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1. General information

Language

The official language is Polish. English is widely understood, especially by young people and people living in large towns. Older people can often speak Russian.

Administrative settings

Poland is divided into 16 provinces and regions known as *'voivodeships' (województwo)*. The voivodeships are subdivided into 314 districts *(powiat)* and 66 cities with districts rights further fragmented into 2 477 municipalities *(gmina)*. Warsaw is the nation's capital and largest metropolis. Other major cities include Kraków, Łódź, Wrocław, Poznań, Gdańsk and Szczecin.

Population

The estimated population in 2021 was 38.3 million.

Emergency contacts

- General Emergency Number **112**
- Ambulance **999**
- Fire brigade **998**
- Police **997**
- Municipal Guards **986**
- Mazovian Governor's Crisis Management Centre **987**
- Emergency Water and Sewerage Service **994**
- Emergency Heating Service **993**
- Emergency Gas Service **992**
- Emergency Energy Services **991**
- Safety Number **988**
- Roadside assistance **981**
- Mountain Rescue Service **985**
- Hotline - Hospital Emergency Services **800777770**
- Hotline - Foreign Tourists' Safety **800200300**
- Helpline for the Ukrainians seeking medical help (24/7) **+48 807190590**
- COVID-19 vaccination point **989**
- Government helpline for trafficking **+48 226280120**
- European Hotline for Missing Children **116000**

- European Helpline for Children and Adolescents **116111**
- Helpline for Women **+48 226359395**
- Psychological emergency support (24/7):
  For children and teenagers **800121212**
  For adults **800702222**
- Polish Red Cross for missing persons **22261210**
- Information, counselling, support for members of the LGBTIAQ+ community (LAMBDA Warsaw - Monday to Friday, 15:00 to 18:00): **+48 224288338**
- Office for Foreigners (07:00 to 20:00) **+48 477217575**
- Helpline for Polish citizens and holders of the Pole's card living in Ukraine **+48 825685119**
- Border Guard hotline **+48 225238880**
- Police hotline **+48 477212307**

2. Entry to Poland

All persons entering the territory of Poland undergo border control and are registered at the border crossing point by the Commander of the Border Guard Post (BGP Commander).
If you are fleeing Ukraine, the Border Guard will allow you to cross the border with Poland even if you do not have any travel document. However, if possible, try to bring your identity documents, medical documents and other important papers with you. You may need them during your stay and it may be difficult or impossible to obtain them in Poland.

You can cross the Polish-Ukrainian border by car or foot. Have food, water, blankets and waterproof clothes with you, in case you need to wait for a few hours to cross the border.

To prevent the introduction of diseases into the European Union, it is prohibited to take with you when crossing the border the following products:

- meat,
- meat products (including sandwiches with meat or cold cuts),
- milk,
- dairy products.

More detailed information can be found on the following websites:

- https://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/handel-eksport-import/przywoz-zywnosci-na-wlasny-uzytek
- https://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/english/importing-food-for-personal-use
- https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-products-movements/personal-imports_en

After crossing the border, you can go to a reception centre nearby to receive assistance. A free-of-charge bus will be available at the border. Do not get into any vehicle with unknown persons. Inform the authorities if strangers at the border offer to drive you somewhere.

There are 28 provincial information points for Ukrainian citizens at railway and bus stations. Another 121 information points are run by local government units. To know more about the information points in Warsaw, visit https://en.um.warszawa.pl/-/refugee-here-you-can-find-help-in-warsaw.

In Poland there are 30 reception points for refugees. You can go to a reception point to receive help with:

- transfers
- accommodation
- meals
- medical care

For more information on where to go and on national helplines, visit https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/potrzebuje-pomocy/punkty-info.

From 1 June to 30 June 2022, free railway transportation is provided from and to the cities located on the Polish Eastern border (Chełm, Dorohusk, Lublin, Hrubieszów, Przemyśl, Zagórze, Jarosław and Rzeszów). For more info see https://www.intercity.pl/pl/site/o-nas/dzial-prasowy/aktualnosci/nowe-zasady-wydawania-darmowych-biletow-pkp-intercity-dla-uchodzcow-z-ukrainy.html.

Free tickets are available to citizens of Ukraine in the following categories:

- women;
- children up to the age of 18;
- men over 60;
- men with disabilities aged 18-60.

To obtain your free ticket, you need to show one of the following documents:

- Ukrainian passport confirming that you crossed the border after 24 February 2022; or
- document with photo confirming your identity (e.g. ID card, driver's license, student card); and
- confirmation of receiving a PESEL number.

For information on the PESEL number, see Where can you register for temporary protection in Poland? below.

3. Temporary protection

You are eligible for temporary protection in Poland if you belong to the following categories of persons.

Category 1

You are a Ukrainian national, resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022

and fulfil the following conditions (a+b+c):

a. you have been displaced to Poland on or after 24 February 2022

b. (directly or through another state) because of the war;
c. you declare that you will remain in Poland;
you have not applied for international protection, you do not declare to do so, and you do not have a residence title in Poland (for example a temporary or permanent residence permit or refugee status).

Category 2

You are a non-Ukrainian national of a third country or a stateless person,

you are not married to a citizen of Ukraine and you can prove that you fulfil the following conditions (a+b):

a. you were legally residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 on the asis of a valid permanent residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law;
b. you cannot return in safe and durable conditions to your country of origin.

Category 3

You are a non-Ukrainian national of a third country or a stateless person,

you are not married to a citizen of Ukraine and you can prove that you fulfil the following conditions (a+b):

a. you were a beneficiary of international protection (refugee status) or

b. equivalent protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
you were displaced from Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022.

Definition of family members

If you belong to category 1, the following persons will be considered family members if the family was in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:

1. spouse (it does not matter if you have a Pole's Card or not);
2. minors and unmarried children or children of the spouse, regardless of whether they were born in marriage, out of wedlock or adopted (only if you have a Pole's Card);
3. other close relatives who lived together as a family when the circumstances leading to a mass influx of displaced persons arose, and who were wholly or partially dependent on you (only if you have a Pole's Card).

If you are a Ukrainian citizen but do not have a Pole's Card, your children (bullet 2.) and other close relatives (bullet 3.) are treated as if they belonged to category 2 or 3.

If you belong to category 2 or 3, the following persons will be considered family members if the family was in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:

1. spouse (it does not matter if you have a Pole's Card or not);
2. minors and unmarried children or children of the spouse, regardless of whether they were born in marriage, out of wedlock or adopted;
3. other close relatives who lived together as a family when the circumstances leading to a mass influx of displaced persons arose, and who were wholly or partially dependent on you.

For information about the Pole's card, see https://migrant.poznan.uw.gov.pl/en/slownik-pojec/poles-card.

Where can you register for temporary protection in Poland?

Category 1

As better detailed above, this paragraph applies to you if you are:

- a Ukrainian citizen;
- a non-EU national or stateless spouse of a Ukrainian citizen;
- an immediate family member of a Ukrainian citizen holding the Pole's Card.

You can legally stay in Poland until 24 August 2023. This date applies to all persons belonging to category 1, no matter when they crossed the border.

If your entry to Poland was not registered by the Border Guard during border control, you will be registered later on by the Commander-in-Chief of the Border Guard. In this case, you need to request a PESEL number within 90 days from arrival. To obtain the PESEL number, you will be asked to declare your stay in Poland. This is a requirement to benefit from temporary protection in Poland. The PESEL number is very useful for your stay in Poland. It will make it easier to deal with many daily things such as booking a medical visit, benefiting from the social system etc.

PESEL is an identification number for people residing in Poland. You will need it to enjoy your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection. In order to apply for a PESEL you need to follow these steps:

1. go to any municipality office;
2. complete and sign the application form. You can bring with you a printed-out and completed form;
3. have your fingerprint taken;
4. receive confirmation of your application.

You need to bring the following documents with you:

- a travel document, ID card or a birth certificate (for persons under 18);
- a photo;
- your Pole's card (if applicable).

If you do not have an ID document, your PESEL number will be provided based on the information you declare. If you have children, you will submit the application on their behalf. Children under 12 do not need to be present when submitting the application, unless their identity is to be established.

Categories 2 and 3

As better detailed above, this paragraph applies to you if you are a non-Ukrainian citizen formerly legally residing in Ukraine and not falling under category 1.

You will receive a certificate of temporary protection (see https://www.gov.pl/web/ochrona-en/how-to-get-a-certificate). The certificate is issued free-of-charge by the Office for Foreigners at your request.

- This can be settled in person:
  - at the seat of the Office in Warsaw at ul. Taborowa 33
  - in the office's delegation in Biała Podlaska at ul. Dokudowska 19

- online: the registration form is available in Polish, English, Ukrainian and Russian. During registration online, you need to answer a few questions regarding your citizenship, documents or date of departure from Ukraine. The last step is to choose the preferred place of receipt of the certificate. To this end, it is also necessary to provide personal and contact details. After registration, you will receive an SMS with information about the place and date of receipt of the document.

It is not necessary to submit a written request: it is sufficient to contact the representative of the office in person. However, it is mandatory to provide documents proving that before 24 February 2022 you enjoyed protection in Ukraine, were legally residing in Ukraine on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit, and are unable to return to your country or region of origin in safe conditions.

The certificate of temporary protection proves that you are entitled to temporary protection in Poland. It certifies that you have the right to stay in the territory of Poland during the period of its validity (until 4 March 2023).

The certificate also gives you the right to receive social assistance, if you request it. Social assistance includes the possibility to receive accommodation and meals in one of the centres of the Office for Foreigners or a financial benefit to cover the costs of staying out of the centre. Free of charge medical care is provided. The certificate allows you to legally work in Poland during its validity.

What is the procedure to access temporary protection in Poland?

As indicated above, there are two different procedures, depending on your nationality, family ties and former legal status in Ukraine (see above: category 1 if you are a Ukrainian citizen and categories 2 and 3 if you are a non-Ukrainian citizen formerly legally residing in Ukraine).

Which documents will you receive as a beneficiary of temporary protection?

As indicated above, there are two different procedures, depending on your nationality and former legal status in Ukraine (see above: category 1 if you are a Ukrainian citizen and categories 2 and 3 if you are a non-Ukrainian citizen formerly legally residing in Ukraine).

If you belong to category 1, you will not receive any paper documents to confirm that you are a beneficiary of temporary protection and to authorise you to travel outside Poland. But you are entitled to receive a PESEL number and get access to the secure profile in *mObywatel* application (translated, *mCitizen*). If you belong to categories 2 or 3, you will receive a paper certificate confirming that you are a beneficiary of temporary protection. Please note that this document is not valid to travel across the EU.

Duration of the temporary protection

If you belong to category 1, you can legally stay in Poland until 24 August 2023.

If you belong to categories 2 or 3, you can legally stay in Poland until 4 March 2023 (i.e. while temporary protection status is still valid in the EU).

No matter to which category you belong, temporary protection can be extended depending on the situation in Ukraine.

Your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection in Poland

- Residence and free movement in Poland
- Access to the labour market
- Means of subsistence in the reception system
- Access to medical care
- Access to education (for children)
- Family reunification
- Information about temporary protection

Depending on your personal circumstances and needs, you may also request accommodation and other types of support, including the provision of food and non-food items. If you already have temporary protection status and your spouse or children are out of Poland, you can request to be reunited with them. You should contact the Office for Foreigners.

More information about these rights

Accommodation

30 reception points are available for you to reach out to upon arrival. Smaller reception points are also organised by local governments. The voivodship could also provide assistance to you and your family.

This assistance may consist of:

- accommodation (see https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/potrzebuje-pomocy/noclegi);
- daily meals;
- free transport to accommodation or to the centres run by the Office for Foreigners, or to the places where medical care is provided to Ukrainian citizens;
- the provision of cleaning and personal hygiene products and other products.

Accommodation facilities are available in the form of hotels, hostels, guesthouses, student houses, parish houses, training centres, school halls, sports halls, communal flats, fire stations, village clubhouses, religious houses, wedding halls and others.

There is also the possibility to be accommodated in private houses. You can search ads at https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/ogloszenia/znajdz-pomoc/noclegi.

Access to labour market

If you have temporary protection (and a PESEL number or a certificate), you have the right to work. You do not need any additional document or work permit. For more information see https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/pratsevlashtuvannya-v-Polshchi and https://www.gov.pl/web/ochrona/praca.

Your employer is obliged to report the employment of a citizen from Ukraine as well as the conditions of employment on the website www.praca.gov.pl.

Job offers, also available in Ukrainian, can be found at https://oferty.praca.gov.pl/ or through the mobile applications ePraca (for Android and iOS) or MojaPraca (for Android).

Call the helpline **19524** for information on procedures, rights to allowances and other benefits for unemployed persons.

Means of subsistence in the reception system

Category 1

If you belong to category 1, you are entitled to:

- a one-off cash benefit from the Polish State intended for food, clothing, footwear, personal hygiene products and housing fees;
- social benefits, nursery school subsidies, family benefits and social assistance.

If you are a citizen of Ukraine, you and your family can apply for social assistance benefits (cash and non-cash) to the social assistance centre of your place of stay (centres are located in each municipality or voivodeship).

Categories 2 or 3

If you belong to categories 2 or 3 and received a certificate from the Office for Foreigners confirming that you benefit from temporary protection, you can decide to live outside the centre for foreigners. In this case, you can receive assistance in the form of a cash benefit to cover for your independent stay in Poland. This form of assistance is to cover costs of stay out of the centres for foreigners and does not have an impact on the right to access the labour market.

Official information from the Office for Foreigners for people who benefit from temporary protection is available at https://www.gov.pl/web/ochrona-en/social-assistance.

Several family and educational allowances are also available, depending on your personal circumstances (elderly person, person with disability, single parent with young children, etc.). More information can be found at https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Dopomoha-na-vykhovannya-500plus-i-Simeynyy-kapital-opiky.

UNHCR assistance

No matter to which category you belong, you can benefit from the cash assistance scheme run by UNHCR. See https://reporting.unhcr.org/document/2581.

UNHCR is providing short-term cash assistance to persons who have recently arrived from Ukraine, to support their transition and integration in Poland. The programme is different from any support system provided by the Polish state, including PESEL registration. UNHCR does not conduct refugee registration or status determination.

Cash assistance is provided once a month, for at least three months. You and your family are eligible if you are living in Poland and fled Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022. You do not need to hold Ukrainian citizenship to benefit from this scheme. It suffices that you can prove that you held legal residence in Ukraine. If is sufficient that one family member only has left Ukraine on or after 24 February 2022. You are eligible even if you passed through another country before entering Poland. Family member means an adult spouse or civil partner and children below age 18. If you have other family members (for example, grandparents, adult children), you can enrol for this scheme during the same appointment, but they will be enrolled separately and need to provide a separate phone number. Children should be accompanied by an appointed caregiver/legal guardian. Requests for appointments to enrol for the scheme can be submitted online only at https://help.unhcr.org/poland/information-for-new-arrivals-from-ukraine/.

Public health

Medical care/medical prescription

Category 1

If you are a citizen of Ukraine who arrived in Poland no earlier than 24 February 2022 and you have a document issued by the Polish authorities confirming the date of crossing the Polish border (category 1), you (and your family) have the right to free state medical care in Poland under the same conditions as Polish citizens.

Within the framework of public health the following is provided: primary medical care, specialist outpatient care, mental health care and addiction

treatment, nursing and care services under long-term care, diagnostic tests prescribed by a doctor, hospital care, psychiatric care, rehabilitation (except resorts), dental services, provision and repair of medical devices, palliative and hospice care, highly specialised services, medicines, foods for special medical purposes and medical devices available from pharmacies on prescription, prescription drugs, medicines used in chemotherapy and preventive vaccination.

To receive medical assistance, you need a PESEL number. If you have not obtained a PESEL number yet, you will be asked to declare that you belong to category 1 for the purposes of healthcare.

Registration and coordination of medical appointments is carried out via the hotline of the medical operator.

For life-threatening and health emergencies requiring urgent action, call the National Medical Rescue Service at **112**. More info on medical care can be found at https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/derzhavna-medychna-dopomoha.

In addition, the Ministry of Health of Poland has launched the LikarPL application (https://likar.mz.gov.pl/) to facilitate the provision of medical advice to citizens of Ukraine. The application allows to quickly diagnose the patient's health, as well as facilitate communication between the patient and a doctor who does not speak Ukrainian.

Categories 2 and 3

If you are a non-Ukrainian citizen who was living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 either as an international protection beneficiary or under a residence permit (categories 2 and 3), you need to first receive the certificate for temporary protection issued by the Office for Foreigners. This certificate will give you access to medical assistance organised by a medical operator contracted by the Office for Foreigners. The following is covered:

- basic medical care and vaccinations;
- special medical treatment;
- dental treatment;
- supply of medicines and medical supplies.

To receive medical care (and social assistance), refugees must first complete a statement of income and health insurance.

No social assistance in the form of cash benefits is granted if the monthly family income is higher than 776 PLN (for single persons) or 600 PNL per family member.

If the foreigner is entitled to use health care services financed from public funds for the performance of work or business activity, assistance in the form of medical care is not available.

Psychosocial support

The dedicated hotline **+48 222309900** is active 24 hours a day and provides support for refugees from Ukraine, including psychological assistance. If you are staying in state-run housing, assistance can also be provided by the mayor of the village, town or city.

You can contact the Ombudsman for Children's Helpline **800121212** to reach specialists providing support in Ukrainian and Russian. Support is provided to children and young people as well as to their parents and carers. The number operates 24 hours a day and is free. Young people who prefer instant messaging can use the chat room available on the Ombudsman for Children's website https://czat.brpd.gov.pl/.

Detailed information is available at https://brpd.gov.pl/2022/02/25/uwaga-pomoc-800-12-12-12-po-ukrainsku/.

Disabilities

The health care system in Poland does not consider disability as a basis for granting medical benefits. Medical benefits are granted based on evaluation of health conditions. This ensures that people with disabilities have non-discriminatory access to healthcare on an equal footing with the rest of society. There is an exception for persons with a significant degree of disability. However, in order for Ukrainian citizens to be eligible for this exception, a system should be introduced to recognise disability certificates issued in Ukraine.

COVID-19

You can be vaccinated (or complete a previous cycle of vaccination) against COVID-19 free of charge. Vaccinations are administered to people from 5 years of age.

To be vaccinated, you need to present one of the following documents:

- Ukrainian passport
- foreign passport
- PESEL or certificate of temporary protection.

For more information see https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Vaktsynatsiya-proty-Covid-19-inozemtsiv-hromadyan-Ukrayiny.

Vaccinations for children

Vaccinations and other public medical services for children are provided free of charge and performed according to standardised medical protocols. Refugee children from Ukraine have access to vaccinations on an equal footing with Polish children. The national vaccination plan envisages the following vaccinations:

- tuberculosis (for children younger than 15)
- hepatitis B
- diphtheria
- tetanus
- pertussis
- haemophilus influenzae type b
- rotavirus
- Heine-Medina disease;
- invasive pneumococcal disease
- measle
- mumps
- rubella
- chicken pox (for children in nurseries).

To stay in Poland longer than 3 months it is necessary to receive the mandatory vaccinations in accordance with the national mandatory vaccination programme.

Neonatal vaccination against tuberculosis and hepatitis B is obligatory for children born in the territory of the Republic of Poland. Post-exposure vaccinations are performed according to the doctor's decision. Vaccinated children will receive a vaccination card, also available in electronic format.

Relocation of Ukrainian patients from Poland to other EU/EEA countries

If you are a patient and want to move to another EU/EEA Member State, you should inform your doctor who will notify the National Health Fund. The relevant services at the Ministry of Health will take care of organising your transfer free of charge. Your treatment will also be free.
After launching the procedure, you will be asked to agree to be transferred and treated in another country. The Ministry of Health will assist you with airport coordination and other formalities. The transfer of patients includes

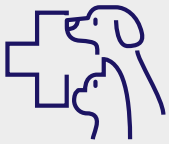
their family members or accompanying persons.
For more information, visit https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie/pelnomocnik-ministra-zdrowia-koordynuje-leczenie-pacjentow-z-ukrainy-za-granica (also available in Ukrainian).

Mandatory veterinarian check-up for pets

Small pets can enter without restrictions. Dogs and cats should have a microchip and be vaccinated. However officials at the border can waive this requirement.

In principle dogs, cats and ferrets arriving in the territory of the EU from Ukraine should:

- be properly chipped;
- have a valid rabies vaccination certificate;
- have an anti-rabies antibody titration result;
- have a health certificate issued by relevant veterinary authorities.



You can still cross the Polish-Ukrainian border with up to 5 pets (dogs, cats or ferrets) which do not meet one or more of these conditions. In this case, you need to inform the border officers (Polish Border Guard, Custom Administration or Police). You will be asked to fill in an application to introduce your pets to the territory of Poland. The animals will be chipped and vaccinated (against a fee) by the Veterinary Inspection office. You will receive a permission proving that the animal was legally introduced into the country.

If you do not complete these procedures at the border, you will have to do so later at the point or local clinic indicated by the county veterinary. Veterinarians will chip the animal, vaccinate it against rabies and provide information about the further procedure.

It is important to know that passports for crossing the borders within the EU are not provided for pets of refugees from Ukraine. They are only issued to pets whose owners are EU citizens.

You can also bring along other companion animals (rodents, rabbits, amphibians, reptiles, decorative water animals, invertebrates) without additional permissions. Since there is no risk of transmitting infectious diseases with these species, no special procedures apply.

Access to education

Kindergarten

You need to contact the local kindergarten where you wish to enrol your child. The decision to admit a child to the kindergarten is made by the principal. If there are no vacant places, you may ask support at the relevant office of the regional voivodeship or municipality.

Primary and secondary school

Children aged 6 are required to undergo one-year preschool preparation (so-called *zerówka*) in a kindergarten, in a kindergarten section of a primary school or in another form of preschool education. This obligation starts with the beginning of the school year in the calendar year when a child reaches the age of 6. Parents are required to enrol their child in preschool. It is up to the principal to decide whether to admit a child during the school year.

If your child is between 7 and 18 years old, they should be enrolled in school as education is compulsory for children of this age (see https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Navchannya-v-Polshchi-zapyshit-svoyu-dytynu-do-shkoly). Education in Poland is divided into primary and secondary. The total number of years of schooling attended in Ukraine determines in which grade of primary or secondary school your child will continue their education. This will be determined on the basis of documents or applications. For example, if your child attended primary school in Ukraine, they will continue primary education in Poland in a class that corresponds to the one attended in Ukraine.

Only the following persons can enrol a child in a school in Poland:

- a parent;
- the legal guardian, that is the person legally appointed to take care of the child.

To enrol a child in school, you must first select a specific school. The list of schools is available in the Register of Schools and Educational Institutions at https://rspo.gov.pl/.
You can enrol you child directly at the premises of the school you have chosen. You will need to provide a document confirming that the child attended school in Ukraine. There is no need to translate anything into Polish. Submit all the documents to the principal of the school. If you do not have documents proving the child's education, write a statement about the overall number of school years attended in Ukraine and indicate the school(s) where the child studied.

Detailed information on enrolment can be found on the website of each school or on the website of the city or municipality where you live.

Compulsory education does not apply to children who continue their education in the Ukrainian education system with the use of distance education methods and techniques, at the condition that the parent or guardian submits a declaration to the specific municipality.

University

If you were a university student in Ukraine, you can apply to any university in Poland. More information about the criteria and procedures can be found at https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Navchannya-ta-naukova-diyalnist-v-Polshchi.

It is important that the year, subject and level of study coincide. If there are differences in the curriculum or learning outcomes, you will need to pass certain exams or do an internship. Many higher education institutions offer training in certain areas in English.

Each university is responsible for verifying the learning outcomes.
You are exempt from paying for full-time higher education if you enjoy temporary protection in the Republic of Poland. However, educational fees may apply for remote learning courses.

Additionally, if you belong to categories 2 or 3 and you have received temporary protection, you can access Polish language courses and receive basic learning materials. Children holding a temporary protection certificate, who benefit from education and care in public institutions, primary and secondary schools, are provided with teaching aids in the form of a school starter kit. Textbooks are also provided free of charge if the school or educational institute do not provide them already.

More information on social assistance provided by the Office for Foreigners is available at https://www.gov.pl/web/ochrona-en/social-assistance.

Recognition of education titles

For more information on the recognition of education titles obtained abroad, visit https://nawa.gov.pl/en/recognition and https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/osvita-i-nauka.

Travelling

If you belong to category 1 and leave the territory of Poland for more than 1 month, you will lose the right to legally stay in Poland for a period of 18 months starting on 24 February 2022.

Travelling in the Schengen area

- Ukrainian citizens holding biometric passports (and other third-country nationals who are exempt from the requirement to have a short-stay visa when entering the Union) can move freely within the Schengen area for a period of 90 days within a period of 180 days. Therefore, you can travel to the Member State where you wish to exercise your rights related to temporary protection and join your family and friends there.
- If you are not exempt from the visa requirement (for example because you do not have a biometric passport), do not hold a short-stay visa, a long-stay visa or a residence permit issued by a Member State and you are entitled to temporary protection or adequate protection under national law, after crossing the external border of the EU you can travel to the Member State where you wish to exercise your rights related to temporary protection.

Please note that the acquisition of the right to legal stay in Poland as a beneficiary of temporary protection currently does not appear on the residence permit authorising to cross the border. After 90 days of stay in the Schengen area, the general rules governing intra-Schengen movement applies.

Travelling to Ukraine and other third countries

The right to legal residence in Poland does not mean freedom of movement between Poland and Ukraine.

After exhausting the possibility of entering the country visa-free, it is possible to obtain a special permission to enter Poland from Ukraine. The permission is granted in exceptional and individual cases and the decision is taken directly at the border. The permission to re-enter the country will not be granted to every person who shows up at the border from Ukraine to Poland, if they do not meet the entry conditions laid down in the Schengen Border Code or comply with the provisions of the law on foreigners. If you enjoy temporary protection in Poland and decide to return to Ukraine, you should bear in mind that you might not be granted permission to re-enter Poland.

Transfer to other countries

As of 1 July 2022 free railway border crossings will stop. If you would

like to request temporary protection in a country other than Poland, ask about the possibility of transfer at the information point or reception point. For more information see https://www.gov.pl/web/mswia/informacja-dla-uchodzcow-z-ukrainy.

Driving licence and vehicle registration

Your Ukrainian driving licence will be recognised in Poland until 31 December 2022, even if it has expired.

To replace your driving license, submit an application to the transportation district office.

You will need to provide all the following documents:

- application form filled in in Polish;
- consent to the processing of personal data;
- colour, biometric photograph, with dimensions 35 mm x 45 mm, taken not earlier than 6 months before the date of submitting your application;
- photocopy of the current driver's licence;
- certificate from the Consulate of Ukraine on the validity of license (around 125 PLN);
- translation of the driver's licence into Polish, certified by a sworn translator or by the competent consul of the Republic of Poland;
- photocopy of the residence card, visa, other document, PESEL number confirming the right to stay in Poland;
- proof of payment of the fee for issuing the driver's licence and of the vehicle registration fee (around 100 PLN), by bank transfer or at the cash desk;
- declaration that the person concerned is familiar with Article 233 of the Penal Code;
- statement pursuant to Article 11(1)(5) of the Act on Vehicle Drivers;
- medical certificate of no impediment to driving and psychological assessment confirming no impediment to driving, if your own license is expiring.

Annex I . Repository of sources

General information		
Service	**Website**	**QR**
General information about Poland	https://uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%9F%D0%BE%D0%BB%D1%8C%D1%89%D0%B0	
Information for people who fled Ukraine (government pages)	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua	
	https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/#potrzebuje-pomocy	
Ukrainian embassy in Poland	https://poland.mfa.gov.ua/	
Emergency contacts	https://gotowi.org/en/elementary/emergency-numbers-in-poland/	
Entry requirements	https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/potrzebuje-pomocy/przyjazd-do-polski	

Information points	https://www.gov.pl/web/mswia/informacja-dla-uchodzcow-z-ukrainy	
Reception points	https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/potrzebuje-pomocy/punkty-info	
Temporary protection		
Issuance of a PESEL number (for Ukrainian nationals only)	https://www.gov.pl/web/gov/otrymay-nomer-PESEL-ta-dovirenyy-profil-posluha-dlya-hromadyan-Ukrayiny-u-zvyazku-zi-zbroynym-konfliktom-na-terytoriyi-tsiyeyi-krayiny	
Issuance of a temporary protection certificate (for non-Ukrainian nationals or stateless person with a residence permit in Ukraine)	https://www.gov.pl/web/ochrona-en/how-to-get-a-certificate	
Accommodation		
National accommodation system	https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/potrzebuje-pomocy/noclegi	

Private housing (database)	https://pomagamukrainie.gov.pl/ogloszenia/znajdz-pomoc/noclegi	
Public health		
Medical care	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/derzhavna-medychna-dopomoha	
LikarPL (application for accessing medical care)	https://likar.mz.gov.pl	
Psychosocial support	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Tsilodobova-liniya-dopomohy-poterpilym-dlya-bizhentsiv-z-Ukrayiny-ukrayinskoyu-movoyu	
COVID-19 vaccination	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Vaktsynatsiya-proty-Covid-19-inozemtsiv-hromadyan-Ukrayiny	

Access to education		
Information on accessing education and enrolling to public schools	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Navchannya-v-Polshchi-zapyshit-svoyu-dytynu-do-shkoly	
Register of schools and educational Institutions	https://rspo.gov.pl/ (only available in Polish)	
Higher education	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Navchannya-ta-naukova-diyalnist-v-Polshchi	
International protection		
Information on how to apply for international protection	https://help.unhcr.org/poland/uk/accessing-international-protection/ https://www.gov.pl/web/udsc/procedura-udzielania-ochrony-miedzynarodowej2	
Additional Support		
Cash benefit	https://www.gov.pl/web/gov/otrymayte-odnorazovu-hroshovu-dopomohu	

UNHCR cash assistance scheme	https://help.unhcr.org/poland/wp-content/uploads/sites/92/2022/03/Slide2-1.jpg	
Social assistance (benefits and allowances)	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/Dopomoha-na-vykhovannya-500plus-i-Simeynyy-kapital-opiky	
Accessing the labour market	https://www.gov.pl/web/ua/pratsevlashtuvannya-v-Polshchi	
Central Job Offers Database	https://oferty.praca.gov.pl/	
List of volunteer translators for Ukraine	https://translatorsforukraine.eu/	
Free travel options		
Free transportation	https://www.intercity.pl/pl/site/o-nas/dzial-prasowy/komunikaty/bezplatne-przejazdy-dla-obywateli-ukrainy-pociagami-pkp-intercity.html	

Information platforms (websites):		
European Commission's dedicated page for people fleeing Ukraine	https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/eu-solidarity-ukraine/eu-assistance-ukraine/information-people-fleeing-war-ukraine_uk	
UNHCR Help Poland	https://help.unhcr.org/poland/information-for-new-arrivals-from-ukraine/	
List of institutions providing assistance to refugees	https://www.funduszsprawiedliwosci.gov.pl/ua/	
Information on trafficking in human beings	https://www.strazgraniczna.pl/pl/pozostale-informacje/handel-ludzmi (only available in Polish)	
EUAA information leaflets for Ukrainians	https://euaa.europa.eu/euaa-response-war-ukraine-vidpovid-euaa-agentstvo-evropeyskogo-soyuzu-z-pitan-pritulkuna-viynu-v-ukraini	
More information about temporary protection in specific countries	https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/temporary-protection	

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