



Romania's Response to the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis

Monthly Snapshot - Feb 2023

Situation Overview

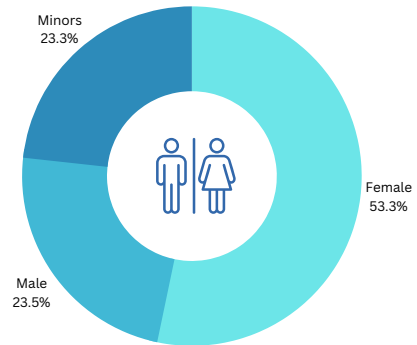
On 24 Feb 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, launching the biggest unprovoked military offensive in Europe since World War II. 7.87 million Ukrainians have become refugees. A total of 14.8 million people — 1 in 4 Ukrainians — have left their homes, including those who are now internally displaced.

Since the beginning of the conflict, the Government of Romania established strong coordination mechanisms to manage the response. This response is structured on two layers of intervention: a first phase emergency response and a second phase response centered on the protection and inclusion of Ukrainian refugees in Romania.

Key Figures

- 3.640.932 Ukrainian arrivals at the border
- 111.787 Ukrainian refugees in-country
- 49.667 Ukrainian children in-country
- 119.166 Ukrainian refugees with Temporary Protection
- 4.399 Ukrainian Asylum Seekers

Age & Gender breakdown of
Ukrainian refugee border crossings



Emergency Response Achievements

The emergency response is led by the Department for Emergency Situations (DES) and refers to the support ensured by Romania to all refugees crossing the border from Ukraine. This support includes resources and services provided at border crossing points and the provision of emergency shelter, food, and basic medical assistance. These efforts have been complemented by significant legislative and administrative efforts by the Romanian Government and with local authorities, as well as significant support from the national civil society, international non-government organizations, UN agencies, and private actors.

Civil Protection

- 2.514.692 Ukrainian refugees have received information and counselling.
- 19.743 Ukrainians refugees have been accommodated in transit centres.
- Current capacity at transit centres across the country is 58.522.
- A governmental call center was operationalized in January 2023 to serve as a single point of contact for Ukrainian refugees seeking information in partnership with the UN Agencies

Transportation

- 41.476.711 RON spent on transportation of Ukrainians by the Ministry of Transportation
- 819.243 Ukrainian refugees received humanitarian transport provided by Ministry of Transportation and DES.

Emergency Relief Items

- Eight humanitarian partners are providing emergency relief items at border crossing points, reception and transit centres, and temporary shelters.



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Longer-Term Response Activities & Impact

The second longer-term phase of the response refers to the measures put in place for the protection and inclusion of Ukrainian refugees who choose to live in Romania. This involves the establishment of more predictable protection and assistance structures coordinated with national service and social protection systems, and is articulated in Romania's three-year National Plan of Measures for the protection and inclusion of Ukrainian refugees. The following section highlights the main activities conducted by the Government of Romania together with its partners in the following sectors:

Labour

- In January 2023, 455 employment contracts were registered in REVISAL
- 2 job fairs are planned for March in Hunedoara and Cluj counties. 5 job fairs held so far.
- 1.568 Ukrainian jobseekers are active on the ANOFM employment registration system.

Challenges: Hesitancy by Ukrainians to register as job seekers with ANOFM and instead prefer informal networks and employment.

Education

- A total of 4.483 students have been enrolled in pre-university education
- The Ministry of Education has adopted a simplified enrollment process for Ukrainian children as well as enrollment into Romanian language courses for children and adults

Challenges: Unregulated education hubs pose challenges in recognizing them as authentic educational environments.

Housing

- MDLPA has assessed the availability of housing units at the local public authority level, and are ready to operationalize measures to allocate housing if the need arises.
- The 50/20 program continues to provide accommodation support and is being evaluated
- Habitat for Humanity and public authorities renovated and transformed Edmond Center into a social hub and accommodation center for up to 2.000 people in Bucharest.

Challenges: Less than 3% of housing units are owned by public authorities, limiting the supply of social housing units available to allocate to eligible recipients.

Children & Youth

- A total of 19.726 Ukrainian children have been registered in Primero as of 15/2/2023.
- 795 service providers have been trained on child protection.

Challenges: Uncertainty of funding earmarked for youth programmes makes service delivery inconsistent over time.

Health

- 24.556 Ukrainians have received emergency medical services.

Challenges: Language barriers are slowing down the provision of medical services and putting pressure on the health system in terms of more time needed, and higher demand. Vaccine hesitancy among Ukrainian parents has led to low rates of child vaccination. Stigma around mental health needs and language barrier have been a barrier to accessing MHPSS.