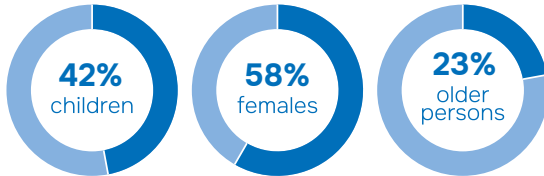


Population figures

~129,000 refugees from Ukraine in Moldova:



~ 2 M arrivals since 24 February 2022

Legal status in the country

~ 67,700 refugees have been granted Temporary Protection.

~ 7,000 citizens of Ukraine have been granted resident permits, either permanent or temporary.

~ 1,600 individuals are in the asylum system:

212 persons with refugee status	458 humanitarian protection beneficiaries	931 asylum seekers under examination
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~ 17,000

refugees received
cash assistance



~ 1,700

refugees supported
with legal assistance



~ 1,900

refugees provided
with information by
UNHCR



~ 300

refugees supported with
socio-economic inclusion,
including livelihoods

*Figures as of 31 January 2025

Highlights of the month



UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, visited the refugee-led business "Sunny Bunny" childcare space as part of his fourth official mission to the Republic of Moldova. The visit aimed to strengthen collaboration with the Moldovan government and reaffirm UNHCR's support for refugees and their host communities. During his mission, the High Commissioner also engaged with key government officials, international donors, and humanitarian partners.

Expanded early childhood education access for local and refugee families

The Moldovan Ministry of Labour and Social Protection has inaugurated a crèche group in Ialoveni, central Moldova, renovated by UNHCR in collaboration with ACTED. This initiative transformed an existing space into a modern, fully equipped classroom, and provides a safe and nurturing environment for 25 additional children. The new crèche group expands access to early childhood education for both local and refugee families and promotes social inclusion and equal learning opportunities.

Among the many barriers to refugee employment, the lack of childcare remains a significant challenge. By expanding these childcare spaces, UNHCR empowers refugee parents to pursue jobs and training opportunities and foster greater self-reliance and facilitating smoother integration into the community.

This initiative not only addresses immediate needs but also enhances long-term sustainability by strengthening local childcare infrastructure and creating lasting opportunities for both refugees and host communities.

Moldova welcomed us with warmth and understanding. It gave me the strength to imagine a future again, even when everything felt uncertain.

-Hanna Pavlova, founder of the Centre Sunny Bunny.

UNHCR cash assistance: Supporting refugees and strengthening local economies

In 2025, UNHCR continues to provide cash assistance to vulnerable refugees in Moldova, so that they can meet their basic needs and maintain stability. This support helps families cover essential expenses such as food, utilities, and medicine, preventing hardships like eviction, food insecurity, and reliance on desperate measures such as unsafe work, high-interest borrowing, or other harmful practices. Additionally, the program continues to stimulate the local economy by boosting local businesses. As economic challenges persist, UNHCR remains committed to adapting its support to meet the evolving needs of displaced communities.

In 2024, UNHCR provided cash assistance to over 52,200 refugees, in order to help them afford essential needs with safety and dignity. To address winter hardships, 22,000 refugees received additional financial aid to stay warm during the harsh winter without sacrificing other necessities.

Regional cooperation in action: insights and best practices from the Green Corridor exercise

The Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs, in collaboration with UNHCR, conducted the "Green Corridor" regional exercise to test and refine procedures for the safe transit of refugees across international routes. Bringing together 80 representatives from Moldova, Romania, and Poland, the exercise simulated real-world humanitarian challenges, and focuses on improving response speed, logistics, and refugee protection. Through joint efforts, participants identified key strategies to enhance regional coordination and crisis management. The insights gained will strengthen humanitarian responses and ensure more effective and unified action in times of emergencies.

Safeguarding refugees and strengthening Moldova's asylum system

To enhance Moldova's capacity to manage asylum applications and align with international and EU standards, UNHCR provides technical assistance to the country's asylum authorities. This support focuses on streamlining processing procedures, improving institutional capacity, and reinforcing protection mechanisms for those in need.

In pursuit of this goal, UNHCR, the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs, and key agencies work together to safeguard those fleeing conflict, maintain border security, combat trafficking, and promote temporary protection to ease pressure on the asylum system.

While Moldova's asylum framework meets international standards, it requires reinforcement to manage to handle the increasing volume of applications.



UNHCR provided vital winter assistance to refugees and vulnerable Moldovans, reaching over 5,130 people and provided essential supplies such as warm clothing, blankets, and heating appliances. This support was crucial in protecting them from harsh weather, alleviating hardship, and safeguarding their well-being during the coldest months.

UNHCR is grateful for the support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to global UNHCR programmes.

Australia | Belgium | Bulgaria | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Private donors.



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For more information, please visit the Operational Data Portal for Moldova or the Global Focus page for Moldova.

Our work would not be possible without UNHCR's implementing partners.



UNHCR Moldova is also thankful for the cooperation of Moldovan authorities at all levels, other UN agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations.