**HIGHLIGHTS**

224
New asylum-seekers since 1 January 2015

416
Refugees as of 1 August 2015

2,721
Stateless persons as of 1 July 2015

212,121
People prevented from becoming stateless since 2012

**Population of concern**
A total of 5,764 persons: 120 asylum-seekers, 416 refugees, 2,721 stateless persons, 2,426 persons with undetermined nationality.

**Top countries of origin**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total P</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>536</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Funding**
USD 1.3 million requested

**UNHCR Presence**

1 Country office in Chisinau
6 National staff
1 UNOPS
WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with Governmental partners, including the Refugee Directorate, Bureau for Migration and Asylum and Border Police Department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, National Legal Aid Council, National Institute of Justice, Ministry of Information Technology and Communications, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Culture. The office is represented in the UN Country Team.

- UNHCR has Project Partnership Agreements with the following NGOs:
  - Law Centre of Advocates (LCA): legal assistance within refugee status determination procedure, statelessness determination procedure, integration process; protection monitoring including border crossing points and detention facilities; support provided for lawyers, judges, academic society, policy makers and other related professionals.
  - “Ave Copiii” (AVE): social counseling and assistance, referral on medical issues, distribution of monthly financial and material assistance to the most vulnerable persons of concern (PoCs); support provided for social workers, teachers and other related professionals.
  - Charity Centre of Refugees (CCR): socio-cultural assistance, integration activities for PoCs, referral on Romanian language classes, support provided for social workers, local public administration officials and other related professionals.

COUNTRY ACHIEVEMENTS


In 2012, the country ratified the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Republic of Moldova is one of the few countries in the world that has the Statelessness Determination Procedure provided for by the law. A total of 212,121 individuals prevented to become stateless since 2013 within an effort which became one of the largest campaigns to address statelessness in Europe.

In 2014 Republic of Moldova signed one of the most ambitious agreements negotiated with the European Union – the Association Agreement including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement and Visa Liberalization.

Since 1997, UNHCR has spent more than $15M to build the legal framework, competent administrative bodies, and a fair judiciary that would care for the persons of concern.

MAJOR STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- Monitoring the implementation of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and 1967 Protocol.
- Advocate for streamlining existing legislation related to persons of concern and its compliance with European and international standards.
- Supporting the Government in building efficient and effective national asylum in line with international standards: capacity building, best practices sharing, and partnership facilitation.
- Assisting the Government’s competent authority in improving the quality of the refugee and statelessness determination procedures.
- Providing legal, financial, medical and socio-cultural assistance to PoCs through a network of NGO partners.
- Facilitating durable solutions to PoCs: local integration, voluntary repatriation, family reunification and resettlement.
- Cooperating with UN Agencies and other developmental actors in the interest of PoCs protection.
- Facilitating the share of experience between Moldovan authorities and their counterparts abroad.
- Advocating the Government to issue Travel Documents to PoCs.