



ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ
ΕΣΩΤΕΡΙΚΩΝ



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ASYLUM SERVICE

Applying the Temporary Protection Directive in Cyprus

Applying Temporary Protection in Cyprus



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- Legal Framework: Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC, and having the effect of introducing temporary protection
- According to decision of the CY Ministerial Council: Extends the scope of the Council's decision for Ukrainian refugees who arrived to Cyprus from 1st of February and not from 24 of February provided in the relevant decision

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What we did

Easier facilitation of the procedure

- ✓ Applications are received at all District Immigration Offices of the Police and Asylum Service
- ✓ Officers of the Asylum Service, Civil Registry and Migration Department and the Immigration Police have been appointed in order to facilitate a one-stop-shop
- ✓ Since day 1 an online procedure was established
- ✓ Further support was requested by the EUAA
- ✓ Extra function was created on the Computerised Asylum Service System (CASS)

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What we did

- ✓ Decisions on applications for temporary protection are taken on the same day of submission of application. Biometric resident permits are also issued by the Civil Registry Department within three days from the granting of temporary protection status.
- ✓ The EUAA Operating Plan to Cyprus was amended in order to allow the provision of support for the efficient management and examination of the applications for temporary protection
- ✓ The Deputy Ministry of Tourism is providing accommodation at a number of hotels for Ukrainian nationals who have no place of residence, while a help-line has been established on a 24-hour basis

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What we did

- ✓ Information leaflets have been prepared with the cooperation of the EUAA office in Cyprus (in English, in Ukrainian, for UAMs)

What you need to know about temporary protection



My Rights

Temporary protection offers immediate and effective protection to people fleeing Ukraine. This gives you certain rights, including:

- residency rights
- access to labour market to engage in employed or self-employed activities
- suitable accommodation
- social welfare and means of subsistence if needed
- medical care
- medical or other assistance in case you have special needs
- access to education for children under 18
- right to family reunification with core family members (ask the authorities for details)

YOU MAY CALL
1477
OR
+357 22 285777
FOR ASSISTANCE

More Information:
<http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf>

You can enjoy these rights in one of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

You can also apply for asylum (international protection) at any time.

How long does temporary protection last?

It lasts until 4 March 2023 and can be renewed automatically for another year (for periods of six months), meaning until 4 March 2024. This period may be extended for another year depending on the situation in Ukraine.

Who is entitled to temporary protection?

- Ukrainian nationals, refugees in Ukraine, and their family members living in Ukraine before 01 February 2022
- Stateless persons and non-Ukrainians living in Ukraine before 01 February 2022 with a permanent residence permit, who are unable to return safely to their country of origin.

What if I am not entitled to temporary protection but cannot go back to my country safely?

In this case, you can apply for asylum (also known as international protection).

PLEASE CONTACT THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE OF YOUR DISTRICT

How can I enjoy the rights related to temporary protection?

Inform the national authorities that you want to enjoy the rights linked to temporary protection and receive a residence permit. Your personal data will be recorded and you may be asked to submit your passport or other identity documents.


YOU MAY CONTACT
The Labour Office
AND
Social Welfare Office
OF YOUR DISTRICT

Inform the authorities if

- You are travelling with a child, an elderly person or a person with a disability
- You have a family member in the EU
- You are under 18 and you came without your parents or someone other than your parents
- You need medical assistance, have a disability or special need
- You have been hurt, threatened, forced or pressured into doing something against your will, by strangers or by someone you know
- Someone is offering to help you in exchange for favours

For your safety

- Keep family and friends informed of where you are at all time
- Be careful when accepting help from strangers, outside the official channels
- Keep your documents safe and take photos of them. Do not give your documents and your phone to anyone
- If you feel in danger call the free emergency number 112
- Never share your personal information or photos online with strangers

For additional information 

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What you need to know about temporary protection



This information is for you if

- you are under the age of 18
- you are Ukrainian or lived in Ukraine, and left because of the war on or after 01 February 2022
- you arrived:
 - on your own
 - with someone other than your parents

If you are without your parents, an adult (sometimes called guardian or representative) will help you with your needs, including the procedure.

You can always reach out to this person or other officials if you are scared or need help.

Remember

- If you do not understand something, you can always ask.
- All information you share with the authorities will be kept safe.

What temporary protection means for you

- You can stay in the EU until it is safe to go back.
- You can get help to contact and reunite with your family, when safe for you.
- You can have food, clothes, a safe place to stay and other things you may need.
- You can go to school.
- You can go to the doctor.

YOU MAY CALL
1477 OR +357 22 285777
FOR ASSISTANCE



How long does temporary protection last?

Until 4 March 2023. Depending on the situation, it can be extended.

What is the procedure?

- An official will ask you questions about you and your family.
- You will be asked to show your identity documents (passport, ID card, etc.).
- You will receive an official document.



Aleksandra **Dmytro**

Are there any other forms of protection?

Yes. Discuss the options with the authorities with the support of an adult.

Inform the authorities if

- You came on your own or with someone other than your parents.
- You want to contact and find your family.
- You do not understand the language — someone who speaks your language can help.
- You feel unwell and you need a doctor or medicines.
- You are scared because someone is threatening you or trying to convince you to do something you do not want to do. You could be in danger.
- You know children who are in trouble.

For your safety

- Never get into a car or vehicle with someone you do not know.
- Keep in contact with your family or friends.
- Keep your important documents safe (passport, ID card, etc.). Take photos of them.
- If you have a phone, do not give it to anyone.
- If you feel in danger or need help, call 112 at any time. It is free.
- Never talk online to someone you do not know. Do not share your personal information or photos of yourself.
- Ask for support if you feel in danger because of the way you dress, look or feel.

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Challenges



- ✓ The flow of Ukrainian refugees to Cyprus came in a period of large and disproportionate migratory pressures.
- ✓ The competent Services had to act quickly and efficiently with the same capacity
- ✓ Coordination between competent Services
- ✓ Those refugees who did not enter Cyprus within the set timeframe insisted to receive temporary protection and did not wish to enter the asylum procedure
- ✓ Digitalization of files is an on-going process
- ✓ Number of minors arriving with relatives and not with parents had to be checked by the Social Welfare Services.



Challenges

- Questions on procedure to be followed for persons wishing to travel to another MS or coming to Cyprus from another MS where they enjoy TP
- Reporting of statistics. There was not a system in place from the beginning/data gathering was performed manually

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Case Studies

- Not clear from the beginning how to handle cases such as:
- Ukrainian refugee with spouse of different nationality
- Refugees with double nationality
- Ukrainian refugee with spouse arriving to Cyprus outside the set timeframe
- Persons arriving from safe third countries but with permanent residence in Ukraine

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Data and Figures

Data for Ukrainians up to 09/10/2022

Applications temporary Protection - Asylum Service	17058
Residence permits for Temporary Protection Holders - Civil Registry and Migration department	11998
Regular arrivals - YAM (Immigration Police)	55658
Departures - YAM (Immigration Police)	41712
Residing in Cyprus	13946

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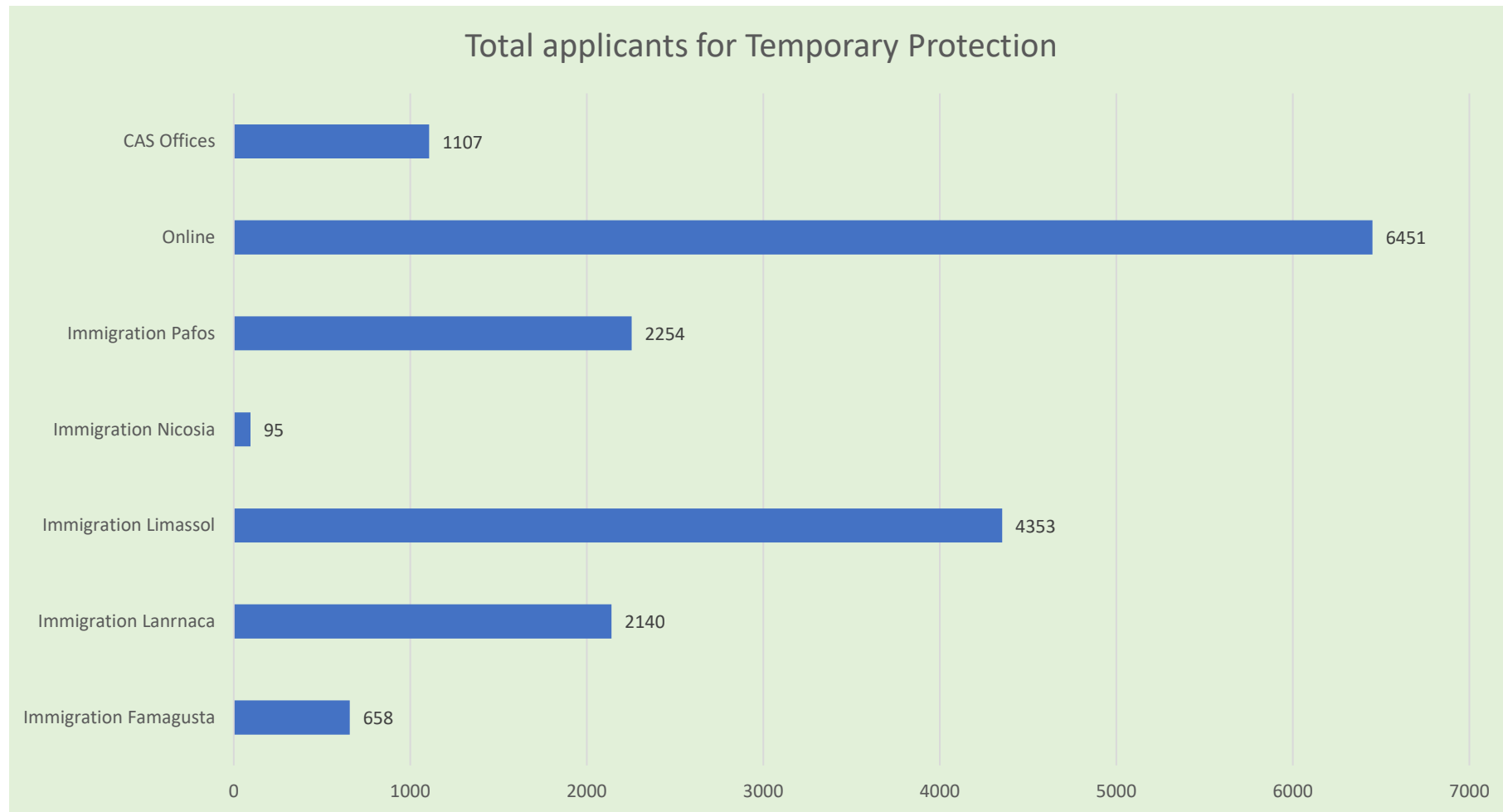


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Data and Figures



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION
Questions?