

# Temporary Protection Cyprus

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

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## Temporary Protection Procedure

### A. General

Title (EN)	Original Title (XX)	Web Link
Refugee Law 2000 (6(I)/2000)	Ο περί Προσφύγων Νόμος του 2000 (6(I)/2000)	<a href="http://bit.ly/1O3Odb4">http://bit.ly/1O3Odb4</a> (GR)

Cyprus transposed the Temporary Protection Directive in 2004 into the national Refugee Law.<sup>1</sup> The TPD was activated by a decision issued by the Council of Ministers on 22 March 2022.<sup>2</sup>

According to the Ministerial Decision, the following categories of persons displaced from Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or later as a result of the military invasion of the Russian armed forces during that period are eligible for temporary protection:

- ❖ Ukrainian nationals, beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine, and their family members living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- ❖ Stateless persons and non-Ukrainians living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 with a permanent residence permit, who are unable to return safely to their country of origin;
- ❖ Members of the families of the above-mentioned categories. Family members for the purpose of this provision are considered to be spouses and minor children (under 18) on the condition that the family existed and resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022. In case of adult children or other family members a separate application should be submitted.

Temporary protection was initially intended to last for one year only, with the possibility to be extended depending on the situation in Ukraine. At a later stage, temporary protection was extended to the above categories of persons living in Ukraine up to the 1 February 2022.<sup>3</sup>

As of 31 December 2022, 13,893 individuals were registered for temporary protection, compared to 15,338 as of 28 February 2023. From the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive until 31 December 2023, 20,923 individuals had been registered in Cyprus making it one of the highest per capita recipients of Ukrainian refugees.<sup>4</sup>

In 2025, 3,729 persons (2,068 women; 1,661 men; 514 children, including 18 unaccompanied minors) were registered for temporary protection; 3,702 are Ukrainian nationals and 27 family members of various nationalities. Of the 3,729 persons that registered for temporary protection, 3672 received the protection. The remaining 57 persons were either not eligible for TP or their application is still pending.<sup>5</sup>

From February 2022 until the end of December 2025, 28,550 persons registered for temporary protection and 25,467 persons issued a residence permit with the Migration Department.<sup>6</sup>

There is no information available on people who may have been displaced – either directly or indirectly by the conflict present in the country but beyond the scope of TPD such as Russian nationals.

<sup>1</sup> Articles 20-20IB, Refugee Law.

<sup>2</sup> Decision (No 33/2022) of 22 March 2022 on management of influx of displaced persons from Ukraine, Διαχείριση Εισροών εκτοπισθέντων από την Ουκρανία. (Decision has not yet been published in the official gazette of the Republic of Cyprus). More information can be found at EUAA, Temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine<sup>7</sup>, available [here](#) (click on Cyprus for specific information).

<sup>3</sup> Excerpt from the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting Council of 4 May 2022, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>4</sup> Kathimerini, *Large proportion of refugees from Ukraine in Cyprus in relation to population*, 12 January 2024, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>5</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Asylum Service.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

## B. Qualification for temporary protection

Temporary protection is applied to the following groups of persons who have been displaced from Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or later as a result of the military invasion of the Russian armed forces during that period:

- ❖ Ukrainian nationals, beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine, and their family members living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- ❖ Stateless persons and non-Ukrainians living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 with a permanent residence permit, who are unable to return safely to their country of origin;
- ❖ Members of the families of the above-mentioned categories. Family members for the purpose of this provision are considered to be spouses and minor children (under 18) on the condition that the family existed and resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022. In case of adult children or other family members a separate application should be submitted.

Persons who had reached Cyprus before 24 February 2022 were initially not eligible for temporary protection, however from May 2022, temporary protection was extended to persons who reached Cyprus from 1 February 2022 onwards.<sup>7</sup>

Stateless persons and TCNs have been included in the scope of the TPD as well as their families in line with the Council Decision. However, in practice there are no indications that persons from these groups have reached Cyprus, most probably due to obstacles in reaching the island. For example, the location of Cyprus as well as the fact the country is not a member of the Schengen area.

Persons fleeing Ukraine who do not fall under the scope of the temporary protection regime may access the asylum procedures and apply for international protection. The asylum procedure was accessed by 53 Ukrainian nationals in 2022 and 24 persons in 2023.<sup>8</sup>

Since 2022, some 68 asylum applications were submitted by Ukrainians. In 2024, 14 Ukrainians applied for asylum; 21 persons received refugee status, and 9 persons received subsidiary protection status. In December 2024, 65 asylum applications were pending concerning 85 Ukrainians.

In 2025, 13 Ukrainians applied for asylum; 7 persons received refugee status, and 49 persons received subsidiary protection status. In December 2025, 25 asylum applications were pending concerning 25 Ukrainians.<sup>9</sup>

## C. Access to temporary protection and registration

### 1. Admission to territory

As Cyprus does not have land borders, the main point of entry for people fleeing Ukraine is via air travel. There are no reports of people fleeing Ukraine being refused entry at the airport. Prior to the activation of the TPD, Ukrainian nationals had access to Cyprus without a visa for a stay of 90 days. Following the activation of the TPD access to territory was facilitated for persons fleeing Ukraine as entry continued to be permitted without visa for all passports and other documents in accordance with the EU guidelines, including valid biometric and non-biometric passports, irrespective of the date of expiration; expired biometric and non-biometric passports; identification cards issued by the Government of Ukraine; internal passports; temporary Travel Documents issued by the Government of Ukraine; and permanent or temporary residence permits issued by the Government of Ukraine. The above requirements applied to all displaced persons from Ukraine that wanted to enter the Republic of Cyprus legally, either by land or

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Information provided by the Asylum Service.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

by sea. Furthermore, people who had returned to Ukraine and were seeking to re-enter the country were also permitted to do so.<sup>10</sup>

From 2023 onwards, Ukrainian citizens who wish to visit Cyprus and are holders of a biometric passport do not need a visa to visit and stay in Cyprus for up to 90 days. However, Ukrainian citizens that do not have a biometric passport, are required to apply for an entry visa no earlier than 3 months and no later than 3 days before the trip to Cyprus.<sup>11</sup>

## 2. Freedom of movement

Individuals entitled to temporary protection not holding a biometric passport or biometric travel document do not experience any issue in moving within the country's territory. Furthermore, there is no information indicating that they experienced any issues regarding attempts to continue their journey towards other European countries.<sup>12</sup>

## 3. Registration under temporary protection

The Asylum Service is responsible for registering temporary protection applications. Initially, applications could be submitted online via the website of the Asylum Service or in person at the Asylum Service for persons residing in Nicosia or at the district offices of the Aliens and Immigration Unit (AIU) in Larnaka, Limassol, Paphos, and Famagusta. From the end of 2022 onwards, applications could only be registered online or at the Asylum Service in Nicosia and from 2026 onward new applications for Temporary Protection can only be submitted in person at the Asylum Service headquarters in Nicosia. Online applications are no longer available.<sup>13</sup>

The total number of staff responsible for examining temporary protection applications in 2023 and 2024 were 2; one staff member of the Cyprus Asylum Service and one of the EUAA.<sup>14</sup>

As Cyprus does not have land borders, the main entry point for persons fleeing Ukraine is via air travel. When persons fleeing Ukraine arrive in Cyprus and express their intention to apply for temporary protection at the airport, they are informed to contact the Asylum Service and/or the AIU of the district they will be residing in. As the majority of persons reaching Cyprus have family members or acquaintances in Cyprus, most of them were guided by the latter. There are no specific time limits laid down in law for individuals to make their application.

Applicants are requested to provide the following documents in order to prove they fall under the scope of temporary protection:<sup>15</sup>

- ❖ A copy of their passport (valid or expired) or I.D;
- ❖ A page of their passport with the official stamp showing the date that the person has left Ukraine or the date of arrival to the first country of entry (if available).

Upon registration of the Temporary Protection, applicants are provided with a 'Notification', which consists of a letter confirming that they have been registered under Temporary Protection.

Overall, there were no problems reported in practice for temporary protection applicants with regard to the registration of their application, with very few exceptions such as applications being delayed.

Applicants who are refused registration under the temporary protection regime are not informed of the possibility to access appeal procedures, however in such cases an appeal could be submitted under the

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<sup>10</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

<sup>11</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Πληροφορίες για τους Ουκρανούς Επισκέπτες στην Κύπρο*, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Asylum Service

<sup>15</sup> Cyprus Asylum Service, Official website, available [here](#).

general rules for all administrative decisions. To date, there is no information of any such cases. It is possible for such applicants to submit a subsequent application but there is no information on the procedure, criteria or chances of success. According to the Asylum Service, where persons are found not to be eligible for temporary protection they are informed of the right to apply for asylum. However, there have been reports of persons being turned away from AIU when seeking to apply for asylum.<sup>16</sup>

#### 4. Legal assistance

There is no legal assistance provided specifically for persons entitled to temporary protection. The only legal assistance available is that provided to applicants of international protection (see [AIDA Country Report: Cyprus section](#); [Regular Procedure: Legal Assistance](#)).

#### 5. Information provision and access to NGOs

According to the Refugee Law,<sup>17</sup> the Asylum Service shall provide persons enjoying temporary protection with a document, in a language they understand, in which the provisions of this Law or any other law relating to temporary protection are clearly stated. In practice, there are 2 leaflets available, one for adults and the other for children including unaccompanied and separated children, both with very basic information.<sup>18</sup> Furthermore, the Asylum Service has provided basic information on their website, including links to information leaflets prepared by EUAA in Ukrainian and English.<sup>19</sup> A helpline was also set-up for information to be provided, however this was not offered in Ukrainian. No information specifically tailored to the needs of vulnerable individuals is provided.

Other sources of information are provided by CY4UA, an international group of volunteers who are based in Cyprus<sup>20</sup> and the UNHCR office in Cyprus.<sup>21</sup>

### D. Guarantees for vulnerable groups

There is no identification mechanism or special procedures in place to identify individuals, including unaccompanied children, entitled to temporary protection, who may need specific procedural guarantees because of their vulnerability, before or after their registration as temporary protection beneficiaries. Furthermore, there has been no specific programme introduced to address the needs of individuals fleeing from Ukraine suffering from mental health problems, including torture survivors and traumatised beneficiaries.

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<sup>16</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

<sup>17</sup> Article 20 ΣΤ, Refugee Law.

<sup>18</sup> Cyprus Asylum Service, official website, available [here](#).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> CY4UA, information available [here](#).

<sup>21</sup> UNHCR Cyprus, *Persons arriving from Ukraine*, available [here](#).

## 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?  
1 year (automatically renewed)
2. How many residence permits were issued to beneficiaries from the activation of the Temporary Protection Directive until December 2025?  
25,000<sup>22</sup>

According to information provided by the Asylum Service, the decision granting Temporary protection is issued on the same day the application is registered by the Asylum Service and a notification is issued.<sup>23</sup> Furthermore, the decision covers all the members of the family included in the application. In practice, the decision is often issued on the same day or within 2-3 days at the latest. After receiving the notification issued by the Asylum Service, the main applicant and family members included in the same application have 2 working days to visit any district Aliens and Immigration Unit of the Police to submit biometric data, which is necessary for the issuance of a residence permit. Applicants residing in Nicosia can apply for the issuance of a biometric residence permit by visiting the offices of the Civil Registry and Migration Department. Unlike beneficiaries of international protection, an appointment is not required for the submission of biometric data or for the issuance of a residence permit; beneficiaries are instructed to simply visit the Immigration Office of their district.<sup>24</sup>

The authority responsible for issuing the residence permit is the Migration Department (MD). Once the submission of biometric data is completed, the applicant also receives an ARC number and the residence permit, which is issued within 72 hours. In practice, the residence permit is issued within 5-7 working days on average. There have been no obstacles noted in practice as long as beneficiaries provide biometric data, otherwise delays occur until such data is provided.

In 2024, 2,900 residence permits were issued for temporary protection holders. In 2025, 3,316 residence permits were issued for temporary protection holders<sup>25</sup>

Temporary protection was initially valid until 4 March 2023, and all residence permits regardless of date of issuance are also valid until the above-mentioned date. In view of the decision to extend Temporary Protection until 4 March 2024, all residence permits have also been automatically extended until 4 March 2024.<sup>26</sup> The status of Temporary Protection and all residence permits was extended until 4 March 2025, and all residence permits were also automatically extended.

In March 2026, Temporary Protection status was once more extended until March 2027. As in previous years, persons who have already received temporary protection are not required to submit a new application to the Asylum Service or to issue or renew the biometric residence permit issued by the Migration Department. TP holders can receive a notification of extension from the Asylum Service headquarters in Nicosia and for this purpose they are required to present their residence permit, passport, certificate of marriage (where applicable), certificate of birth for minors (where applicable). Furthermore, in case of families, all members apart from minor children, must present themselves at the Asylum Service to receive the notification of extension.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Information provided by the Migration Department.

<sup>23</sup> EUAA, *Temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine – Cyprus*, available [here](#).

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Information provided by the Migration Department.

<sup>26</sup> Ministry of Interior, *Announcement concerning the extension of the temporary protection status to Ukrainian citizens in Cyprus*, 14 February 2023, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>27</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Asylum Service, available in Greek [here](#).

Regarding access to rights, according to the Refugee Law,<sup>28</sup> rights are not connected to the issuance of the residence permit and indeed in practice the majority of rights (accommodation, health, labour, etc.) can be accessed with the Notification issued by the asylum service and prior to the residence permit being issued. In any case, as temporary protection status and the residence permit are granted in a timely manner there have been no issues with regards to accessing rights.

If a TP holder wishes to return to Ukraine or move to another MS, they must express their will to leave Cyprus either directly to the Asylum Service or via email. The Asylum Service will provide an email stating that TP in Cyprus is cancelled.

## **2. Access to asylum**

According to the Refugee Law,<sup>29</sup> beneficiaries of temporary protection have a right to apply for international protection at any time. Furthermore, persons eligible to temporary protection, but having not yet started the registration process, have a right to apply for asylum, however they may be encouraged in practice to apply for temporary protection. Overall, there is no available information indicating persons eligible to TP or TP holders accessing the asylum procedures. In any case, considering the extremely large backlog it is expected that such cases would be examined with very long delays.

### **B. Family reunification**

The family reunification provisions of the TPD have been included in national Law and reflect the wording of the TPD. There is no information available on a procedure for persons to request family reunification through the TPD, although such a request could be sent to the Migration Department that examines family reunification requests. To date, there has been no case reported in which a TP holder needed to apply for family reunification in order to reunite with family members.

### **C. Movement and mobility**

Beneficiaries of temporary protection have freedom of movement only within the areas under the effective control of Republic of Cyprus, with no restrictions within these areas. As is the case for beneficiaries of international protection, they do not have the right to reside or visit the areas in the north that are not under the effective control of the RoC.

Once beneficiaries of TP are registered, they have freedom of movement towards other EUMS and can exit Cyprus for 90 days without losing their status. In case they are out of the country for a period that exceeds 90 days, their residence permit may be cancelled. However, there have been no cases to indicate that this is implemented.<sup>30</sup> Furthermore, there are no issues for beneficiaries of temporary protection who wished to temporarily return to Ukraine and no evidence of refusal of entry or other difficulties for people who have returned to Ukraine and are seeking to re-enter the country.

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<sup>28</sup> Article 20H, Refugee Law.

<sup>29</sup> Article 20(3)(a), Refugee Law.

<sup>30</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

## D. Housing

### Indicators: Housing

1. For how long are temporary protection beneficiaries entitled to stay in reception centres?	N/A
2. Number of beneficiaries staying in reception centres:	
❖ as of 12/2022:	2,900
❖ as of 12/2023:	N/A
❖ as of 12/2024:	0
❖ as of 12/2025:	0
3. Number of beneficiaries staying in private accommodation as of 12/2025	N/A

In order to provide accommodation to beneficiaries of temporary protection, the Deputy Ministry of Tourism (DMoT)<sup>31</sup> had been delegated by the Council of Ministers as the authority to establish lease agreements with hotels.<sup>32</sup> The DMoT contracted private hotels for this purpose and this has been the only form of accommodation provided to TP beneficiaries. As of March 2023, a total of 21 hotels and apartments were contracted for this purpose, specifically 19 in Famagusta district, 1 in Agros (Limassol district) and 1 in Polis Chrysochous (Paphos District).<sup>33</sup>

Initially there was no limitation on the duration of stay and, although availability was limited, there were few complaints by beneficiaries of not being able to access such accommodation. The duration of stay was later set at 6 months. These arrangements were initially planned until March 2023 and as of March 2023, 2,900 TP beneficiaries were hosted in hotels or apartments.

In April 2023, in view of the approaching summer season and the estimated high numbers of tourists arriving on the island, many of the contracted hotels did not want to continue hosting TP beneficiaries. According to articles in the media, government agencies had notified approximately 3,000 Ukrainian refugees who were accommodated in 21 hotels throughout Cyprus that they had until 31 May 2023 to find accommodation elsewhere.<sup>34</sup>

However, in May 2023 an extension of the policy regarding the accommodation of TP beneficiaries was announced by the Deputy Minister of Social Welfare, according to which accommodation will continue to be provided for vulnerable Ukrainians.<sup>35</sup> The announcement also mentioned the provision of assistance for the integration of TP beneficiaries, including a series of workshops, on-site briefings, personalized interviews, as well as a workshop for pairing employers and employees.

In August 2023 the policy regarding the accommodation was determined as follows:<sup>36</sup>

- ❖ TP beneficiaries who have been staying in hotels from 1 March 2023 onwards, are entitled to accommodation with full board for six months from the date they received temporary protection from the Asylum Service or until 4 March 2024, whichever date is earlier.
- ❖ TP beneficiaries already staying in hotels on 28 February 2023, are entitled to accommodation with full board until 31 May 2023. In the event that six months have not been completed from the date they received temporary protection from the Asylum Service, the accommodation will continue until the completion of six months.

At the end of 2023, the hotel accommodation program for newly arrived Ukrainians was terminated.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>31</sup> Deputy Ministry of Tourism, *Official website*, available [here](#).

<sup>32</sup> EUAA, *Temporary protection for displaced persons from Ukraine – Cyprus*, available [here](#).

<sup>33</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

<sup>34</sup> Phileleftheros, *No more hosting Ukrainian refugees in hotels*, 12 May 2023, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>35</sup> Press and Information Office, *Official announcement of the Deputy Minister of Social Welfare*, 23 May 2023, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>36</sup> Ministerial Decision, No.94.379, 8 February 2023, *Policy on Management of flows of displaced persons from Ukraine*, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>37</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

In August 2022, the Ministerial Council had approved a Rent Subsidy Scheme for displaced persons from Ukraine who are granted temporary protection status and have been accommodated in hotel units.<sup>38</sup> However, up until March 2023 it had yet to be implemented.<sup>39</sup> In May 2023, an announcement<sup>40</sup> was made allowing access to the Scheme through an online application.<sup>41</sup> According to the criteria, only persons eligible to apply are those who were displaced from Ukraine, from or after 24 February 2022 and who, at the time of submission of the application, resided from the date of their arrival in the Republic of Cyprus and who continue to stay in hotels or other accommodation designated by the Republic of Cyprus and have not secured any other place of residence. Those who have secured another place of residence are not entitled to apply. There is no data available on the number of persons that have accessed this Scheme.

According to the Accountant General, as reported before Parliament, in 2022, the hospitality expenditure amounted to €10 million, while in the first half of 2023 the expenditure amounted to €17 million, recalling the decision of the Council of Ministers to approve another €21.5 million covering the period until March 2024.<sup>42</sup> In view of the termination of the accommodation program for TP holders, there was no expenditure reported in 2025 for this purpose.

The above arrangements are not connected in any way to the general reception system and beneficiaries of TP are not entitled to access reception conditions.

## E. Employment and education

### 1. Access to the labour market

Beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to the labour market under the same conditions as nationals. There are no specific measures in place to facilitate access to the labour market, however the immediate access to the status and to the labour market under the same conditions as nationals which was widely known among employers facilitated high numbers of TP securing employment.<sup>43</sup> Beneficiaries are entitled to equal treatment to nationals with regard to employment with no exception for specific rights. There are no specific measures in place directed at combating labour exploitation of temporary protection beneficiaries. Furthermore, there is no data available on the number of temporary protection beneficiaries who accessed the labour market, however there are no indications that TP beneficiaries have any obstacles in accessing the labour market.

### 2. Access to education

The Law provides access to education for child beneficiaries of temporary protection under the same conditions provided to nationals, according to which, school attendance is compulsory for children from the age of 4 years and 8 months until they reach the age of 15 or until the completion of the secondary school cycle, whichever comes first.<sup>44</sup> Access to education is limited to under 18 and to public schools.

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<sup>38</sup> Ministerial Decision, No.93.493, 22 August 2022, *Provision of Financial assistance to displaced persons from Ukraine*, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>39</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council.

<sup>40</sup> Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare, *Announcement on Rent Subsidy Scheme for displaced persons from Ukraine*, 24 May 2023, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>41</sup> Application for the provision of a rent subsidy to displaced persons from Ukraine who have secured Temporary Protection status, available in English [here](#).

<sup>42</sup> Sigma, *The Accountant General of the Republic presented data on the cost of hosting Ukrainian refugees, following Russia's invasion of the country*, 12 October 2023, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>43</sup> Information provided by Cyprus Refugee Council under the <https://www.helprefugeeswork.org/> initiative.

<sup>44</sup> Article 20H (2), Refugee Law.

In practice,<sup>45</sup> for children to access primary education for TP beneficiaries, an application must be submitted to the public school in the educational district in which they live, or to another school in the district if there are no vacancies. The following options can be selected:

- ❖ attend a public school and follow the Cyprus educational program;
- ❖ stay at home and study online in the morning according to the Ukrainian educational program. If this option is selected, parents/guardians must submit a corresponding written application.

For children to access secondary education, an application must be submitted for admission to a public school and the following options can be selected:

- ❖ enrol in a public school in the educational district in which they live and follow the curriculum if they speak Greek;
- ❖ enrol in a high school that offers a program for students that do not speak Greek, based on the existing policy for children with a migrate background;
- ❖ enrol in a public school of the educational district in which they live, but at the same time stay at home and attend online classes in the morning according to the Ukrainian educational program, If this option is selected the parents/guardians must submit an appropriate written application.

The above applications can be submitted by parents/guardians at the respective district offices during the formal registration (enrolment) of their children in public schools. For children attending online classes the parent/guardian will assume responsibility for the child's safety during online education and the obligation to provide the school where they are registered with an interim and final written confirmation of attendance at online classes according to the Ukrainian educational program.

Afternoon Greek language courses have also been set up by the Ministry of Education for Ukrainians, for both adults and children.<sup>46</sup> Furthermore, children from Ukraine can access psychological support provided by the Educational Psychology Service of the Ministry of the Ministry of Education that can be accessed through the school in which the child is registered.<sup>47</sup>

In cases of a child beneficiary that is identified as having special needs, they will be supported under the same conditions as nationals.

To date there is no statistical information available on the number of child beneficiaries of temporary protection who have accessed education.

Regarding access to higher education the University of Cyprus (UCY, a State university) provided 10 scholarships to Ukrainian refugees, whose studies were abruptly interrupted by the Russian invasion. Specifically, the UCY announced that ten scholarships would be awarded, five at undergraduate level and five at postgraduate level, as well as scholarships to attend courses at the Greek Language School of the University of Cyprus. The scholarships cover tuition fees as well as monthly living expenses.<sup>48</sup> The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), also a State university, provided ways to facilitate access to the University either for Ukrainian students to transfer or for Ukrainian high school graduates that have arrived in Cyprus as refugees from Ukraine and wish to study at the Cyprus University of Technology.<sup>49</sup> Frederick University, a private university introduced a special-purpose scholarship scheme for all students whose

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<sup>45</sup> Ministry of Education, *Announcement of the Ministry of Education regarding the arrangements for the attendance of children from Ukraine in public schools*, 13 April 2022, available in Greek [here](#); Ministry of Education, *Information for Ukrainian refugees*, available in Greek [here](#); Embassy of Ukraine in the Republic of Cyprus, official Facebook page, available in Ukrainian [here](#).

<sup>46</sup> Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, information available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>47</sup> Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth, Educational Psychology Service, *Educational Psychology Service*, available [here](#).

<sup>48</sup> Phileleftheros, *University of Cyprus: Scholarships to refugees from Ukraine*, 16 March 2022, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>49</sup> Cyprus University of Technology, *Application by students or candidate students from war plagued Ukraine*, 19 May 2022, available [here](#).

studies have been affected by the conflicts. The scholarships apply to all undergraduate studies, fully cover the tuition fees of the first year and 50% of fees for subsequent years.<sup>50</sup>

The Law provides for access to education/vocational training for adults.<sup>51</sup> In practice, however, no trainings have been organised specifically for beneficiaries of TP.

## F. Social welfare

According to the Law, beneficiaries of temporary protection have a right to receive social assistance and livelihood support when they lack sufficient resources.<sup>52</sup> In practice, social welfare is not provided to temporary protection beneficiaries under the same conditions and on the same level as for nationals or as legally residing third-country nationals. Instead, they only have access to a one-off financial allowance as follows:

- ❖ A single person (and the main applicant if there is a family) is entitled to €340
- ❖ Every dependent family member above the age of fourteen is entitled €170 and every dependent member below the age of fourteen is entitled to €100
- ❖ Benefits are provided in cash in one or two instalments

Applications are made to the Social Welfare Services which is the responsible authority for granting social assistance. The provision of social welfare is not tied to a requirement to reside in a specific place or region. Furthermore, no obstacles have been observed in practice, which is likely due to the fact that it is a one-off payment. There is no statistical information available on the number of beneficiaries of temporary protection who accessed social welfare.

On the 22 August 2022, the Ministerial Council approved a monthly financial assistance of €102 for early childhood care for children aged up to 4 years and 8 months provided that the parent/guardian is working.<sup>53</sup> There is no information on the number of children that have accessed this assistance.

## G. Health care

According to the Law,<sup>54</sup> beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to medical care, in case they do not have sufficient resources, which includes at least first aid care and the necessary treatment of diseases. Furthermore, the Law states that they have access to necessary medical or other assistance, as long as they have special needs, in particular unaccompanied minors or persons who have suffered torture, rape or other serious forms of mental, physical or sexual violence.<sup>55</sup>

In practice, TP beneficiaries have not been given access to the same health care as nationals, or as legally residing third-country nationals including beneficiaries of international protection who have access to the National Health System (GESY). Instead, medical care is provided under the same conditions as provided to asylum seekers which entails access to the public health system (State hospitals and other State medical services) for care beyond emergency care or essential treatments but does not allow access to private doctors/professionals and private medical services available on the GESY (see [AIDA Country Report on Cyprus: Health Care](#)). Access is facilitated by presenting the Notification that they are registered as TP holder. There is no available data on the number of beneficiaries of TP who have accessed public health care or any issues or obstacles.

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<sup>50</sup> Frederick University, *Support measures for students affected by the war in Ukraine*, 9 March 2022, available [here](#).

<sup>51</sup> Article 20H (1)(β), Refugee Law.

<sup>52</sup> Article 20H (1)(δ), Refugee Law.

<sup>53</sup> Ministerial Decision, No.93.493, *Provision of Financial assistance to displaced persons from Ukraine*, 22 August 2022, available in Greek [here](#).

<sup>54</sup> Article 20H (1)(ε), Refugee Law.

<sup>55</sup> Article 20H (1)(σ), Refugee Law.