



Poland's response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine: actions, actors and challenges

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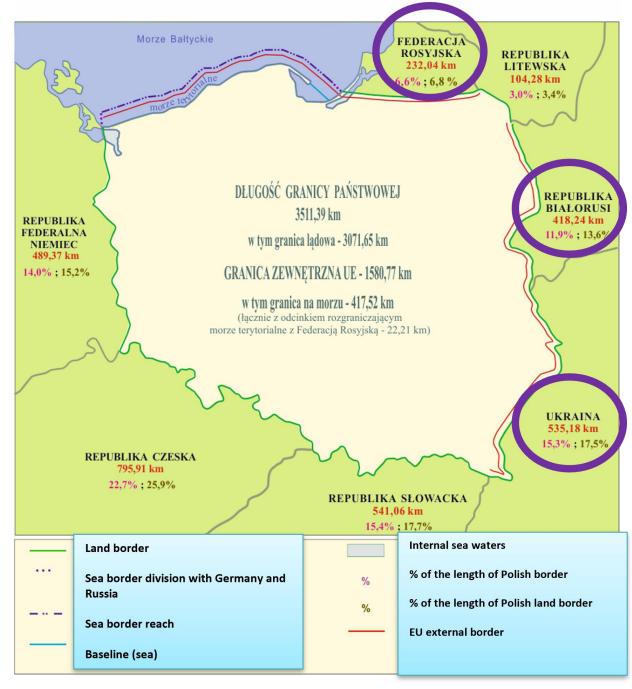
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Webinar "Responding to the Ukrainian refugee crisis in Canada and Poland" June 2, 2022

Poland – context

- CEE, EU, V4
- the Baltic Sea to the north and 7 border countries:
 - **4 EU:** Lithuania, Slovakia, Czechia, Germany
 - **3 non-EU:** Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast), Belarus, Ukraine
- its borders cover the EU's eastern external borders



https://www.strazgraniczna.pl/pl/granica/granice-rp/1910,Granice-RP.html

Poland - immigration situation before 2022

- Important features of immigration to Poland in recent years:
 - a slightly **positive** migratory balance since 2016
 - increasing labour (economic) migration to Poland ("Ukrainisation") as a result of a mix of internal and external factors (economic growth and labour market needs in Poland + the breakout of Russian-Ukrainian conflict in 2014 in eastern Ukraine)
 - **temporary, seasonal, and circular migration** rather than a long-term migration aimed at settlement
 - small influx of forced migrants applying for international protection
 - **low percentage of foreigners** among the total resident population (in comparison to other EU MSs)
- Poland during the transformation of its migration status – from a traditional emigration country to an emigration-immigration one (or even a new immigration country)

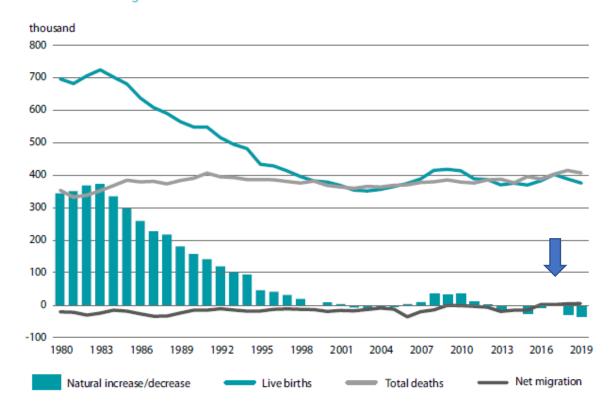


Chart 1. Vital statistics and migration in 1980–2019

Poland's integration policy

- Since the political and socio-economic transformation at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s, Poland has not implemented a coherent and comprehensive national integration policy, nor has it had a strategic document (legal or policy) in this regard (→ "but the absence of a strategic document does not mean the absence of policies as such and is sometimes a policy statement of its own" [Duszczyk et al. 2020, p. 2]).
- As of today, what we can call **"Polish integration policy"** is fragmented and dispersed, and its specific aspects/components fit into the areas of various public policies (e.g., the labor market, housing, healthcare, education, social security).
- The only integration activities offered by **the state** (and which can be considered the nationwide element of integration policy) are targeted at **forced migrants who benefit from international protection in Poland**.
- They are implemented under the Individual Integration Programs (IIPs) —addressed to the beneficiaries of international protection (persons with refugee status and subsidiary protection), financed from the central budget but implemented by local governments.
- Although this integration offer is too specific and limited, it provides a good basis for a future broadly defined integration policy.

Legal Basis of Integration Policy

- Some key legal acts regarding integration of foreigners in Poland (with a focus on the beneficiaries of international protection):
 - The Law of 13 June 2003 on granting protection to foreigners within the territory of the Republic of Poland → the Law on Protection
 - The Law of 12 March 2004 on social assistance → the Law on Social Assistance (the most important legal act regulating IIPs)
- Art. 89e (Law on Protection): "A foreigner who has refugee status or enjoys subsidiary protection is provided with assistance to support his/her integration process into the society in the manner and on the terms set out in the Law of 12 March 2004 on social assistance".
- The assistance (support) resulting from the provisions of the Law on Social Assistance for beneficiaries of international protection can be perceived as the most important component of official state actions for the integration of refugees, and its flagship core are Individual Integration Programs (IIPs).



Refugees fleeing Ukraine (since 24 February 2022)* JSON M

6,801,987

Last updated 29 May 2022

Data is updated daily by 12:00 CET.

*Arrival statistics are compiled from a variety of sources, mainly data provided by authorities from official border crossing points. While every effort has been made to ensure that all statistical information is verified, figures on some arrivals represent an estimate. Triangulation of information and sources is performed on a continuous basis. Therefore, amendments in figures may occur, including retroactively. Notably, the right to move freely within the Schengen area means there are very few border controls within the European Union. The data of arrivals in Schengen countries (Hungary, Poland, Slovakia) bordering Ukraine therefore only represents border crossings into that country, but we estimate that a large number of people have moved onwards to other countries. In addition, UNHCR does not count individuals from bordering countries leaving Ukraine to return home.

Among those who fled Ukraine are also Ukrainian nationals with dual citizenship.

An additional 105,000 people moved to the Russian Federation from the Donetsk and Luhansk regions between 18 and 23 February.

Ukrainians entering Ukraine (since 28 February 2022)**

JSON 🔊

2,229,500

Source - UNHCR, Government

Last updated 27 May 2022

**This figure reflects cross-border movements, which can be pendular, and does not necessarily indicate sustainable returns as the situation across Ukraine remains highly volatile and unpredictable. Due to the constantly changing situation, it is too premature to draw conclusions on definitive trends, therefore this figure has not been deducted from the overall refugee numbers until more data on cross-border movements will be available.

Total Refugee influx from Ukraine in neighboring countries***

JSON 為

Location name	Source	🔶 Data date	Population	•
Poland	UNHCR, Government	29 May 2022		3,627,178
Romania	UNHCR, Government	27 May 2022		989,357
Russian Federation	UNHCR, Government	26 May 2022		971,417
Hungary	UNHCR, Government	29 May 2022		682,594
Republic of Moldova	UNHCR, Government	29 May 2022		479,513
Slovakia	UNHCR, Government	29 May 2022		461,164
Belarus	UNHCR, Government	29 May 2022		30,092

***The accumulated data in this table is higher than the total number of refugees fleeing Ukraine presented above since it also takes into account people crossing the border between countries.

By month



Source - UNHCR, Government

https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine

JSON 🔊



5.8M

2.2M

schemes1

1.5M

unpredictable.

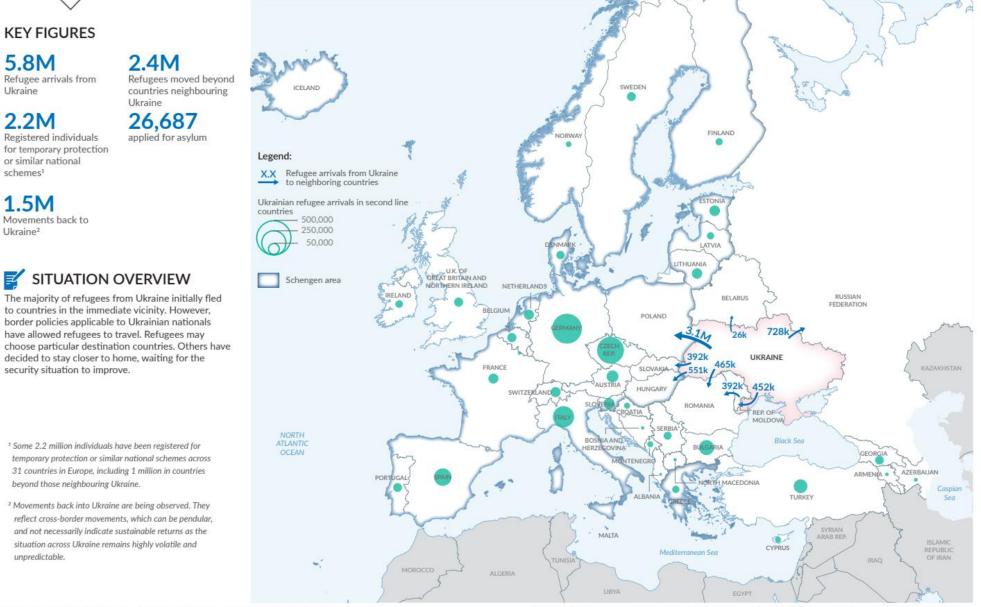
Ukraine²

Z

Ukraine

UKRAINE SITUATION **Refugees from Ukraine across Europe**

(as of 05 May 2022)



Creation date: 05 May 2022 Sources: UNHCR Feedback: tornieri@unhcr.org

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations *Serbia and Kosovo (S/RES/1244 [1999])

https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine

	Entries as of 23 April 2022	Projected refugee population entering by December 2022	Projected refugee population remaining by December 2022		
Refugee Population					
Poland	2,899,713	4,300,000	2,600,000		
Republic of Moldova	433,214	1,000,000	250,000		
Romania	774,094	1,250,000	350,000		
Hungary	489,754	1,000,000	250,000		
Slovakia	354,329	750,000	200,000		
Other Countries in the Region	602,339	800,000	550,000		
Total	5,186,744*	8,350,000*	4,200,000		
Other Countries beyond the Region	**	n/a	4,150,000		
Total			8,350,000		
*The accumulated data in this table is higher than the total number of refugees fleeing Ukraine presented above since it also					

takes into account people crossing the border between Romania and Moldova.

**An estimated 2.1 million people have moved beyond the region (UNHCR collation of official sources).

UNHCR, Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan - March-December 2022, 26.04.2022.

"We estimate the scale of Ukrainian presence in Poland at the starting point (April 2022) at approximately 2.9 million. Importantly, this number is a sum of two subpopulations: those persons who were staying in Poland before the war (around 1.35 million) and those who arrived since then (around 1.55 million – as discussed above)".

SPOTLIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF CENTRE OF MIGRATION RESEARCH

War and migration: the recent influx from Ukraine into Poland and possible scenarios for the future

Maciej Duszczyk and Paweł Kaczmarczyk

https://www.migracje.uw.edu.pl/publikacje/cmr-spotlight-war-and-migration-the-recent-influx-from-ukraine-into-poland-and-possible-scenarios-for-the-future-2/

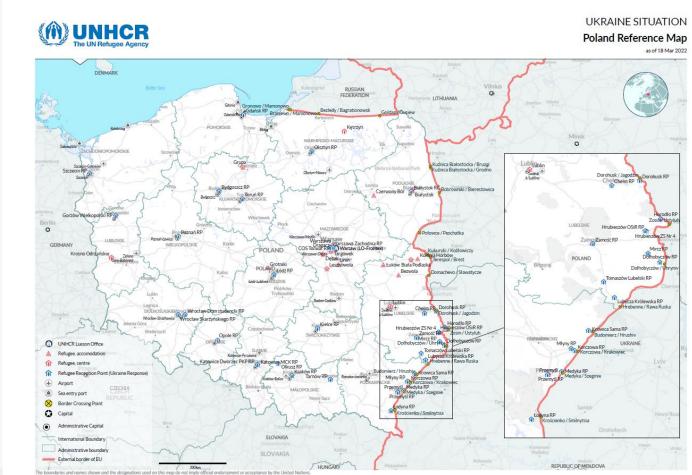
The situation on the eastern border of Poland (and the EU): Poland as a country with double standards in border management and asylum policies

PL-BL border





PL-UKR border



Printing date: 18 Mar 2022 Sources: UNCS, UNHCR Author: UNHCR - HQ Geneva Feedback mapping@unhcr.org Filename: POL_reference_A3L

https://www.grupagranica.pl/files/Grupa-Granica-Report-Humanitarian-crisis-at-the-Polish-Belarusian-border.pdf

https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine

Humanitarian crisis on the PL-BL border since August 2021

- closed-door policy for forced and irregular migrants from the MENA region
- push backs by Polish Border Guard
- refusal to accept applications for international protection
- the activity of the Border Group (composed of numerous NGOs) and Researchers on the Border (interuniversity, interdisciplinary and grassroots research network)
- state of emergency in the border zone (no entry, limited access to public information)
- expulsion law passed
- law on the construction of border security measures (6-meter tall fence)





Tweet
 Grupa Granica podal/a dalei Tweeta

Powiązane osoby

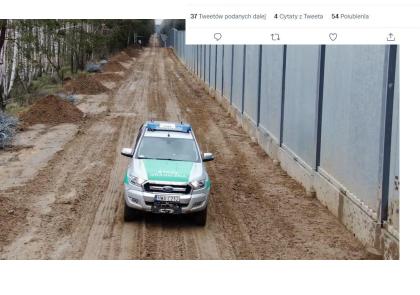


Brian Dooley @dooley_dooley Obserwujesz

Visiting Scholar @ucl | Senior Advisor to @humanrights1st & to @marylawlorhrds UN Special Rapporteur HRDs | Author | No manels | Tweets mine | He/They |

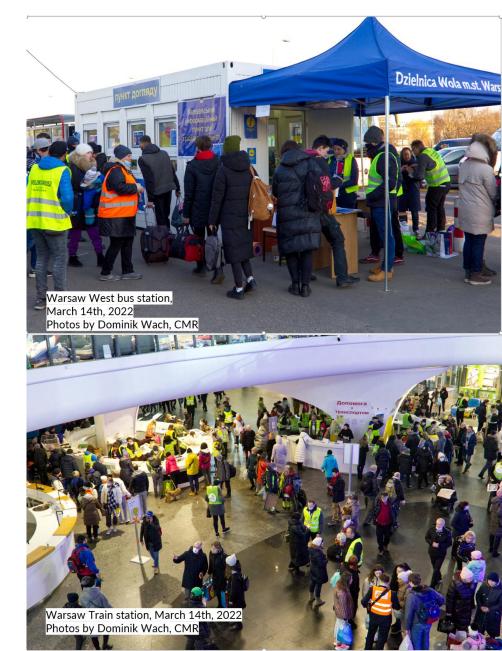
justsecurity.org In Alliance with Poland, U.S. Must Emphasize Refugee Protection First-hand reporting from Poland highlights the need for refugee policies consistent with international and domestic law.

4:04 PM · 11 maj 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



Humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and refugee crisis in Poland since February 2022

- open-door policy for forced migrants with Ukrainian citizenship
- Poland as a primary destination country for people fleeing Ukraine
- key role of NGOs and local governments (border towns Przemysl, big cities – Warsaw, Cracow, Lublin, Wroclaw, Gdansk, etc.)
- huge support of volunteers, private persons, and the Ukrainian diaspora (social solidarity)
- government legal and institutional framework (2022 Law on assistance to Ukrainian citizens in connection with the armed conflict on the territory of the country)
- coordinating and supporting role of IOs (UNHCR Regional Refugee Response Plan; EU – sanctions, Council Directive 2001/55/EC, EU solidarity with Ukraine, IOM – TCNs, reception, data collection etc.)



Coronavirus: information and recommendations

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> The Act on assistance to citizens of Ukraine in connection with armed conflict on the territory of that country signed

< Back

The Act on assistance to citizens of Ukraine in connection with armed conflict on the territory of that country signed by the President

12.03.2022

On Saturday (12 March), President Andrzej Duda signed the Act on assistance to citizens of Ukraine in connection with armed conflict on the territory of that country. The new solutions will enter into force, as a rule, on the day of their publication in the Journal of Laws and will apply retroactively from 24 February 2022.



https://www.gov.pl/web/mswia-en/the-act-on-assistance-to-citizens-of-ukraine-in-connectionwith-armed-conflict-on-the-territory-of-that-country-signed-by-the-president

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES		
RIGHT OF RESIDENCE	*Only <u>eligible persons</u> automatically obtain the residence permit – there is no need to submit an application. *Automatic legal residence for 18 months after crossing the border. *Facilitated possibility to obtain a temporary residence permit for 3 years	*Coverage of only a <u>strictly</u> <u>defined category of persons</u>		
BENEFITS	*Healthcare entitlement until 24 August 2023 *The entitlement to social assistance, family benefits, 500+, 300+ until 24 August 2023. *The entitlement to a onetime financial benefit of 300 PLN/person			
RIGHT TO WORK	*Immediate entitlement to work (in the case of fulfilment of the obligation to notify the employer of the commission of work) and later in the case of obtaining a temporary residence permit on the basis of a Special- purpose Act.	2		
DOCUMENTS	No special documents are issued.			
TRAVEL	*Possibility of returning to Ukraine at any time *During the validity of the temporary residence permit – possibility to travel withir the Schengen area for 90 days during every 180 days			
OTHER		*No possibility to apply for international protection (refugee status) and simultaneously		
	al portal for people ing Ukraine	benefiting from the facilities of the Special-purpose Act		



SPECIAL-PURPOSE ACT

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION (REFUGEE STATUS)		WORK *During the proceedings – entitlement to legal work by citizens		*During the proceedings – citizens of countries other than Ukraine and citizens of	
	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES		of Ukraine in case of first application for international protection (under	Ukraine who have submitted the second or subsequent application for international
RIGHT OF RESIDENCE	 *Possibility for anyone to request protection *In case of a favourable decision – obtaining the permanent legal residence permit in Poland *In case of a favourable decision – future possibility to apply for permanent residence and then Polish citizenship 	 *No guarantee of refugee status/subsidiary protection (application examined on a case-by-case basis on the risk of persecution or serious harm in the country of origin) *Limited possibilities of legalising residence in the event of a unfavourable decision *Relatively long waiting period for a decision *In the case of a favourable decision – it is possible to be deprived of the residence right if the circumstances under which protection was granted have ceased to exist 		the Special-purpose Act) in case of fulfilment of the obligation to notify the employer of the commission of work *During the proceedings – in case of a second or subsequent application for international protection, the entitlement to work only if no decision is taken within 6 months (upon obtaining the relevant certificate) *In case of a favourable decision – permanent entitlement to work legally in Poland without any	protection are entitled to work only in case of failure to obtain a decision within 6 months (after obtaining the relevant certificate)
BENEFITS	*During the proceedings – entitlement to health care but in a system parallel to the National Health Fund, managed by the Head of the Office for Foreigners. *During the proceedings – entitlement to a monthly cash benefit. *In case of a fayourable decision –	*During the proceedings – no entitlement to 500+, Family Care Capital, family benefits, social benefits	DOCUMENTS	additional requirements *In the course of the proceedings – a document certifying identity and the entitlement to legal residence in PL (TZTC) is obtained *In case of granting the refugee status – obtaining a travel document (passport)	
	entitlement to the Individual Integration Programme (annual financial support, medical and integration assistance). *In case of a favourable decision – entitlement to social assistance,	TRAVEL	*In the case of a favourable decision – the possibility to travel within the Schengen area for 90 days in every 180 days.	*During the proceedings – no possibility to travel *Inability to return to country of origin (this involves revocation of refugee status/subsidiary protection)	
	family benefits, 500+, 300+ on the same basis as Polish citizens		OTHER	e Stowarzyszenie	*No possibility to benefit from the facilities of the Special-purpose Act in case of an application for international protection
		fleeing	portal for peop g Ukraine	Interwencji Prawnej	

RIGHT TO

Ukraine Situation: Regional Refugee Response Plan Summary and Inter-Agency Funding Requirements, March-August 2022

X

10-248

Ö 100.4 M

Download document

(PDF | 1014.3 KB)

🛢 Appeal • Source: UNHCR • Posted: 1 Mar 2022 • Originally published: 1 Mar 2022 • Origin: View original 🗗

Overview

This inter-agency Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRP) outlines the comprehensive response and activities to support countries's efforts to protect and assist refugees coming from Ukraine. It includes the initial financial requirements of 12 partners (including UN agencies, national and international non-governmental organizations and civil society) for six months, working in tandem with concerned host Governments.

UNHCR estimates that over 4 million people could flee from Ukraine and seek protection and support across the region. This RRP aims at assisting 2.4 million refugees and asylum-seekers in neighbouring countries.

RRP partners will support government-led efforts through a multisectoral approach focusing on protection, reception/shelter and material as well as cash assistance for the most vulnerable groups and for individuals with specific needs.

The response will identify and address refugees' needs, taking into account considerations related to age. gender and diversity. Given the high numbers of women and children-it will ensure targeted child protection interventions and proactive prevention and response to gender-based violence, including in relation to sexual exploitation and abuse



Poland + 8 more

Ukraine Situation Regional Refugee Response Plan (March - December 2022)

Appeal - Source: UNHCR - Posted: 25 Apr 2022 - Originally published: 25 Apr 2022

Introduction

After eight years of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine which had left millions of people in need of humanitarian assistance, the Russian Federation launched a military offensive on the country on 24 February2022. The war, and the intensity and nature of the fighting with indiscriminate strikes damaging or destroying civilian as well as private and communal infrastructure have caused fear andthetragic loss of human life. It has triggered one of the fastest-growing displacement and humanitarian crises on record, pushing millions into internal displacement and abroad in search of safety. Some 5,381 civilian casualties have been recorded in Ukraine -2.435killed and 2.946injured -however the actual figures may be considerably higher.

More than a quarter of Ukraine's population has been forced to flee since 24 February: over 5.1million refugees -90 per cent of whom are women and children -have fled to neighbouring countries,2with many immediately continuing their journey to other countries. An additional 7.7million people are internally displaced persons (IDPs) inside Ukraine (60per cent women and 40per cent men)3and another 13 million people have been directly affected in the hardest-hit areasacross the country. Moreover, many people remain trapped in areas of escalating hostilities



(PDF | 5.18 MB | Regional Refugee Response Plan)



Format: Appeal Themes Agriculture / Coordination / Education Food and Nutrition / Health / HIV/Aids Logistics and Telecommunications / Protection and Human Rights / Shelte and Non-Food Items / Water Sanitation Hygiene

Primary country:

Other countries:

Slovakia / Ukraine

Hungary / Moldova / Romania /

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Education / Food and Nutrition / Health /

Protection and Human Rights / Shelter

and Non-Food Items / Water Sanitation

Poland

Source:

Format:

Appeal

Themes:

Hygiene

Language:

English



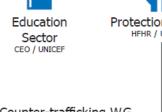


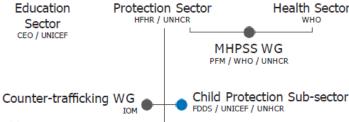


Working Group

(Sub)Sector

Sector CEO / UNICEF





WG - Working Group PSEA - Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse TCN WG AAP - Accountability to Affected People TCN - Third Country Nationals MHPSS - Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

v. 07 April 2022

Logistics Secto

UNHCE

AAP WG

UNHCR

https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine

GBV Sub-Sector

CPK / UNHCR



EN English

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Strategy > Priorities 2019-2024 > A stronger Europe in the world > EU solidarity with Ukraine

EU solidarity with Ukraine



EU support to Ukraine: practical information PAGE CONTENTS EU support to Ukraine: practical information **FU** actions In focus Timeline Latest Documents **Related links**

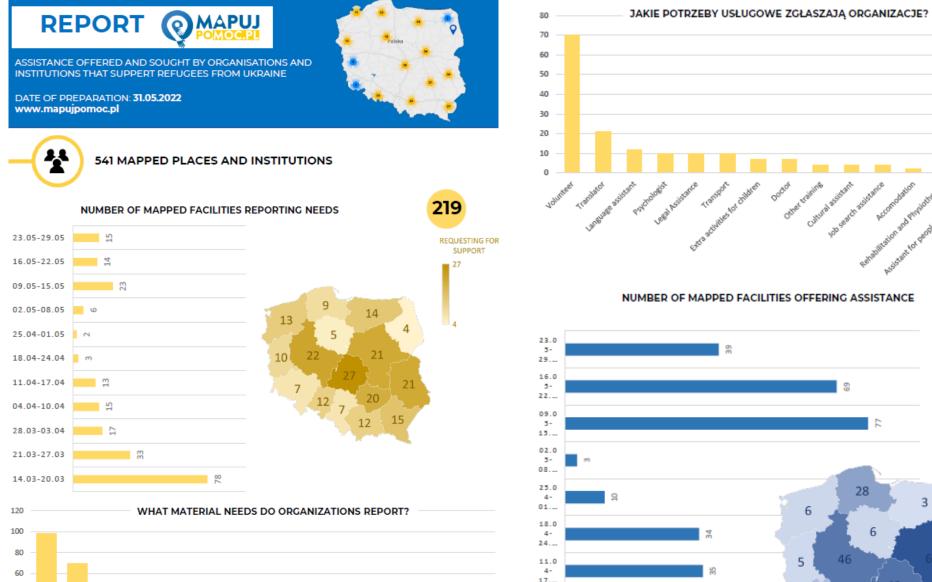
If you are If you are coming from based in Ukraine the EU

Practical information about your rights and support options

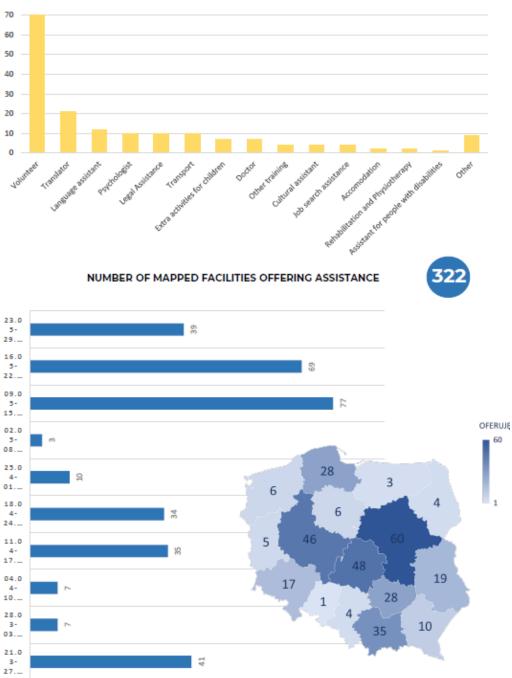
- A package of **sanctions** against Russia and Belarus (economic, financial, diplomatic, political)
- Acceleration of discussions on Ukraine's membership in the EU
- On-site humanitarian aid in Ukraine
- 2001 Temporary Protection **Directive** for forced migrants from Ukraine
- Launch of an internet platform for people fleeing Ukraine with all the necessary information (EU solidarity with Ukraine)
- Financial support to the main host countries in the EU

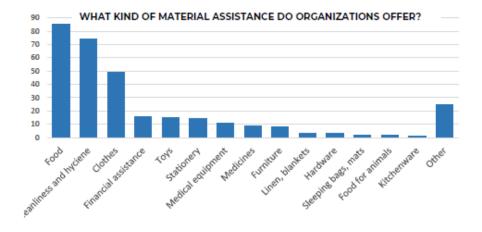
https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/eu-solidarity-ukraine en https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eu-response-ukraine-invasion/eu-solidarity-ukraine/

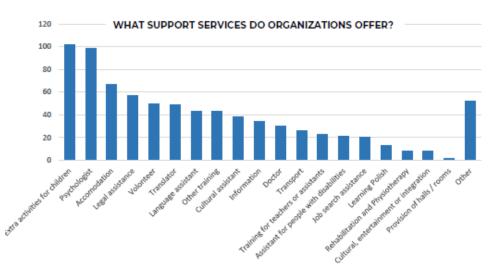
How you can help



WEIE Linenblank







Map the Help with the CultureLab Foundation are creating a nationwide database of facilities that actively help refugees from Ukraine. Our portal was created with the following in mind:

people in need, who want to quickly and easily find help centers;

Institutions that want to inform about their activities, seek support and want to be more visible for large organizations. If you are interested in the above data, please write to Map Help. We provide data based on: provinces, cities, categories of help offered or needed, types of institutions, age of beneficiaries.

If you want to support local institutions in various parts of Poland that provide a specific type of assistance, such as food, education, IT or psychological assistance, please contact us.

← → C 🔒 mapujpomoc.pl/en/

QMAPUJ

Help Map with the CultureLab FDN!

We are creating a nationwide database of institutions which actively help refugees from Ukraine.

Our portal was created with the following in mino: > people in need who want to find assistance centers quickly and easily; > institutions which want to inform about their activities, are looking for support and want to be more visible to large organizations.

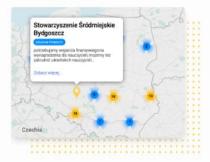


Find out more

LOCATE A HELP CENTER!

Are you a refugee from Ukraine and in need of assistance?

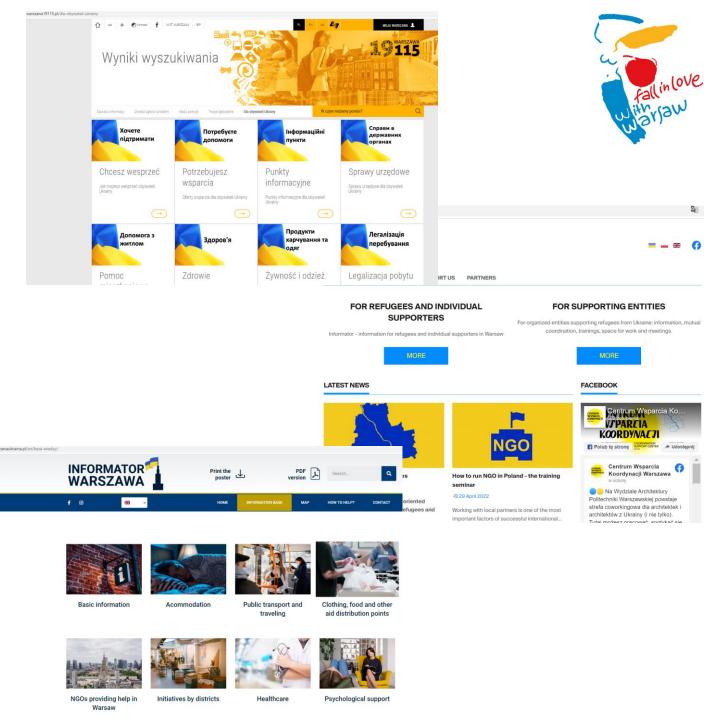
Check the MAP tab. You will find various institutions from all over Poland there, offering material, institutional and social support. Choose your region, define your needs and discover local assistance centers. In our search engine you will find, among others, places with accommodation, lood, psychological or educational support.





Warsaw's response (state and non-state actors)

- Humanitarian aid \rightarrow reception \rightarrow integration
- Branch Social Dialogue Commission for Foreigners (the advisory body on foreigners at the Warsaw City Hall)
- Coordination Support Center in the city center
- City's website 19115
- Platform of Warsaw NGOs providing support for forced migrants from Ukraine
- Research activities



Selected data on Warsaw regarding support and reception for forced migrants from Ukraine (as of 20.05.2022)



Population and formal status

- Estimated number of people who "passed through" Warsaw: 768 000 (% to Warsaw residents: 43%)
- Estimated number of people staying in Warsaw and metropolitan area at the peak of the crisis: **290 000 (16%)**
- Estimated number of permanent residents in Warsaw: 160 000 (9%)
- Registered applications for the UKR status (PESEL*) in connection with the conflict in Ukraine (from 15.03.2022):
 - in Poland 1.1 milion (% of applications registered in Poland to the number of people who crossed the border: 32%)
 - in Warsaw 106 594 (% of applications registered in Warsaw to the total for Poland: 10%)

Support at reception and information points

- Number of people who were provided help in municipal points: 329 975
- Number of **volunteers** involved in helping since 24.02.2022: **14 282**

*PESEL number – Universal Electronic System for Registration of the Population is a 11-digit number that allows for an identification of a specific person.

Warsaw City Hall, 20.05.2022

Selected data on Warsaw regarding support and reception for forced migrants from Ukraine (as of 20.05.2022)



Accommodation

- Number of the city's accommodation places: 2 273
 - Number of places used: 1 710
 - Number of places available: 563
- Number of the city's accommodation places from 27.02.2022: 116 822
- Number of **private apartments**:
 - registered in the database: **5 292**
 - verified: 1 882
 - used: 941

Education

- Number of children in educational institutions (public and private – kindergartens, primary, secondary and post-secondary schools): 17 557
- % of new UKR children after 24.02.2022 in the educational system:
 - 10% kindergartens
 - 8% primary schools
 - 2% secondary schools
- <u>+ Health + Labour Market</u>

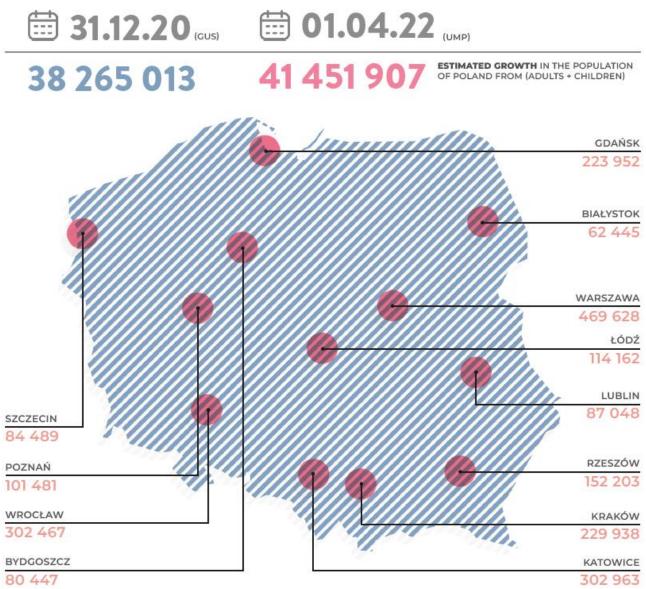


The report relies upon qualitative conclusions and quantitative analysis. Their primary purpose was to determine the number of Ukrainians in the central cities and metropolitan areas of 12 UMP cities (Białystok, Bydgoszcz, Gdańsk, Katowice, Kraków, Lublin, Łódź, Poznań, Rzeszów, Szczecin, Warsaw, Wrocław).

https://metropolie.pl/artykul/raportmiejska-goscinnosc-wielki-wzrostwyzwania-i-szanse

FACT:

Over a million Ukrainian women and men had already dwelled in Poland before the outbreak of the war. In the first five weeks of the war, this number soared to nearly 3.2 million.



NUMBER OF ALL UKRAINIANS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS (ADULTS + CHILDREN)

Challenges

- How many of the **forced migrants from Ukraine** will stay and for how long?
- How many people will decide **to return** and how many will migrate circularly?
- What is **their demographic and socio-economic profile**, incl. age, level of education, qualifications and competences, work experience?
- What are their **main needs and expectations**?
- How to avoid brain drain for Ukrainian society and economy in the future?



Challenges

- What is and will be the situation in terms of access to public services (e.g., education, labor market, housing, health care, culture) in Poland?
- What is Poland's aim mid-term reception or longterm integration (ultimately with naturalization)?
- How to avoid **potential social tensions**?
- Will a **coherent action strategy** be developed and who will be responsible for its overall coordination?
- Does Poland need dedicated reception and integration policies, tools and programs? Who is to design, implement and finance them?
- What solutions adopted in other countries can be followed?



Poland's changing position in the European migration system

Counterbalancing demographic shrinking

Changing migration status of the country

Developing a welcoming culture as a step towards becoming a truly new immigration country

"Migration" becomes the topic to integrate politically more strongly into the EU

From re-active to pro-active local policies





CENTRE OF MIGRATION RESEARCH

Thank you for your attention.

Marta Pachocka

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