

Temporary Protection Spain

This annex on temporary protection complements and should be read together with the [AIDA Country Report on Spain](#).

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A. General

Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine in February 2022, and the EU decision to activate the Temporary Protection Directive, the Spanish Government started to design a more flexible and simple mechanism for providing protection to persons fleeing the country, without the necessity for them to lodge an asylum application.¹ UNHCR supported the authorities in the development of the emergency response to increase reception and support capacity, developing specific recommendations and providing guidance and expertise.² The Government also announced the regularisation of all undocumented Ukrainians living in Spain before the Russian invasion.³

In addition, the OAR temporarily halted the decisions on asylum applications already lodged by Ukrainian applicants, which are prospected to have a negative outcome.⁴ It is important to note that, from 2012 to 2021, Spain has received around 16,000 asylum applications from Ukrainian nationals, and denied at least 14,600 of them; only 9% of the applicants received any form of international protection according to such figures.⁵ On 24 March, the National Court of Madrid granted subsidiary protection to a Ukrainian family, whose application had previously been rejected.⁶

Similarly, the High Court (*Audiencia Nacional*) started to grant subsidiary protection to all those Ukrainians which applied before the outbreak of the war and whose asylum application was denied.⁷

In December 2022, the Supreme Court (*Tribunal Supremo*) granted protection to a Ukrainian family with an expulsion order, and established the criteria that, due to the situation in Ukraine, all Ukrainians living in Spain can automatically invoke the protection from the principle of no refoulement without the necessity to lodge an application for temporary protection.⁸

During 2022, the Asylum Office granted temporary protection to 161,037 persons fleeing from Ukraine.⁹ The permits granted until 16 January 2023 were 163,140. 63% of beneficiaries were women and 37% men; 33% of the total number of beneficiaries were children. The 3 top Autonomous Communities where the vast majority of TP permits were issued are the **Comunitat Valenciana** (43,542), **Cataluña** (37,271) and **Comunidad de Madrid** (23,256).¹⁰

¹ El Diario, 'El Gobierno alojará de forma expés a los refugiados de Ucrania que lo necesiten sin exigir que antes pidan protección', 5 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3tAKL9a>.

² Information provided by UNHCR in March 2023.

³ El Diario, 'El Gobierno regularizará a todos los ucranianos que vivían en España sin papeles antes de la invasión rusa', 8 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3vbKpCy>.

⁴ Europa Press, 'Interior no denegará protección internacional para ucranianos a la espera de activarse el sistema de acogida europeo', 28 February 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/34udPSI>.

⁵ Newtral, 'España ha denegado la protección internacional a más de 14.600 ucranianos en los últimos 10 años', 11 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3qK8yyb>.

⁶ Audiencia Nacional. Sala de lo Contencioso, Madrid, SAN 478/2022, 24 February 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3LkdO3n>.

⁷ ECRE, 'Information Sheet – Measures in response to the arrival of displaced people fleeing the war in Ukraine', 31 May 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3j1aguz>; TF Extranjería, 'La Audiencia Nacional sigue concediendo protección subsidiaria a los ucranianos/as que tenían las denegaciones de protección internacional recurridas', 2 april 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3h4865b>.

⁸ El Economista, 'El Supremo otorga protección temporal a los ucranianos afectados por la guerra', 4 January 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3H83knb>; The Objective, 'El Supremo fija doctrina: hay que dar asilo automático a los ucranianos que residen en España', 24 January 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3XtCvkt>; Cadena Ser, 'El Supremo concede la orden de protección a una familia ucraniana y anula su deportación', 24 January 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3wuBFrQ>; Tribunal Supremo. Sala de lo Contencioso, STS 4822/2022, 21 December 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3IWkZ3r>.

⁹ Ministry of Interior, 'La Oficina de Asilo y Refugio registra 118.842 solicitudes de protección internacional en 2022, máximo histórico desde su creación', 12 January 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3Hyut4t>.

¹⁰ Ministerio del Interior, 'Resoluciones de Protección Temporal. Datos acumulados 11 de marzo a 16 de enero de 2023', available at: <https://bit.ly/3XxeGZ9>.

In occasion of the 2022 World Refugee Day, Amnesty International denounced the double standard policy of the Spanish Government, welcoming and guaranteeing access to protection for the Ukrainian refugees on one side, and creating obstacles in the access to the territory and to protection for refugees fleeing from other wars and persecution, such as persons coming from Syria or Africa.¹¹

On February 2023, the NGO *CEAR* called the EU and its Member States to use the TP directive as a rule and not as an exception, and to use it also to protect people fleeing other conflicts, such as Syrians.¹² It also called to apply the TP directive to Syrian refugees affected by the earthquake that occurred during the same month.¹³

B. Qualification for temporary protection

On 9 March, the Government adopted two orders extending the temporary protection (TP) to Ukrainian nationals, persons and stateless persons legally residing in Ukraine, Ukrainians staying (regularly or irregularly) in Spain before 24 February 2022, and their family members, and detailing the procedure to grant such status.¹⁴ According to such orders, the decision granting temporary protection is adopted by the OAR in 24 hours from the lodging of the application.

In June 2022, the UNHCR and NGOs expressed concerns for the challenges that third countries nationals residing in Ukraine were facing in accessing and especially in obtaining TP, as the police did not allow them to apply for TP.¹⁵ UNHCR and NGOs managing the Emergency and Referral Centres (CREADE, which were specifically created for the reception of persons fleeing Ukraine) informed about hundreds of persons from different countries (i.e. Nigeria, Morocco, Algeria, etc.) being in such a situation, including cases of mixed couples (i.e. Russian spouses).¹⁶ In October 2022, the General Commissariat on Foreigners and Borders issued a legal paper establishing the procedure and criteria for access to TP by third country nationals who fled Ukraine. It establishes that third country nationals coming from one of the following 17 countries (Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belorussia, Burkina Faso, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan, Mali, Moldavia, Central African Republic, Russia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yemen) with permanent residence in Ukraine, are not obliged to prove the impossibility to return to their origin country in safe and durable conditions. Thus, they are entitled to access TP just providing their passport and permanent residence permit. For those third country nationals coming from one of the mentioned 17 countries who held a temporary residence permit in Ukraine or those coming from other countries than those 17, have also to prove the impossibility to return to their country of origin in safe and durable conditions.

¹¹ Amnistía Internacional, 'España: El conflicto de Ucrania visibiliza el doble rasero a la hora de proteger las personas refugiadas', 16 June 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3Jbhh6w>.

¹² La Vanguardia, 'CEAR pide a la UE que la protección concedida a los ucranianos sea normal y "no la excepción"', 23 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/41Cv6Sc>.

¹³ La Vanguardia, 'CEAR pide que los refugiados sirios afectados por los terremotos accedan a la protección temporal', 10 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/41EpTt9>.

¹⁴ Ministerio de la Presidencia, Relaciones con las Cortes y Memoria Democrática, 'Orden PCM/170/2022, de 9 de marzo, por la que se publica el Acuerdo del Consejo de Ministros de 8 de marzo de 2022, por el que se amplía la protección temporal otorgada en virtud de la Decisión de Ejecución (UE) 2022/382 del Consejo de 4 de marzo de 2022 a personas afectadas por el conflicto de Ucrania que puedan encontrar refugio en España', 9 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3tJHzET>; Ministerio de la Presidencia, Relaciones con las Cortes y Memoria Democrática, 'Orden PCM/169/2022, de 9 de marzo, por la que se desarrolla el procedimiento para el reconocimiento de la protección temporal a personas afectadas por el conflicto en Ucrania', 9 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3uxfff9>.

¹⁵ Information provided by Accem in March 2023.

¹⁶ El Diario, 'Interior impide a cientos de extranjeros que huyen de Ucrania pedir la protección temporal que se les prometió', 16 June 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3WwLgZy>.

C. Access to temporary protection and registration

1. Admission to territory

Persons fleeing from Ukraine did not face any significant challenge in accessing Spain. Biometric passport as well as other documents certifying their identity (i.e. birth certificate) are considered sufficient to access the territory.¹⁷

2. Freedom of movement

Individuals entitled to temporary protection did not face any challenge in moving across the Spanish territory, independently of the documentation they held.

3. Registration under temporary protection

Regarding the registration of applications, the Government has foreseen the possibility of apply for temporary protection both directly at the CREADE and in designated police stations.

4. Legal assistance

For legal assistance in the context of temporary protection, the same rules valid for asylum seekers are in force (See *AIDA Country Report on Spain - 2022 Update*).

5. Information provision and access to NGOs

Different initiatives have been promoted since the beginning of the war, aiming at informing persons fleeing Ukraine on their rights and the access to services. The Spanish Bar Association committed to provide legal guidance to Ukrainian through the specialised roll on migration and asylum of the different bar associations.¹⁸ The NGO CEAR published guidelines on asylum for those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine, available both in Ukrainian and Spanish.¹⁹ Similarly, the Bar Association of Madrid published a guide in Spanish, English and Ukrainian providing information to persons fleeing Ukraine.²⁰ The Minister of Interior published a document (also in different languages including Ukrainian) to inform on temporary protection, on who can apply for it and where, the rights deriving from the protection granted, etc.²¹ The Psychological Association of Madrid published some information videos for the psychological support to persons affected by the conflict in Ukraine.²² The Spanish Network of Legal Clinics drafted a guidance containing practical information on the access to temporary protection, as well as on access to health assistance, education and employment in different Autonomous Communities.²³ UNHCR and the Platform for Childhood published child-friendly information materials for children fleeing Ukraine.²⁴

In July 2022, the company 'Alliance Vending' launched the campaign *#CaféPorLaPaz* (*Coffee for Peace*) together with UNHCR, Save the Children and CEAR, aimed at supporting persons fleeing from Ukraine by collecting donations.²⁵

¹⁷ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Soy ucraniano, ¿Qué papeles necesito para entrar en España?', 7 June 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/43KWsxI>.

¹⁸ El Derecho, 'La Abogacía Española ofrecerá apoyo legal en España a los refugiados ucranianos', 1 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3hXJqPz>.

¹⁹ CEAR, 'Guía asilo personas afectadas por guerra ucrania', 1 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3HVgoe0>.

²⁰ Ilustre Colegio de Abogados de Madrid (ICAM), 'El Colegio de Abogados de Madrid publica una guía para ciudadanos que huyen del conflicto armado de Ucrania', 15 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3wInlNC>.

²¹ Ministerio del Interior, 'UCRANIA - Protección Temporal', 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/43Mr3Eg>.

²² Colegio Oficial de la Psicología de Madrid, 'El colegio elabora videos divulgativos para el apoyo psicológico a personas afectadas por el conflicto bélico en Ucrania', 30 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3tr7gd8>.

²³ Red Española de Clínicas Jurídicas, 'Guía de trámites y recursos para la población desplazada por la guerra en ucrania', March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3vblHIW>.

²⁴ Acnur, Plataforma de Infancia, ' August 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3VcgBQM>.

²⁵ Europa Press, 'Alliance Vending lanza #CaféPorLaPaz junto a ACNUR, CEAR y Save The Children para ayudar a Ucrania', 15 July 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3vcdiyA>.

In December 2022, UNHCR, together with its goodwill ambassador Jesús Vázquez and the TV channels of *Mediaset España*, launched a campaign to raise awareness on the situation of persons fleeing Ukraine and the arrival of winter, and to ask support to the Spanish population.²⁶

D. Guarantees for vulnerable groups

NGOs managing reception facilities coordinated with specialised police units to identify victims and testimonies of the war crimes committed by Russia, with the aim of collecting relevant information on the issue. At the end of May 2022, a specific procedure was put in place at the CREADE of Madrid, to detect such cases and refer them to the police, who carry out the interview with the victims and testimonies to gather and formalise their declarations.²⁷ The Spanish Bar Association also created a specific format so that lawyers can collect evidence.²⁸

Following the call to arms by the Russian President, in November 2022 around 200 Russian draft evaders reached Spain to seek protection.²⁹ No information on the treatment of such cases is available at the time of writing. In any case, such individuals would have the possibility to access international protection.

In order to prevent and identify the cases of trafficking among the persons fleeing Ukraine, specific protocols and guidelines have been adopted within the CREADE. Besides, staff in such centers as well as in other reception facilities was trained on the matter. In addition, the Public Prosecutor office started to convene periodic meetings at the national level among different stakeholders (i.e. NGOs managing the CREADE, UNHCR, the MISSM, NGOs assisting trafficked persons, the National Police and the Civil Guard), with the aim of coordinating actions and activities, following-up on possible trafficking cases, fostering trainings, etc.

In November 2022, the Parliament approved a legal amendment on an aggravating circumstance to the crime of trafficking in human beings, establishing an increase of the punishment up to 12 years for those who traffic persons fleeing armed conflicts and humanitarian disasters.³⁰ The aggravating circumstance was initially proposed just to protect persons fleeing the war in Ukraine, but then was extended to all persons fleeing wars and humanitarian disasters.

In relation to children fleeing the conflict, there was a rapid issuance of recommendations directed at regional authorities, to avoid differences in treatment and definitions for their reception and protection. Recommendations regarding the protection of children and adolescents displaced by the conflict in Ukraine were issued by the Ministry of Social Rights and Agenda 2030 who is competent for the coordination of regional minors' protection systems. The priorities have been to ensure child friendly spaces, to avoid the separation of families and of children who have relatives or foster families, and to follow up the location of minors in order to guarantee their return to their places of origin when possible.³¹

Recommendations were also drafted by the Minor Prosecutor's Office, aiming at unifying the criteria for action of the different prosecutors at regional level for the protection of unaccompanied and separated children were adopted. In the case of Ukrainian children, no systematic separation was carried out and

²⁶ Mediaset, '12 Meses lanza, junto a ACNUR y Jesús Vázquez, una campaña de ayuda y sensibilización sobre los refugiados de Ucrania y su situación extrema por el frío', 1 December 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3J4S25W>.

²⁷ Information provided by Accem on February 2023.

²⁸ Consejo General de la Abogacía Española, 'La Abogacía activa un formulario para recoger pruebas de crímenes de guerra cometidos por Rusia', 25 May 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3ZSly3E>.

²⁹ Yahoo Noticias, 'Huir de Putin a España: más de 200 desertores rusos llegan en busca de protección', 21 November 2022, available at: <https://yhoo.it/3WvgdNS>.

³⁰ 20 Minutos, 'Agravante trata: El Congreso aprueba por unanimidad castigar con hasta 12 años de cárcel la trata de mujeres que huyan de una guerra', 3 November 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3WDyOrh>; The Objective, 'El BOE publica la nueva ley que endurece las penas por traficar con víctimas de conflictos', 21 December 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3R1FjmB>.

³¹ Information provided by Save the Children in March 2023.

great attention was paid to the way in which prosecutors were registering children as unaccompanied or separated. In the case of Ukrainian children, the national prosecutor asked to register them within the UAMS' police register and mark them as "at risk", so that minors protection services could make a follow up and give them the official "care" (*guarda*, which is different from guardianship although is a form of responsibility of the minor). It should be considered that prior to the Ukrainian conflict, some Autonomous Communities in Spain still separated children travelling with adults who were not in possession of proof of guardianship or documentation, until DNA tests were carried out. This was the case in Melilla, and also occurred in the Canary Islands.³²

The Platform for Childhood (*Plataforma de Infancia*) published information in the format of questions and answers, in which it provides with useful information on different aspects, i.e., on foster care, on how to speak with children about the conflict, etc.³³ Similarly, UNICEF published a set of guidelines on how to support children from Ukraine.³⁴

In May 2022, the organization 'Aldeas Infantiles SOS' published guidelines on how to foster the integration of refugee children from Ukraine, providing orientation on the psychological effects of conflicts on children and on how to support children who fled the war.³⁵

In 2022, Accem implemented two projects with a private foundation aiming at providing 3 Ukrainian interpreters for persons with disabilities and for persons with mental health needs who fled the war in Ukraine.

Save the Children has welcomed the extraordinary measures that were taken to ensure protection of children and families fleeing from Ukraine and asked for best practices to be extended to other migrant and refugee children, and to ensure lessons learnt from the management of the inflow of persons displaced from Ukraine can be taken and strengthened for the protection of all migrant and refugee children.³⁶

³² *Ibidem*.

³³ Plataforma de Infancia, 'UCRANIA - Preguntas y Respuestas sobre la infancia y el conflicto armado', 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3J8vIrlz>.

³⁴ UNICEF, 'Cómo ayudar a los niños y las niñas de ucrania 10 cuestiones relevantes', 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3ZB0tLb>.

³⁵ Aldeas Infantiles SOS, 'Guía para favorecer la integración de niños y niñas refugiados de la guerra de Ucrania', May 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3JwCqrT>.

³⁶ Save the Children, 'Safe for Some: Europe's selective welcome to children on the move', March 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3TuOv3S>.

Content of Temporary Protection

A. Status and residence

1. Residence permit

Indicators: Residence permit

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. What is the duration of residence permits granted to beneficiaries of temporary protection? | 2 years |
| 2. How many residence permits were issued to beneficiaries from the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive until 31 December 2022? | 157,180 ³⁷ |

According to the two orders adopted by the Spanish Government in March 2022,³⁸ temporary protection, as well as the residence and work permit granted, will be automatically renewed for 1 year after 1 year since the granting of the temporary protection. In practice, Spain issues residence and work permits directly for the duration of 2 years.³⁹

2. Access to asylum

No major issues were registered regarding access to asylum of temporary protection beneficiaries, who can present an asylum application while maintaining their TP status. No clear plan has been designed, for the moment, for the period in which it will be necessary to transition out of temporary protection.

B. Family reunification

Upon request, temporary protection will be granted also to family members as long as the family relation was already existing in the country of origin. Family members are considered as follows: spouse or unmarried partner; unmarried minor children or those of the partner, whether born inside or outside of a marriage or adopted; other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the beginning of the armed conflict, depending totally or mainly on them.⁴⁰ As far as known by the author, no cases of family reunification have been registered so far. All Ukrainians that are fleeing the country can reach easily Spain and apply for TP.

C. Movement and mobility

Beneficiaries of TP have the right of free movement and residence in Spain, and they are entitled to receive travel documents if they are not in possession of a valid passport or a travel document and justify their need to travel outside Spain.⁴¹ As far as known by the author, in practice there are no beneficiaries of TP who applied for a travel document so far, also because Ukrainian embassy/consulates are renewing passports when needed.

³⁷ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Ukrainians citizens in Spain with valid residence documents. Montly series 31 December 2021-31December 2022', available at: <https://tabsoft.co/3WtlstfP>.

³⁸ Ministerio de la Presidencia, Relaciones con las Cortes y Memoria Democrática, 'Orden PCM/170/2022, de 9 de marzo, por la que se publica el Acuerdo del Consejo de Ministros de 8 de marzo de 2022, por el que se amplía la protección temporal otorgada en virtud de la Decisión de Ejecución (UE) 2022/382 del Consejo de 4 de marzo de 2022 a personas afectadas por el conflicto de Ucrania que puedan encontrar refugio en España', 9 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3tJHzET>; Ministerio de la Presidencia, Relaciones con las Cortes y Memoria Democrática, 'Orden PCM/169/2022, de 9 de marzo, por la que se desarrolla el procedimiento para el reconocimiento de la protección temporal a personas afectadas por el conflicto en Ucrania', 9 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3uxfff9>.

³⁹ UNHCR, 'UNHCR- The implementation of the temporary protection directive - six months on', 17 October 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3J7Xsgk>.

⁴⁰ EUAA, 'Information on temporary protection in Spain', June 2022, available in English at: <https://bit.ly/3HujfO4>.

⁴¹ EUAA, 'Information on temporary protection in Spain', June 2022, available in English at: <https://bit.ly/3HujfO4>; Ministerio del Interior, 'Información sobre Protección Temporal – Ucrania', March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3YdovLa>.

D. Housing

Indicators: Housing

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. For how long are temporary protection beneficiaries entitled to stay in reception centres? | 18 months, extensible to 24 |
| 2. For how long are temporary protection beneficiaries entitled to stay in CREADE? | 52 days (at the time of writing) |
| 3. Number of beneficiaries staying in reception centres as of 12/2022 | Not available |
| 4. Number of beneficiaries staying in private accommodation as of 12/2022 | Not available |

Following the outbreak of the war, the Spanish Government started to elaborate a plan to provide for and speed up the reception of persons fleeing from Ukraine,⁴² and announced the creation of around 6,000 new reception places in collaboration with Autonomous Communities and Municipalities.⁴³

To address reception needs, at the beginning of March 2022 the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration adopted a Reception Plan,⁴⁴ and provided for the creation of four Emergency and Referral Centres (CREADE), managed by NGOs. One of them is located in Madrid, offers 400 places and is managed by the NGO Accem.⁴⁵ Other two facilities located in Barcelona and Alicante are managed by the Spanish Red Cross, while the fourth is managed by the NGO CEAR in Málaga.⁴⁶ Such centres provide for the emergency and temporary reception of those persons who do not have sufficient resources. In principle, persons are accommodated in such centres for few days, and then they are referred to the reception facilities within the asylum reception system (mainly managed by NGOs) across the Spanish territory.

Such centres give access to different rights and services, such as: accommodation and maintenance; financial support; schooling and language of Spanish; psychosocial support; job assistance which includes vocational trainings, job guidance, homologation of educational degrees; health assistance; legal support; validation of the driving licence for 1 year; free telephone coverage (roaming).⁴⁷

UNHCR has a permanent presence at the four CREADE to support the dissemination of information on international and temporary protection procedures, the identification and referral of persons with specific needs, and protection training for Government and NGO staff working in the centres.⁴⁸

In order to support translation and interpretation at the four CREADE, UNHCR implemented a project for the provision of 4 interpreters speaking Ukrainian, Russian and English. The service was initially provided by the interpretation agency VOZE, and since November 2022 until the time of writing is provided by the organization Accem.⁴⁹

⁴² El Diario, 'Interior ultima un mecanismo "rápido y sencillo" para dar papeles a los refugiados por la invasión rusa', 5 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3pOBIfb>.

⁴³ Diario de Sevilla, 'España espera disponer de más de 6.000 plazas de acogida para refugiados ucranianos', 7 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/35INf8X>.

⁴⁴ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Plan de acogida para personas desplazadas procedentes de Ucrania', 15 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3DbepJt>.

⁴⁵ El Diario, 'Así es el primer centro de España creado para recibir a los refugiados de Ucrania', 10 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3NuvcnS>.

⁴⁶ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Inclusión coordinará un programa de acogimiento familiar y contará con cuatro centros de recepción para ucranianos', 15 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3wMPE7h>.

⁴⁷ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Centros de Recepción, Atención y Derivación para desplazados ucranianos', 23 June 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3wqlllp>.

⁴⁸ Information provided by UNHCR in March 2023.

⁴⁹ Information provided by the UNHCR in March 2023.

Due to certain conflictual situations occurred between Ukrainian nationals and Russian nationals with residence in Ukraine while accommodated together, preventive measures are adopted according to the circumstances, and the coexistence among the two groups is avoided.

Since September 2022, it has been established that CREADE could accommodate also asylum seekers, also in line with the call made by different stakeholders.⁵⁰ Despite that, such centres have been in practice used to accommodate only Ukrainians and third countries nationals with permanent residence in Ukraine. Third country nationals are accommodated in such facilities as long as their TP application is under examination and in case of positive decision. If their TP applications is denied, they have to leave the CREADE.

Following the outbreak of the war, the reception asylum system's capacity was increased by the MISSM, and beneficiaries of TP can be also accommodated in those facilities across all the Spanish territory. Beneficiaries of TP can be referred from the CREADE to the facilities within the asylum system i.e. in case of shortage of places in the CREADE, to respond to concrete vulnerabilities thanks to specialised facilities and services, if the beneficiaries have friend or familiar networks in other provinces, etc.

It is worth to note that beneficiaries of TP are entitled to the same rights and the same reception conditions as asylum seekers. On April 2022, the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration adopted an instruction on the management of the reception system of international protection and temporary protection, establishing exceptional measures for the assistance to persons displaced from Ukraine.⁵¹

In February 2023, media informed that the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration hid the suicide committed while in reception by a Moroccan man who was legally residing in Ukraine and was waiting for the decision on the TP application.⁵²

A foster care program has also been developed by the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, together with the Foundation 'La Caixa', in collaboration with NGOs within the asylum system, the network of foster care families, and the Municipal Social Services.⁵³ The foster care has a minimum duration of 6 months, and can be extended up to 12 months prior consent.

In addition, on July 2022 the Council of Ministers adopted a Royal Decree establishing the direct granting of funding to 20 NGOs for the reception of and assistance to asylum seekers and applicants of temporary protection, with a budget of almost 392 million Euros.⁵⁴

The challenges that beneficiaries of temporary protection face in Spain - similar to those faced by all asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection - have been highlighted, especially in relation to the access to reception conditions due to the lack of available places, and consequent situations of asylum seekers and temporary protection holders living on the streets.⁵⁵

⁵⁰ La Vanguardia, 'CEAR pide que centros de acogida a ucranianos atiendan a todos los migrantes', 16 September 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3lIowkN>.

⁵¹ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Instrucción de la Dirección General de gestión del sistema de acogida de protección internacional y temporal, de 8 de abril de 2022, por la que se adoptan medidas de carácter extraordinario para la atención a personas desplazadas desde Ucrania', 8 April 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3JJyWIX>

⁵² Público, 'El Ministerio de Migraciones oculta el suicidio de un joven refugiado en un centro de acogida para ucranianos en Madrid', 28 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3mjRZKk>.

⁵³ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Plan de acogida para personas desplazadas procedentes de Ucrania', 15 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3DbePJt>; Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Soy ciudadano español y quiero acoger a una persona desplazada de Ucrania', 7 June 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3SAAdCBT>.

⁵⁴ La Vanguardia, 'Aprobados más de 390 millones de euros para entidades que apoyen a los refugiados de Ucrania', 19 July 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3XzbcFq>.

⁵⁵ María José Castaño Reyero, Investigadora Doctora del Instituto Universitario de Estudios sobre Migraciones – Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid, 'Ucrania: un año entre acogida y protección temporal', 24 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3FjpKlu>.

On February 2023, the organisation CEAR denounced the serious problems that Ukrainian refugees are facing in finding a house to rent in Spain.⁵⁶

E. Employment and education

1. Access to the labour market

Beneficiaries of TP are entitled to work in Spain at the same conditions and rights of Spanish workers. They are also entitled to access vocational trainings.⁵⁷

According to available data, 13,695 Ukrainians with TP were employed by 31 December 2022.⁵⁸

The organisation Accem started a collaboration with the Adecco Foundation through a project named 'Sponsorship of Ukrainian Families' (*Apadrinamiento Familias Ucrainianas*), aimed at developing complementary actions to Accem's employment plan through labour intermediation, to foster an effective attention to Ukrainian refugees.⁵⁹

2. Access to education

The Minister of Education created a dedicated webpage containing information on the access to education for displaced Ukrainians, available also in Ukrainian.⁶⁰

In addition, in May 2022 the Ministry of Education started to hire 200 Ukrainian Language Assistants, with the aim of supporting regional authorities in fostering the inclusion of Ukrainian children in schools.⁶¹

An unprecedented Contingency Plan for guaranteeing access to schooling of displaced Ukrainian students was adopted by Ministry of Education, with the aim of coordinating the measures at regional level for fostering children education inclusion and uniform criteria across all the Spanish territory, and to facilitate access to available European funding.⁶² This unique plan, never adopted before, foresees a set of measures, such as, i.e., the immediate enrollment of students in compulsory stages in educational centers by levels, cycles or educational stages; the increase in the number of language-immersion classes per small group (10 students) provided for those who do not know the language; the provision of extraordinary quotas for the necessary teaching staff, including support and reception staff (guidance, therapeutic pedagogy, socio-community intervention, etc.); the provision of subsidies for humanitarian reasons to NGOs and other non-profit entities with the capacity to hire Ukrainian or Ukrainian-speaking personnel, for the attention, especially linguistic and socio-affective, of school minors; the extraordinary provision of calls for financial support to guarantee canteen services, transport, books and complementary activities, to school students from the conflict in Ukraine; the design of options to facilitate the continuity of the studies they are pursuing in Ukraine or the start of new ones, at a post-compulsory level.

In addition, the Asylum Language Learning Service signed an agreement with the Instituto Cervantes and the Spanish Red Cross to support the process of socio-cultural integration of people arriving from Ukraine through free Spanish language courses for foreigners.

⁵⁶ La Vanguardia, 'CEAR alerta del "grave problema" de los refugiados ucranianos "para conseguir vivienda"', 24 February 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3xZCnhF>

⁵⁷ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Formación profesional y solicitud de empleo para desplazados de Ucrania', available at: <https://bit.ly/3WCdCle>.

⁵⁸ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Ukrainians citizens in Spain with valid residence documents. Montly series 31 december 2021-31december 2022', available at: <https://tabssoft.co/3WtlSfP>.

⁵⁹ Information provided by Accem in March 2023.

⁶⁰ Ministerio de Educación y Formación profesional, 'Atención educativa a desplazados ucranianos', <https://bit.ly/3wtsBmY>.

⁶¹ Ministerio de Educación, 'Se convocan 200 plazas para auxiliares de lengua ucraniana', 8 April 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3WxnYD8>.

⁶² Information provided by Save the Children in March 2023.

F. Social welfare

In August 2022, the Government adopted a Royal Decree providing for the transfer of 80 million Euros to the Autonomous Communities, with the aim of providing a monthly financial support of 400 Euros during a period of 6 months to beneficiaries of temporary protection.⁶³ The measure aims at supporting those beneficiaries who have not sufficient resources, and are not receiving assistance nor accommodated within the international protection reception system.

In March 2023, the Office for Equal Opportunities and Inclusion Policies of the Autonomous Community of **Valencia** allocated 12.73 million Euros for granting direct support to refugees from Ukraine who are residing in the Comunitat Valenciana and do not have sufficient resources.⁶⁴

G. Health care

Persons fleeing from Ukraine have access to the health national system in the same conditions as the rest of the population. In March 2022 the Minister of Health published guidelines on how to act with refugees from Ukraine, i.e. in relation to COVID-19, as well as to other diseases to which Ukrainians may be vulnerable (i.e. poliomyelitis, measles).⁶⁵

⁶³ Ministerio de Inclusión, Seguridad Social y Migraciones, 'Real decreto 673/2022, de 1 de agosto, por el que se regula la concesión directa de subvenciones a las comunidades autónomas para financiar la prestación de una ayuda económica directa a las personas beneficiarias del régimen de protección temporal afectadas por el conflicto en Ucrania que carezcan de recursos económicos suficientes', 2 August 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3R1OUtn>; Newtral, 'El Gobierno aprueba una ayuda mensual de 400 euros a refugiados de Ucrania durante un máximo de 6 meses', 2 August 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3iWVips>.

⁶⁴ Valencia Plaza, 'Iguualdad destina 12,73 millones en ayudas directas a refugiados de Ucrania sin recursos suficientes', 15 March 2023, available at: <https://bit.ly/3LqT5hL>.

⁶⁵ Ministerio de Sanidad, 'Guía de actuación ante la llegada de personas refugiadas desde ucrania', 21 March 2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/400dhMg>.