

# Russian Federation

August 2022

**Presence:** The UN Refugee Agency has been working in the Russian Federation 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 30 June 2022, **300 refugees, 70,751 temporary asylum status holders** and **69,547 asylum-seekers** from 70 countries were registered by the Russian Ministry of the Interior (Mol).

*Latest figures to date are provided by the MoI*

## KEY FIGURES

**2,414,075**

refugees and displaced persons from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine arrived in Russia from 24 February to 31 August 2022

**69,200**

refugees and displaced persons arriving from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine in Russia received medical assistance as of 31 August 2022

**31,329**

cases (individuals or families) were assisted by 247 psychologists as of 31 August 2022

**80,114**

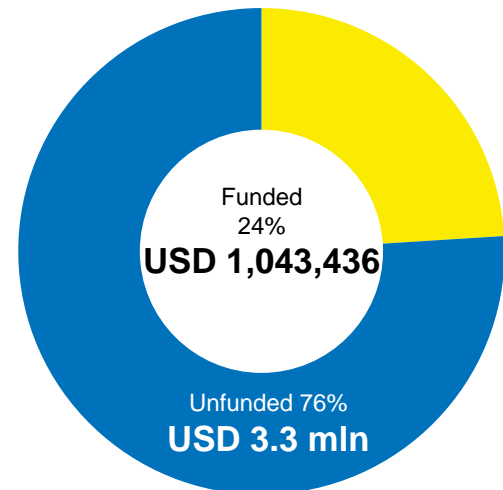
SIM-cards of various mobile operators were issued free of charge as of 31 August 2022

*Source: EMERCOM of Russia*

## FUNDING (AS OF 30 AUGUST 2022)

**USD 4.3 million**

requested for the operation in Russia



*Distribution of school supplies to Ukrainian refugee children by the RRC, at a temporary accommodation point in Tula. 12 August 2022 © UNHCR/Magdalena Aguilar Pulido*



*Students presenting during the VI Summer School on Migration in St. Petersburg. 23 August 2022 © Russian Red Cross in St. Petersburg*

## Operational context

- 1,501 temporary accommodation points (TAPs) with a total capacity of more than 95,1 thousand people have been prepared by EMERCOM and regional authorities on the territory of 85 constituent entities of the Russian Federation to accommodate people arriving from Ukraine. Current utilized capacity of TAPs – 35%.
- On 27 August 2022, the Russian president signed two decrees introducing additional measures related to persons from Ukraine: a) Decree #585 foresees that all Ukrainians have a right to stay without any additional status and to work without any permits; b) Decree #586 establishes allowances to be paid to persons who arrived in Russia after 18 February 2022 and covers the period of 1 July-31 December 2022. In particular, in accordance with this decree, pregnant women are entitled to a one-time payment of 10,000 rubles and a lump sum payment of 20,000 rubles at the birth of a child. UNHCR will continue to follow up on issues relating to the implementation of the decrees.

## Highlights

- During August 2022, 3 missions to TAPs in Tula, Kazan and Lipetsk were undertaken by UNHCR. During those visits, the UNHCR team held meetings with refugees, received briefings from the regional authorities and visited the Russian Red Cross branches. Many of the refugees at the TAPs are vulnerable persons: elderly, single people without family support, people with disabilities. TAP residents voiced their concerns over the duration of the issuance of new, restoration of lost and destroyed documentation, receiving social benefits, and financial compensation for destroyed property in Ukraine. Most refugees expressed their wish to return to Ukraine, but also indicated that it is not possible under the current conditions. Some people returned for brief periods to their places of origin in Eastern and Southern Ukraine, but due to the ongoing conflict, decided to return and stay in the RF. The Russian Red Cross provided household appliances and humanitarian assistance for TAP residents within the framework of the agreement with UNHCR.
- On 3-4 August 2022, a [seminar](#) for advocates on the provision of legal assistance to UNHCR's persons of concern organized by the Chamber of Lawyers of the Republic of Karelia, the Federal Union of Lawyers of Russia and CO Moscow was held in Petrozavodsk. It gathered lawyers from various regions, including St. Petersburg, Kamchatka, Perm Territory and Karelia. The Commissioner for Human Rights in the Republic of Karelia took part in the seminar. Experts from UNHCR partner NGOs shared their experience in assisting persons of concern to obtain a legal status in Russia, as well as in protecting rights of refugees and stateless persons using national and international mechanisms.
- On 15 August 2022, UNHCR Russia held a meeting with the Human Rights Commissioner in the Republic of Tatarstan where a total of 1,821 refugees from Ukraine have arrived, some of whom (742 persons) stay at 8 TAPs. UNHCR Russia delegation also met with the chairwoman of the Public Chamber of Tatarstan who informed about the humanitarian aid to refugees collected by civil society and businesses and delivered to TAPs. The Public Chamber coordinates with NGOs and businesses to provide assistance to the most vulnerable refugees.
- 17 August 2022 marked the last lesson of the Russian language course for refugee children and their parents in Moscow. This year, several children aged between 7 and 14 who attended the summer course were enrolled in public school for the first time. The project on linguistic and socio-cultural adaptation is organized with the financial support of UNHCR.
- On 23-26 August 2022, St. Petersburg hosted the [VI Summer School on Migration](#) for Russian students. The event focused on migration issues in the modern world, global trends in displacement, the system for protecting the rights of refugees, impact of migration on the economy, and other relevant topics. Lecturers from leading Russian universities, researchers, and experts, as well as representatives of the ICRC, IFRC and UNHCR made presentations for students. 24 students from different regions were selected to participate in the summer school.
- UNHCR Russia completed the selection process for the [DAFI programme](#) that provides higher education scholarships to refugees. 16 out of 24 candidates were shortlisted and 7 selected through the interviews by UNHCR and partners. Successful candidates are refugees from Angola, Syria, Ukraine, and Afghanistan.

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