TEMPORARY PROTECTION IN THE EU

AS OF 04.03.2022

The European Commission invoked the Temporary Protection Directive on 3 March 2022 to provide safeguards for the rights of Ukrainian nationals and nationals staying long-term in Ukraine, who are fleeing to the European Union (EU). The Council decision introduces temporary protection (TP) for three categories of people:

1. Ukrainian nationals residing in Ukraine, who are displaced of 24.02.2022

2. Third-country nationals or stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine, who are unable to return to their country or region of origin in safe and durable conditions because of the situation prevailing in that country (displaced as of 24.02.2022). This could include persons enjoying refugee status or equivalent protection, or who were asylum seekers in Ukraine. Third-country nationals who were legally residing in Ukraine on a long-term basis at the time of the events leading to the mass influx should enjoy temporary protection regardless of whether they could return to their country or region of origin in safe and durable conditions.

3. Family members of the above two categories of people, insofar as the family already existed in Ukraine at the time of the circumstances surrounding the mass influx, regardless of whether the family member could return to his or her country of origin in safe and durable conditions.

Individuals who receive temporary protection under the Directive are eligible for a residence permit, access to employment, access to education for minors, opportunities for family relocation and social welfare.

Member States of the European Union will have the right to determine the conditions of reception, residence and work access of people protected under the Directive.

However, guarantees provided by member states cannot fall behind those in TPD. Member States can offer greater protection.

Ukrainian nationals, as visa-free travelers, will be able to move freely within the EU after being admitted into the territory, allowing them to join their family and friends across the significant diasporas that currently exist across the European Union. Ukrainian nationals and third country nationals fleeing Ukraine entering the EU with expired passports or those only holding an ID card or birth certificates may be unable to travel between member states and remain in the first EU country.

Member States are expected to release further clarification in the coming days on the implementation of the Directive. We will keep you updated.

EU COUNTRIES, WHERE THE DIRECTIVE IS ALREADY BEING IMPLEMENTED AND INFORMATION ABOUT TP IS AVAILABLE

CLICK ON COUNTRY FLAG FOR LINK:

BELGIUM  CZECH REPUBLIC  GERMANY
FINLAND *  FRANCE  GREECE
HUNGARY  IRELAND  LATVIA
LITHUANIA  LUXEMBOURG  NETHERLANDS
PORTUGAL  SLOVAKIA  SWEDEN

*Information on temporary protection should be soon added