

FRA report on implementing temporary protection at local levels

Focus: measures concerning provision of access to employment, housing, education and medical care (Arts. 12-14 TPD)

→ practical examples of challenges and good practices

Based on desk research and:

- interviews with local authorities (Feb/March 2023)
- online consultation with support service providers (May/June 2023)

Scope: 26 locations in 12 EU Member States

Follow-up to FRA survey Fleeing Ukraine



Local/city level data

- Vienna, Graz, (+Salzburg)
- Brussels, Bruges, (+Ghent)
- Prague, Brno
- Berlin, Uckermark, Stuttgart, (+Cologne, Nuremberg)
- Tallinn, Saaremaa
- Paris, Alpes-Maritimes
- Rome, Naples
- Warsaw, Lublin, Katowice, (+Gdansk)
- Bucharest, Constanta
- Gothenburg, Malmö, (+Lund)
- Bratislava, Nitra
- Dublin, Kerry
- (+Barcelona)
- (+Budapest)
- (+Utrecht)



General challenges

- Temporary nature of protection status affects access to housing and employment: planning insecurity; scope of rights is limited under temporary protection

FRA online consultation (June 2023): Most of the housing support organisations that FRA consulted considered that the temporary nature of protection negatively affects beneficiaries' chances to get long-term housing.

- Lack of local-level data (edu, hou): affects planning of support and protection measures

Example: When evacuating a collective facility for repair works, local authorities found that only 60% of the people registered were still living at the site. (Trutnov, Czechia).

- Mobility: Support more difficult to provide to beneficiaries who registered in another location; positive and negative impact on integration

Challenges concerning housing provision

- Processing private accommodation providers: no systematic vetting, late/insecure reimbursements, administrative overburden
- Responding to frequent relocation needs was difficult to administer, leading to loss of benefits and interruption of integration measures
- Special needs difficult to accommodate due to high prevalence
- Limited durable housing solutions due to planning and funding uncertainties resulting in poor conditions and protection risks

FRA online consultation (June 2023): Social services relocated on average four or five cases per week in January 2023 (Bruges).

Promising practices: notification system for relocation needs and transferred rental agreements (Brussels); online tools for vetting (Warsaw) or processing rent subsidy (Estonia).

Challenges concerning education provision

- Planning and monitoring difficult due to limited school registration, poor local data on numbers of school children
- School capacity: lack of places, insufficient psychological support
- Differences in curricula and educational systems
- Language barriers: monolingual preparatory classes risking segregation and quality drawbacks
- Parallel online classes challenging children and school administration

Promising practices: collecting data on number of school children (Poland); mapping vacant premises to be used as teaching spaces (Malmö); integrating preparatory classes into regular school schedules (France); allowing children to finish Ukrainian secondary graduation online (Alpes-Maritimes).

Challenges concerning providing access to employment

- Temporary nature of protection status
- Limited registration with public employment services
- Delayed issuance of residence permits slowed down employment
- Burdensome procedures for recognition of qualifications
- Limited childcare places
- Obstacles to opening bank accounts

Promising practices: Local authorities employing Ukrainian staff (Katowice, Lublin, Warsaw); language training combined with employment (Katowice); facilitating access to labour market for professional in short supply (Vienna); self-declaration replacing recognition of qualifications in some cases (Berlin, Romania).

Challenges concerning healthcare provision

- Additional administrative burden resulting in delays, overuse of emergency services and limited (specialist) attention
- Insufficient/delayed insurance coverage
- Unclear or limited healthcare rights
- Insufficient psychological care due to language barriers, lack of specialists and limited insurance coverage
- Special needs not considered due to high prevalence and vulnerabilities going beyond examples listed in the TPD

Promising practices: medical staff from Ukraine providing healthcare (Bratislava); guidance for healthcare staff (Gothenburg); guide on healthcare rights (Ireland); healthcare card (Kerry).

Crosscutting conclusions

- Transition to long-term residence schemes
- Coordination between national and local authorities, including timely advance notification of assigned beneficiaries
- Better (local) data collection
- Broad interpretation of “special needs”
- Contingency plan addressing above challenges in the four areas