

UKRAINE: IOM SLOVAKIA RESPONSE INFOSHEET 14 JUNE 2022

8.02 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE.

7.57 MILLION PEOPLE FLED UKRAINE

Since 24 February 2022, an increasing number of Ukrainian refugees and third-country nationals (TCNs) entering neighboring countries has been registered as a result of the war in Ukraine.

As of 14 June 2022, Slovak authorities have reported more than **513,055** arrivals from Ukraine, out of which **471,815** were Ukrainian refugees and **29,520** TCNs and EU nationals.

Source of data for the period of 24 February – 14 June 2022: <u>IOM, UNHCR</u>, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic



ALINA ARRIVED WITH HER SON AND DOG FROM TERNOPIL, UKRAINE, TO THE VYSNE NEMECKE BORDER POE. HAVING BEEN SCARED OF A POSSIBLE AIR STRIKE, THEY SOUGHT INFORMATION ON PROTECTION IN SLOVAKIA.

NEWS:

IOM TRAINED LAWYERS IN PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On 7 June 2022, IOM delivered the first module of trainings focused on human trafficking to employees of Slovak NGO Human Rights League (HRL). They provide legal counselling to Ukrainian refugees at the Bottova Assistance Centre in Bratislava.

Altogether 7 lawyers and employees of HRL attended the training. IOM lecturers conducted the training in a very practical way that would be beneficial for participants when providing legal counselling to refugees about safe employment in Slovakia.

Participants received information on the mechanism of human trafficking, how to identify the "red flags" that could indicate potential victims of trafficking, how to safely refer a suspicion of victims of trafficking and other practical information on safe employment and tips on safe travel.

500 PEOPLE FROM UKRAINE LEARN SLOVAK IN IOM LANGUAGE COURSES

In April, IOM Slovakia opened 15 online courses of Slovak language for people from Ukraine with temporary refuge in Slovakia.

Furthermore, IOM organizes 10 in-person courses in facilities providing assistance to people fleeing war in Ukraine: at the Gabcikovo Accommodation Facility, at the Slovak-Ukrainian Community House in Bratislava and at the Bottova Assistance Centre in Bratislava.

Knowledge of the Slovak language significantly helps foreigners in their first steps in Slovakia. It increases their opportunity to find a job corresponding to their work experience and professional skills, to communicate with Slovak authorities, to describe a health problem to a doctor, to accelerate the inclusion of children in school and number of other benefits. Apart from that, they are economically active and beneficial for society that has accepted them.





IOM ACTS TO HELP UKRAINIAN CITIZENS NAVIGATE THE SLOVAK LABOUR MARKET

On 8 June 2022, at the Career Expo Kosice event, IOM provided information on the Slovak labour market to more than 50 Ukrainian citizens who were interested in finding a job. They were also provided with crucial legal counselling about employment according to the Slovak law.

Visitors of the IOM stand at the event benefited from counselling on how to find a job and how to get employed in Slovakia, the conditions of employment and changes in job positions. More than 100 visitors were presented with available vacancies of IOM Slovakia.

Similarly, IOM provided information to dozens of people in May 2022 in Bratislava at the <u>Profesia Days job fair</u>. Participants were most interested in practical information about the employment of Ukrainians in Slovakia.





CHILDREN'S DAY IN GABCIKOVO

ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY, IOM PREPARED A SPECIAL PROGRAMME WITH A SMALL PICNIC AND FUN ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH THAT FLED WAR IN UKRAINE AND FOUND REFUGE IN THE GABCIKOVO ACCOMMODATION FACILITY IN SLOVAKIA.

FROM THE FIELD #3:

THE WAR DOES NOT STOP UKRAINIANS FROM HELPING EACH OTHER

Yelyzaveta Halina, IOM Slovakia

Yelyzaveta used to work as an English teacher before the war. When she saw on the news that Ukraine had been invaded, the first thing she did was to take out her suitcase to be prepared to leave. She lived in Zaporizhzhia, in southeastern Ukraine.

"I was getting more nervous, anxious, afraid, with each day that passed," Yelyzaveta says. After five days that went on like this, she decided to make her way to Slovakia, where her father worked. She had to leave her mother and grandparents behind. "My grandparents didn't want to leave. With elderly people, home is home."

She arrived in Nitra 3 days later. The company her father worked for was helping Ukrainian staff and their families, making sure they had a safe place to stay. She spent the next two weeks in a dormitory, thinking about what she wanted to do next.

One day, as she was browsing for jobs, she saw on IOM Slovakia's website that they were hiring people — Ukrainian speakers in particular — to provide information and counselling to those fleeing the war. Yelyzaveta longed to do something to help others and this seemed like the perfect fit. She became part of an IOM team that rotated every few days between the main border crossings and the Michalovce Registration Centre.



YELYZAVETA PROVIDING COUNSELLING IN UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE TO THE UKRAINIAN FAMILY FROM DNIPRO THAT FLED THE WAR TO SLOVAKIA AND CAME TO THE MICHALOVCE REGISTRATION CENTRE TO APPLY FOR TEMPORABY REFLIGE

"It can be lonely sometimes — I don't really have friends or hobbies yet — and emotionally challenging to hear people's stories," she expressed. "However, it can also feel very rewarding. I am here to offer a helping hand to those who need to process everything they just went through."

READ MORE and <u>meet Julia, Yelyzaveta, and Yana</u> – three Ukrainian members of IOM teams who have been providing critical information, and supporting people forced to flee Ukraine to neighbouring countries.

IOM ACTIVITIES

DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Direct assistance and response to immediate refugee needs at border points of entry and dedicated registration centres.

REMOTE ASSISTANCE

Legal, social and job counselling and referrals to Ukrainian refugees as well as to third country nationals through IOM's Migration Information Centre infoline and email.

HUMANITARIAN AID

Provision of emergency humanitarian aid to people in need in Ukraine and people fleeing Ukraine.

PROTECTION

Capacity building on counter-trafficking, prevention of sexual exploitation, gender-based violence and other topics for frontline workers, healthcare professionals, volunteers etc.

MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Provision of mental health and psychosocial support to people fleeing the war and currently living in Slovakia.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Assistance to persons fleeing the war in Ukraine with temporary accommodation in partnership with the Airbnb.

DATA COLLECTION

Data collection on displacement, people's needs and intentions to better understand mobility dynamics in the region and strengthen the response to the crisis.



MOOD WORKSHOPS IN GABCIKOVO

IOM CONTINUOUSLY CONDUCTING COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS ON A REGULAR BASIS AT THE GABCIKOVO ACCOMMODATION FACILITY FOR DISPLACED YOUTH FROM UKRAINE. THE PARTICIPANTS ENTITLED THEM MOOD WORKSHOPS AND ARE THEIR CO-CREATORS. THEY CAN PROPOSE TOPICS OF WORKSHOPS THAT HELP THEM COPE WITH DIFFERENT SITUATIONS THEY EXPERIENCE IN THEIR DAILY LIFE; BUILD COOPERATION, RESPECT, TOLERANCE AND OVERCOME STEREOTYPES AS WELL.

IOM RESPONSE IN NUMBERS:

Results are for the period of 24 February – 14 June 2022:

2.929 PEOPLE ASSISTED ONSITE

IOM provided in person assistance, referrals, information on temporary refuge and on different life aspects in Slovakia to refugees at border crossing points and dedicated registration centres.

4,096 PEOPLE ASSISTED REMOTELY

IOM's Migration Information Centre (MIC) provided information and legal, social and job counselling to Ukrainians and non-EU nationals through infoline, email and other channels.

284.233 WEBSITE VISITORS

People were searching for the useful information on entry and stay in Slovakia available in Ukrainian, Slovak, English and Russian at the MIC website www.mic.iom.sk.

45 PROFESSIONALS TRAINED IN COUNTER-TRAFFICKING

IOM conducted four trainings for frontline and healthcare workers and other professionals involved in provision of services for refugees and TCNs.

44 PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

13 people received psychological first aid and 31 people received individual psychological counselling or participated in group sessions.

25 CLASSES OF SLOVAK LANGUAGE COURSES

Ukrainian citizens can learn Slovak in 15 classes in an online format and in 10 in-person classes in Slovak-Ukrainian Community House in Bratislava, Bottova Assistance Centre in Bratislava and in Gabcikovo Accommodation Facility.

2,934 TONS OF HUMANITARIAN AID

IOM shipped 326 trucks with essential goods from warehouse in Kosice to people in need in Ukraine, equating to a volume of 2,934 tons

1.200 BLANKETS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

IOM delivered blankets for people in need in the Kosice municipality and Michalovce Registration Centre for immediate distribution across temporary accommodation sites.

1 BREASTFEEDING AND BABY CARE ROOM EQUIPPED

IOM secured dignified and private space for mothers and their babies when crossing the border in Vysne Nemecke and equipped a dedicated room with vital supplies.

135 HYGIENIC KITS FOR PEOPLE ON THE RUN

IOM delivered kits from its warehouse in Kosice to the Michalovce large scale registration centre which daily assist dozens of people in need from Ukraine.

69 BENEFICIARIES OF ACCOMMODATION

IOM assisted persons mainly in vulnerable situation – single mothers, elderly people and those with chronic illnesses – to find and secure temporary accommodation in Airbnb facilities in Slovakia.

944 SURVEYS

IOM conducted data collection across key sites through interviews with Ukrainian refugees and TCNs about their needs and intentions.



WHERE YOU CAN FIND US:

Since the outbreak of the war, IOM helps every day at the Slovak-Ukrainian border and in the dedicated registration centres. From the very first days IOM has assisted on sites to more than **2,929 people** fleeing Ukraine and arriving in Slovakia, including Ukrainian refugees and TCNs. IOM is actively present at the following border crossing points, registration centres and sites:



POINTS OF ENTRY:

- 1. Ubla
- 2. Vysne Nemecke

CENTRES:

- 3. Registraton Centre in Humenne
- 4. Registration Centre in Michalovce
- 5. IOM Migration Information Centre in Kosice Hotspot Cervena Hviezda in Kosice
- 6. Accomodation Facility in Gabcikovo
- 7. IOM Migration Information Centre in Bratislava

IOM INFOLINES

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE ARRIVING FROM UKRAINE TO SLOVAKIA

Info line: 0850 211 478 (from the territory

of the Slovak Republic)

From abroad: +421 2 5263 0023, +421 55 625 8662

Telegram/Signal: +421 908 767 853 (voice calls only)

Email: mic@iom.int

Website: <u>www.mic.iom.sk</u>

Online support available in Ukrainian, Slovak, English, and Russian.

CONTACT US:

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Swiss Confederation

