

Hungary

February 2023

UNHCR works **in complement to Hungarian government efforts**, to support people arriving from Ukraine, while maintaining collaborations with state entities and local authorities.

UNHCR leads the coordination of the Refugee Response Plan, strengthening its **engagement and capacity-building with refugee communities**, civil society, faith-based, and refugee-led organizations.

UNHCR continues advocacy towards a **more inclusive and internationally mandated protection environment** for all persons we serve, and provides technical expertise to relevant actors.

UNHCR POPULATION STATISTICS AS OF MID-2022*

Refugees	31,510
Asylum-seekers	20
Stateless persons	130

Top three countries of origin*

Refugees		Asylum-seekers	
Ukraine	25,982	Afghanistan	5
Afghanistan	1,451	Russian Federation	5
Syrian Arab Rep.	826	Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	5

*UNHCR 2022 Mid-Year Trends and UNHCR [data finder](#)

UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION RESPONSE

As of mid-February, some **34,200 refugees from Ukraine** had been registered in Hungary.

Protection assistance: Over 56,000 refugees received protection support (integration, legal support, social protection, accommodation, MHPSS counseling, etc.) since the outbreak of the war.

7,517 essential items, such as coats, hygiene kits and blankets, were provided by UNHCR to newly arrived refugees from Ukraine.

Cash assistance: UNHCR partners Hungarian Baptist Aid and Hungarian Charity of the Order of Malta distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 2,800 individuals (for a total amount of USD 416,000) as part of their winter-assistance.

Coordination: UNHCR leads the Refugee Coordination Forum aiming towards a harmonized response among government structures, inter-agency partners, NGOs, volunteers and other stakeholders. Coordination is done through Protection and Basic Needs working/sub-working groups, in addition to the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) cross-cutting task forces.

HIGHLIGHTS

2,600 refugees supported at Budapest Helps! Community Center

UNHCR facilitated access to information, legal and social inclusion assistance, with IOM support since September 2022.

Legal assistance

was extended to 5,000 refugees by UNHCR partner organizations Hungarian Helsinki Committee and Menedek since September 2022.

Winter-related assistance

in form of coats, hats, gloves and socks, blankets and hygiene kits was distributed to 3,340 refugees.

1,765 Telegram subscribers

receive key information on legal status and protection services, and daily updates on integration-related support.



UKRAINIAN MOTHER FINDS SAFETY IN HUNGARY BUT ACHES FOR HOME

As the war in Ukraine reaches its 12-month mark, Liubov, a mother with a small daughter, speaks about her year as a refugee in Budapest. [Read more here.](#)

Key Priorities

- **Protection:** UNHCR strives to minimize protection risks faced by refugees, by supporting timely and person-centred access to protection, psychosocial support and other forms of assistance and information.
- **Community-based protection:** UNHCR and partners focus on responding to protection and inclusion challenges by providing social counselling, integration support, and organizing community-building events for refugees.
- **Asylum procedures:** Access to asylum remains a challenge in Hungary. UNHCR and partner organization Hungarian Helsinki Committee provide legal assistance for asylum-seekers and monitor the asylum procedure.
- **Advocacy:** UNHCR advocates for coherent refugee protection legislation, best interest procedures, and providing capacity-building to relevant institutions.
- **PSEA and GBV risk mitigation:** SEA and GBV risk mitigation continues to be mainstreamed across interventions including information and awareness-raising activities and training/capacity-building.

Working with Partners

- UNHCR has 11 active partnership agreements. **Cordelia Foundation** provides psychosocial counselling and mental health support. **Hungarian Baptist Aid** distributes food and NFIs, operates a Blue Dot, and provides accommodation and integration support. **Hungarian Charity of the Order of Malta** supports reception logistics, shelter, food and relief item distribution, operates a Blue Dot, and provides integration services. **Hungarian Helsinki Committee** offers assistance and legal support to refugees, including those in detention. **Hungarian Red Cross** provides dignified services in transitional housing, skills development, community

engagement, and restoring family links. **Mandak House** supports reception conditions, provides food and NFIs, social counselling and education and mentoring. **Menedék** offers counselling, language courses and social, educational and cultural programs, in addition to job and housing assistance. **Next Step** supports community-building, skills development, and empowerment of refugees. **Hungarian Reformed Church Aid** distributes food packages as immediate assistance. **Romaversitas** helps the educational and social integration of Romani refugee children. **ULE Association** supports refugees in accessing mid-to-long-term accommodation through solidarity housing and subsidized rents.

- **External engagement:** UNHCR continues its strategic engagement with key stakeholders by organizing regular donor briefings and donor missions, and by sharing regular updates via newsletter with the donor community. The media is actively informed via press releases, web stories and up-to-date external documents. Regular updates on online platforms (website, Twitter, Facebook, Telegram) support public awareness raising.

Statelessness

- Hungary is party to both Statelessness Conventions and has a statelessness determination procedure since 2007. With UNHCR's support, the status determination authority established an internal quality assurance mechanism.

UNHCR Presence in Hungary

Staff:

31 National Staff
20 International Staff

Offices:

1 Multi Country Office in Budapest supporting the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia

Financial information* (February 2023)

*Information relates to the Representation for Central Europe, which covers the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

Financial requirements

USD 51.1 M

Funding gap
74%
37.8 M



Funded
26%
13.3 M

UNHCR is grateful for the support from our top government donors of unearmarked, softly earmarked and earmarked funding:

Australia | Austria | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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