Ukraine: Insights and implications

Forced Migration Review digest – for easy online access to all FMR articles
The digest complements the full-length magazine. Both the digest and the magazine of FMR issue 72 are available online and in print.
Ukraine: Insights and implications

The war on Ukraine has caused forced displacement on a scale and at a speed not witnessed in Europe since World War II. This issue of Forced Migration Review seeks to address questions that have arisen out of the crisis, reflecting on the lessons learned from the immediate response and the implications for the international refugee and asylum system.

The 25 articles in this issue consider the concept of temporary protection, the situation of Ukrainian refugees in different countries (including European countries, the USA and Russia), the displacement experiences and gaps in support for different marginalised groups, and intersecting issues such as gender-based violence, trafficking and localisation.

The full issue is available at www.fmreview.org/ukraine

A displaced woman shows a photo of the damage to her home in Bakhmut from a rocket attack. Donetsk.
Photo: IOM/Raber Aziz 2023

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Foreword
Pascale Moreau (UNHCR)
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/moreau

Ukrainian youth and war: how to turn fears into strengths?
Maria Didenko (The Ukrainian-Danish Youth House)
Youth in Ukraine are supporting each other and their communities. Their experiences offer insights and coping strategies for all those dealing with the challenges of war.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/didenko

Implementing the Temporary Protection Directive
Gemma Woods and Meron Yared (UNHCR)
The lessons that have emerged from the implementation of the Temporary Protection Directive have implications far beyond the Ukraine refugee crisis.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/woods-yared

A Dutch community’s creative collaboration to host Ukrainian refugees
Adrian Pais (Emmaus), Doreen Pais (Emmaus), Monique den Otter (Municipality of Vught), Frans Schoot (Welzijn Vught) and Inna Borovyk (Emmaus and Municipality of Vught)
A Dutch municipality, a faith-based organisation and a secular grassroots organisation have combined their strengths and capabilities to provide for Ukrainian refugees.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/pais-pais-denotter-schoot-borovyk

The UK’s Homes for Ukraine scheme: a model for the future?
Krish Kandiah (Sanctuary Foundation)
Tens of thousands of people in the UK have opened their homes to Ukrainians. An examination of this historic welcome offers important insights for future schemes aimed at helping refugee groups and vulnerable people.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/kandiah

Pro bono collaboration within the legal community’s response to displacement from Ukraine
Anna Kalinichenko (DLA Piper), Jasmine Simperingham (PILnet) and Philip Worthington (European Lawyers in Lesvos - ELIL)
Lessons about collaboration and refugee inclusion from the legal community’s response to the needs of people displaced from Ukraine could help inform future responses.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/kalinichenko-simperingham-worthington

Equality versus equity: a case study from Poland
Aleksandra Minkiewicz (Norwegian Refugee Council - NRC), Pietro Mirabelli (NRC), Agnieszka Nosowska (Polish Center for International Aid) and Larissa Pelham (NRC)
Poland responded generously to the influx of refugees from Ukraine, providing significant access to its social protection system. Despite this, however, hardship among refugees persists. There are lessons to be drawn from Poland’s approach.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/minkiewicz-mirabelli-nosowska-pelham
The needs of Ukrainian refugees in urban areas of neighbouring countries
Nataliia Makaruk and Louise Thaller (IMPACT Initiatives)
Ukrainian refugees settling in major cities in neighbouring countries require a more consistent, sustainable local response and integration opportunities.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/makaruk-thaller

Life in limbo: temporary protection for Ukrainians in the US
Daniel J Beers (James Madison University)
Temporary protection mechanisms have offered Ukrainians safe harbour in the US but leave them in a precarious state of legal limbo.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/beers

War-displaced Ukrainian citizens in Russia
Lidia Kuzemska (Forum Transregionale Studien)
Without support from international actors, displaced Ukrainians in Russia are in a precarious situation reliant on volunteer help and on State aid that is conditional upon the acquisition of Russian citizenship.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/kuzemska

The protection needs identified by displaced Ukrainian children and adolescents
Lauren Murray (Save the Children), Jasper Linke and Raluca Stoican (IMPACT Initiatives)
Research with displaced Ukrainian children and adolescents demonstrates that humanitarian actors need to provide opportunities for them to express their concerns, feelings and opinions.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/murray-linke-stoican

The forgotten victims of war: Ukraine’s stateless
Aleksejs Ivashuk (Apatride Network), Sofiia Kordonets (Right to Protection) and Jyothi Kanics (European Network on Statelessness)
War has exacerbated the severe difficulties faced by stateless people in Ukraine. Barriers to accessing humanitarian aid, safe passage and protection need to be addressed.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/ivashuk-kordonets-kanics

How language affects access to services and information
Christine Fricke (CLEAR Global/Translators without Borders), Nataliia Gusak and Andrii Kryshtal (CLEAR Global)
Effective support for people fleeing the war in Ukraine requires an understanding of their language and communication needs and preferences.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/fricke-gusak-kryshtal

Unseen challenges: risks faced by IDPs with disabilities in Ukraine
Chiara Valenti (Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre)
IDPs with disabilities in Ukraine face heightened risks. More initiatives are needed that prioritise disability-inclusive approaches, employ data-driven decision-making, and actively involve people with disabilities in response efforts.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/valenti
Supporting older people in Ukraine’s conflict
Luciana Caffarelli, Hester Clark and Simon Harris (HelpAge International)
Humanitarian response in the current conflict needs to better recognise the diversity of experience among older Ukrainians, target assistance to their specific requirements, and provide support to them where they are.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/caffarelli-clark-harris

How Black African students experienced forced displacement from Ukraine
Lindsey N Kingston and Igho Ekakitie (Webster University)
The forced migration journeys of Black African students in Ukraine highlight the vulnerabilities that minority non-nationals experienced during the 2022 Russian invasion.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/kingston-ekakitie

Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse: reflections from the first year of the emergency
Caroline Dulin Brass, Manuela Moy and Yoko Iwasa (UNHCR)
Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse is an integral part of the Ukraine refugee response. A number of policy implications, innovations and lessons for the ongoing response and for future crises have emerged.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/dulinbrass-moy-iwasa

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Ukrainian internally displaced women at risk of sexual and gender-based violence
Sandra Pertek (University of Birmingham), Irina Kuznetsova (University of Birmingham) and Iuliia Tsarevska (Convictus Ukraine)
Internal displacement in Ukraine brings with it increased risks of sexual and gender-based violence. Recent research findings offer recommendations to reduce risks in transit and to support internally displaced women with housing, access to work and mental health support.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/pertek-kuznetsova-tsarevska

Human trafficking in times of conflict: the case of Ukraine
Heather Komenda (International Organization for Migration)
With many risk factors for trafficking present in the Ukraine conflict, why does there appear not to have been – as yet – a surge in cases of trafficking?
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/komenda

Realising the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement in Ukraine
Siobhan Simojoki (International Organization for Migration)
The UN and its partners are grappling with ways to support the Government of Ukraine in promoting solutions to internal displacement, in line with the Action Agenda.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/simojoki

Breaking the cycle: localising humanitarian aid in Ukraine
Nicholas Noe and Hardin Lang (Refugees International)
Localising the humanitarian response in Ukraine would improve the sustainability and reach of the overall response – and set a valuable precedent. Addressing barriers to localisation and Ukrainians demanding reform are key.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/noe-lang

Rethinking forced migrants’ well-being: lessons from Ukraine
Reo Morimitsu (Japanese Red Cross College of Nursing) and Supriya Akerkar (Oxford Brookes University)
Five years after their initial displacement, Ukrainian IDPs show relatively high levels of posttraumatic growth; their experiences offer insights for practitioners seeking to promote psychosocial well-being among displaced populations.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/morimitsu-akerkar

The role of media and information in supporting internally displaced women in Ukraine
Sally Gowland (BBC Media Action)
Providing accessible and practical advice through digital platforms could support female IDPs dealing with the economic, psychosocial and health impacts of the war.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/gowland
The use of digital technologies in the Hungarian refugee response
Zita Lengyel-Wang (Refugee Help Digital Network)
A well-managed Facebook group can mobilise hundreds of thousands of people to maximise peer-to-peer aid, be an effective real-time communication channel between organisations and volunteers, and serve as the focal point of an online refugee aid ecosystem.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/lengyelwang

Boosting the socio-economic inclusion of refugees from Ukraine
Susanne Klink and Alex Mundt (UNHCR)
With many Ukrainian refugees facing prolonged stays in host countries, they require effective access to decent work, education, and social and financial services.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/klink-mundt

Integration support for temporary protection holders
Emiliya Bratanova-van-Harten (Lund University)
The Temporary Protection Directive does not contribute to an effective integration process. Measures to facilitate refugee integration need to be put in place even if return is the preferred durable solution.
www.fmreview.org/ukraine/bratanovavanharten
Forthcoming - FMR 73 Digital disruption and displacement

This issue of FMR aims to explore the double-sided nature of digital technologies and their implications for displaced people across the globe. Submission deadline – 15 October 2023
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