



## Ukraine

### Global Appeal 2026 situation overview

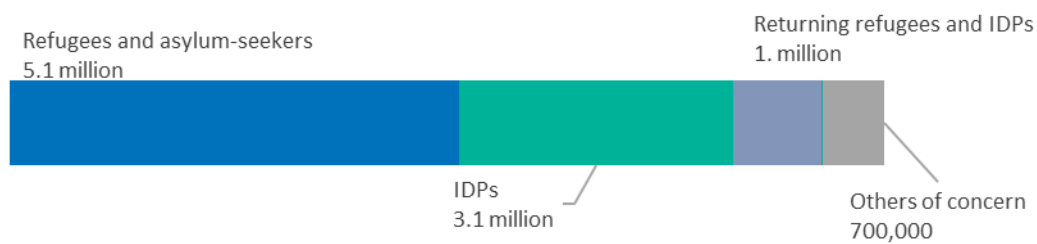
Countries affected: Belarus, Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine



In Kramatorsk, eastern Ukraine, Artem's home was severely damaged by shelling. Thanks to UNHCR's NGO partner Angels of Salvation, skilled workers helped restore part of his shelter, allowing him to stay warm despite the destruction. © Angels of Salvation/Oleksiy Gutnyk

#### 2026 Population planning figures

**9.9 million** forcibly displaced people and returnees



The international armed conflict between Ukraine and the Russian Federation entered its fourth year in 2025, with no ceasefire or sustainable political resolution in sight. Humanitarian needs across **Ukraine** continue to deepen as intensified attacks cause significant civilian casualties and drive new displacement. By September 2025, 5.75 million refugees from Ukraine were recorded globally, including some 5.2 million in Europe while the number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine stood at 3.75 million. Over 12.7 million people inside Ukraine were in need of humanitarian assistance in 2025. Many have now been displaced multiple times, with vulnerabilities increasing as the war persists.



**Budget needs** for Ukraine and neighbouring countries in 2026:

**\$614 M**

In 2025, hostilities in Ukraine intensified significantly, with a marked increase in aerial attacks by the Russian Armed Forces (RAF) on Ukrainian critical infrastructure, including oil and gas facilities, resulting in major power outages and water cuts, raising concerns ahead of the 2025-2026 winter season.

In the first nine months of 2025, the number of civilians killed and injured in

Ukraine increased by 31% compared to the same period in 2024. Since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) has documented at least 14,383 civilian deaths, including 738 children, and 37,541 injured, including 2,318 children.

As of mid-October 2025, an estimated 1 million refugees and IDPs had voluntarily returned to their areas of origin within Ukraine, while 3.75 million remained internally displaced. UNHCR maintains that returns to Ukraine should only take place under safe, dignified and voluntary conditions. UNHCR continues to caution that widespread risks including insecurity, damage to housing and infrastructure and limited access to essential services still hinder sustainable return in many parts of the country and will continue to monitor movements while supporting those who decide to return voluntarily.

Complementing Government efforts, UNHCR and national NGO partners continue to provide urgent protection and assistance to new evacuees and war-affected people – particularly in frontline areas and in response to new attacks – while supporting early recovery and durable solutions for internally displaced people and returnees. With intense fighting ongoing, new displacements from front-line regions continue, further straining transit centres and collective sites. According to the UNHCR-led Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, more than 60,000 displaced people arrived at transit centres from January-September 2025, with a peak of 11,500 people in August, primarily from Donetsk and eastern Dnipropetrovsk oblasts. UNHCR and partners continue to support evacuees in transit centres as well as in receiving areas as part of the interagency response.

Many of these evacuees are extremely vulnerable, having resisted moving away from the frontlines for as long as possible, and include a significant number of older people and individuals with disabilities.

UNHCR's humanitarian response is aligned with the needs and priorities set out in the 2025 Ukraine Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP). As part of the inter-agency response, UNHCR will continue to lead the Protection and Shelter/NFI Clusters in 2026, coordinating the protection, shelter and site coordination and management responses of humanitarian partners in Ukraine. To keep households safe and warm and reduce negative coping, UNHCR will scale cash assistance for winter needs in Ukraine, as well as winter-related shelter, housing and in-kind energy support.

Outside Ukraine, UNHCR leads and coordinates the [2025-2026 Regional Refugee Response Plan \(RRP\)](#), bringing together some 200 partners across ten countries to support government-led efforts for refugees from Ukraine. Through a [Hyper-Prioritization](#) exercise, UNHCR and partners are directing limited resources to the most urgent life-saving and protection needs, while supporting Governments in strengthening national systems and promoting the socio-economic inclusion of refugees. Examples from some RRP countries are below.

In **Romania**, priorities for 2026 include sustaining access to services and rights (legal aid, information, targeted protection interventions for persons with specific needs); socio-economic inclusion through national and local partnerships, access to employment and social protection; targeted child protection and GBV interventions; strengthened community engagement and communication with communities.

In 2026, with substantially reduced resources, UNHCR Bulgaria will continue supporting socio-economic inclusion of refugees from Ukraine with protection, livelihoods and inclusion activities through the Compass network of community led multi-purpose hubs in key cities.

As of September 2025, **Poland** hosted over one million Ukrainian refugees. In 2026, UNHCR Poland will concentrate its efforts on protection and inclusion, with strategic investments in refugees' human capital. This approach is both a humanitarian necessity and a smart economic and regional stability strategy. UNHCR Poland works to protect and empower refugees, while investing in their human capital through three strategic priorities. First, ensuring refugees' access to legal status and protection lays the foundation for stability and inclusion, enabling access to education, work, healthcare, and social benefits. Second, strengthening social protection systems to

allow refugees to meet basic needs, rebuild their lives, and contribute to local economies while remaining resilient. And third, promoting inclusion and social cohesion through skills development, employment pathways, and private-sector engagement to foster self-reliance and economic participation, transforming humanitarian support into sustainable outcomes benefiting both refugees and host communities.

In the **Republic of Moldova**, in 2026, UNHCR will accelerate transition to national systems (supporting the National Inclusion Plan), promote greater government ownership, and focus on the most vulnerable. Priority areas include: policy and technical support on post-Temporary Protection frameworks and capacity-building for the National Crisis Management Centre; social protection & inclusion, community-based protection and localization.



In Ukraine, UNHCR has launched a programme of social facilitators to support vulnerable displaced, war-affected or returned people – and ensuring that they are not left in isolation and without social support. This complements the state social services, acting like a bridge and reinforcing the social support. © UNHCR/Denys Kovalskyi