# OVERVIEW OF THE UKRAINIAN DISPLACEMENT CRISIS IN EUROPE

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Number of recorded forced migrants from Ukraine in OECD countries, absolute numbers and per thousand of total population, April 2024





Decisions granting temporary protection in the EU and selected member states



displaced persons from Ukraine

## Overview of key findings

# EUAA-OECD Survey of Arriving Migrants from Ukraine (SAM-UKR)



- The SAM-UKR survey was launched by the EUAA in partnership with the OECD on 11 April 2022 to collect data directly from displaced people fleeing the war in Ukraine into the EU, on their journey, vulnerability, needs, future aspirations, registration process, family situation and current situation.
  - Available at https://tellusyourstorysurvey.eu/
- Alongside quantitative survey data, first-hand testimonies of forcibly displaced persons from Ukraine are collected:
  - April 2022 August 2023: Close to 1600 testimonies
- The updated version is currently live.



#### Main characteristics of SAM-UKR respondents



### Macro-regions of origin and reasons for leaving



66 I had to leave my country for the safety and future of my child. So that my child is not afraid to go out. So that he does not see and does not know how cruel war can be. Protect your and your child's psychological and emotional health. Having lived for 1 month under shelling and food shortages. I decided to leave Ukraine. I went anywhere [I could].

- Female, 28, East region

66 My husband and I are now in [EU country], having fled the war for the second time. The first time we left our home was in 2014, as a result of the occupation of the city of Donetsk. We worked in Odessa, opened our own business. But again, they are forced to drop everything and flee from the war. ??

- Female, 59 years old, South region

<sup>66</sup> Throughout the [first] nine months of the large-scale war in Ukraine, I remained in the country. However, due to Russia's energy terrorism causing a shortage of electricity and heat, we had to leave.<sup>99</sup>

- Female, 35 years old, East region

### **Current location**







Did you register/apply for any status in your current country of residence? ■Yes ■No

### Needs in host countries



#### Main accommodation types and income sources







66 My daughter with two higher education [degrees] works 16 hours a day at a chicken factory to survive, she does not see her child. I am babysitting my 7 years old grandson, it is impossible to leave him alone at such an age. We have no one else, and we cannot expect help from anyone. ??

- Female, 50 years old, August 2022

66 Housing conditions are not the best, my sister and I live in one room, we have been sleeping for more than a year in the same bed. I would like to have at least a separate room.

- Female, 38 years old, June 2023

I do not have the opportunity to work and learn the language at the same time, because I have a son who also needs attention and I do not have anyone to leave him with to continue learning the language in the evenings (since children do not study at school in the evenings). We have started learning the language, but it is not enough (...) to find a job in our field (...). ??

- Female, 35 years old, May 2023

It's like I'm stuck between two worlds -I am a stranger in [EU country] and in Ukraine too... We are constantly under stress and anxiety for family, friends and news. 
Female, 45 years old, June 2023

### **Return intentions**



#### Main reasons for planning to return



#### Main reasons for not planning to return

66 My city of Bakhmut no longer exists, housing is bombed, there is nowhere to return. ??

- Female, 65 years old, East region

In general, I arranged my life, but my husband lives and works in Ukraine, so despite everything, I really want to return. And our standard of living in Ukraine was much better than it is now in Europe.

- Female, 36 years old, South region

I want to stay here. To educate my child here. To wait for my husband here. Here our work is paid much higher than in Ukraine, unfortunately.

- Female, 49 years old, North region



## LOOKING AHEAD



- Overall, OECD countries managed the early phase of the crisis well, reacting quickly and decisively, but key stakeholders are now unsure about the next steps.
- Mixed feelings by host countries, Ukraine and forced migrants alike about integration as well as legal status following the end of the TPD.
  - Existing migration measures generally seek to promote long-term settlement of new arrivals with limited support available for temporary arrivals.
  - Yet in the case of Ukrainians, many are expected to wish to go home once the situation in Ukraine permits. Nonetheless, prolonged displacement is leading to a decline in intentions to return.
  - There is, however, general agreement that the return and reintegration of Ukrainian nationals is vital for the recovery of Ukraine.
  - Ultimately, the decision to return lies with individuals and their families.



In the framework of dual intent integration, integration measures and activities prioritise improving forced migrants' socio-economic opportunities regardless of their future location, while deliberatively looking to minimise possible return barriers in both host and origin countries.

How can host countries and Ukraine implement dual intent:



Invest in human capital development



Streamline mutual recognition of skills and qualifications



Offer Ukrainian language training in host countries



**Facilitate financial** and digital ties to Ukraine

Ensure remigration and mobility pathways

OECD POLICY RESPONSES: UKRAIN

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#### Find out more:





OECD's work on migration: https://www.oecd.org/migration/

OECD's work on Ukraine: https://www.oecd.org/ukraine-hub/

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