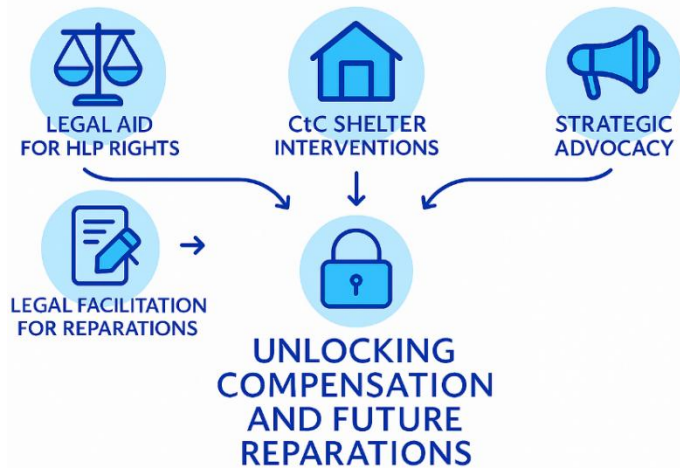


People-Centred Recovery in Action: Unlocking compensation

Building on the 2023 Law on Compensation, the Government's compensation programme 'eVidnovlennia' has become an important enabler for housing for internally displaced people and others whose homes were damaged or destroyed as a result of Russia's war. Reinforcing and complementing the Government system, UNHCR together with its partners, implements an **innovative recovery approach enhancing people's access to compensation** leveraging a combination of legal aid, shelter interventions, strategic advocacy and legal facilitation also enabling future reparations.

Obtaining compensation for housing damaged or destroyed as a result of the war means for many internally displaced and war-affected people as well as returnees the possibility of a new beginning in their repaired or a new home.



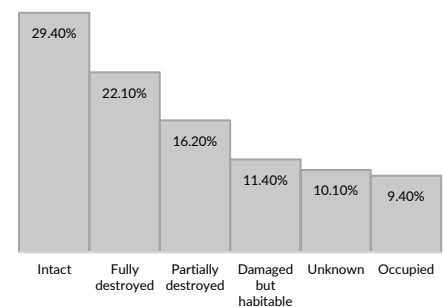
UNHCR's approach unlocking compensation and preparing for future access to reparations combines four elements:

- **Legal aid** restores housing, land and property rights, in particular documentation essential for exercising the compensation right.
- **Shelter interventions** are implemented using the 'complementarity to compensation' (CtC) approach supporting the most vulnerable.
- **Strategic advocacy** addresses systemic barriers to the right to compensation.
- **Legal facilitation** closes information gaps for compensation claims and enables future access to reparations by supporting entries to the Register for Damages.

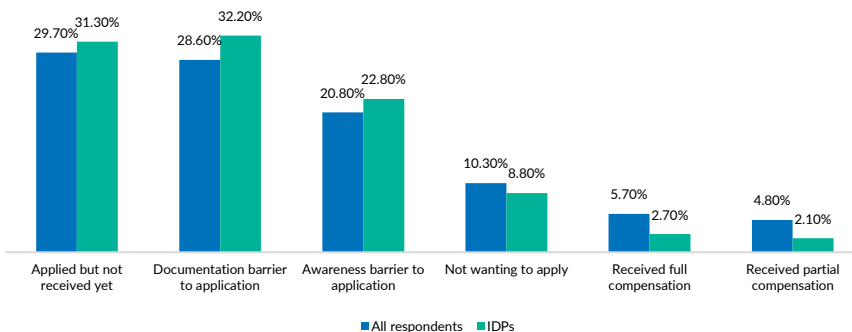
While thousands of people benefited from compensation payments, barriers to the right to compensation remain significant, in particular among displaced Ukrainians, while information and awareness gaps affect future reparations. UNHCR's integrated approach aims at addressing these challenges.

- **High level of home destruction and damage:** UNHCR's protection surveys of 2025 found that of the 80% home owners among respondents, nearly 50% report their house to be fully or partially destroyed, or damaged.
- **Significant barriers to compensation remain:** 11% received either full or partial compensation and 30% are still waiting for an outcome of their application. 50% however report a barrier to apply for compensation, predominantly lacking documentation or awareness of how to apply. These barriers are even higher among IDPs (55%).
- **Only half prepared for future reparations:** Registration of war-related property damages and destruction is an essential step for future reparations. Almost half, 49%, have registered their damages. 37% of respondents lack information and awareness on how to register.

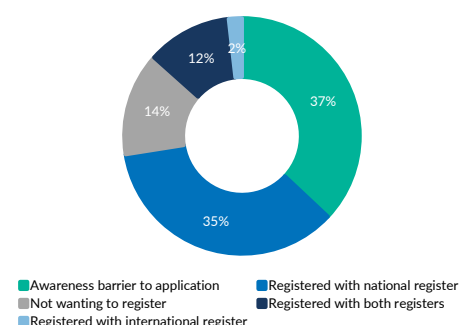
Condition of house
Protection surveys Rd1 and Rd2 - 2025



Access to compensation
Protection Surveys Rd1 and Rd2 - 2025



Registration of damages
Protection surveys Rd1 and Rd2 - 2025



2025 Key Achievements



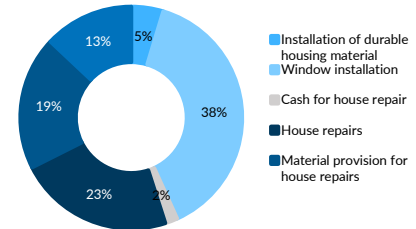
CtC SHELTER INTERVENTIONS

12,000 households, over 25,000 people, supported with CtC shelter interventions

UNHCR's 'Complementarity to Compensation' (CtC) approach to its shelter support has a two-fold purpose:

- Support to vulnerable people who cannot access compensation to repair their homes due to complex barriers. This includes assistance with installing housing material and windows as well as cash, material or direct support for house repairs. In 2025, 22,000 people were supported.
- Through repairs of common spaces, access to compensation is unlocked. In 2025, over 3,000 people were able to access compensation following repairs of the common spaces in their buildings.

CtC Shelter Support in 2025



LEGAL AID FOR HLP RIGHTS

39,000 legal consultations supported people's right to compensation

- One third of UNHCR's legal aid programme in 2025, spanning primary and secondary legal aid, concerned the restoration of housing, land and property (HLP) rights of people with a specific focus on the right to compensation.
- The 39,000 compensation-related legal consultations provided by UNHCR and its partners in 2025 addressed a broad spectrum of barriers to compensation ranging from assistance to overcome procedural impediments to support with needed documents for compensation claims. All HLP-related secondary legal aid provided in 2025 concerned compensation. In total, over 3,300 compensation-related cases were filed with administrative and judicial bodies. Of those, over 2,200 cases were completed and supported people with restored documents, confirmed ownership, or completed inheritance to unlock their access to compensation.



LEGAL FACILITATION FOR REPARATIONS

A network of over 80 paralegals enabled compensation and future reparations

- Information and awareness barriers to exercising the right to compensation and preparing for future access to reparations remain significant. As an extension of UNHCR's legal aid programme implemented with partners, a network of over 80 paralegals is helping to address these barriers through legal facilitation reaching people in more rural and remote areas of Ukraine. In 2025, the work of the paralegal network supported 2,500 people with information on access to compensation.
- UNHCR also strengthened its strategic partnership with the Register of Damages for Ukraine – the RD4U – and supported the Register's outreach efforts through the paralegal network and information materials reaching more and more people to prepare for future reparations for war-related damages suffered.



STRATEGIC ADVOCACY

Strategic advocacy addressed two systemic barriers to compensation rights

Access to the Government's compensation programme remains limited for Ukrainians with homes in areas of active hostilities or under temporary occupation. The Government's receptiveness to UNHCR's and partners' strategic advocacy yielded important breakthroughs in 2025:

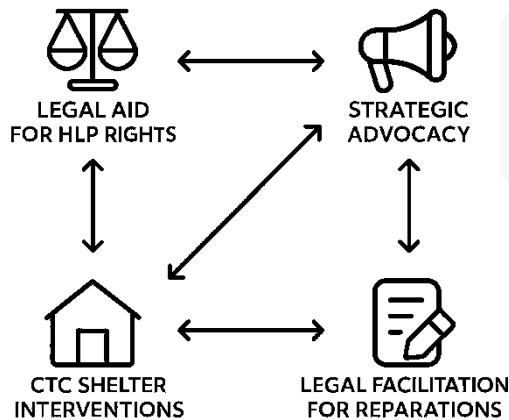
- Resolution 815 introduced the possibility of using remote surveys for people whose homes are in areas of active or potential hostilities, as part of the 'eVidnovlennia' mechanism. Compensation commissions now can carry out remote inspections using reports, photos, videos, drone footage and satellite data to confirm damage.
- Resolution 1176 introduced a new, and potentially scalable, mechanism for people from the temporarily occupied territories who cannot obtain compensation due the impossibility of conducting surveys, providing them with housing vouchers up to UAH 2 million to buy a new home elsewhere in Ukraine. In its initial phase, this pilot is limited to families of military service men or people who suffered a war-related injury. In the first two months of this pilot programme, the Ministry of Development already received over 28,000 applications.

Added value of the 4-pronged approach to compensation rights

- UNHCR’s integrated 4-pronged approach allows to unlock compensation through individual and systemic solutions, and is purposefully designed to leave no one behind and provide tailored support to the most vulnerable. The carefully shaped CtC approach to shelter interventions supports those excluded from accessing compensation, legal aid and facilitation unblocks barriers to compensation for thousands of people, and advocacy addresses systemic blockages for people with homes in areas of active combat or under temporary occupation. Justice considerations drive legal efforts to help prepare people for future reparation and guides advocacy aimed at resolving impediments excluding entire groups of Ukrainians from accessing compensation merely based on where their home is.
- Robust cooperation with Government and strong partnerships with national partner organizations enable this integrated approach to unlock compensation. UNHCR and its partners work as a team in enhancing people’s access to compensation through joint operational and advocacy efforts implementing this 4-pronged approach to compensation rights. Designed to complement and reinforce the Government’s compensation system, UNHCR and its partners work hand in hand with the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories in the implementation of this approach with the common goal of enabling access to compensation for as many displaced and war-affected people as possible.

The four elements are inter-connected to optimize access to compensation and future reparations:

- Legal aid receives referrals of HLP cases from shelter and legal facilitation.
- Legal aid and related practice monitoring identifies systemic barriers informing advocacy.
- Legal aid identifies information and awareness gaps and inform facilitation.
- CtC shelter interventions identify HLP cases for referral to legal aid and awareness gaps informing legal facilitation.
- CtC shelter interventions contribute to identifying systemic barriers informing advocacy.



- Advocacy results inform and lead to adaptation of legal and shelter interventions.
- Advocacy is informed by systemic barriers to compensation identified through legal and shelter work.
- Legal facilitation addresses awareness gaps identified through legal and shelter work.
- Legal facilitation contributes to identifying systemic barriers informing advocacy.
- Legal facilitation complements legal aid and makes referrals.



Results, impact, scalability: UNHCR’s 4-pronged approach to unlocking compensation and preparing for future access to reparations for damaged or destroyed housing brings results and tangible impact in people’s lives, whether through individual solutions or by reducing systemic barriers. As a scalable approach implemented in cooperation with the Government and with UNHCR’s partners, it will assist thousands more in 2026 as part of Ukraine’s people-centred recovery.

DONORS

UNHCR is grateful for the essential support provided by our top government donors and for the generous contributions from individuals and the private sector, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with softly earmarked and unearmarked funds.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Visit Ukraine’s Operational Data Portal for more information products [here](#).
- Visit UNHCR Ukraine’s Website [here](#).

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