

Russian Federation

September-October 2025

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 September 2025, **317 refugees**, **11,349 temporary asylum status holders** and **1,572 asylum-seekers** were registered by the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) of the Russian Federation.

KEY FIGURES ON UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

5,938*

refugees and displaced persons from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine granted refugee status or temporary asylum in Russia as of 30 June 2025

UNHCR missions in 2025: 14 missions carried out to 13 regions (Kaliningrad, Karelia, Saratov, Leningrad, Moscow (2), Kaluga, Rostov, Vladimir, Voronezh, Lipetsk, Tula, Ryazan and Oryol regions)

UNHCR and partners response in 2025:

- **33,621** refugees provided with information through telephone counselling/hotline of UNHCR and partner NGOs
- **22,663** refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid
- **10,473** refugees received protection services in border regions (Kursk, Belgorod, Bryansk, Voronezh, Rostov)
- **11,630** refugees received protection services in other Russian regions (including Moscow and Saint Petersburg)

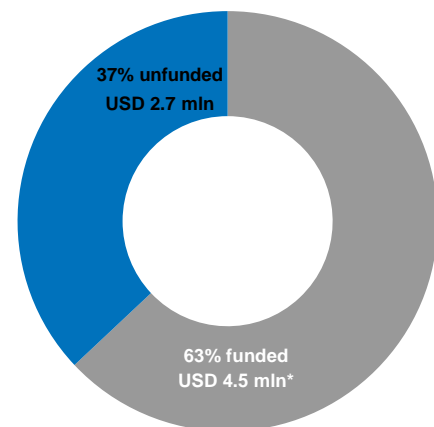
UNHCR missions in 2022-2025: 91 missions in 48 regions

* Source: official statistics provided by the Russian Ministry of Interior

Funding (as of 31 October 2025)

USD 7.2 million

required for the operation in Russia in 2025



* funding allocated from unearmarked contributions



UNHCR meeting with refugees from Ukraine in a Temporary Accommodation Point in Ryazan © Press-service of the Regional Ombudsperson



UNHCR meeting with foreign students from Afghanistan, Palestine, Haiti, Syria, India, and the DRC at Oryol State University © Press-service of the Regional Ombudsperson

- **UNHCR mission to Ryazan.** On September 9-11, UNHCR in cooperation with the Federal and Regional Ombudsmen's Offices conducted a mission to Ryazan to assess the situation of refugees from Ukraine residing in Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) and outside of them. UNHCR visited three TAPs hosting around 100 individuals. Key findings highlighted access to employment, education and medical care, but challenges persist for people to access pension entitlements, compensation for housing, and residence registration. UNHCR also engaged with the regional Russian Red Cross, which provided psychosocial support and targeted individual assistance to persons staying in and outside of TAPs. Several individual cases were referred for follow-up, and recommendations were made to enhance access to reliable information and support mechanisms for the most vulnerable.

- **UNHCR mission to Oryol Region.** On October 20-22, UNHCR in coordination with EMERCOM and the regional Ombudsman's Office conducted a mission to Oryol region to assess the situation of refugees from Ukraine residing in TAPs. UNHCR visited three TAPs hosting 128 individuals, including people living with disabilities. Refugees continue to face challenges in accessing pension entitlements, housing compensation, and documentation confirming work history. UNHCR also met with 15 foreign students from Afghanistan, Palestine, Haiti, Syria, India, and the DR Congo at Oryol State University. All students are in contact with the regional Migration Authority and are informed of the possibility of obtaining a Temporary Residence Permit on education grounds.

- **UNHCR-supported Olympics for law students.** On September 25-28, UNHCR participated in the 10th Olympics for students practicing in legal clinics, held in Kolomna, Moscow Region. The event brought together 62 law students from 29 universities across 18 cities to work on an anonymized, simulated legal case involving a refugee from Syria based on a real story. UNHCR contributed to the development of the case study and provided expert evaluation. The Olympics offered students a unique opportunity to engage with real-life protection issues, deepen their legal skills, and receive detailed feedback from judges as well as experience shared by UNHCR partner lawyer handling the real case. The initiative was widely appreciated by participants and highlighted the importance of legal clinics in building future professionals with a human rights focus.

- **LAMPA Film Festival in Perm.** On September 12-14, UNHCR [took part](#) in the XII International LAMPA Festival of films with social impact in Perm. For the third year in a row, UNHCR supported a refugee-themed nomination "Road to Home" within the festival and awarded the best movies in this category - Vladimir Sherstobitov (Russia) for "[Going home](#)" and John Lee Taggart (United Kingdom) for "[Hadid and I](#)". UNHCR also moderated a public talk with the film directors whose works were shortlisted in this thematic section. This nomination has become an important platform of raising awareness on forced displacement, seeking refuge, and finding a new home.

- **UNHCR participation in emergency response exercises in Stavropol.** On October 13-17, the UNHCR Deputy Representative and Senior Emergency Coordinator/DESS participated in EMERCOM's international field exercises held in Stavropol Krai, based on the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) methodology. Participants in the training were made up of national civil defence/emergency management experts from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, and the Russian Federation. UNHCR facilitated theoretical and practical sessions, advised participants on international standards for humanitarian needs assessment, and supported coordination efforts among response actors.

- **UNHCR participation in International Ombudsmen Conference.** On October 23, the UNHCR Representative participated in an international conference organized by the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation, focused on the protection of human rights in the context of digitalization. The event gathered Ombudspersons from over 60 countries, both in person and online, along with representatives of international organizations including ICRC and OHCHR's office in Russia. Speakers emphasized the importance of non-discrimination, personal data protection, and safeguarding confidentiality, while underscoring the need to ensure that no one is left behind in digital transformation processes.

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