



## Situational Update

Issue No 9, 4 March 2022

# Rapid response by EU+ countries to address the needs of displaced people from Ukraine

This Situational Update provides key information on immediate measures implemented to accommodate the arrival of displaced people from Ukraine because of the deteriorating security situation after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This is not an exhaustive list of developments but presents the main trends for the period 25 February to 3 March 2022.

The EUAA Information and Analysis Sector is closely following relevant developments as reported by national authorities, international organisations and civil society organisations. All information was collected through independent research of publicly-available sources, including press releases, official statements and announcements by competent authorities and organisations. Links to the official sources are provided.

The reporting of developments does not mean an endorsement of practices or opinions on the part of the EUAA. Due to the rapidly-changing situation, information may have been revised or updated. Please consult the original sources.

The European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) [has joined](#) the global community in condemning the unprovoked armed invasion of Ukraine. The EUAA remains at the disposal of Member States which may be affected in order to support with the reception, registration and processing of asylum seekers from Ukraine entering the EU.

On 2 March 2022, the [European Commission](#) proposed the activation of the [Temporary Protection Directive](#) to offer rapid, effective assistance to people fleeing the war in Ukraine. Under this proposal, **temporary protection** would be granted in the EU, meaning that they will be immediately given a residence permit and will have access to education and the labour market. The Commission also put forward [operational guidelines](#) to help national border guards in efficiently managing arrivals at the borders with Ukraine. On 3 March 2022, [EU ministers](#) (Justice and Home Affairs Council) unanimously agreed on the establishment of a temporary protection mechanism in response to the influx of displaced persons from Ukraine.



While [mobilising resources to aid the forcibly displaced in Ukraine and neighbouring countries](#), UNHCR declared Ukraine a [Level 3 emergency](#) – the highest level available as it estimates that over 1 million refugees have fled to neighbouring countries [since 24 February 2022](#). The [IOM](#) also scaled up its response to the Ukraine crisis and appealed for inclusive protection measures. On 3 March 2022, UNHCR issued a [position on returns to Ukraine](#), addressing access to territory and international protection, sur place claims by nationals and habitual residents of Ukraine, the designation of Ukraine as a safe country of origin, refugees and asylum seekers (other nationalities), and a non-return advisory.

The majority of EU+ countries have taken initiatives to accommodate the high influx of displaced people from Ukraine and implemented sur place protection needs. The measures may be grouped as follows (newer elements are reported first):

- Urgent legislative measures – preparedness/crisis management
- Coordination platforms for various stakeholders
- Entry requirements, border controls and registration with the authorities
- Provision to grant temporary or other types of national protection for Ukrainians
- Establishment of reception points and emergency structures, and increasing existing capacities
- Information provision
- The impact of the situation in Ukraine on asylum procedures
- Unaccompanied minors
- Provision of psychological support
- Suspension of obligation to leave and returns to Ukraine
- Solidarity
- Varia (other)

Finally, reference is made to the number of crossings and applications for international protection, as reported by the national authorities.




## Key Findings



### Urgent legislative measures – preparedness/crisis management

Legislative measures were enacted under urgent procedures to enable immediate support to Ukrainian citizens arriving in EU+ countries, while preparedness or crisis management has been activated in several countries.

- The government has declared a state of emergency in [Czechia](#) due to the influx of refugees from Ukraine as of 4 March 2022. It is a crisis management tool that will not entail restrictions for citizens but will allow for better coordination and technical solutions facilitating the registration of Ukrainians, the conduct of security screening and the issuance of visas. Due to the state of emergency, not only employees of the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy (OAMP) of the Ministry of the Interior but also the police will be able to issue visas. In addition, it will be possible to prioritise care for children; provide medical supplies and social services; deploy soldiers and fire protection units; and introduce special measures for the residence of foreigners and stateless persons.
- [The Czech government has also approved a programme to help Ukrainian citizens fleeing the war](#). The Ministry of the Interior activated the second (orange) of the four stages of the Migration Wave Preparedness Plan.
- [On 3 March 2022, the parliament in Latvia urgently passed the Law](#) on Support of Civilians of Ukraine. The law was adopted to provide support to Ukrainian citizens and their family members who are leaving Ukraine or who are unable to return to Ukraine due to the armed conflict by the Russian Federation, as well as to provide general support to Ukrainian society. The law provides the possibility of a long-stay visa with the right to work without restrictions for a period of up to 1 year.
- The [National Arrivals Centre in Norway](#) declared a state of emergency, and the UDI centrally deployed crisis staff as a result of the situation in Ukraine and a possible large influx of refugees.
- The [Finnish Ministry of the Interior](#) has set up a coordination group to manage the migration situation from Ukraine. The aim is to ensure that national authorities are prepared and find the best solutions to put in place in practice and legislation on entry, reception, stay and work.



Czechia, Italy, Slovakia and Norway introduced a state of emergency to enact urgent measures for Ukrainians.

Romania and Latvia introduced special assistance schemes, while Croatia and Finland set up coordination mechanisms.



- Similarly, the [Croatian government](#) established the Interdepartmental Working Group for the implementation of activities for the reception and care of refugees from Ukraine. The Ministry of the Interior will coordinate the work of the Working Group, while the Directorate of Civil Protection of the Ministry of the Interior will perform professional, technical and administrative tasks. The main task of the group is the coordinated action of all competent bodies and institutions in implementing measures and activities.
- The [Italian government declared a state of emergency](#) until 31 December 2022 to provide relief and assistance to the Ukrainian population as a result of the serious international crisis in progress. The government will be able to allocate EUR 10 million from the fund for national emergencies and emergency interventions, which will aim at strengthening the reception network for foreigners in Italy.
- In [Romania, an Emergency Ordinance](#) was adopted on the provision of support and humanitarian assistance by the Romanian state to foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations/coming from the armed conflict area in Ukraine.
- [The Slovak government announced an emergency situation](#) on 26 February 2022 in connection with the high influx of foreign nationals due to the conflict in Ukraine. The [government also approved amendments to the Asylum Act](#) in response to the situation in Ukraine, which may cause high flows of refugees to Slovakia and a proposal of amendments in several laws on civil protection, asylum and cybersecurity which became effective on 26 February allowing for temporary protection (temporary shelter).



### Coordination platforms for various stakeholders

The mass influx of Ukrainian nationals has mobilised local communities. Many private actors have offered support for reception and other services. Dedicated platforms to coordinate offers and support requests have been launched through national authorities.

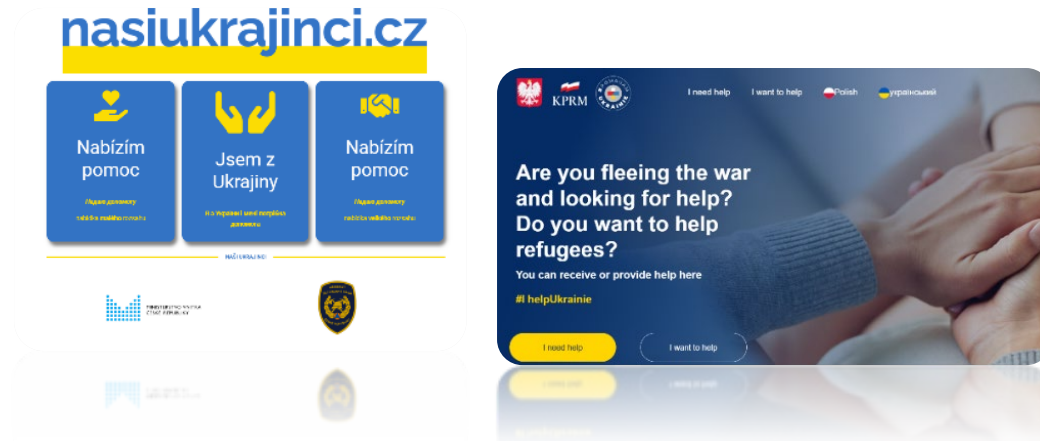
- In [Latvia](#), the government called individuals, companies, non-governmental organisations, and state and local government institutions to coordinate their actions under the State Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and follow its information on requests for assistance.
- In Lithuania, a [platform](#) was launched under the National Volunteer Support Coordination Centre to coordinate offers and support requests.
- The Czech Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the Fire and Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, [launched](#) a website coordinating



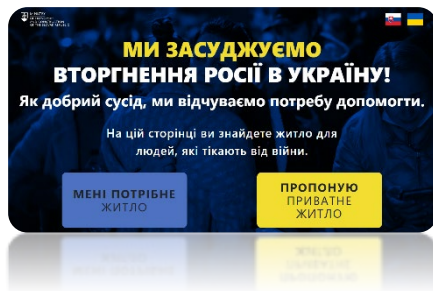
The developments in Ukraine mobilised communities and lead to public–private voluntary partnerships in many countries to support Ukrainians.



offers and requests for assistance to Ukraine [www.nasiukrajinci.cz](http://www.nasiukrajinci.cz). In addition, the [Administration of Refugee Facilities](#) will coordinate offers for accommodation.



- In [Poland](#), the government launched a humanitarian aid coordination mechanism through which support will be provided from the Governmental Agency for Strategic Reserves. It also encourages local government units, foundations, associations and other social organisations, enterprises and private persons to cooperate through the dedicated platform.
- Slovakia created a [dedicated platform for accommodation](#) offers and requests:



## Entry requirements, border controls and registration with the authorities

The EU-Ukraine Visa Liberalisation Dialogue was launched on 29 October 2008. Ukraine is [exempt from a visa requirement](#) since 11 June 2017. From this date, the visa obligation was abolished for citizens of Ukraine who hold a biometric passport and want to travel to the Schengen zone for a short stay.

Given the mass arrivals of displaced people from Ukraine, several EU+ countries introduced additional waivers or eased existing arrangements to allow entry without a biometric passport or relevant travel documents.

- In [Estonia](#), by the [decision of the Director General of the PBGB](#), Ukrainian citizens [can enter Estonia visa-free](#), even those who do not have a biometric passport [and it](#)



[is not necessary to apply for international protection](#). Previously, only Ukrainian citizens with a biometric passport could enter Estonia without a visa. Relatives of a Ukrainian citizen who are citizens of another country can also enter Estonia without a visa.

- By a [government decree of 3 March](#), four temporary checkpoints will be re-established between Estonia and Latvia, three in Valga and one in Ikla, for an initial period of 10 days. The restoration of the temporary checkpoint will ensure assistance to Ukrainians already at the border and provide information. This measure does not entail any customs clearance nor sanitary/veterinary control requirements.
- In [Latvia](#), border checks are carried out at border crossing points (external border, airport) for persons entering with a biometric passport, and a visa is issued to persons holding other travel documents but not having a visa to enter the EU. If the person does not have a travel document, the person will be identified in cooperation with the competent authorities of Ukraine.
- In [Poland](#), all persons admitted to Poland are verified by the Border Guard. The Border Guard officers apply appropriate checking procedures for those who do not have documents. The Polish Ministry of the Interior and Administration has informed that there is [no need to submit an application](#) at the Office for Foreigners/voivodeship offices/Border Guard posts. The same applies to Ukrainian citizens staying in Poland whose residence permits have expired.
- In [Slovakia](#), entry is possible for persons who do not have a valid travel document (biometric passport). [If the person is not carrying any identification document](#), they can request international protection or temporary shelter.
- In Romania, [in the absence of any identity document](#), a person may enter by asking for asylum at the border crossing.
- In [Greece](#), holders of a Ukrainian biometric passport and those without biometric features (old type) may enter through all entry points (land and air) for a maximum stay of 90 days. However, Ukrainian citizens who do not have travel documents may enter only from the Passport Control Department in Promahon, where they will be issued a document by the staff of the Ukrainian Embassy in Greece.
- [Austria](#) will issue a visa in the absence of a biometric passport at Embassies in Ljubljana or Bratislava or at the Consulate General in Munich.
- [Ireland announced the immediate lifting of visa requirements between Ukraine and Ireland](#). After arrival without a visa, a person has 90 days to regularise.

Some countries have extended the legal stay of Ukrainians if their stay is about to expire, for example [Austria](#) (one can apply for a visa for special reasons at the competent provincial police directorate), [Estonia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Netherlands](#) and [Poland](#).



Based on internal procedures, some countries are requesting Ukrainians to register at the relevant migration authorities, while others are advising against this (see Poland above).

- Since 3 March 2022, the [Finnish Immigration Service is asking](#) Ukrainians arriving from Ukraine to report on a voluntary basis. The FIS also introduced a [notification form](#) in which transport organisers are requested to provide preliminary information on arrivals from Ukraine.
- [Belgium](#) advised Ukrainian citizens to go immediately to the municipal administration of the place where they reside to declare their arrival or to request authorisation to extend their stay.
- The [Migration Department](#) invited Ukrainians living in Lithuania to register at the nearest territorial branch.

COVID-19 restrictions have also been lifted for Ukrainians entering the EU, for example in [Czechia](#), [Estonia](#), [Latvia](#), [Poland](#) (which is also offering vaccinations), [Romania](#) and [Slovakia](#).



### Provision to grant temporary or other types of national protection to Ukrainians

Given the legal particularity of Ukrainians as displaced persons with the right to enter EU countries without a visa, border countries have followed different approaches.

The majority allowed Ukrainians to enter without any other arrangements or obligations to register for protection, for example Estonia, Latvia (initially), Lithuania and Poland. Hungary immediately implemented temporary protection, followed by Slovakia which introduced 'temporary shelter' protection on 1 March 2022. Czechia and Latvia provide the possibility of a long term visa for Ukrainians. In Romania, persons are channelled to the asylum procedure in the absence of travel documents.

- Following the [newly-adopted law in Latvia](#), Ukrainian citizens will be provided with a long-term visa with the right to work without restrictions for a period of up to 1 year. The law [does not abolish or change the procedure](#) for applying for and examining asylum, but rather establishes an additional mechanism by which Ukrainians will be able to receive support quickly, as well as residence and labour rights.
- [Hungary adopted](#) "Government Decree No 56/2022. (II. 24.) on the differed implementation of transitional rules in the asylum procedure in Law LVIII of 2020 related to the termination of the state of emergency and epidemiological preparedness". It foresees that special conditions for submitting an asylum application do not apply to Ukrainian citizens and persons legally residing in Ukraine, and grants them temporary protection.

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- The majority of countries enabled unrestricted access based on short/long visa schemes.
  - Hungary and Slovakia introduced temporary protection.
  - In Romania, undocumented persons are channelled to the asylum procedure.



- In [Greece](#), within the 90-day period following the arrival (see *entry above*), one will be granted 1-year temporary protection by the Asylum Service of the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum with a right to access the labour market and medical care, in accordance with Directive 2001/55 of the Council of the European Union.
- In Slovakia, the [Ministry of the Interior informed that temporary protection](#) is offered to Ukrainians as of 1 March 2022. The temporary shelter applies to Ukrainian nationals and their non-Ukrainian relatives (the spouse of a Ukrainian citizen; a minor child of a Ukrainian citizen or a minor child of the spouse of a Ukrainian citizen; and to the parent of a minor child who is a citizen of Ukraine). Persons granted temporary protection will be entitled to basic health care in the same way as asylum seekers. Those using the 90-day stay on the basis of visa-free travel between Slovakia and Ukraine are not entitled to accommodation, food or health care or to obtain a work permit.
- In [Czechia](#), entering the asylum procedure is not considered an optimal solution. It is faster and more efficient to apply for a special long-term visa. However, every foreigner has the right to apply for asylum (information on the procedure for granting international protection is [provided](#). The Ministry of the Interior [offers a bilingual application form](#) in Czech and Ukrainian for a special long-term visa for Ukrainian citizens. As a matter of policy, these applications [will be processed immediately](#).
- In Slovakia, [third-country nationals may apply for asylum or temporary shelter](#). The authorities provide information on the possibility of applying for international protection; however, the asylum procedure for a large number of foreigners would take a long time. If the arriving foreigners ask for asylum, [they are currently placed in the detention centre](#) of the Ministry of the Interior in Humenné. Thus, it is advised to apply for temporary protection. Newly-arrived Ukrainians [may apply](#) for temporary shelter with the police during the border check directly at the border crossing point. If already in Slovakia, one can apply for temporary shelter at the local department of the Aliens Police. Temporary shelter is granted even in the absence of documents. In this case the application should be processed within 30 days.
- The [Swiss Federal Migration Commission](#) proposed to grant ‘S’ status for Ukrainian nationals.
- Given that Ukrainian nationals do not need a visa to stay in Belgium for a stay not exceed 90 day, [Belgian authorities](#) advised them not to ask for international protection until the Temporary Protection Status is approved by the EU. Crisis accommodation is available for those in need.

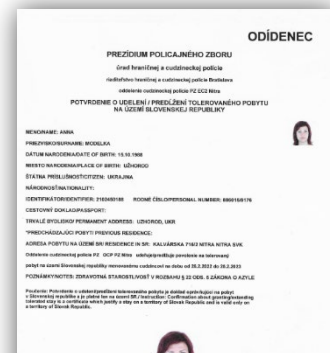


Figure 1 [Sample of a document on temporary shelter of the Border and Alien Police Office](#)





- In Romania, in the absence of travel documents, people are channelled to the asylum procedure. The asylum [application](#) is submitted either in one of the six Regional Centres for Housing and Procedures for Asylum Seekers if already in the country, or at any of the offices of the [General Inspectorate for Immigration](#). For this reason, [the Romanian Ministry of the Interior](#) asked the EU to coordinate registration procedures for Ukrainians fleeing the armed conflict in Ukraine.



### Establishment of reception points and emergency structures, and increasing existing capacity



The establishment of reception points and emergency structures have been critical for border and neighbouring countries facing mass arrivals of displaced people from Ukraine.

- In [Poland](#), eight ready-made reception points were initially created with information points by the Border Guard and the Office for Foreigners. Currently, [27 reception centres](#) for Ukrainians operate in the voivodeships bordering Ukraine: Lublin and Podkarpackie Voivodeship, as well as throughout Poland. [All persons fleeing from Ukraine in need of accommodation](#) in Poland may go to the reception points. They will receive information about their stay in Poland, a meal, basic medical care and a place to rest; temporary accommodation will be indicated to them.
- Two temporary camps are fully operational to receive Ukrainian citizens [in Romania](#) in Siret and in Sighetul Marmatiei. Furthermore, [the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations](#) sent mobile accommodation units on 3 March 2022 to support the border units.
- In Czechia, [the Minister of the Interior established Humanitarian Registration Centre for newly-arrived citizens of Ukraine](#).
- In [Slovakia](#), asylum facilities in Humenné, Opatovská Nová Ves and Rohce will be used first, with the possibility of their extension to temporary accommodation. The next step would be to use accommodation facilities of the Ministry of the Interior and other departments, and then if necessary, other accommodation facilities identified by the Crisis Management Section of the Ministry of Interior in cooperation with colleagues from district offices.

On 27 February 2022, [the Ministry of the Interior](#) began setting up the first hotspots at the border crossings with Ukraine (Ulič, Ubl'a, Vyšné Nemecké, Veľké Slemence and Čierna nad Tisou) which are available 24/7 and aim to speed up the administrative process of arrivals. After crossing the border, [every newly-arrived person](#) receives temporary accommodation, meals and information. Transport from the border crossing to the temporary accommodation is coordinated on site. Some municipalities provide free transport for the people of Ukraine. Some Slovak mobile operators provide SIM cards for calls and Internet free of charge at the border.



- [Latvia](#) provides accommodation, food and other assistance. If people have no place to stay upon arrival, they should contact the State Border Guard of Latvia by calling the 24/7 phone number to arrange their stay in Riga.
- [Lithuania](#) is currently preparing to accept 10,000 refugees from Ukraine. Refugees will be redirected to registration centres in Alytus or Marijampole, and then distributed to temporary accommodation.
- [Romania](#) created temporary accommodation camps for foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations who come from the armed conflict area of Ukraine and enter Romania and who do not request a form of state protection. They offer food, clothing, personal hygiene materials, primary health care and appropriate treatment, emergency medical assistance, free medical assistance and treatment in case of acute or chronic life-threatening diseases, the right to be included in national public health programmes first-necessity supplies. Material support for asylum seekers was also increased.
- In Estonia, [the city of Tallinn](#) pays for the accommodation of the first arrivals as an emergency social assistance provision.

Other EU+ countries are preparing for arrivals of Ukrainians by extending their existing reception capacities.

- The [Danish Immigration Service](#) is working with municipalities to ensure accommodation for Ukrainian citizens that are suitable as asylum centres. It also created an [information page](#) aimed at municipalities on questions specific to the handling of Ukrainian citizens arriving in Denmark.
- The [Dutch government](#) prepared for the reception of Ukrainians. The first shelter was opened in Amsterdam with 80 places and the government is in discussion with the municipalities of Zaanstad, Haarlem, The Hague and Ede. The Ministry of Defence supports this process. The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee refers people who need shelter at the border to available locations.
- In [Greece](#), short-term accommodation is possible in the open structure of Sintiki for those who wish, until the process to issue travel documents is completed, where required. Those who wish to be accommodated for a longer period of time may submit a request after the completion of the above procedure.
- In Italy, [an increase of 13,000 places in the CAS](#) (Emergency Accommodation Centres) can be activated by the prefectures, and another 3,000 places in the SAI (Reception and Integration System) is foreseen. Ukrainian citizens may be hosted in CAS even if they have not applied for international protection. The availability of the CAS and the SAI network, which already increased after the Afghan crisis, should also be dedicated to the accommodation and reception needs of Ukrainian refugees.

A [circular from the Head of the Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior](#) was issued on 2 March 2022, providing operational guidance



on the reception of Ukrainian refugees arriving on the national territory in implementation of the provisions of Decree Law No 16/2022. The decree law calls for about 5,000 places to be activated within the CAS network of temporary reception centres and 3,000 SAI places. The decree extended the reserve of SAI places (overall 5,000) already planned and financed for Afghan citizens evacuated last summer. Moreover, it established that Ukrainian refugees can access the CAS and the SAI even if they do not apply for international protection or have other qualifications required by current legislation.

- The [Finnish Immigration Service](#) announced that Finland's reception centres can currently accommodate a total of about 3,500 individuals, with an additional 130 beds reserved for minors. Some 1,300 of these are available immediately.
- [Sweden](#) is prepared to rapidly expand capacity and staffing in the reception system.
- The [Croatian Minister of the Interior](#) announced that two reception centers have been established - the "Plitvice" motel and the Osijek Sports Hall, while the reception centre in Varazdinske Toplice is being prepared.



## Information provision

Information provision has been fundamental for displaced people to understand their rights, practicalities and procedures to be followed.



Border and neighbouring countries provide information directly at border crossings. For instance, [Poland](#) set up information points at border crossings and train stations. [Currently](#), 22 such points have already been established in all voivodeship centres, mainly at railway stations. Additional information points for Ukrainians have been set up in Warsaw, near the Palace of Culture and Science, as well as at Airport Frederic Chopin, in the Okense area. Refugees from Ukraine are provided with basic information on how they can receive support in Poland.

[Lithuania](#) installed information stands with distinct signs and tents at the former border checkpoints of Calvary and Lazdijai, which will provide relevant information to Ukrainian citizens arriving through Poland. [Latvia](#) and [Estonia](#) provide information at crossing points.

In addition, EU+ countries have launched phone lines and websites, including dedicated areas for questions and answers, for example in [Austria](#), [Belgium](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Czechia](#), [Denmark](#), [Estonia](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [Germany](#), [Greece](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Poland](#), [Romania](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Slovakia](#) and [Slovenia](#).

<sup>1</sup> IOM Romania provides also leaflets [Welcome to Romania](#), [Useful information for people entering Romania from Ukraine](#) and [Orientation and conversation guide](#).



# Situational Update No 9

## Rapid response by EU+ countries to address the needs of displaced people from Ukraine

EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR ASYLUM

### Samples of Platforms



Figure 2 Latvia



Figure 3 Romania

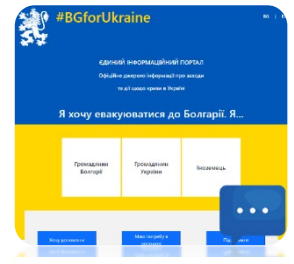


Figure 2 Bulgaria

Leaflets and posters with QR codes were developed to address specific information needs of Ukrainians, for example in [Czechia](#), [Romania](#) and [Poland](#).



Figure 3 Romania

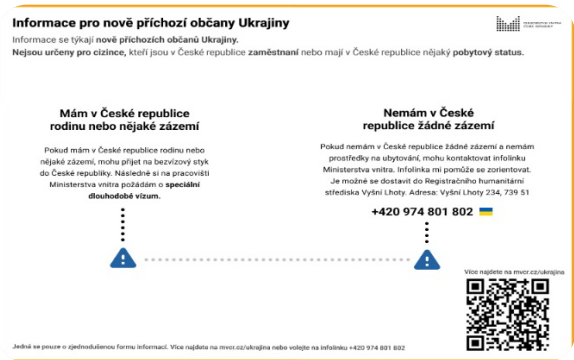


Figure 4 Czechia



Figure 5 Poland



Figure 7 Slovakia

The Ministry of the Interior in Slovakia warned about the risk for trafficking in human beings and published information leaflets in Slovak and Ukrainian. The leaflets will be distributed directly at the borders, in cooperation with district authorities, the non-governmental sector and the police, and will also be available [online](#).

## The impact of the situation in Ukraine on the asylum procedures

The deterioration of security situation in Ukraine has had a direct impact on the asylum procedure in EU+ countries. Following the events of 24 February 2022, the processing of applications for Ukrainian nationals has been suspended and first instance decisions overturned.



- The [CGRS in Belgium](#) froze the processing of applications (including personal interviews) by Ukrainian nationals.
- [In Italy, the Tribunal of Bari suspended a decision of inadmissibility for an application from a Ukrainian national.](#)
- The [Danish Refugee Board suspended the processing of cases for Ukrainian citizens.](#)
- The [Finnish Immigration Service](#) is not currently making decisions on applications by Ukrainian nationals that would entail a removal from the country. Positive decisions on applications for international protection and residence permits continue to be issued as normal to applicants meeting the relevant conditions.
- The [Spanish National High Court](#) provided subsidiary protection to a Ukrainian family given the armed conflict in their country of origin.

Furthermore, EU+ countries are removing Ukraine from national lists of safe countries of origin.

- [In Italy](#), the asylum and immigration board urged the government to remove Ukraine from the safe country of origin list.
- [The Directorate of Immigration removed Ukraine from the list of safe countries](#) in Iceland.

## Unaccompanied minors



In Italy, [the Minister for Equal Opportunities and the Family and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation](#) announced the establishment of special humanitarian corridors for orphaned minors in Ukraine to safely reach the country.

In [Greece](#), the [Special Secretariat for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors](#) is already active with the assistance of embassies, international organisations and NGOs to locate unaccompanied minors at the border of Ukraine with other European countries, in order to offer know-how or to regulate child transportation and accommodation in Greece. For unaccompanied minors arriving at the Greek border, the national mechanism ensures the



transfer of children to special emergency accommodation structures, followed by an identification procedure (if identification is required).



### Provision of psychological support

The developments in Ukraine have adverse mental health impacts on individuals both coming from Ukraine but also receiving communities. Thus, initiatives have been launched to provide support.

- A [directory of psychological help was made available in Czechia](#) due to the high psychological burden that many people are experiencing in connection with the war in Ukraine.
- The [Polish Ministry of Education and Science has prepared recommendations for psychological and pedagogical support](#) as new challenges arise for principals and teachers due to the escalation of the armed conflict in Ukraine.
- In [Romania, the Suceava Inspectorate for Emergency Situations \(Inspectoratul pentru Situatii de Urgenta Suceava\)](#) announced that it has deployed a team of psychologists to offer counselling to Ukrainian citizens at the border crossing point in Suceava.
- The [Social Insurance Board in Estonia](#) ensured the provision of round-the-clock psychosocial support to those who arrived in Estonia from Ukraine.



### Suspension of obligation to leave and returns to Ukraine

The security situation in Ukraine has had a direct impact on returns and deportations to Ukraine. In this regard, [Norway](#) and [Sweden](#) have announced the suspension of returns. [Finland](#) temporarily suspended the adoption of negative decisions involving deportation to Ukraine, while the police confirmed [that they will not return people to Ukraine](#).



### Solidarity

In the context of solidarity, support to border countries and Ukraine, including the possibility to receive refugees, was announced by:

- [Austria](#), including medical supplies to border countries
- [Germany](#)
- [Denmark](#) to provide humanitarian aid and emergency aid to civilians and internally displaced persons and receive Ukrainians
- [Portugal](#) to receive Ukrainians



### Varia

- In Romania, the Minister of Education [signed Order No 3.325/2022 to amend Annex PME 5.140/2019](#) for the approval of the academic mobility of students studying in Ukraine. The act provides that young people who do not have a study certificate will be evaluated by Romanian universities based on their own criteria and in compliance



with international good practices, competencies and skills, so that they can be enrolled in a year of study equivalent to the one in which they were in Ukraine, while deciding also on the recognition and award of transferable study credits.

- The CGRS is urgently looking for Ukrainian to French, Dutch or English interpreters for both registration interviews at the Immigration Office and asylum interviews at the CGRS.



### The trends in numbers

The following incoming flows were reported by national authorities. With the evolving situation, the data are continuously being updated.

- [Poland shared updates](#) on border crossings and waiting times. The [Ministry](#) of the Interior and Administration informed that over 575,000 people have crossed the border as of 3 March 2022.
- The [police in Hungary reported](#) daily on border crossings.
- In [Italy](#), since the beginning of the conflict and until midnight on 1 March, 3,840 Ukrainian citizens have entered Italy: 1,890 women, 570 men and 1,380 minors.
- As of 1 March, there have been 772 applications in Romania, with an 81% occupation rate in IGI accommodation centres, according to the Ministry of the Interior's [press release](#).
- By 28 February 2022, 190 refugees from Ukraine had [entered Croatia](#). 11 of them were accommodated in the Plitvice Motel and the rest will be accommodated in a private arrangement while preparations are underway for a possible large influx.
- According to the [Ministry of the Interior in Slovakia](#), almost 90% of arrivals at the eastern borders are Ukrainians. Between 24 February and 28 February 2022, 53,136 people have arrived across the eastern border. In total, 46,618 were Ukrainians.
- In Hungary, [the National Directorate General of Aliens](#) registered 313 applications for temporary protection as of 1 March 2022.
- In [Romania](#), as of 28 February, 718 applications for asylum have been lodged by Ukrainian citizens.