

Country: Romania

Done by Mariana Stoyanova, Bulgarian Red Cross

No. Asylum seekers 2007 / 2008 Detailed numbers by types of protection granted, country of origin etc. are available if necessary. Please contact Juliana Florea-ICAR Foundation, Romania	No. of persons granted protection	No. of Ngos'/ GOs'/ projects offering mental health services	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with persons with broken family links	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with survivors of torture	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with the elderly and frail
774 / 1182	161 / 138 ORI 44 Court 182 (total) Convention 1952 and Subsidiary Protection	37 Mental hospitals, 4 NGOs	1 Romanian Red Cross	1 Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture (ICAR Foundation)	4 many: Confederatia CARITAS Romania, ICAR, Princess Margaret Foundation,

Access to health system: Asylum seekers have the right to receive free primary medical aid and emergency hospital aid. In the state reception centres there is a medical room and medical staff appointed, but more often the persons of concern are referred to the local hospital. Refugees and persons with subsidiary protection enjoy same rights like Romanian nationals. (if they have a legal job and pay medical insurance they benefit from free medical services, otherwise they have to pay.)

Legal Access to mental health care: For recognized refugees –yes, they have the same rights and access as Romanian Citizens. For asylum seekers psychological assistance is provided by Romanian Immigration Office (RIO) -> officially, but not practically. , mental hospitals and complementary psychological assistance –by some NGOs, but this is only in Bucharest. One exception is the Generatie Tanara Association, based in Timisoara and providing psychological and medical assistance to asylum seekers and refugees located in the town and mainly in the RIO reception centre.

Systematic assessment of mental health needs: No systematic assessment, needs identified by the medical staff in the RIO centres , by asylum seekers himself or by accident, by lawyers, by NGOs that work with asylum seekers, refugees.

Main stakeholders in the asylum system: Romanian Immigration Office /RIO/ within the MoI and Administrative Reform, Romanian National Council for Refugees, Romanian Forum for Refugees and Migrants, Refugee Women's Organisation, CARITAS, Jesuit Refugee Service, The Relief Fund for Romania, Estuar /Mental Health Charity, ICAR Foundation – Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture.

Country specific features: What drew my attention? Most of the NGOs provide social and/or legal services to asylum seekers and refugees. Only ICAR Foundation offers medical (somatic & psychiatric) services.

Difficulties: Although there are 37 mental hospitals and asylum seekers do enjoy emergency hospital aid, it can be questioned to which degree they are adopted and prepared to work with non-Romanians. Also, it depends on what the doctors consider to be an emergency situation. (Asylum seekers with mental health problems aren't considered emergency cases in order to benefit from free state psychological aid, but in case of a suicide attempt, for example, they are received in a state mental hospital and treated).