

Russian Federation

October 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 30 June 2024, **230 refugees, 13,933 temporary asylum status holders** and **3,368 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: 25 missions carried out to 25 regions (Tatarstan, Bryansk, Vladimir, Rostov, Tver, North Ossetia-Alania, Kaluga, Krasnoyarsk, Veliky Novgorod, Arkhangelsk, Krasnodar Krai, Penza, Chelyabinsk, Omsk, Mordovia, Komi, Voronezh, Tula, Tyumen, Oryol, Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug, Volgograd, Stavropol, Murmansk, Tambov)

UNHCR and partners response in 2024:

35,063 refugees provided with information through telephone counselling/hotline of UNHCR and partner NGOs

29,979 refugees provided with psychosocial support and psychological first aid

18,132 refugees received protection services in border regions (Kursk, Belgorod, Voronezh, Rostov)

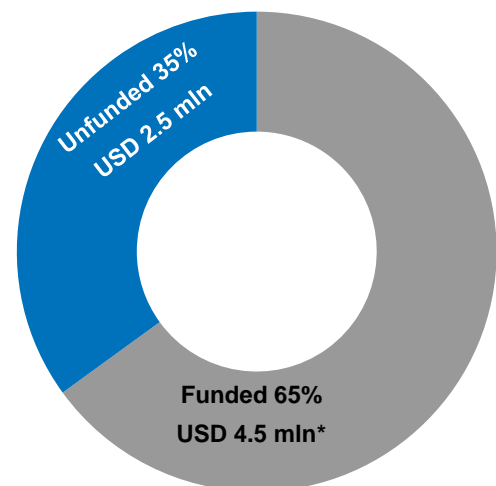
10,796 refugees received protection services in other Russian regions (including Moscow and Saint Petersburg)

UNHCR missions from 2022-2024: 72 missions in 46 regions

FUNDING (AS OF 31 OCTOBER 2024)

USD 7.0 million

requested for the operation in Russia in 2024



* funding allocated from unearmarked contributions



Q&A session at the International LAMPA Festival in Perm with a refugee family living in Russia and sharing their integration experience © LAMPA Festival



Capacity building workshops for UNHCR partners in Moscow © UNHCR

- **Expert Council Meeting at Ombudsman's Office.** On 28 October, UNHCR participated in the Meeting of the Expert Council under the Ombudsman of the Russian Federation on issues related to international cooperation and protection of migrants' rights. UNHCR's intervention focused on measures needed to safeguard the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees throughout the migration reform process, gaps in the Citizenship Law regarding children born in Russia to stateless people and called for stronger inclusion mechanisms for forcibly displaced persons. Special focus was made on access to rights and the necessity to remove certain barriers, such as problems with acquisition of migration registration, increased court fees, and the absence of state inclusion programmes for refugees and asylum-seekers.
- **Capacity building workshops for UNHCR partners.** From 29 to 30 October, UNHCR held a two-day seminar for its partners on interviewing persons with specific needs, data protection, fraud prevention, Code of Conduct and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. On 31 October, UNHCR organized a training session on protection issues for caseworkers from the regional divisions of the Russian Red Cross (RRC) and Faith, Hope, Love. Partner lawyers shared their experiences on practical aspects of legal aid delivered to forcibly displaced and stateless persons, access to socio-economic integration, and working with persons with specific needs.
- **UNHCR at LAMPA film festival.** On 3-5 October, UNHCR participated in the International LAMPA Festival of films with social impact in Perm. This year, UNHCR showed a short video about refugee children from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan and Syria living in Russia and organized a Q&A session with the family from the DRC featured in the video. A screening, discussion and awarding of films on refugee topics participating in UNHCR's nomination "Road to Home" also took place on October 4. UNHCR thanked all the filmmakers who sent their works and awarded Mohammad Reza Vafaeinezhad (Iran) for the short film "Boudo Bush" and Christine Kane (USA) for the short film "What We Came From".
- **Mission to Volgograd.** From 30 September to 4 October, UNHCR conducted a mission to Volgograd region in cooperation with the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation. UNHCR visited three Temporary Accommodation Points (TAPs) and met with 31 Ukrainian refugees as well as 29 Ukrainian refugees living independently. All refugees living in TAPs have temporary registration, while refugees living outside of TAPs often encounter landlords' reluctance to provide temporary registration, which impacts their access to allowances and benefits. This issue was raised and discussed with the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights for further follow-up.
- **Mission to Stavropol.** From 7 to 10 October, UNHCR jointly with the Ministry for Emergency Situations (EMERCOM) conducted a mission to Stavropol. UNHCR visited two TAPs — in Stavropol and Pyatigorsk and met with 22 refugees from Ukraine. In Stavropol, UNHCR also met with eight refugees living outside of TAPs. Residents of TAPs have access to education, medical assistance, social support, and employment. However, some financial difficulties arise for those who require medical care for their children with mental health conditions. Refugees living outside of TAPs were mainly from Kherson, including two refugees who are deaf and have been supported locally to meet their needs. Issues raised at the meetings with refugees have been referred to UNHCR's partners in the region for further assistance.
- **Mission to Murmansk.** From 11 to 14 October, UNHCR conducted a joint mission with the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Russian Red Cross to Murmansk region. UNHCR visited two TAPs in Murmansk and met with 18 refugees. UNHCR also had a participatory assessment meeting with five refugees residing outside of TAPs. Residents of the TAPs are satisfied with living conditions and have easy access to educational and employment opportunities, as well as medical care.
- **Mission to Tambov.** From 21 to 24 October, UNHCR in coordination with EMERCOM conducted a mission to Tambov region. UNHCR met with 55 Ukrainian refugees in five TAPs out of the 22 operating in the region — in Tambov, Rasskazovo, Kirsanov and two TAPs in Michurinsk area. Those living in TAPs received temporary registration and have access to schools and medical facilities. Various forms of social support (for example, child allowances, maternity grants) are available to them. Residents of the TAPs are satisfied with their living conditions and have easy access to educational and employment opportunities, as well as medical care. UNHCR also met with four refugees living outside of TAPs, whose concerns were mainly about access to employment and re-skilling. The head of the employment centre, who was present during the discussion, took note of the questions and issues raised to identify possible solutions.

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