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18 MARCH 2022

Ukraine-Russia: Daily Visa and Immigration Update



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INTRODUCTION

As the military strife in Ukraine escalates, so too does the emerging immigration crisis for individuals fleeing the country and employers working to ensure the safety of employees and their families. Newland Chase will provide a daily briefing that covers the following topics:

- Any pertinent major updates and possible upcoming trends.
- Overview of visa and immigration options for Ukrainian citizens and residents exiting the country – this will include individual country immigration concessions for refugees and updates on the possibility of remote work (where known/announced).
- Overview of visa and immigration changes for Russian citizens.

Of course, the situation in Ukraine and throughout the region remains unpredictable and is constantly changing. Newland Chase teams throughout the world are closely tracking the crisis and organizing immigration strategies for affected clients, their employees, and their families. We also strongly recommend that multinational companies in Ukraine and throughout the region continue to monitor this page for updates, as well as official government websites and immigration alerts from reputable sources.

The safety and wellbeing of employees and their families remains the primary focus for Newland Chase and all those involved in coordinating departures from Ukraine and further travel into other countries. We continue to send our thoughts to all those affected by this crisis and hope that you, your loved ones, and your work teams remain safe.

Disclaimer

We have aggregated information about some immigration-related changes announced by some countries in response to this situation. The information contained in this document has been abridged from laws and administrative rulings and should not be construed or relied upon as legal advice.

DAILY BRIEFING

18 March 2022

The European Commission (EC) issued new Operational Guidelines for the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC), which are aimed at both supporting the Member States in implementing the Directive and helping “those arriving to have a consistent and effective level of rights...” Please see Newland Chase’s full [Client Alert](#) on this topic for further details. In addition, kindly note that the EC’s announcement can be found [here](#) and the full guidelines are available for download [here](#).

Reflecting on the week, the worldwide mobilization to open borders, labor markets, schools, and housing to Ukrainian refugees has been unprecedented to say the least. This week especially focused on how quickly many countries are developing refugee plans and protocols, repurposing government offices and personnel to assist the wave of migrants, and enacting new immigration options for the more than 3.2 million individuals who have fled Ukraine.

Russian citizens and residents wishing to depart Russia and relocate abroad – and companies looking to relocate their Russia-based employees – are still faced with challenging travel, visa, and foreign residency options. It is anticipated that these conditions will continue and possibly worsen in the foreseeable future. Newland Chase continues to work closely with our clients to develop immigration strategies and advise on the current situation on the ground and throughout the world for these individuals.

17 March 2022

A few notable updates were announced today:

- Martial law in Ukraine will be extended until at least 25 April 2022, which presumably extends the ban on Ukrainian males between 18- and 60-years-old from departing the country until at least that date.
- Another quiet day from an EU standpoint with procedural updates from a few Member States.
- As anticipated, Canada announced the new Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) temporary residence pathway for Ukrainian refugees. CUAET permits will be issued valid for up to three (3) years.
- Polish authorities are urgently considering an amendment to allow all eligible individuals to apply for Special Act protection regardless of what border they crossed to enter Poland.

16 March 2022

It was a quiet day from an immigration perspective with only small procedural updates from a handful of EU countries. These updates were primarily procedural adjustments as EU Member States continue to expand their infrastructure and personnel to best serve the now 3 million refugees who have fled Ukraine.

15 March 2022

A myriad of political, economic, and social elements were announced today: from the UN now estimating that 3 million refugees have now fled Ukraine, to the European Commission agreeing to a fourth package of restrictions against Russia, to further immigration concessions being announced and implemented for Ukrainian refugees around the world.

As the world focuses on refugees departing Ukraine and beginning to travel throughout Europe, uncertainty for Russian citizens and foreign residents in Russia continues to grow. These individuals remain in more of a gray area in terms of travel and immigration – while not subject to many outright visa and permit bans from other nations at this time, traditional processing times for work and residence authorizations in many

countries can still be lengthy even in ideal circumstances. Coupled with significant obstacles to departing Russia, immigration options for these individuals remains challenging.

Newland Chase continues to monitor the situation for all those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and will provide updates as they are made official by authorities worldwide.

14 March 2022

Over the weekend, the UN confirmed that 2.8 million refugees have now fled Ukraine, with over 1.7 million individuals entering Poland alone. As neighboring countries continue to accept the mass exodus from Ukraine, we are beginning to see movement begin to spread into other EU nations as the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) measures are adopted and implemented.

In somewhat related news, EU leaders have stated they will not fast-track Ukraine's application for membership; however, they will back the application along the traditional timelines and requirements. This decision won't have immediate impact on Ukrainians fleeing the country as the TPD provisions provide a clear and streamlined immigration process at this time.

Finally, Newland Chase's webinar from 11 March on the Mobility and Immigration Impacts on the Ukraine-Russia crisis is available on-demand [here](#).

11 March 2022

As the week draws to a close, the same immigration trends seen over the past several days continue: EU Member States continue to announce adoption and implementation of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) and a few additional restrictions have been placed on Russian and Belarusian citizens wishing to apply for visas from certain countries.

To date, the following countries have implemented the EU TPD: Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland (not an EU country, but provisions are similar to TPD).

In addition, the following countries have confirmed their adoption of the TPD, but the practical implementation is still pending: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway (not an EU country, but provisions are similar to TPD), Poland (Special Act announced, but questions remain on whether it fulfils the provisions of the TPD), and Romania.

Finally, Newland Chase hosted a second live webinar on the Mobility and Immigration Impacts on the Ukraine-Russia crisis. This will be available on our website for on-demand viewing shortly and we will post a link to the resource as soon as its available. In the meantime, readers can access the first part of this series [here](#).

10 March 2022

Overall, today has been quiet in terms of immigration updates stemming from the crisis in Ukraine. EU Member States continue to announce adoption and implementation of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) on a daily basis. Please see below for full updates and links to relevant government announcements/resources.

In addition, it becomes increasingly difficult for both foreign nationals and Russian citizens to depart Russia. It is extremely difficult to book international flights at this time and land border crossings are on the rise.

Newland Chase continues to think of all those affected by this situation and we remain in close communication with clients, government authorities, and our teams throughout the region.

9 March 2022

Many EU Member States have announced their adoption of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) and more Member States are beginning to publish application or registration requirements and procedures. Newland Chase continues to monitor the situation very closely and will continue to update this blog on a daily basis with further announcements.

8 March 2022

No significant news updates today as the number of refugees fleeing Ukraine exceeded two million people. Newland Chase continues to see more EU countries announce initial information on their adoption of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). Details remain scarce in most instances, however, as countries work to establish application procedures, requirements, and protocols.

7 March 2022

The number of refugees fleeing Ukraine has now exceed 1.5 million according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

A few notable announcements and updates were made over the weekend:

- The U.S. State Department issued a new travel advisory for Russia that includes notice for U.S. citizens currently residing or traveling in Russia to depart immediately. U.S. citizens are also discouraged from traveling to Russia at this time.
- Several EU Member States have begun to adopt the provisions of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). In many cases, although the Directive has been adopted, many of the practical elements of implementation (including application instructions, processing time, document requirements, etc.) are still pending from national authorities. These are anticipated to be announced in the upcoming days
- The European Commission also published operational guidelines to help national border officers more efficiently handle the significant numbers of refugees. Please see full text of the guidance [here](#).

4 March 2022

In a unanimous vote yesterday, the European Union (EU) ministers agreed to implement the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) to provide Ukrainians refugees with a unified immigration option throughout the EU. Please see Newland Chase's full [Client Alert](#) on this topic for further details.

In addition, as reported yesterday, negotiations between Ukraine and Russia have resulted in a tentative agreement to established humanitarian corridors to safely allow the exit of civilians and the delivery of humanitarian aid items. Coordination of these corridors is ongoing and not guaranteed to proceed as initially indicated.

3 March 2022 – UPDATE

Sources have confirmed that the European Commission (EC) has voted unanimously in favor of adopting the Temporary Protection Directive (2001/55/EC) to provide Ukrainians refugees with a unified immigration option throughout the European Union (EU).

Exact details have yet to be confirmed – including implementation timeframes, possible application process steps, requirements, and exact permissions for these refugees – but are expected from the EC shortly. Newland Chase will provide a full update once the authorities have announced next steps and further details of the Directive's framework.

Combined with the possible news that Ukraine and Russia have tentatively agreed to open safe, humanitarian corridors for fleeing civilians (more details on this as well once they have been officially announced), these

developments have been met with relief from refugees and companies with employees throughout the region.

3 March 2022

Amid UN news that the number of Ukrainian refugees fleeing the country has topped one million people, all eyes are on whether the European Commission (EC) will adopt the proposed Temporary Protection Directive. If implemented, the Directive is anticipated to provide work, residence, and study permissions (as well as access to social welfare programs and medical treatment) for Ukrainian citizen refugees throughout the European Union (EU). The EC met to discuss the directive today, but, at the time of this writing, no announcement has been made on the outcome of those talks.

Note that the details of this Directive including any application procedures/requirements will not be known until confirmed by the European authorities. However, the following general information was included in the proposal (official text available [here](#) and [here](#)):

Under this proposal, Ukrainian nationals and people who have made Ukraine their home as well as their family members displaced by the conflict will be entitled to protection across the European Union. Non-Ukrainian nationals and stateless people legally residing in Ukraine who cannot return to their country or region of origin, such as asylum seekers or beneficiaries of international protection and their family members, will also be granted protection in the EU. Others who are legally present in Ukraine for a short-term and are able to return safely to their country of origins will fall outside the scope of this protection. Nevertheless, should be allowed access to the EU to transit prior to returning to their countries of origin.

Newland Chase continues to monitor communications from the EC closely and will provide an update as soon as it is made available.

2 March 2022

A quieter day for announced immigration changes for Ukrainian refugees and Russian citizens throughout the world. Several new announcements have been made by authorities around the world (updates below) and two general updates from the European Union:

- The European Council will meet tomorrow, 3 March 2022, to discuss whether the European Union (EU) will adopt the Temporary Protection Directive. If adopted, the Directive will come into force immediately.
- In a non-binding agreement, the European Parliament has voted to advance Ukraine's application for membership into the EU. However, the process to obtain membership is arduous and lengthy. It remains to be seen whether the EU will fast-track any elements of the Ukraine's application based on the urgency of the situation.

Finally, Newland Chase would like to highlight a correction to our blog from yesterday, 1 March 2022. The European Union has suspended *the facilitation of the issuance of* short-stay visas for Russian business travelers, as well as Russian government officials and diplomatic passport holders. Applicable Russian citizens can still apply for visas into the EU; however, the streamlined processing agreements have been temporarily suspended and processing times are anticipated to be delayed. Full text of the suspension can be found [here](#). This has been updated below and we apologize for any confusion that may have resulted from yesterday's wording.

1 March 2022

More than 600,000 Ukrainian citizens and residents have fled the country according to the UN Refugee Agency, and it is anticipated that upwards of 4 million people may depart the country as Russia continues its military action in the Eastern European country.

As additional countries announce new concessions for Ukrainian refugees alongside halts in visa processing for Russian citizens, the European Commission moves closer to implementing a little-known provision called the Temporary Protection Directive. If adopted, the directive would not only provide uniform travel and immigration options for Ukrainian refugees throughout the Union, but also grant these individuals options for long-term residence, work authorization, study permissions, access to medical treatment, social welfare, etc.

The temporary protection is granted for an initial year and can be renewed for two additional six-month periods. After the first two years, another year can be granted if the situation that triggered the displacements is still ongoing.

Ylva Johansson, the European Commissioner for Home Affairs, was recently quoted saying, “Most of Ukrainians coming now, they are coming with passports that give them visa free entry for 90 days. But we have to prepare for day 91.” Discussions about implementing this directive continue this week and a vote could be held as early as Thursday, 3 March.

Finally, it is also worth noting that Ukraine has applied for emergency membership into the European Union. It remains unknown whether the application will be approved.

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IMMIGRATION OPTIONS FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

Exit From and Entrance Into Ukraine

The following should be noted for individuals exiting Ukraine:

- Entry into Ukraine, except for government-approved purposes, has been suspended due to military emergency and martial law announced on February 25.
 - Airspace over Ukraine remains closed and all airports are closed for commercial flights.
 - Land borders with Belarus remain closed in both directions.
 - Land borders into Poland, Hungary (West), Moldova, Romania (South-West), and Slovakia remain open.
 - Male Ukrainian citizens aged 18-60 are still barred from exiting the country due to military mobilization. With the extension of martial law until at least 25 April 2022, it is presumed that this ban will remain in place until at least this date. Ukrainian women, children, and males outside of the stated age ranges, and third-country national residents of Ukraine are permitted to depart.
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Requirements to Cross Land Borders with Neighboring Countries

Exit is currently possible via the following land borders.

[Hungary](#)

[Poland](#)

[Slovakia](#)

[Moldova](#)

[Romania](#)

All of these countries have suspended any visa requirements for refugees.

Hungary

TPD Status: *Adopted, Pending Implementation*

Hungary will allow individuals fleeing from Ukraine to enter without a biometric passport and may apply for temporary refuge or asylum status. However, if possible and available, it is recommended to carry a biometric passport to ease the border crossing. It is strongly recommended to travel with the birth certificates of minor-aged children, if possible.

In addition, Hungary will provide temporary protection to Ukrainian citizen refugees. Full details [here](#).

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Moldova

Moldova will allow individuals fleeing from Ukraine to enter without a biometric passport and may apply for temporary refuge or asylum status. However, if possible and available, it is recommended to carry a biometric passport to ease the border crossing. It is strongly recommended to travel with the birth certificates of minor-aged children, if possible.

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Poland

TPD Status: *Announced, Implementation Pending*

Poland still remains the primary destination for many individuals departing Ukraine. Polish authorities will allow individuals fleeing from Ukraine to enter without an international passport and without a negative COVID-19 test.

On 12 March 2022, Poland signed a special act into law that covers assistance for Ukrainian refugees. Key details of this law include:

- Right to stay in Poland for Ukrainian citizens who entered the country as a result of the crisis for a period until 23 August 2023 *without completing additional formalities*. This only covers individuals who entered Poland directly from Ukraine (note that the Polish authorities are urgently considering an amendment to allow all eligible individuals to apply for Special Act protection regardless of what border they crossed to enter Poland).
- Ukrainian citizens legally residing in Poland can work on the basis of a notification to a Local Labour Office within 14 days of starting work. This also applies to Ukrainians who entered Poland before 24 February.
- Requirement for Ukrainians who did not register with the Polish Border Guard at their entry to register at the Municipal Administration within 60 days of entry. These individuals will need to have their biometrics taken (fingerprints and photograph) and will receive a PESEL identification number from this registration. This process will open as of 16 March 2022.
- Extension of legal stay for Ukrainian citizens who were already legally in Poland prior to 24 February 2022 and whose right to stay will expire on 24 February 2022 or later. The extension will be until 31 December 2022 or for 18 months, depending on the type of visa/permit the individual holds.

- All Ukrainian citizens legally residing in Poland will have the right to run businesses in Poland.
- Possibility to apply for a three-year Temporary Residence Permit under a streamlined process.
- Easier access to social benefits.
- Effective 16 March 2022, Ukrainian refugee can obtain PESEL numbers. To accommodate the nearly 2 million Ukrainian refugees currently in Poland as of this date, the Polish authorities are rapidly expanding the number of government employees available to help process these applications.

Note that only a limited group of non-Ukrainian citizens will fall under this Special Act:

- Spouses of Ukrainian citizens
- Close family of Polish Card (*Karta Polaka*) holders – however, “close family” has yet to be defined.

Finally, after initial confusion about whether the Polish Special Act was the country’s adoption of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC), the Polish authorities confirmed the following:

- It is assumed that the individuals who will benefit from the Special Act and the EU TPD are the same.
- Individuals who qualify for EU TPD protection, but not Special Act protection will be allowed to work and reside in Poland for 12 months.
- Individuals who qualify for EU TPD protection, but not Special Act protection will be able to obtain a statement confirming their TPD status but will not be issued with a Polish ID card.

Polish authorities continue to update their official website covering Ukrainian entrance into their country. Please continue to check [here](#) for the latest official updates.

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Romania

TPD Status: *Announced, Pending Implementation*

Romania will allow individuals fleeing from Ukraine to enter without a biometric passport and may apply for temporary refuge or asylum status. However, if possible and available, it is recommended to carry a biometric passport to ease the border crossing. It is strongly recommended to travel with the birth certificates of minor-aged children, if possible.

In addition, Romania has suspended COVID-19 entrance requirements for Ukrainian refugees.

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Slovakia

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Slovakia has announced and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens and their family members, if their family lived in Ukraine before 24 February 2022. Eligible family members are:
 - Spouse of Ukrainian citizen
 - Minor-aged child of Ukrainian citizen or minor-aged child of the spouse of a Ukrainian citizen
 - Parent of a minor-aged child who is a Ukrainian citizen

- Another close relative of a Ukrainian citizen who lived in the same household as them at the time of crisis and who was wholly or partially dependent on the Ukrainian citizen.
- Third-country citizens who have international or national protection granted by Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and their family members. Eligible family members are:
 - Spouse of protected individual
 - Minor-aged child of protected individual or minor-aged child of the spouse of the protected individual
 - Another close relative of a protected individual who lived in the same household as them at the time of crisis and who was wholly or partially dependent on the Ukrainian citizen.
- Ukrainian Permanent Residents status holders whose status was granted prior to 24 February 2022 and who cannot return to their country or region of origin under safe and stable conditions.

Applications for Temporary Refuge are submitted to the Foreign Police either at the border when the individual enters Slovakia or within 90 days of arrival. Full details can be found [here](#). Furthermore, Slovakia has introduced an online Temporary Refuge Registration form that will help speed up in-person processes at the Foreign Police. Registration page can be found [here](#) and full announcement available [here](#).

If the applicant can prove their identity with a passport or ID card, Temporary Refuge Status will be immediately approved. If the applicant cannot provide acceptable proof of identification, their application will be decided within 30 days. All individuals will receive “accommodation, food, urgent medical care and hygiene needs immediately.” Once approved, the holder will be allowed to work in Slovakia and will not be required to obtain a work permit. Further details can be found [here](#).

Finally, it is important to note that Slovakia has cancelled all appointments at the Foreign Police as of 1 March 2022 and will only serve foreign nationals entering the country from Ukraine and their family members until further notice. In addition, the country will introduce new renewal regulations allowing non-Ukrainian foreign nationals needing to renew their Slovakian residence permits, but who are unable to complete this process due to the department closure, to receive an automatic status extension.

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Global Immigration Concessions for Ukrainian Refugees

The following countries have officially announced immigration concessions for Ukrainian refugees:

Australia	Denmark	Ireland	New Zealand	Switzerland
Austria	Estonia	Italy	Norway	Taiwan
Belgium	Finland	Japan	Portugal	United Kingdom
Brazil	France	Latvia	Romania	United States
Bulgaria	Germany	Lithuania	Slovenia	United Arab Emirates*
Canada	Greece	Luxembourg	South Korea	
Croatia	Hungary	Malta	Spain	
Czech Republic	Iceland	Netherlands	Sweden	

Australia

Australia will prioritize and fast-track visa applications for Ukrainian citizens across all visa categories and will allow close family members to apply on behalf of their family members in Ukraine. In addition, Ukrainian nationals already in Australia who hold a visa expiring before 30 June 2022 will be granted an automatic visa extension for six (6) months.

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Austria

TPD Status: *Announced, Implementation Pending*

Austria has announced adoption of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). This will be applicable to the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens who were already in Austria before 14 February 2022 – and family members (spouses, minor aged children, close relatives in the same household).
- Third-country nationals with international protection in Ukraine – and family members.

For those third-country nationals who cannot safely return to their home country, but who were not under a protected status in Ukraine, will be able to apply for international protection in Austria via the traditional asylum procedure.

Temporary Protection holders will have work and residence authorization and access to education and medical care. The status will be issued valid until 3 March 2023 and renewable if the situation in Ukraine continues.

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Belgium

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Belgium has announced and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) effective 7 March 2022. Individuals seeking Temporary Protection Status can apply in-person at the [Registration Center](#) in Brussels. If the individual meets the requisite conditions, they will be issued a Temporary Protection Certificate and will be able to convert this into an A Card valid until 4 March 2023.

The Belgian authorities have requested that individuals who are eligible for the Temporary Protection Status, but who already have shelter/living accommodations in Belgium allow those without shelter to register first. Ukrainian citizens can stay in Belgium for up to three (3) months on their passport alone. This will give those who do not have shelter in Belgium the opportunity to utilize residential assistance as soon as possible and allow the Belgian authorities time to increase their capacity to process these applications.

More details on this status and other immigration options for Ukrainian refugees can be found [here](#).

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Brazil

Brazil has announced a Humanitarian Visa for Ukrainian citizens and stateless persons affected by the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. Applicants will need to obtain a Temporary Visa for Humanitarian Reception, which will be issued with a six (6) month validity in order to allow the holder to enter Brazil. Upon entry, the holder will have

90 days to apply for temporary residence status, which will be granted with a two (2) year validity and provide both work and residence authorization. The visa scheme will be open for new applications until 31 August 2022, but may be subject to further extension by the Brazilian authorities. Full text of official announcement can be found [here](#) (in Portuguese language only).

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Bulgaria

TPD Status: *Announced, Implementation Pending*

Bulgaria has announced their intention to implement provisions laid out in the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). Authorities have advised that the document will be called “Registration card of a foreigner who has been granted temporary protection” and is anticipated to be valid for one (1) year. Application details are expected in the upcoming days.

Ukrainian refugees already in Bulgaria are advised to wait until the applications details of the temporary protection status are announced to seek longer-term status in the country.

In addition, Bulgaria has established a [Single Information Portal](#) for all government announcements on the crisis in Ukraine.

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Canada

Effective 17 March 2022, Canada’s Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) announced the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) temporary residence pathway for Ukrainian refugees. CUAET temporary residence permits will be valid for up to three (3) years and holders will be allowed to work and reside in Canada and minor-aged children will be able to attend school. Note that applicants who wish to work in Canada will need to file a 3-year open work permit application alongside their visitor visa application.

Applicants who are overseas must apply online for a Canadian visitor visa and provide their biometrics. Applicants who are already in Canada may extend their visitor status or work permit for 3 years, apply for a new work or student permit, or extend their existing permit. Applications will be free of charge.

The full announcement of the CUAET can be found [here](#). More general information about how Canada is supporting Ukrainian refugees can be found [here](#).

Canada will continue to prioritize immigration applications filed by Ukrainian residents. Ukrainian citizens currently in Canada can apply to extend their visa, student, or work status.

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Croatia

TPD Status: *Announced, Implementation Pending*

Croatia has announced their intention to implement provisions laid out in the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). Application details are expected in the upcoming days; however, the country has confirmed the country will grant temporary protection to the following categories of displaced persons:

- Citizens of Ukraine and members of their families who departed on or after 24 February 2022,

- Stateless persons and nationals of other third countries who have enjoyed international or equivalent national protection in Ukraine and members of their families who have been granted residence in Ukraine by 24 February 2022,
- Citizens of other third countries who had a valid permanent residence in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 in accordance with Ukrainian regulations and who cannot return to their country or region of origin in safe and permanent conditions.

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The Czech Republic

TPD Status: *Implemented*

The Czech Republic has implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (2001/55/EC). Special Long-Term visas applications for Ukrainian citizens can be filed in-person at the Ministry of the Interior. Full details [here](#).

In addition, effective 9 March 2022, the Czech Ministry of the Interior will extend the deadline for Ukrainian refugees to register with the Czech authorities from the current three (3) days to a 30 day period. The impetus behind this extended deadline was to both allow refugees more time and flexibility once they arrive in the Czech Republic and to give the Czech regional assistance centers relief from the influx of applications.

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Denmark

TPD Status: *N/A – Denmark is not bound by the TPD and technically will not implement it into national legislation. However, the Special Act that was adopted on 16 March 2022 and came into force on 17 March 2022 is very similar to the provisions of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC).*

The Danish Parliament is adopted the Special Act on displaced persons from Ukraine on 16 March 2022 and the law came into force on 17 March 2022. The following individuals will be covered under this law:

- Are a Ukrainian citizen and have left Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or later, where they have resided when they departed,
- Were a recognized refugee in Ukraine as of 24 February 2022 and left Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or later, or
- Are a Ukrainian citizen or on 24 February 2022 were recognized as a refugee in Ukraine have resided or have had another residence permit in Denmark on 24 February 2022, or
- Are a closer family member of a person who have been granted a residence permit under the above mentioned categories. Close family members are:
 - Cohabiting spouse
 - Cohabiting partner
 - Unmarried child under the age of 18
 - Another close family member who has resided with, and supported by, the person.

Eligible applicants can begin applying for the Residence Permit under the Special Act on Displaced Persons from Ukraine. Denmark will have two different application routes:

- **Special Act Section 1 (SL1)** – for individuals applying as a Ukrainian or recognized refugee from Ukraine who is in Denmark

- **Special Act Section 2 (SL2)** – for individuals applying as a family member of a Ukrainian or family member of a recognized refugee from Ukraine who is in Denmark.

Applicants in Denmark must submit their applications and biometric data at an in-person appointment at the Immigration Service’s Citizen Service. Appointments can be booked [here](#).

Full details of the proposed immigration route and current application details can be found [here](#).

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Estonia

TPD Status: Implemented

- The country will begin offering temporary protection for Ukrainian refugees beginning 10 March 2022. Decisions will be made immediately and a personal identification code will also be issued on the spot. Applicants will then be informed of when they can collect their residence permits (may take up to 30 days). This temporary protection status will be valid for one (1) year and will provide a holder with the rights “for accommodation and food, medical services, work, benefits and allowances, social services, education, language training and settlement programme.” Estonia has confirmed that this status will be available for “Ukrainians who lived in Ukraine prior to 24 February 2022.”

Appointments with the Police and Border Guard can be made [here](#).

- They will automatically provide temporary extension of Estonian residence permits for Ukrainian citizens whose current Estonian residence permit will expire shortly. This includes Ukrainian citizens who obtained short-term employment in Estonia prior to 24 February 2022. These individuals will now be allowed to continue residing and working in Estonia until 31 May 2022 and, in the meantime, the Estonian authorities are working on amending the current laws to allow them to remain in Estonia on a longer-term basis.
- Estonia will not require Ukrainian citizens to present a biometric passport to enter.

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Finland

TPD Status: Implemented

Finland has implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens and their family members
- Beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine and their family members
- Other permanent residents of Ukraine who cannot return to their country of origin.
- Ukrainian citizens and their family members who fled Ukraine shortly before 24 February and cannot return home as a result of the conflict. The Commission has urged the Member States to be flexible with regard to these persons.
- Other Ukrainian citizens and their family members who are already living or have arrived in Finland.
- Third-country nationals who have resided legally (including on a short-term basis) in Ukraine and cannot return to their home countries. This group is mentioned as an optional group for Member States in the EU decision.

The requirement is that the person must have been resident in Ukraine and fled when Russia’s invasion began, i.e. on 24 February or thereafter.

Temporary Protection status will be granted for one (1) year until 4 March 2023. Renewal of the status is dependent on whether the EU extends the TPD.

Applications are submitted at the Finnish Police or Border Control Authority. When applying, the officer reviewing the applicant’s request will record the individual’s data and biometric information. Once approved, Temporary Protection holders will hold work, residence, and study permissions in Finland. Full details can be found [here](#).

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France

TPD Status: Implemented

Ukrainians may enter France without a visa if they hold a biometric passport. Ukrainians without a biometric passport should go to a French consulate in a country bordering Ukraine to have your identity verified in order to enter France.

In addition, France has implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC), which will be applicable to the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizen who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 – and their family members (eligible family members are: spouse, unmarried minor children, and dependent parents).
- Third-country citizen who benefited from international or national protection status granted by the Ukrainian authorities – and their family members (see above definition of “family members”).
- Third-country citizens who are Permanent Residents of Ukraine and unable to return to their country of origin.

Applicants can file their request for temporary protection at the Préfecture for their place of residence in France. Applications must be made in-person by all applicants and the applicants will be asked to provide documentation justifying their situation and proving their identity. If approved, individuals will be issued a Temporary Residence Permit and referred to the French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII).

Temporary protection holders will receive the following rights:

- Residence authorization – valid for an initial six (6) months;
- Work authorization – subject to obtaining a work permit. Note that details of this are still pending from the French authorities.
- Access to medical care;
- Access to school for minor aged children;
- Payment of asylum seeker’s allowance; and
- Housing assistance.

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Germany

TPD Status: Implemented

Germany has implemented the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) as of 4 March 2022 and have begun accepting applications at the “responsible foreigners authority” in Germany; however, details of the application process, requirements, and processing times remain scarce. Newland Chase will provide further details as soon as they are made available; however, readers can reference the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community FAQ page [here](#).

Note that Germany considers the following categories of individuals eligible for a Residence Permit for Temporary Protection:

- Ukrainian citizens and their family members.
- Non-Ukrainian nationals and stateless people who hold national or international protection status in Ukraine and their family members.
- Non-Ukrainian nationals and stateless people legally residing in Ukraine who cannot return to their country of origin.

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Greece

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Greece’s Asylum Service of the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum will provide Ukrainian citizens with a one (1) year temporary protection status. This status will be granted within 90 days of entering Greece. This temporary protection status will be issued in accordance with the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) and provide work and residence authorizations, among other permissions.

It is anticipated that Greek authorities will announce application details in the upcoming days.

In addition, Greece will no longer require Ukrainian citizens to complete the COVID-19 related Passenger Locator Form (PLF).

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Hungary

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Hungary will provide temporary protection to Ukrainian citizen refugees. Full details [here](#).

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Iceland

Iceland has enacted a law to provide collective temporary protection to Ukrainian citizens that aligns with the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC).

Article 44 states that ‘A foreign national who is a member of a group which flees a specified region and arrives in Iceland, or is in Iceland when the provisions of the article are applied, may upon application for international protection be granted protection on the basis of a group assessment’, i.e. collective protection. This means that foreign nationals will be granted a residence permit on humanitarian grounds under Article 74 of the Foreign Nationals Act No 80/2016.

These Residence Permits will be issued for one (1) year with the possibility to renew or extend the permit for up to three (3) years in total. Currently, holders will receive conditional access to the Icelandic labor market (employer still required to apply for a work permit for the individual); however, a bill is currently being proposed to amend the law to allow for full work authorization for these individuals.

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Ireland

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Ireland has adopted and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). When eligible individuals (see full list [here](#)) arrive in Ireland via Dublin Airport, they will be brought to a designated area in the airport to be processed for Temporary Protection status. Once approved, the individuals will be granted a permission letter by the Department of Justice confirming their status and legal residence of an initial one (1) year. Additional instructions with next steps and getting settled into Ireland will be contained within that letter.

In addition, Ireland has temporarily lifted all visa requirements between Ukraine and Ireland. Individuals who are considering leaving Ukraine and traveling to Ireland may for the coming period do so without a visa if they judge it safe to travel. Those who travel to Ireland without a visa during this period will then have 90 days after arrival to regularize their status.

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Italy

TPD Status: *Adopted, Implementation Pending*

Italian authorities have confirmed that Ukrainian refugees who wish to stay in Italy for more than 90 days should contact the local Police Headquarters (Questura) – Immigration Office to obtain specific instructions on how to request Temporary Protection Status.

Note that Ukrainian refugees will still be subject to Italy's COVID-19 entry protocols and requirements until 31 March 2022.

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Japan

Japan has announced they will accept Ukrainian refugees. Details of the program will be announced in the upcoming days.

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Latvia

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Latvia has confirmed that Ukrainian citizen refugees will be able to obtain a long-term visa that provides work and residence authorization. Holding a Ukrainian biometric passport will be beneficial to visa processing, but is not required. Some key details of the program include:

- Visa will be valid for one (1) year and provide work and residence authorization.

- There is no fee to register/apply for this visa.
- Ukrainian citizens who do not have the proper documentation will be allowed to obtain a visa, but may be asked to provide the documentation within the year. Expired travel documents issued in Ukraine are considered valid in Latvia until 28 February 2023.
- The employment of Ukrainian citizen refugees will not require the registration of an employer vacancy with the Latvian State Employment Agency and will not be subject to minimum salary requirements. Employers may be eligible to receive a grant.

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Lithuania

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Lithuania has adopted and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens and their family members who left Ukraine due to the crisis with Russia – this applies both to Ukrainians who left shortly before and after 24 February 2022.
- Third-country nationals and stateless individuals with international or national protected status from Ukraine and their family members.
- Non-Ukrainian citizens who were legally resident in Ukraine but who cannot return safely to their country of origin.

Lithuania has announced that Ukrainian citizen refugees will register at the registration centers located in Alytus, Marijampolė, Klaipėda, Kaunas, Šiauliai, and Vilnius. After registration, eligible applicants will be able to apply for a temporary residence permit and national visa for long-term stay in Lithuania for one (1) year.

If possible, Temporary Residence Permit applicants are requested to complete the Residence Permit application form online [here](#).

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Luxembourg

TPD Status: *Adopted, Implementation Pending*

Luxembourg has announced that all Ukrainian refugees arriving in Luxembourg report to the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs by emailing a registration form to immigration.desk@mae.etat.lu. The form is available in French, English, Ukrainian, and Russian [here](#).

Once the form has been emailed, the authorities in Luxembourg will be able to contact the individual with more instructions on how to apply for Temporary Protection status, which will include an in-person interview and submission of identity documentation.

The following individuals are eligible for Temporary Protection Status:

- Ukrainian nationals residing in Ukraine before February 24, 2022;
- Stateless persons, and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who received international protection or equivalent national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;

- The family members of the persons referred to in points 1. and 2., regardless of the nationality of the family members.
 - The following are considered as family members insofar as the family was already present and resided in Ukraine before February 24, 2022: a person's spouse; unmarried minor children of a person referred to in points 1. or 2., or of his or her spouse, whether legitimate, born out of wedlock or adopted; other close relatives who lived within the family unit at the time of the circumstances surrounding the mass influx of displaced persons and who were then wholly or mainly dependent on a person referred to in points 1. or 2.
- Stateless persons and nationals of third countries other than Ukraine, who can establish that they were legally staying in Ukraine before February 24, 2022 on the basis of a valid residence permit issued in accordance with Ukrainian law, and who are unable to return to their country or region of origin in safe and sustainable conditions.

Note that Luxembourg will allow individuals who fled Ukraine shortly before 24 February 2022 or were in the country for other reasons (including those who were in Luxembourg for business and/or tourism) who, as a result of the crisis, are unable to return to Ukraine to apply for Temporary Protection Status.

Temporary Protection Status will be valid for one (1) year from the activation date of the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) – i.e. until 4 March 2023. Renewal will be subject to renewal of EU Directive.

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Malta

TPD Status: Implemented

Malta has adopted and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- Third-country and stateless persons who held international or national protection in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;
- The following family members of the above two points if the family was already present and residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:
 - Spouse or unmarried partner in a stable relationship
 - Minor unmarried child(ren) of the above individuals or a spouse of the above individuals
 - Other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the time of the mass exodus of displaced people from Ukraine and who were wholly or mainly dependent on an individual referred to above.
- Permanent Residents of Ukraine who were resident in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and who are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to their country or region of origin.

Applications for Temporary Protection Status can be submitted to Malta's International Protection Agency (IPA). Temporary Protection Status holders will be issued with a permit valid until 4 March 2023. Renewal will be contingent on whether the EU extends the TPD.

Full details of the TPD in Malta can be found [here](#).

The Netherlands

TPD Status: Adopted, Implementation Pending

- Authorities have approved the provisions laid out in the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC). Application details are expected in the upcoming days.
- Relaxed visa and residence procedures for Ukrainian citizens allowing for a more streamlined short-stay entry and renewal process. Furthermore, the Dutch authorities has confirmed they will be lenient in assessing renewal applications for Ukrainian citizens and will not impose negative consequences in the case of any overstay or incomplete renewal application. The IND has not confirmed how long this concession will be in place. Full details can be found on the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) website [here](#) and [here](#).
- The IND will not take decisions on asylum applications by Ukrainian citizens for the next six (6) months. This means Ukrainian asylum applicants “do not run the risk of having to return to their home country after a negative decision, and they maintain their right to reception during the process.” Full text of the announcement [here](#).

New Zealand

New Zealand has announced the following concessions for Ukrainian citizens:

- Introduction of a new 2022 Special Ukraine Visa route will allow New Zealand citizens and residents who were born in Ukraine or are Ukrainian citizens to sponsor their parents, grandparents, adult siblings, adult children, and their immediate family. Approved individuals will be granted a two-year visa with work rights and study rights for those under 18-years-old. This policy will open on 15 March 2022 and will be available for one (1) year. Full details can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- Ukrainian nationals in New Zealand whose visa is set to expire before the end of 2022 can lawfully remain in New Zealand for a further 12 months.
- Ukrainian citizens who are currently outside of New Zealand, but who hold a New Zealand visa, will be allowed to enter the country without waiting for the borders to re-open as long as they meet the COVID-19 health requirements to travel.

If the crisis in Ukraine continues, further concessions from the New Zealand authorities are expected in the upcoming weeks.

Norway

Norway has enacted a law to provide collective temporary protection to Ukrainian citizens. Residence Permits granted under this status will be issued for one (1) year and will confer work and residence rights among other benefits.

Norway has also announced additional registration locations for arriving Ukrainian refugees. A full list of the additional planned resources and registration centers (opening on 16 March 2022) can be found [here](#).

Portugal

TPD Status: Implemented

Portugal has published the procedure to obtain Temporary Protection Status, which will be applicable to the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens and their relatives who cannot return to their country due to the crisis.
- Citizens of other nationalities who are relatives, relations, spouses or unmarried partners of citizens of Ukrainian nationality who are also unable to return to Ukraine for the same reason.
- Any third-country nationals or stateless persons and their family members enjoying international protection in Ukraine.
- Any third country national or stateless person, residing in Ukraine, who is unable to return to his or her country of origin.

Status can be applied for online ([here](#) for individuals over 18-years-old) or in-person (required if any minor-aged children will apply) at the National Centers for Support to Migrant Integration (CNAIM) offices. Holders will receive:

- Residence Permit
- Tax Identification Number (NIF)
- Social Security Identification Number (NISS)
- National Health Service (SNS) user number

Status will be granted for one (1) year. Full details can be found [here](#).

In addition, the Portuguese has launched a new online platform to streamline all government information for Ukrainian refugees, which can be accessed [here](#).

Romania

TPD Status: Implemented

Romania has approved the provisions laid out in the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals:

- Ukrainian citizens who were resident in Ukraine on or before 24 February 2022.

With this enactment, Ukrainian citizen refugees will have two immigration options to settle in Romania:

- **Direct Employment** – without needing to obtain a visa and work permit. Work authorization in this case will be limited to 9 months with the possibility to renew (renewal procedures and details still pending);
or
- **Temporary Protection Status** – with right to work and reside in Romania capped at two (2) years.

Under both of these options, Ukrainian citizens can begin working in Romania and labor contracts can be established with Romanian employers. Once that labor contract is in place, the Ukrainian citizen should apply for a residence permit.

Further details of Romania's TPD law and procedures are expected from authorities in the upcoming days.

At this time, non-Ukrainian family members of Ukrainian citizens are not eligible for TPD allowances in Romania; however, the Romanian authorities are working to expand the law to include these individuals. Further announcements are expected in the upcoming days.

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Slovenia

TPD Status: *Implemented*

Effective 10 March 2022, Slovenia has implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following individuals who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022:

- Citizens of Ukraine,
- Stateless persons and third-country nationals who are not citizens of Ukraine and who were granted international protection or other equivalent national protection in Ukraine,
- Family members of the persons referred to in the first and second bullet points above,
- Stateless persons and third-country nationals who are not citizens of Ukraine and who resided in Ukraine on the basis of a valid permanent residence permit and who are unable to return to their country or region of origin in a safe and sustainable or lasting manner.

Upon entry into Slovenia, eligible individuals will declare they intend to apply for Temporary Protection and fill out an application form at the border. This form must be submitted to the police alongside their documentation. Once approved, the applicant will receive a Temporary Residence Permit card issued from the Slovenian Administrative Unit. Temporary Protection Status will be valid for as long as the temporary protection remains.

Temporary Protection status holders will receive the following rights:

- Accommodation and meals in accommodation centres or financial assistance for private accommodation,
- Healthcare,
- Work,
- Education,
- Financial assistance or pocket money,
- Family reunification,
- Free legal assistance,
- Information on rights and obligations and assistance in exercising rights arising from Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons Act.

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South Korea

South Korea's Ministry of Justice has announced the following measures for Ukrainian citizens currently residing in South Korea on both short- and long-term visas:

- Individuals legally residing in South Korea who cannot extend their current South Korean visa – will be able to continue to stay and work in South Korea based on a temporary visa status adjustment.
- Individuals legally residing in South Korea who are able to extend their current South Korea visas – will be allowed to proceed with the renewal process.
- Individuals who have overstayed their legal status in South Korea – due to the current strife in Ukraine, the South Korean government will not deport these individuals while the situation continues.

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Spain

TPD Status: Implemented

Spain has adopted and implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) for the following categories of refugees:

- Ukrainian citizens who were residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- Ukrainian citizens who were staying in Spain before 24 February 2022 (including those who were in Spain for business and/or tourism) who, as a result of the crisis, are unable to return to Ukraine.
- Ukrainian citizens who were in an irregular immigration status in Spain before 24 February and who, as a result of the crisis, are unable to return to Ukraine.
- Third-country nationals or stateless persons who were legally residing in Ukraine on the basis of a valid legal residence permit (whether permanent or otherwise such as students) issued in accordance with Ukrainian law and cannot return to their country or region.
- The following family members of Ukrainian citizens residing in Ukraine or staying in Spain before 24 February 2022:
 - spouse or unmarried partner;
 - unmarried minor children or children of their spouse
 - other close relatives who were living together as part of the family unit at the time of the circumstances related to the mass influx of displaced persons and who were wholly or mainly dependent on them.

Applications will be processed within 24 hours of filing at designated offices of the Spanish Police and official reception centers. Applicant will be required to provide biometric data and present the following documents during the application process:

- Passport (ideally, with Spanish entry stamp or boarding passes) or other documentation necessary to prove identity and nationality.
- If available, documentation proving their address in Ukraine.
- Address for notifications, mobile phone number and e-mail address of each applicant.

Note that if the EU TPD is extended beyond its initial year, TPD status for Ukrainian refugees in Spain will be automatically extended for another year and, under exceptional circumstances, an additional year beyond that.

Sweden

TPD Status: Implemented

Sweden has implemented the EU Temporary Protection Directive (TPD) (2001/55/EC) into their national legislation. Upon arrival in Sweden, eligible refugees will identify themselves, register, have their biometrics taken, and can then apply for a Residence Permit in Accordance with the Mass Refugee Directive.

This status will provide work and residence authorization and the other permissions laid out in the TPD. Residence Permits for Temporary Protection will be granted valid until 4 March 2023. Full initial announcement can be found [here](#) and further information is available [here](#).

In addition, the Swedish Migration Agency has confirmed they will roll out a new online application system on 21 March 2022 for eligible refugees to apply for temporary protection status. Details of this system will be announced on 21 March.

Note that Sweden will consider the following individuals eligible for this Directive. All applicants must have entered the Schengen Area after 24 February 2022.

- Ukrainian citizens who were a resident of Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- Individuals holding protected or refugee status in Ukraine.
- Family members of the above two categories of people.

In addition, Sweden has temporarily halted deportations to Ukraine.

Switzerland

Switzerland will allow Ukrainian citizens to enter the country, even those who do not have possession of their passport.

As of 11 March 2022, Switzerland's Federal Council has unanimously approved the decision to provide Ukrainian refugees with Protection "S" status. S status "... makes it possible to grant collective protection to a specific group for the duration of a serious threat, particularly in the event of war. The right of residence in Switzerland is limited to one year but can be extended. The S status allows family reunification and corresponds to a large extent to the solution adopted by the Member States of the EU."

This new status will be available for the following individuals as of 12 March 2022:

- Ukrainian citizens seeking protection and their family members who resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022. Note that family members include married spouses, partners, minor children, and other close relatives whom they fully or partially supported at the time of being displaced from Ukraine.
- Third-country citizens and stateless persons and their family members who held national or international protection status in Ukraine before 24 February 2022. These individuals must be able to prove that they have a right to valid stay in Ukraine and cannot return to their country of origin in a safe and sustainable manner.

Note that S status will not be granted to persons who have already obtained a protection status in another EU Member State.

S status will confer the following rights:

- Holders will be able to exit and return to Switzerland without needing prior authorization.
- Work authorization to engage in paid work immediately upon S status application being approved, including self-employment. Quotas will not apply.
- Full access to schools.

Applications for S status must be made in-person at the Swiss Federal Asylum Center (FAC) in the following cities: Altstätten SG, Basel, Bern, Boudry, Chiasso, and Zürich. A full list of FACs and application details can be found [here](#).

Finally note that if, after five (5) years, the Federal Council has not been able to lift the provisional protection for these displaced persons, S status holders will be provided a B Residence Permit. This B Permit will be valid until the provisional protection has been lifted.

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Taiwan

Taiwan will allow Ukrainian visa holders already in Taiwan to extend their visas indefinitely as the strife continues.

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United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has announced the following immigration support for Ukrainian citizens:

- Increased visa processing capacity in strategic regional locations for Ukrainian refugees.
- Removal of English language requirements and salary thresholds for Ukrainian citizens to come to the UK to be with their family members.
- Concession allowing Ukrainian citizens with British family members to enter and stay temporarily for a 12 month period. Note that these applicants must not meet the other usual eligibility criteria and must also pass all security checks.
- Permission for Ukrainian citizens already in the UK to switch visa categories – free of charge – to a points-based immigration route or a family visa route.
- Extension of visas for Ukrainian temporary workers in eligible sectors until 31 December 2022.
- Waiver of most visa fees for Ukrainian citizens affected by the current strife.
- A two-phase Humanitarian Support Package has also been announced, which will provide a visa and entry pathway for Ukrainians with and without family members in the UK. More details can be found [here](#).

Note that the UK authorities are not planning on introducing visa waivers for Ukrainian citizens at this time, citing security concerns.

Please see the following Newland Chase full immigration alerts on the UK concessions:

- 17 March 2022: [‘Homes for Ukraine’ Scheme – Update](#)
- 16 March 2022: [Processing for Entry Clearance Applications](#)

- 14 March 2022: [‘Homes for Ukraine’ Scheme](#)
- 10 March 2022: [Eligible Ukrainians with Passports Can Apply for Digital Visas to Come to the UK](#)
- 4 March 2022: [Further Guidance on Ukraine Family Scheme Visa](#)
- 2 March 2022: [Relaxed Visa Rules for Ukrainian Nationals to Come to the UK via ‘Humanitarian Support Package’](#)
- 25 February 2022: [Visa Concessions for Ukrainians in the UK](#)
- 23 February 2022: [Visa Concession for Family Members of British Citizens in Ukraine](#)

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United States

- The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will designate Ukraine for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 18 months. Individuals eligible for TPS under this designation must have continuously resided in the United States since 1 March 2022. Sources anticipate that this designation is expected to benefit 75,100 Ukrainian citizens currently in the United States on a variety of visa categories. Full DHS statement can be found [here](#).
- Exemption to their COVID-19 vaccination requirements for certain travelers entering from Ukraine until at least 1 April 2022. Full details can be found [here](#).
- The State Department announced consular routing plans for Ukrainian citizens wishing to file U.S. visa applications, available [here](#).
- The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has published an overview of services available to individuals affected by extreme situations, including the crisis in Ukraine. Full overview can be found [here](#).

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United Arab Emirates*

On an opposite note, the **United Arab Emirates** suspended its visa-free regime for Ukrainian citizens beginning 1 March 2022. From this date, Ukrainian citizens will be required to obtain a visa prior to entering the UAE.

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Special Note on Remote Work from Abroad

Although the safety and wellbeing of employees has been the primary concern for employers in Ukraine, companies are looking into the possibility of remote work for their employees when they do exit the country. At this time, remote work has not been specifically addressed in most countries’ current concessions for Ukrainian citizens and third-country nationals fleeing Ukraine.

Newland Chase continues to monitor new and updated concessions closely and will provide any updates as they are made available from the authorities.

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Special Note on Ukrainian Citizens Entering Russia

Russia and Ukraine have ceased diplomatic ties with each other.

At this time, Russia has not issued any official legal guidelines on Ukrainian citizens attempting to enter Russia. However, it should be anticipated that entering Russia from Ukraine will be very difficult and travelers may face long in-person interviews about the reasons for their travel, possible denial of entry, and possible cancellation of any current Russian visas. Russian border officers reserve the ability to deny anyone entry into Russia.

At this time, Newland Chase and our Russian Network Partners do not recommend that Ukrainian citizens attempt to enter Russia due to the current heightened risks and the ongoing political/military crisis.

It remains unknown if Ukrainian nationals who are currently legal residents in Russia will be allowed to re-enter Russia if they depart.

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CHANGES FOR RUSSIAN AND BELARUSIAN CITIZENS

In addition to visa and immigration concessions for individuals fleeing Ukraine, many countries are beginning to consider and implement temporary measures against Russian and Belarusian nationals.

Visa and Travel Restrictions

At the time of this writing, the following countries have announced temporary restrictions on the travel of Russian and/or Belarusian citizens.

European Union	Greece	Latvia	Portugal	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Iceland	Lithuania	Spain	United States
Estonia	Japan	Poland	Switzerland	Additional Notes

Restrictions may include temporary suspension of visa processing for either nationality, restrictions placed on specific visa types, and/or banning Russian/Belarusian aircraft from a country's airspace. More countries are expected to make similar declarations as the situation in Ukraine continues.

European Union

The European Union has suspended the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas for Russian business travelers, as well as Russian government officials and diplomatic passport holders. Kindly note that applicable Russian citizens can still apply for visas into the EU; however, the streamlined processing agreements have been temporarily suspended and processing times are anticipated to be delayed. Full text of the suspension can be found [here](#).

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The Czech Republic

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will close many, if not all, of their consulates in Russia and evacuate staff.
- Suspended visa processing for Russian citizens (except in humanitarian cases).

Estonia

Estonia has suspended the following visa and residency programs:

- Effective 10 March 2022, the Estonian Embassy in Moscow and Consulates in Pskov and St. Petersburg will cease the issuance of Schengen C and National D visas for Russian and Belarusian citizens – this ban will last until the crisis in Ukraine ends. Exceptions will include Russians with family members in Estonia and for humanitarian and medical reasons.
- In addition, the Estonian Consulate in Minsk, Belarus will suspend the issuance of visas for Russian citizens. Exceptions will include Belarusian citizens with family members in Estonia and for humanitarian and medical reasons.
- e-Residency scheme for Russian and Belarusian citizens has been suspended amid fears that the system could be used to avoid sanctions. The e-Residency program allows foreign nationals to open businesses and carry out financial transactions in Estonia.

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Greece

Greece has suspended Golden Visa (based on investment) processing for Russian citizens and will cease processing applications for Russian citizens applying for Business Executive residence permits.

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Iceland

Iceland has suspended visa processing for Russian citizens.

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Japan

Japan has announced the suspension of visa issuance for the following individuals:

- Designated individuals related to Russia.
- Designated individuals related to Belarus.
- Individuals from the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic.

Please note that the exact definition of “designated individuals” has yet to be confirmed by Japanese officials.

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Latvia

Latvia has suspended visa processing for Russian citizens (except in humanitarian cases).

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Lithuania

Lithuania has suspended visa processing for Russian citizens.

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Poland

Certain Polish consulates will limit visa processing for Russian citizens to the following categories:

- Family members of EU/Polish citizens
- Students
- Current Polish Card holders and their spouses
- Cargo Drivers
- Poland Business Harbour (PBH) Program Individual
- Medical Staff

Poland has suspended their consular processing of work visa applications for Russian citizens applying at Polish consulates in Russia.

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Portugal

Portugal has suspended Golden Visa/Passport (based on investment) processing for Russian and Belarusian citizens.

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Spain

Spain has temporary suspended Golden Visa processing for Russian citizens and their dependents applying for Spanish residency based on investment, as an entrepreneur, and/or as a business project representative. Note that traditional employment-based immigration routes like Intra-Company Transfers or Highly Qualified Professionals are not affected by this temporary ban.

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Switzerland

Switzerland has partially suspended their visa facilitation agreement with Russia and has banned Russian aircraft from their airspace.

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United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is considering bringing forward amendments to the visa penalty measure in the Nationality and Borders Bill to “slow down and effectively stop the processing of Russian visas or any state that poses a threat to our national security or the interests of our allies around the world.” The details of – or implementation timeframe for – such amendments have not been announced by the UK authorities at the time of this writing.

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United States

The United States has taken the following consular steps in Russia and Belarus:

- The U.S. State Department issued a new travel advisory for Russia that includes notice for U.S. citizens currently residing or traveling in Russia to depart immediately. U.S. citizens are also discouraged from traveling to Russia at this time. Full text of the Advisory can be found [here](#).
- The U.S. Embassy in Minsk, Belarus, has suspended their operations, ordered the departure of their consular officers and their families, and is no longer offering routine or emergency consular services (see the Embassy’s [Travel Advisory](#) for full details). The State Department has advised U.S. citizens to depart Belarus immediately via commercial or private means.
- Note that, to facilitate the departure of certain groups from Russia and Belarus, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will allow U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents, and foreign nationals holding a valid U.S. immigrant visa leaving Russia and Belarus to enter the U.S. without a pre-departure COVID-19 test. See full update [here](#).
- The U.S. Department of State has authorized the voluntary departure of non-emergency personnel and family members of all personnel from the Embassy in Moscow, Russia. The State Department is advising that U.S. citizens depart Russia immediately via commercial or private means.

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Additional Notes

- The following countries have closed their airspace to Russian aircraft: **all 27 EU member states, Albania, Canada, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States**. In response, Russia has banned aircraft from 36 countries.
 - Booking international air travel out of Russia has become increasingly difficult for a variety of reasons: limited available flight routes and flight options, large volume of people trying to secure tickets, and sporadic technical issues with online booking platforms. Newland Chase will continue to monitor this situation closely and will report on any official announcements made from authorities.
 - In response to the challenges of securing flights out of Russia, departures via land borders have increased significantly for both foreign and Russian citizens.
- Finally, it is worth noting that no countries have banned the entry of Russian or Belarusian citizens, suspended the renewal of Russian or Belarusian citizens’ current permits or visas, or ordered the departure of Russian or Belarusian citizens at this time.

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