

Carrefour Romania donates over 270 tons of products to the Romanian Red Cross and FARA Foundation for Ukrainian refugees

- Donations include food and hygiene products to support refugees arriving from Ukraine;
- At the same time, the company is contributing to the set-up of two refugee reception centers by the FARA Foundation, in the city of Suceava and in Cacica, Suceava County;
- In addition, Carrefour Romania is collaborating with the Carrefour Poland team to have a coordinated impact in both countries and to cover as many border crossings as possible with essential assistance.

Bucharest, 1 March 2022 – Carrefour Romania and the Carrefour Foundation support the efforts of the Romanian Red Cross and the FARA Foundation to provide support to Ukrainian refugees at four border crossing points in Satu Mare, Maramureş, Suceava and Tulcea counties. The donations will be used by the two NGOs to provide over 270 tons of food and hygiene products to civilians entering the country. At the same time, with the support of Carrefour Romania, the FARA Foundation will arrange two refugee reception centers, with a total capacity of 24 places, in Suceava, respectively in Cacica, Suceava County, currently the busiest entry point in the country.

According to data from the Romanian Red Cross, over 50,000 refugees have crossed the border into Romania since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine. In a spirit of solidarity with them, Carrefour Romania and the Carrefour Foundation are coordinating their support actions both with local partners from the non-governmental sector, as well as with colleagues from Carrefour Poland, for a more comprehensive impact at two of Ukraine's most important borders.

The over 270 tons of food and hygiene products donated by Carrefour Romania target approximately 3,000 beneficiaries. To these are added refugees in transit who will be able to receive shelter and products of immediate necessity in the two centers planned by the FARA Foundation, with a capacity of 24 places, as well as several hundred others who will have access to psychological counseling here.

“We are at a point where passivity is not an option, where solidarity and mobilization at societal level must prevail. We are inspired by the Romanians who went to greet their neighbors across the border with an open heart and we want the latter to find in Romania not only security, but also the best possible conditions. We are therefore working with Ukrainian refugees and are providing civil society with the tools it needs to best support their humanitarian actions. We will remain vigilant in the coming period to be close to partner organizations and vulnerable groups so that we can contribute effectively and in an organized manner to meeting their essential needs.”, said **Alina Gamauf, HR, Corporate Affairs & CSR Director Carrefour Romania.**

“For more than 20 years, in case of humanitarian emergencies, the Carrefour Foundation has supported NGOs on the ground. With the Group, it is our mission to be at their side in such critical times. We are in daily contact with the Carrefour teams” added **Marie-Astrid Raoult, Director of the Carrefour Foundation.**

In addition, all the food products collected in Carrefour stores in the coming period through the Food Bank (Banca de Alimente), one of the most long-standing programs carried out in partnership with the Romanian Red Cross, will be redirected to refugees. The Food Bank - a national solidarity network through which clients have access to good deeds - helps disadvantaged persons, with last year over 14,100 kg of food being collected to help 2,100 persons in need.

“In this period of tension and unrest, our priority is to help the Ukrainian citizens who reach the territory of Romania, but also the population that remains in the country. People caught in the middle of these events need to be supported and protected. Their lives depend on the involvement of good people and institutions that can help them. We are grateful to our traditional partner Carrefour Romania for the continuous support of our organization and those who urgently need help”, said **Ioan - Silviu Lefter, General Manager of the Romanian Red Cross.**

“In difficult times, more than ever, solidarity is the way we can help those forced to flee their country in face of war, overwhelmed by the pain of leaving loved ones and their lives behind. Through this initiative, together with Carrefour, we can be with mothers, children and family members who have managed to cross the borders of Ukraine and who need shelter and support”, added **Roxana Girip, Executive Director of FARA Foundation.**

About Carrefour Romania

Carrefour Romania offers its customers a universe of possibilities for safe shopping: directly in the over 350 stores in the country, where, with the Carrefour application and Self Service cash registers, the shopping session becomes quick and easy or through online services shopping with home delivery or Click & Collect: www.carrefour.ro and the BRINGO platform, available for free in Google Play and App Store.

Carrefour supports communities in which it activates through programmes and national long-term initiatives, with positive impact in society: the agricultural cooperative Vărăști, the first of this kind founded by a retailer in Romania, Deschidem Vinul Romanesc (We Open the Romanian Wine) and Crestem Romania BIO (We Grow Romania BIO), through which it introduced for the first time in Romania the “in conversion to bio” label. In addition, Carrefour has supported both financially and through transfer of expertise the setting up of the Foundation for Agriculture Development, an independent structure that aims to contribute to the systemic change of the vegetable sector in Romania. At the same time, it launched the Act For Good program, which turns shopping into a personalized experience with a social impact: through each shopping session, and not only, users receive Act For Good points, through which they can do good deeds, but can also benefit from discounts and personalized offers.

Taking the care for community and the environment further, Carrefour Romania organizes Punem Pret pe Plastic (We Put a Price on Plastic), a circular economy project addressing the reduction of the quantity of plastic and the introduction of plastic in a responsible circuit, by reducing, reusing and recycling. In addition, the company has introduced biodegradable and compostable bags, together with an extended sortiment of biodegradable products, organizes selective waste collection and rolls out initiatives to encourage healthy behavior. To these initiatives it adds the over one decade contribution to the Food Bank - Red Cross and the support for many other programmes through which it supports vulnerable communities and reduces food waste.



About Carrefour Foundation

Founded in 2000, the Carrefour Foundation fulfills a mission of general interest in France and in the world in favor of the solidarity-based food transition. Its commitment is based on 3 programs: sustainable and socially conscious agriculture, solidarity-based anti-waste, and citizen engagement. With its annual budget of 6.75 million euros, the Foundation supported around 70 projects in 2021 and thousands of people in the countries of the Group.

*Since its creation, its mobilization towards emergency aid represents more than 18 million euros.
For more information: www.fondation-carrefour.org/en or follow us on Twitter: @Fonda_Carrefour.*

About Romanian Red Cross

The Romanian National Red Cross Society, founded in 1876, is a humanitarian organization that is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, an auxiliary to public authority and empowered by law to provide humanitarian assistance in the event of disasters and to assist vulnerable people, the services being provided voluntarily, impartially and neutrally. The organization contributes, through its programs, to the prevention and alleviation of suffering in all its forms, protects health and life, promotes respect for human dignity, without any discrimination based on nationality, race, sex, religion, age, social or political affiliation. The Romanian Red Cross is present nationally with 47 branches and over 6,000 volunteers who are actively involved in humanitarian activities.

Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Volunteering, Unity and Universality are the fundamental principles on which the Romanian Red Cross is based in its actions.

About FARA Foundation

The FARA Foundation, founded 30 years ago, has the mission to transform the lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children, young people and families living in poor communities in Romania. The FARA Foundation aims to be a family for those in need, striving to raise resilient and responsible children and young people, strong and functional families and involved communities. Through its programs in Suceava County, Popești Leordeni (Ilfov) and Satu Mare - A Family for Life, Support for Independent Living, A Family for those WITHOUT, Therapy and Recovery for Children and Young People with Disabilities, Preventing the Fight against Poverty through Education, FARA Foundation helps alleviate trauma among marginalized children, youth, and adults, gives them hope, and helps them find answers and resources for rebuilding a better future.