

ROMANIA

Weekly Update #153

30 June 2025

Key figures

185,984 refugees obtained temporary protection and refugee status in Romania (as of end May 2025).

2,275 refugees enrolled for cash assistance in 2025; 17,419 in 2024.

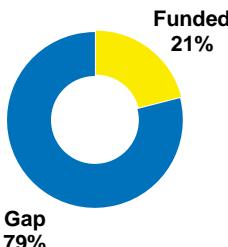
6,154 refugees provided with protection counselling services and legal support in 2025; 26,086 in 2024.

4,122 refugees supported with livelihood and employment services in 2025; 9,286 in 2024.

“ For refugees, and especially children, humanitarian organizations are a true lifeline. In summer, when school is on break, free workshops and activities help children stay engaged, supported, and inspired. We deeply value such initiatives!” *Nina, a 45-year-old refugee from Odesa, living in Brăila, Romania.*

UNHCR Romania Funding Situation As of 31 May 2025

\$39.0 million UNHCR's funding requirements 2025



Highlights

On 24 June, UNHCR took part in the 23rd edition of the Civil Society Gala – Romania's annual event celebrating civic engagement. Initiated in 2002 by The Institute (an NGO supporting creative and civic initiatives), it seeks to spotlight and reward outstanding nonprofit projects, campaigns, and programmes. UNHCR partner Project Voyager won the first prize for social and economic development for its Jobs4Ukraine project. UNHCR awarded the *Hope Away from Home* prize for involvement in supporting refugees to Save the Children Romania for its project in support of childcare for the integration of Ukrainian families into the labour market. A message of support was delivered at the gala on behalf of the President.



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During 21–25 June, UNHCR participated in SEISM 2025, a national earthquake response exercise organised by the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU). The exercise aimed to test and improve the coordinated large-scale response to a seismic disaster, to test the speed of mobilizing resources, provide hands-on training for operational personnel in critical scenarios, and increase public awareness and preparedness. UNHCR actively participated, deploying staff to assist with field response and evaluations of basic needs. UNHCR helped to coordinate the setting up of emergency shelters, supported communication for non-Romanian speakers, and addressed protection referral challenges for vulnerable persons. On 23 June, the UNHCR Representative accompanied a donor visit with Ambassadors from donor and participating countries and institutions, during which they observed the exercise at various locations in Bucharest.



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Humanitarian Response and Advocacy

UNHCR Romania launched its annual Participatory Assessment exercise to engage with refugees in identifying their own protection risks, needs, and proposed solutions. The Participatory Assessment is a structured and inclusive process used to engage directly with refugees to identify their protection risks, needs, and priorities. So far sessions have taken place in Bucharest, Rădăuți, Suceava, and Timișoara. The aim is to ensure that the voices of refugees inform UNHCR's protection strategies, services, and solutions for the coming year while promoting dignity, inclusion, and accountability.

On 24 June, UNHCR, together with the National Agency for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (ANES) and an independent trainer, held a one-day session on Empowerment through Self-Defence (ESD) at UNHCR's RomExpo Community Centre in Bucharest. The training session improved the self-confidence of the Ukrainian refugee women participants. Discussions during the activity sparked interest in state gender-based violence (GBV) support services. UNHCR and ANES will conduct an intimate-partner violence awareness session later during summer. Since the beginning of the year, UNHCR supported 1,705 people through specialized GBV programmes.

UNHCR supports refugees directly through its activities in the field. On 25 June, UNHCR held a Ukrainian Petrykivka painting workshop in Brăila. 25 children from both the Ukrainian and Romanian communities painted, connected, and enjoyed the friendly and welcoming atmosphere. The event was part of UNHCR's efforts to strengthen social cohesion and promote mutual understanding between communities.

UNHCR is grateful to the donors for unearmarked and softly earmarked contributions to the Ukraine situation. UNHCR in Romania is also grateful to donors contributing to 2025 programmes. For more details: [Romania Funding Update – 2025](#)