

Austria (IV) (last updated December 2022)

Overall approach and state of play

By October 2022, around 85.000 Ukrainian refugees had arrived in Austria, more than 57.000 were registered for primary/basic care (Grundversorgung). However, those who already returned are not fully detected. A high proportion of those refugees are women and children – exact figures would have to be researched. An extensive study was conducted for the Ukrainian refugees arriving at Vienna between April and June 2022 (<https://www.ukraia.at/en/home>). Those results also served as a basis for a comparison study to refugees arriving in Krakow, Poland (<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2022/09/07/what-the-self-selection-of-ukrainian-refugees-means-for-support-in-host-countries/>)

From the beginning of the war, industry provided extensive aid and support for incoming refugees: The Austrian Federation of Industries e.g. started “Unsere Industrie hilft” (“Our industry helps”) to support donations, provide residential facilities and – where possible – employ refugees (<https://www.iv.at/unsere-industrie-hilft>).

In terms of labour market integration (also into the apprenticeship system), not so much experience was gained up to summer 2022 as many refugees showed the intention to return to Ukraine as soon as possible. Where information was gathered, the bureaucracy around employing Ukrainian refugees was considered as too complicated and too time consuming.

Coordination of joint social partner or social partner and government actions

IV is involved in the coordination of the integration of the Ukrainian refugees into the labour market as part of being involved in the AMS (Labour Market Service). The AMS has a multilingual homepage to integrate Ukrainian refugees: <https://www.ams.at/arbeitsuchende/arbeiten-in-oesterreich-und-der-eu/ukraine>

The Temporary Protection Directive is fully enacted in Austrian law and applies to Ukrainian refugees.

Company impact

It is possible that company initiatives exist beside the social partner initiatives, but there is no possibility of giving an extensive overview of those, because no information on that is collected.

The study conducted for the Ukrainian refugees arriving in Vienna between April and June 2022 mentioned above also includes data on skills levels (<https://www.ukraia.at/en/home>). There was an initiative with willing companies to ease the integration into the labour market: <https://www.jobs-for-ukraine.at/the-initiative/>