

# List of UNHCR/National government’s cash assistance programs in Ukraine’s border countries (as advertised on UNHCR’s website)

This information was sourced from UNHCR’s websites designed to provide information directly to Ukrainians. In some countries aid organisations have started operating specific programs for Ukrainians, whilst other countries have immediately amended their laws to make provisions for Ukrainians, whilst other combine the UNHCR support with the provisions of EU law (this is documented in Gentilini et al.’s live document on the Ukraine’s crisis social protection response.<sup>1</sup>

<p><b>Moldova (30/03/2022)</b></p> <p>The response is managed by UNHCR and INGOs and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection :</p> <p><b>Who is eligible?</b> Persons who fled Ukraine can be considered for the grant. They can be Ukrainian nationals or citizens of other countries who were residing in Ukraine.</p> <p><b>Households and people with the following characteristics are eligible for the grant:</b> Household with one or more dependents, headed by a single parent, headed by a child (below 18), with an unaccompanied or separated child, headed by an older person (above 60), with one or more persons with specific needs, including Person with a disability, Pregnant woman, Person with a serious medical condition, Woman at risk, Person with legal and physical protection needs, LGBTI</p> <p><b>How much is the payment?</b> Each eligible refugee is entitled to 2,200 MDL/month. The grant will be renewed for refugees remaining in the country.</p> <p><b>How are payments made?</b> Each household will receive a <b>maib</b> prepaid card. The card is distributed at enrolment sites. It will be loaded within 24-48 hours and you will receive an SMS notification when money has been deposited in your card. The card can be used free of charge for purchases in all stores and for cash withdrawal in ATMs. It is valid in Moldova only. Additional cash payments will be deposited on the same card. This <a href="#">poster</a> explains the cash enrolment and payment process in detail or consults answers to <a href="#">frequently asked questions</a>.</p> <p><b>How to enroll?</b> Enrolment is done through <b>appointments only</b>. At the moment, appointments are given only through referrals from UNHCR’s partners. In order to get an appointment, please fill the pre-enrollment form below. You will be contacted within <b>15 days</b>. All family members must go together to their appointment with all their available ID documents. Biodata, fingerprints and photographs will be captured for all family members, and they will be issued with a bank card and Proof of Enrollment. This is not a legal document and it is not linked to refugee status in any way.</p> <p><b>Where will the enrolment take place?</b> The enrolment centre in Chisinau is already operational and new centre will open the week of 28th March. Enrolment centres in Causeni and Dondeseni will open end of March/beginning of April, followed by Cahul, Ungheni and Orhei. Mobile enrolment teams will be deployed to raions and municipalities that are more than an hour travel from enrollment centers.</p> <p>Information on mobile enrolment and enrolment sites will be posted here at least three days prior to enrolment. Information will also be communicated by local authorities at the town hall level.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Gentilini, ibid

One-time cash payments will be made available for households currently hosting at least two refugees from Ukraine. The cash assistance intervention is managed by the World Food Programme (WFP) and its partners – Catholic Relief Services, Helvetas, People in Need Moldova, World Vision, and Solidarités International. The programme is coordinated with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency – and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection.<sup>2</sup>

**Other cash assistance:** Households who are currently hosting at least two refugees from Ukraine for a minimum period of one week are eligible to receive the one-off payment. The assistance is to help households meet additional household costs for food and other essential needs. Each eligible household will receive MDL 3,500 (US\$ 190), one time only. Within seven (7) days of successful registering you will receive an alert SMS on your mobile phone telling you your assistance is ready for collection. Once the message is received, households will have 15 days to collect assistance from any Western Union location. Alternatively, the message may inform you that the cash assistance has been transferred to your bank account or that you can collect it from Posta Moldovei. Registration has started in suburbs of Chisinau, Comrat, Balti and Telenesti and will expand nation-wide in April.

[help.unhcr.org/moldova](http://help.unhcr.org/moldova).

### **Poland (30/03/2022)**

Starting in March, UNHCR will be providing short-term cash assistance to new arrivals from Ukraine to support with their transition and integration into Polish systems. The programme is different from any support system provided by Poland, including PESEL registration. UNHCR does **not** conduct refugee registration or status determination. It is **only** enrolment for humanitarian assistance.

**How much is the value of cash assistance?** Per month, eligible recipients will receive 700 Zloty for 1 person + 600 Zloty per additional family member (with a cap of 4). Cash assistance is provided one time per month, for a minimum of 3 months

**Who is eligible for UNHCR cash assistance?** You and your family are eligible if you fled Ukraine and entered Poland on or after 24 February 2022 (you do not need to hold Ukrainian citizenship to benefit, as long as you can prove that you held legal residence in Ukraine). Only **one** family member needs to have left on or after 24 February. Children should be accompanied by an appointed caregiver/legal guardian

**How can I schedule an appointment to enrol for cash assistance?** Currently, appointments to enrol for cash assistance are made in advance through SMS. Currently, there is one Cash Enrolment Point in Warsaw open 6 days a week. Other Cash Enrolment Points will soon open across Poland

### **What should I bring to my enrolment appointment?**

You should bring your passport, ID, or any other document that can prove your identity. You should also bring any document that proves your date of entry into Poland. All adults in a family must have a Polish mobile phone number. You **cannot** share phone numbers between different adults or families.

### **How do I access my cash assistance once I'm enrolled?**

<sup>2</sup> WFP also reports cash distributions in Moldova<sup>2</sup> : WFP Moldova continues the rollout of the cash assistance programme for Moldovan families hosting refugees. In a meeting chaired by Congresul Autorităților Locale din Moldova (CALM), the WFP Head of Office briefed 420 mayors and representatives of Moldovan Municipalities, civil society organizations and local authorities on WFP's cash assistance approach. Details were provided on eligibility criteria, targeted beneficiaries, transfers mechanisms, as well as the support required from local representatives to identify Moldovan hosting families eligible to receive cash assistance from WFP. Six partnerships agreements were concluded with ACTED, Catholic Relief Services, Solidarités International, Helvetas, Samaritan's Purse and World Vision International for the implementation of the cash assistance programme for host communities. The first cash payment was successfully piloted for 33 eligible households (28 households in Stauceni, Chisinau and five households in Inesti and Telenesti), of which 70 percent are headed by women. As chair of the Moldova Food security sub-working Group, WFP reached 12,303 refugees - through Cooperating Partners - with hot meals (three per day) in 100 centers across 32 different localities/regions. WFP coverage is growing exponentially countrywide and new agreements were signed with HelpAge and Solidarités International for the provision of hot meals in refugee accommodation centers.

After receiving an appointment, families and individuals will go to a designated cash enrollment point run by UNHCR where they will provide information and fingerprints for enrollment in a secure database for assistance (UNHCR is **not** registering you as a refugee). All eligible family members must come in person to the enrolment point. Immediately after enrolling: receive a unique password on your Proof of Enrollment form. At least one day after enrolling: receive an SMS with a unique BLIK code and the monetary value of your assistance

You will then have **7 days** to withdraw the full amount of your assistance from **most ATMs in Poland** (Santander Bank, PKO BP, Millenium, BNP Paribas, mBank, ING, SGB, Euronet, Planet Cash). You can only use your BLIK code **one time** and must withdraw the **FULL amount**. After 1 month: you will receive a new BLIK code. This will let you withdraw a second payment of equal value. Use your new BLIK code and original password. Assistance is one time per month, for a minimum of 3 months. **If you change your phone or lose your BLIK code: return to a UNHCR cash enrollment point**  
**For technical problems with the ATM or bank, call: 61 85652 66**

**Why do I need to provide my fingerprints to receive cash assistance from UNHCR?**

Enrolling your fingerprints helps to **protect your unique access** to cash assistance and **guard against fraud**. This is because it is very difficult for someone else to copy your fingerprints and pretend to be you. UNHCR is **not** collecting your fingerprints as part of any refugee registration or status determination. It is **only** for humanitarian assistance. All of your information, including your fingerprints, will be stored in a **secure** UNHCR database

**Hungary (01/04/2022) from UNHCR, GoH and Menedek's websites (Hungary has not voted 2018 migration pact)**

There was no specific information from UNHCR and GoH for support specific to Ukrainians. This applies to all with a refugee status.

**Social support:** If you have refugee or subsidiary protection status you have the same rights as Hungarian citizens and you are entitled to mainstream social benefits and assistance Hungarian citizens in similar situation have.

Please check the following opportunities depending on your needs to get help with finances for specific issues:

**Family allowance:** is a monthly allowance that is granted after each child from birth up until they are 20 years old and still attend school/higher education (or 23 years old in case of children with special needs). This is a universal allowance, meaning that you will receive it regardless of your financial or economic situation.

**Regular Child Protection Benefit** – a form of in-kind and financial social support for families with children in need, consisting of free school / school holiday meals, and twice a year financial support.

**Support for mothers** – a one-time financial support after each childbirth (including still birth) regardless of one's financial situation.

**Childcare support allowance/Childcare benefit** a monthly allowance and benefit after each child up until 2 years of age (in case of twins its 3 years) / until 3 years of age (in case of twins until they go to school) based on certain pre-conditions.

**Jobseeker benefit** a monthly benefit for jobseekers for up to 90 days with certain conditions.

**Other types of assistance**

There are some forms of **non-financial (in-kind) social assistance (food, school meals, materials)** that can be usually requested from the municipalities, where your permanent address is registered, such as exemption from paying for prescribed medication (free or cheaper medication), free or discounted

institutional child meals and free holiday meals for children, and one-time in-kind child protection support (support for textbooks and educational materials, takeover of tuition fee etc.)

**Menedék Association and Kalunba Charity** are mandated to address the needs of Ukrainians. On their website, Menedek recall the EU and Hungarian legal provisions (copied here for reference, as relevant to other countries):

1. Who gets temporary protection? The first Hungarian Asylum Law that came into force in 1998 already included the concept of temporary protection, but the Hungarian government has never applied it since its introduction. The legal framework for temporary protection in the EU was created because of the Yugoslav Wars with the adoption of Council Directive 2001/55/EC. This was incorporated into Hungarian law through Act LXXX of 2007 on Asylum. This category of asylum was created for cases when large numbers of people are arriving in Hungary / the EU due to an armed conflict, civil war, or the general, systematic, or gross violation of human rights, and there is no time or capacity to implement the regular asylum procedure, or it is not practical to do so (since it is obvious what people are fleeing from). *Similar situations have occurred in the past, e.g. in 2015, but at that time neither Hungary nor the EU decided to invoke the rules for temporary protection.*

2. How can the rules for temporary protection be invoked? the Council of the European Union (the meeting of ministers of the member states) can decide to invoke Directive 2001/55/EC; in this case, every member state should provide temporary protection to asylum seekers (except Ireland and Denmark, which have opted out of/have not opted in to the EU's asylum policies); or

the Hungarian government can decide to provide temporary protection. In this case, it was the Hungarian government that acted first. The relevant decree 56/2022 (II.24.) was published in the Official Gazette of Hungary (Magyar Közlöny) on 24 February. On 4 March, the European Union also made a decision to invoke temporary protection (in the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382), which means member states are obligated to provide temporary protection. To implement the EU decision, the Hungarian government published decree 86/2022 (III.7.), which replaced the previous regulation.

3. Who does temporary protection apply to? Based on government decree 86/2022 (III.7.), temporary protection applies to Ukrainian citizens who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022, and Third-country citizens (meaning non-Ukrainian and non-EU nationals) who received international protection or a protection equivalent to that who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022, and Family members of persons who belong to the above groups who were in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 (meaning spouse, children, and other dependent family members who lived under the same roof). Third country nationals who stayed legally in Ukraine but cannot return to their country of origin do not receive temporary protection in Hungary as stipulated in EU law; in their case, the Immigration Office applies regular procedures. However, EU law requires Hungary to provide some kind of protection to them, if not based on EU law, then based on Hungarian law.

4. How long will temporary protection last?

If it is granted by the member states based on an EU decision, it is valid at least for one year (extension possible). If it is granted by Hungary based on a government decision, it lasts for the time included in the decree. Government decree 86/2022 (III.7.) is in effect until the expiry of Act I of 2021 about coronavirus pandemic control – i.e., until 1 June 2022. However, in accordance with EU law, temporary protection must be granted for one year, which means the Hungarian government will have to extend the time of temporary protection it offers.

5. What does temporary protection entail? What are the rights of the beneficiaries of temporary protection? Beneficiaries of temporary protection have the right to:

an ID document,

- a residence permit (that indicates their place of residence);
- work (Also, the one who has already applied for temporary protection status):
- If a person under temporary protection is employed in a profession where there is an officially acknowledged labor shortage, they can work without a work permit. The list of professions where there is a labor shortage is determined by the Secretary of Employment policy. The latest version is included in the Official Bulletin (Hivatalos Értesítő) published on 22 December 2021 (issue 62/2021).
- If a person under temporary protection is employed in a profession where there is no labor shortage, they need a work permit issued by the Employment Authority. The work permit is issued on eased conditions (without labor demand and labor market assessment).
- stay at the reception center run by the asylum authority, with reception services available during the entire period of temporary protection;
- healthcare (available services defined by law)
- reimbursement for costs connected to primary and secondary education (including travel costs);
- reimbursement for travel costs (for purposes connected to administrative procedures, health care, integration services, job seeking, trips connected to employment);
- reimbursement for the translation costs of their documents;
- Financial support for leaving Hungary for good;
- free participation in a Hungarian language course (520 lessons);
- a monthly subsistence allowance of HUF 28,500 (ca. EUR 62) for adults or HUF 13,700 (ca. EUR 37) for children; on the condition that they should present themselves to the Authority and accept the job the Authority can offer them (unless they have already found a job, they are taking care of a child under 3 years of age, or they are under 18 years of age and attending full-time education). the same right for school-age children to attend school as Hungarian children (since this type of residence permit must be valid for more than 3 months);
- children of persons under temporary protection are also allowed to attend kindergarten or nursery school.

The Authority will apply for a Social Security card ("TAJ" card) for the person under temporary protection.

In both Hungarian and EU law, it is clarified that the status of being a beneficiary of temporary protection shall not prejudice recognition of the refugee status. As a result, those under temporary protection can still apply for refugee status.

#### **Documentation**

If you need personal ID documents, address card or travel document, you can request them at the "Government windows" = Government Customer Services (*Kormányablakok* in Hungarian).

#### **Slovakia (Slovakia has not voted the 2018 Migration pact)**

Assistance in material need serves as financial help for those who are unable to secure basic living conditions and are unable to increase their income through their own efforts. At present, persons fleeing the war in Ukraine can also be considered as such persons. The amount of assistance depends on the number of household members and their situation. Assistance in material need can also be provided to foreigners who prove their identity with a document of residence in the Slovak Republic marked "refugee" or a foreigner's card of temporary refuge. Assistance in material need can be requested at the Labour, Social Affairs and Family Office, where the foreigner will be provided with

the necessary help. The local office for assessing entitlement to assistance in material need, is the office where the foreigner resides. It is also possible to apply for a subsidy for food for a child. In order to get a subsidy for food, it is necessary to apply when enrolling a child in kindergarten or primary school. The school will guide the parent on how to proceed

**Romania (little information on UNHCR website) – from <https://dopomoha.ro/en>**

Temporary protection is granted by the General Inspectorate for Immigration to categories of eligible persons who are at a crossing point of the state border of Romania, including in the transit area or on the territory of Romania. If you want to be recognized as a beneficiary of temporary protection, contact the Immigration Office / Regional Center for Procedures and Accommodation for Asylum Seekers in the county where you are located. The beneficiaries of the temporary protection will be issued a residence permit on the territory of Romania by the General Inspectorate for Immigration and will be assigned a personal numerical code, which they will be able to use in the interaction with the Romanian authorities. Rights include:

- a) to be issued with a document granting them permission to remain on the territory of Romania;
- b) to be informed, in writing, in a language which they are supposed to understand, of the provisions relating to temporary protection;
- c) to be employed, to carry out independent activities, respecting the rules applicable to the profession, as well as activities such as educational opportunities for adults, vocational training and practical work experience, in accordance with the law;
- d) to benefit, on request, from the necessary assistance for maintenance, in case they do not have the necessary material means;
- f) the right of the beneficiaries of temporary protection with special needs to receive adequate medical assistance;
- g) the right to have access to the state education system under the conditions provided by law for Romanian citizens, in the case of beneficiaries of temporary protection who have not reached the age of 18.

Foreign citizens or stateless persons in special situations who come from the armed conflict area in Ukraine and enter Romania and who do NOT apply for asylum benefit of free accommodation in temporary accommodation and humanitarian assistance camps or in other accommodation locations established by the county / Bucharest committees for emergencies. Within these locations, they will be provided the following basic utilities during temporary stay:

- a) food;
- b) clothing;
- c) personal hygiene materials;
- d) primary health care and appropriate treatment, emergency medical care, as well as free medical care and treatment in cases of acute or chronic life-threatening diseases, through the national health care system;
- e) the right to be included in the national public health programs aimed at the prevention, surveillance and control of communicable diseases, in situations of epidemiological risk.

Asylum seekers have the right to be housed in one of the six Regional Accommodation and Procedures Centers for Asylum Seekers managed by the General Inspectorate for Immigration.