



# Temporary Protection in the European Union

## HELP

Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals Programme  
Council of Europe



# TEMPORARY PROTECTION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

## HELP ONLINE COURSE

🕒 Course duration: 2.5 hours

Available for free on the CoE HELP e-learning platform

📄 Statement of Accomplishment

START COURSE ➔

Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) Programme | Council of Europe | 2024

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## Background and key concepts

The Russian full-scale aggression in Ukraine has triggered unprecedented displacement across Europe. There are currently almost 6.5 million refugees from Ukraine who have sought refuge globally, while some 3.7 million people remain forcibly displaced inside the country according to UNHCR data (February 2024).

In response to the mass influx of people fleeing the war in Ukraine, the European Union (EU), through the Council's Implementing Decision 2022/382 of 4 March 2022, triggered the application of the **Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) 2001/55/EC**, the duration of which has recently been extended for the second time until March 2025.

The Directive aimed to provide **immediate protection from refoulement and basic standards of treatment for refugees**, including the access to **accommodation, labour market, and social and health services**.

The application of temporary protection in Europe is unprecedented and its practical implementation demonstrates how to manage mass flows in a manner that provides recognition of international protection needs and guarantees a swift access to safety, documentation, and rights.

## About the HELP course

The HELP course on Temporary Protection in the European Union aims to increase the knowledge of legal professionals and other relevant stakeholders on the **practical application of the EU Temporary protection regime**.

The HELP course provides information on the **history and legal regime** of temporary protection under EU legislation and the differences with other types of international protection. Also, it analyses the **activation of the temporary protection regime** in March 2022, with a focus on the **implementation at national level** and the relevant legal issues.

In addition, it considers the **possible options on the future** of the current temporary protection implementing decision concerning Ukraine and of the whole regime as a whole.

The online course has been developed by the **Council of Europe's Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) Programme**, in cooperation with CoE representatives of relevant services, such as the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees (SRSG), as well as with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA), the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and representatives of the **European Commission DG Migration and Home Affairs**.

The development of the course has been made possible under the Council of Europe Project "HELP for Ukraine, including during wartime", implemented as a part of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine "Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction" (2023-2026), as well as the

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EU-CoE “Judicial Training on Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights”, funded by the EU Justice Programme (2021-2027).

The HELP course is a crash course, a starting/entry point, which compiles together all resources, surveys, materials, guides already available on the topic with an initial introduction of the temporary protection process and its application in the situation of the war against Ukraine. The course also incorporates the materials from the two HELP seminars organised by the HELP in Ukraine projects on the implantation of the Temporary Protection Directive, as well as the links to the materials of the national HELP E-desks.

## Target audience

This free online course is primarily addressed to:

- legal professionals working with Ukrainian refugees in Ukraine, EU member states and other neighbouring countries;
- administrative, migration services and governmental officials;
- representatives of the civil society organisations working with refugees.

It can be also taken by university students and any other interested audience.

## Course outline

This course has **an introductory module and three substantive modules** that will help the participants discover and examine more in depth the temporary protection regime and its first activation after Russian armed forces launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine. The participants will learn about the TPD, the activation of the temporary protection regime with the EU Council Implementing Decision of 4 March 2022 and possible approaches on the future of the current temporary protection regime.

1	<b>Introductory module</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the course</li> <li>• Learning objectives</li> <li>• Resources</li> <li>• Structure</li> </ul>
	<b>Module 1. Introduction to the temporary protection regime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Temporary Protection Directive - historical development, main features, legal regime, rights granted and procedure</li> </ul>



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- Differences, international protection regimes and interplay

### Module 2. Activation of temporary protection after the aggression against Ukraine

- Legal framework - the Council Decision 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 and the implementation at EU level and Implementation of the Decision at the national level
- Personal scope - Ukrainian nationals, stateless and TCN, children and family reunification
- Current challenges - residency permit rules; education, medical care, and social welfare accommodation and movement, tax issues, vulnerable persons
- Legal Aid - legal assistance and Asylum/Migration Help e-Desk
- Implications - success, good practices, and pitfalls

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### Module 3. The path ahead

- The end of the regime and its issues
- The future for temporary protected persons, two possible scenarios
- Proposal for a new regulation

## How to access the course

The course is freely available in self-learning format on the [CoE HELP e-learning platform](#). The overall length of the new edition is approximatively **2.5 hours** and those who complete it in self-learning format can obtain an electronic '**Statement of accomplishment**'. To access the course, you need to have a HELP account. If you haven't created one yet, you can sign up [here](#) - it only takes a few minutes.

Is this your first time here?

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