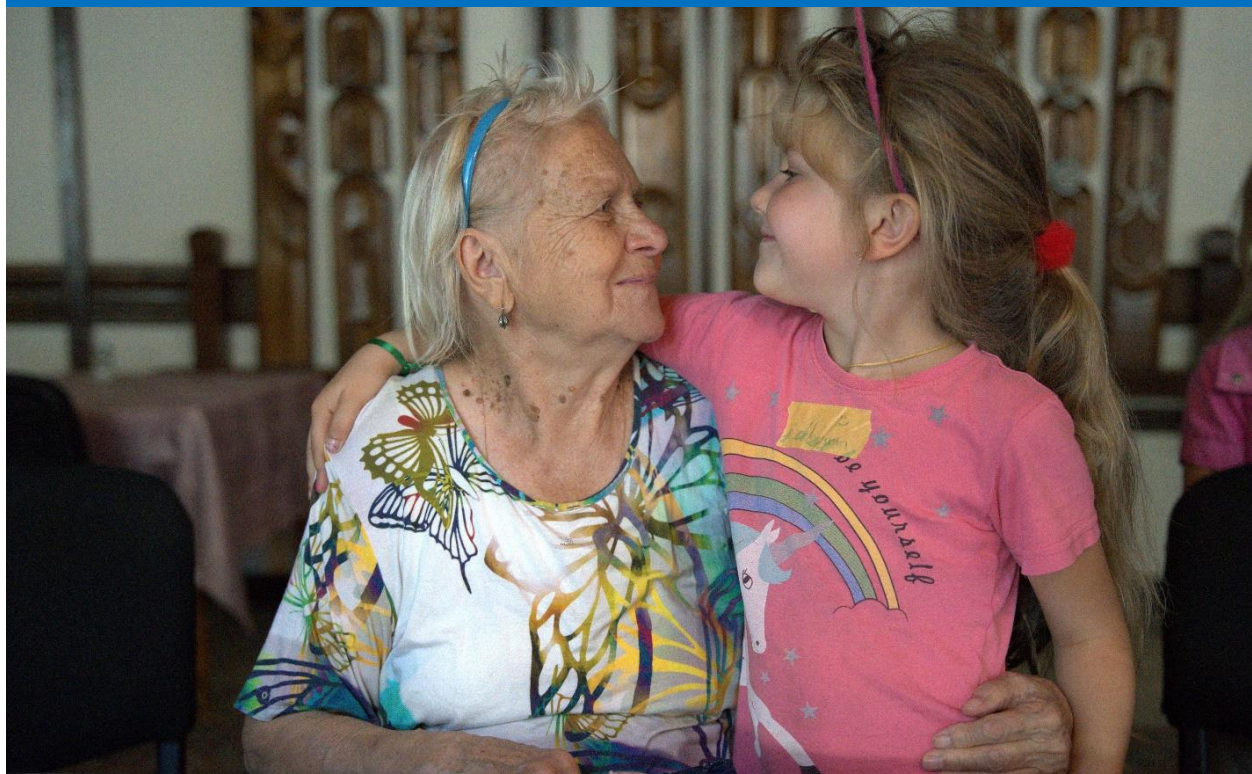


Ukraine Emergency: One Year into the Conflict



For four months, Zhanna, 84, has been staying in one of the collective centres in Zakarpattya oblast in the west of Ukraine. She was evacuated from Lyman village near Odesa amid heavy fighting and shelling. The village is now occupied and Zhanna has no connection with her other family members. © UNHCR/Igor Karpenko

Ukraine: the largest displacement crises in the world today

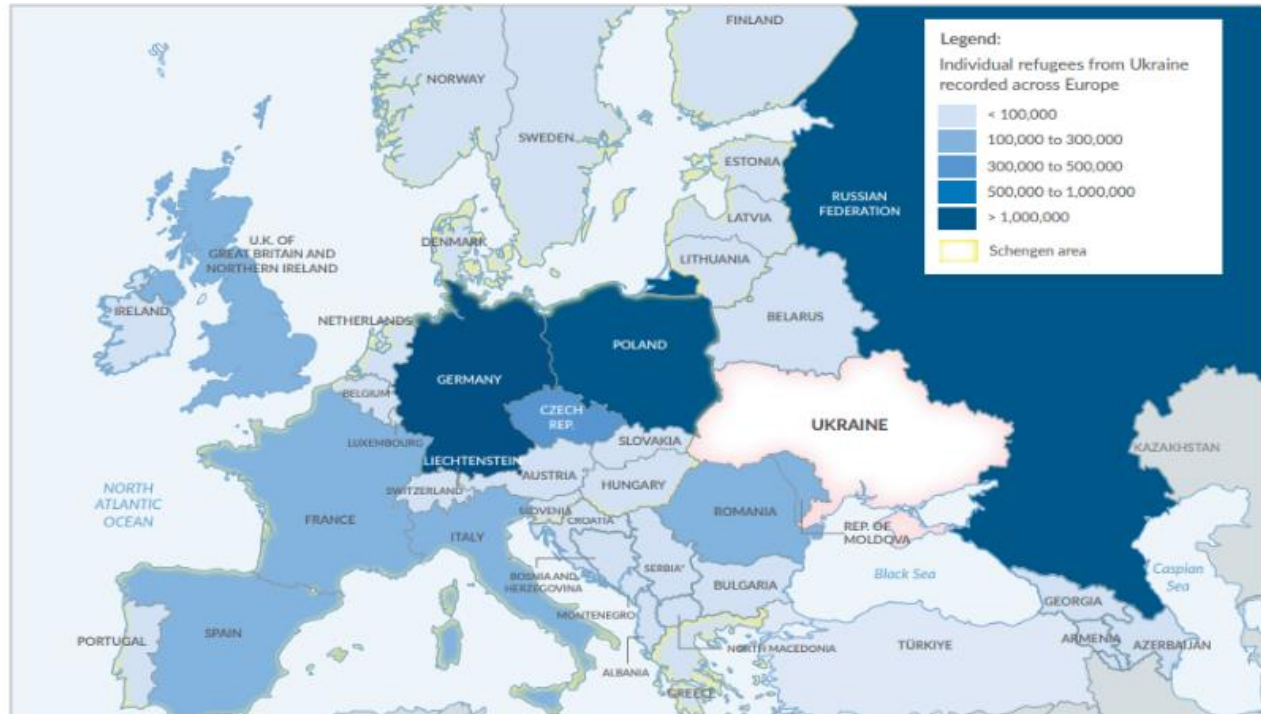
The 24th of February 2023 will mark 12 months since the beginning of one of largest human displacement crises in the world today, the war against Ukraine. The last 12 months have brought unimaginable death, destruction, loss, and human suffering. Since 24th February 2022:

- Nearly one-third of the people living in Ukraine have been forced from their homes.
- Some 8 million refugees from Ukraine have been recorded across Europe. Of these, nearly 5 million refugees have registered for temporary protection or similar national protection schemes.¹
- Inside the country, nearly 6 million people are internally displaced by the war as of early December.²

¹ <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

² IOM, [Ukraine Internal Displacement Report](#), 25 November 2022

- More than 17.6 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023.³
- The war in Ukraine has caused terrible destruction of civilian infrastructure and civilian casualties and has forced families and individuals to flee their homes in seek of safety, protection and assistance.



Refugees from Ukraine across Europe as of 10 January 2023. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

UNHCR in action

UNHCR has been working in Ukraine since 1994 with local authorities, partners and community organizations.

In response to the humanitarian crisis on 25th February, UNHCR declared a Level 3 Emergency in Ukraine – the most serious on the scale – signaling an exceptional response to the crisis. UNHCR rapidly scaled up its presence inside Ukraine, opening offices and warehouses in new locations and sending teams of emergency responders into the country with more than 200 staff now on the ground. Operating under the **Ukraine Situation Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP)**, coordinated by UNHCR, we are working with authorities, UN agencies, displaced community groups and partners to provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance to those affected by the war.

³ OCHA, [Humanitarian Needs Overview Ukraine 2023](#). 20 January 2023

Based on the inter-agency Cluster system for internal displacement emergencies, UNHCR leads the Protection, Shelter/Non-Food Items and Camp Coordination and Camp Management Clusters in Ukraine, aligning with hundreds of partners.

Ukraine: how your support made a difference in 2022⁴

Private sector donors around the globe played a crucial role in supporting UNHCR's response to help those affected by this war, stepping up in an unprecedented show of solidarity. **The total donations to UNHCR from private sector partnerships amounted to just under USD 600 million in 2022.**

At a glance:



4.32 million people reached through UNHCR's assistance



1,778,000 people reached with essential and non-food items



164,000 people received shelter support through interventions in collective centres and damaged homes



987,300 people received cash assistance from UNHCR to support their basic needs



1,239,400 people received protection assistance and referrals at key locations and through hotlines, including psychosocial support and legal aid



Non-food items (NFIs)

Since the start of the war, UNHCR has scaled up its response by providing immediate relief and life-saving assistance to those inside Ukraine. In 2022, close to 1.8 million people received NFIs such as plastic tarpaulins, high thermal blankets, kitchen sets and jerry cans. Close to 557,000 people in hard-to-reach areas received assistance through 644 humanitarian convoys, of which 27 were inter-agency convoys.



Shelter

In 2022, over 164,000 people were assisted with shelter interventions for collective centres and damaged homes, including in remote villages. For people that were not able to return

⁴ More information about the 2022 operational deliveries are accessible in the [January 2023 Ukraine Delivery Update](#)

to their homes, UNHCR has worked with local authorities to refurbish over 9,300 sleeping places in collective shelters during 2022.

Cash Assistance

A core tool of our protection work is giving out cash assistance, and we worked hard to ensure that over 987,000 people received cash assistance in 2022. Cash transfers give refugees the dignity and empowerment to make their own choices, buy what they need most, make people in need less likely to resort to harmful coping strategies and directly benefit the local economy.

Protection

Inside Ukraine and in refugee-hosting countries, UNHCR carries out protection monitoring through activities such as border visits and interviews with affected populations to assess their needs and situation. Monitoring helps to ensure that people with specific needs or at heightened risk, for example disabled or elderly people and pregnant women, receive vital information and are referred to specialist support providers. Meanwhile, instability and war have taken an enormous toll on mental health. This is compounded in time by winter conditions, frequent power outages, and water and heating disruptions. In 2022, over 1.2 million people received counselling, psychosocial support and were referred onwards as needed. To address mental health needs, UNHCR partners have been scaled up psychosocial support and counselling across Ukraine with over 300 outreach facilitators.



Valentina, 83, is being interviewed by UNHCR protection monitor Svetlana at a collective shelter in Krakow. Valentina arrived to Poland from Kramatorks in Ukraine in March 2022, together with her daughter and granddaughter "The city was being attacked all the time" she recalls.
© UNHCR/Anna Liminowicz

Winter Assistance

UNHCR's priority during winter is to ensure refugees have warm, safe, and dignified living conditions. We support with accommodation and other shelter needs, including the renovation of

buildings and reception facilities to make them fit for winter. We reached over 1.5 million war-affected people, including delivery of essential items such as quilts, heaters, and clothes; 409,000 people received cash assistance to help them cope with additional needs; and over 25,000 people received shelter repair and insulation support. UNHCR also delivered more than 720 electric and solid fuel heaters to communities and administrations in the Cherkaska, Chernivetska, and Vinnytska oblasts as part of the winter-related support.

Following the large-scale destruction of energy infrastructure across the country in October, UNHCR added the provision of essential items and generators to community heating points and medical facilities to its response. By the end of December, UNHCR had delivered 81 generators to areas like Khersonska, Kharkivska, and Donetsk oblasts. Bomb shelters and other safety points were equipped with relief items like sleeping bags, solar lamps, blankets, and folding beds.

Tamara, 65, and her granddaughter Milania, 6, live in Bobrovytsya city in Chernihiv Oblast, Ukraine. Their home was damaged during hostilities earlier this year. UNHCR has repaired the house through its shelter programme to ensure the family is warm and safe during the winter.

© UNHCR/Victoria Andrievska



Neighbouring countries: how your support made a difference in 2022

In refugee-hosting countries neighbouring Ukraine, UNHCR's emergency response initially focused on ensuring access to territory, providing adequate reception, including food, and meeting refugee's basic needs, in particular those with specific needs. Over time, we have shifted from an emergency response to supporting governments in fostering the inclusion into national systems of refugees who stay in the longer-term.

At a glance:



500,000 refugees from Ukraine supported with information on accessing their rights such as education, health care, accommodation and assistance for specific needs



476,000 refugees received multi-purpose and protection-specific cash assistance in neighbouring countries. 120,000 recipients of which were recipients of winter-specific cash assistance



273,000 refugees from Ukraine received protection support including integration, legal support, social protection, accommodation and awareness raising



315,000 essential winter-related relief items were distributed including thermal blankets, mattresses, clothes and footwear



39 Blue Dot safe space, protection and support hubs set up allowing **185,600** refugees to access information, support, assistance and referrals.

Valentina is 83 and has been living as a refugee in Poland since March 29. She arrived from Kramatorsk, a town in eastern Ukraine, with her daughter (Oksana, 48) and granddaughter (Zhanna, 12). They left because Kramatorsk was being heavily attacked at that time. "In one of the bombings, 53 people died, and the nearby railway station turned into a mortuary," Valentina remembers. In Poland, she received government assistance and cash assistance from UNHCR. Valentina lives in a large hall with several dozen other people, but says she is happy. "Everything is fine, they feed us, they bring us gifts, we have everything. But I can't wait to go home." When asked about her biggest dreamt, Valentina does not hesitate: "May my grandson, who is at war, survive."

Valentina is now living at the Kapelanka hostel with 400 other refugees and shares a room with around 30 of them.

© UNHCR/Anna Liminowicz



Thank you

The war against Ukraine is the biggest and fastest growing refugee crisis in Europe since the Second World War. The last 12 months have brought unprecedented suffering for refugees and displaced people. We are extremely grateful to you for having responded with urgency and empathy to the needs of people displaced within Ukraine as well as those forced to flee to neighbouring countries. With your generosity and continued support, over the last year we were able to deliver far-reaching and life-saving support to millions of people inside Ukraine and to families and individuals who fled to neighbouring countries.

However, with the war showing no signs of abating, sadly the worst appears far from over. An uptick of fighting in the East, deliberate targeting of energy infrastructure and harsh winter temperatures means millions face insecurity, coupled with unpredictable power, water and heat outages. **In 2023, UNHCR is targeting 3.45 million people for assistance.** UNHCR will provide protection services and legal support, cash assistance, non-food items, durable housing and shelter materials, while contributing to early recovery solutions and oriented interventions. In neighbouring host countries, UNHCR will work with Governments and local authorities to include refugees in national systems, with a focus on support to the most vulnerable, and work with local host communities to expand access to needed services. UNHCR is appealing for \$1.1 billion - \$602.5 million inside Ukraine and \$516 million in countries hosting Ukrainian refugees in Europe. We count on your continued partnership and support for the Ukraine emergency and towards all people forced to flee – whoever they are, wherever they flee from and whenever they are uprooted.

On behalf of everyone at UK for UNHCR and the people we serve, thank you for your generosity and solidarity.

How to contact us

If you would like to find out more about our response in Ukraine, please contact:

Verity Ambler, Senior Philanthropy Officer: vambler@unrefugees.org.uk or 0208 183 0127 ext 225