

Russian Federation

June 2024

Presence: The UN Refugee Agency has been working in the Russian Federation since 1992. It currently operates through a Country Office located in Moscow.

Legal Framework: The Russian Federation is party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. The national refugee law was adopted in 1993.

As of 31 March 2024, **247 refugees**, **15,378 temporary asylum status holders** and **1,694 asylum-seekers** were registered by the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) of the Russian Federation.

KEY FIGURES ON UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

1,212,585*

refugees and displaced persons from Donetsk, Luhansk and other regions of Ukraine recorded in Russia as of 30 June 2023

UNHCR missions in 2024: 13 missions carried out to 13 regions (Tatarstan, Bryansk, Vladimir, Rostov, Tver, North Ossetia-Alania, Kaluga, Krasnoyarsk, Novgorod, Arkhangelsk, Krasnodar, Penza and Chelyabinsk)

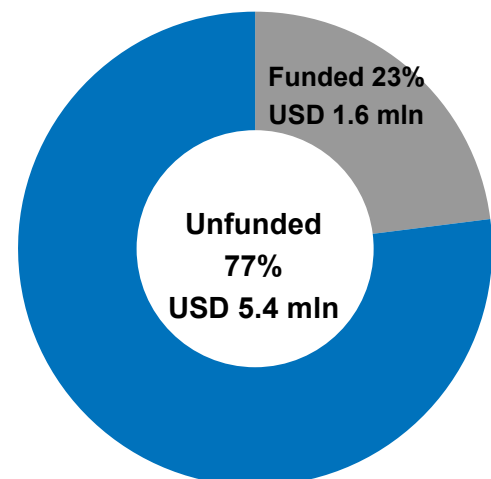
UNHCR and partners response in 2024:
22,487 refugees provided with information through telephone counselling/hotline of UNHCR and Partner NGOs
19,650 refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid
12,604 refugees received protection services in border regions (Kursk, Belgorod, Voronezh, Rostov)
6,771 refugees received protection services in other Russian regions (including Moscow and Saint Petersburg)

UNHCR missions from 2022-2024: 60 missions in 40 regions

FUNDING (AS OF 30 JUNE 2024)

USD 7.0 million

requested for the operation in Russia in 2024



Seminar for lawyers in Krasnoyarsk © UNHCR/Natalia Sinyukova



Dessert-making workshop for children at the Moscow Museum during World Refugee Day @ UNHCR/Evgeniy Sunozov

- **Seminar for lawyers in Krasnoyarsk.** From 4-5 June, UNHCR conducted a two-day seminar for lawyers in Krasnoyarsk to discuss legal assistance on asylum and statelessness. The sessions covered UNHCR's mandate and activities, as well as the legal status of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons and main aspects of protection of their rights under international and national mechanisms. More than 30 lawyers from Krasnoyarsk, as well as Amur, Irkutsk, Tyumen, Novosibirsk regions and the Republic of Sakha-Yakutia participated in the event, as well as representatives of UNHCR's partner and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Krasnoyarsk.
- **World Refugee Day activities in Russia.** From 15-23 June, UNHCR and major Moscow museums implemented a programme of activities to mark World Refugee Day through the annual "Point of Displacement Festival". The programme featured a wide set of activities for refugees and other children, including performances by the Upsala Circus and masterclasses. Other events included excursions and music concerts for children and adults, a screening of a new UNHCR [video](#) about refugee children from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic Congo and Syria, workshops based on books for children produced by Samokat and Pink Giraffe editorial houses. Students and actors of the Free Youth Theater in Tobolsk, Siberia, released the [radio play](#) "Asylum" based on UNHCR's comic book "Run Cannot Stay". Also, for the fourth year in a row, the students of the Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok organized a [Refugee Week](#).
- **Mission to Krasnodar region.** From 3-7 June, UNHCR visited the Krasnodar region. The mission was organized with support from the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation. In the city of Anapa, UNHCR visited three Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) hosting 248 Ukrainian refugees. Refugees are accommodated in the apartment-style blocks, with large families placed in two-bedroom blocks. All residents were satisfied with the living conditions. UNHCR also visited the city of Krasnodar and met with Ukrainian refugees and refugees from other countries residing in the urban context. UNHCR spoke with 38 Ukrainian refugees. Among the concerns raised by refugees were problems in determining pension allowances and waiting times to access specialized medical support. UNHCR met with 21 refugees from Afghanistan and Yemen who shared concerns about rejections of asylum applications and the need for Russian language classes for women. UNHCR and its legal partners in the region are following up on legal aid and other types of support.
- **Mission to Penza.** From 18-21 June, UNHCR visited the Penza region, where meetings with Ukrainian refugees living in TAPs were organized with support from the Regional and Federal Offices of the Commissioner for Human Rights. UNHCR visited two TAPs in the region and met with 55 refugees. Refugees reported that 33 people were able to obtain mortgages and buy apartments using the state-provided "maternity grant" social benefit. Regional authorities, in coordination with the regional office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights, will follow up on the issues raised by refugees regarding support for transportation and access to timely information.
- **Mission to Chelyabinsk.** From 24-27 June, UNHCR visited the Chelyabinsk region, where meetings with Ukrainian refugees living in and outside of TAPs were organized in cooperation with the Ministry for Civil Defense, Emergencies and Disaster Relief. UNHCR visited three out of six TAPs operational in the region (two TAPs in Chelyabinsk and one in Magnitogorsk) and met with 51 refugees. One of these TAPs has additional accommodation in the form of six apartments in different locations within the city; UNHCR visited one of these apartments which is furnished, has three bedrooms, and hosts a family of five people. Contracts with apartment owners are concluded for at least one year, with the possibility of extension. Temporary registration is provided in all visited TAPs. UNHCR also conducted a participatory assessment (PA) with Ukrainian refugees, most of whom live on their own. To follow up on issues raised at the PA, the regional Ministry of Education, Social Fund, and Ministry of Social Relations will assist refugees on cases related to restoration of education certificates, employment, and pensions.
- **Participatory Assessment in Saint Petersburg.** From 18-20 June, UNHCR visited Saint Petersburg to facilitate, in cooperation with its partner, participatory assessments with refugee children to better understand their situation in the country and possible needs. The PA comprised 8 groups of children between the ages of 7-16, from Afghanistan, Gaza, Yemen, Syria, and Ukraine. Issues for discussion and follow up by local partners included access to education, including Russian language courses, extracurricular activities, integration within local communities, maintenance of ties and contacts with other refugee groups from the same countries and overall access to services.

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