Presence: The UN Refugee Agency has been working in the Russian Federation (RF) since 1992. It currently operates through a Country Office located in Moscow.

Legal Framework: The Russian Federation is party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. The national refugee law was adopted in 1993.

As of 31 March 2022, **304 refugees**, **13,717 temporary asylum (TA) status holders** and **5,833 asylum-seekers** from 70 countries were registered by the Russian Ministry of the Interior (MOI).

Statistics are updated quarterly

KEY FIGURES

688,400

refugees and displaced persons from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine arrived in Russia from 24 February to 30 April 2022

31,700

refugees and displaced persons arriving from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine in Russia received medical assistance as of 30 April 2022

22,338

cases were assisted by 220 psychologists as of 30 April 2022

21,614

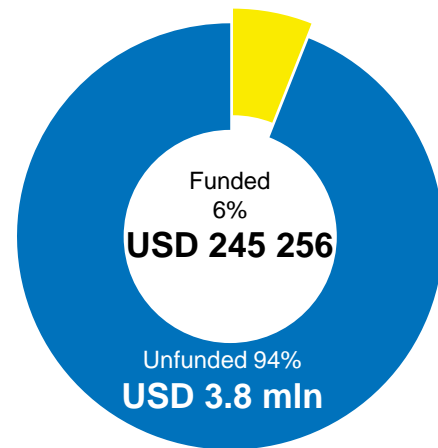
SIM-cards of various mobile operators were issued free of charge

**Source: EMERCOM of Russia*

FUNDING (AS OF 30 APRIL 2022)

USD 4.1 million

requested for the operation in Russia



UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Manizha and the Representative ad interim to the Russian Federation Karim Atassi at the UN House in Moscow. 13 April 2022
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Representative ad interim to the Russian Federation Karim Atassi meeting with Russia's High Commissioner for Human Rights Tatiana Moskalkova. 12 April 2022
© Ombudsman's office

Highlights

- The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergency Situations and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters – EMERCOM of Russia – which has been designated as focal point for organizing assistance and accommodating the newly arriving refugees and displaced persons from Ukraine, has prepared temporary accommodation points (TAPs) in 85 regions of the Russian Federation. 1313 TAPs with a total capacity of more than 99,900 people have been prepared in the country.
- On 12 April 2022, UNHCR Representative ad interim in Moscow Mr. Karim Atassi met with Russia's High Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) Ms. Tatiana Moskalkova. The Ombudsman's office monitors the situation of Ukrainian citizens in Russia, conditions at TAPs, provides legal counselling and humanitarian support. During the meeting, both sides discussed protection and assistance to persons fleeing Ukraine in mass influx, especially women and children, and explored possible cooperation.
- On 13 April 2022, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Manizha visited the UN House in Moscow to meet with UNHCR Representative ad interim to Russia Mr. Karim Atassi. During the meeting, they discussed activities to support UNHCR's persons of concern in the Russian Federation.
- In April 2022, UNHCR Russia continued to provide counseling to Ukrainian refugees in Russia through dedicated hotline, email, and in-person. UNHCR NGO partners – Russian Red Cross and its Saint Petersburg Regional Branch; Faith, Hope and Love NGO; Health and Life Foundation – provided counselling to Ukrainian refugees upon request. The most frequently asked questions were on applying for refugee status in Russia, arrival/departure from Russia, getting accommodation in TAPs for people arriving on their own, receiving humanitarian assistance, medical care, exchanging hryvnia currency for rubles, receiving financial help from the government (10,000 RUB), finding a job in Russia. With the increased number of Ukrainians applying for assistance and legal advice, UNHCR NGO partners increased the number of reception days in Moscow.
- On 19 April 2022, UNHCR NGO partners network organized a webinar dedicated to the situation of Ukrainian refugees in Russia. The event was attended by 45 participants, including partner lawyers, legal practitioners from the regions as well as NGOs representatives. The participants discussed the reception arrangements, standards of treatment, challenges, and opportunities for Ukrainian refugees.
- UNHCR and its legal partners assisted seven persons of concern from Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, and Palestine residing in Moscow and St. Petersburg in the process of obtaining Russian citizenship.
- On 21 April 2022, UNHCR Representative ad interim in Moscow met with the President of the Russian Red Cross to discuss the ongoing joint project and the expansion of a partnership agreement between both agencies. The scope of cooperation was expanded to include psycho-social support for refugees and displaced persons from Ukraine in four new regions (tentatively, Belgorod, Rostov-on-Don, Voronezh, Bryansk), capacity building of psychosocial counsellors, support of all-Russia hotline to assist refugees. During the meeting, the discussion focused on the importance of protection and assistance to women and children as well as the identification of vulnerable cases that may require immediate protection against abuse, exploitation, GBV and trafficking.
- In April 2022, during an online ceremony, Kazan Model UN was awarded a special mention from the organizers of the [MUN Refugee Challenge 2021](#). The students recommended creating an integrated database that includes basic data on refugees, their skills, and experiences. The list would help facilitate access to refugee profiles by institutions and companies. This will increase the chances of refugees finding job opportunities. For the second year in a row, UNHCR invited students to participate in the development of ideas to address refugee challenges in Model UN conferences. More than 20,000 students from 70 countries joined the Refugee Challenge in 2021.
- Last year, UNHCR and the Samokat publishing house joined efforts with the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art to publish "Run Cannot Stay" comic book dedicated to the stories of refugee children living in Russia. On 17 April 2022, Russian web portal Afisha Daily issued an article by culturologist and book reviewer Maria Goncharova that featured 6 children's books about life away from home, including "Run Cannot Stay" comic book. The article is available via the [link](#).

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