

Integration of the Ukrainian Component in CoE member states' education systems

Case Study – Ukrainian Saturday School

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Strasbourg, April 2025





Ukrainian Citizens in Poland – Data as of 2025

1,000,000

Ukrainian citizens

Have come since the beginning of the war

77%

Women

Among adult Ukrainian refugees

50%

Children

Every second registered Ukrainian is a child

Poland remains the largest host country for Ukrainian refugee children in Europe

Source: Office for Foreigners, gov.pl

Gdynia – Response from the First Days of War

- ✓ Crisis response team 24/7 hotline
- ✓ Accommodation and relocation support
- ✓ Rapid mobilization of the local community
- ✓ Assistance with formalities (PESEL, documents, doctors)

After a year – shift in needs: from emergency aid to long-term integration support



Spilno Hub Gdynia – Information & Integration Center

Funding

UNICEF + City of Gdynia

Purpose

Information, integration, daily life support, development of educational and psychological services





Why Was the Ukrainian Saturday School Created?



The war continues

Children remain in Poland long-term



Students are dispersed among Polish schools



Lack of education in their native language



Need to reinforce identity and connection with culture

Response: Ukrainian Saturday School at Spilno Hub Gdynia

Attendance: Each Saturday, the school averages about 70 children attending classes, with a total enrollment of 198 children who also participate sporadically or benefit from individual tutoring sessions.

Who Is Our Average Student?

Family Situation

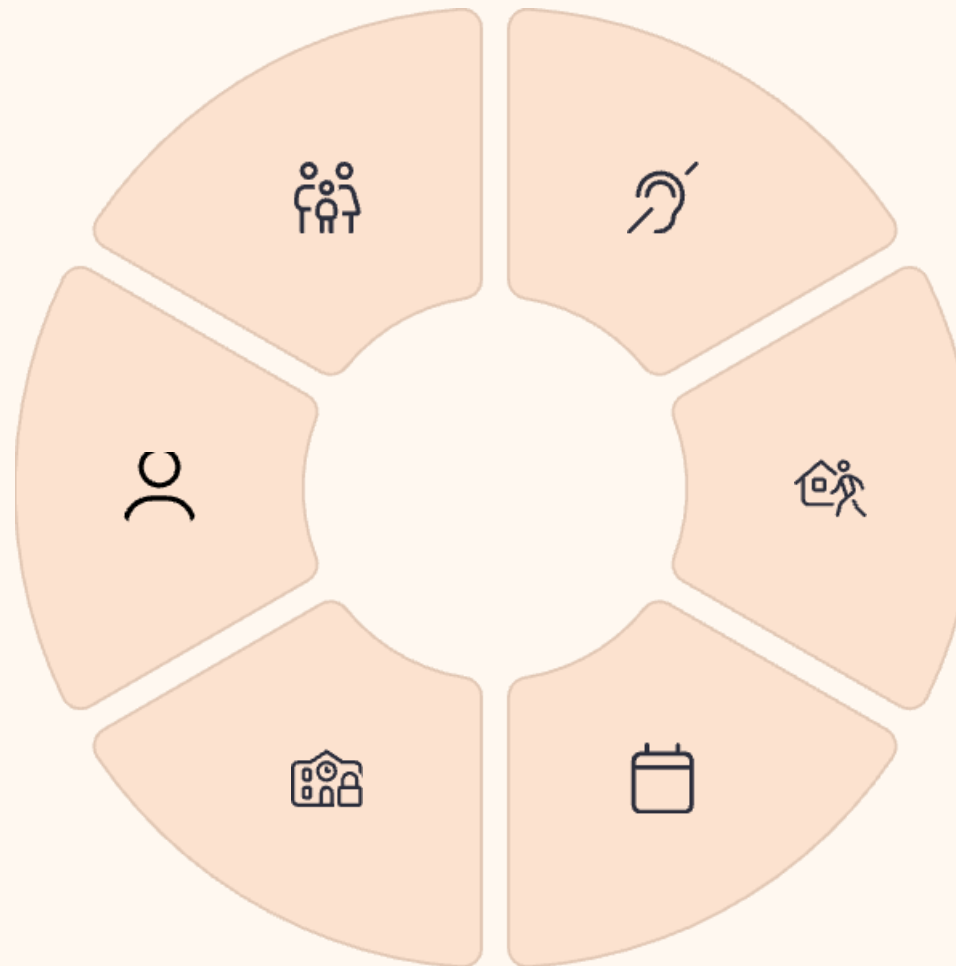
In Poland with one parent – usually the mother

Support Needs

Needs psychological and pedagogical support

Academic Performance

Performing averagely in Polish school



Language Skills

Intermediate proficiency in Polish

Emotional State

Lives in a state of temporariness and uncertainty

Worries about family members who stayed in Ukraine

Time in Poland

In Poland for 2–3 years

Foundations and Goals of the Ukrainian Saturday School



Support for remote learning within the Ukrainian system

Helping children maintain connection with Ukrainian education



Assistance in adapting to Polish school

Bridging educational systems and approaches



Specialist support

Psychologist, pedagogue, social skills training (SST), movement therapy, speech therapist



Cultural identity maintenance

Ukrainian language, literature, history, and geography



Celebration of national and symbolic events

Vyshyvanka Day, Ukrainian Independence Day, war anniversary gatherings



Educational Team:

This multidisciplinary team allows us to provide a well-rounded education that not only meets the academic needs of our students but also helps them integrate smoothly into Polish society.

Evolution and Operating Principles

Initial Focus: Two Directions

- Teaching "hard" subjects
- Full emotional and pedagogical support

Current Approach: Concurrent Implementation

Both approaches are now implemented concurrently to provide comprehensive support.

Teachers' Methodology

- Analyze Polish and Ukrainian curricula
- Create tailored programs for each child
- Prepare students for external exams

Feedback System

Constructive feedback instead of grades:

- "What you can improve"
- "What you did great"

Continued Need for Support

Many families (~50%) plan to stay in Poland regardless of the war's outcome.

Summary & Call to Action

What are **Spilno Hub Gdynia** and the **Ukrainian Saturday School**?



Model of Empathetic Support

Systemic support for refugee children



Educational Space

Academic and emotional development



Partnership

Local government – UNICEF – community
leaders – educators