

# Implications of the large inflow of refugees from Ukraine

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# >> A quick OECD response to exchange at high-level on the policy response to the large inflow of refugees from Ukraine notably regarding labour market inclusion and integration

- **Exceptional meeting of the OECD Working Party on Migration (Warsaw, 5 May)**

High level speakers included :

- Mathias Cormann (OECD SG)
- President Iván Duque (Colombia)
- Marlena Maląg (Poland, Minister of Family and Social Policy)
- Susanne Raab (Austria, Federal Minister for Women, Family Affairs, Youth and Integration)
- The Hon. Sean Fraser (Canada, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship)
- Maryna Lazebna (Ukraine, Minister of Social Policy)
- Gillian Triggs (Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UHNCR)
- Ugochi Daniels (Deputy Director General for operations, IOM)
- Tomáš Boček Vice-Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)



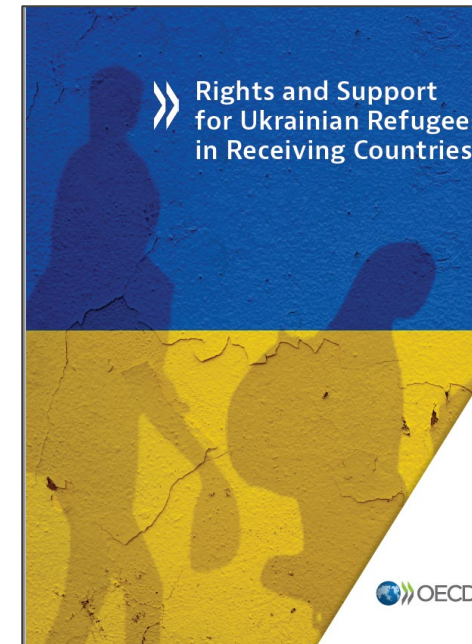
- **Working lunch at the OECD Employment and Labour Ministerial meeting** on the fallout from Russia's war on Ukraine (Paris - 7 June)
- **High-Level International Conference on the Reception and Inclusion of Ukraine** back to back to the OECD Working Party on Migration (Paris 27 June)



# OECD/ELS recent and future work on the large inflow of refugees from Ukraine



- Rights and Support for Ukrainian Refugees in Receiving Countries
- Supporting refugee students from Ukraine in host countries
- Support for teachers in host countries
- Housing support for Ukrainian refugees in receiving countries
- The potential contribution of Ukrainian refugees to the labour force in European host countries
- How to communicate on the Ukrainian refugee crisis and build on the support of host communities?
- How vocational education and training (VET) systems can support Ukraine
- Joint EUAA-OECD Survey « Tell us your story » (Report forthcoming in October)
- Skills and labour market outcomes of refugees from Ukraine (forthcoming October)



- **New TSI project** on “Improving the assessment, recognition and validation of skills and qualifications for refugees from Ukraine in France”
- Explore “dual intent” solutions that give refugees quick access to full-scale integration support without hampering a possible return to Ukraine once the situation allows
- Analyse dynamics of return migration to Ukraine and of sustainable reintegration



# THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY



# CEE countries are hosting disproportionately more arrivals

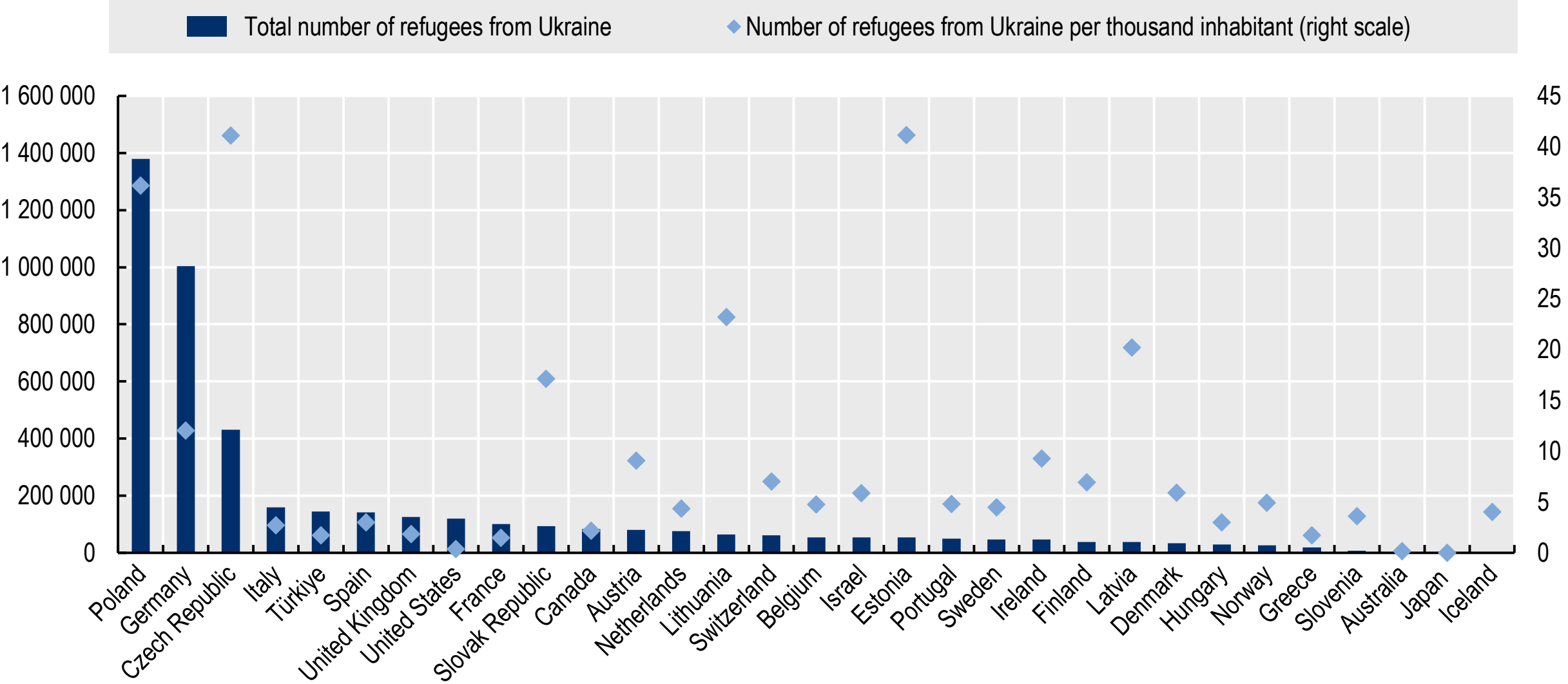


Figure 1. Number of refugees from Ukraine recorded in OECD countries, absolute numbers and per thousand of total population, mid-September 2022

## >> Most arrivals are women and minors

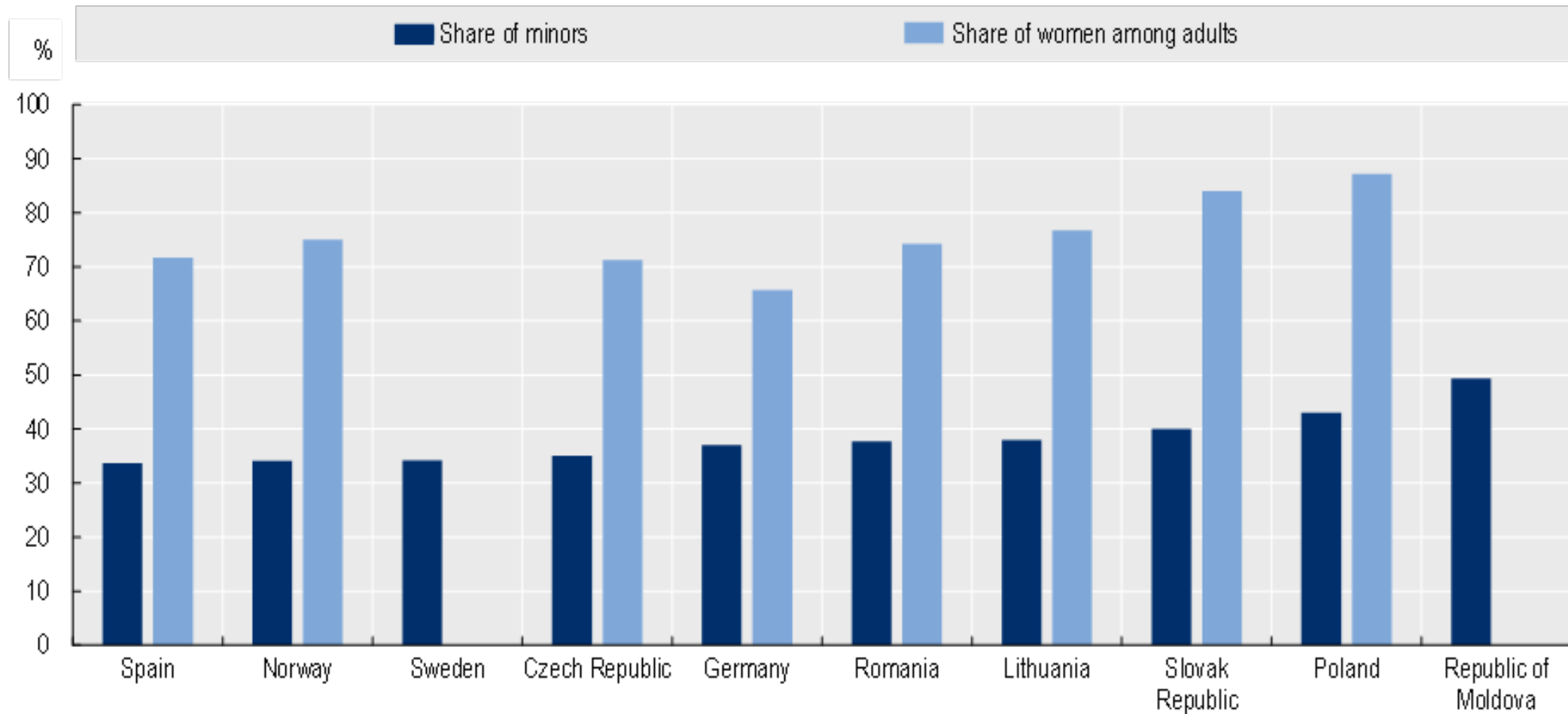


Figure 3. Share of minors and women among registered refugees in selected countries



## Many arrivals are tertiary educated

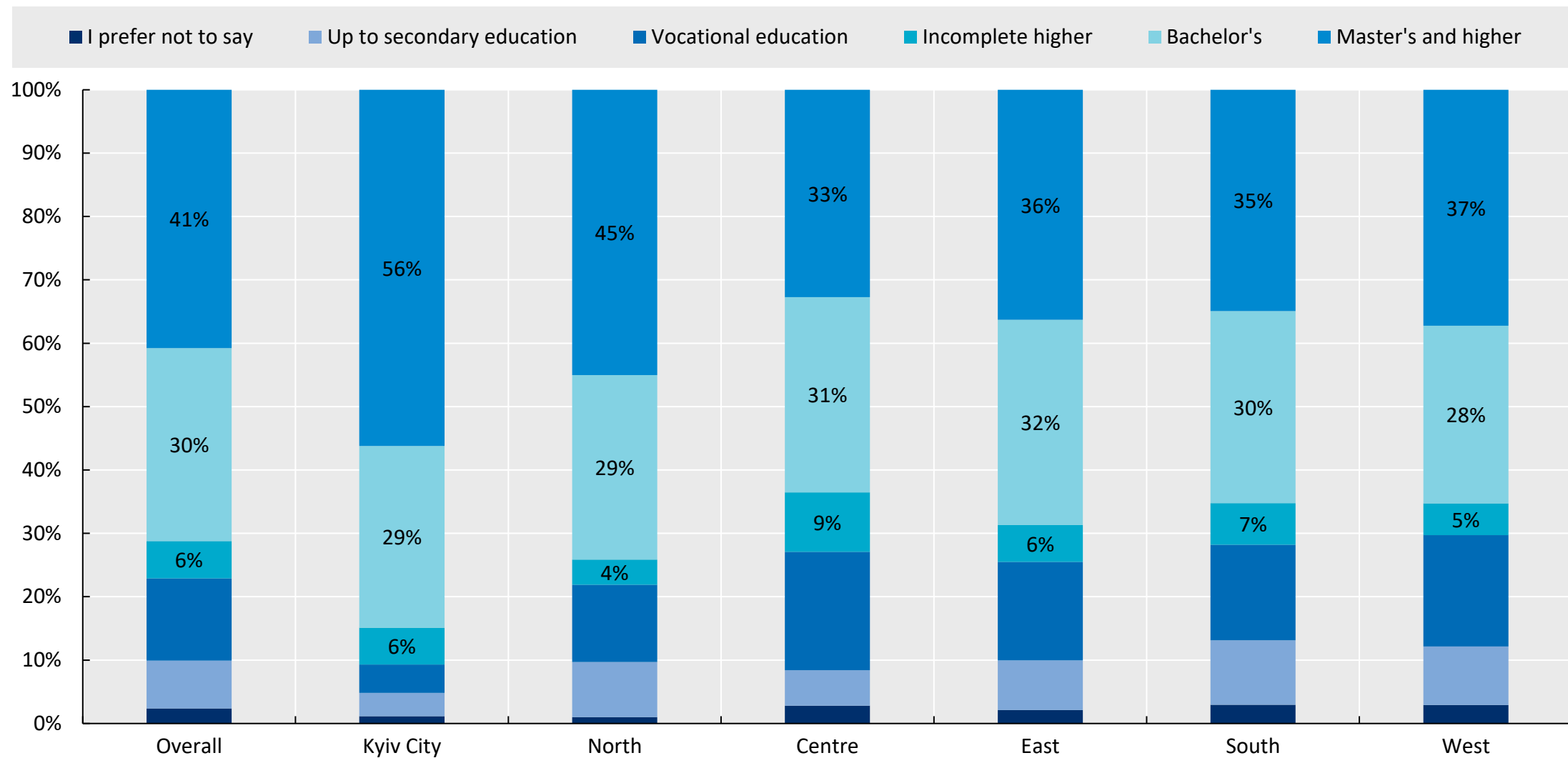


Figure 4. Highest qualification levels of respondents by region of origin. Source: SAM-UKR Survey



## The labour force in Europe is expected to increase by 0.5% by the end of 2022 due to the refugee crisis

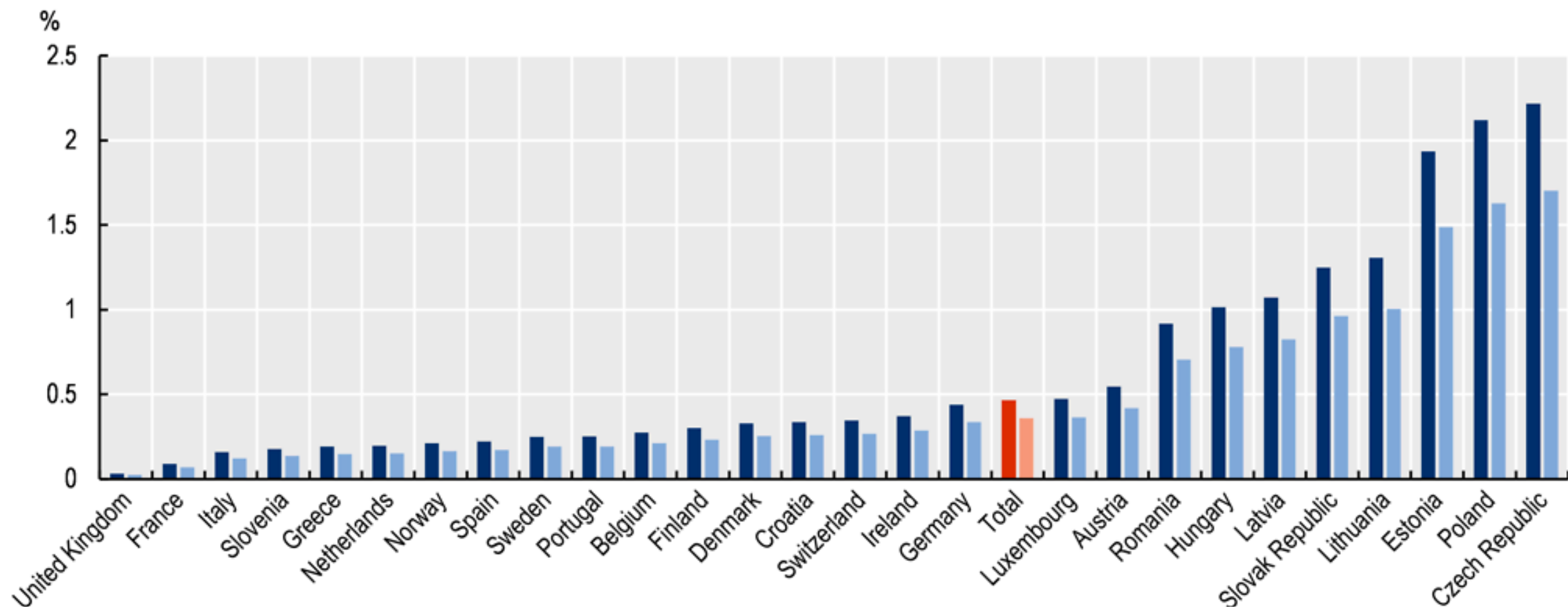


Figure 2. Relative expected change in labour force due to inflows of Ukrainian refugees in selected European countries





# TRANSITIONING TOWARDS MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM RESPONSES



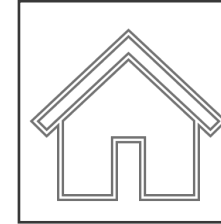
## Host countries need to plan for the longer-term displacement of Ukrainian refugees

- Experiences with past large-scale displacement show that many stay, even if return is possible.
- Research has shown that early integration is the best predictor of long-term outcomes.
- Host countries are beginning to expand access to different integration services:
  - **Language courses for Ukrainian refugees available in most host countries**
  - **Most also offer labour market integration support**
- Ukrainian refugees have been granted the right to work in most host countries and many offer further help with finding a job.
- Until now, only small shares have been entering the labour force, but the situation is changing quickly and there are large differences across countries.
- Much of the early employment uptake, however, has occurred in low-skilled jobs.
- Important not to leave skills idle.

## >> Transition to long-term housing remains a challenge

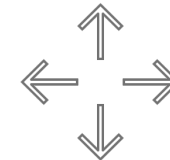
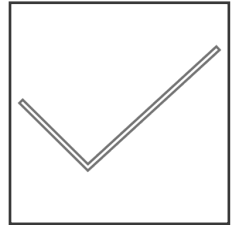
- Ensuring access to durable housing is a major challenge in many host countries.
- The rapid influx happened in the context of significant pre-existing housing challenges, such as insufficient housing supply and rising costs, limiting options.
- Countries have relied on a mix of accommodation options, but private hosts and households have played an unprecedented role.

Things to consider moving forward:



Addressing pre-existing housing shortages

Verifying safe and suitable housing



Dispersal



## Cooperation between Ukraine and host countries is essential

- As host countries are considering the issue of integration, 'dual intent' policies prepare both for indefinite stay as well as for possible return
  - **For instance, skills building and education**
  - **Yet little agreement on what such policies should entail**
- Successful (labour market) integration can also support the future reconstruction of Ukraine:

Skills and know-how

Supports reintegration

Remittances



## Key questions moving ahead

What is the scope of the secondary movements within the EU and to other OECD countries?  
How can returns to Ukraine better monitored? What are the implications for policies?

Should integration policies adapt to early signals of change in the likelihood to return? And if so, how?

What 'dual intent' policies would Ukraine like to see?

What policies are needed to address the questions of cross-border mobility and remote work?

Phasing out of the Temporary protection Directive