



UKRAINE SITUATION FLASH UPDATE #9

21 April 2022

UNHCR PUBLICATIONS

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13 April Flash Update #8 available [here](#)
6 April Flash Update #7 available [here](#)
30 March Flash Update #6 available [here](#)
24 March Flash Update #5 available [here](#)
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15 March Flash Update #3 available [here](#)
11 March Flash Update #2 available [here](#)
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The UNHCR [Moldova portal](#) page
The UNHCR [Poland portal](#) page
The latest Ukraine Emergency: [UNHCR Operational Response and Delivery Update](#) as of 18 April

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REFUGEES FLEEING UKRAINE

5,085,360

Data as of 20 April 2022

More details: [Operational Data Portal](#)
[Ukraine Refugee Situation](#)



BACKGROUND

The Russian Federation launched a military offensive against Ukraine on 24 February 2022. As of today, more than 5 million refugees have fled Ukraine, making this the fastest growing refugee crisis since World War II. A further 7.7 million people have been displaced internally within Ukraine.

Some 13 million people are estimated to be stranded in affected areas or unable to leave due to heightened security risks, destruction of bridges and roads, as well as lack of resources or information on where to find safety and accommodation.

Many people who are trapped are unable to meet their basic needs including food, water and medicines. The delivery of life-saving aid remains challenging, with a lack of safe humanitarian access. We continue striving to reach hard-hit areas with life-saving assistance as part of inter-agency humanitarian convoys. UNHCR continues to call for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, respect for international humanitarian law, and for neighbouring countries to continue keeping their borders open to those fleeing.



Ukraine. Idle car plant used as transit area for humanitarian supplies, 06 April 2022.
© UNHCR/Victoria Andrievska

Key figures - UKRAINE



- **266,802** people reached with essential food and non-food items, winter clothes and shelter materials
- **73,559** people received protection assistance at border crossing points, transit and reception centres and through hotlines
- **118,229** people enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance. **93,357** already received first payment
- **27,172** people received assistance through humanitarian convoys delivered to hard-hit areas
- **145** reception and collective centres were supported with essential items

UKRAINE SITUATION UPDATE

- UNICEF and WASH partners reported that **1.4 million people are currently without running water across eastern Ukraine** and that an additional **4.6 million people across Ukraine are at risk of losing access to piped water.**
- Missile attacks were reported around Kherson, Kyiv, Mariupol and Mykolaiv, as well as in the western city of Lviv on 18 April. **Mariupol is expected to be completely cut off and the situation in Kherson remains dire.**
- As of 18 April, **80,638 IDPs have been registered in Chernivtsi oblast.** There are currently 391 collective centres in Chernivtsi oblast where IDPs are accommodated.
- **UNHCR signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with three key Government Ministries** that will strengthen coordination and cooperation in finding sustainable and durable solutions for displaced people, including on accessing services and dignified housing options.

TARGETS



1.1 million people will receive protection assistance and information



847,000 NFIs to be delivered



200 reception and collective centres will be equipped with essential items



360,000 people will receive multipurpose cash assistance



UNHCR staff member comforts two boys who found refuge at a reception centre for displaced people in the Chernivtsi region of western Ukraine, March 2022.
© UNHCR/Anton Fedorov

UNHCR RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- Since the beginning of cash enrolment in Ukraine on 17 March, **118,229 individuals (46,539 families)** have been enrolled and **93,357** have received their first payments.
- On 15 April, UNHCR signed an **MoU with the Ministry of Social Policy to allow the sharing of lists of registered IDPs with UNHCR to help process MPCA transfers.**

Protection

- **73,559 people have received targeted protection assistance** at border crossing points, online and in locations where people have fled.
- This includes **protection counselling and services**, including **psychosocial support and legal aid**. The overall figure includes more than **20,000** people who received information and counselling through hotlines; over **14,800** people who received protection support or counselling; over **7,100** people who received psychosocial support or psychological first aid; over **8,400** people who received legal counselling or assistance; more than **3,500** who received social support; in addition to over **700** protection monitoring missions.
- 145 reception and collective centres were supported with essential items.

Core Relief Items

- To date, **more than 266,802 people have benefitted from core relief items (CRIs) and food assistance across eastern, central and western Ukraine.** This includes over 42,900 people who received food assistance, while the remainder received core relief items, winter clothes or emergency shelter and support.
- Access to the hardest hit areas remains challenging with continuing security risks, both for affected civilians as well as humanitarian actors. Despite this, **UNHCR, as part of interagency humanitarian convoys, has reached 27,172 people in the hardest hit areas with life-saving assistance.**
- On 14 April, UNHCR partner Proliska distributed over **15,000 pieces of bread among evacuees from Luhansk oblast in Bakhmut.** 50 non-standard **hygiene kits were delivered to 50 families benefiting 128 persons (women with children and elderly persons) in Kherson,** through a community-based organization on 15 April.

HUNGARY



Key figures - HUNGARY

- **35,200 core relief items** pre-positioned for dispatch to Ukraine
- **3,900** people provided with protection support including legal info, counselling, psychosocial support, and information

Protection

- UNHCR is **addressing protection and reception gaps**, including vulnerability screenings at the Help Points and the Záhony station, and **will roll out systematic psychological first aid training among all frontline workers and volunteers** given the increasing mental health needs of arrivals. UNHCR continues to monitor and provide counselling to refugees at Záhony train station and has distributed information materials to new arrivals, including on temporary protection, available services and UNHCR support.
- UNHCR is working with partners on the ground to **coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by refugees arriving from Ukraine**. UNHCR chairs the Protection Working Group, under which GBV is a standing agenda item and meets weekly. **Actor and rapid service mapping is ongoing and initial GBV referral pathways are under development.**
- **UNHCR and partners have provided protection support to some 3,900 people** since 25 March, including legal and social counselling, psychosocial support, and information on temporary protection. Of these, more than 715 people received protection support from 11 to 18 April.
- Between 9 and 14 April, UNHCR provided counselling on applying for temporary protection to 90 families at Záhony train station. UNHCR has established a regular presence and a “Blue Dot” in the train station, and agreed with local officials to jointly overhaul the volunteer oversight programme.
- UNHCR’s partner Next Step distributed food and core relief items to some 200 people during the reporting period and provided legal counselling to some 50 people. In addition, UNHCR partner Menedek provided social counselling to people accommodated in Budapest-based shelters and also in the border area to 119 people, including 56 children.
- UNHCR is liaising with the national Hungarian Asylum Authority, NDGAP, and the Hungarian Helsinki Committee **to facilitate the transportation of refugees staying**

in temporary shelters across the country to NDGAP offices for those wishing to apply for temporary protection. On 13 April, UNHCR with HHC facilitated access to procedures for 34 people, mostly Roma, by providing counselling, organizing transport to the NDGAP client service and facilitating their application for temporary protection and requests for subsistence allowance. Prior to their visit to the client service, UNHCR assisted them in filling out the temporary protection application forms, and after submitting their application, they received humanitarian residence cards for three months, allowing them to work in certain professions and enrol their children in school, among other benefits.

Core Relief Items

- UNHCR currently has the following stock prepositioned in a warehouse in Hungary for dispatch to Ukraine: **13,248** thermal blankets; **14,800** jerry cans; **2,448** solar lamps; **2,467** kitchen sets and **2,300** plastic tarpaulins.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA



Key figures - REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

- **25,000** people have received multipurpose cash assistance so far
- **991** refugees departed to Austria, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania as part of the EU Solidarity Platform
- **5 Blue Dots** operational, with 8 more under way

Protection

- **UNHCR and IOM continue to jointly facilitate fast-track transfers from Palanca, Moldova, to Husi, Romania. As of 19 April, 8,942 persons had been transported to Romania through this mechanism.** UNHCR partner ACTED also provides transportation for persons from border crossing points to other locations in Moldova and Romania.
- So far, in the context of the **Solidarity Platform**, 12 Member States - including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain - as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland have made pledges to welcome **19,770 people transiting Moldova**
- Out of the pledges made so far, a total of **991 persons were transferred** from Moldova, including to Austria, Germany, and Latvia by air and to Lithuania by bus. **UNHCR provided support to the vulnerability screening process and collaborated with IOM on assistance to the organization of departure procedures, including through counselling refugees and providing luggage.**

- UNHCR is supporting local authorities in Palanca to enhance security at the bus station. UNHCR has contracted security guards for the station and is working to add a CCTV service; fencing of the bus station is also underway.
- Last week, 1,562 persons (766 adults and 796 children) received support provided by UNHCR, UNICEF and partners at Blue Dot centres. Services were also provided to 30 children with disabilities. There are currently five Blue Dots in Moldova, and eight more expected to become operations in coming weeks.
- Since the start of April, UNHCR has supported the Government “Green Line” hotline (0800 800 11) where arrivals can request food and basic items. The hotline, which is available in Romanian, Russian, and Ukrainian, received more than 10,500 calls between launching on 1 March and 8 April.
- UNHCR and UNFPA lead the GBV response for refugees through the GBV Sub-Working Group, with 34 partners. The humanitarian response is being linked to multi-sectoral national services through GBV referral pathways, which are now set up nationally and cover core GBV services. UNHCR has also conducted trainings for 126 frontline responders on how to safely handle disclosures by survivors and refer them to GBV services. 68,000 refugees were reached with anti-trafficking awareness messages.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- So far, **some 25,000 refugees have been enrolled and issued bank cards for multipurpose cash assistance in Moldova since 25 March, of which 88% are women.** This number continues to increase rapidly as the programme is scaled up in coordination with the Government of Moldova WFP, and other partners. **So far, 7 enrolment centres are operational, with mobile teams covering other locations.**

Core Relief Items

- **UNHCR has handed over stocks of core relief items to the Government for onward distribution to those in need including: 15,000 sanitary napkins; 20,000 soaps; 10,000 shampoos; 10,000 toothbrushes and toothpaste; 7,968 blankets; 5,000 solar lamps; 3,000 baby kits; 2,500 mattresses; 1,000 plastic tarpaulins; 1,000 respiratory masks (COVID); 250 family tents and 250 winterization kits.**
- **UNHCR currently has a stockpile in Moldova of: 33,456 high thermal blankets, 4,852 sleeping bags, 3,322 family tents, 3,000 winterization kits, 1,536 solar lamps, 1,040 kitchen sets, 1,000 plastic tarpaulins.**
- **UNHCR has also provided material assistance to the Government of Moldova to increase capacities in the form of vehicles, laptops, generators and other office equipment.**

POLAND



Key figures - POLAND

- **30,287 refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance as of 20 April**
- **4 Blue Dots operating and scale up to other locations underway**

Protection

- There are currently **2 UNHCR-UNICEF Blue Dot Hubs operating at the cash enrolment centres in Warsaw and Krakow, with a ‘Light’ Blue Dot point at the Medyka Border Crossing Point.** A Blue Dot in Przemyśl at the Tesco reception centre, one of the largest reception centres in Poland, began operating on 20 April. Additional locations are being identified for expansion and UNHCR continues to work closely with UNICEF and the Government on further roll out of Blue Dots, as well as information management and coordination around child protection.
- Blue Dot protection staff in Warsaw and Krakow are supporting the cash enrolment teams in **identification of persons with specific needs for support and referral to services** and communicating with refugees on cash assistance modalities, as well as other information needs. Between 11 and 15 April, 409 individuals were counselled at the Warsaw Blue Dot, while another 528 were counselled at the Krakow Blue Dot.
- **On 14 April, UNHCR and UNICEF oversaw the training of Blue Dot Staff by the Polish NGO FDDS in Przemyśl.** Fifteen participants from Première Urgence Internationale, ADECCO, and the Polish Scouts were trained on core child protection principles, frameworks, minimum standards and good practices to prepare staff with basic skills and knowledge for working at the Blue Dot. The training also includes components on mental health and psychosocial support, gender-based violence, trafficking, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.
- UNHCR and partners are mapping out the procedures for UACs entering Poland
- Between 13 and 17 April, UNHCR visited the reception centres in Medyka, Krowica and Złotej Jesieni in Krakow to deliver information leaflets and provide information on multipurpose cash assistance and the Blue Dots.
- The [UNHCR Help Poland](#) page is now the most visited Help country site globally. It has exceeded **878,500 visits and 2,053,000 page views with close to 80,000 visitors from Ukraine.** 44% have accessed the site directly and 22% have accessed the site via social media, underscoring the reach of UNHCR’s print and digital information outreach.

- The 'Information for New Arrivals from Ukraine' page on the UNHCR Help site is available in English, Polish and Ukrainian and is **updated daily, and includes content on Cash, Health, anti-fraud, and links to resources for legal stay and social services.**

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- On 21 March, UNHCR and partners began the roll-out of the multipurpose cash assistance programme in Warsaw. UNHCR opened its second cash enrolment centre on 7 April at the Tauron Arena in Krakow. A second enrolment centre was also opened in Warsaw on 13 April. From 21 March to 20 April, a total of **30,287 persons (14,072 families) were enrolled.**

Core Relief Items

- **111 trucks have travelled from Poland to Ukraine to dispatch** hundreds of thousands of core relief items to five warehouses in Ukraine for distribution to the increasing numbers of IDPs in need.
- **These include: 147,105** high thermal blankets; **35,260** regular blankets; **28,500** sheets of tarpaulin to repair shelters; **20,880** towels; **6,574** winter clothing kits/boxes; **38,480** solar lamps; **12,492** kitchen sets; 12,500 jerry cans; **10,000** sleeping bags; **8,800** hygiene parcels; **5,720** pillows; **5,175** winter jackets; **5,632** mattresses; **1,500** quilts; **20** Rubb halls.
- UNHCR is also working on **distributing CRIs including winter clothing for men, women and children to the cities of Warsaw and Krakow.**

ROMANIA



Key figures - ROMANIA

- **1,433** refugees enrolled for multipurpose cash assistance as part of pilot - as of 20 April
- Over **6,293** refugees received in-person counselling and assistance
- Some **7,618** refugees provided with information and counselling over the phone
- **8,942** refugees transported from Palanca border crossing point in Moldova to Husi in Romania, with support of UNHCR and IOM

Protection

- There are **currently three Blue Dots operational in Romania** including in Sighet, Siret and at Isaccea border crossing point. On 15 April, a Cisco mission was organized at the Siret Blue Dot site to enhance internet connectivity
- UNHCR and UNICEF conducted a two-day training for 33 local civil society organizations on the implementation of the PSEA framework. The training is in line with outcomes of the rapid risk assessment that called for strengthening PSEA systems at the local level by build capacity of local organizations in prevention and response to sexual exploitation and abuse.
- UNHCR is working with partners to coordinate and scale up multi-sectoral response services to GBV risks and vulnerabilities faced by the refugees. **Partners are working on finalizing GBV referral pathways and preparing for capacity building of the frontline workers on core concepts and safe disclosures.**
- UNHCR started a pilot deployment of the Regional Protection Monitoring System (RPMS) tool designed to assess refugees' protection needs and intentions. During RPMS interviews, all refugees also receive counselling on accessing rights and services. The RPMS roll-out will be scaled up in the coming days.
- UNHCR continues to provide in-person protection information and counselling as well as through hotlines. **To date, over 6,293 people have received protection support and information in person, and more than 7,618 have received information and counselling through helplines.** Information requested focused on accommodation, transportation, medical services, school enrolment support, job opportunities and temporary protection.
- UNHCR contributed to national action plan for Ukraine emergency, for further endorsement of country's PM (child protection part).

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- The pilot for the cash distribution and enrolment was rolled out in Bucharest on 4 April. **Since then, 1,433 refugees (523 families) have been enrolled to receive cash assistance.** Over 93% of those refugees enrolled are women and children.
- The pilot programme is being scaled up in coordination with the Government, including establishment of enrolment centres at various locations across the country. **UNHCR aims to provide cash assistance to some 80,000 vulnerable refugees.**

- The enrolment lists have been shared with the financial service provider Rapyd for processing of payments, with the **aim of making the cash available to the beneficiaries within 5 to 7 days after enrolment.**

Core Relief Items

- **UNHCR has three warehouses in Bucharest for storing core relief items.** UNHCR uses its storage hub to deliver humanitarian assistance inside Ukraine and preposition for contingency needs in Romania.
- Pre-positioned stock for contingency needs in Romania currently includes: **17,581** winter jackets; **8,400** jerry cans; **5,040** sheets; **5,005** mattresses; **2,448** kitchen pots; **2,700** solar lamps; **2,646** cutlery sets; **2,340** kitchen sets; over **2,000** blankets, tarpaulins **1,664** bedsheets; **1,080** kitchen plates **720** tents and **65** tarpaulins.
- On 14 April, the following set of core-relief items arrived in the Romania Hub for Ukraine from Amman, for delivery to Ukraine: **26,856** fleece blankets, **4,200** plastic tarpaulins, **15,200** jerrycans and **2,304** solar lamps.
- On 18 April, **8,800** jerry cans, **21,408** blankets, **2,340** kitchen sets and **5,400** solar lamps from the Romania Hub for Ukraine were delivered into Uzhorod and Chernivitsi.

SLOVAKIA

Protection

- On 14 April, UNHCR received approval to **install tents at the border crossing points for Ubl'a, Vyšné Nemecké, and Velke Slemence.**
- UNHCR conducted **a joint monitoring visit with UNICEF on 13 April to the registration centers in Humenné and Michalovce, where Blue Dots hubs are preparing to be rolled out.** In Michalovce, it was agreed that further arrangements relating to Blue Dot locations within the center will be undertaken at the central level with the Crisis Management Board (CMB). **On 16 April, UNHCR met with the Head of the Crisis Management Board who confirmed approval for UNHCR and UNICEF to open Blue Dots at all locations requested in eastern Slovakia.**
- Additionally, mapping of key GBV services is underway and mapping of GBV referral pathways has been completed for the **Humenné and Michalovce** registration centres. Addressing gaps in GBV service provision and building capacity of service providers in GBV, SEA and responding to safe disclosures are key priorities of protection actors in Slovakia.
- **PSEA trainings for UNHCR and partner staff have been developed and will launch soon, with materials**

being translated into Slovak. A resource repository with policy guidance, training materials, and other tools has also been launched for the PSEA Task Force.

Multipurpose Cash Assistance

- **UNHCR met with the Ministry of Labour and Family Affairs data management team to discuss data sharing modalities.** Concerns over deduplicating different corporate systems for cash-based assistance have been largely resolved.

COORDINATION

Ukraine

UNHCR leads the Protection and Shelter Clusters. As of 1 March, the Camp Coordination Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster was activated in Ukraine. In addition, as co-lead of the Logistics Working Group in Ukraine, UNHCR is facilitating the movement of humanitarian convoys in coordination with OCHA.

The UNHCR-led Protection Cluster has established a national coordination office in Lviv and plans to establish sub-national offices in Chernivtsi, Dnipro, Lviv, Uzhhorod and Vinnytsia. Both the Child Protection and GBV Sub-Clusters are similarly expanding their presence.

Regional Refugee Response

UNHCR has facilitated the establishment of coordination structures in line with the Refugee Coordination Model, in order to support the overall coordination of the relevant governments. A Regional Refugee Response Plan has been developed and is currently under adjustment; over 100 organizations will contribute for a ten-month period through the end of the year.

Inter-agency Refugee Coordination Forums (RCFs), led by UNHCR, and specific sectoral groups, have been established at country level in **Belarus, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia**, to support the efforts of the concerned governments. The structures are meant to be agile and shall be adjusted as the situation evolves.

In **Hungary**, **UNHCR chairs the RCF and co-chairs coordination groups on Basic Needs, Cash, Child Protection, Health, MHPSS, Protection, and PSEA, which work with the Government's National Humanitarian Coordination Council.**

In **Slovakia**, the refugee coordination structure has been streamlined to better complement Government systems. UNHCR and the Ministry of Interior co-lead a central RCF, as well as an RCF for the East. Working groups and sub-groups on Health, Protection and Inclusion, Cash, MHPSS, Child Protection and Information Management meet regularly, as does the PSEA Network.

In **Romania**, UNHCR has set up the Refugee Coordination Model structure with several sector Working Groups co- led by UNHCR and other UN agencies, government counterparts and NGOs. The leads report to the Inter-Sector Coordination group led by UNHCR and the Government. Working group co-leads, together with national NGOs will participate in the Government-led working groups on Health, Education, Labour, Housing, the Vulnerable and Children to ensure coordination and harmonization with the assistance of humanitarian and Government actors. UNHCR held the first meeting of national Child Protection Working Group.

In **Moldova**, an Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been established with more than 100 participating members. Separate Sectoral Working Group meetings have also begun, including Protection, Child Protection and Gender-based Violence (GBV), Education, PSEA, Gender Task Force, Accommodation, Health and Nutrition, Logistics and Supply, Durable Solutions and Resilience, and Information Management. The Government of Moldova has established

a Single Emergency Management Centre under the Prime Minister's Office, where UNHCR represents the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, ensuring coordination between the two.

In **Poland**, UNHCR has established a Refugee Coordination Forum that includes local and international actors across eight sectors and working groups. Specifically, UNHCR is currently leading the Protection Sector, GBV Sub-Sector, Technical Cash Working Group, Basic Needs Sector and the Logistics Sector. The Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) Working Group is also chaired by UNHCR

FINANCIAL NEEDS

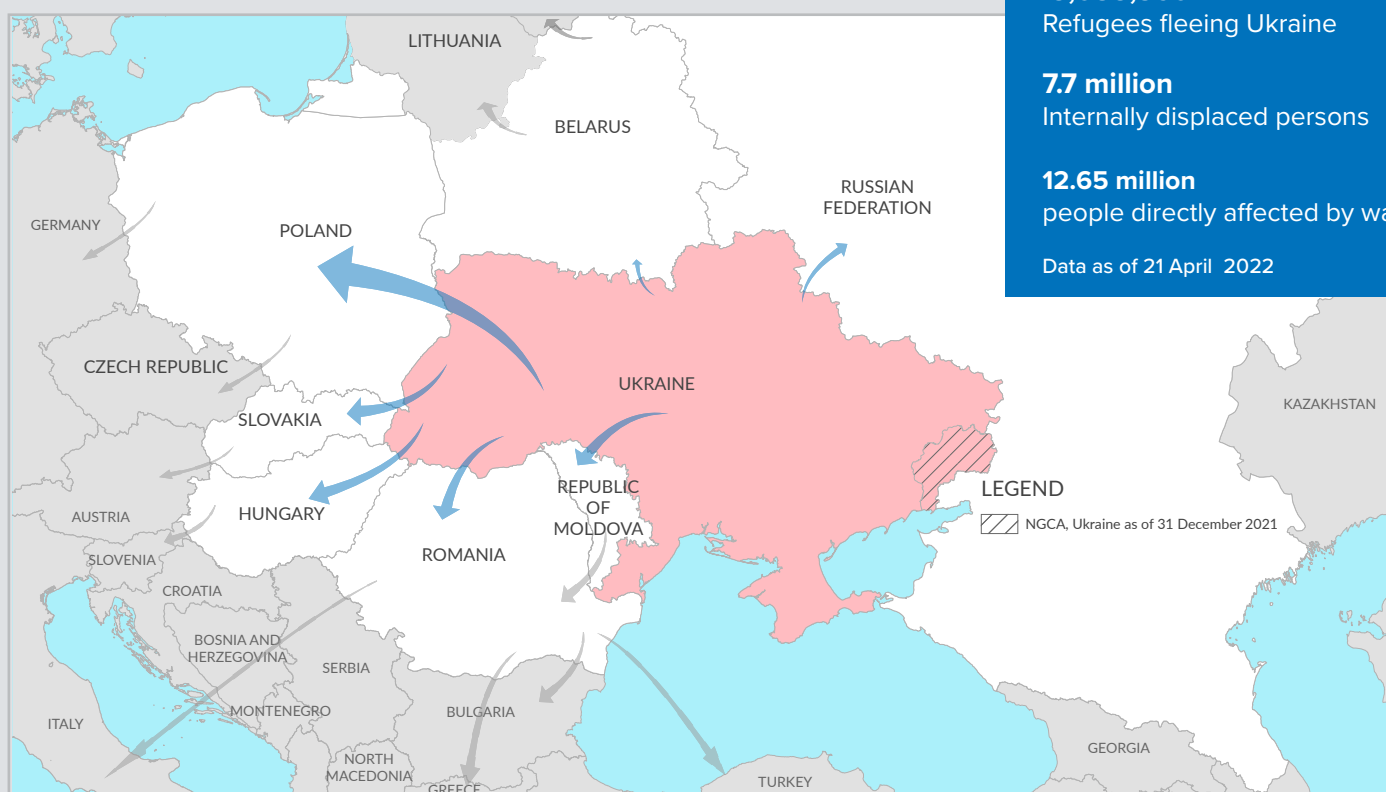
Links

Ukraine Situation: [Regional Refugee Response Plan](#)

UN: [Ukraine Flash Appeal](#)

UNHCR: [Supplementary Appeal](#)

► UKRAINE REFUGEE SITUATION



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.