

Temporary Protection Romania

2024 Update

This annex on temporary protection complements and should be read together with the [AIDA Country Report on Romania](#).

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Temporary Protection Procedure

A. General

The Romanian Asylum Act provides that temporary protection is granted in case the Council of the European Union establishes the existence of a massive flow of displaced persons.¹ Romania may propose the issuance of a decision stating the existence of a massive flow of displaced persons to the Council of the European Union. The proposal should include a description of the specific groups of persons to whom the temporary protection will apply, the date on which the temporary protection would take effect and an estimate of the scale of movements of the displaced persons.²

In case temporary protection is granted by a decision of the Council of the European Union, the Romanian Government, at the proposal of the IGI, issues a decision with the concrete conditions for ensuring the temporary protection of displaced persons on its territory will be provided, as well as the source of financing the expenses to provide temporary protection.³

Soon after the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine, a taskforce was set up at government level to monitor the situation and coordinate measures. After meetings on 26 and 27 February 2022, it was concluded that amendments to the existing legal framework were necessary in order to ensure the capacity to respond to the situation on the ground. Consequently, on 27 February 2022 the Government adopted the Emergency Ordinance 15/2022, which was amended by Government Ordinance 20/2022, and abrogated in June 2024 by Emergency Ordinance no. 96/2024.

On 18 March 2022, according to the provision of the Asylum Act, based on Council Decision (EU) 2022/382, the Romanian Government issued Government Decision No. 367/2022 regarding the establishment of conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for the amendments of some normative acts in the field of foreigners.

On the most essential applicable laws in force concerning temporary protection in Romania, see the following table:

¹ Art. 131 para. 1 Asylum Act
² Art. 131 para. 2 Asylum Act
³ Art. 131 para. 4 Asylum Act

Title (EN)	Original Title (RO)	Web Link
Act No. 122 of 4 May 2006 on Asylum in Romania 18 May 2006	Legea nr. 122 din 4 mai 2006 privind azilul in Romania	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/71808 (RO)
Government Decision No. 1,251 of September 13, 2006 for the approval of the Methodological Norms for the application of Law No. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania 25 September 2006	Hotărârea nr. 1.251 din 13 septembrie 2006 pentru aprobarea Normelor metodologice de aplicare a Legii nr. 122/2006 privind azilul în România	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocumentAfis/252167
Government Emergency Ordinance No. 15/2022 regarding the mechanisms of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from Ukraine 27 February 2022	Ordonanță de urgență nr. 15 din privind acordarea de sprijin și asistență umanitară de către statul român cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina 27 februarie 2022	https://bit.ly/3BMIEjL (RO) Note: abrogated by the Emergency Ordinance 96/2024
Emergency Ordinance No. 96 of June 28, 2024 on the provision of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of armed conflict in Ukraine 29 June 2024	Ordonanță de urgență nr. 96 din 28 iunie 2024 privind acordarea de sprijin și asistență umanitară de către statul român cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/284711 (RO)
Government Decision No 368 from 26 April 2023 for establishing the amounts, conditions and mechanism for granting financial aid as set up by Government Emergency Ordinance No. 15/2022	Hotărârea nr. 368 din 26 aprilie 2023 pentru stabilirea cuantumului, condițiilor și a mecanismului de acordare a sumelor forfetare potrivit Ordonanței de urgență a Guvernului nr. 15/2022 privind acordarea de sprijin și asistență umanitară de către statul român cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina.	https://bit.ly/3KuQ6TL (RO) Abrogated by Government Decision 1178/2024

Decision No. 1,178 of September 25, 2024 establishing the amount, conditions and mechanism for granting lump sums according to Government Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024 on the provision of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine 30 September 2024	Hotărâre nr. 1.178 din 25 septembrie 2024 pentru stabilirea cuantumului, condițiilor și a mecanismului de acordare a sumelor forfetare potrivit Ordonanței de urgență a Guvernului nr. 96/2024 privind acordarea de sprijin și asistență umanitară de către statul român cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/288970 (RO)
Government Ordinance No. 20/2022 regarding the support and humanitarian assistance to children, adults, people with disabilities, and all Ukrainians who come to Romania 8 March 2022	Ordonanță de Urgență nr. 20 privind modificarea și completarea unor acte normative, precum și pentru stabilirea unor măsuri de sprijin și asistență umanitară 8 Martie 2022	https://bit.ly/3lwLQ5F (RO)
Government Decision No. 367/2022 on Temporary Protection <i>TP Decree</i> 18 March 2022 Modified: 2 September 2022 by Decision no. 1.077/2022	Hotărâre nr. 367 din 18 martie 2022 privind stabilirea unor condiții de asigurare a protecției temporare, precum și pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative în domeniul străinilor Hotărâre nr. 1.077 din 31 august 2022 pentru modificarea și completarea Hotărârii Guvernului nr. 367/2022 privind stabilirea unor condiții de asigurare a protecției temporare, precum și pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative în domeniul străinilor	https://bit.ly/3lCAjln (RO)
Government Decision No. 505 of May 16, 2024 amending and supplementing certain normative acts regarding the content of the residence permit for beneficiaries of temporary protection 17 May 2024	Hotărâre nr. 505 din 16 mai 2024 pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative privind conținutul permisului de ședere pentru beneficiarii protecției temporare	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/283037

Government Decision no. 336/2022 for establishing the mechanism by which natural persons, who host Ukrainian refugees, benefit from the reimbursement of food expenses 11 March 2022	Hotărâre nr. 336 din 11 martie 2022 privind stabilirea mecanismului de decontare din bugetul inspectoratelor județene pentru situații de urgență /Inspectoratului pentru Situații de Urgență București-Ilfov a cheltuielilor cu hrana cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina, găzduiți de persoane fizice, precum și pentru alocarea unei sume din Fondul de rezervă bugetară la dispoziția Guvernului, prevăzută în bugetul de stat pe anul 2022, pentru suplimentarea bugetului Ministerului Afacerilor Interne 11 Martie 2022	https://bit.ly/3OzGTg0 (RO) Note: Abrogated by Government Decision 368/2023
Government Decision no. 337/2022 on the granting of gratuities and facilities for the transport of foreign nationals or stateless persons in special situations from the area of armed conflict in Ukraine 12 March 2022	Hotararea 337/2022 privind acordarea de gratuități și facilități pentru transportul cetățenilor străini sau apatrizilor aflați în situații deosebite, proveniți din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina 12 martie 2022	https://bit.ly/3ICBbGF (RO) Note: No longer applicable (valid only in 2022)
ORDER No. 3,325 of March 2, 2022 on completing the annex to the Order of the Minister of Education No. 5,140/2019 for the approval of the Methodology on the academic mobility of students 3 March 2022	Ordin nr. 3.325 din 2 martie 2022 privind completarea anexei la Ordinul ministrului educației nr. 5.140/2019 pentru aprobarea Metodologiei privind mobilitatea academică a studenților 3 martie 2022	https://bit.ly/3BRH2UH (RO) Note: Abrogated by Order no. 4,262 of April 15, 2024 for the approval of the Methodology regarding the academic mobility of students which has no references to Ukrainian students.
Lege nr. 23 din 23 februarie 2024 pentru ratificarea Acordului dintre Guvernul României și Cabinetul de miniștri al Ucrainei privind recunoașterea reciprocă a actelor de studii, semnat la București la 18 august 2023	Law No. 23 of February 23, 2024 for the ratification of the Agreement between the Government of Romania and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the mutual recognition of educational documents, signed in Bucharest on August 18, 2023	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/279451 (RO)

<p>Order of the Ministry of Education No. 5,679 of July 29, 2024 on the approval of the composition of the Commission for the coordination of the activity of assigning pre-schoolers/students to educational units where they can carry out educational activities, as well as to institutions where they will benefit from psychopedagogical assistance and counselling, of the procedure for its organization and functioning and for the approval of the Procedure for the registration as listeners in the courses of educational units of minors in special situations who come from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine and have entered the territory of Romania 5 August 2024</p>	<p>Ordin nr. 5.679 din 29 iulie 2024 privind aprobarea componenței Comisiei de coordonare a activității de repartizare a preșcolarilor/elevilor la unitățile de învățământ în care pot desfășura activități educaționale, precum și în instituțiile în care vor beneficia de asistență psihopedagogică și consiliere, a procedurii de organizare și funcționare a acestora și pentru aprobarea Procedurii de înscriere ca audienți la cursurile unităților de învățământ a minorilor aflați în situații deosebite care provin din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina și intrați pe teritoriul României</p>	<p>https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocumentAfis/286547 (RO)</p>
<p>Order of the Ministry of Education no. 6.127 of October 24, 2022 for the approval of the Methodology regarding schooling and the organization and conduct of the introductory course in Romanian and the Procedure regarding the development, approval and distribution of the programs and manuals of the introductory course in Romanian for minors who have acquired a form of international protection or a right of residence in Romania, as well as for minors who are citizens of the Member States of the European Union and the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation 11 November 2022</p>	<p>Ordin nr. 6.127 din 24 octombrie 2022 pentru aprobarea Metodologiei privind școlarizarea și organizarea și desfășurarea cursului de inițiere în limba română și a Procedurii privind elaborarea, aprobarea și distribuirea programelor și manualelor cursului de inițiere în limba română pentru minorii care au dobândit o formă de protecție internațională sau un drept de ședere în România, precum și pentru minorii cetățeni ai statelor membre ale Uniunii Europene și ale Spațiului Economic European și ai Confederației Elvețiene</p>	<p>https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/261307 (RO)</p>
<p>Order of the Ministry of Labor and Social Solidarity No. 1,938 of July 30, 2024 on the approval of the Procedure for the employment of Ukrainian citizens coming from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine 20 September 2024</p>	<p>Ordin nr. 1.938 din 30 iulie 2024 pentru aprobarea Procedurii de încadrare în muncă a cetățenilor ucraineni care provin din zona de conflict armat din Ucraina</p>	<p>https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/288707 (RO)</p>

Order of the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity No. 1,875 of July 11, 2024 for the approval of the models of the forms necessary for the granting of social assistance benefits to foreign citizens or stateless persons coming from the area of armed conflict in Ukraine 5 August 2024	Ordin nr. 1.875 din 11 iulie 2024 pentru aprobarea modelelor formularelor necesare acordării unor beneficii de asistență socială pentru cetățenii străini sau apatrizi care provin din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/286507 (RO)
Order No. 896 of September 10, 2024 on the approval of the procedure for providing social services to adult persons with disabilities, accompanied or unaccompanied, who entered Romania from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine 17 September 2024	Ordin nr. 896 din 10 septembrie 2024 privind aprobarea procedurii de acordare a serviciilor sociale pentru persoanele adulte cu dizabilități, însoțite sau neînsoțite, intrate în România din zona conflictului armat din Ucraina	https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/288372 (RO)
Government Emergency Ordinance no. 100 regarding the approval and implementation of the National Plan of Measures regarding the protection and inclusion of displaced persons from Ukraine, beneficiaries of temporary protection in Romania 29 June 2022	Ordonanță de urgență nr. 100 din 29 iunie 2022 privind aprobarea și implementarea Planului național de măsuri cu privire la protecția și incluziunea persoanelor strămutate din Ucraina, beneficiare de protecție temporară în România, precum și pentru modificarea și completarea unor acte normative	https://bit.ly/3MuemWO (RO)

According to the General Inspectorate for Immigration,⁴ the official total figure of beneficiaries of temporary protection recognised until 31 December 2024 is **177,089**.

Below the breakdown by nationality:

No.	Country of origin	Total	No.	Country of origin	Total
1	Ukraine	175.273	6	Azerbaijan	75
2	Russian Federation	422	7	Syria	73
3	Republic of Moldova	346	8	Israel	59
4	Türkiye	153	9	Belarus	55
5	Iraq	128	10	Other countries	505

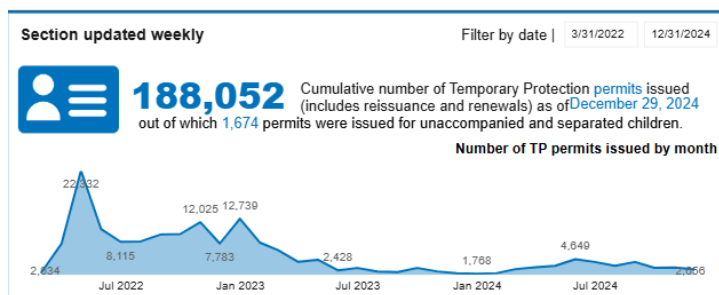
However, discrepancies in data reported by various institutions were noticed. It should be mentioned that the actual number of TP holders living in Romania cannot be easily calculated after Romania's fully accession to the Schengen area, while the General Inspectorate for Immigration is the only authoritative source in collecting and reporting data on TP recognitions/documents.

Firstly, the discrepancies could include data reported on the number of TP documents issued. According to the Government,⁵ from 24 February 2022 to 31 December 2024, **213,085** people benefitted from temporary protection (*although this might include duplicated figures of those with renewed IDs*), while a

⁴ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025.

⁵ Cancelaria Prim-ministrului, Raport privind integrarea refugiaților ucraineni în România - 24.02.2022-31.12.2024, available [here](#).

total of 10,890,785 Ukrainian citizens entered the territory of Romania. Out of this number, 4,750 people applied for asylum and 193 were recognised a form of international protection. Of the total beneficiaries of temporary protection (213,085), 9.7% were children aged 0-6, 14.3% are children aged 7-18, 71.8% are people aged 19-64 and 4.2% are people over 65. At the same time, according to the Ministry of Interior, **188,379** temporary protection documents had been issued by the end of 2024 (*likely including duplicated figures of some people with renewed IDs*).⁶



According to *UNHCR Data Portal* having as a data source the *General Inspectorate for Immigration*, **188,052** individuals were issued temporary protection documents until 29 December 2024 (including reissuance and renewals), of which 1,674 permits were issued for unaccompanied and separated children⁷. In another report, *UNHCR* stated that more than 8 million refugees had reportedly fled Ukraine to Romania, and **179,737** individuals were issued Temporary Protection in Romania (for the first time, our note) as of the end of December 2024.⁸ According to the *General Inspectorate for Immigration*, the annual distribution of TP documents issued was 97,825 in 2022, 45,690 in 2023 and 36,222 in 2024, with a total of **179,737**.⁹

In a separate answer provided before the Parliament, in July 2025,¹⁰ according to the General Inspectorate for Immigration, the breakdown of the number of TP beneficiaries was:

Age/year	2022	2023	2024	Total
0-17 y.o (children)	32,771	11,638	4,792	49,201
18+ (adults)	63,940	33,186	30,479	127,605
Total	96,711	44,824	35,271	176,806

Note: some of the reported data could be considered as being preliminary, being published without a final clearance.

According to the *General Inspectorate for Immigration* early reporting (preliminary reported data), since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine and until the end of 2024, residence permits have been issued/re-issued for over **162,147** beneficiaries of temporary protection, including 1,621 non-Ukrainians, and 47 asylum applications submitted by Ukrainian citizens in 2024.¹¹ The same source mentioned that from the beginning of the conflict until 31 December 2024, a number of **177,914** Ukrainian citizens (also preliminary data), benefited from temporary protection in Romania, and 4,507 Ukrainian citizens applied for asylum in Romania¹². However, Eurostat data indicates that **179,715** temporary protection holders were registered in Romania by the end of 2024.¹³

⁶ Ministerul Afacerilor Interne, Prima zi a anului 2025, petrecută în siguranță de români. Efectivele MAI rămân mobilizate pentru protecția cetățenilor, 02 January 2025, available [here](#).

⁷ UNHCR Data Portal, available [here](#).

⁸ UNHCR, Romania Socio-Economic Insights Survey (SEIS) 2024 - Final Results Presentation, 24 February 2025, available [here](#).

⁹ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025.

¹⁰ Answer provided by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the request from the deputy Robert Alecu on expenses with refugees from Ukraine in Romania, 03 July 2025, available only in Romanian [here](#).

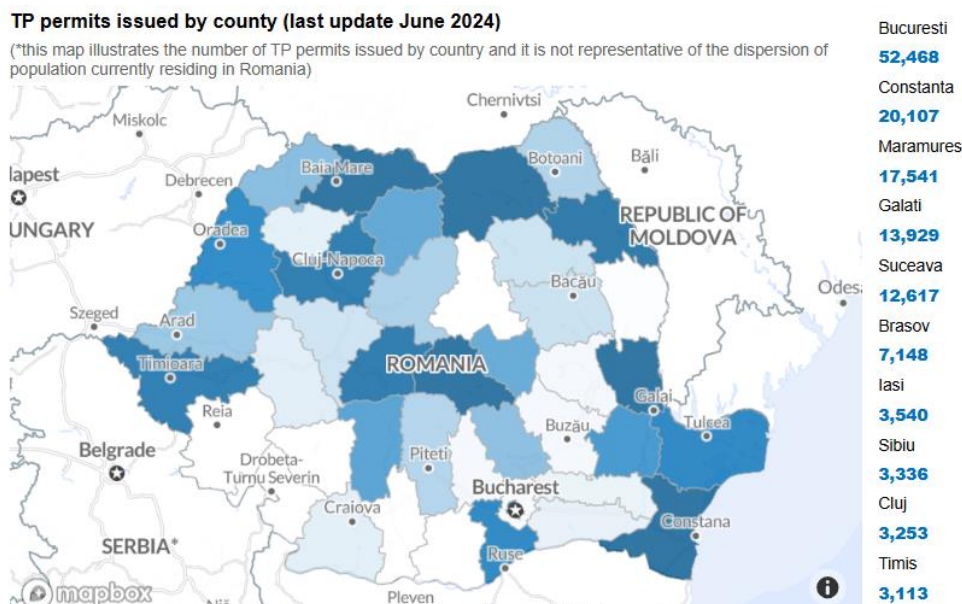
¹¹ Evaluarea activității Inspectoratului General pentru Imigrări în anul 2024, 10 April 2025, available [here](#) and [here](#).

¹² Trei ani de la începutul conflictului din Ucraina, 24 februarie 2025, available [here](#).

¹³ Eurostat, Beneficiaries of temporary protection at the end of the month by citizenship, age and sex - monthly data, available [here](#).

According to the UNHCR Data Portal, Bucharest issued 31% of the total number of TP permits at the national level, while top five counties represented almost 70% of the issuance offices throughout the country.¹⁴

Source: UNHCR Operational Data Portal



Source: UNHCR Operational Data Portal

IGI implements the temporary protection procedure in Romania. They reported that 200 employees were involved in registering and issuing permits to beneficiaries of temporary protection on a daily work in 2024. Employees were assigned to this task, including through changes to their job description. Furthermore, the number of responsible staff was dependent on the number of beneficiaries who wanted to register, so an exact number of staff involved in this procedure cannot be provided.

IGI-DAI underlined that in the case of temporary protection, persons are considered beneficiaries of this type of protection based on Council Decision 382/2022 and not based on any request lodged.

B. Qualification for temporary protection

Until 2 September 2022, in line with the Council Implementing Decision, the Temporary Protection Decree¹⁵ provided that the following persons may apply for temporary protection:

- (a) Ukrainian nationals residing in the territory of Ukraine before 24 February 2022¹⁶;

¹⁴ UNHCR Data Portal, available [here](#).

¹⁵ Art. 1 para 2 a), b) and c) and para. 2[^]1 and para. 2[^]2 TP Decree.

¹⁶ Government of Romania, Explanatory note to Government Decision no. 367/2022 on establishing conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for amending and supplementing certain normative acts in the field of foreigners - According to art.2 letter c) of the Directive 2001/55/CE, "displaced persons" mean third-country nationals or stateless persons who have had to leave their countries or regions of origin or have been evacuated, in particular following an appeal by international organizations, and who cannot return, in safe and durable conditions, due to the situation in that country, and who may fall within the scope of Article 1A of the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Considering these aspects, this normative act extends the benefit of temporary protection to Ukrainian citizens who were on the territory of Romania before February 24, 2022 and who, due to the conflict in Ukraine, cannot return to their country, available [here](#).

- (b) stateless persons, and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who benefited from international protection (for example, having a refugee status) or equivalent national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- (c) family members of the persons referred to in points (a) and (b)
- (d) stateless persons, and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who can prove that they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law, and who are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to their country or region of origin.
- (e) other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the time of the circumstances surrounding the mass influx of displaced persons, and who were wholly or mainly dependent on a person referred to in point (a) or (b) at the time.

The following persons shall be considered as family members: spouses, minor children who have not reached the age of 18, unmarried, without distinction as to whether they were born in or out wedlock or adopted. Close relatives, in the sense of point c), are the ascendants and descendants up to the second degree, respectively collateral relatives up to the third degree.

As of 2 September 2022, when the Temporary Protection Decree was amended by the Decision 1077/2022, the scope of temporary protection was broadened as follows:

- (a) Ukrainian citizens, regardless of the time of arrival in Romania, and their family members;
- (b) third-country nationals non-Ukrainians or stateless persons who benefited in Ukraine before 24.02.2022 from international protection or an equivalent national form of protection, regardless of the time of arrival in Romania¹⁷, and their family members¹⁸;
- (c) third-country nationals non-Ukrainians or stateless persons who left Ukraine on or after 24.02.2022 and who prove that they have legal residence in Ukraine, based on a permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian legislation, and who are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to their country or region of origin and their family members - if the sponsor is recognised by the Romanian authorities as a beneficiary of temporary protection.¹⁹

Family members of the persons referred to in letter a) and b) are, regardless of their nationality:

- ❖ spouses (legally married);

¹⁷ Government of Romania, Explanatory note to Government Decision no.1077/31.08.2022 for amending and supplementing Government Decision No. 367/2022 on establishing conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for amending and supplementing certain normative acts in the field of foreigners - stateless persons and third-country nationals other than Ukraine who benefited from international protection or equivalent national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 should also be considered for recognition of temporary protection, even if they left Ukraine before 24.02.2022, since, in light of recognition as beneficiaries of international protection, it is presumed that they cannot return either to their country of origin or, obviously, to Ukraine. In relation to this category of persons, the only possible option, at this time, would be guidance to apply for international protection in Romania, but such an option would affect the very purpose of activating temporary protection, namely to reduce the pressure on the asylum system, available [here](#).

¹⁸ Government of Romania, Explanatory note to Government Decision no.1077/31.08.2022 for amending and supplementing Government Decision No. 367/2022 on establishing conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for amending and supplementing certain normative acts in the field of foreigners - family members of stateless persons and third-country nationals other than Ukraine who can prove that they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law and who cannot return in safe and stable conditions to Ukraine or their region of origin - thus who are recognised as beneficiaries of temporary protection - should also be included for the purposes of the application of Implementing Decision (EU) No 382/2022. Thus, if in the main category situation the application of temporary protection has been established, the principle of family unity must be respected. Furthermore, the Commission guidelines of 21.03.2022 should be taken into account, which provide that, although family members of permanent residents are not provided for in the Decision as a separate category, Member States are encouraged to extend the application to them and are advised to avoid recognising or granting different statuses to members of the same family, available [here](#).

¹⁹ IGI, Information on the new legislative provisions regarding the expansion of the categories of persons, refugees from Ukraine, who can be granted temporary protection, available in Romanian at: <https://bit.ly/430M7Gg>.

- ❖ unmarried minor children of the beneficiaries or of the spouse, whether they were born in or out wedlock or adopted;
- ❖ other close relatives who lived together, as part of the family, when the events that led to the massive influx of displaced persons took place and who were at that time totally or mainly dependent on the person provided for in a) or b) who benefit from temporary protection²⁰;
- ❖ Other close relatives who lived together, as part of the family, when the events that led to the massive influx of displaced persons took place and on whom the person provided for in a) or b) was at that time totally or mainly dependent, and who cannot return, under safe and stable conditions, to their country or region of origin. In this situation, kinship in the direct line up to the second degree (parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren) is considered, respectively kinship in the collateral line up to the third degree (brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, nephews of brothers).²¹

People fleeing Ukraine who do not fall under the scope of the temporary protection regime may make an asylum application.

Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a massive influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC and having the effect of introducing temporary protection was extended until 4 March 2024, and further on until March 2026. Permits issued to beneficiaries of temporary protection in Romania are valid for the entire period of application of the EU Decision, thus they will be valid and automatically extended, no request in this regard being necessary.

Although both the Temporary Protection Directive 55/2001 and Asylum Law 122/2006 (fully implementing the Directive 55/2001) provide for a maximum period of implementation of three years of temporary protection, Romania adopted only one legislative act in this regard in March 2022 (Government Decision 367/2022),²² considering automatic extension of its application following adoption of three implementing Decisions have been issued by the Council (2022/382, 2023/2409 and 2024/1836) at EU level. According to the Law no.122/2006 on asylum in Romania,²³ in the event that temporary protection is granted by decision of the Council of the European Union, the Government of Romania, upon the proposal of the General Inspectorate for Immigration, issues a decision which will provide for the concrete conditions for ensuring temporary protection of persons displaced on the territory of the Romanian state, as well as the source of financing for the expenses determined by ensuring temporary protection

²⁰ Government of Romania, Explanatory note to Government Decision no.1077/31.08.2022 for amending and supplementing Government Decision No. 367/2022 on establishing conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for amending and supplementing certain normative acts in the field of foreigners - other close relatives who were living together, as part of the family, when the events that led to the massive influx of displaced persons took place and on whom the person referred to in Article 2(1)(a) or (b) and (2) of Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 was at that time wholly or mainly dependent – this category includes parents of another nationality or other adult relatives who accompany and are dependent on Ukrainian minors, in whose case it is not possible, according to the current regulation, to recognise temporary protection. Thus, in many cases identified in practice, minors who had acquired Ukrainian citizenship through their father were accompanied by mothers who had another nationality or by other relatives with whom a dependency relationship was created from the country of origin (aunts, grandparents, etc.). In such a context, given that they do not individually belong to the categories established by legislation, it is necessary to regulate their stay on the territory of Romania, by including them in the category of beneficiaries of temporary protection, in order to avoid the separation of families or the separation of children from the adults who accompanied them and on whom they are dependent. However, as shown above, the Commission guidelines of 21.03.2022 provide that Member States are encouraged to extend the application to other categories and are advised to avoid recognizing or granting different statuses to members of the same family, available [here](#).

²¹ IGI, Information on the new legislative provisions regarding the expansion of the categories of persons, refugees from Ukraine, who can be granted temporary protection, available in Romanian at: <https://bit.ly/430M7Gg>.

²² Government Decision no. 367 of 18 March 2022 on establishing conditions for ensuring temporary protection, as well as for amending and supplementing certain normative acts in the field of foreigners

²³ art.131 paragraph (4) of Law no.122/2006 on asylum in Romania

Government Decision 367/2022 has been implemented in accordance with national legislation and EU compulsory regulations. According to the art. 148 (2) Constitution of Romania,²⁴ following EU accession, the provisions of the founding treaties of the EU, as well as other binding Community regulations, shall prevail over contrary provisions in domestic laws, in compliance with the provisions of the act of accession. Thus, the prolongation of temporary protection has not been regulated at the national level, in consideration solely of the EU Decisions who extended it. It should be mentioned that the TP permits are valid during the implementation of the Council Implementation Directive 2022/382, therefore it is not an issue of automatic extension, but merely as continuing validity of status and identity documents.

Third-country nationals who left Ukraine after 24 February 2022 due to Russia's aggression and who requested temporary protection from the Romanian state were also allowed to enter the country, even if they were not in possession of a valid travel document pursuant to Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382.

C. Access to temporary protection and registration

1. Admission to territory

There are no reports or testimonies in 2024 as in the previous years, suggesting that anyone fleeing Ukraine was refused entry at the Ukrainian-Romanian border crossing points during the year. The Border Police reported that the highest influx of third-country nationals who arrived (directly or indirectly through the territory of the Republic of Moldova) from the conflict zone was recorded in the first month after the beginning of the war in Ukraine, and they were allowed to enter the country, without requiring an entry visa, regardless of the type of document held, for humanitarian reasons, in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399. This situation was also applicable to those in transit.

Third-country nationals, who left Ukraine after 24 February 2022, due to Russia's aggression, and who requested temporary protection from the Romanian state, were also allowed to enter the country, even if they were not in possession of a valid travel document pursuant to Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382. Thus, the Border Police ensured access to asylum/temporary protection procedures for all persons who requested it (at border crossing points or in the border area/green border - in the case of persons who fraudulently crossed the state border) as a form of protection from the Romanian state. In addition, the Border Police emphasised that, in the context of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the application of the Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on readmission has been suspended, which means that there were no return procedures carried out for any persons detected by the border police, in connection with the unauthorised crossing of the state border from Ukraine in Romania.

A case regarding the extradition of one Ukrainian to Russia was ruled upon in 2022. Romanian national authorities detained a Chechen asylum seeker in March 2022, on the grounds that she posed a threat to national security. She had fled her home in Ukraine in the aftermath of Russia's invasion in February 2022. The Romanian border guards separated her from her young son and detained her pending extradition based on a Russian Interpol red notice.²⁵ On 18 April 2022, the court of Appeal of Suceava authorised her extradition to Russia,²⁶ whereas the judicial authorities of the Russian Federation have presented in writing, in documents submitted to the Ministry of Justice, a series of guarantees,²⁷ while her

²⁴ Constitution of Romania, available [here](#).

²⁵ Amnesty International, Europe: Halt returns of people from the North Caucasus to Russia where they are at risk of torture and abuse, 17 January 2024, available [here](#).

²⁶ Amnesty International, Romania: Ukrainian refugee faces extradition to Russia: Amina Gerikhanova, 29 April 2022, [link](#).

²⁷ High Court of Cassation and Justice, Penal Section, Decision no. 282 of 04 May 2022, available only in Romanian [here](#).

appeal was finally rejected on 4 May by the High Court of Cassation and Justice in Romania. The last Court noted that likewise, the Russian-Ukrainian military conflict cannot constitute a reason for refusing extradition, the admission of the extradition request being based on the documents in the file and not on the circumstantial situations that do not directly involve the violation of the fundamental rights of the requested person, as there is no evidentiary element in the file that would lead to this conclusion. In addition, the arrest warrant and the INTERPOL alert were issued a long time ago, respectively since 2018, and the search for the extraditable person carried out by this prosecutor's office until 15.12.2017, when she was placed on the international wanted list. The same High Court also concluded that simply submitting an asylum application is not enough to be considered exempt from extradition.²⁸

On 9 May the applicant, Amina Gerikhanova, was granted interim measures by the European Court of Human Rights under the Rule 39 procedure. The Court informed the Romanian Government that it should not extradite her pending its assessment of her situation.²⁹ Her extradition to Russia was only stopped following a massive public outcry and the imposition of interim measures by the European Court of Human Rights. Romania eventually granted her asylum.³⁰

In a similar case of extradition ruled on by the High Court of Cassation and Justice (against the ruling of the Court of Appeal of Suceava of 10 May 2022)³¹, judges stated that on 15 March 2022, the Russian Federation initiated the procedure for withdrawal from the Council of Europe. In this context, it is noteworthy that the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights, the judicial body of the Council of Europe that provides protection in the event of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the Convention, is being denied, which calls for increased caution in assessing the consequences that extradition to the Russian Federation could have.

Additionally, the existence of data supporting the uncertainty of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the requesting state is highlighted by the European Parliament Resolution of 07.04.2022 on the intensification of repression in Russia (2022/2622 (RSP), which was based, among other things, on the statement of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights of 24 March 2022 expressing his appreciation for the courageous work of journalists and human rights defenders, including those from the Russian Federation and Belarus, the statement of the Representative for Freedom of the Media of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe of 03.03.2022 on the serious violation of the right to freedom of expression and freedom of the media in Russia in the context of the country's military attack against Ukraine; the statement of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the latest developments in Russia and Ukraine³².

According to the General Inspectorate of Border Police, in 2024, the measures to manage the refugee crisis were improved, with over 7.8 million Ukrainian citizens crossing the border at national level (entry and exit), a slight increase compared to 2023. Of these, over 1.6 million were children, and approximately 15,000 were detected trying to cross the border illegally.³³

According to the Territorial Inspectorate of Border Police Sighet,³⁴ immediately after the outbreak of the military conflict, the existing Strategic Plans were implemented.

At border crossing points:

- the staff was supplemented;
- new flows were opened for control;
- the equipment for control was supplemented: tablets/portable phones, Schengen-type special vehicles, additional VISA-type stickers;

²⁸ Idem.

²⁹ Amnesty International News, 2022, available [here](#).

³⁰ Amnesty International, Europe: Halt returns of people from the North Caucasus to Russia where they are at risk of torture and abuse, 17 January 2024, available [here](#).

³¹ Penal decision no. 47 of 10 May 2022, Court of Appeal of Suceava

³² High Court of Cassation and Justice, Penal Section, Decision no. 339 of 25 May 2022, available [here](#)

³³ Evaluation of the activity of the Romanian Border Police carried out in 2024, 19 February 2025, available [here](#).

³⁴ Evaluation of the activity of the Territorial Inspectorate of the Border Police of Sighetu Marmatiei carried out in 2024, 24 February 2025, available [here](#).

- the controls were intensified to identify deserters, combatants, weapons and ammunition, explosives, dangerous substances, in cooperation with customs authorities and intelligence structures.
- support was requested from other institutions (Police, Gendarmerie, Emergency Situations Units), to ensure a climate of order and public safety at the border crossing points;
- new border crossing points were opened/rehabilitated/built (opening of Vicovu de Sus, rehabilitation/renovation of Siret, start of construction of the new Border Crossing Point in Sighetu Marmăției which will be, upon completion, the largest border crossing point on the Romanian-Ukrainian border);

At the green border:

- additional personnel was deployed;
- additional border surveillance equipment was made available;
- mixed patrols with the police and gendarmerie were organised;
- data and information exchanges were carried out with inter-institutional partners;
- support for the operational and best-conditioned transit of humanitarian convoys
- supplementation with personnel from the FRONTEX Agency;
- organization of aerial surveillance missions;
- maintenance of the hotline/telephone Centre for information in the Ukrainian language - 9590, established at the Territorial Inspectorate of Border Police of Sighetu Marmăției starting with 28.02.2022;

In 2024, at the level of the Territorial Inspectorate of Border Police Sighet, 6,298 cases of irregular crossing of the border from Ukraine to Romania were recorded, involving approximately 13,000 Ukrainian citizens (7,000 within Maramureș County, 4,500 within Suceava County and approximately 1,500 at the Satu Mare County border with Ukraine). A significant increase in the number of Ukrainian citizens detected by border guards at the green border in 2024 compared to 2023 (as we have stated, 13,000 Ukrainian citizens detained in 2024 compared to 3,868 in 2023).

Since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine, 21,123 Ukrainian adult male citizens aged between 18 and 60 were detected while trying to irregularly cross borders on the northern border of Romania in the counties of Maramureș, Satu Mare and Suceava, who told border police that they fled Ukraine because of the war - otherwise not able to leave the country due to the general mobilisation. Unfortunately, many of them risk their lives, trying to cross the border by swimming in the Tisa River or through the Maramureș Mountains. The border guards and Salvamont Maramures [...] conducted operations to save 153 Ukrainian citizens at this border in 2024.³⁵

Since the outbreak of conflict in Ukraine 28 Ukrainian citizens were found dead, 16 on the Romanian bank of the Tisa River and 12 in the Maramureș Mountains. However, more than 200 search and rescue operations were conducted (71 in 2024) for Ukrainian citizens in the Maramureș Mountains, with more than 250 Ukrainian citizens rescued.³⁶

All Ukrainian citizens who were detected at the green border, as well as those who entered legally through border crossing points, were further checked in the relevant databases, in order to identify all active threats, as well as in order to prevent other situations with a major impact on the climate of public order and safety or other types of threats to border security.

According to the Coast Guard,³⁷ in 2024, 230 cases of fraudulent border crossing/attempt were recorded, involving 433 people, most of the cases regarding the border with Ukraine (178 cases with 312 people).

2. Freedom of movement

There are no reports that individuals entitled to temporary protection not holding a biometric passport or

³⁵ Scutul.ro, Salvamont Maramureș a salvat 153 de cetățeni ucraineni, în 2024, 21 April 2025, available [here](#).

³⁶ Evaluation of the activity of the Territorial Inspectorate of the Border Police of Sighetu Marmăției carried out in 2024, 24 February 2025, available [here](#).

³⁷ Analysis of the main activities carried out by the Coast Guard in 2024, 11 February 2025, available [here](#).

biometric travel document experienced any issue in moving within the country territory or while attempting to continue their journey towards other European countries.

3. Registration under temporary protection

The authority responsible for registering the temporary protection application in Romania is IGI. At the time of presenting themselves to the authorities, the following steps will be undertaken:

- ❖ signing a consent form regarding the processing of personal data;
- ❖ the personal documents they present are photocopied;
- ❖ the personal documents are verified;
- ❖ the person is photographed;
- ❖ the following personal data are recorded: surname and first name, date of birth, citizenship, sex, identity, civil status, family situation, family ties, address in Romania (if known);
- ❖ the persons receives a residence permit in Romania with a personal numerical code (*'cod numeric personal / CNP'* in Romanian).

Each person wishing to be registered needs to be physically present, in order to be photographed. Children must be present in order to be identified, photographed and registered.

Persons are considered beneficiaries of temporary protection under Council Decision 382/2022 and not based on a request that is further assessed like an asylum request. However, there are two exceptions, when temporary protection is assessed, namely: for an assessment of return to the country of origin for some categories of non-Ukrainian citizens and in cases of exclusion from temporary protection, when a decision may be appealed against. No such cases were reported for so far.

IGI-DAI reported that all beneficiaries registered are communicated to the EU Platform.

At the beginning of the conflict, Ukrainian citizens did not express the intention to apply for temporary protection, because they believed that within 90 days the conflict would end and there would be no need to register. During this period, IGI-DAI provided information on temporary protection to persons accommodated in public owned spaces, such as schools. NGOs also provided them with information on this. Persons living in cities with no IGI-DAI centre to register temporary protection, were provided with transport by the government to register.

Ukrainian citizens and third-country nationals fleeing Ukraine, who entered Romania with any kind of documents, can remain legally in Romania for up to 90 days, even if they do not register as beneficiaries of temporary protection. They may register as a beneficiary of temporary protection in Romania throughout the period of validity of the temporary protection.

The relevant documents for registration as a beneficiary of temporary protection are, depending on the situation, the following:

- ❖ identity documents (identity card, driving licence, travel document or any other authentic document with a photograph);
- ❖ documents which prove the status of the person in Ukraine (for example, permanent residence permit, document issued to beneficiaries of international protection, etc.);
- ❖ documents which prove the family ties (for example, family card, birth / marriage certificate, etc.).

Upon registration the person receives a residence permit in Romania with a personal numerical code (*'cod numeric personal / CNP'* in Romanian).

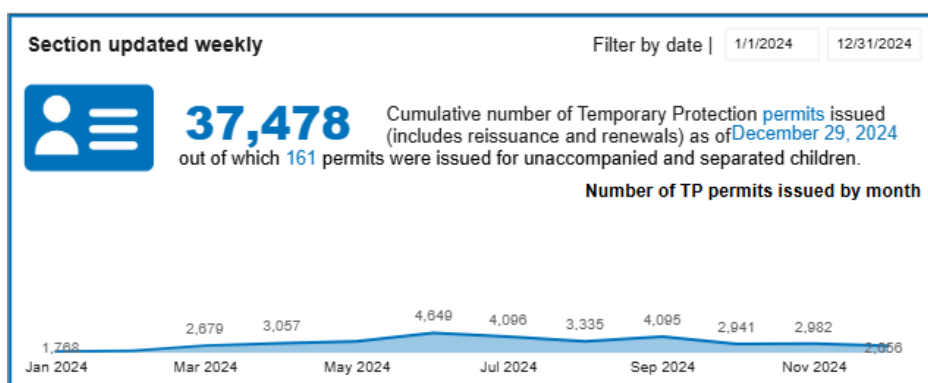
No problems were reported with registration. Registration was done swiftly, no delays reported.

Individuals who have been excluded from the granting of temporary protection or family reunification can appeal against the rejection decision issued by the IGI-DAI. The decision may be challenged within 10 days from the communication. The court renders a definitive decision within 30 days.³⁸ No such cases were reported.

In 2024, 37,478 individuals received TP documents in 2024, according to the UNHCR data portal.³⁹

According to the General Inspectorate for Immigration,⁴⁰ until the end of 2024, 51% of temporary protection beneficiaries were female (91,393) and 49% male (85,696). The breakdown by age was the following:

Age	Total	Percentage
0-13	41,157	23%
14-17	8,424	4%
18-34	55,356	31%
35-64	63,244	35%
65+	8,908	5%
Total	177,089	100%



Source: UNHCR Operational Data Portal

According to the *General Inspectorate for Immigration*,⁴¹ 1,186 separated children were registered until 31 December 2024, 570 girls (48%) and 616 boys (52%). A total of 657 (55%) were aged 0-13, and 529 (45%) were aged 14-17.

The TP Decree was modified by Decision no. 505/2024 including the possibility to declare and establish the residence in Romania within the TP permit. In order to certify the residence in Romania, the beneficiary of temporary protection must submit to the competent structure of the General Inspectorate for Immigration one of the following documents: title deed, lease agreement registered with the tax administration, loan agreement concluded in authentic form or any other documents concluded under the validity conditions provided for by the Romanian legislation in force regarding the tenancy title, which prove the acquisition of tenancy rights (similarly in which proof of residence is provided by asylum seekers), provided for by the Methodological Norms for the application of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania.⁴² In the absence of such documents, the residence permit for beneficiaries of temporary

³⁸ Art. 142 Asylum Act.

³⁹ UNHCR Operational Data Portal, available [here](#).

⁴⁰ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025.

⁴¹ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025.

⁴² Approved by Governmental Decision No. 1,251/2006. According to the General Inspectorate for Immigration, proof of residence is also provided with the written declaration of the head of the protection institution, of the social services centre or of the educational centre or of the person authorized by it, in the case of beneficiaries of temporary protection who are hospitalized or received for care or accommodation in protection institutions, in social services centres or in educational centres that are under the administration of local public authorities (Information on establishing residence in Romania, in the case of beneficiaries of temporary protection, 17 October 2024, available [here](#)).

protection shall indicate the locality and county, respectively the sector in the case of the municipality of Bucharest, as declared by the beneficiary of temporary protection. In the case of beneficiaries of temporary protection admitted or admitted for care or accommodation in care institutions, social service centres or educational centres under the administration of local public administration authorities, the residence permit for beneficiaries of temporary protection shall include the address of the institution or centre in question. Proof of residence shall be provided by a written declaration of the head of the care institution, social service centre or educational centre or the authorized person.

According to the Government Decision no. 505/2024 - residence permits for beneficiaries of temporary protection issued before the entry into force of this Decision shall remain valid for the period of application of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass inflow of persons displaced from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC and having the effect of introducing temporary protection, as subsequently amended.

Even though Government Decision no. 505/2024 provided for a deadline for renewal of identity documents (within 180 days from the date of entry into force of this Decision – namely 17 May 2024, beneficiaries of temporary protection may request the General Inspectorate for Immigration or its territorial units to exchange the permit for beneficiaries of temporary protection), the authorities continued to issue new permits after December 2024, with only few cases of misunderstanding and delays reported at county levels.

4. Legal assistance

In order to ensure the most complete information about the legal regime of refugees in Ukraine, the National Union of Romanian Bars (UNBR) and the bars in the country provide a bilingual Romanian-Ukrainian Guide, a hotline dedicated exclusively to Ukrainian citizens for legal information and a list (continuously updated) of lawyers who can provide free legal assistance, speaking English, French, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, Russian and Ukrainian.

The Equality and Human Rights Action Centre (ACTEDO), a human rights organisation from Romania stands in solidarity with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people and provides pro bono legal assistance to people affected by the war started by Russia, joining the campaign "Lawyers for refugees" of the National Union of Romanian Bar Associations.

Out of the 42 implementing partners gathered under the Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP), UNHCR lists 23 carrying out protection-related activities in 2024, out of which only 11 were reporting partners. These organisations reported combined activities of "legal counselling and assistance" that reached more than 23.000 persons in 2024. Besides that, there were 6.927 persons that received counselling support. Other protection-related activities include capacity-building for practitioners and volunteers, awareness-raising (on the availability of services and on the dangers of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment), psychological support, cash assistance (partly) and promotion of social cohesion. Legal assistance activities are undertaken throughout the country and with a stronger emphasis on the north-eastern part of the country (along the border with Ukraine) and in large urban areas. More than half of the people targeted under protection activities were women (62%), followed by men (30%), girls (4%) and boys (4%).

Specifically on the topic of legal assistance, the RRP has the following organisations providing assistance: AidROM, CNRR, FONSS, Fundatia Comunitara Sibiu, HIAS, National Youth Foundation, Necuvinte, Patrir,TdH, UNHCR and UNICEF.⁴³

5. Information provision and access to NGOs

⁴³ UNHCR Operational Data Portal, 2023 Romania Refugee Response Plan, available at: <https://bit.ly/3XsnK4r>.

The Asylum Act provides the right for beneficiaries to be informed, in writing, in a language they are expected to understand, of the provisions relating to temporary protection.⁴⁴

To facilitate refugees' access to response services, one-stop centres, such as Blue Dots and the integrated support hub at RomExpo in Bucharest have been established and provide a comprehensive set of services and support, from registration to material items to information and counselling. Help lines and information websites were also launched.⁴⁵

Dopomoha (Help) is a web support and information platform for migrants fleeing the war in Ukraine, where they may find up to date information in Romanian, Ukrainian English and Russian on entry requirements, education, labour and other useful information. The website was created by Code for Romania in partnership with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), UNHCR, IOM and CNRR ING Bank.

The government also established an information website in Romanian and Ukrainian with detailed information upon arrival in Romania, education, health, labour, legal assistance and others.⁴⁶

IGI-DAI also published useful information for people fleeing from Ukraine on their website.⁴⁷

A call centre supported by IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and WHO was also established. It is available on weekdays (Mon-Fri, 8:00 – 16:00) and provides information on rights and services in the following areas: health, education, social protection and labour;⁴⁸ however, its activity decreased due to various reasons, including lack of funding and reduced number of requests for information. UNHCR reported that in 2024 - 24,097 refugees were provided with information, legal assistance and counselling in person or via hotlines,⁴⁹ noticing also that several helplines were developed under the Regional Refugee Response in Romania.

With the support of UNHCR, AIDRom implements a project providing support to Ukrainian refugees who are settled in the Western part of the country (Timisoara, Arad and Oradea). The main activities were centred around access to information, legal advice and referral to social services for a target of at least one thousand Ukrainian nationals.

According to the Border Police after the completion of the border formalities, depending on the support needed, persons fleeing Ukraine were referred to representatives of the local authorities, county council, NGOs and volunteers present in the vicinity of the crossing points.⁵⁰

Over 54,000 refugees received information on rights, services, and prevention of violence against women, boys and girls through help desks, campaigns, and digital platforms. Over 7,000 refugees benefited from targeted protection interventions, including legal assistance, while over 13,000 refugee children accessed specialized child protection services. Services were provided through various service providers and one-stop centres managed by RRP partners, including RomExpo in Bucharest, the Nicolina Centre in Iași, the Ukraine House in Cluj, and the KATYA Centre in Brașov, which facilitate comprehensive service provision and better linkages with government services.⁵¹

⁴⁴ Art.133 para. (1) b) Asylum Act.

⁴⁵ UNHCR, Regional Refugee Response Plan - 2023 Romania Chapter, 28 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/45BX9Dr>.

⁴⁶ Romanian Government, Department for accountability social community and vulnerable groups, available at: <https://bit.ly/3lQ1Nns>.

⁴⁷ See in Romanian: <https://bit.ly/3NeP4O5>.

⁴⁸ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, March 2023.

⁴⁹ UNCHR, Ukraine Refugee Situation Update, Romania / Annual Overview – 2024, available [here](#).

⁵⁰ Border Police, 'Summary of Border Police activities carried out in 2022', available in Romanian at: <https://bit.ly/3WGGQKI>.

⁵¹ UNHCR, Ukraine Situation - 2024 RRP End-of-Year Report, 12 March 2025, available [here](#).

D. Guarantees for vulnerable groups

According to UNHCR, reporting mechanisms have been in place since the early days of the refugee influx to identify and refer vulnerable refugees at the border points, including unaccompanied and separated children, persons with disabilities and persons with serious medical needs, to specialised NGOs and services.⁵²

Based on UNHCR reporting, unaccompanied and separated children were referred to the government family tracing and reunification services, received appropriate support family and community alternative care arrangements, and legal counselling on access to relevant services and guardianship procedures.⁵³

There was also an open-source software, Primero, helping outreach workers identify and register refugee children, including unaccompanied and separated children, and to refer them to specialised services as needed. The National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (ANPDCA) reported that over 38,000 Ukrainian children were identified and registered in the national digital tool for monitoring and protecting children in vulnerable situations in 2024. Out of this number, more than 8,000 were children aged 0-5, 20,500, 6-13 and over 9,000 were children between 14 and 17 years old. The majority lived in the community, and only 84 Ukrainian children were included in the special protection system in Romania.⁵⁴ This is considered as a good practice in the region with potential for developing cross-border case management and referral mechanisms.⁵⁵

Mental health and psychosocial support services are provided by several NGOs, such as IOM Romania, Terre des Hommes, Save the Children, World Vision and also WHO.⁵⁶ IOM Romania provides mental health and psychosocial support in several cities across Romania, including Bucharest, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca and Iasi, through a team of psychologists, caseworkers, and other specialised personnel from IOM and Implementing partners (IPs).

On 26 April 2023, the Government of Romania adopted a decision aimed at connecting the financial support measures offered by the Romanian state to cover accommodation and food expenses, with those regarding the employment of people, the enrolment of children in a form of education and the acquisition of temporary protection status in Romania.⁵⁷ The decision came following an assessment of the implementation of the financial mechanism by central and local public administration authorities, where a series of divergences in the interpretation of the legal norms contained have been identified in practice, which have generated difficulties in granting lump sums. This situation led to the rejection of applications for lump sums, that according to the Government could lead to a high number of legal suits by beneficiaries of temporary protection.⁵⁸

On 18 January 2024, the Government of Romania adopted amendments to Government Decision 368/2023, which exempted TP holders from proving the employment as a condition for receiving financial support for certain vulnerable groups (persons temporarily unable to work for medical reasons, and

⁵² UNHCR, *Regional Refugee Response Plan - 2023 Romania Chapter*, 28 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/45BX9Dr>.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Întâlnire la ANPDCA cu reprezentantul UNHCR în România, Pablo Zapata, 29 April 2025, available [here](#).

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ UNHCR, *Inter-Agency Operational Update*, March 2023.

⁵⁷ Government Decision no. 368/2023 was published in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, establishing the amount, conditions and mechanism for granting lump sums according to Government Emergency Ordinance no. 15/2022 on the provision of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine, available only in Romanian [here](#).

⁵⁸ Explanatory Note to Government Decision no. 41/2024 on the amendment and completion of Government Decision no. 368/2023 for establishing the amount, conditions and mechanism for granting lump sums according to Government Emergency Ordinance no. 15/2022 on the granting of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine, available only in Romanian [here](#)

women in their third trimester of pregnancy), and the inclusion of self-employed persons or adolescents aged 15 to 18 registered for work or working as eligible for support.⁵⁹

UNHCR has identified key needs and persistent gaps concerning vulnerable populations.⁶⁰

- Tailored support for children with specific needs: There is a need to enhance services for children with disabilities and improve overall understanding of case management practices for children requiring specialized care.
- Language barriers affecting adolescents: Adolescent refugees often struggle to recognize and report instances of violence or illegal activity due to limited language proficiency. This barrier not only fosters a sense of isolation but also impedes their ability to communicate effectively with authorities and access necessary support services.
- Challenges in reaching the most vulnerable: Isolated living conditions and complex vulnerabilities make it particularly difficult to reach refugees at high risk of abuse. Women lacking financial independence and facing intersecting vulnerabilities may feel forced to remain in abusive relationships. This underscores the urgent need for enhanced outreach efforts, expanded financial and psychological support, and sustainable housing solutions.

⁵⁹ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update Romania - January 2024, available [here](#). Governmental Decision 41/2024 on the amendment and completion of Government Decision no. 368/2023 for establishing the amount, conditions and mechanism for granting lump sums according to Government Emergency Ordinance no. 15/2022 on the granting of humanitarian support and assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine, available only in Romanian [here](#).

⁶⁰ Ibid. See also, UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update Romania - November 2024, available [here](#).

Content of Temporary Protection

A. Status and residence

1. Residence permit

Indicators: Residence permit

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. What is the duration of residence permits granted to beneficiaries of temporary protection? | Until 4 th March 2026 |
| 2. How many residence permits were issued to beneficiaries from the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive until 31 December 2024? | 179,737 ⁶¹ |

The General Inspectorate for Immigration issues the beneficiaries of temporary protection with a residence permit on the territory of Romania and assigns a personal identification number (*cod numeric personal* / *CNP* in Romanian). The residence permit and the personal numerical code are used in the interaction with the Romanian authorities in order to enjoy the specific rights attached to temporary protection.

Permits issued to beneficiaries of temporary protection in Romania are valid for the entire period of the application of the EU Decision, so they will be extended automatically, without the need for a request in this regard.

IGI-DAI reported that based on the guidelines of the EU Commission, beneficiaries of temporary protection enjoy freedom of movement, if they meet the legal travel conditions. Therefore, they have the possibility to register in more than one Member State, nonetheless they may only benefit from the afforded rights in one country. According to dopomoha.ro⁶², if an individual can no longer benefit from temporary protection in Romania, s/he can contact the General Inspectorate for Immigration if residing in Romania, or the Romanian diplomatic mission if s/he is already abroad. After submission of the specific request or renunciation to the temporary protected status, the applicant will be informed to hand over the temporary permit, and afterwards a certificate confirming the refusal will be issued.

There are two possibilities for renouncing the related rights:

1. Relinquishment or renunciation may be the result of an express request from the beneficiary made at one of the IGI structures. In this case he/she will be issued a document attesting this.
2. If the person is not physically present in Romania, such a request may be lodged at the Romanian Embassy or Consulate where he/she is present. After the administrative procedure the Embassy or Consulate will issue the above-mentioned document.

IGI-DAI mentioned that relinquishment of related rights does not imply a de-registration of the respective person. There have been no re-registrations of temporary protection status following return from Ukraine to Romania.

51,484 residence permits were issued to beneficiaries of temporary protection in 2023. No temporary protection permits were withdrawn.⁶³ According to the General Inspectorate for Immigration, a number of 4,459 individuals renounced to their rights in Romania as beneficiary of temporary protection in 2024.⁶⁴

⁶¹ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025.

⁶² See: <https://dopomoha.ro/ro/protectie-temporara>. Dopomoha (Help) is a web support and information platform for migrants fleeing the war in Ukraine available in Romanian, Ukrainian, English and Russian. This platform includes information on the entry requirements at the border, the procedure for seeking asylum in Romania, their rights and obligations as asylum seekers and useful resources for their stay in Romania. Dopomoha is a project created by Code for Romania in partnership with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), UNHCR, International Organization for Migration (OIM) and the National Romanian Council for Refugees (CNRR).

⁶³ UNHCR, Ukraine Situation: Romania, Overview of Temporary Protection Directive, available at: <https://bit.ly/3Kr8sVP>.

⁶⁴ Answer provided by the General Inspectorate for Immigration on 10 June 2025,

According to the current regulations, time spent in Romania based on a temporary protection permit does not count towards other, more permanent types of residencies or citizenship, as the Asylum Law provides that the document issued to TP holders grants the mere permission to remain on the territory, and not a fully right to stay⁶⁵. This *permission to stay in Romania* is granted only to asylum-seekers,⁶⁶ tolerated finally rejected asylum-seekers⁶⁷ or repeated asylum applications,⁶⁸ therefore TP holders do not get similar rights as beneficiaries of international protection, in this regard⁶⁹. There was an increased interest among Ukrainians in understanding the requirements for obtaining Romanian citizenship.⁷⁰

2. Access to asylum and other legal statuses

Beneficiaries of temporary protection can lodge an application for asylum at any time and have their application processed. If a person fleeing Ukraine makes an asylum request and, at the end of the asylum procedure, he/she is not granted a form of international protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection), he/she will continue to enjoy temporary protection until the expiry of the period for which it was granted.

According to the General Inspectorate for Immigrations, 47 Ukrainians made an asylum claim in Romania in 2024, and 59 in 2023,⁷¹ with a total of 4,507 Ukrainian citizens applied for asylum in Romania until 31 December 2024.⁷²

There is no governmental policy related to post-TPD solutions. Temporary protection granted in Romania falls under EU regulations, including its validity and automatic extensions, with any subsequent internal regulations, therefore Romania will adopt any decision taken at EU level. According to the article 132 of the Asylum Act (Law 122/2006) the end of TP can occur either when the maximum duration is reached or at any time by a decision of the EU Council adopted to that effect. Another possibility is to renounce to TP in Romania (mostly in the case of acquiring a new one in another country or voluntary repatriation) (see A.1. Residence permit).

Before adopting the TP Decree (18 March 2022), the Government modified the Emergency Ordinance 194/2002 on the legal regime of aliens by including foreigners whose TP granted by the decision of the Council of the European Union has ended among the categories of foreigners for whom the General Inspectorate for Immigration considers to be illegally staying in the country.⁷³

TP beneficiaries cannot receive the long-term residence in Romania⁷⁴.

One possibility to continue remaining in Romania after the end of TP is by obtaining the long-stay visa for employment, which is granted without presenting a copy of the employment notice among other categories to citizens of Ukraine as well as the Republic of Moldova or the Republic of Serbia employed on the territory of Romania with a full-time individual employment contract, for a maximum period of 9 months in a calendar year. The visa application must be accompanied by: proof of means of subsistence at the level of the minimum gross basic salary in the country guaranteed in payment for the entire period

⁶⁵ Art. 133 (1) a) of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania.

⁶⁶ Art. 17 (1) a) of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania.

⁶⁷ Art. 70 (2) of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania.

⁶⁸ Art. 89 of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania.

⁶⁹ According to art. 2 of the Asylum Law no. 122/2006, temporary protection is a form of protection different than international protection (covering refugee status or subsidiary protection)

⁷⁰ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - March 2024, available [here](#).

⁷¹ Evaluarea activității Inspectoratului General pentru Imigrări în anul 2024, 10.04.2025, <https://igi.mai.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Evaluare.pdf>

⁷² Trei ani de la începutul conflictului din Ucraina, 24 februarie 2025, available [here](#).

⁷³ Article XVII of Emergency Ordinance no. 20 of March 7, 2022, published in the Official Gazette no. 231 of March 8, 2022, available only in Romanian [here](#).

⁷⁴ Art. 70(2) of the Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the legal regime of foreigners in Romania, available only in Romanian [here](#).

entered in the visa; c) criminal record certificate or other document with the same legal value, issued by the authorities of the state of domicile or residence; d) medical insurance for the period of validity of the visa. If the employer does not provide accommodation, the visa application must be accompanied, in addition, by proof of ensuring accommodation conditions that are likely to ensure an adequate standard of living for the entire duration of the intended stay, in the form of a firm reservation at an accommodation unit, a deed of ownership or rental of a dwelling in Romania in the applicant's name or an authenticated declaration regarding the provision of adequate accommodation conditions for the applicant, given by the holder of a right of ownership or use of a dwelling on the territory of Romania⁷⁵. According to the official statistics, 6,240 Ukrainians had employment contracts pending at the end of 2024.⁷⁶

B. Family reunification

The Asylum Act prescribes that in cases where families were already formed in the country of origin and were separated due to the circumstances during the mass flow, the following persons will be considered family members of the beneficiary of temporary protection:

- (a) wife/husband;
- (b) the unmarried minor of the beneficiary or of his/her spouse, without distinguishing whether he/she is born out of wedlock or adopted.

When one or some of the family members of the beneficiary of temporary protection are not yet in Romania, family reunification will be carried out if it is found that they need protection and are not in one of the cases provided for exclusion from temporary protection.⁷⁷

The national legislation does not include material requirements on accommodation, income or health insurance.

Family members are issued documents granting them permission to stay on the territory of Romania. The same residence permit as the beneficiary of temporary protection.

C. Movement and mobility

IGI-DAI reported that based on the guidelines of the EU Commission, beneficiaries of temporary protection enjoy freedom of movement, if they meet the legal travel conditions. Therefore, they have the possibility to register in more than one Member State, nonetheless they may only benefit from the afforded rights in one country. A beneficiary of temporary protection may not relinquish his/her status, only the related rights afforded in a Member State.

IGI-DAI reported that based on the guidelines of the EU Commission, beneficiaries of temporary protection enjoy freedom of movement, and can travel towards other EU MS once they are registered if they meet the legal travel conditions.

⁷⁵ Article 44 of the Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the legal regime of foreigners in Romania, available only in Romanian [here](#)

⁷⁶ Romanian Government, Report on the Integration of Ukrainian Refugees in Romania (covering 24.02.2022 – 31.12.2024), available [here](#)

⁷⁷ Art. 135 Asylum Act.

D. Housing

Indicators: Housing

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. For how long are temporary protection beneficiaries entitled to stay in reception centres? | Not available |
| 2. Number of persons fleeing Ukraine staying in collective centres as of 12/24 | 3% ⁷⁸ |
| 3. Number of beneficiaries staying in private accommodation as of 12/2024 | 97% ⁷⁹ |

The majority of Ukrainian refugees in Romania live in urban and peri-urban areas, primarily in private accommodation within the host communities.

The Government of Romania provided a housing support through various programmes ensuring the basic needs of refugees from Ukraine are met, initially through the 50/20 Programme (Emergency Ordinance no. 15/2022) and then with the transition to established programmes on 1 May 2023 that differentiated lump-sum allowances for holders of temporary protection to cover accommodation and food costs. On 28 June 2024, the emergency ordinance no. 96/2024 introduced temporary housing support for newly arrived refugees for three to four months and removed legal barriers preventing access to social protection services.⁸⁰

Since 1 May 2023, the support program for housing dedicated to Ukrainian refugees in Romania was changed. This was based on decision no. 368 adopted by the Government on 26 April 2023, which established new amounts, conditions and mechanisms for granting lump-sum amounts for humanitarian assistance of Ukrainians. This decision firstly extended the period for providing assistance to refugees from Ukraine until 31 March 2024 (from the previous end-date of 31 December 2023), and later on extended until 30 of June 2024. The amounts awarded were also changed: from the 50 RON/ day for accommodation and 20 RON/ day for food and subsistence, it was changed to 2000 RON/ month per family (750 RON/month for single persons) for accommodation and 600 RON/month, per person for food and subsistence. This aid is given for the first four months and starting with the fifth, the food and subsistence aid is suspended. In terms of legal requirements, the new procedure stipulates that:

- ❖ aid in the first month is given to those that were granted temporary protection and are registered with a local authority (city hall).
- ❖ in months 2-4, beneficiaries need to provide an employment contract or register with the local employment agency (exceptions are provided for students, persons living with disabilities, people older than 65 years, people with children under 2 years, respectively under 3 years if the child is disabled), have their kids enrolled in school or participating in educational activities run by NGOs.
- ❖ starting from month 5, in order to benefit from financial aid, refugees need to provide one of the following: proof of income in Romania or proof of enrolment in higher education; exceptions are made for persons living with disabilities, those caring for small children (under 2 years or age, respectively under 3 years if the child is disabled) and elderly persons (older than 65 years).⁸¹

According to the Emergency Ordinance no. 96/2024, refugees who received temporary protection before 1 July 2024 are entitled to social benefits, including child allowances and unemployment benefits. Those receiving temporary protection after that date would have access to a one-time, four-month lump-sum allowance before transitioning to the said benefits. According to UNHCR, findings from the several assessments conducted in the past years⁸² reveal persistent housing challenges, underscoring the

⁷⁸ UNHCR, DSU, Recommendations for Sustainable Accommodation Centers in Romania, 21 March 2025, available [here](#).

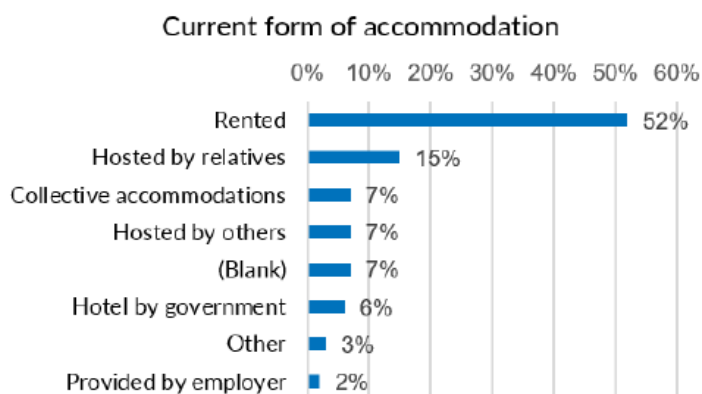
⁷⁹ Idem.

⁸⁰ UNHCR, DSU, Recommendations for Sustainable Accommodation Centers in Romania, 21 March 2025, available [here](#).

⁸¹ Dopomoha.ro, available at: <https://bit.ly/4aO3Tzp>.

⁸² UNHCR, 2023 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA), 31 March 2024, available [here](#), 2024 Social and Economic Insights Survey (SEIS), 24 February 2025, available [here](#).

growing financial strain and increased reliance on collective centres. 4% of refugees lived in collective centres in 2023, and 3% in 2024. A marked change occurred in refugees' ability to cover housing costs. In 2023, 78% could manage rent and utilities though many were benefiting from financial aid from NGOs or government programmes. However, by 2024, only 65% of households could pay these expenses on time, with 33% facing significant financial difficulties, leading to delays in housing or utility payments. Additionally, 18% of refugees found these payments quite challenging, reflecting a deteriorating economic situation and suggesting a potential increase in demand for collective accommodation centres soon.



Source: UNHCR Protection Brief Romania, January 2024 – June 2024.

In 2024, several organizations noted the suspension or reduction of shelter services, including the closure of social rental accommodations and potential closure of accommodation centres. This reduction leaves many beneficiaries without safe and stable housing, forcing them to seek alternative, often substandard, living arrangements.⁸³ (APR24RRP) Collective accommodation sites operated by public authorities are in Bucharest, Arad, Galați, and Vâlcea hosting a total of around 450 refugees. Moreover, there are around 100 sites (hotels, leisure homes, and apartments) run by private entities country-wide (mostly in Constanța and Vâlcea, hosting around 4,900 refugees.⁸⁴

IGI-DAI is not entrusted with responsibilities regarding the provision of accommodation for beneficiaries of temporary protection.

Accommodation assistance remains a critical area of intervention for new arrivals but also for those facing challenges in becoming self-reliant, particularly more vulnerable refugees, such as persons with disabilities, elderly persons, and those living with chronic medical conditions.⁸⁵

In practice, several problems were encountered before the implementation of the new governmental mechanism, in June 2024:⁸⁶

- Beneficiaries who want to change their residential address on their temporary protection permit faced difficulties including the full address if they have a rental contract with a private company. Romanian law does not require companies to register their rental contracts with National Fiscal Agency ANAF.
- Vulnerable persons have reported struggling to find accommodation for rent due to the rising cost of rent and the difficulties securing employment; they were mostly dependent on assistance and cannot afford the costs of rent and utilities.

⁸³ UNHCR Refugee Response Plan Romania Chapter Programme Criticality Survey 2024 (January-June 2024), 7 August 2024, available [here](#).

⁸⁴ UNHCR, Regional Refugee Response Plan for the Ukraine Situation - Inter-Agency Operational Update: Romania, April 2024, available [here](#).

⁸⁵ UNHCR, Recommendations for Sustainable Accommodation Centers in Romania, 21 March 2025, available [here](#).

⁸⁶ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - June 2024, available [here](#).

After the entering in force of the new mechanism, other challenges have emerged:⁸⁷

- Limited availability of collective shelter spaces, ineligibility for the government assistance program, and the unwillingness of some landlords to rent to Ukrainians. Moreover, there are few accommodation options suitable for refugees requiring specialized support - such as persons with disabilities - as it remains unclear how many of the remaining collective centres will remain open until 31 March 2025.
- Technical difficulties were reported between November and 14 January with the digital platform used for applying for reimbursement of costs for collective centres hosting refugees accommodated prior to the issuance of Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024, despite the fact that the individuals' involved meet the vulnerability criteria.
- Delays in accessing lump sum payments to cover accommodation expenses, as the government has discontinued previous support programmes and has not yet disbursed payments under the new programme.
- Concerns regarding the availability of private accommodation, especially in winter months. Refugees from Ukraine who are no longer eligible under the Government Decision (GD) face significant challenges in securing rental housing. This is particularly difficult for large families, given the limited size of most available apartments.

Problems were also observed regarding the conditions of specific facilities used for accommodating Ukrainian refugees:⁸⁸

- People staying at the Edmond Nicolau refugee transit centre in Bucharest were temporarily moved to the UTCB – Tei transit centre due to a bedbug infestation in March.
- Following a fire on 27 September, in which a refugee accommodation facility in Bucharest (Lacul Morii) was damaged and affected 26 refugees (including 12 children) from Ukraine, they were temporarily hosted at the UBC 22 Centre.
- UTCB dormitory in Bucharest was closed on 31 October and alternative accommodation solutions were considered for the 105 refugees from Ukraine hosted there. Families were relocated to new locations, including to other collective centres in Bucharest (Edmond Centre) and Iași (Nicolina Centre), and to apartments supported through a cash for rent program from FONSS, while 15 refugees delayed in evaluating their options.
- 58 refugee families from Ukraine accommodated at the Edmond Nicolau centre were no longer eligible for accommodation assistance according to the Government Decision no. 1178/2024; they were provided extra financial support, while single adults were relocated to DGASMB's centre in Pallady.

E. Employment and education

1. Access to the labour market

Starting from March 2022,⁸⁹ Ukrainian citizens⁹⁰ who do not have documents proving their professional qualification or experience wishing to work in Romania do not require a work permit. They had to provide an affidavit of their professional qualification and experience and that they do not have a criminal record that is incompatible with the activity they carry out or are going to carry out in Romania.⁹¹

⁸⁷ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update – July-December 2024

⁸⁸ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update – January-December 2024.

⁸⁹ Emergency Ordinance no. 20 of 07 March 2022. on the amendment and completion of certain normative acts, as well as for the establishment of humanitarian support and assistance measures (art. VI).

⁹⁰ The Emergency Ordinance no. 20/2022 was adopted on 7 March 2022 before the TP Decree (Government Decision No. 367/2022 on Temporary Protection, adopted on 18 March 2022) thus it refers to Ukrainian citizens coming from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine, and not to TP holders. However, the renewed legislation adopted on 28 June 2024 (Emergency Ordinance no. 96/2024) is maintaining the exclusive reference to Ukrainian citizens, and not to all TP holders.

⁹¹ Art. 19 para. (3) Emergency Ordinance no. 96/2024.

The Government motivated⁹² the proposal considering it was imperative to adopt urgent and exceptional measures to simplify the way of requesting and granting support measures for the social integration of Ukrainian citizens who had found shelter in the territory of Romania, by creating the necessary framework for them to be able to secure a source of income from their usual work.

According to the procedures, they had to register with the territorial agencies for employment and had the right to be employed under the same conditions as Romanian citizens.

The initial period of application of simplified conditions for employment for Ukrainian citizens was of 12 months, with the possibility of extension, for periods of 6 months, for a maximum of one year (until 7 March 2024). These provisions were suspended between 10 March 2024 (expiration of Order 301/2022⁹³) and 20 September 2024 (entry into force of Order 1938/2024⁹⁴).

The provision mentioned before does not apply to Ukrainian citizens, who wish to access or practice in Romania, independently or as an employee, the professions of doctor, dentist, pharmacist, general medical assistant, midwife, veterinarian and architect,⁹⁵ nor to asylum-seekers⁹⁶.

Access to the labour market is guaranteed under the conditions provided by law for Romanian citizens, although temporary protection beneficiaries cannot be employed in jobs that require Romanian citizenship, of an EU Member State, or in public institutions with attributions and responsibilities in national security sector.

TP holders have the right to work to be employed by natural or legal persons, to carry out independent activities, respecting the rules applicable to the profession, as well as activities such as educational opportunities for adults, vocational training and practical work experience.⁹⁷ TP holders documenting their professional qualification or experience in the activity necessary for employment are subject to the Labor Code.⁹⁸ In cases where professional qualification or experience in the activity necessary for employment cannot be justified with required documents, they can be providing a mere affidavit of their professional qualification and experience and that they do not have a criminal record that is incompatible with the activity they carry out or are going to carry out in Romania.⁹⁹

All foreigners who have acquired a form of protection in Romania are exempted from the obligation to obtain an employment permit for employment on the territory of Romania.¹⁰⁰

In 2024, 3,253 Ukrainian citizens were reportedly registered by the local Employment Agencies benefiting from information, professional counselling and labour mediation services (out a total of 23,941), while 3,256 were employed. 732 companies declared jobs available for Ukrainian citizens mainly as unskilled workers.

⁹² Explanatory Note to Government Emergency Ordinance No. 20/2022 on the amendment and completion of certain normative acts, as well as for the establishment of humanitarian support and assistance measures, available only in Romanian [here](#)

⁹³ Order of the Ministry of Labor and Social Solidarity No. 301 of March 9, 2022 on the approval of the Procedure for the employment of Ukrainian citizens coming from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine, in force starting with 10 March 2022.

⁹⁴ Order of the Ministry of Labor and Social Solidarity No. 1,938 of July 30, 2024 on the approval of the Procedure for the employment of Ukrainian citizens coming from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine, in force starting with 20 September 2024

⁹⁵ Art. 19 para. (6) Emergency Ordinance 96/2024.

⁹⁶ Art. VI 1 of Emergency Ordinance no. 20/2022.

⁹⁷ Article 133 (c) of Law no.122/2006 on asylum in Romania

⁹⁸ Law no.53/2003 on the Labor Code, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions, other normative acts regulating aspects related to the exercise of certain professions.

⁹⁹ Art. VI paragraph (3) of Government Emergency Ordinance no. 20/2022, which are generally addressed to the category of Ukrainian citizens coming from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine, therefore, implicitly to the beneficiaries of temporary protection through the effect of the application of Decision (EU) 2022/382.

¹⁰⁰ According to art.3 paragraph (2) letter j) of Government Ordinance no. 25/2014 on the employment and posting of foreigners on the territory of Romania and for the amendment and completion of certain normative acts regarding the regime of foreigners in Romania. This also includes temporary protection according to art.22 of Law no. 122/2006

The fields of activity with the most registered employment contracts were: manufacturing (1,191), construction (982), trade (812), hotels and restaurants (673), information and communications (580), administrative and other support service activities (455), transportation and storage (339), other service activities (332) and professional, scientific and technical activities (282).¹⁰¹

According to data from the Labour Inspectorate, at the end of May 2024 there are 7,327 Ukrainians formally employed in Romania with 2,658 different employers. The cities where most people are employed include Bucharest (3,168 employees), Maramureş (430), Timiş (381), Constanţa (328), Cluj (312), Braşov (284), Iaşi (199) and Suceava (174). The main sectors of employment are construction, manufacturing, restaurant/service, and the IT industry.¹⁰²

UNHCR is working together with the National Employment Agency (ANOFM) and partner NGOs to promote the socio-economic inclusion and self-reliance of refugees through language courses, employment counselling, employers' engagement and by organizing job fairs and workshops. During 2024, UNHCR supported refugees from Ukraine with the following services:¹⁰³

- 1,783 refugees were supported with Romanian language courses;
- 7,503 refugees were supported with employment assistance/coaching/counselling;
- 28,857 refugees enrolled in employment services or other similar platforms with ANOFM and partners;
- 2 national job fairs organised by ANOFM with refugee participation through partner NGOs; and
- 7 regional/local events organised by or in collaboration with Chambers of Commerce (e.g. Chamber of Commerce and Industry Iaşi, Romanian Diversity Chamber of Commerce) for strategic employer engagement.

UNHCR Protection Profiling and Monitoring data from 2024 revealed that 27% of respondents declared that they are unemployed, whereas employment was identified as the 4th most urgent need by 23% of respondents.¹⁰⁴ Out of those employed, 12% declared not to have signed a regular contract, 31% indicated to be working excessively long hours, and 4% declared that the payments they receive are irregular, pointing towards occasional abusive or exploitative practices which need to be addressed. In terms of the main barriers to accessing employment, the language barrier is the most cited reason by those who stated they are unemployed (60%), followed by the lack of opportunities (30%) and challenges related to education/skills recognition (7%).

Comparing the type of activity respondents were engaged in before and after displacement, it is worth highlighting the significant difference between those who declare they were employed or self-employed in Ukraine (52% and 11%) and those who declare they are currently employed in Romania (18%) or employed remotely (11%). As such, there is a significant share of refugees who are currently unemployed but have previous work experience from Ukraine, who are likely to benefit from support to re-enter the labour market, which points to a potential difference of expectations in terms of labour market inclusion and a reluctance to accept lower skilled jobs.¹⁰⁵

World Vision highlighted that the language barrier remains a key challenge faced by refugee job seekers in Romania, and that there is still a strong demand for Romanian language courses. Moreover, many single-parent job seekers need accessible and affordable day-care options and part-time job opportunities.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰¹ Romanian Government, Report on the Integration of Ukrainian Refugees in Romania (covering 24.02.2022 – 31.12.2024), available [here](#).

¹⁰² UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - June 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁰³ UNHCR Romania _Ukraine Refugee Situation Annual Overview 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁰⁴ UNHCR, Protection Profiling and Monitoring results Jan. – June 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁰⁵ UNHCR, Protection Brief Romania Operation Jan - Jun 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁰⁶ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - June 2024, 31 July 2024, available [here](#).

2. Access to education

The Asylum Act prescribes that beneficiaries of temporary protection have the right to have access to the state education system under the conditions provided by law for Romanian citizens, in the case of beneficiaries of temporary protection who have not reached the age of 18.¹⁰⁷

The Emergency Ordinance 96/2024 further expands on the right to education providing that minor children fleeing Ukraine have the right to education in educational institutions in Romania under the same conditions and with funding from the same budgets as for Romanian pre-schoolers and school-aged children, similarly to the previous regulations (GEO 15/2022). Using the notion of “audient/listener”, the GEO 96/2024 provides that they have the right to free accommodation in boarding schools, food allowance, the right to receive school supplies, clothing, footwear, textbooks, as well as scholarships.¹⁰⁸ However, there are inconsistent practices in the counties where partners operate regarding the acceptance of applications for social scholarships for attending audients. Audients’ access to social scholarships requires further clarification, as currently only students are entitled to receive scholarships¹⁰⁹. Some educational institutions rejected scholarship applications because the methodology and Ministerial Order does not include the audient category, only children with full pupil status, while Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024 grants the audients’ right to apply if they fulfil the requisite conditions.¹¹⁰

As of 30 June 2024, out of 48,767 children beneficiaries of temporary protection aged between 0-18 years old, 47,519 (97.44%) were enrolled as students or pupils in preschool, primary, or secondary education systems.¹¹¹ Despite the reform introduced by the Government in April 2023 - making it mandatory for refugee children to enrol in Romanian schools or in informal education services available locally, in order to qualify for social benefits under the temporary protection scheme - , it was estimated that only one in four school-aged refugee children were fully enrolled as pupils in Romanian schools and enjoying the same benefits as their Romanian peers. Overall, a significant proportion of children have started to attend Romanian schools, at least on an occasional basis and are participating in education hubs, online learning, and language courses in parallel, at least until they can master adequate Romanian language skills to engage in Romanian schools.¹¹²

A significant proportion of children attended school only from time to time and participating in education hubs, online learning, and language courses in parallel, at least until they could improve their Romanian language skills to the level necessary to engage meaningfully in Romanian schools, with Romanian language as main language of instruction. In the same time, 73 education hubs providing alternative or complementary learning opportunities were officially registered with the Ministry of Education. They provided learning support including remedial learning or learning continuity following the Ukrainian curriculum - to an additional 9,741 children as of February 2024.¹¹³

¹⁰⁷ Art.133 para. 1 g) Asylum Act.

¹⁰⁸ Art.8 para. (6) a) and b) GEO 96/2024.




¹⁰⁹ Despite of the legal provision allowing audients to get scholarships similarly to students (at the proposal of the Ministry of Education), in practice this is not possible due to administrative issues. Registration for scholarships should be done solely in a national database [SIIIR](#) (Integrated Registration System of Education in Romania), while this system does not properly include audients for accessing scholarships as it is meant to be used only for students.

¹¹⁰ Regional Refugee Response for Ukraine Situation, Inter-Agency Operational Update, September 2024, available [here](#).

¹¹¹ Report on the integration of Ukrainian refugees in Romania Period: 24 February 2022 – 30 June 2024, available [here](#).

¹¹² Regional Refugee Response for Ukraine Situation, Inter-Agency Operational Update, September 2024, available [here](#).

¹¹³ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update Romania - February 2024, available [here](#).

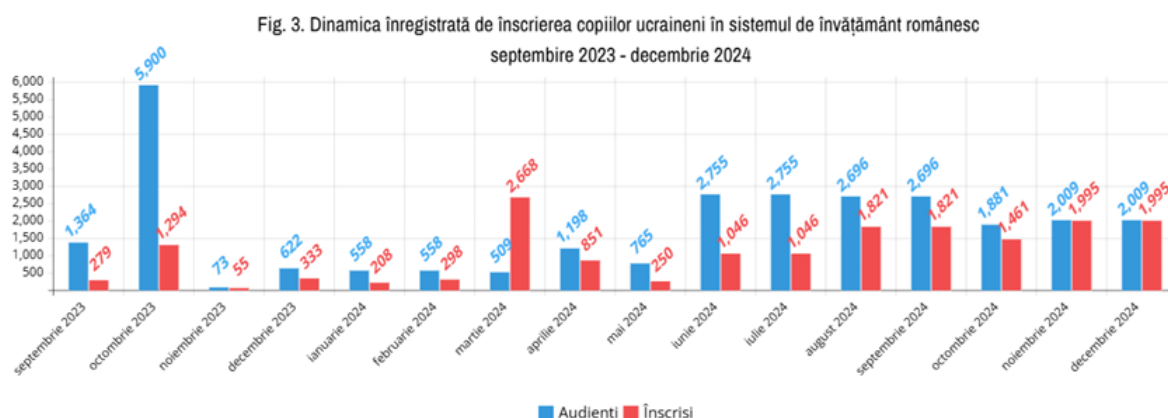
	Ukrainian children enrolled as audients 24.02.2022-30.06.2024	Ukrainian children enrolled as pupils 24.02.2022-30.06.2024	Total
 Preschool education	12,371	5,874	18,245
 Primary education	9,074	2,702	11,776
 Secondary education	11,254	6,244	17,498
TO T A L	32,699	14,820	47,519

Source: Chancellery of the Prime Minister.

As of September 2024, there were 3,801 Ukrainian children enrolled in the Romanian education system; out of them, 2,696 were audients and 1,821 were enrolled as students.¹¹⁴ The figures show a drop compared with the end of the 2023/2024 academic year. This is mainly related to a change in the system used to count the number of people enrolled, going from counting the number of applications registered to the actual number students attending classes. Enrolment and repartition in the new academic year encountered delays in processing enrolment requests and distributing children to schools.¹¹⁵

On 30 October, a new methodology for the equivalence of study periods completed abroad was adopted. It does not cover holders of temporary protection, but only those who requested or received a form of international protection, along with Romanian, EU, EEA and Swiss citizens. The new methodology lists elements of the evaluation procedure including the status of the educational institution, the form of education, the level and duration of the studies, the learning outcomes and skills acquired. In addition to education, the equivalence certificate is recognised employment in the labour market and enrolment in professional training courses.¹¹⁶

The evolution of enrolment of Ukrainian children in Romanian education system (audients/listeners and students, respectively) was presented by the authorities:



Source: Chancellery of the Prime Minister.

Before enrolment, the state of health of children is examined in the educational facility and they are issued a medical document. If they are not vaccinated, they can benefit from the vaccination scheme according to the National Vaccination Program carried out by the Ministry of Health.

¹¹⁴ Report on the integration of Ukrainian refugees in Romania Period: 24 February 2022 – 30 September 2024, available [here](#).

¹¹⁵ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - October 2024, available [here](#).

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

The GEO 96/2024 provides that after acquiring the status of observers, children with mobility impairments have the right to education or with chronic diseases in complex medical assistance units.¹¹⁷

Beneficiaries of temporary protection may participate in free vocational training courses¹¹⁸ organised by the National Employment Agency (ANOFM), if they are registered with one of the territorial employment agencies. Registration at the county employment agencies is done on the basis of the identity card, passport or any other document that certifies their identity.¹¹⁹

In the academic years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, Ukrainian nationals could benefit from funding from the state budget or other sources, through the Ministry of Education and, respectively, higher education institutions.¹²⁰ This was not further extended by the new Order 4.262/2024.¹²¹

Several needs and gaps were reported by the Inter Agency and the Working Group on Education as affecting proper integration as related to education:¹²²

- Most Ukrainian refugee children are now enrolled in Romanian schools while many continue their studies in the Ukrainian education system in parallel, including through online and home-schooling arrangements, or in education hubs. Significant language barriers remain, with still too limited opportunities to access remedial Romanian language courses and adequate learning support materials in schools, which hinder children's effective participation at school.
- Romanian language courses for both children and adults remain critical to ensure social integration and smooth transition to the national education system. Their provision needs to be accelerated and sustained throughout the school year in coordination with county school inspectorates.
- Several communities and schools continue to express the need to assign school/cultural mediators (Ukrainian speaking educators who can facilitate communication with parents, children, and teachers) in schools to support the effective integration of Ukrainian refugee children in Romanian schools helping school communities improve social cohesion.
- Ukrainian refugee children, and youths in particular, have limited opportunities to engage with their Romanian peers, despite this being necessary to promote social cohesion and effective integration.
- There is still a shortage of places in crèches and kindergartens, particularly full-day places in major cities, and in rural areas, where there are fewer kindergartens and no education hubs. This also affects job-seeking parents who cannot leave their children unattended.
- Reports indicate varied experiences, reflecting heterogeneous capacities among Romanian teachers. This highlights the need for enhanced teacher training, support, and supervision to ensure the effective integration of Ukrainian refugee children - particularly those enrolled as audients.
- Funding became a serious problem, as alternatives to education were affected and there were increasing concerns on the actual capacity of the Romanian education system to fully absorb and meet the educational needs of thousands of children who are enrolled with a transitional status of audient, or those who still largely rely on education hubs, or online learning.
- During the summer vacations, informal educational activities such as summer camps are needed to keep children connected, to further build and maintain social cohesion, and to support working parents.

F. Social welfare

Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024 introduced a new mechanism of financial support system for Ukrainian citizens with temporary protection in Romania, based on ensuring access to the social protection system for Ukrainian refugees registered for more than three months in Romania and to an emergency assistance system for Ukrainian refugees registered for less than three months.

¹¹⁷ Art. 8 para. (6) b) GEO 96/2024.

¹¹⁸ Art 133 para. (1) c) Asylum Act.

¹¹⁹ Romanian Government, Work in Romania, available in Romanian and Ukrainian at: <https://bit.ly/3lJLA3q>.

¹²⁰ Art. 10 para. 4 of the Minister of Education Order no. 3325/2022.

¹²¹ Order 4.262/2024, available at: <https://bit.ly/45a8zhP>.

¹²² See monthly updates, available [here](#).

Assistance provided through the new mechanism is available only to newly arrived refugees within their first three months in Romania, if they received temporary protection after 1 July, as well as previous beneficiaries identified as belonging to a vulnerable categories and residents of collective centres. In addition, those assisted under the previous program may continue to have access to some social benefits. New beneficiaries can access a lump-sum payment for accommodation and at the end of a maximum of three months can apply to social benefits. However, inconsistent practices in the application process for social benefits following the adoption of Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024 were reported; difficulties in accessing child allowance and Minimum Inclusion Income with a declared address on the temporary protection permit were a particular concern.¹²³ An information package material¹²⁴ on rights to social benefits, employment, healthcare, unemployment benefits, and education was developed for wider dissemination to potential beneficiaries, with prior review by the relevant ministries to ensure accurate and consistent information is provided to refugees by both governmental and civil society. Previously, according to a JRS representative, the state child allowance is not granted to Ukrainian children because the Temporary Protection document issued does not include their area of residency. As for other social welfare they have to prove that they are not receiving the respective benefits in the country of origin.

Access to free of charge social welfare is ensured for persons with disabilities accompanied or unaccompanied, elderly persons who come from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine. The persons accompanying them also benefit from social services under the same conditions.¹²⁵ According to an Inter-Agency Operational report, one of the most pressing gaps is the limited availability of services for refugee children with disabilities and special needs. Children with disabilities have been further referred by government authorities to third party social services providers (NGOs) due to limited capacity of state authorities, mainly DGASPC.¹²⁶ In September, the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ANPDPD) adopted the Order No. 896/2024 on the approval of the procedure for providing social services for adult persons with disabilities, accompanied or unaccompanied, who entered Romania from the armed conflict zone in Ukraine. In order to have access to the specific rights, including access to social services, adult people with disabilities are obliged to register with the general directorates of social assistance and child protection of the counties, respectively of the sectors of the municipality of Bucharest. The companions of adult people with disabilities benefit from social services free of charge together with them and are mainly provided with activities of hosting, food, health assistance, information and social assistance and, where appropriate, psychological counselling. In November, the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity and Ministry of Health published for public discussion under transparency procedures the Draft Common Order for approving the medical-psychosocial criteria for determining the degree of disability of adults with disabilities coming from Ukraine. Following the advocacy efforts made by FONSS and UNHCR,¹²⁷ the authorities agreed to remove from - the draft the provisions requiring official translations and legalizations of different documents. In any case, the Order has yet been adopted.

Local public administration authorities may hire, without competition, social workers or other specialised personnel, as appropriate, within the public social assistance services at local and county level and within the social services in which there are beneficiaries who come from the armed conflict area of Ukraine, depending on their needs, for a specific period of not more than 3 years.¹²⁸ However, this was not implemented in practice, inter alia due to the constraints in hiring people with public institutions.

Public providers of social services, accredited under the law, can set up day care and public and private residential centres for adults with disabilities coming from Ukraine, depending on their needs, for a

¹²³ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update Romania - November 2024, available [here](#).

¹²⁴ The package was published on the official governmental website, available [here](#).

¹²⁵ Art. 21 of the Government Emergency Ordinance 96/2024.

¹²⁶ UNHCR, Regional Refugee Response for the Ukraine Situation, Inter-Agency Operational Update, March 2023.

¹²⁷ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Update Romania - November 2024, available [here](#).

¹²⁸ Art. 22 of the Government Emergency Ordinance 96/2024.

determined period, but not more than 3 years. These social services may be established in an urgent manner.¹²⁹

There were prolonged delays in receiving financial assistance from the government assistance program under Governmental Decision no. 368/2023. This made the transition to independent living very difficult for Ukrainian refugees residing in collective centres. Further challenges arose due to delays in the reimbursement payment to Romanian hosts through the previous 50/20 programme, creating tensions between the former hosts and Ukrainian refugees.

In February, the Government of Romania adopted a new memorandum to effect retroactive payments related to the assistance programme to refugees from Ukraine adopted in May 2023; it established the provision of funds to all eligible individuals registered in the national assistance programme for refugees from Ukraine, covering the months that were pending payment. Meanwhile, on 28 March, the Government of Romania extended its cash assistance for refugees from Ukraine for a further three months until the end of June 2024. Through this programme, which replaced the so-called “50/20 programme” in April 2023, the Government provided RON 2,000 (USD 435) per family per month to cover accommodation costs and additional RON 600 (USD 130) per person per month for food expenses for eligible refugees from Ukraine, notably those on the path towards inclusion and certain vulnerable categories. The first payments of the Romanian government’s assistance programme to Ukrainian refugees started to be provided in Baia Mare and Ploiești,¹³⁰ with a delay of almost eight months.

Another legislative delay occurred with the adoption in September of Decision No. 1,178/2024, which came three months after the issuance of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 96/2024 at the end of June. This decision established the amount, conditions, and mechanism for granting lump-sum payments. Notably, the new mechanism explicitly provides the possibility to contest decisions regarding the allocation of these payments. According to data provided by the National Payment Agency, in September, at the national level, 1,117 children received child allowances, 393 unaccompanied minors received allowances under the special placement measure, 120 individuals with disabilities received support, and 2 persons received the Minimum Inclusion Income.¹³¹

Refugees from Ukraine faced difficulties accessing social protection schemes in Romania. There were individual cases reported which had initially received child allowance and have been approached by local payment agencies to return the money. In these cases, the local payment agencies referred to the Ministry of Labour and a point of view expressed by the Ministry in May 2022, according to which beneficiaries of temporary protection are not eligible to receive those social benefits. There were also many requests for help with filing appeals against rejections of applications for the allowances because the legislation is not adapted to particular situations.¹³²

Complementarily to the financial support provided under various governmental schemes, cash assistance programmes were provided by various non-state entities, acting as a transitional safety net while they secure employment or access national social protection schemes. Within the cash programme, UNHCR used the inter-agency vulnerability scorecard to identify the most vulnerable refugees from Ukraine and help them in avoiding negative coping mechanisms, such as skipping payment of rent or debt, taking loans, preventing a child from going to school, as well as potential GBV and exploitation risks. Since January 2024, vulnerable Ukrainian families and individuals have been enrolled through centres and mobile missions across 13 counties in Romania, with 15,454 individuals receiving cash assistance through different cash programmes. UNHCR started also a cash for winter programme for vulnerable refugees to help them cope with the increased seasonal expenses. To prevent aid duplication, recipients

¹²⁹ Art. 24(4) of the Government Emergency Ordinance 96/2024.

¹³⁰ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, February 2024, available [here](#).

¹³¹ Answer of the Ministry of Labor and Social Solidarity before the Parliament, 5 November, available [here](#).

¹³² UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, March 2024, available [here](#).

were cross-checked with other organizations providing cash assistance and neighbouring UNHCR operations.¹³³

Since 2022, in support of the national response to the Ukrainian crisis, UNHCR has worked with UN agencies, authorities and partners to provide free services to refugees at the RomExpo Integrated Service Hub in Bucharest and regional multi-purpose hubs in Braşov, Constanţa and Galaţi as well as cash enrolment centres in Iaşi and Suceava. These hubs serve as one-stop-shops allowing for refugees from Ukraine to receive critical services and support in one place. As cash assistance remains one of the most effective ways to support the most vulnerable, UNHCR continues to prioritize cash programmes as a vital protection intervention. In 2024, some 17,413 refugees were enrolled for cash assistance in Romania, with the large majority enrolled at RomExpo. In addition, at RomExpo, refugees can access essential services including employment and integration support, legal counselling, information on access to education, referrals to doctors and pre/post-natal assistance or other specialized services. Many of the hubs also host child and family-friendly spaces and on-site mental health and psychosocial support is provided in some locations. The one-stop-shops also offer space for national NGOs and refugee-led organisations to conduct occasional activities, including training, awareness-raising events, and other community-focused activities. Importantly, at RomExpo the General Inspectorate for Immigration, with EUAA support, registers refugees from Ukraine for temporary protection status, in what has become the main point of registration in the country, with some 52,500 refugees registering there since the end of March 2022.¹³⁴

On 20 December, the Municipality's donation centre in Romexpo with partners and community members was closed. In the nearly three years since its opening, the centre provided critical assistance, including food packages, NFIs, vouchers, and social assistance, to almost 500,000 refugees since the start of full-scale invasion of Ukraine.¹³⁵

G. Health care

Foreign nationals or stateless persons coming from the area of armed conflict in Ukraine benefit from medical services, medical supplies, medicines, medical devices and medical services included in the national curative health programmes, like Romanian citizens who are insured, without paying contributions to the social health insurance system, the personal contribution for the medicines granted in the outpatient treatment and with exemption from co-payment. Medical services in specialised outpatient healthcare are provided without the need to present a referral from the doctor (a form used in the social health insurance system).¹³⁶

Although efforts have been made to improve access, 27% of refugee households in need of healthcare reportedly still face difficulties. Barriers such as long waiting times, high costs, language issues, administrative challenges disproportionately affect refugees with chronic diseases or disabilities disproportionately.¹³⁷

Refugees' access to healthcare and medicine is hindered due to lack of family doctors, language barriers, lack of awareness about refugee rights, and issues related to the health information system. Some refugees also reported being denied medication by pharmacies, despite having prescriptions from Romanian specialist and family doctors. An existing disagreement between the national health insurance system (CNAS) and medical service providers regarding the timely reimbursement of funds, accompanied

¹³³ UNHCR .Romania _Ukraine Refugee Situation Annual Overview 2024, available [here](#).

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Romania Update - December 2024, available [here](#).

¹³⁶ Article 1 para.(1) d) and article 1 para. (4) Decree 15/2022, see: <https://bit.ly/3O0MTBY>.

¹³⁷ UNHCR, Ukraine Situation Regional Refugee Response Plan January 2025 - December 2026, available [here](#).

by more systemic gaps in the national health system, aggravates the access of Ukrainian refugees to essential health services and consultations.¹³⁸

The UNHCR Programme Criticality Survey 2024 mentioned as key issues in the health sector:¹³⁹

- Suspension of essential health services, including vaccinations and general medical care; organizations are unable to continue providing essential medical services, including vaccinations and general medical care, due to funding shortfalls. This reduction in services increases health risks among refugees.
- Reduced accompaniment to family doctor registration.
- Inability to hold information sessions on sexual and reproductive health, lack of translation services, lack of access to contraceptive methods and disability inclusion within Sexual and Reproductive Health services.

Moreover, ensuring equitable access to healthcare services for all, including those with disabilities should be strictly observed noticing an urgent need for comprehensive care and social support for disabled patients, along with unhindered access to cost-free or refunded treatments, contingent on availability,¹⁴⁰ while Ukrainian refugee children have limited access to medical care and specialised psychological care.¹⁴¹

Language barriers represent the single biggest barrier to healthcare access for Ukrainians living in Romania, limiting their ability to explain health issues to Romanian providers, request necessary care or provide consent for medical procedures. Language barriers have frequently been cited as the main reason for medical providers not treating refugees.¹⁴² Significant information gaps remain for refugees seeking healthcare services which reduces their ability to navigate the health system and access care. These information gaps range from confusion regarding health entitlements, to limited understanding of how to enter the national health system. WHO cultural mediators provided information on healthcare rights and services, accompanied refugees to medical appointments and directly scheduled specialist appointments.¹⁴³

It was also reported that access to the Romanian healthcare system through registration with a family doctor is still a need, since 2022. In 2023, family doctors were reportedly unable to get reimbursed by National Health Insurance House for all the services they have provided to children and adults and those who had previously agreed to take on refugee patients have started to report overwhelming amounts of work, which has made them gradually refuse new registrations.¹⁴⁴ Access to primary care remains a priority for Ukrainian refugees. To facilitate access, WHO Romania provided financial and administrative support to selected family medicine clinics in Bucharest, Brasov, Suceava and Galati, incentivizing their engagement in the refugee healthcare program,¹⁴⁵ while In January and February 2024, WHO county coordinators mapped over 100 refugee-inclusive family doctors and other service providers across Constanța, Sibiu, Cluj, Galați, Iași, and Suceava.

From May to July 2024, the National Health Insurance House system for registering Ukrainians has not been accessible; the inability of family doctors to use the system to register consultations with TP holders greatly hindered the provision of health services to refugees, while in May 2024, WHO has sent a letter to the national health insurance service to flag the issue.¹⁴⁶ The Independent Midwives' Association found that refugees are unable to register for appointments and that more than 200 are on a waiting list until the system comes back online. It also found that more than 300 refugees, including vulnerable persons and/or chronic diseases, are in need of medical care¹⁴⁷. On 9 July 2024, the director of the National Health

¹³⁸ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, January 2024, available [here](#).

¹³⁹ UNHCR, Programme Criticality Survey 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁴⁰ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, February 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁴¹ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, April 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, January 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁴⁴ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, March 2023, available [here](#).

¹⁴⁵ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, January 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁴⁶ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Updates, May 2024 available [here](#).

¹⁴⁷ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Updates, June 2024, available [here](#)

Insurance House, Dr. Valeria Herdea, confirmed that the platform for registering Ukrainian refugees was again functional, following an extensive update and testing. More than 200 Ukrainians had been (re)registered on the system by the end of July, greatly enhancing the Ukrainians' access to free-of-charge primary health services.¹⁴⁸

Following the implementation of Governmental Decision 505/2024, there were reports on challenges related to registering on the platform when the insured person presents two different documents to access health services such as when a refugee has requested a new temporary protection permit.¹⁴⁹ At the same time, WHO cultural mediators in Bucharest report that the registration status of some Ukrainian refugees continues to be invalidated on the national health insurance platform preventing them from receiving essential primary healthcare services and required medications.¹⁵⁰

The integration measures taken for TP beneficiaries are not covered within the general legal framework for integration of beneficiaries of international protection or other foreigners with the legal rights to stay in Romania.¹⁵¹ The Ordinance 44/2004 on integration leaves no room further extensions and covers only two categories of foreigners who have acquired:

- international protection in Romania, including foreigners who have been granted refugee status or subsidiary protection, under the terms of Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania;¹⁵²
- a right of residence in Romania, including foreign citizens or stateless persons who have been granted the right to remain on the territory of Romania under the terms provided for by Government Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the legal regime of aliens in Romania¹⁵³, as well as under the terms provided for by Government Emergency Ordinance no. 102/2005.¹⁵⁴

Given that TP beneficiaries are not included in the international protection regime in Romania and their status is solely regulated by Law no. 122/2006, they do not fall under the regular integration framework (integration programmes etc.). In the case the solution was to set up a completely new regulation related to their integration by adopting the National Plan of Measures on the Protection and Inclusion of Displaced Persons from Ukraine, Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in Romania in June 2022¹⁵⁵ and other legislative acts aiming to provide various forms of support, taking into account Romania's willingness to find solutions for the integration of Ukrainian citizens who have sought refuge in Romania since the outbreak of the armed conflict and the concern to continue supporting the efforts to provide humanitarian support and assistance to this vulnerable category¹⁵⁶. The plan of measures shall be implemented for the duration of the temporary protection measure established by TPD 2022/382 and provides for targeted measures for the integration of displaced persons from Ukraine, beneficiaries of TP in Romania.

¹⁴⁸ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Updates, June 2024, available [here](#)

¹⁴⁹ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, November 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁵⁰ UNHCR, Inter-Agency Operational Update, January 2024, available [here](#).

¹⁵¹ Governmental Ordinance no. 44/2004

¹⁵² Law no. 122/2006 on asylum in Romania, available only in Romanian [here](#)

¹⁵³ Emergency Ordinance no. 194/2002 on the legal regime of foreigners in Romania, available only in Romanian [here](#).

¹⁵⁴ Emergency Ordinance no. 102 of 14 July 2005 on the free movement on the territory of Romania of citizens of the Member States of the European Union, the European Economic Area and citizens of the Swiss Confederation, available only in Romanian [here](#).

¹⁵⁵ Emergency Ordinance no. 100/2022 for the approval and implementation of the National Plan of Measures on the Protection and Inclusion of Displaced Persons from Ukraine, Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in Romania, available only in Romanian [here](#).

¹⁵⁶ Emergency Ordinance no. 96/2024 regarding the provision of humanitarian support and assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations, coming from the area of armed conflict in Ukraine, available only in Romanian [here](#).