

UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #44

6 April 2023

PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE

More details: UNHCR Operational Data Portal [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)

8,163,268

Individual refugees from Ukraine recorded across Europe (4 April)

5,027,182*

Refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe (4 April)

5,352,000

Estimated Number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine (23 Jan) [Internal Displacement Report](#)

UNHCR RESPONSE IN 2023

■ People Reached ■ Target

Refugees reached with cash assistance in Bulgaria, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia

112,432 281,000

Refugees reached with protection services (integration, legal support, social protection, accommodation)

121,808 330,000

People reached with non-food items

102,131 385,000

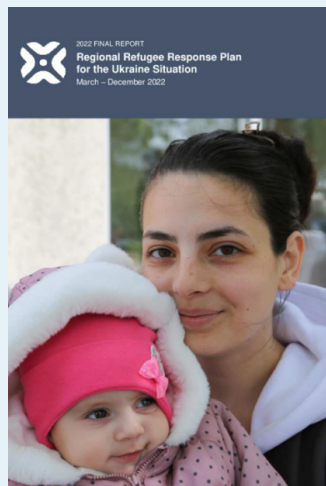
* The figure "Refugees from Ukraine registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes in Europe" may include multiple registrations of the same individual in two or more EU+ countries; registrations that remain incomplete for various reasons; or registrations of refugees who have moved onward, including beyond Europe.

Slovakia. Ukrainian refugee women answering the call for their compatriots in crisis, 7 March, 2023 © UNHCR/Zoran Stevanovic

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- On 5 April, the Ukrainian President and First Lady visited Poland. Volodymyr Zelenskyy [met](#) his Polish counterpart Andrzej Duda, and the Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki. Their talks [focused](#) on security and economic cooperation. Zelenskyy also met with representatives of Polish businesses, volunteers and rescuers, refugees and the mayors of cities close to the border with Ukraine. This is Zelenskyy's second visit to Poland since the beginning of the full-scale war.
- You can find out more about the situation and the response in Ukraine and the region on the [dedicated UNHCR Ukraine Emergency website](#).

UNHCR published, on 28 March, the Ukraine Situation Final Report of the **Regional Refugee Response Plan (March – December 2022)** highlighting achievements, such as the large-scale cash programmes and the rapid deployments of protection experts.



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UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- Recent days' attacks in eastern and southern Ukraine, including in the Donetsk region, reportedly left dozens of civilians killed or injured. [Authorities and humanitarian sources](#) reported that a hospital, a humanitarian facility and an aid distribution point were damaged in Kherson on 25 and 28 March.
- As of 3 April, OHCHR [recorded](#) 22,607 civilian casualties since Russia's invasion of Ukraine: 8,451 killed and 14,156 injured. This includes a total of 765 civilian casualties recorded in March 2023.

UNHCR RESPONSE AND TARGETS INSIDE UKRAINE 2023



UNHCR RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Border monitoring:** From 20 March to 3 April, UNHCR partners conducted 152 monitoring visits to the border crossing points with Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and the Republic of Moldova. More than 460 people were supported with protection counselling, legal assistances, social accompaniments, and transportation services.
- **Capacity-building:** On 30 March, 66 representatives from authorities in Chernihiv city were trained by UNHCR partner SSS on assistance for internally displaced people (IDP) to enhance their capacities on application, interpretation, and implementation of IDP-related social and legal legislation.
- **Coordination:** The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster launched the [Services Advisor Platform](#), an online service mapping with up-to-date information for cluster coordinators and service providers, enables referrals between humanitarian actors. Over 300 participants from 105 NGOs and UN agencies had been trained ahead of the platform's launch.
- **Humanitarian convoys:** On 29 and 31 March, UNHCR contributed to two inter-agency [convoys](#) with shelter materials, food and non-food items, medication and hygiene items, to reach some 15,000 people in Zaporizka and Kharkivska oblasts.
- **NFIs:** UNHCR, through partner R2P, and in collaboration with state and oblast authorities, delivered non-food items (NFIs) and folding beds to people affected by a rocket strike in Kyivska oblast on 22 March. UNHCR partner Proliska [provided](#) psychological support and shelter materials to more than 100 people whose homes were damaged by the shelling in Sumska oblast on 24 March.
- **Legal aid:** UNHCR has published the latest [Thematic Legislative Update](#) on the recently adopted Law on Compensation for Destroyed and Damaged Property to provide a summary of the scope of the Law and its key provisions, as part of the efforts by UNHCR and partners to support people in ensuring they can appropriately document damages or destructions of their properties.
- **Shelter:** UNHCR completed installations of five additional prefabricated houses in Kyivska oblast to support 17 IDPs.
- Find more information in the [regular Ukraine country operational updates](#) and on the [UNHCR Ukraine portal](#) page.

REGIONAL UNHCR KEY FIGURES AND UPDATES

Blue Dots

37 Blue Dots have been established by UNHCR, UNICEF and other partners in:

Bulgaria	6	Poland*	5	Slovenia	1
Hungary	3	Romania	7		
Moldova	10	Slovakia	5		

*Three Blue Dot Hubs have recently been closed in Poland

58,067

refugees were reached through the Blue Dot Hubs in Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland and Slovakia so far in 2023.

The [Digital Blue Dot](#) is a regional website that provides localised and up-to-date information about services available in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, a map of existing Blue Dot Hubs, information on accommodation, childcare, disability support, education, legal stay, livelihood, medical care, protection services, social assistance, work and other services.

Refugees from Ukraine across Europe (as of 4 April 2023)



The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. *Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999]) Source: UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe

COUNTRY UPDATES

- Last week, according to government data, border crossings recorded from neighbouring countries, namely Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Slovakia, into Ukraine (232,506) were greater than border crossings from Ukraine to these neighbouring countries (201,713). However, the border crossings recorded in March from Ukraine to neighbouring countries (999,964) were larger than border crossings back to Ukraine (869,219).
- The weekly and monthly data juxtaposition indicates that the movements are largely pendular. While more border crossings from Ukraine to neighbouring countries were recorded in March, the movement in the opposite direction was greater last week. The latter could be attributed to the approaching orthodox Easter holidays on 16 April.

BULGARIA

155,883 refugees have registered for temporary protection	UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023			
	30,664 refugees have received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners	24,500 refugees have been reached through 6 Blue Dot Hubs	2,860 refugees received cash assistance	3,600 visits to the UNHCR Bulgaria Help Page

- **Coordination:** UNHCR facilitated the first inter-agency meeting at municipality level in Varna on 28 March. Participants and local authorities identified the need to collaborate on providing refugees with adequate information on services. The Mayor of Varna designated a focal point for NGOs and committed to monthly meetings with civil society organisations.
- **Health:** On 22 March, WHO and the Ministry of Health launched a [report](#) on refugee health, assessing the Bulgarian health system's needs within the context of the war in Ukraine. The report was produced in collaboration with UNHCR and other stakeholders. Main recommendations relate to the need to mainstream refugee and migrant health in all government policies, support the provision of quality and people-centred health services, and provide mental health and psychosocial support services.
- **Protection monitoring:** As part of its monitoring activities, UNHCR visited an accommodation centre in Plovdiv managed by partner USRF, and accommodating 120 refugees from Ukraine, mainly families and older people. Upcoming partner activities related to access to employment, refurbishment needs, and NFI distributions were discussed.

CZECH REPUBLIC

504,107 refugees have registered for temporary protection	UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023	
	2,095 refugees from Ukraine have received protection services	9,839 visits to the UNHCR Czech Republic Help Page

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, over 2,900 people have been provided with psychological assistance, legal counselling and integration services by six UNHCR partners. Services are provided in offices, accommodations and in community centres.
- **Protection:** Between 30 March and 3 April 2023, UNHCR agreed with the government, UN agencies and partners to cooperate on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) through trainings and awareness-raising.

HUNGARY

34,248

refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

5,597

refugees have received protection and legal support by UNHCR and partners

4,705

refugees have been reached through **3** Blue Dot Hubs

19,308

visits to the UNHCR Hungary Help Page

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, nearly 10,500 people have received information, legal counselling and assistance, including through UNHCR partners Baptist Aid, Helsinki, ULE, Mandak and Menedek, the dedicated hotline, the four Blue Dot Hubs and the Budapest Helps! Community Center, jointly run with IOM.
- **MHPSS:** In 2023, to date, UNHCR partner Cordelia has provided psychosocial support and psychological first aid to 490 refugees from Ukraine through shelter visits in 5 locations across Hungary.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Hungary data portal](#)

POLAND

1,581,148

refugees have registered for temporary protection

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

16,524

people were provided with protection support over the phone

7,862

people were counselled at the **5** Blue Dot Hubs and 6 Community Centres

13,868

refugees were reached with cash assistance

184,151

views to the UNHCR Poland Help Page

- **Inclusion:** As in previous weeks, UNHCR participated in job fairs in Wroclaw on 22 March, in Warsaw on 30 March and in Poznan on 31 March, and provided information about employment and job opportunities, distributed leaflets and advocacy materials, and supported refugees in preparing their CVs. Preparations for further engagement in job fairs are underway.
- **NFIs:** During the last two weeks, UNHCR distributed over 1,500 winter items in three regions. So far in 2023, UNHCR has delivered close to 28,000 non-food items for refugees from Ukraine, including sleeping bags, blankets and towels.
- **Social Cohesion:** UNHCR concluded, on 23 March, a Letter of Understanding (LoU) with the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lubelskie to collaborate and support research and public dialogue activities regarding refugee assistance, and develop academic content related to protection and solutions for refugees and stateless persons in the University's curricula.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Poland data portal](#)

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

106,634

refugees from Ukraine recorded in the country

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023

8,644

refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners

6,000

refugees have been reached through **10** Blue Dot Hubs as of 22 March

73,715

people have received cash assistance

111,059

visits to the UNHCR Moldova Help Page

- **Communicating with communities:** On 20 March, UNHCR and Internews published a report on the [Information Ecosystem in Moldova](#), based on an assessment carried out in December and January with over 1,000 refugees and 1,000 Moldovans in Balti, Cahul, Chisinau and Gagauzia. Key findings include that, while the information website Dopomoga and the Green Line telephone service are performing well, information is not sufficiently localized. Information gaps persist regarding cash, food and health. Moldovans feel insufficiently informed about the refugee response and both Ukrainians and Moldovans are not aware of complaints and feedback mechanisms.
- **Protection:** UNHCR continues supporting authorities with technical guidance on the registration process, and monitors the implementation of temporary protection. UNHCR and authorities work together on facilitating information for persons in need of temporary protection to access their rights, for example through recurrent updates and translations into English, Russian and Ukrainian of the General Inspectorate for Migration (IGM) [public FAQs](#) that reflect the latest official information, and by information sessions for refugees and other stakeholders. Moreover, UNHCR and partners are finalising the roll-out of a TP Monitoring Tool, which will be used by humanitarian actors and frontline workers to assess the TP implementation.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Moldova portal page](#)

ROMANIA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023				
125,316 refugees registered for temporary protection	22,459 refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners	17,484 refugees were reached with cash assistance	20,280 visits to the UNHCR Romania Help Page	456 refugees have been provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

- **Fast-track transfers:** So far in 2023, UNHCR and IOM have helped 992 refugees to reach Romania from Moldova through the fast-track transfer agreement.
- **Integration:** Nearly 1,000 job-seeking refugees have registered with UNHCR partner [Jobs4Ukraine](#) and over 60 employers have posted new job opportunities on the job-board last week, out of 2,000 registered employers.
- **NFIs:** During the last two weeks, over 2,200 refugees were supported with non-food items (NFIs), including clothes, bed linen, blankets, towels, hygiene kits, and diapers, which were distributed to refugees in Bacau, Bistrita, Constanța, Galați, Suceava, Sighet and Targu Mures through direct intervention as well as through partner organisations.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Romania data portal](#)

SLOVAKIA

UNHCR OPERATIONAL DELIVERIES 2023				
113,253 refugees registered for temporary protection	9,900 refugees received protection information or counselling through UNHCR and partners as of 27 March	15,000 people been assisted with legal counselling at 5 Blue Dots	1,709 refugees have received cash assistance	55,432 visits to the UNHCR HELP Page

- **Capacity-building:** So far in 2023, UNHCR has trained on core protection principles 268 representatives of UN agencies, the government, civil society, social services providers, hospitals, charity organizations, public insurance companies and others.
- **Participatory assessment:** On 24 March, UNHCR concluded the participatory assessment on cash for protection through 13 focus group discussions with 135 refugees, of whom 100 were women. This cash programme complemented local social protection systems. Mothers with small or many children, persons with disabilities, and persons with serious medical conditions (or a combination of these criteria) were identified as the most vulnerable people in need of cash assistance. The eligibility criteria for the programme are currently being adapted based on the results of the participatory assessment.

- **PSEA:** On 28 and 29 March, 20 participants from 12 organizations operating in eastern Slovakia were trained by UNHCR on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), as part of the second Training of Trainers (TOT) to raise awareness on PSEA. On 30 March, 24 representatives from authorities and partners attended a gender-based violence (GBV) training to enhance their GBV knowledge.
- Find out more on the [UNHCR Slovakia data portal](#).

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

- As of 28 March, 22,168 refugees from Ukraine had been recorded in Belarus.
- **Coordination:** At the monthly inter-agency operational working group meeting on 28 March, the timeline was set for UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA to jointly train Red Cross staff in April on legal frameworks, PSEA, child protection and prevention and mitigation of GBV.
- **Livelihoods:** So far in 2023, UNHCR partner Belarusian Red Cross (BRS) assisted 13 refugees with employment counselling and referrals to the public employment services.

ESTONIA

- As of 4 April, 44,588 refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Local engagement:** In discussion with the Mayor of the West-Harju Parish municipality during a UNHCR visit on 29 March, authorities relayed their good practice of employing a refugee from Ukraine as a community liaison during the early stages of arrivals. Refugees ensured a two-way communication with the refugee community. UNHCR agreed to provide the Mayor with information on the Intercultural Cities Programme and the [UNHCR-Migration Policy Group Toolkit for municipalities](#).
- **Access to employment:** As of 2 April, 10,975 refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection were formally employed, about 25% of all registered. Of these, 65 per cent (7,200) are women. A further 6,099 refugees from Ukraine are registered with competent authorities as job-seekers.

LATVIA

- As of 4 April, **46,657** refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Border monitoring:** On 30 and 31 March, during border monitoring visits conducted by UNHCR and partner "I Want to Help Refugees" to border crossing points at the Latvia-Russian Federation border, UNHCR monitored the assistance points and identified training needs for the State Border Guard.
- **Coordination:** On 30 March, during a visit to Balvi municipality and to the accommodation centre in Tilza, UNHCR met with refugees and with local authorities to discuss refugees' well-being and improve coordination.

- During the reporting week, the Information Centre in Riga managed by UNHCR NGO partner I Want to Help Refugees (GPB), in cooperation with other NGOs, responded to 30 inquiries raised by refugees visiting the centre. Main queries related to food, clothes, employment opportunities, and housing options in Riga.

LITHUANIA

- As of 4 April, **75,859** refugees from Ukraine had registered for temporary protection.
- **Coordination:** On 22 March, UNHCR co-hosted the monthly RRP Partner coordination meeting with the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (MSSL). Representatives from 13 RRP partners discussed progress and further needs, such as specific trainings for NGO and public administration partners on GBV and children's rights. Accordingly, UNHCR will focus the next coordination meeting on GBV issues and is working towards a GBV training.
- **People with Disabilities:** UNHCR visited the Service for Work Capacity and Disability Determination (SWCDD) on 30 March, who relayed that 857 refugees from Ukraine have had disabilities recognized or determined in Lithuania. Although the service provides support to people with physical disabilities, they highlighted challenges in assisting people with mental health conditions due to lack of tests in necessary languages. Disability determination or recognition procedures can only be accessed by refugees registered for temporary protection.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

- **Counselling:** So far in 2023, nearly 5,260 refugees from Ukraine have been counselled in-person by UNHCR and partners in urban areas, while nearly 3,160 have been counselled in the border regions of Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov-on-Don and Belgorod. Nearly 18,600 refugees from Ukraine have been counselled over the hotline by UNHCR and partners in the rest of the Russian Federation.
- **MHPSS:** So far in 2023, over 3,200 refugees have received psychosocial support (MHPSS) through partners.

COORDINATION

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, UNHCR leads three Clusters, namely Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), Protection, and Shelter and Non-Food Items. The CCCM Cluster was activated in March 2022 and coordinates eleven UN and NGO partners across three hubs, with the aim of supporting 400,000 people in collective sites in 2023. The Protection Cluster consists of 136 partners, including sub-clusters (57 partners under General Protection) and operates through five coordination hubs to reach an anticipated 7 million people in 2023. The Shelter and NFI Cluster coordinates 97 active partners across five coordination hubs, targeting 3.3 million people in 2023 with NFI kits, emergency shelter and housing repairs. UNHCR also co-chairs the Protection Strategy Working Group under the Humanitarian Country Team, and the Accountability to Affected Populations Working Group. Through its leadership in these areas, UNHCR promotes the centrality of protection, as well as meaningful engagement and participation across the response.

REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE

[The 2023 RRP](#) aims at ensuring refugees' access to protection and assistance on a non-discriminatory basis, with a special focus on refugees at risk of becoming vulnerable. Whereas the 2022 RRP focused primarily on the urgent provision of protection services and humanitarian assistance, the 2023 plan places an emphasis on refugees' socio-economic inclusion, in recognition of the challenges faced by refugees due to their prolonged displacement. Support is foreseen to institutions, services and facilities used both by refugees and members of host communities, which will be crucial for promoting solidarity and social cohesion between host and refugee communities. Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs) led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, will continue working at country level in Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, and Slovakia to support the efforts of the concerned governments.

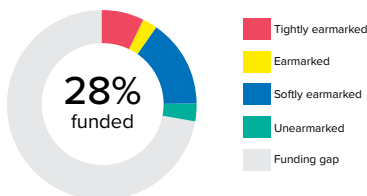
FINANCIAL UPDATES

UNHCR Ukraine Situation

Financial Update

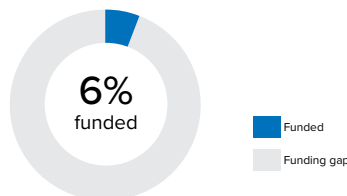
(as of 5 April 2023)

\$ 1.1 billion
required (USD)



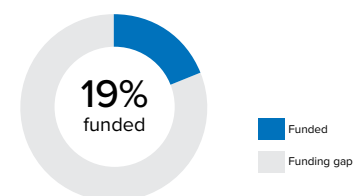
Inter-Agency Financial Updates

\$ 1.68 billion
required (USD)
(as of 5 April 2023)



Revised:
[Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan](#)

\$ 3.95 billion
required (USD)
(as of 5 April 2023)



Revised:
[UN Flash Appeal \(Ukraine\)](#)

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