

FLED FROM UKRAINE WITHOUT THE UKRAINIAN NATIONALITY



This leaflet is for people who have fled Ukraine but do not have Ukrainian nationality. This leaflet provides information about:

- 1. Are you eligible for Temporary Protection in the Netherlands?*
- 2. What if your situation is unclear?*
- 3. Residence options in the Netherlands*
- 4. Return or transit*

1. ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTION IN THE NETHERLANDS?

If you have fled Ukraine but do not have Ukrainian nationality, your right to Temporary Protection in the Netherlands depends on your situation.

You have a right to Temporary Protection if:

- you had **international protection** in Ukraine on 23 February 2022 (as a recognised refugee, for example), or some other form of temporary (national) protection because you are not safe in your country of origin.
- you had a valid **permanent** Ukrainian residence permit on 23 February 2022. You must also have travelled from Ukraine after 26 November 2021, and not have been in your country of origin after 23 February 2022.
- you had a valid temporary Ukrainian residence permit on 23 February 2022, such as for work or study, and you were **registered in a Dutch municipality before 19 July 2022**. In that case, you have the right to Temporary Protection until 4 March 2023. After that, your right to stay in The Netherlands will be expired.

- You will also receive Temporary Protection in the Netherlands if you are the partner or unmarried child under 18 of someone who has Temporary Protection, or a relative living with them. And you were living together in Ukraine before the war started.

You do not have a right to Temporary Protection if:

- you have a temporary Ukrainian residence permit, such as for work or study, and were **not** registered in a Dutch municipality **before 19 July 2022**.
- you do not have sufficient documentation to show that you are eligible for Temporary Protection.



2. WHAT IF YOUR SITUATION IS UNCLEAR?

If it is unclear whether you are eligible for Temporary Protection, your municipality will make an appointment for you with the Dutch Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst (IND).

The IND will interview you and review your documents to determine whether you will receive protection in the Netherlands. **It is important to bring all your documents with you to your appointment with the IND.** You may stay in a reception centre in a municipality until your interview with the IND.

If you meet the requirements for Temporary Protection but have insufficient documents to prove it, try to obtain additional documents or supporting evidence of your stay in Ukraine or your relationship with a Ukrainian. This could be marriage documents or residence documents, for example. Bring these documents with you to your appointment with the IND.

After the interview, the IND will decide whether or not you are eligible for Temporary Protection.

If you are granted Temporary Protection, you can stay in the Netherlands just as long as Ukrainians are allowed to. You will have a right to childcare, employment, healthcare and education. This right will last until at least 4 March 2023 and can be extended until 4 March 2025 at the latest

If the IND decides you are not eligible for Temporary Protection, you will no longer have the right to stay in the Netherlands, reception centre or other facilities. It is important to know that you may only stay in the Netherlands for legally established reasons. Read on for information about other residence options in the Netherlands, return to your country of origin, and transit to another country.

3. IF YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTION: RESIDENCE OPTIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS

3.1. Asylum procedure

As a refugee, you may be given protection in the Netherlands. To receive protection, you will need to apply for asylum. You will need to prove that you fear persecution in your own country and meet one of the following conditions:

- you fear persecution because of your race, religion, nationality, political convictions or because you belong to a particular social group;
- you fear the death penalty, torture or other inhumane treatment in your country of origin;
- you fear becoming a victim of indiscriminate violence due to war in your country of origin;

You can find more information about the asylum procedure here:

- VluchtelingenWerk has a video about the asylum procedure in several languages: [Arabic](#) | [English](#)
- Visit [forrefugees](#) for information about the asylum procedure in eight languages
- The [IND website](#) offers information about the asylum procedure in English and Dutch.

3.2. Ordinary procedure

There are other types of residence permits in the Netherlands, for study or work, for example.

These are called ordinary permits. In most cases, applications for work or student visas must be done in the country of origin. In that case, you will have to return to your country of origin first. There are also requirements for documents and funding.

- **Student visa:** If you are a student, you can apply for a student visa at the Dutch embassy or consulate in your country of origin in cooperation with the educational institution. Please note: only educational institutions recognised by the IND can apply for a residence permit for you. [More information](#)
- **Work visa:** If you want to work as an employee in the Netherlands, you need a combined residence and work permit (GVVA). You and your employer must apply for a Dutch work visa at the Dutch embassy or consulate in your country of origin. [More information](#)
- **Other residence permits:** In addition to the above residence permit, there are other residence permits, such as on medical grounds or for living with a Dutch partner or other family members. [More information](#)

4. Return or transit

4.1. Return to your country of origin

If you wish to return to your country of origin or migrate to another country, you can contact the Internationale Organisatie voor Migratie (the IOM) by phone on +31 88 746 44 66. You will be referred to one of the IOM consulting locations or consultants in the country.

The IOM provides information and advice. They will help you obtain the right travel documents and a plane ticket. You will be given some money to pay for shelter in the first few days. In some cases, you may be eligible for additional financial support.

4.2. Return to Ukraine

If your residence permit in Ukraine is still valid and you want to return to Ukraine, you can arrange the trip on your own or request support from Dienst Terugkeer en Vertrek (DT&V).

[More information](#)

4.3. Transit to another country

You can travel from the Netherlands to another country within or outside the EU. This requires a travel document and possibly a visa.

VluchtelingenWerk cannot offer advice on the possibilities of staying in other countries, as we do not have the necessary knowledge. For more information:

- The European Union Agency of Asylum offers [information on Temporary Protection in other European countries in practice](#)
- The European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) also provides [information on Temporary Protection measures in other European countries](#)

Please note that if you decide to travel on without a residence permit, you may be arrested by the police.



Questions?

If you have any questions about this information or would like to talk about your personal situation, you can always attend a VluchtelingenWerk consultation. VluchtelingenWerk is an independent human rights organisation that advocates for the interests of refugees and displaced people. Everything you discuss with us is confidential and will not be shared with other organisations. To find out where and when to contact us, visit [RefugeeHelp](#).



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