

Mariia Korolchuk

Leader of the Ukrainian diaspora in Romania, Ukraine

Mariia Korolchuk is a humanitarian professional, community leader, and commercial director with extensive expertise in refugee crisis response, integration, and resilience. A Ukrainian refugee herself and mother of three, she combines lived experience with professional knowledge to design and lead impactful programs across humanitarian and private sectors.

Since the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine, Mariia has coordinated initiatives in Romania and beyond, covering case management for vulnerable groups, trauma-informed GBV support, youth empowerment, vocational and language training, and advocacy at national and international levels. She has worked with HIAS Romania, JRS Romania, Funky Citizens, and Fundația Comunitară Prahova, contributing to projects that advanced resilience, inclusion, and women's empowerment.

As Vice President and Co-founder of **Association MALVA**, a Ukrainian refugee women-led NGO in Bucharest, Mariia has built a community hub offering safe spaces, integration pathways, and cultural initiatives. Under her leadership, MALVA has partnered with UNHCR, UNICEF, HIAS, VOICE, and CORE Response, becoming a key actor in refugee support in Romania.

In 2025, Mariia transitioned into the private sector as a Commercial Director in Romania's retail industry, applying her skills in strategy, leadership, and resilience, while continuing to guide MALVA's community programs. She remains an active voice on refugee issues, addressing how political shifts and international narratives affect both host-country integration and reintegration in Ukraine.

Mariia is frequently invited as a speaker at international forums, including MEGAPHONE 2023–2024, the UN Women Expert Group Meeting on the Triple Nexus, and the EESC Plenary Session. She represented MALVA at the 2025 launch of the UN Humanitarian and Refugee Response Plans in Kyiv and is a regular podcast guest and panelist in the UK and Europe.

Her contributions also include co-authoring an A1–A2 Romanian language manual for refugees, creating storytelling and language training courses, and developing cultural projects to counter disinformation. Earlier, she served as CEO of Tranzit Servis LLC (Ukraine), gaining expertise in logistics, risk management, and international trade.