

Information Sheet – Measures in response to the arrival of displaced people fleeing the war in Ukraine

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I. Introduction

In response to requests for information, ECRE has compiled a non-exhaustive document collating information on the measures taken by European countries to address the arrival of people fleeing the war in Ukraine (UA). The Information Sheet provides country-by-country information on two main areas of policy and legal developments in response to arrivals from UA: the first part identifies measures adopted on entry and stay requirements, reception-related arrangements, and asylum procedures; the second part provides information on national measures implementing the Council Decision on the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD), and/or establishing other special statuses for persons fleeing Ukraine.

The Information Sheet was created using open-source information and unofficial translation tools. Some of the information is based on official statements announcing UA-specific policy changes or announcing the implementation of the TPD and/or other special statuses. ECRE has contacted lawyers in the ELENA network, experts working on the AIDA database it manages, and ECRE members to understand the implementation in practice of measures that have been introduced. ECRE will continue to update the document insofar as that it has a value. In case of questions, ECRE encourages contact with <u>ELENA network</u> and <u>ECRE members</u>, as well as ECRE's Legal Support and Litigation Team (you can find all contact-related information <u>here</u>).

All efforts have been made to ensure that the information is up-to-date (as of 17 June 2022) and accurate but the situation remains volatile, changing rapidly. Consequently, the Information Sheet is not intended to be an exhaustive or definitive compilation of all developments. More detailed guidance concerning some of the countries included in this information sheet has been prepared by PILnet, DLA Piper and other law firms, and is available <u>here</u>.

The updates have been supported with research conducted by Carmen López Esquitino, LLM student at Queen Mary University London.

The Temporary Protection Directive and the Council implementing decision

On 3 March 2022, the European Commission invoked the <u>Temporary Protection Directive</u> (TPD) and on 4 March 2022 the <u>Council implementing decision</u> was adopted. All EU Member States apart from Denmark took part in the adoption of the Decision. Denmark is not bound by the TPD, although it has introduced a similar special protection status (see <u>below</u>).

The TPD applies to UA nationals displaced from 24 February 2022, third-country nationals (TCN) and stateless persons who were beneficiaries of international or equivalent protection in Ukraine until 24 February 2022, and family members of these two categories of people.

Third-country nationals (TCN) and stateless persons who can prove they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a permanent residence permit and are unable to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions are eligible either for temporary protection status under the Council implementing decision, or other adequate protection under the national law of the Member States.

Other groups such as third-country nationals and stateless persons who can prove they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and who are unable to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions may be eligible for temporary protection at the discretion of the EU Member States (EUMS).



Family members covered by the TPD decision include spouses or unmarried partners, minor unmarried children (of the individual concerned or their spouse) and close relatives who were living and dependent on the person covered. More information about the Directive and how it works in practice can be found <u>here</u>.

The Commission Communication on operational guidelines regarding the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive

On 17 March 2022, the Commission published <u>the Communication on the relevant operational</u> <u>guidelines</u>. The guidelines aim to support EUMS in their national-level implementation of the TPD and they focus on the following issues: scope of and eligibility for protection; right to move freely; registration and databases; residence permits; unaccompanied minors; trafficking; access to asylum; repatriation assistance; and information provision.

On the scope of and eligibility for protection, the Commission encourages Member States to use their discretion to include wider categories of persons in their implementing legislation, in particular those who found themselves outside UA or who had fled UA shortly before 24 February 2022. It further notes that, where Member States choose to provide another form of adequate protection under Article 2(2) of the Council Decision, such protection must be in line with the guarantees of the Charter of Fundamental Rights (CFREU) and the spirit of the TPD; the respect for human dignity must be ensured at all times. Regarding the assessment of evidence, where documents have expired, MS are encouraged to consider them as evidence establishing identity and residence status; in case of doubts or non-submission of documents, MS are encouraged to rapidly contact the UA authorities or to channel the person into the asylum procedure.

Regarding the return in safe and durable conditions of TCN, the Commission considers it to be a *sui generis* concept that should be read in the light of Article 2(c) of the TPD and should include situations of obvious risk for the safety of the person. TCN should be able to enjoy in their country active rights that secure their basic needs and a possibility for reintegration. The situation of the country/region of origin should be assessed in combination with *prima facie* evidence provided by the TCN on their ability to return, including consideration of the existence of meaningful links with the country of origin (e.g. following a long-term residence in UA). Due consideration must be given to vulnerable individuals and children.

On family rights, the Commission encourages MS to extend the application of temporary protection or adequate protection under national law under Article 2(2) of the Council Decision to family members of persons who resided in UA before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a permanent residence permit. It is further emphasised that the situation of children will require swift and effective responses based on the best interests of the child principle; the Commission encourages MS to provide child-specific protection measures and to extend access to education for minors who fall under Article 2(2) of the Council Decision. Specific and extensive guidance is also provided for unaccompanied minors and orphaned children; strong child protection systems must be put in place in both the MS of first entry and the destination MS.

The guidelines offer additional specific recommendations on residence permits and the right to move freely, including on the use of the Blueprint network, the facilitated issuance of necessary visas, measures to address insufficient travel documentation, as well as easier procedures for opening bank accounts and accessing relevant services. For TCN that fall under the repatriation assistance provision, the Commission recommends the issuance of national permits of limited duration in order for such persons to access basic services.

The European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) publishes regular updates on asylum and temporary protection trends in EU+ countries since the conflict in Ukraine. The latest update on TPD implementation was published on 25 May 2022 and covers the period 16-22 May; it can be found here. Similarly, the last situational update on the response of EU+ countries was published on 21



April 2022 and covers the period 6-20 April; which can be found <u>here</u>. The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights has issued Bulletin #1 on "The war in Ukraine and its fundamental rights implications within the EU" which covers the measures adopted by Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania in response to Russia's military invasion of Ukraine.; it can be found <u>here</u>. The OECD has published the document "Rights and support for Ukrainian refugees in receiving countries", analysing the entry and stay conditions, as well as the reception support measures, that have been made available in OECD countries to people displaced from Ukraine; it can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Summary of emerging country practice on the scope of the Temporary Protection Directive

In some cases, as allowed by the Council Decision and encouraged by the Commission Guidelines, EUMS have used their discretion to extend the scope of the TPD to additional categories of people. This includes expanding the personal scope and extending the temporal scope of the protection under the TPD. On the other hand, certain EUMS appear to be implementing the TPD with a narrower scope than provided for in the Decision.

Expanded personal scope of temporary protection under the TPD

EUMS implementing the TPD – TCNs and stateless people

- Bulgaria extends the scope of the TPD to all TCNs and stateless persons who entered Bulgaria from Ukraine if they explicitly stated their desire for temporary protection status before 31 March 2022.
- Croatia extends temporary protection status under the TPD to all TCNs and stateless people legally residing in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 who are unable to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions.
- Finland extends temporary protection to TCNs who were residing legally in Ukraine, even if that was on a short-term basis, if they cannot return to their countries of origin.
- France extends temporary protection to family members of stateless persons and TCNs who were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February and who cannot return to their countries of origin in safe and durable conditions.
- Germany extends temporary protection to TCNs who were lawfully present in Ukraine for a non-temporary purpose but had not obtained permanent residence or international protection and who cannot return safely and permanently to their country of origin.
- Latvia extends temporary protection to TCNs with residence in UA on or before 24 February.
- Luxembourg extends temporary protection to stateless persons and TCNs who can prove that they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid residence permit.
- The Netherlands also extends temporary protection to TCNs with a valid Ukrainian residence permit.
- Portugal extends temporary protection to TCNs or stateless persons who were residents or had a long-term visa in Ukraine and whose safe and durable return to their country of origin is not possible.



• Spain extends temporary protection to TCNs or stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine based on a valid residence permit. Spain also extends temporary protection to family members of TCNs or stateless persons with a valid residence permit.

EUMS implementing the TPD – Ukrainian nationals

- Austria extends temporary protection under the TPD to UA nationals who were lawfully
 resident in Austria on 24 February 2022. They will thus benefit from a right of residence
 after the expiry of their visa-free or visa-required stay. Austria also extends the TPD to
 UA nationals who held a valid residence title in Austria on 24 February 2022 but which
 was not renewed or was withdrawn due to failure to meet the issuance conditions and
 who cannot return to Ukraine.
- Czechia offers temporary protection to UA nationals who entered the territory of Czechia before 24 February legally without a visa or on the basis of a short-stay visa and on 24 February 2022 still resided in the territory of the Czech Republic on the basis of this short-stay visa or without a visa. Temporary Protection can be granted exceptionally, in other cases.
- Finland extends temporary protection to UA nationals and their family members who were already living in Finland or who have arrived in Finland.
- France extends temporary protection to UA nationals who were temporarily in Europe on 24 February but can prove that they were permanently resident in Ukraine.
- Germany extends temporary protection to UA nationals already residing in Germany with a residence title that is likely to expire.
- Ireland extends temporary protection to UA nationals with certain immigration permits in Ireland before 24 February.
- The Netherlands extends temporary protection to UA nationals who left UA before 27 November 2021 and who on 27 November 2021 had been in the Netherlands for a longer period of time on a residence permit or following an application for asylum, and who can prove that they were in the Netherlands before 27 November 2021 and not in another EU country.
- Spain extends the TPD to UA nationals in an irregular situation in Spain before February 24 and who, as a result of the conflict, cannot return to Ukraine.

Other EU and European countries

- Denmark extends temporary protection to UA nationals and refugees recognised in Ukraine who resided in or had a residence permit in Denmark on 24 February 2022.
- Serbia extends temporary protection to TCNs who were granted valid permanent residence or temporary residence in Ukraine and who cannot return to their country of origin under permanent and long-term circumstances. Serbia also extends temporary protection to UA citizens and their families who legally resided in the Republic of Serbia at the time of the national decision but whose right to reside will expire before the decision on temporary protection is revoked.

Extended temporal scope of temporary protection under the TPD



EUMS implementing the TPD

- Belgium offers temporary protection to UA nationals who had a primary residence in Ukraine and who left the country after 24 November 2021.
- Croatia offers temporary protection to those who fled Ukraine recently but before 24 February 2022 due to the security situation and cannot return now.
- Finland offers temporary protection to UA nationals and their family members who fled Ukraine shortly before 24 February.
- Germany extends temporary protection to those who fled Ukraine shortly before 24 February or who were elsewhere in the EU shortly before that date.
- Luxembourg extends temporary protection to those who left Ukraine shortly before 24 February.
- The Netherlands extends temporary protection to those who left Ukraine after 27 November 2021.
- Sweden extend temporary protection to UA nationals in Sweden on or after 30 October 2021 and who do not have a residence permit.

Countries applying a more limited scope than the scope of the Council Decision

EUMS implementing the TPD

- Estonia only confers protection to UA nationals, beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine and both group's families.
- Germany does not confer temporary protection on stateless persons who were legally present in Ukraine on the basis of a permanent residence title.
- Greece does not confer temporary protection on TCNs or stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine on the basis of a permanent residence permit.
- Hungary does not confer temporary protection on TCNs or stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine on the basis of a permanent residence permit who were not refugees or who did not benefit from an equivalent national protection in Ukraine.
- Poland limits protection to UA nationals entering Poland directly from Ukraine from 24 February onwards.
- Sweden limits temporary protection to non-UA citizens who had a residence permit in UA as refugees or subsidiary protection holders, provided they left UA on or after 24 February 2022 and can present a valid identity document.

Other EU/European countries

Denmark does not apply the TPD but has introduced a temporary protection regime under national law. It only offers protection to UA nationals and refugees recognised in Ukraine.



II. National measures in response to arrivals from UA

1. Austria

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum procedures

For UA nationals, entry with a biometric passport and no visa requirement remains possible. Persons without a biometric passport are issued a visa in a facilitated procedure and can also enter the country. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

UA nationals fleeing the war are allowed to travel for free on trains using the country's national railway service, and public transport in Vienna is free for anyone with a UA travel document. (<u>ÖBB</u>).

Persons fleeing Ukraine are not subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

Caritas are present at Vienna Central Station to provide information and assistance. Emergency accommodation is provided at the Humanitarian Arrival Centre of the City of Vienna and the Federal Agency for Reception and Support Services. Online meetings are organised to provide information on residence, education and healthcare. More information about the services available, and about registration and employment can be found in Ukrainian and German <u>here</u>.

Displaced persons can contact the Federal Chancellery with further questions (+43 1 715 10 51 – 120) and they can contact the Federal Agency for Care and Support Services (BBU) upon arrival (+43 1 267 68 70 9460). A <u>hotline</u> has been created for people in need of psychological support (+43 1 343 0101 4). Specific services to support women displaced from Ukraine have been created by the Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF) (+43 1 715 10 51 –120 and by email at <u>ukrainehilfe@integrationsfonds.at</u>).

UA students are exempted from paying school fees for the summer semester 2022 and a special <u>emergency aid</u> has been set up by the Austrian National Union of Students for all students affected by the war in Ukraine. Austria also <u>supports</u> institutions to promote the employment of Ukrainian professors. ÖIF, in cooperation with several Austrian universities and language learning centres, has launched <u>German learning courses</u> for the people displaced from Ukraine. ÖIF, in cooperation with the Jewish Community (IKG), have organised integration measures for the <u>Jewish Ukrainian people</u> displaced from the conflict in Ukraine

The Minister of the Interior, Gerhard Karner, explained at the European Police Congress on 11 May 2022 that there has been a dangerous development in human smuggling as a result of the war in Ukraine. Further information can be found <u>here</u>.

The Ministry of the Interior and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) have established a project with a budget of 400,000€ to support displaced people from Ukraine including through psychological support, legal advice and family tracing. The project will run until 31 August 2022. For more information, visit the following page.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Austria has implemented the TPD; the implementing law can be found <u>here</u>. The scope covers:

- (1) UA nationals present in Austria as of 24 February 2022
- (2) TCNs or stateless persons with an international protection status or comparable national protection status granted before 24 February 2022, in accordance with Ukrainian law
- (3) The family members of the people covered by these categories.



UA nationals who held (on 24 February 2022) a valid residence title in Austria which was not renewed or was withdrawn due to failure to meet the issuance conditions and who cannot return to Ukraine will be given temporary protection status after expiry of the current residence title. UA nationals who were lawfully resident in Austria on 24 February 2022 shall also be entitled to the protection status and related right of residence after the expiry of their visa-free or visa-required stay. More information and FAQs about individuals who do not fall under the TPD can be found on the Office for Migration and Asylum Office here. The duration of temporary protection is of 1 year and it can renewed twice for periods of six months.

There is an obligation to register for residence at the registration office of each municipality. The beneficiaries of temporary protection are issued an ID card for displaced persons by the BFA. Beneficiaries of temporary protection status have access to the labor market, education and medical care. Their health insurance is covered by the State. Before starting a job, a work permit must be issued by the Public Employment Service (AMS) but the procedure has been facilitated since beneficiaries of temporary protection do not have to take the labour-market test. A specific portal and an email address (ukraine@ams.at) have been set up by the AMS to advice those displaced from Ukraine regarding the labour market in Austria. If beneficiaries of temporary protection decide to live in private accommodation, they receive EUR 150 per month for an individual and EU 300 per month for a family for the rent and EUR 215 for meals per adult.

As of May, 72,000 people fleeing the war in Ukraine have been registered in Austria. Almost 70 percent are women. The statistics can be found <u>here</u>.

2. Belgium

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions, asylum procedures

Visa-free travel to Belgium remains possible for UA nationals. The 90-day period of visa-free stay can be <u>extended</u> to a maximum of 180 days if the person cannot safely return to Ukraine after 90 days. The extension also applies to UA nationals without a biometric passport, but who have obtained a visa for Belgium. A <u>dedicated page</u> has been created to assist those fleeing Ukraine in understanding procedures regarding entry and stay.

The Federal Agency for the reception of asylum seekers (Fedasil) may grant a couple of nights of emergency accommodation in Brussels. Then, the Agency directs those displaced from Ukraine to temporary accommodation offered by the communes (local authorities). However, upon arrival to the registration centre (Heysel, Brussels), it is recommended that applicants have all their relevant documents and luggage with them, as this is the only opportunity to ask and be brought to accommodation/shelter. It is possible to request accommodation at later stage through local authorities but it is not guaranteed. From Monday 23 May to Sunday 29 May, 41.5% of the individuals who were granted temporary protection were referred to a crisis shelter by Fedasil. The rest indicated that they had another solution for their accommodation. According to the OECD report, Belgium relies primarily on private accommodation for people displaced from Ukraine. For safety reasons, the municipalities control the private accommodation programme. Beneficiaries of temporary protection are allowed to conclude a modest rental agreement once they start working or when they receive integration income. Once they find personal accommodation, the Centres for Social Welfare provide the individual with an installation allowance. When beneficiaries of temporary protection live in asylum centres they are entitled to EUR 280 per adult each month and if when reception centres are saturated they are entitled to a social welfare allowance of EUR 1093.80 per adult each month.

A <u>helpline</u> has been launched to provide psychological support for people arriving in Belgium from Ukraine. The processing of asylum cases of UA nationals <u>is suspended</u>.



There are certain conditions that must be met by those who have fled Ukraine and arrived to Belgium by car. The obligations can be read <u>here</u>. UA nationals can travel for free on the SNCB (rail) network upon their arrival or on their way to Belgium. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Temporary protection status in line with the Council decision is available to:

- (1) UA nationals and their families with a primary residence in Ukraine and who left the country after 24 November 2021
- (2) TCN and stateless persons who benefitted from international protection in Ukraine and their families with primary residence in Ukraine before 24 February 2022
- (3) Nationals of third countries legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit and <u>who are unable</u> to return to their country or region of origin under safe and sustainable conditions.

The granting of this status results in the issuance of a limited stay permit (Card A), valid for one year. Temporary protection can be renewed twice for periods of six months. More information on protection can be found <u>here</u> and registration appointments at the registration centre in Heysel, Brussels can be made <u>online here</u>.

Those who had a valid right of residence in another MS such as a valid visum D in Poland for working, are not eligible for the TPD regime. However, those who have temporary protection in another MS can travel to Belgium and apply for protection under the TPD. Belgium government will inform the previous country of protection that the person will now access protection in Belgium.

From 10 March to 5 June, 45.025 persons have been <u>granted</u> temporary protection status. A classification of the applications based on different categories, such as age and gender, can be found <u>here</u>. A <u>weekly report</u> has been created to collect figures concerning displaced persons from Ukraine. From Monday 23 to Sunday 29 May, 1407 persons received a certificate for temporary protection. This represents a decrease of 15% when compared with the previous week. As of 5 June, 752 unaccompanied minors have arrived in Belgium. In order to be registered administratively, unaccompanied minors need to be assigned a legal guardian. The recent arrival of large quantities of unaccompanied minors from Ukraine has shed light on the lack of legal guardians in Belgium.

3. Bulgaria

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum procedures

UA citizens can enter Bulgaria and stay for up to 90 days without a visa or claiming protection. Covid-19 vaccination, testing or recovery certificates are mandatory to avoid a 10-day quarantine, although quarantine can also be avoided with a negative PCR/rapid antigen test undertaken not more than 72 hours arrival in Bulgaria. Regularly updated information in UA and English can be found <u>here</u> and government official information can be found <u>here</u>.

It is possible to enter Bulgaria without holding a biometric passport or without any travel documents in exceptional cases. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

BDZ provides free rail transportation to people fleeing Ukraine. They have to present the valid identity document they used to cross the border. For more information in Ukrainian, visit this <u>webpage</u>. Individuals can use a hotline for health and medical issues (0800 20 101) and for psychosocial support (0800 11 466). From 31 May, not only the departmental bases, but also the accommodation registered in the National Tourist Register <u>will be able to participate</u> in the program offering accommodation to beneficiaries of temporary protection. Pursuant to this <u>program</u>, all hotels that have filed an application have to provide accommodation worth BGN 40 (EUR 20) per



person or accommodation and meals worth BGN 15 per person. The State funds the costs of these services.

On May 30, the deputy Prime Minister <u>announced</u> that people displaced from Ukraine who have been placed in Bulgarian beachfront hotels will have to be moved after 31 May due to the beginning of the holiday season. Those who have nowhere to go will be given temporary accommodation in the <u>buffer centres</u> in Sarafovo and Elhovo. It is possible to <u>enter</u> Bulgaria by car without having international insurance.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

The TPD has been implemented and is available to UA citizens residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022; third country nationals and stateless people who had international protection or another equivalent national protection prior to 24 February; members of the families of these categories of people; and people with foreign citizenship or in are stateless who entered Bulgaria from Ukraine and explicitly stated their desire for temporary protection status before 31 March 2022. Temporary protection is conferred for a period of 1 year and it is renewable. Applications for temporary protection can be presented orally before the Border Police, the State Agency for Refugees or other bodies of the Ministry of Interior. Registration offices for temporary protection are updated daily here.

The platform "e-просвета" has launched a classroom for UA students with educational resources that can be accessed for free. More information can be found<u>here</u>. As well, the tuition fees of those studying in Bulgaria <u>have been reduced</u>. Beneficiaries of temporary protection only <u>have access to</u> <u>emergency health care</u>, with the exception of vulnerable groups who enjoy the same rights as Bulgarian nationals. Pursuant to the <u>decree of the Council of Ministers of 5 May</u>, the State will cover the health insurance of UA nationals who are over 18 and under 63 for women, and under 65 for men, for a period of three months since the conferral of temporary protection status. For UA nationals under 18, women over 63 and men over 65, the State will cover the health insurance for the period of temporary protection. Beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>have access to</u> social support and can receive a one-time benefit of EUR 192. Moreover, vocational trainings <u>have been</u> <u>organised</u> by Bulgaria for beneficiaries of temporary protection.

4. Croatia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum procedures

People displaced from Ukraine do not currently need a passport to enter Croatia. Accommodation on arrival will now be given in Gospić reception centre for a short period of time – up to 48 hours – and then transfers to permanent accommodation will be offered. The Director of Civil Protection <u>announced</u> that they are able to host and accommodate all arrivals from Ukraine. On 23 March, the government <u>adopted a decision</u> on financing the costs of housing for displaced people from Ukraine in individual accommodation; owners of housing units who provide accommodation to displaced people from Ukraine will be reimbursed on the basis of lease agreements with the Ministry of Interior.

UA nationals and persons with authorisation to enter Croatia who have been displaced from Ukraine can use HŽ Passenger transport for free. For more information, consult this <u>webpage</u>.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

A national decision implementing the TPD <u>has been adopted</u> by Croatia. The temporary protection status will be granted to UA nationals and third-country nationals who were legally residing in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 who are unable to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions. It furthermore applies to those who fled Ukraine recently before 24 February 2022 due to the security



situation and cannot return now. Temporary protection can be renewed twice for periods of six months.

Applications for temporary protection can be submitted at the nearest police station or online through this <u>app</u>. A dedicated <u>portal</u> has been launched with more information on temporary protection and services available.

<u>According to the OECD report</u>, children beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to primary and secondary school and adults can access language courses, vocational training and job assistance. Moreover, beneficiaries of temporary protection can receive a one-off annual benefit of HRK 2500 per individual and HRK 3500 per family.

As of 25 April, 10,000 people have <u>requested</u> temporary protection status.

5. Cyprus

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception and asylum procedures

Accommodation is being provided to UA nationals who register for temporary protection. Telegram channels with information on services, accommodation and other practical issues can be found <u>here</u> You can find a FAQ document and leaflets with information for adults and children displaced from Ukraine on the <u>Asylum Service webpage</u>.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Cyprus has implemented the TPD and the scope covers

- (1) Ukrainian nationals, refugees in Ukraine, and their family members living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and
- (2) Stateless persons and non-Ukrainians living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 with a permanent residence permit, who are unable to return safely to their country of origin.

Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and it is renewable. The application form to obtain this protection can be submitted online on <u>the webpage</u> of the Asylum Service or in person at the Immigration Department of the section where the person is presentor at the Asylum Service premises if the person is in Nicosia. The Civil Registry and Migration Department (CRMD) <u>announced</u> that the beneficiaries of temporary protection residing in Nicosia and willing to apply for a residence permit can directly go to the CRMD without having an appointment.

The Ministry of Health <u>announced</u> on 5 April that medical care would be provided in public hospitals to beneficiaries of temporary protection and that the costs of their medicines would also be covered. <u>According to the OECD report</u>, beneficiaries of temporary protection are also entitled to vocational training. Those living in private accommodation can receive an allowance of EUR 100. They are also entitled to financial support which varies according to age, spending, family and housing. For a single adult living in public accommodation, the monthly allowance is of EUR 361.

6. Czechia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception and asylum procedures

UA citizens with a biometric passport can stay in Czechia for 90 days without a visa, but it is necessary to register with the Foreign Police within 30 days. Czechia has lifted COVID-related measures for UA nationals crossing the border so no tests or certificates are required. According to reports, women, children and the elderly have had no problem crossing the border, even without documents, but there have been instances where men attempting to cross were unable to do so. Public transport is free in most cities on provision of a UA passport or ID card. The possibility to



use public transport in Prague and in the Central Bohemian Region for free by UA nationals will be <u>cancelled</u> from 12 June. The new pass for public transport will <u>cost</u> around EUR 7.

As of 22 March 2022, special long-term visas for stays of more than 90 days will no longer be issued in the simplified procedure that was reserved for UA citizens, as the national measures implementing the TPD have entered into force. It will still be possible to apply for a long-stay visa but in the standard procedure. Those who already obtained the special long-term visa will automatically be transferred to the temporary protection system.

The rules governing transport available for people displaced by the conflict in Ukraine were modified on 1 April. International trains from Slovakia, Poland and Hungary to Czechia will be free of charge. Other train connections will also be free but only valid for a period of five days after the person has been granted temporary protection. More information can be found on this <u>website</u>.

Upon arrival, people arriving from Ukraine <u>can stay</u> in a temporary shelter for a period of 30 days or in hotels for a maximum of 90 days. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has created the "<u>Smart Migration App</u>" which provides information regarding the services offered to migrants. Furthermore, an <u>online portal</u> is available to apply for humanitarian benefits for those displaced from Ukraine. The Ministry of Interior has launched a <u>website</u> with offers and requests of assistance.

Three judgments have recently been issued by the Regional Court of Brno in favour of UA international protection applicants who claimed asylum prior to 24 February 2022. These judgments are not yet public and many cases of previously rejected UA asylum seekers are also pending before the courts.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Czechia <u>has enacted</u> Act No. 65/2022 Coll. (Lex Ukraine) implementing the TPD. It has extended the scope to cover the citizens of Ukraine who entered the territory of the Czech Republic legally without a visa or on the basis of a short-stay visa and on 24 February 2022 still resided in the territory of the Czech Republic on the basis of this short-stay visa or without a visa. This is in addition to:

- (1) the citizens of Ukraine who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and subsequently left Ukraine
- (2) stateless persons and foreigners who were granted some form of international protection in Ukraine and who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and subsequently left it.
- (3) Family members of the persons falling under all three categories are also covered.

In addition, temporary protection is accorded to TCNs who were holders of a permanent residence permit in Ukraine before 24 February and who cannot return to their country of origin due to a threat of actual danger as defined in the Act on the Residence of Foreigners. Temporary protection may also be granted due to family reunification with the holder of temporary protection, or exceptionally in other cases. Temporary protection is conferred for a period of 1 year and it is renewable from 31 March. The applications for temporary protection must be presented in person before the Regional Centers for help and Assistance to Ukraine. A list of the centers is provided <u>here</u>.

The Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic <u>has approved</u> amendments to the "Lex Ukraine". People displaced from Ukraine receiving free accommodation and food will not receive the CZK 5,000 State support. Moreover, health insurance for adults will be covered by the State for a maximum of 180 days. Residents of the Czechia hosting beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>can</u> receive CZK 300 per month for each person and it cannot exceed CZK 12000. Beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>have access to</u> the public health insurance system. The Center for the Support of Integration of Foreigners (CPIC) has organized more than 200 Czech language courses for foreigners, mainly UA nationals. There are plans to arrange more programs. Furthermore, <u>measures have been introduced</u> to employ Ukrainian teachers to promote the education of children displaced from Ukraine.



From 2 May, people displaced from Ukraine <u>must register</u> with the Police and report a change of residence during the first 3 days after arrival, although elsewhere, information suggest that the deadline is 30 days after arrival.

In March, 244,650 persons were granted temporary protection. When compared with the population of each Member State, Czechia conferred the highest ratio of temporary protection statuses (22.9). More information can be found <u>here</u>.

7. Denmark

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA citizens with a biometric passport can enter Denmark and stay for 90 days without a visa. In the absence of a biometric passport, an application for a visa is required. The Danish Immigration Service has created <u>a dedicated Q&A page for Ukrainian citizens</u> covering entry, stay and asylum-related developments.

The Refugee Appeals Board has suspended decisions in asylum cases of UA citizens. The decision was reviewed in <u>the Coordination Committee of 28 April 2022</u> and the continuation of the suspension has been decided. The decision will be reviewed again on 23 June.

UA nationals arriving to Denmark by train can travel into and through Denmark for free on DSB rail lines. Passenger cars with Ukrainian licence plates crossing the Øresund Bridge for humanitarian purposes can cross free of charge. Transports with emergency aid or refugees must send an email to the Øresund Bridge's customer service (kontakt@oresundsbron.com) for pre-approval. These rules apply between 1 March until 31 August. For more information, you can visit this <u>webpage</u>.

Reception, basic care and guidance upon arrival are being provided by the Red Cross at Copenhagen Central Station.

People displaced from Ukraine are generally staying in private homes. Each municipality <u>decides</u> whether they want to give financial support to the households providing shelter. The municipalities have also <u>adapted</u> schools, sports halls and military barracks.

An agreement <u>was reached</u> on 25 April giving more flexibility to municipalities to adapt the reception system for displaced children from Ukraine.

A dedicated <u>website</u> has been created for UA nationals in Denmark to help them enter the labour market.

UA nationals arriving in Ukrainian or Russian cars will receive free motor liability insurance until 30 June 2022 (motor liability insurance). More information can be found <u>here</u>. Those with an Ukrainian driving licence will be able to <u>drive in Denmark</u> for a period of 180 days. After that period, they will have to exchange it for a Danish licence.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

On 16 March 2022 the Danish Parliament agreed on <u>a Special Act on displaced persons from</u> <u>Ukraine</u> that resembles the TPD, which Denmark opted out from. The Special Act will apply to Ukrainian citizens and refugees recognised in Ukraine (i.e. a narrow interpretation of the TPD). It also applies to those in the above groups who resided or had a residence permit in Denmark on 24 February 2022.



It will also be possible for close family members of the two groups to be reunited with a person, who has been granted residence under the Special Act in Denmark. Family members are defined as nuclear family members, i.e. spouse, partner and minor unmarried children, as well as other close relatives, who prior to the flight shared a household with and were financially dependent on the main person.

A residence permit under the Special Act is valid for two years (until 2024) with the possibility of extension for an additional year (until 2025). The decisions on the extension will be taken by the Danish Immigration and Integration Minister. Persons, who are granted residence permit under the Special Act, have the same rights as persons, who are granted refugee status in Denmark, e.g. right to housing, health care, access to the labour market, access to education for children and social welfare assistance. For people staying in temporary accommodation, a <u>financial aid</u> of DKK 2402 is provided for each adult per month, DKK 4401 will be granted to couples without children and DKK 4802 for couples with 1-3 children. Married persons who arrive to Denmark alone cannot receive extra social assistance. Danish municipalities can decide to provide Denmark residents hosting people displaced from Ukraine with DKK 500 per person per day.

The residence permit will not be granted to UA nationals with another citizenship other than Ukrainian, and to those who have a residence permit in another country other than Ukraine.

To apply for residence under the Special Act, you can fill a form <u>online</u> or use the paper-based format. You will have to book an appointment with the Danish Immigration Citizen Service.

8. Estonia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Entry: According to new measures, biometric passports are no longer required for UA nationals fleeing the country; people can arrive without any requirement for visa. COVID-related requirements do not apply to UA nationals arriving at the border.

Stay: UA nationals who are already present in the territory of Estonia are not required to apply for an extension of visa or residence permits upon expiration.

Accommodation is provided for UA nationals and beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine, displaced as of 24 February 2022. Initial reception centres are currently in Tallinn, Tartu, Pärnu and Narva border checkpoint and healthcare, meals, work permits and education will be provided. If necessary, they will provide accommodation for up to 24 hours. Additional information can be found <u>here</u>.

A dedicated <u>website</u> has been created for UA nationals in Estonia to help them enter the labour market.

People displaced from Ukraine can use train and bus services free of charge. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Estonia has implemented the TPD and UA nationals, beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine, and families of both groups are eligible to apply. The protection is granted for a period of 1 year and it is renewable each 6 months for a maximum of 1 year.

The protection does not apply to those who resided or stayed in Estonia prior to 24 February 2022, but they will be subject to decisions allowing for their temporary stay even if visas have expired. The procedures for UA nationals are simplified and a decision will be issued within a month. In order to



apply for TP, it is necessary to <u>book an appointment</u> with the Police and Border Guard Board. Appointments can be booked <u>here</u>. More information on how to apply for temporary protection is available <u>here</u>.

Regarding the education of minor children, Estonia <u>has announced</u> a short-term plan considering that children will finish their education abroad and a long-term plan organizing the integration of children displaced from Ukraine into the national education system. On 1 April, changes to the parental benefit system were introduced with the aim of providing greater flexibility to balance family and work life. This will be applicable to Estonian citizens <u>as well as to people fleeing Ukraine</u> who have been granted temporary protection. A financial allowance <u>is provided</u> to beneficiaries of temporary protection who can receive EUR 323.21 per adult and 273.06 for each other member of the family over 18 and EUR 206.19 for a minor. Estonia has also organised job assistance, language courses and vocational training for beneficiaries of temporary protection.

9. France

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free entry with a biometric passport remains possible. UA nationals without a biometric passport <u>may submit</u> a request for a visa at the consular posts of the countries bordering Ukraine.

Stay: UA nationals who are already in France can address a request for extension of stay to the Prefecture in the *Département* of arrival. A list of Prefectures can be found <u>here</u>.

Residence permits of UA nationals already residing in France, which are due to expire in the coming days or weeks, will be automatically extended by three months.

An <u>inter-ministerial decision</u> explains that short-term accommodation has been organised near to borders and crossing points and medium-term accommodation is available in specialised reception facilities. Registration for both accommodation and protection can take place at Prefectures or in specific welcome points in Paris, Nice and Strasbourg. The welcome centre in Paris, exclusively for people fleeing Ukraine, is located in Porte de Versailles and open every day for accommodation or administrative queries. Furthermore, there are other reception and information centers in Paris, such as the Humanitarian Center, the Henri IV site, CAFDA (for families) and "La Maison des réfugiés". More information can be found <u>here</u>. Other welcome points are located in Cherbourg, Saint-Lô and Avranches; details on all four can be found <u>here</u>. UA nationals <u>can travel</u> for free on French trains. After short-term accommodation, people are located in transitory accommodation, such as gymnasiums or hostel. Finally, they can benefit from social housing. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

Ukrainian students in France <u>can apply</u> to a French higher education institution. They must send a message to <u>ukraine@campusfrance.org</u>. A scheme <u>has been set up</u> allowing African students displaced from Ukraine to continue their studies in a French institution. The City of Paris has organised language courses for UA adults which will run from April to June 2022. A reception platform for the orientation of artists and cultural professionals from Ukraine has been set up (<u>soutienartistesukrainiens@AA-e.org</u>).

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

A ministerial order was issued specifying the people eligible for temporary protection. Third-country nationals holding a valid permanent residence permit can only benefit from temporary protection if they are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to their country of origin. This assessment has to be carried out by the prefecture after an individual interview. France extends the scope of the directive to the family members of all eligible beneficiaries, including third country nationals with permanent residence permits (if they have proved they cannot return to their country of origin). The



protection also applies to UA nationals who were temporarily in Europe on 24 February 2022 but can prove they were permanently residing in Ukraine.

If a person wishing to apply for temporary protection does not have a valid identity document, the person can establish his/her nationality if they present a passport or national identity card expired for a maximum of two years or an Ukrainian consular certificate. To prove their civil status, the person can present any document justifying his/her civil status.

Those eligible for temporary protection will be issued a provisional residence permit for 6 months, renewable for up to 3 years, giving them immediate access to healthcare, support to access housing and payment of the asylum seeker's allowance. On 1 April 2022, a <u>decree</u> was issued allowing those with temporary protection the automatic right to work, instead of applying for a work permit as was the case prior. France <u>provides</u> an allowance to beneficiaries of temporary protection (Asylum Seekers' Allowance) which varies depending on the family situation and the accommodation support. A single adult in private accommodation receives EUR 14.2 per day. If the person lives in an accommodation run by the State, the support is of EUR 6.8 per day. During 2022, children under the age of 3 <u>can access</u> public daycare free of charge.

Furthermore, on 29 March 2022, the Minister of Interior published a <u>handbook</u> in French and Ukrainian with information for those displaced from Ukraine. The <u>network "2000 France Services"</u> provides help with administrative procedures for individuals displaced from Ukraine. In France, beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>can receive</u> advice from the Public Employment Services through orientation and skill assessments.

Ukrainian driving licenses are <u>recognised</u> in France for beneficiaries of temporary protection as long as the person is regularly on the territory.

10. Finland

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free travel remains possible. <u>A dedicated page</u> on the website of the Finnish Immigration Service includes information on residence permits following the UA developments.

Decision-making on applications by UA nationals <u>are suspended</u> insofar as that would entail removal from Finland (i.e. negative decisions are not being issued). However, the Finnish Immigration Service continues to issue decisions on applications for international protection and residence permits to applicants meeting the relevant conditions.

In order to apply for temporary protection, people have to declare their willingness to do so before the police or a border control authority. The Finish Immigration Service recommends that people fleeing from Ukraine apply for temporary protection even if they have already introduced an application for asylum. In that case, the processing of the asylum application is suspended.

The Finnish Immigration Service has repeatedly <u>announced</u> plans to establish new reception centres and service points for private accommodation (which is hosting most people). As of 6 May, a <u>new</u> <u>reception centre</u> has opened (Lammi branch of the Hämeenlinna reception centre). In addition, it has been <u>announced</u> that compensation will only be provided to municipalities offering accommodation and not to private individuals or other actors.

Official websites state that Onnibus trains could be used free of charge until the end of April. Finnair was offering a discount for people fleeing Ukraine from certain locations to Helsinki which was valid until 30 April 2022. The discount has been <u>extended</u> until June 30.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses



Finland has <u>implemented</u> the Temporary Protection Directive and chosen to extend its scope to UA citizens and their family members who fled Ukraine shortly before 24 February, other UA citizens and their family members who were already staying in Finland or who have arrived and to non-EU nationals legally residing (not just permanently residing) in Ukraine who cannot return to their country of origin. For family members, the family ties must have been established in Ukraine before 24 February. Family members do not have to apply at the same time.

Finland <u>provides</u> an allowance to beneficiaries of temporary protection which varies depending on the family situation and the accommodation support. The overall processing time for applications is usually around two-three weeks, as a decision must be reached by the Finnish Immigration Service and then the residence permit card can take over a week to arrive. On 20 May, the Finish Immigration Service <u>announced</u> that the process is now faster and that a decision can be taken in several days when the applications contain all the necessary information. However, a period of two weeks is still required to obtain a residence permit card.

The Finnish Government announced on 12 May that it is <u>prepared</u> to receive beneficiaries of TP transferred from other EU Member States.

As of 5 June, 26,437 applications for temporary protection had been submitted from which 26,109 were lodged by UA nationals and 328 by TCNs. Out of the 26,437 applications, the Finnish Immigration Service had taken a decision on 23,944. For more details, you can visit this <u>webpage</u>.

11. Germany

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees regularly publishes <u>UA-specific guidance</u> in German, Russian and Ukrainian on entry and stay requirements. Civil society organisations have released detailed <u>guidance</u> in English and Ukrainian, and the Federal Ministry of Interior (BMI) has launched a <u>web portal</u> with information in Ukrainian, German and English. Furthermore, the Federal Government has launched the "<u>Germany4Ukraine</u>" app with information in Ukrainian, Russian, English and German. Registration can take place in all cities in Germany, however the BMI recommends avoiding the biggest cities (such as Berlin, Munich and Hamburg) due to large numbers of arrivals there.

Ukrainian citizens with a biometric passport can enter and move freely in the Schengen area without a visa. This also includes onward travel from Poland to Germany. UA nationals without a biometric passport may exceptionally apply for a visa for Germany at the diplomatic missions in Ukraine's neighbouring countries. For a limited period lasting until February 2023, a Ukrainian ID card is recognised as a substitute for a passport in order to cross the border into Germany. Regarding COVID-related restrictions, since 27 February 2022, Ukraine is no longer classified as a high-risk area. Therefore, under the Ordinance on Coronavirus Entry Regulations, only proof of a negative test result is required prior to entry. People entering from Ukraine are no longer required to register or quarantine upon entry and tests and medical advice will be available at the border.

Regarding stay, <u>an ordinance</u> temporarily exempts persons displaced from Ukraine and staying in Germany from the requirement to hold a residence permit; the ordinance will remain in effect until 31 August 2022. Therefore, applications for a residence permit <u>must be submitted</u> by 31 August at the latest. Those displaced from Ukraine who decide to obtain a long-term residence permit, to receive social benefits or to work in the short-term, can apply for the residence permit electronically through "Germany4Ukraine".

The national railway services <u>have announced</u> that UA nationals can travel with a Ukrainian passport or identity card on all long-distance trains from Poland to Germany free of charge. The long-distance trains have their starting points in Warsaw, Gdansk, Przemysl (at the border with Ukraine)/Krakow,



Vienna/Wroclaw. All public transport within Germany is free of charge. For travel on long-distance routes within Germany, a "helpukraine" ticket can be used free of charge.

The Berlin Immigration Office issued a general ruling stipulating that, for the citizens of Ukraine in Berlin whose visa-free stay expires on 25 February 2022, the visa-free short stay is automatically extended until 31 May 2022. The ruling applies solely to Ukrainian citizens in possession of a valid passport or a passport replacement document, who are actually staying in Berlin at the time the visa-free short stay expires and who will be also staying there until they leave Germany.

The BMI advises against UA nationals applying for asylum as temporary protection under the TPD provides a quicker protection process. Nonetheless, the right to apply for asylum continues to apply at a later date.

Before being able to work in Germany, beneficiaries of temporary protection need permission from the Immigration Authorities (Ausländerbehörden). The Federal Ministry of the Interior and Home Affairs has decided to launch courses for people fleeing Ukraine. More information is available <u>here</u>. The Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) have announced that students who have fled Ukraine can continue their studies in Germany without having a secondary school certificate. Additional information can be found <u>here</u>.

From 1 June, those displaced from Ukraine who have been issued a residence permit for temporary protection or a provisional residence document and who meet certain other conditions, will receive assistance and social support under the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch) and not the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz). Approximately, the support <u>received</u> will be of EUR 360 per individual each month. More details can be found <u>here</u>.

The government <u>has introduced</u> "fast track" measures to employ Ukrainian teachers to promote the education of children displaced from Ukraine.

Additional local and national information can be found here.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Germany has chosen to apply the TPD to third-country nationals and stateless persons who can prove they had permanent legal residency in Ukraine and who cannot return to their country of origin. In addition, Germany has extended temporary protection to third-country nationals who can prove they were lawfully present in Ukraine for a non-temporary purpose but had not yet obtained permanent residency or international protection. This includes students and individuals with stays in Ukraine for reasons other than visiting or short-term employment, provided they cannot return to their country of origin. The protection also extends to those fitting the above categories who were already in Germany shortly before the 24 February 2022 and to those who had fled Ukraine not long before 24 February.

Germany has also decided to extend temporary protection to UA nationals who were residing in Germany with a residence title that will expire soon, regardless of when they entered the country. Stateless persons are not included in the last category and will be informed of alternative options under residence laws and of their right to file an application for international protection. There have been reports that some UA nationals who received a registration certificate in Poland were refused access to the TPD in Germany. Germany confers temporary protection for a period of 2 years with possibility of renewal each 6 months for a maximum of 3 years.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection can apply for a transfer of residence to another member state of the European Union. If this application is granted, the applicant will receive a "certificate of transfer of residence", which states where the applicant should register (using the certificate) in the other

Member State. For all questions regarding the residence requirement and the transfer of residence,



beneficiaries are asked to contact the foreigners <u>authority</u> which is competent to handle their case rather than the registration office. For more information, consult the specialised <u>website</u> for Ukraine.

- 12. Greece
 - a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free entry with biometric passports and visa-based entry without a biometric passport is possible at all entry points. UA nationals who are not in possession of travel documents <u>may only</u> <u>enter Greece</u> through the Promachonas border station on the Greek-Bulgarian border. Passenger locator forms are <u>no longer required</u> for UA citizens to enter Greece.

Where necessary, short-term accommodation will be provided at the Sindiki reception facility until all travel documents have been issued. For UA nationals in need of long-term accommodation, a request must be made via email to <u>ukraine@migration.gov.gr</u>. Applications for accommodation can also be submitted online <u>here</u>.

The Ministry of Migration and Asylum requests that UA nationals who reside in Greece and will provide care for minor relatives arriving from Ukraine be present at the entry points. They must carry with them the necessary legal documents proving their family relationship and the consent of the minor's parents to give the custody of their children to the adult.

From 30 May, beneficiaries of temporary protection can request the Athena card which will allow them to travel for free on public transport in Athens for a period of 90 days. After 90 days, the card has to be re-activated. From 1 June, beneficiaries of temporary protection can also apply for a travel card in Thessaloniki (offices of OASTH) which will allow them to access public transport for free. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

People displaced from Ukraine can access free psychological support (10306(number 4))

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

The Ministry of Migration and Asylum <u>has announced</u> that temporary protection up to one year, renewable twice each 6 months, will be offered to UA nationals residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022, TCNs or stateless persons legally residing (as refugees or with an equivalent national status) in Ukraine before 24 February 2022, and to family members of the above groups.

The Regional Asylum Offices (RAOs) in Athens, Thessaloniki, Patras and Crete started registering applications for temporary protection online. During the online application, the applicants declare the location where they want to be registered and retrieve their temporary protection card, as well as whether they need housing assistance. The temporary protection card contains the residence permit, a social security number and a tax number. After receiving the card, the applicants have automatic access to the national healthcare system and the labour market. The online portal for the application can be accessed here (in Ukrainian). For information on the procedure for granting temporary protection, you can contact 0030-2131629600 or send an email to ukraine@migration.gov.gr. Upon granting of the aforementioned temporary protection, beneficiaries will have access to the material reception conditions of asylum seekers and will have the right to work and to medical care. Financial assistance will be provided to beneficiaries of temporary protection once the EU funding is authorised. Out of the 2,095 unaccompanied children who arrived to Greece from 01 September 2021 to 01 June 2022, 12 unaccompanied children arrived from Ukraine.

13. Hungary

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum



Generally, everyone is permitted to enter Hungary from the five border crossings operating at the Hungary-Ukraine border. There have been instances of third-country nationals being refused entry at the Romania-Hungary border. Five registration points have been set up by the government's Humanitarian Council near the border crossings for registration to begin. Moreover, at the Budapest Olympic Centre Sporthall people displaced from Ukraine <u>are welcomed</u> by interpeters and are offered medical attention, a resting space, food, toilets and showers. Despite the measures adopted by the Government, <u>the FRA explains</u> that since the authorities were not prepared to receive a large number of individuals, displaced persons had to rely on the hospitality of the volunteers. Updated information and developments can be accessed <u>here</u>. Hungary has lifted covid-19 restrictions for people displaced from Ukraine and it also offers them covid-19 vaccinations.

Applications for temporary protection must be submitted in person at the designated hotspots or at the client service offices of the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing. Information on the hotspots can be found <u>here</u>.

An electronic (data recording) platform has been created for those displaced from Ukraine. They cannot submit their application electronically but they can upload their data prior to the appointment in person in order to speed up the procedure. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

<u>"Solidarity tickets"</u> free of charge are available in MAV trains from Ukraine to Hungary. .BKK has extended free travel for UA nationals until 31 August. Certain exceptions have been introduced. For more details, you can access this <u>webpage</u>. The national chief veterinary surgeon announced that people displaced from Ukraine are allowed to bring their pets without complying with the health regulations.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Before the Council Decision activating the Temporary Protection Directive, Hungary had adopted the <u>national temporary protection scheme on 24 February</u>. This was repealed by <u>Government Decree No. 86/2022</u> which introduced the implementing decision into Hungarian law with retroactive effect. As a result, those who had already applied for temporary protection under the national protection scheme do not receive temporary protection if they do not fall under the scope of the implementing decision. Temporary protection under the EU Council Directive is available to UA citizens and beneficiaries of international protection residing in Ukraine displaced on or after 24 February 2022, as well as to their family members. Temporary protection <u>will be granted</u> until the situation persists. TCNs and stateless people who do not fit into these groups are excluded from protection. They can obtain a certificate of temporary stay (ideiglenes tartózkodásra jogositó igazolás) which is valid for 30 days and can be renewed each 30 days for a maximum of six months. After that period, these persons can apply for protection through the usual asylum procedure which involves registering in the Hungarian embassy in Belgrade to submit a statement of intent to apply for asylum. More information about this can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Hungary <u>allows</u> students displaced from Ukraine to continue their university studies regardless of nationality. Pursuant to <u>Decree No. 1186/2022</u>, funds are allocated for the "Students at Risk" programme which allows Ukrainian nationals and certain TCNs (<u>Stipendium Hungaricum partners</u>) to study in Hungary. <u>Decree No. 1179/2022</u> provides that EUR 347 per month will be allocated for the education and training of beneficiaries of temporary protection. According to a government decision, the Minister of Finance has an obligation to organize the 2022 funds to ensure that children of compulsory school age who are beneficiaries of temporary protection are enrolled in schools. The Ministry of Human Capacities issued a letter establishing that public schools have to admit beneficiaries of temporary protection. However, there were no instructions on the procedure to follow.



Initially, temporary protection, as implemented in Hungary, does not confer a <u>right to work</u> while the decision is pending or after the status has been granted. Regarding the recognition of healthcare diplomas from Ukraine, some relaxations have been introduced by <u>Decree No. 121/2022</u>.

Job seekers <u>will receive</u> HUF 22800 each month and support for minors will be of HUF 13700 per month. The applications for the regular subsistence benefit of HUF 22800 per month can be submitted at the district office of the applicant's place of accommodation. Only those that respect the job-seeker requirements <u>can obtain</u> the subsidy.

According to the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, as of 31 March, less than 1,5% of those fleeing Ukraine was <u>able to request temporary protection</u> in Hungary.

14. Iceland

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA nationals are entitled to travel to Iceland visa-free. The Directorate of Immigration <u>removed</u> Ukraine from the list of safe countries.

A residence permit under a collective protection measure (see below) grants individuals rights including housing, maintenance, social services, health care services and access to the labour market. Under the current regime, those who receive a residence permit on humanitarian grounds only receive conditional access to the Icelandic labour market, however, an amendment is now being prepared aiming to ensure that all persons who receive a residence permit on humanitarian grounds will receive a work permit along with the residence permit, automatically and without intermediaries.

Those already in Iceland on a temporary permit or visa-free stay expiring soon are allowed to stay in the country until further notice. However, a residence and work permit are necessary to be able to work.

The Ministry of Education and Children <u>will provide</u> funding to municipalities to support Ukrainian children's reception and school work. The financial aid can amount to ISK 200,000 per children under 18.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Iceland <u>triggered</u> Article 44 of the Foreign Nationals Act which provides collective protection to a group of foreign nationals fleeing a specific region of mass exodus. Collective protection is granted to:

(1) Ukrainian citizens residing in Ukraine before 24 February

(2) TCNs who enjoyed international protection, subsidiary protection or residence permits on humanitarian grounds in Ukraine on 24 February

(3) the family members of these groups.

(4) persons in the thee previous groups who were in Iceland on 24 February and where a decision had not been issued on their cases or who were in Iceland on the basis of residence permits that cannot be extended.

The residence permit is issued for one year at a time, with the possibility to renew or extend it up to three years from the time of first issuance. It entails access to housing, maintenance, social services, health care, education for children and a conditional access to the labour market. Beneficiaries of collective protection receive ISK 2700 for an adult each week and ISK 1000 for a children each week. A Q&A section and pre-registration has been created for persons fleeing Ukraine.



In order to speed up the registration process, UA nationals are asked to fill out the <u>pre-registration</u> form before travelling to Iceland. Upon arrival, applications must be submitted in person. It is possible to complete the process at Keflavík Airport, at the reception center for applicants for international protection in the capital or at the nearest police station in any other location.

15. Ireland

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

According to the Ministry of Justice, people who are considering leaving Ukraine and travelling to Ireland may do so without a visa and will be entitled to temporary protection under the TPD. Upon arrival to Dublin airport, a person identified as a potential beneficiary of temporary protection is directed to the Citywest Convention Centre where the application for temporary protection can be submitted. Social welfare support for holders of a temporary protection status and local centres have been announced here. In order to benefit from the government public services, it is necessary to have a PPSN number. The process has been facilitated for UA nationals; instead of having to apply for the number online, it is possible to do it at the Citywest Convention Centre. Accommodation is provided to all who request it on arrival to an Immigration Officer or the authorities present. If accommodation is needed later on, you can contact the Ukraine Temporary Accommodation Team (ukrainetempaccom@equality.gov.ie). Permanent accommodation is then organised through the authorities and the Irish Red Cross who will work with local hosts to provide shared accommodation.

Ukraine support centres have been set up in Cork, Dublin and Limerick.

The Minister for Education has <u>announced</u> that UA teachers will be prioritised in registration to account for the children needing education in Ukrainian language. Furthermore, the Minister <u>announced</u> that 41,000 places for children in education can be provided if needed. The Arts Council is facilitating the <u>participation</u> of Ukrainian children in their Cruinniú na nÓg programme. The Minister for Social Protection <u>declared</u> that a monthly payment of EUR 400 will be made to those providing accommodation for people displaced from Ukraine. Regularly updated information in English and Ukrainian is available <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Irish Rail <u>provides</u> a free train journey from the point of arrival to the ultimate destination. A bus journey under the same conditions is <u>provided</u> by Expressway and Bus Éireann.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Ireland provides temporary protection status in line with the TPD. The scope covers:

- (1) UA nationals residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022
- (2) TCNs or stateless persons who benefited from international protection or an equivalent national protection status in Ukraine and were residing there before 24 February 2022
- (3) family members of the above groups, where the family already existed in Ukraine at the time of events leading to the mass influx prior to 24 February.

Ireland also applies temporary protection to TCNs and stateless people who were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 if they had a permanent residence permit and cannot safely return to their country of origin, while those with a "temporary or short-term residence permit issued by the Ukrainian authorities" are instead assisted to return home if it is safe to do so.

UA nationals in Ireland with a short stay "C" type visa can also benefit from temporary protection. Any other UA national on another immigration permission in Ireland will remain on that basis until it expires. At that point, the person can decide to extend it or to avail to TP. Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and it is subject to renewable.



Beneficiaries of TP who change their address must communicate this to their local Ukraine Support Centre in Dublin, Cork and Limerick or to their local Intreo Centre or branch office.

16. Italy

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free entry remains possible for UA nationals and they are entitled to temporary protection in line with the TPD. Passport holders can stay for 90 days without applying for protection and those without a valid passport are asked to contact the UA embassy or consulate in Rome for a temporary identity document. COVID-related restrictions continue to apply until 30 April 2022: entry must be accompanied by a COVID certificate and a passenger locator form, however testing can be done in Lazio within 48 hours of arrival.

UA citizens who stay with relatives or friends must register their presence as a guest alongside their host at their local *Commissariato*. Those in need of accommodation must declare this at the *Prefettura* of the city. More details and numbers and locations of embassies can be found in Italian, Ukrainian and English in this guide.

A <u>recent decree</u> addressed the potential exceptional reception needs for UA nationals by allocating resources for the management of detention and reception centres, increasing places for the System of Accommodation and Integration and places for Emergency Accommodation Centres. UA citizens fleeing from the war will have access to these reception centres regardless of whether they have applied for asylum. Those in need of accommodation can contact the prefecture on arrival. A special fund will be dedicated to finance support measures for UA students, researchers and lecturers so that they can carry out their activities at Italian universities, institutions for higher artistic, musical and dance training and research bodies.

The Department of Civil Protection has issued a national plan for the <u>reception and assistance</u> of the population from Ukraine. It has also issued <u>operational indications</u> for the management of the widespread availability of reception for the population coming from Ukraine. Moreover, it has created an <u>unaccompanied foreign minors plan</u>. On May 26, the Commissioner for the coordination of assistance activities <u>adopted</u> a new section to the plan to prevent and manage situations of expulsion or disappearance of unaccompanied minors from reception centres.

Italy has <u>removed</u> Ukraine from the safe country of origin list until 31 December 2022.

Several courts in Italy have granted subsidiary protection to Ukrainian nationals who had applied for protection before the escalation of conflict in Ukraine in 2022 (the Tribunal of Florence, on 16 March 2022, the Tribunal of Milan, on 3 March 2022, and the Tribunal of Genova, on 22 April 2022).

The National Council of the Notariat, in collaboration with the Italian Red Cross, provides support to to people fleeing from Ukraine to obtain the necessary documents. It has also launched a fundraiser to cover housing needs.

Italy <u>supports</u> institutions to promote the employment of Ukrainian professors. The Prefecture of Siena <u>has organised</u> free Italian courses for people arriving from Ukraine. The prefecture of La Spezia <u>has launched</u> a project whereby adult individuals fleeing from Ukraine can have a contract in a restaurant or hotel business for a period of three months if they attend an Italian language course.

During a conference on 5 May, the Italian Prime Minister <u>announced</u> that Italy had increased the funds to support people fleeing Ukraine from EUR 500 million to EUR 800 million.



Flixbus, Marino bus and Trenord trains offer free journeys for people fleeing from Ukraine. Furthermore, an <u>ordinance</u> of 13 March 2022 provides that people fleeing from Ukraine can travel without any cost in Italy to reach the first place of destination or reception. This is limited to the first five days after arrival in Italy.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

In Italy, the Temporary Protection Directive was implemented with Legislative Decree 85/2003. The Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers was adopted at the national level on 28 March 2022 to implement the Council Decision of 4 March 2022 after the events in Ukraine.

The decree confirms that temporary protection applies to UA citizens and third-country nationals and stateless people who held international protection or an equivalent national protection in Ukraine, and fled before 24 February 2022. It also applies to third-country nationals and stateless people who held permanent residence permits in Ukraine and are unable to return to their country of origin. According to the Court of Cassation's <u>report no. 36</u> of 12 April 2022 recalling the regulatory framework regarding temporary protection, limiting protection to these categories of people "will leave a significant number of persons unprotected". The protection/permit can be requested at every *Questura* and will allow the beneficiary to access the national health system, the labour market and education. Temporary protection to the labour market, Italy has decided to <u>derogate</u> from its immigration quotas. Those who have already applied for international protection in Italy and have pending cases can still apply however those who have already been recognised as in need of international protection cannot access the temporary protection regime.

Although applications for international protection can be submitted by a beneficiary of temporary protection, the 28 March Decree provides that the decisions will be postponed until the end of temporary protection. The Court of Cassation, in its report no. 36 of 12 April 2022, argues that this leads to a suspension of international protection which the TPD does not contemplate. The latter merely provides that the temporary protection status cannot be combined with refugee status. The Court of Cassation concludes that the more favourable provision of the TPD should apply instead of the national one.

Following the Decree, the civil protection service published an <u>ordinance</u> on 29 March 2022 setting out reception and humanitarian support issues. The ordinance confirmed that TPD beneficiaries over 18 years of age who find their own accommodation will be granted a monthly allowance of EUR 300 each month for a maximum of 3 months from their arrival, and for each minor in a family the family will receive an additional EUR 150. The amount shall be paid in the 90 days from the application for temporary protection. It is now possible to apply for the subsistence allowance <u>online</u>. From 27 May, those entitled to the contribution for the months of March and April, who applied by 9 May, <u>can collect</u> the amount from any *Poste Italiane* office. If beneficiaries of temporary protection decide not to live in private accommodation, <u>municipalities are in charge</u> of finding accommodation after the stay at the initial reception centres has ended.

Guidelines on temporary protection and stay in Italy are also available in Italian, English, Russian and Ukrainian <u>here</u>.

As of 26 May, 111.259 persons had applied for temporary protection in Italy. A <u>dashboard</u> with an analysis of the figures has been created by "Civil Protection".

17. Latvia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Entry: Visa-free entry remains possible with a biometric passport. At border crossing points, checks will confirm the existence of biometric passports or the need for visas, in the absence of the latter.



The Ministry has <u>indicated</u> that UA citizens who have biometric passports and do not need social assistance or accommodation can stay in Latvia for up to 90 days per year without informing the state authorities. If a person arrives without travel documents the identity of the person will be confirmed in cooperation with the competent Ukrainian authorities. More detailed information in English, Ukrainian and Russian can be found <u>here</u>.

The lack of valid travel documents will not be an obstacle to entering Latvia for UA nationals; similarly, the lack of medical COVID-related documents, such as tests or vaccination certificates, will not impede entry for UA nationals.

Stay: People fleeing from Ukraine should inform the State Border Guard officials if they do not have accommodation; 6,500 places have been made available for accommodation. The government has created a portal where Latvian residents can offer a place of accommodation for people displaced from Ukraine. Social support, food and medical care will be offered to all UA nationals arriving in Latvia. Accommodation and meals are provided for free during the first 90 days. On May 26, the Parliament agreed to extend the support for another 30 days for those who had applied for the benefits before 24 May. On 25 May, the government decided to reduce the fee for tourist accommodation from EUR 20 to EUR 15 per day and from EUR 15 to EUR 10 for meals. As a result, some tourist accommodations have announced that they will stop accommodating people fleeing from Ukraine. More information can be found here. Private individuals who accommodate UA nationals at their homes can receive a compensation upon request of EUR 100 per month for the first person and an extra EUR 50 for each subsequent person but they can never receive more than EUR 300. Latvia has also announced that, as an alternative, they can help with the rent for up to EUR 400 per month. In the event of urgent medical assistance upon arrival, UA nationals are urged to inform border officials or call 113. A hotline has been created to inform on services and support available in Riga (+371 27 380 380). Support centers have opened in several cities for those fleeing Ukraine. Employment opportunities for UA citizens can be found here and here. On 26 May, the Ukrainian Citizens' Support Center organised an event to help UA nationals meet employers.

Different types of social support services are available for those fleeing Ukraine, such as a one-off benefit in a crisis situation of EUR 272 for an adult and EUR 190 for a child. An additional monthly allowance of EUR 109 will be granted for the first person in a Ukrainian household and EUR 76 for each subsequent person. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

On 5 April, the Cabinet of Ministers amended the Law on Support of the Civilian Population of Ukraine to provide additional support for housing, employment and education. Amongst other measures, the Law provides that exceptions will be made when documents cannot be obtained and that employers can hire a UA national without conducting the first mandatory health exam within the first three months. More information can be found <u>here</u>. On May 31, the government expressed its support to the Ministry of Education and Science's proposal to organise <u>summer camps</u> to promote the integration of Ukrainian citizens. EUR 613,180 have been allocated for the project. UA nationals enrolled in higher education in Latvia can receive a scholarship of EUR 140 per month until the end of June. If a Latvian institution offers an unpaid internship to a UA national, the State will provide a research grant of EUR 900 per month until the end of August. For more information, you can access this <u>webpage</u>.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

In Latvia, the temporary protection status is available for UA citizens, TCNs who are unable to return to their country of origin, and family members resident in UA on or before 24 February 2022 for a period of 1 year.

As of 23 May, 24,098 people displaced from Ukraine have received temporary protection.



18. Lithuania

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free entry is possible for UA nationals with biometric passports. UA nationals who have nowhere to stay in Lithuania must register with the Alytus Migration Department immediately upon arrival. UA nationals who have a place to stay in Lithuania must register too but they can do so in any Migration Department across the country (information on addresses in different cities available in <u>Ukrainian</u>, <u>Russian</u> and <u>English</u>). It is advised that individuals fill in an <u>electronic application</u> for a residence permit before arriving for registration. The Identity Documents Personalisation Centre (IDCP) has <u>announced</u> that the urgent issuance of a document within 1 and 5 working days will be abandoned. Documents will now be issued within a month.

<u>According to the state news agency</u>, UA nationals who benefit from the visa waiver or have a valid Schengen visa, as well as those who have been issued a national visa or a temporary residence permit on humanitarian grounds will have the right to work in Lithuania and will be relieved from the obligation to obtain a work permit. In addition, temporary protection holders <u>will be exempt</u> from language requirements in certain jobs (such as teaching) to facilitate access to the labour market for a period of two years. As of 4 May, 1 in 3 UA nationals <u>had found</u> a job in Lithuania.

On 4 May, the government <u>decided</u> to allocate an additional EUR 1.9 million to fund the education and school transport of children displaced from Ukraine. Different measures for the organization of the education process of UA children <u>have been adopted</u>, such as an All-Ukrainian online school. Moreover, if the institutional capacity allows it, Lithuania <u>will sponsor</u> the studies of people displaced from Ukraine. On 18 May, the government <u>approved</u> a proposal to offer a total of EUR 2 million in subsidies to Ukrainian companies that decide to start operations in Lithuania, in order to cover their establishment in the country.

At the registration centre, <u>there are arrangements</u> for detailed information provision on the possibilities for stay in Lithuania and provision of temporary accommodation (with municipalities or private individuals), food rations and basic medical care. Registration for accommodation can also be done online <u>here</u>. The Government <u>offers</u> an incentive for Lithuanian residents offering their house to accommodate people fleeing Ukraine; EUR 150 for the first person and EUR 50 for each subsequent person. The compensation is paid for a maximum of three months.

Once beneficiaries of temporary protection are no longer in the initial registration centre, the <u>municipalities are in charge</u> of finding an accommodation for them. Beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>receive</u> a financial assistance of EUR 129 per month for a single adult.

There is a suspension of returns to UA. Individuals arriving from Ukraine are advised to not apply for asylum but to obtain temporary protection instead.

Free psychological assistance is provided by calling +37066465792. Other contacts of interest can be found <u>here</u>.

LGT (train service) offers free train transportation for journeys within Lithuania.

b. Temporary protection and other statuses

After registration, UA nationals may apply for and obtain a temporary residence permit in Lithuania (for 1 year) or a national visa (for 1 year). The duration of temporary protection is of 1 year and it is renewable for another year. Information is not available on all categories of people to whom temporary protection has been extended. National visas will not be issued to citizens of Ukraine who are not holders of valid foreign passports, but applications for temporary residence permits for humanitarian reasons will be accepted. Ukrainian citizens holding biometric passports and whose



national visas or temporary residence permits expire in the Republic of Lithuania can immediately be part of the 90-day visa-free regime upon the expiry of these documents. Detailed information can also be found <u>here</u>.

19. Luxembourg

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Displaced people arriving from Ukraine to Luxembourg are asked to contact the Directorate of Immigration (at <u>immigration.desk@mae.etat.lu</u>) and submit a <u>form</u> to make their presence known and begin a temporary protection or regularisation application. Once the form has been submitted, the Directorate of Immigration will contact the person to fix an appointment. This procedure is also applicable to individuals accommodated by private persons.

An emergency reception centre is available 24/7 at 2454 Luxembourg-Kirchberg to provide accommodation and food to people on initial arrival. More information can be found <u>here.</u> Then people will be moved to a collective housing structure owned by the State. Residents of Luxembourg offering accommodation to UA nationals are requested to contact +352 621 796 780 or Ukraine@zesummeliewen.lu.

If a person arrives from Ukraine with their car, they must proceed to its <u>registration</u> in Luxembourg within 6 months of arrival.

b. Temporary protection or other special statuses

Temporary protection applies to

- (1) UA nationals residing in Ukraine before 24 February
- (2) TCNs and stateless persons who had been granted international protection in Ukraine before 24 February
- (3) family members of the above groups, irrespective of their nationality
- (4) TCNs and stateless persons who can prove they were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February on the basis of a valid residence permit and are unable to return to their country of origin.

It also applies to those who have left Ukraine since 24 February 2022 or shortly before due to the conflict (these are persons who fled when tensions were already arising in Ukraine or who found themselves in the EU just before 24 February and who cannot return to Ukraine). Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 years and it is reenwable each 6 months for a maximum of 3 years. More information on applying for protection can be found <u>here</u>.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection can apply for family reunification with members of their family who have been conferred temporary protection in another Member State and with those who have not yet entered the EU.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection who do not have sufficient means of subsistence or support from a private person are entitled to material assistance from the National Reception Office ("Office national de l'accueil") and can stay in an ONA accommodation facility. The material support will be provided based on the composition of the household, the age of the members of the households and their financial resources. Beneficiaries of temporary protection who live in private accommodation are also entitled to material assistance consisting of a monthly allowance, monthly food assistance, bi-annual clothing assistance, annual support with school supplies and access to medical care and coverage of related expenses. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

Luxembourg has also <u>announced</u> plans for the provision of education for all children fleeing Ukraine, with a focus on international public schools which have flexible language provisions. Measures have been introduced to employ Ukrainian teachers with the aim of facilitating the education of children



displaced from Ukraine. A hotline (+352 247-76976) in Ukrainian has been created to provide information regarding the Luxembourg school system. Before being able to attend school, children displaced from Ukraine have to take a health and social check-up. An appointment can be scheduled by calling +352 247 65533 (then press 3). Once individuals have been formally granted temporary protection status, they can freely access the national labour market without a specific permission. The persons concerned can also register as job seekers with the National Employment Agency (ADEM) which has created a specific unit for beneficiaries of temporary protection. Beneficiaries of temporary protection can conclude contracts of indeterminate duration and have the right to be self-employed. Employers willing to hire beneficiaries of temporary protection can contact +352 247 88000 or employeur@adem.etat.lu.

20. Malta

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA nationals can travel without a visa to Malta and the pre-approval for travel requirement has been lifted for those wishing to seek asylum.

COVID-related entry restrictions: All passengers fleeing from Ukraine will be accepted subject to quarantine. The Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs is offering to cover the accommodation costs of UA nationals and their dependents in hotels recognised as quarantine locations. For more information, see <u>here</u>.

Those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine <u>are exempt</u> from the fees of the procedures for having qualifications recognised in Malta. Beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>receive</u> a financial assistance of 111,18 per person and EUR 8.15 per additional person. Moreover, Malta organizes vocational training for beneficiaries of temporary protection.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

The TPD applies to UA nationals and to TCNs and stateless persons who can prove that they had permanent legal residency in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and who are unable to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions. The onus to establish eligibility for this protection falls on the TCN or stateless person concerned. As of yet, protection has not been extended to include those without permanent legal residency. Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and, if the situation continues, it can be renewed for another two periods of 6 months.

More information on how the protection is implemented in Malta and how to apply can be found here.

Requests for temporary protection have to be submitted before the International Protection Agency (IPA). To obtain a residence permit, TP beneficiaries need to book an appointment with the Identity Malta office (<u>noneu.ima@gov.mt</u>). General information on entering Malta, accommodation, psychological support and other practical advice can be found <u>here</u>

21. Moldova

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Ukrainians can enter Moldova with their ID if they do not have a passport. A COVID certificate is not required and it is possible to drive in without a green card so long as the card is requested and received within 24 hours. A hotline has been set up (0800 015 27) and related calls to 112 will be transferred to the hotline. A <u>Facebook group</u> has been set up with useful information. More information is available <u>here</u> (state Telegram channel, info in UA).

Information on free accommodation and other practical topics can be found <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. UA nationals are allowed to work without a work permit (see national legislation in Romanian <u>here</u>).



b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Moldova allows Ukrainian citizens to stay on its territory for 90 days without any special permission. This right is expected to be prolonged if the circumstances do not change. Since 19 April, UA citizens can access <u>reproductive health services</u> free of charge.

22. The Netherlands

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The Dutch immigration service (IND) has released <u>guidance</u> on entry/stay requirements for UA nationals. Ukrainians can stay in the Netherlands for 90 days visa-free. Those who are registered at the IND may stay in the country until at least 4 March 2023 and this may be extended by a maximum of 3 years. Upon arrival to the Netherlands and, on certain conditions, it is possible to <u>travel for free</u> on NS trains. From 1 June, it is no longer possible to travel free of charge on any other public transportation.

As of 28 February 2022, the IND will not deliver any decisions on asylum applications made by UA nationals; deportations to UA are also suspended. Both measures will be valid for a duration of 6 months and subject to certain exceptions (Dublin cases, where the person has been granted protection in another EU Member State, exclusion ground such as commission of war crimes/threat to public order or national security). For more information, see here.

It is not necessary to report to the IND on arrival. Municipalities are organising special reception facilities for arrivals and there will be IND contacts at all reception locations. More information is available at the following links on reception facilities in <u>Maastricht</u>, <u>Amsterdam</u>, <u>The Hague</u> and <u>Groningen</u>. Central reception places have been <u>set up</u> at Utrecht Centraal and Amsterdam Centraal stations.

Healthcare is <u>fully reimbursed</u> for people displaced from Ukraine if they do not have insurance and are in need of medically necessary care.

People displaced from Ukraine with an Ukrainian driving license can drive in the Netherlands for 185 days. After that period, they will have to obtain a Dutch driving license. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

The State Secretary <u>indicated</u> that all TCNs coming from Ukraine, irrespective of their nationality, can be eligible to the basic departure and reintegration support.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

The Netherlands has implemented the TPD introducing <u>detailed national measures</u> and extending the scope of protection. The scope covers:

- (1) UA nationals who left UA after 26 November 2021
- (2) UA nationals who left UA before 27 November 2021 and on that date had been in the Netherlands for a longer period of time on a residence permit or following an application for asylum *and* who can prove that they were in the Netherlands before 27 November 2021 and not in another EU country.
- (3) Non-UA nationals provided that they left Ukraine after 26 November 2021 and that on 23 February 2022 they were recognised as refugees by Ukraine; or they left Ukraine after 26 November 2021 and on 23 February 2022 they had a valid Ukrainian residence permit.
- (4) Family members of the above groups.

UA citizens first need to register in the Personal Records Database (BRP) of their local townhall. Then, they will have to submit an asylum application to the IND, but this will not be examined



individually, i.e. the normal asylum procedure does not apply to them (a special location to make the applications was planned from mid-May). Temporary protection status is conferred for a period of 1 year and it is renewable for a maximum of 3 years. More information on how to receive the status is available <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

Certain <u>relaxations</u> of the rules have been introduced for Ukrainians concerning residence permits. For those in the Netherlands on a short-stay visa or present during the time that a visa is not required, if they and their sponsors meet the conditions for the residence permit, they can apply directly for a residence permit without having first obtained a temporary residence permit (mvv).

Those employing people fleeing from Ukraine do not need to apply for a work permit but, from 1 April, they must notify the Employee Insurance Agency. However, as of 1 May, these rules are only applicable to people with Ukrainian nationality. As of 15 April, employers must report at least two days before the job starts.

Since 1 April, it is expected that UA nationals will receive a living allowance of EUR 260 per person per month. The allowance will only be allocated as long as the person is unemployed. If the person finds a job, the rest of the family members will still receive the financial help. Adults who live with a host family will receive EUR 215 per month and children will receive an extra EUR 55 per month. For more information, see <u>here</u>.

23. Norway

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free travel with biometric passports remains possible. <u>A dedicated page</u> with further details for UA nationals has been created by the authorities. The Directorate for Integration and Diversity has launched a <u>portal</u> with further information for people displaced from Ukraine.

Reception capacity <u>is expected</u> to increase. Norwegian authorities <u>no longer consider Ukraine a safe</u> <u>country</u> and returns to UA have been suspended.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

A temporary, collective protection status will be available for UA citizens and others in Norway. It is granted to:

- (1) UA citizens who resided in UA before 24 February 2022. This includes UA nationals who were on holiday or visits outside Ukraine for up to 90 days prior 24 February.
- (2) persons who had been granted protection in UA before 24 February 2022
- (3) close family members of such persons regardless of nationality.

The status is also provided to UA citizens who had legal residence in Norway before 24 February or who been had granted the residence permit before that date but entered the country afterwards. The previous basis for being in Norway must have ended or will end in less than two months after the application for collective protection is introduced. Family members are those who, before 24 February 2022, were part of the same household as the person receiving collective protection.

Those who receive the temporary collective protection status will be granted a residence permit for up to a year and renewable for a maximum of 3 years which entitles them to health care, the right to work, the right to attend school, and a right (and obligation) to follow an introduction programme for those between 18 and 55. In order to access these rights, Ukrainians <u>have to register</u> with the police. It is important that people who do not live in an asylum reception centre or emergency accommodation give their address to the police where they live. Beneficiaries of collective protection status <u>receive</u> NOK 859 per month for each adult. Single parents receive an extra NOK 456 and NOK 939 are provided for minors with a parent. For more information, see <u>here</u>. People who do not fall under the above categories will be assessed individually which is likely to involve considerations of international protection needs.



The Norwegian government has <u>proposed</u> temporary amendments to the Child Welfare Act which will be applied if a high number of people are displaced from Ukraine to Norway. The exemptions may only be applied if a high number of people displaced from Ukraine to Norway make it necessary to offer services to children, which is not the case as of 29 April. The amendments will include that unaccompanied children must stay in a home instead of in care centers. The temporary amendments will be in place until 1 July 2023.

In addition, the Norwegian Government has <u>proposed</u> changes to the introduction programmes for UA nationals. The aim is to maintain these programmes as a right and not an obligation by reducing their compulsory elements. For instance, the introduction programmes or the Norwegian language trainings would not be rendered compulsory.

Some of the decisions on <u>collective protection dated 7-9 May</u> issued rejections even though they should have granted collective protection. UDI will send a letter those people who received incorrect decisions on their applications.

24. Portugal

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The temporary protection status provides accommodation and subsistence allowances to beneficiaries who do not have financial resources of their own and provides for the issuance of a social security number, a healthcare system number, and employment registration. Those in need of accommodation can request support through email (<u>sosucrania@acm.gov.pt</u>), filling an online form available in Portuguese, English and Ukrainian or by visiting one of the National Migrant Support Centres (CNAIM). More information can be found <u>here</u>. The Government has created a <u>special regime for the Gateway programme</u>, which applies to people who are in an urgent need of accommodation, for those displaced from Ukraine. All beneficiaries of temporary protection can access the benefits of the programme, including a financial contribution to support the costs of accomodation in tourist resorts or renting a house, regardless of the individual's financial situation. The support is provided for an initial period of 18 months and it can be extended for up to 30 months. In addition, the government has <u>announced</u> that it will give free mobile communications cards to those granted temporary protection.

The Portuguese government has launched an information platform to combine information on reception, protection and integration in one place. Furthermore, it has created an <u>automated</u> <u>questionnaire</u> that will direct the persons to the competent public entity to answer their questions. Those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine in need of assistance can also contact the Government via email (sosucrania@acm.gov.pt) or telephone (+351 218106191 | 808257257). There is a list of documents with information for those displaced from Ukraine here and other useful contacts can be found <u>here</u>.

The Institute for Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP) <u>has opened</u> a new contact number in Ukrainian (+351 215 803 470) to help UA nationals find a job. As well, the <u>process of recognition of professional qualifications</u> has been simplified for UA nationals. Moreover, companies willing to recruit UA nationals are asked to <u>fill out a form</u>. The IEFP will then contact the UA nationals that meet the requirements of a company and will formalise the hiring process. It will also provide these UA nationals with Portuguese language courses. The Ministry of Education and RTP (broadcaster) have launched #<u>EstudoEmCasa</u> to facilitate the integration of UA nationals by providing Portuguese language classes online.

The National Health Service <u>monitors</u> the health of young people arriving from Ukraine at Dona Estefânia Hospital. The services are available in Ukrainian. CP <u>offers</u> free train tickets within Portugal upon presentation of an Ukrainian passport or identity card and the ticket used to enter the country. Before obtaining temporary protection, it is possible to drive with a foreign driving licence for 185 days in Portugal. Once temporary protection is granted, it is possible to drive for 90 days. After this



period, it is necessary to exchange the foreign permit with a Portuguese one.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

An online platform for remote submissions of temporary protection requests is available <u>here</u>. The requests for people under 18 have to be made in person at one of the Immigration and Border Service offices (SEF). There are specific SEF bureaus to <u>collect biometric data</u> from Ukrainian minors. <u>The Resolution of the Council of Ministers</u> has broadened the scope of the TPD regime to include all third-country nationals and stateless persons who were residents or had a long-term visa in Ukraine and whose safe and durable return to their country of origin is not possible. Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and it can be renewed each 6 months for a maximum of 3 years. Specialised locations have been provided for citizens fleeing Ukraine to apply for temporary protection in the three CNAIM in Lisbon, Faro and Porto. The requests can also be made at any of the Local Support Centres for the Integration of Migrants. The list of locations is available here.

Another platform has been set up focusing on unaccompanied children, available here.

25. Poland

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Although the situation remains very dynamic in Poland, the authorities seem to be proceeding based on existing measures on entry based on biometric passports, visas and asylum. More detailed information on entry is available <u>here</u> (in English). <u>Amendments</u> to entry-related regulations have suspended COVID-related quarantine and testing requirements and allow regular movement at the border crossings with Ukraine. Moreover, Poland offers free covid-19 vaccines for UA nationals. For more information, see <u>here</u>.

Public transport in <u>certain cities</u> will not be free of charge for people displaced from Ukraine from 1 June. People displaced from Ukraine can use <u>Flixbus</u> from Ukraine to Poland. PKP intercity trains will <u>continue to be free of charge</u> from 1 June for UA minors, women, men over 60 and men with disabilities aged 18-60. <u>Uber</u> is also offering trips free of charge from the Ukrainian border cities to Poland.

Pursuant to the amendments of 8 April to the Special Act, the deadline of 60 days for the authorities to issue decisions on residence permits has been suspended until 31 December 2022. Local authorities and volunteers <u>have set up</u> reception centres close to the borders. A list of newly formed reception facilities is available <u>here</u>. According to the FRA, although the provision of food is adequate, there is a lack of medical staff and psychological support at the reception centres. At the reception points in Chelm, there is a lack of volunteer at night or during working hours or additional Russian and Ukrainian speaking volunteers. Furthermore, there are poor sanitary conditions in larger facilities. There is also an amendment to the ordinance on guarded centres and arrests for foreigners. According to that amendment, a foreigner may be detained for up to 14 days in the premises of the Border Guard. Residence permission under the new law will provide full access to the labour market and to family, social, health and education benefits.

Detailed information in English and Ukrainian can also be found <u>here</u> and in English, Ukrainian, Polish and Russian <u>here</u>. Although the TPD provides for free movement of applicants to choose the Member State in which they wish to avail themselves of protection, there have been some reports of applicants in Germany being rejected on the basis of registration certificates issued in Poland.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Poland brought in the Act on Assistance to Citizens of Ukraine on 12 March in Connection with armed conflict on the territory of this country which legalises the stay for 18 months of UA citizens



who crossed the border from Ukraine after 24 February. Initially, the protection covered UA nationals and their spouses coming directly from Ukraine to Poland. Those that had been recognised refugee status in Ukraine and stateless persons do not fall under the protection of the Act. Non-Ukrainian TCNs displaced from Ukraine are also excluded from protection. <u>Two amendments</u> to the Act were introduced on 23 March. The first one extended temporary protection to citizens who did not come "directly" from Ukraine but who had crossed another State before arriving to Poland. The second one introduced several measures regarding the situation of Ukrainian unaccompanied or separated minors arriving to Poland such as the obligation to keep a record of all the minors. Nonetheless, this only applies to children with Ukrainian nationality . <u>An amendment</u> to the Act was adopted on 8 April establishing that an intermediary or third person can lodge an application for temporary protection for another individual. More information on this new Special Law can be found <u>here</u>. If people benefitting from the Special Law depart from Poland for more than 1 month, their protection under the law will be withdrawn.

Ukrainian nationals are entitled to one-time <u>financial assistance</u> of PLN 300 to cover urgent expenses. In addition, UA nationals arriving in Poland with children <u>are entitled</u> to the "500+ child benefit programme". A person who leaves Poland for more than 30 days is no longer entitled to the benefit. Moreover, in such cases, the person must notify their departure to the Institute of Social Insurance (ZUS). Otherwise, the person will have to return the funds attributed after departure, even with an interest. More information can be found <u>here</u>. The Polish Deputy Minister of the Interior <u>announced</u> that this benefit will be suspended from 1 July.

According to the amendments of 8 April to the Act of 12 March, the provision of accommodation and meals by private homes will not be funded by the government. Employers who did not report that they had employed an UA national will not face legal consequences and UA nationals can be employed in auxiliary service positions in local governments without verifying the documents that are generally required to prove the knowledge of Polish. Measures to allow <u>psychologists</u> and <u>teachers</u> from Ukraine to be able to work in Poland have been introduced and the process of recognition of <u>medical qualifications</u> has been shortened. A <u>website</u> has been created by the government to help people fleeing Ukraine find employment. Concerning the education of children fleeing from Ukraine, pursuant to the Act of 12 March, measures can be implemented to hire UA nationals who can speak Polish to provide support to Ukrainian students. Moreover, there is a possibility to transfer funds from the state budget to the local governments or to create other educational centres.

The PESEL number is used to verify whether a foreigner can access medical benefits. However, in the case of persons covered by the Act, having a PESEL number is <u>not a prerequisite</u> for having access to free health care services.

A brochure for information regarding unaccompanied children in Poland has been published.

In March, Poland granted temporary protection to 675,085 people fleeing Ukraine, representing the highest number of temporary protection statuses conferred by an EU Member State. 54% of these persons were children and 66% were women. In April, the number of statuses conferred dropped by 249,465 when compared to the previous month. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

26. Romania

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Visa-free entry with a biometric passport remains possible. If the person applies for asylum in Romania, they <u>can also enter</u> the country on the basis of another type of identity document (national identity document, birth certificate etc.) or on the basis of declaration of identity, without an identity document, for humanitarian reasons. In respect of COVID-related restrictions, UA nationals are not required to quarantine upon arrival, regardless of whether they arrive directly from Ukraine or via the Republic of Moldova.



Information provision and legal counselling are available at the main border crossing points from Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova (Halmeu, Sighetu Marmatiei, Siret, Stanca, and Isaccea). Information provision is also provided in reception centres, as well as through two hotlines (+40 730 073 170 / +40 721 206 926) and <u>an online platform</u>. A hotline has been created to offer psychological support for those affected by the situation in Ukraine (021 9277). The services are available in English.

The FRA claims that after the initial phase of weak coordination between volunteers and other actors at the border, the integrated coordination mechanism introduced by the Ministry of Internal Affairs improved the conditions at border crossing points. However, there are reports of problems to access medical services by people displaced from Ukraine. Those hosting someone displaced from Ukraine must <u>declare</u> that they do so within the first 3 days of hosting the person. The declaration can be made <u>here</u>. Pursuant to an <u>emergency ordinance</u>, individuals and legal entities who host people displaced from Ukraine receive a reimbursement of EUR 4 per day for each person for the cost of food and EUR 10 per day for each person to cover the costs of accommodation.

Medicover hospital provides a telephone number to offer support for Ukrainian women (+4021 796 7391). A hotline for psychological support has also been established (+40 745139747). According to a <u>Government instruction</u>, elderly people displaced from Ukraine with reduced mobility or in a situation of dependence will be recognised as "beneficiaries admitted as a matter of urgency" which entitles them to free social assistance. As per the <u>order of the President of the National House for</u> <u>Social Insurance</u>, people displaced from Ukraine can benefit from medical services, medicines, sanitary materials, medical devices and services upon presentation of a valid border crossing document.

A webpage has been created to help people fleeing Ukraine find jobs. Pursuant to an order of the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, UA nationals can declare their professional experience and qualifications before the Romanian counseling services when they do not have documentary evidence. An <u>order of the Minister of Education</u> established that Romanian higher education institutions will assess the competences of people displaced from Ukraine who cannot prove their previous studies and will decide on the granting of transferable study credits. Furthermore, the <u>Ministry of Education issued an order</u> regarding the obligations and procedure to enroll children displaced from Ukraine in school. Regarding higher education, the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education <u>has recommended</u> Romanian universities to increase their capacity by 20%.

With a "Help Ukraine Ticket", people displaced from Ukraine can travel on CFR trains for certain cross-border journeys. The deadline for issuing the ticket has been extended from 31 May to 30 June. More information is available <u>here</u>. Bus journeys to Italy and other European cities are provided free of charge by Romfour. In addition, <u>Flixbus</u> can be used from cities at the Romanian border to other locations within Europe.

As far as can be discerned, asylum procedures are still accessible in Romania, with applicants accommodated in the six main regional centres in Timis, Maramures, Galati, Suceava, Giurgiu and Bucharest.

Pursuant to a <u>ministerial order</u>, a procedure was set up for the cooperation of public authorities to protect the rights of unaccompanied children during their arrival, registration and stay. For instance, regardless of whether the minors arrive with a carer, the border police has to refer them to child protection services. The Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education have established a <u>task force</u> on unaccompanied minors. The Minister of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities has created the "KidsUkraine" platform to monitor the situation of children displaced from Ukraine. According to the Minister, as of 17 March, 528 unaccompanied children displaced from Ukraine entered Romania. 225 of them are in protection centers.



b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Romania adopted <u>decision No.367</u> on 18 March incorporating the TPD into national law. Temporary protection applies to UA nationals living in Ukraine on 24 February, TCNs and stateless people who received international protection or a similar national protection, and those holding Ukraine-issued permanent residence permits who cannot return to their country of origin. The family members of the first two groups can also benefit from temporary protection regardless of whether they can return under safe and stable conditions to their country or region of origin. Family members include wives and husbands but exclude unmarried couples. Moreover, Romania extends temporary protection to UA nationals who were on the territory of Romania before 24 February. Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and it is automatically extended for two periods of 6 months if the situation continues.

In order to enjoy temporary protection, it is necessary to contact the General Inspectorate for Immigration. A list can be found <u>here</u>. Temporary protection furthermore provides a national protection program under the "Direct Employment Scheme" for UA citizens to directly seek employment and receive a nine-month status which is renewable.

TCNs that resided in Ukraine and are not covered by the above but hold a passport are accepted in Romania for transit purposes exclusively. Upon arrival to Romania, they will obtain a Romanian transit visa for up to 90 days.

If beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>return to their country of origin</u> they can request readmittance into Romanian territory. If this is accepted, the person can benefit from temporary protection until the expiration of the period for which it was conferred.

27. Serbia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA citizens with a passport can enter the territory through any border crossings and are eligible to stay for 90 days without a visa. According to the Asylum Protection Center, the border police will make exceptions for UA nationals to enter the country without identification documents. These persons will be issued a decision at the border which will indicate their address, reason and length of their stay.

<u>According to the Asylum Office website</u>, authorities have made available reception capacity on standby in response to the potential of increased arrivals of UA nationals. Once in reception centres, individuals will have access to healthcare, elementary and high school education, and humanitarian aid. More information can be accessed <u>here</u>.

The <u>Commissariat for refugees</u> and migration has now opened a telephone line (064/828 3171) and an email address (<u>kirsteam.ukraine@kirs.gov.rs</u>) to provide information to Ukrainian nationals.

The Asylum Protection Center has issued <u>leaflets</u> in English, Serbian and Ukrainian with information on registration, the rights of persons who have been conferred temporary protection and on the conditions of entry for people displaced from Ukraine.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

On 18 March 2022, Serbia adopted a <u>decision</u> implementing the TPD. The decision provides an extensive scope of protection that includes



- (1) UA citizens and their families who have resided in Ukraine
- (2) asylum seekers, stateless persons and foreign citizens who have been granted asylum or equivalent national protection in Ukraine and members of their families who have been granted residence in Ukraine
- (3) foreign nationals who have been granted valid permanent residence or temporary residence in Ukraine and who cannot return to their country of origin under permanent and long-term circumstances
- (4) UA citizens and their families who legally resided in the Republic of Serbia at the time of the national decision but whose right to residence expired before the decision on temporary protection is revoked.

28. Slovakia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

Entry is allowed to all persons fleeing the war in UA. Entry is also possible without valid travel documents by applying for temporary protection or asylum. It is advised that UA nationals without a valid passport <u>apply</u> for it at the embassy of Ukraine in Slovakia. As of 6 May, it is possible to do it in Uzhhorod. Slovakia has lifted covid-19 restrictions for people displaced from Ukraine. More information on entry and stay issues is available <u>here</u>. The Slovak railway company has introduced free travel in InterCity trains for the citizens of Ukraine carrying a valid passport. Free suburban bus travel has also been introduced in some regions, including Bratislava and Trnava.

It is advised that, after crossing into Slovakia, people visit a <u>large-capacity center</u> where they will be provided with emergency accommodation. The <u>maximum period</u> of stay is 10 days.

After entering the country, it is compulsory to report the beginning of the stay within three business days. More information can be found <u>here</u>. The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic has <u>temporarily modified the procedures</u> for providing certain social benefits in order to make them more accessible to those fleeing Ukraine. The Slovak government created <u>a website</u> where UA nationals can find information on accommodation.

The Slovak government adopted <u>Lex Ukraine</u> on 22 March which provides for the reception and accommodation of people displaced from Ukraine in humanitarian and reception centers or other available accommodation services.

The Ministry of Interior provides financial aid, through the municipalities, individuals, legal entities, cities and municipalities hosting individuals displaced from Ukraine. As per the Lex Ukraine, and in order to prevent discriminatory treatment, private landlords must sign a declaration that Slovak nationals did not apply for the accommodation before it was rented to displaced persons from Ukraine. In order to obtain the financial allowance, a contract for the free provision of accommodation must be concluded, a statement has to be submitted to the municipality with the number of nights that the person received accommodation and the accommodated person has to notify the municipality once a month that they are still receiving free accommodation. The allowance consists of EUR 7 for each person per night and EUR 3.50 for children under the age of 15. In February and March, EUR 2.5 million were reimbursed. In April, the compensation was doubled, amounting to EUR 5 million. Furthermore, based on the amendments to the Asylum Act approved on 24 May, the Government will also compensate for the free provision of meals. This payment should be included in the accommodation allowance. More information can be found here. Hotels that currently house displaced people from Ukraine have announced that they will not continue doing so once the summer season begins. The Mayor of Košice argued that municipalities cannot host all the persons arriving and that the assistance they receive from the national authorities is not sufficient.



The Ministry of the Interior has set up specific lines to provide information in Ukrainian (+421 513 816 111 and +421 259 765 111). Moreover, a telephone number has been created to provide information on health issues for people displaced from Ukraine (+421 221 025 075).

The Ministry of Interior <u>has issued a factsheet</u> in Slovak and in Ukrainian to raise awareness on the risks of trafficking of people displaced from Ukraine. Moreover, at the <u>border crossing point of Vyšné</u> <u>Nemecké</u> only certain NGOs are admitted and only companies that have been approved by the State are allowed to provide transportation from the border to another location. As well, the Government Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities <u>provides assistance</u> to Roma communities displaced from Ukraine and informs them of the risk of trafficking and discrimination. The Slovak National Centre for Human Rights <u>has issued leaflets</u> in English, Ukrainian, Slovak and Russian with general information on discrimination for persons fleeing from Ukraine.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Slovakia is providing UA nationals and family members with a form of <u>temporary protection</u> which does not apply beyond people who had permanent residency in Ukraine prior to 24 February 2022 and cannot return to their country of origin. Asylum applications are still possible but people are encouraged to take the temporary protection route where possible as it will be quicker. Temporary protection is granted for a period of 1 year and is renewable. Beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to healthcare, the labour market and education. The government of Slovakia has also facilitated the recognition of foreign qualifications, particularly regarding the education and health sectors. The Ministry of Education has explained that compulsory schooling does not apply to children who are beneficiaries of temporary protection since they do not have a permanent residence status in Slovakia. As a result, they can be enrolled in schools but they are not officially admitted and schools only receive a payment of EUR 200 per child. Moreover, children displaced from Ukraine can only be enrolled after Slovak students. The obligation to admit Ukrainian nationals only applies if there is capacity once Slovak students have been enrolled.

It is possible to apply for temporary protection and social benefits at the large-capacity centres that opened in Hummenné and Michalovce (7 March), Nitra (21 March), Žilina (8 April) and Bratislava. The centre in Hummenné will be put on <u>standby</u> mode from 4 May. These centres <u>provide</u> people with information, food, medical, legal, psychological and social assistance and specific areas for children. It is also possible to apply for temporary protection at selected departments of the Foreign Police. More information can be found <u>here</u>. The Ministry of Interior has created an <u>online portal</u> for UA nationals to apply for protection. If a person provides the necessary identity documents, temporary protection will be provided automatically after registration. If the individual does not have any documents, the decision will be issued in a period of approximately 30 days.

A beneficiary of temporary protection can travel to Ukraine and then return to the Slovak Republic. However, if the person returns to Ukraine and does not intend on going back to the Slovak Republic, a refusal of temporary protection must be submitted before the Ministry of Interior.

The Ministry of the Interior has created a free electronic service available in Ukrainian, Slovak and English to verify the authenticity of a temporary protection document. Moreover, it is now possible to print the document in the format issued by the Aliens Police. More information can be found <u>here.</u>

Between 24 February and 20 May, 442,648 persons displaced from Ukraine entered Slovakia. From 1 March until 20 May, 77,184 have been granted temporary protection. This <u>page</u> has more information. According to the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, between 24 February to 24 March, 100 <u>unaccompanied children</u> displaced from Ukraine crossed the border.

29. Slovenia

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum



Visa-free entry with a biometric passport is possible for UA nationals. The validity of the travel document must be at least three months longer than the intended residence in the Republic of Slovenia.

<u>A dedicated webpage</u> has been created to address the situation of UA nationals in Slovenia and gives details about the temporary protection implementation and application. From the information available, the protection is also applicable to third-country nationals and stateless people who resided in Ukraine on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit and are unable to return to their country of origin.

The first reception of persons is carried out at the accommodation center in Logatec. Afterwards, they are placed in the available accommodation capacities. As of 3 June, people are placed in the centre in Debeli Rtič. According to the Government, there are plans to use the facilities in Jelšane, Gornja Radgona and Velenje in the future. Once these facilities are full, the Government plans to conclude agreements with state-owned facilities such as student dormitories. More information can be found <u>here</u>. Beneficiaries of temporary protection staying in an accommodation centre and with no earnings can be allocated pocket money by the Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants. Beneficiaries of temporary protection living at private addresses can apply for financial aid if they do not have savings, have no one that can provide support in Slovenia and have not applied for full asylum. They have to fill out this form and send it to Urad Vlade Republike Slovenije za oskrbo in integracijo migrantov. They can also apply for financial aid to pay rent by filling out this form and submitting it in person or via email (gp.uoim@gov.si). Those eligible for pocket money and financial support are exempt from paying kindergarten fees.

Information on assistance to UA nationals fleeing the country will be provided by Slovenian authorities through a dedicated phone number; information in English and Ukrainian <u>here</u>.

On 6 May, the Government's Office for the Care and Integration of Migrants <u>signed</u> an agreement with the Government's Office for the Development and European Cohesion Policy to finance a project for the integration of beneficiaries of temporary protection. For instance, a 12-hour online orientation programme will be set up and children will be able to receive literacy and learning support. 180 hours of courses of Slovenian <u>have also been established</u>. Several universities are allowing UA students to join their courses immediately. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

A call center has been created by the Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants to provide assistance to people fleeing from Ukraine (call 080 41 42 from Slovenia and +386 1478 7530 from abroad). You can also obtain information via email (<u>info.ukrajina@gov.si</u>).

The Government <u>has waived out the requirement</u> to buy a highway pass for people travelling for humanitarian reasons. If <u>roadside assistance</u> is required, people fleeing from Ukraine can receive the assistance from the Automobile and Motorcycle Association of Slovenia (AMZS) for free. The Government has also introduced <u>exemptions</u> regarding the health requirements for non-commercial movements of pet animals.

The Ukrainian Embassy in Slovenia in cooperation with the Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants, between other interveners, <u>organised</u> the transfer of children from the Ukrainian Luhansk orphanage to a student dormitory in Slovenia.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Temporary protection will be available for citizens of Ukraine, as well as stateless persons and thirdcountry nationals who are not citizens of Ukraine and who were granted international protection or other equivalent national protection in Ukraine, provided that they left UA after 24 February 2022. Family members of the above groups are also covered.



Stateless persons and third-country nationals who are not citizens of Ukraine and who resided in Ukraine on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit and who are unable to return to their country or region of origin in a safe and sustainable or lasting manner will also be covered by this form of protection. Temporary protection status is conferred for a period of 1 year and it can be renewed twice each 6 months.

In order to apply for temporary protection, a person must fill out an application for temporary protection and submit it to the police. If a person enters the Slovenia without the necessary documentation, the application for temporary protection must be lodged no later than three days after entering the country. Those residing in Slovenia must apply for temporary protection during the period of their legal residence. A person who is granted temporary protection will receive a card which is also valid as a temporary residence permit.

Those who have already applied for international protection and wish to apply for temporary protection are adviced to fill in this <u>form</u> and send it by email to this address (<u>spmz.mnz@gov.si</u>) or arrange a withdrawal with the police.Information on the procedure and the rights involved can be accessed <u>here</u>.

The Inter-ministerial Working Group on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings <u>has pointed out</u> that there have been cases of individuals trying to contact women fleeing from Ukraine who were in Logatec and Debeli Rtič, suspicious job offers in the fashion industry or offers of accommodation in return of sexual favours.

30. Spain

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The Spanish national railway network is providing <u>train journeys free of charge</u> to UA citizens in possession of a passport or identity card. People displaced from Ukraine <u>are exempted</u> from showing proof of covid vaccination before entering Spain. The Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration has <u>announced plans</u> to provide at least 6,000 places in reception centres and hotels, the details and conditions of which are still unknown.

Royal Decree 6/2022, of 29 March, has approved a sum of EUR 1,200,000 to improve the reception conditions for Ukrainian Refugees. The State Secretariat for Migration has issued <u>instructions</u> so that Ukrainian refugees in the reception system can quickly access rental and maintenance assistance, during a first phase, allowing them to live on independently without having to first spend at least six months in temporary accommodation, as is required for other groups. During a second phase, an allowance is granted to cover basic needs.

The Spanish High Court <u>has granted subsidiary protection</u> to UA nationals who applied for protection before the escalation of conflicts in 2022.

In case of lack of economic resources, people displaced from Ukraine from 24 February and residents of Ukraine who found themselves in Spain on 24 February and were not able to return can access the reception system ("Sistema de acogida"). In both categories, the protection has only been extended to UA nationals and TCNs or stateless persons who were long term residents in Ukraine, and their families.

The Directorate General of Traffic has <u>approved</u> an instruction providing that the driving licenses obtained in Ukraine are valid in Spain for a period of one year.

The Ministry of Education has <u>approved</u> several measures to facilitate the integration of students displaced from Ukraine, such as the <u>recruitment</u> of 200 Ukrainian teachers and language assistants



in 2022. The Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration has created <u>information points</u> regarding employment and training opportunities at the Reception, Assistance and Referral Centres (CREADE) of Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante and Málaga. Although they are aimed at promoting the integration of people displaced from Ukraine, the services can also be accessed by persons with refugee or subsidiary protection status.

The Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration has created a telephone number to aid people displaced from Ukraine (+34910474444).

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Spain enacted an order (Orden PCM/169/2022) developing the procedure for the recognition of temporary protection for people affected by the conflict. The scope of temporary protection has been extended to cover UA nationals legally staying in Spain before February 24 and who, as a result of the conflict, cannot return to Ukraine and UA nationals in an irregular situation in Spain before February 24 and who, as a result of the conflict, cannot return to Ukraine and UA nationals in an irregular situation in Spain before February 24 and who, as a result of the conflict, cannot return to Ukraine. Temporary protection for the latter group was extended through the enactment of second order (Orden PCM/170/2022). Family members of these group can also benefit from temporary protection. In addition, TCNs and stateless people legally residing in Ukraine based on a valid residence permit are covered. Spain confer temporary protection status for a period of 1 year with possibility of renewal every year for a maximum of 3 years.

Temporary protection can be requested at the CREADE of the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration in Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante and Málaga. In the other provinces, temporary protection has to be requested at a Police Office. More information can be found <u>here</u>. The orders confirm that applications will be processed and resolved within 24 hours, that residence and work permits will be provided, and that all legal residents in Ukraine and not solely UA nationals are included. Beneficiaries of temporary protection who decide to <u>live in apartments</u> (private accommodation), receive financial assistance based on the size of the family. Moreover, a sum is granted for the deposit and the costs associated to the services of the real estate agent. The number of temporary protection applications granted is regularly updated <u>here</u>. Information about temporary and protection information will be regularly updated <u>here</u>.

31. Sweden

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA nationals can enter Sweden without a visa and stay for up to 90 days and can apply to be covered by the TPD on arrival. Application locations, further details and practical information can be found <u>here</u>. Statistics on arrivals from UA can be found <u>here</u>.

The processing of asylum cases of UA nationals <u>has been suspended</u>. Deportations to UA have also been suspended until further notice. Contingency plans <u>have been made</u> to increase capacity of asylum services if needed. For those who had applied for asylum before 24 February, the Migration Agency will assess whether they can get protection under the TPD.

According to the Swedish migration agency, as per April 4, the housing situation for protection seekers from Ukraine has <u>stabilised</u> when compared with the assessment made in early March.

From 1 July, the Migration Agency will no longer be responsible for arranging temporary accommodation for people displaced from Ukraine. According to the new legislation, the Migration Agency will assign those in need of protection to the municipalities which will be in charge of arranging the accommodation.

The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has launched a <u>portal</u> dedicated to those fleeing Ukraine with information about human trafficking in English and in Ukrainian.



b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

Sweden has implemented the TPD and a narrow designation of the scope of national measures covers UA citizens who left UA after 24 February 2022 and non-UA citizens who had a residence permit in UA as refugees or subsidiary protection holders, provided they left UA on or after 24 February 2022 and can present a valid identity document. Family members are covered too. Starting 26 April, those who were already in Sweden on or after 30 October 2021 and do not have a residence permit may also be entitled to TP. Temporary protection is conferred for a period of 1 year. More information on the procedure can be found here. An online portal has been created to apply for residence permits with TP. Applications can also be submitted in person before the Swedish Migration Agency in <u>certain cities</u>.

Beneficiaries of temporary protection only <u>have access to</u> emergency health care and necessary dental care. However, children are entitled to every type of health care. Sweden <u>supports</u> institutions to promote the employment of Ukrainian professors at Swedish universities. Beneficiaries of temporary protection <u>can receive advice</u> from the Public Employment Services. In order to <u>be eligible</u> for social security, beneficiaries of temporary protection have to be employed.

Those in need of accommodation can contact the Migration Agency for help at any time; even when the person is waiting for a decision on their residence permit or if they have previously chosen to find an accommodation on their own. It is advised that an application is submitted in the e-service before visiting the Migration Agency offices in person. Those who decide to arrange their accommodation on their own might not be entitled to financial support if they live in residential areas with social and economic challenges. The Government decided on 24 May that those who apply for protection under the TPD and have no money of their own can apply for financial support from the Migration Agency while a decision is being issued on their residence permit. The aid will be granted at the earliest from the day the application by post. The <u>financial support received</u> by beneficiaries of temporary protection is the same as the one accorded to applicants for international protection. A single adult will receive 24 SEK or 71 SEK, depending on whether food is also provided with accommodation. A couple is entitled to 61 SEK per day and children 12 SEK per day.

32. Switzerland

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The processing of asylum applications by UA nationals is suspended.

Regarding accommodation, people displaced from Ukraine are registered in a Federal Asylum Centre and can stay there for 1-3 nights until they are assigned to a canton. Cantons receive from the State Secretariat for Migration a sum of CHF 1,500 per person each month. If a hotel is booked by the federal government to host people displaced from Ukraine, the costs of overnight stays will be covered by the federal government until another accommodation is found. Each canton can decide whether and how much funding a private individual hosting a person from Ukraine can receive. From 2 June, people displaced from Ukraine who arrive at a Federal Asylum Centre will remain there for seven days longer than before while they are assigned to a cantonal accommodation. Moreover, people belonging to vulnerable groups can remain in these centres until an accommodation suitable for their needs has been found. A factsheet with information regarding accommodation can be found here.

b. Temporary protection and other special statuses

A temporary protection status has been activated ("Protection status S") which will entitle UA nationals and their family members to protection for one year, which can be extended. After a period



of five years, a B residence permit is issued which is valid until the end of temporary protection. "Protection status S" will be available for

- (1) UA nationals who resided in Ukraine before 24 February.
- (2) TCNs and stateless persons with national or international protection status in Ukraine before 24 February.
- (3) TCNs and stateless persons who had a short-term residence permit or residence permit in Ukraine and cannot return to their country of origin in safety and on a permanent basis.
- (4) The family members of the three categories: partners, minor children and other close relatives who were partially or fully supported at the time of the flight.

"Protection Status S" does not apply to those who hold a protection status in another Schengen State. Moreover, binational couples cannot access "protection status B" if one of them is a citizen of an EU/EFTA member State, the UK, Canada, the USA, Australia or New Zealand. After registration, a person with "protection status S" is assigned to a canton. For the details on the measures implemented by each canton, you can visit <u>this webpage</u>. More information can be found <u>here</u> and information about the rights associated with the protection status S can be accessed <u>here</u> and on a factsheet in <u>Ukrainian</u>, <u>Russian</u>, <u>English</u>, <u>French</u>, <u>Italian and German</u>.

It is advised that applications are submitted through this <u>web portal</u>. Groups of thirty or more and groups with vulnerable people are requested to email the authorities several days before arriving to Swtizerland (gruppen-ukraine@sem.admin.ch).

The State Secretariat for Migration <u>has decided</u> that "protection status S" can be revoked if a person returns to their country of origin for more than 15 days in a quarterly period, unless the journey was undertaken due to coercion or to prepare a definitive return to the country of origin or home country. "Protection status S" will also be revoked when people shift abroad their focal point of their living arrangements. There is presumption that this shift has occurred when a person spends more than two months in a third country. Nonetheless, the presumption can be rebutted, for instance, in the case of temporary study or work related assignments abroad.

People fleeing Ukraine <u>must register</u> at a specific address. Any change must be notified. Moving to another canton will only be approved in exceptional cases. Those with private accommodation <u>must</u> bring a copy of a "confirmation of private accommodation" on the registration day.

The State Secretariat for Migration <u>has issued</u> several documents in Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, Italian and German with general information and advice regarding human trafficking and other forms of abuse.

People with "protection status S" <u>can be enrolled</u> at Swiss universities. The different measures taken by universities aimed at students and researchers displaced from Ukraine can be found here. Moreover, children with "protection status S" <u>can attend</u> schools in Switzerland. The time of enrolments varies depending on the cantons. Moreover, people with "protection status S" can receive social assistance from their canton if they do not have sufficient resources. Although beneficiaries of "protection status S" are entitled to work, their employer must first <u>apply for a work permit from cantonal authorities</u> after the person has been granted protection status. Beneficiaries of "protection status S" are allowed to work outside of their canton of residence. Switzerland retroactively covers health insurance of beneficiaries of temporary protection from the moment they lodged an application and registered with an asylum centre.

The latest figures are available <u>here</u> covering the number of people fleeing Ukraine in Switzerland. As of 10 June, out of 56,279 "protection status S" applications, 53,712 persons have been granted it.



33. Turkey

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

UA nationals qualify for visa exemption and can stay for up to 90 days in the territory. The Ministry of the Interior has <u>announced</u> that after the 90-day period, UA nationals will be provided with residence permits. Currently, UA nationals also have the option to apply for international protection, although it is unclear if the residence permit option will become an alternative to this.

34. United Kingdom

a. Entry/stay requirements, reception conditions and asylum

The UK Home Office announced temporary visa concessions for family members of British citizens and residents under the Ukraine Family Scheme. Non-British nationals can act as sponsors under this scheme provided they have the following status: indefinite leave to remain, EU settled status, EU pre-settled status, refugee status or humanitarian protection. Ukrainians in the UK under Skilled Worker or Student visas are not able to sponsor relatives in the scheme. More detailed information is available <u>here</u>.

The Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) is a pathway through which UA nationals or their family members can apply to join a UK-based sponsor. Applications can be made online <u>here</u>. Furthermore, the Home Office has confirmed that UA surrogate mothers for British parents will be entitled to travel to the UK outside of the usual immigration rules. The First Minister of Wales has announced that UA nationals will be eligible for free rail travel for six months while settling in Wales. Those hosting people displaced from Ukraine for a year <u>can receive</u> an allowance of GBP 350 per month. Moreover, asylum financial support can be received. It amounts it GBP 40.85 per week.

UA nationals <u>can make use of</u> the temporary visa application centre (VAC) in Rzeszow, or other centres including in the capitals of Poland, Moldova, Romania, France and Hungary. In-person appointments for visas are no longer required for UA passport holders.

For UA nationals previously benefitting from permission to stay in the UK, the Ukrainian Extension Scheme will open on 3 May 2022 allowing for the extension of permits expired since 1 January 2022. Regarding UA asylum seekers in the UK, there is <u>one known case</u> of an applicant whose negative decision was withdrawn while awaiting appeal. Furthermore, the Home Office has withdrawn its Ukraine country policy and information notes although it has not announced a blanket policy for applications. It is possible for applicants to request permission to amend their grounds of appeal in light of the recent invasion. A group of volunteer legal professionals in the UK are providing free legal advice, which can be <u>accessed here</u>.

People displaced from Ukraine have access to the National Health Services and children can access primary and secondary education. However, <u>according to the OECD report</u>, no other integration measures have been adopted.