



Policy and funding developments – Ukraine crisis

Third meeting of the 2021-2027 DIALOGUE WITH CPR PARTNERS

1 December 2022

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Context

- COVID effect - economy and increased inequalities
- Russian war of aggression against Ukraine started 24 February 2022
- Refugees (close to 8M), inflation (notably food, energy cost)



- Legal initiatives to mobilise support, including for local stakeholders
- Internal organisation / Task Force
- Special advisor to Commissioner Schmit

Mobilising aid

Legal initiatives

CARE

- **Cohesion's Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE)** allowing Member States and regions to provide emergency support to people fleeing from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
 - Adopted on 9 April - *ESF and FEAD immediately mobilised*
 - Additional resources under Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT-EU)

FAST-CARE – adopted 26 October

- ***Continuing war and increasing needs***

- Increased impact of flows of persons fleeing Ukraine, incl. on Member States' budgets
- Delays and difficulties in implementing investments especially in infrastructure (costs increases and supply chain bottlenecks)
- Numerous stakeholders from civil society, local and regional authorities and Member States raised specific difficulties that have been encountered in helping persons fleeing the Russian aggression
- Invitation European Council of 30 May for the Commission to “*present new initiatives to support this effort within the Multiannual Financial Framework*”

→ Upgrading CARE for addressing further consequences of current crisis

FAST-CARE package

- ❑ Legislative proposal amending the CPR 2014-20 and CPR 2021-27
 - ❑ Additional flexibility and EUR 3.5 billion liquidity to address the consequences of the war

- ❑ Complementary non-legislative measures to optimise the use of the funds and to address emerging needs:
 - Update of the guidelines on closure of the 2014-20 programmes
 - New tailored guidance and support to contracting authorities on difficulties encountered by contractors supporting increased costs

- ❑ Important feature: 30% of the support for local authorities and civil society organisations

(FAST)-CARE amendments MS programmes

- As of 14 November, **32 amendments received in total (26 adopted)** - this includes one FAST-CARE amendment from ES.
- This includes **14 “full” amendments** (ie. adding a whole new priority to the programme to support Ukrainian refugees) submitted by **BE, BG, DE, ES, FR, PL, SK** (of which 9 already adopted)
- In addition, **18 amendments were submitted by BG, DE, EE, HU, IT, LT, LV, NL, PL, SE** to their programmes to include the provision of support to Ukrainian refugees under **existing** priorities (of which 17 already adopted).
- The total value of actions under these amendments is over **EUR 600 million** and support basic needs (incl. access to health/social services, to housing), inclusion in education, the labour market, as well as social inclusion

Help refugees to help themselves

Activation of the Temporary Protection Directive

Temporary Protection for UKR refugees

- a **residence permit** and **move freely in EU countries**
- access to **employment**,
- access to suitable **accommodation or housing**
- access to **social welfare**, access to **medical care**, access to **education**
- access to **banking services**, for instance opening a basic bank account
- **move to another EU country**, before the issuance of a residence permit

Organisation in EMPL and Special advisor

DG EMPL Taskforce on Ukraine

- Guidance on access to the labour market, vocational education and training and adult learning (14/6/2022)
 - Context: 23 March 2022: activation of temporary protection directive and Commission [Communication](#) “*Welcoming those fleeing war in Ukraine: Readyng Europe to meet the needs*”
 - Rapid and effective labour market integration important for both host communities and people fleeing war.
 - Spells out concrete measures that Member States can implement, based on evidence including from EU funding
- Talent Pool Pilot (10/10/2022)- a new job search tool available in EN, UA, RU
- [EU Skills profile tool](#) for third-country nationals - now in Ukrainian
- Ongoing consultation of the Public Employment services

Mr Ascher – Special advisor

- Former deputy PM Netherlands
- Assists with:
 - identification of good practices, in reception and integration of people that fled Ukraine
 - Actions that address challenges created by the Russian invasion of Ukraine to EU labour markets and societies in short, medium and long-term
- Engagement with civic society, local stakeholders, national authorities, etc
- Report March 2023

Some considerations looking ahead

- We move from short term reception to long term integration
 - Dilemma of insecurity: language/education/upskilling? Both from refugees as from receiving society
 - Will same level of solidarity continue?
- Winter months will be difficult
 - Energy cost? More inflation? More refugees?
- Engagement with all stakeholders, including notably on local level, vital.



Thank you for your attention!