

Relocation procedure for asylum seekers from Kraków for receiving partners

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The hostilities in Ukraine do not cease. Every day more and more people decide to leave their country in search of shelter. Fleeing the bombed cities is not an easy decision. In an instant, refugees have to leave behind their entire lives, their families, their loved ones, their whole world, and move into the unknown.



Since the war began, more than 2 million people have come to Poland in search of shelter. The vast majority of them were women with small children. Among those fleeing the war are also orphans, the elderly and people with disabilities. Their first instinct is to come to Poland, where they find a roof over their heads among the locals and in collective accommodation.

After a few days, when they have rested, they begin to wonder what to do next. What their future will look like. Many of the refugees live in hope of a quick return to their homeland. But it is difficult to predict how much time they will have to spend away from their homes. For some, that time will be much longer, because their homes no longer exist.

We know how important the fate of refugees is to you and that you would like to join in the assistance. Almost every day Kraków is visited by individuals and various formal and informal groups who offer to host refugees in their own countries. Such proposals have come from Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, but also from Canada and the United States of America.

Unfortunately, some of these proposals remained unanswered, because our guests, staying in and around Kraków, are full of fear about what awaits them when they set out on their journey. For many of them, just coming to Poland was a huge challenge and stress. Resistance to travel appears especially among women who take care of young children, and their fears are often caused by the risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking.

This is why Kraków's NGOs, in agreement with the city authorities, have set up a special relocation group that will coordinate the departure of our guests to other countries in order to ensure the safety of refugees. We have prepared a procedure that will ensure safe relocation of refugees from Ukraine staying in Kraków within the European Union and EEC countries.

We have prepared a procedure that will ensure safe relocation of refugees from Ukraine staying in Kraków within the European Union and EEC countries. In exceptional cases, the procedure will also apply to relocation outside the designated territories.

As part of the procedure, each application will be verified formally and with regard to the conditions in which refugees will be accommodated in the places of their destination, with emphasis on the welfare and safety of those who decide to leave.

The offer to accept refugees should be submitted to the Relocation Group no later than two weeks before the planned date of departure (this is due to the need to verify the accepting partner and to organize the process of accepting applications of persons willing to leave in accordance with the principle of the right to information and informed decision).

The relocation offer must include the following information:

1. Details of the host organisation/entity organising the relocation (address, phone number, name of the contact person).
In case of informal groups, firms or non-government organisations, it will be necessary to provide a letter of recommendation from the local government or consular/diplomatic entity of the host country receiving the relocated refugees.
2. Target relocation location. Name of the city and identification of the residence sites.
3. The date of the planned relocation.
4. Commitment to cover the costs of transportation.
5. Determination of the type of required documents of persons deciding to relocate (whether a biometric passport is necessary or other documents proving identity will suffice, i.e. internal passport of a Ukrainian citizen, ID card of a Ukrainian citizen, documents concerning minor children).
6. Determine mode of transportation and travel time to destination.

7. Provision of a Ukrainian-speaking person during transport.
8. Psychological support in Ukrainian language during transportation and/or at the destination.
9. Provision of food and drink during transport.
10. Assistance in legalizing the stay of relocated persons in the receiving country.
11. Provision of free-of-charge Ukrainian language translators at the place of destination.
12. Accommodation at the destination:
 - Information on the nature of accommodation (independent living quarters; accommodation in the homes of local residents; accommodation in emergency relief sites, etc.).
 - Accommodation options for persons with disabilities.
 - Possibility of accommodating persons arriving with young children (under 4 years of age).
 - Possibility to accommodate persons arriving with pets.
 - The period for which the accommodation is possible.
13. Covering relocated persons with financial and nutritional assistance until they become independent with the expected period of independence.
14. Providing care for children:
 - Child care while parents/guardians are at work.
 - Provision of nursery, kindergarten, school.
15. Provision of free medical care (in what proportion and on what basis).
16. Provision of free language courses for children and adults.
17. Assistance in entering the labour market:
 - Organization of additional training courses.
 - Provision of jobs in local enterprises (determination of requirements for employment; determination of nature of work).
18. Declaration of assistance in further relocation of refugees, if necessary (e.g. due to family reunion)
19. Organization of transportation of relocated people back to Poland in case of end of conflict and their willingness to return to Ukraine.
20. Determine epidemiological requirements in relation to COVID-19 (need for vaccination certificate; testing prior to transport or at destination).

Please send your application for admitting refugees using the form on the website:

<https://relocationsgroup.pl/application>

or to the e-mail address: relocations.krakow@gmail.com

In order to prepare well the organization of relocation, the date of the planned departure of refugees cannot be shorter than 14 days from the date of submitting the offer. After verifying the offer and supplementing any shortcomings, the Relocation Group together with the Krakow City Hall will confirm the possibility of organizing the relocation of refugees from Krakow to another country.



Best regards
Grupa ds. relokacji Koalicji Otwarty Kraków
Jakub Kościółek Stowarzyszenie Interkulturalni PL
Tomasz Płoszański Fundacja Dostępny Świat