

Austria (IV) (last updated 4 May)

Overall approach and state of play

As of 27th March, about 35.000 Ukrainians have been registered in Austria. The majority has chosen to stay in Vienna.

According to the Displaced Persons Ordinance by the Austrian government, the following persons will initially be granted a temporary right of residence until 3.3.2023:

- Ukrainians and other third-country nationals with protection status or stateless persons with protection status who had to leave Ukraine due to the armed conflict as of 24.2.2022, as well as their family members (pursuant to § 2 of the Ordinance),
- Ukrainians who on 24.2.2022 had a valid residence title pursuant to Austrian law, which was not renewed or withdrawn due to failure to meet the conditions for issuance, and
- Ukrainians who were legally residing in Austria on 24 February 2022 and who, due to the armed conflict, cannot return to Ukraine or their country of residence after their visa-free or visa-required stay has expired.

All persons who are granted a temporary right of residence under the Displaced Persons Ordinance are issued an "ID card for displaced persons".

All persons with a valid ID card for displaced persons are to be supported in their labour market integration with needs-based support offers such as German courses, skills assessments and qualifications, and are also to be actively placed in vacant positions. Employment permits are issued - provided the general requirements are met - in all sectors. Employment permits are issued by the AMS both upon application by the employer and in the case of active placement.

Art. 14 of the above-mentioned Directive provides that persons under the age of 18 are allowed access to the education system. The following steps are currently taken in this context:

- For school attendance of children and adolescents of compulsory school age, only the registration at the respective district authority is a prerequisite.
- An information package on the Austrian education system for Ukrainian parents is being prepared. This will be available in the regional reception centres, online, and via special contact persons in the education directorates.
- Language integration in schools is planned via special German language classes for Ukrainian children.

The rapid recognition of Ukrainian university degrees by a specially established office and the rapid nostrification of necessary degrees for regulated professions via educational institutions are already being implemented.

Refugees from Ukraine seeking protection in Austria are legally included in the health insurance scheme (retroactively from February 24, 2022 by decree of the federal government). This includes receiving medical assistance, remedies and medical aids at the expense of ÖGK (Austrian health insurance)

Coordination of joint social partner or social partner and government actions

IV has set up a taskforce "Unsere Industrie hilft" (our industry helps) to coordinate a joint approach of the government and industry companies. In cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior and the Federal Procurement Agency, accommodation options to house emergency

shelters were provided by member companies. Donations and financial support have also been coordinated.

No joint social partner initiatives have been launched.

Company impact

Companies are looking for ways to employ refugees under the new regime of temporary protection. Skills matching seems to be an obstacle at this point.