

# Displaced people from Ukraine:

## Support to school children and teachers

September 2022



Since the start of the Russian military invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, around 4,2 million registrations for temporary protection have been recorded from people fleeing the war in Ukraine. To respond to this unprecedented displacement, the EU agreed in record time to activate the Temporary Protection Directive. The Directive became immediately applicable on 4 March and offers amongst others access to education for children. Children account for approximately a third of the registrations in the Temporary Protection Platform.

The European Commission is mobilising its instruments to support the education systems of the EU Member States receiving people that have fled Ukraine. All information on education and training intended for displaced parents, pupils, schools and teachers, as well as those wanting to contribute to solidarity efforts in EU Member States is available on the [School Education Gateway](#) and the [European Education Area Portal](#). This includes links to online educational resources in Ukrainian, advice on integrating displaced children in national education systems, teaching and language support, fast track practises on the integration of teachers that have fled Ukraine into national education systems, and guidance on psycho-social support.

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## Support for pupils from Ukraine

(early childhood education and care, primary and secondary school, and initial vocational education and training)

- Project funds of [Erasmus+](#) cooperation projects can be flexibly used to facilitate the integration of Ukrainian children. Erasmus+ can also support university student attendance.
- The Commission is exploring ways to provide support for the publication and printing of Ukrainian school books to help displaced children remain connected to their culture.



## Support for teachers in EU Member States and in Ukraine

A [dedicated section](#) on the School Education Gateway supports teachers with resources and professional development material, including articles, practice examples, tutorials and teacher online courses on topics such as:

- welcoming displaced children in European early childhood education and care and schools
- inclusive and citizenship education
- history education
- linguistic and cultural diversity in the classroom, language support
- supporting the mental health and well-being of displaced children
- information on the Ukrainian education system and the recognition of qualifications of Ukrainian school pupils.
- links to [learning and teaching material in Ukrainian language](#), which have been made available by Ukrainian national authorities or national authorities in EU countries who dispose of pedagogical material in Ukrainian language, can also be found on the School Education Gateway.

Additionally, the Commission supports the [New Ukrainian School Hub](#) to facilitate the access of Ukrainian displaced learners to extra-curricular and non-formal educational resources



In the [eTwinning online community](#) for educational staff from across Europe, teachers support their peers in Ukraine and/ or neighbouring countries, provide guidance and psycho-social support. They also specifically address pedagogical questions and teaching materials related to the inclusion of displaced persons in education and on how to address the war situation in the classroom.

Teachers and trainers that have fled Ukraine and support staff in EU Member States can be offered grants through Erasmus+, as a way to facilitate their integration and help them gain necessary skills including language skills to work within the European education systems. Educational staff with relevant expertise can temporarily work in regions with high numbers of displaced persons through Erasmus+ support. The Commission supports partner finding on an electronic platform and with the support of the Erasmus+ National Agencies.



# Support for the education systems and schools in EU Member States

- The EU Education Solidarity Group for Ukraine supports the countries who are hosting school-age children displaced from Ukraine by pooling available expertise and providing guidance through the existing tools and mechanisms under the European Education Area strategic framework.
- The Commission also supports national and local authorities with a [practical manual for the school year 2022/23](#) regarding integration of displaced children in early childhood education and care facilities and schools. It provides consideration and good practice on six key areas:
  - ◇ organising reception and admission processes;
  - ◇ preparing education institutions and educational staff to include displaced children;
  - ◇ running targeted activities to help include displaced children in education;
  - ◇ engaging with displaced families and communities and helping displaced children maintain the link with Ukraine;
  - ◇ taking long-term measures to promote inclusive education;
  - ◇ taking specific measures for early childhood education and care.

- The Commission has issued a Recommendation to Member States on the [recognition of qualifications](#) for people fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including recognition of academic qualifications for Ukrainian-language teachers and educational staff.
- Cohesion policy assists Member States to address migration challenges both under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF). The new Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE) initiative introduces maximum flexibility for Member States to use money under the 2014-2020 Cohesion policy for actions supporting people who are fleeing from Russia's invasion. The CARE initiative can also be used, by dedicating unspent structural funds credits (ERDF and ESF), to support Erasmus+ mobility projects, including by transfer of resources between programmes. Moreover, the REACT-EU, as well as Cohesion Policy allocations for 2021-27 period can also be used to address new demands. Pre-financing payments under REACT-EU have been increased, especially for Member States receiving the highest number of refugees from Ukraine in proportion to their population.
- Beneficiary institutions of ongoing Erasmus+ projects in areas such as inclusion, diversity and citizenship can on a voluntary basis reallocate part of their project funds to support education challenges arising from the crisis.



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