

FLEEING UKRAINE

DISPLACED PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES IN THE EU

UKRAINIAN SURVEY 2022



© European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2023

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

For any use or reproduction of photos or other material that is not under the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights copyright, permission must be sought directly from the copyright holders.

Neither the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights nor any person acting on behalf of the Agency is responsible for the use that might be made of the following information.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2023

Print	ISBN 978-92-9461-965-5	doi:10.2811/855252	TK-04-23-004-EN-C
PDF	ISBN 978-92-9461-966-2	doi:10.2811/39974	TK-04-23-004-EN-N

Photo credits:

Cover: © Valery Hache/AFP via Getty Images

Page 15: © NurPhoto via Getty Images

Page 19: © Derek Hudson/Getty Images News

Page 33: © Janos Kummer/Getty Images News

Page 36: © NurPhoto via Getty Images

Page 39: © Nicolas Tucet/AFP via Getty Images

Page 45: © Denis Charlet/AFP via Getty Images

Page 50: © Wojtek Radwanski/AFP via Getty Images

Page 56: © fizkes/AdobeStock

Page 57: © NurPhoto via Getty Images

Page 59: © Stefano Guidi/Getty Images News

Foreword

When Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine last February, it triggered scenes not witnessed in Europe for decades.

The unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine has since caused death, immense destruction, and unspeakable suffering. It also set in motion a mass movement of people not seen since World War II.

Europe has shown tremendous support and solidarity for the displaced people, welcoming and shuttling them to much-needed assistance. The European Union responded rapidly by activating the EU Temporary Protection Directive. This allowed people fleeing the conflict to quickly settle and to work, travel and access services across the EU.

But the measures provided were designed to be short-term fixes. We are fast approaching a state of long-term emergency. This calls for durable solutions to socio-economically integrate at least some people displaced by the war.

To better gauge their experiences, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) conducted a survey in the EU countries most affected by the mass exodus of people from Ukraine. It collected first-hand accounts of people as they journeyed from Ukraine to the EU. It also tells of their arrival and how they settled in the EU.

The findings are a story of how people across Europe opened their arms to provide shelter and succour. But real everyday challenges remain.

Language figures prominently as a barrier to education, employment and access to information and services. In addition, although some receive financial support from host governments, many displaced people have difficulties making ends meet, as the war robbed them of their homes and livelihoods.

Many have longstanding health issues. Depression is common. Unsurprisingly, many have been traumatised by their war.

These findings will guide EU and national policymakers as they fine tune rights-based solutions that best meet the challenges for those displaced by the conflict and their host countries.

Michael O'Flaherty
Director

Contents

Foreword	1
Key findings	5
Why this report?	7
About the survey	11
1 ARRIVING IN THE EU – HUMANITARIAN AID AND PROVISION OF INFORMATION	15
1.1. BACKGROUND	15
1.2. ENTERING THE EU	16
1.3. CHILDREN FLEEING FROM UKRAINE	17
1.4. INFORMATION ABOUT RIGHTS AND BENEFITS	17
1.5. LENGTH OF STAY IN HOST COUNTRY	20
2 SETTLING IN THE EU – RESIDENCE AND LEGAL STATUS	23
2.1. BACKGROUND	23
2.2. TEMPORARY PROTECTION AND ASYLUM APPLICATIONS	24
2.3. FUTURE PLANS OF RESPONDENTS	25
3 HOUSING	29
3.1. TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION	29
3.2. LACK OF PRIVACY	31
3.3. CHILDREN AND HOUSING	33
4 EDUCATION	35
4.1. ACCESS TO EDUCATION	35
4.2. EDUCATING CHILDREN	37
4.3. UNDERSTANDING AND SPEAKING THE HOST COUNTRY’S LANGUAGE	38
4.4. CHILDREN’S LANGUAGE SKILLS	38
5 EMPLOYMENT	41
5.1. ACCESS TO PAID WORK	41
5.2. BARRIERS TO FINDING PAID WORK	43
5.3. WORKING CONDITIONS	44
6 INCOME AND ENTITLEMENT TO SOCIAL BENEFITS	47
6.1. SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME	47
6.2. MAKING ENDS MEET	48
6.3. ASSISTANCE IN HOST COUNTRY	49
6.4. PERCEPTIONS OF UNFAIR TREATMENT	50
6.5. CHILDREN TREATED UNFAIRLY FOR BEING UKRAINIAN	51
7 HEALTH	53
7.1. ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE	53
7.2. EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING	55
7.3. CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	56
8 EXPERIENCES OF VIOLENCE AND ACCESS TO SPECIALISED SUPPORT	59
8.1. TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES IN UKRAINE	60
8.2. CHILDREN’S TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES	61
8.3. INCIDENTS IN THE EU	61
8.4. CHILDREN EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS	64
Annex: The survey sample	65

FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1:	EU Member States covered by the survey	11
Figure 2:	Who children fled Ukraine with (left) and children’s parents remaining in Ukraine (right)	17
Figure 3:	Sufficient provision of information on rights and benefits in a language the respondents understood, by country (%)	18
Figure 4:	Respondents’ length of stay in the host country in months, by gender (%)	20
Figure 5:	Proportion of respondents who had applied for temporary protection and asylum in their host country, by country (%)	24
Figure 6:	Outcomes of respondents’ asylum applications (%)	25
Figure 7:	Long-term plans of survey respondents, by country (%)	26
Figure 8:	Type of current accommodation, by country (%)	30
Figure 9:	Respondents’ paying for accommodation where they are currently staying, by country (%)	31
Figure 10:	People staying with respondents aged 18+ in their current accommodation, by country (%)	32
Figure 11:	Respondents in education in the host country, by country and gender (%)	36
Figure 12:	Respondents speaking the language of the host country, by country (%)	38
Figure 13:	Respondents’ attendance at national language courses, by country (%)	39
Figure 14:	Respondents’ paid work rates, by country and gender (%)	42
Figure 15:	Current participation in employment and education among respondents aged 16–24	43
Figure 16:	Respondents’ reasons for not being employed (%)	44
Figure 17:	Ability of respondents to make ends meet in the host country, by country (%)	49
Figure 18:	Respondents’ perceptions of unfair treatment in the host country, by country (%)	51
Figure 19:	Respondents’ subjective assessment of their own health, by country (%)	54
Figure 20:	Respondents’ feelings since arriving in the host country (%)	56
Figure 21:	Children’s emotional states since arriving in the host country, by age group (%)	57
Figure 22:	Incidents experienced by respondents in Ukraine since the conflict started in February 2022, by gender (%)	60
Figure 23:	Consequences of incidents respondents have experienced elsewhere since the start of the conflict in Ukraine, by gender (%)	62
Figure 24:	Respondents who have sought medical or psychological support and who have received it since arriving in the host country, by country (%)	63
Figure 25:	Problems 12- to 15-year-olds have experienced since the conflict in Ukraine started (%)	64
Table 1:	Proportion of respondents who were not at all aware of their rights and the services available to them, by country and type of service (%)	19
Table 2:	Respondents’ problems with their current accommodation, by country (%)	31
Table 3:	Respondents’ reasons for not attending education, by country (%)	37
Table 4:	Characteristics of respondents’ paid work (%)	42
Table 5:	Share of respondents who experienced exploitation at work (%)	45
Table 6:	Respondents’ sources of income for daily costs in the host country, by country (%)	48
Table 7:	Actors providing respondents with assistance in the host country, by country (%)	50
Table 8:	Respondents’ barriers to accessing healthcare in the host country, by country (%)	55
Table 9:	Respondents by age and gender by country (%), and total sample sizes	65

Key findings

The main findings of the survey are as follows.

- ★ Most respondents did not face difficulties when travelling into and within the European Union (EU). Most feel that they received enough information on their rights and the services available to them under the Temporary Protection Directive.
- ★ While one third of respondents applied for asylum in their host country, the great majority applied for temporary protection. There are significant differences in this regard between Member States.
- ★ One in three respondents ultimately want to return to Ukraine. A similar proportion would prefer to remain in their host country. One quarter of respondents remain undecided.
- ★ A large number of displaced people have entered the EU. It is not surprising that the majority, six in 10 respondents, were living in private accommodations at the time of the survey. More than half of these were paying for this, in part or in full. For many, their accommodation is far from ideal. They often lack privacy and need to share a kitchen or bathroom with strangers. Many adult respondents with dependent children were living in housing where the children had no access to a quiet or separate room where they could study.
- ★ Less than half of those who were in education shortly before fleeing Ukraine have continued their education in the host country. The language barrier is the main reason for this. Four in 10 respondents had not attended a language course in their host country since their arrival. Addressing this issue will require more opportunities for displaced people to attend language courses. Almost two thirds of children availed themselves of online education provided by schools or universities in Ukraine, or taught themselves using materials and other support from Ukraine.
- ★ About two thirds of those who had been in paid work in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 found a job in the host country. Yet two thirds of working-age respondents were not in paid work at the time of the survey. The main barriers to accessing employment were not knowing the language of the host country well enough and caring responsibilities, particularly for women. It is of particular concern that three in 10 respondents have experienced some form of exploitation at work.
- ★ Financial issues are of concern to every second respondent aged 16 years or over. These respondents report that their household has some or great difficulty making ends meet in the host country. Just over one quarter of adult respondents can cover their basic day-to-day living expenses through their work. Only about half of adult respondents say that the authorities have assisted them financially since their arrival.
- ★ Only one in three respondents consider themselves to be in good or very good health. Every second respondent reports longstanding illness or health problems. Half of respondents aged 16+ faced problems accessing healthcare because of language difficulties or because they did not know where to go or whom to contact.
- ★ Every second respondent stated that they had often or always felt downhearted and depressed since arriving in the host country. However, about two thirds of respondents feel optimistic about the future. One in three feels part of the community in their host country.
- ★ This optimism is in spite of the high proportion of respondents who were exposed to traumatic experiences in Ukraine or the EU. Only about one third of the respondents have sought medical or psychological support since their arrival in the EU. About one quarter of that group have not received the support they sought. Worryingly, about half of the younger children (aged 12–15) who participated in the survey report having difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating, a loss of self-confidence or feeling vulnerable.

Why this report?

Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 caused destruction and suffering on a scale not seen in Europe since the World War II. Millions of people displaced by the war entered the European Union (EU), triggering a wave of solidarity from EU governments, local authorities, civil society and many individuals.

Within days of the beginning of the invasion, on 4 March 2022, the EU activated the Temporary Protection Directive¹ for the first time. All Member States must offer protection to those displaced from Ukraine, as set out in the directive.²

The directive entitles displaced people fleeing the war in Ukraine to legal residence and access to housing, work, social assistance, education and healthcare for a period of one year. The duration of temporary protection for Ukrainians was subsequently extended by another year, until March 2024.³ By December 2022, nearly 4 million people fleeing Ukraine enjoyed temporary protection in the EU.

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) collected evidence through field missions and from other sources reporting on the situation in March, May and October 2022.⁴

FRA's related work

This survey report complements FRA's bulletins on the impact on fundamental rights in the EU of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The two bulletins published to date draw on national-level research by FRA's research network, Franet. They provide additional context on the legal and policy background.

- FRA (2022), *The war in Ukraine – Fundamental rights implications within the EU – Bulletin 1*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.
- FRA (2022), *The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine – The broad fundamental rights impact in the EU – Bulletin 2*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

As part of its *Fundamental Rights Report 2023*, FRA will issue in June a dedicated focus chapter on the fundamental rights implications for the EU of the war in Ukraine.

In parallel, it launched a large-scale online survey of those fleeing Ukraine. This aimed to gather personal experiences of their journey to, arrival in and settling in the EU. The survey covered displaced people, including many children, in the 10 EU Member States hosting large numbers of people registered for temporary protection (see Figure 1).

There were 14,685 respondents to the survey. The findings presented in this report provide a unique insight into their experiences and feelings, which reveal positive achievements.

In addition to capturing these experiences, the findings provide insights into the practical challenges that the EU and its Member States face in implementing the Temporary Protection Directive. Many of these challenges are structural in nature and can be expected to remain acute when the directive ceases to apply in March 2024.

The survey findings vividly illustrate the challenges inherent in applying an instrument of temporary protection to a situation that is likely to have a long-term impact on people and our societies. We risk finding ourselves

in a situation of 'permanent emergency', applying short-term solutions to long-term problems.

The findings point to an urgent need to consider what will happen when the temporary protection provided under the directive ends. It is therefore necessary to start a discussion about durable long-term solutions to ensure that those displaced by the war are properly socioeconomically included in our societies.

The data can help policymakers at EU and national levels to design measures to protect and assist those displaced. The findings will help them to prioritise areas of life to ensure that the protection provided is effective in the long term.

The initiatives that the EU and its Member States develop to foster the reconstruction of Ukraine after the war will need to entail measures that favour the safe, gradual and progressive return of displaced people to Ukraine. These should include establishing efficient systems of transition, and repatriation support schemes. Such schemes should address (re)integration into the educational system and the labour market, and the sustainable long-term treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Endnotes

- ¹ **Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons and on measures promoting a balance of efforts between Member States in receiving such persons and bearing the consequences thereof**, OJ 2001 L 212.
- ² For references to related national legislation, see the FRA web page on **national legislation implementing the EU Temporary Protection Directive in selected EU Member States** (updated August 2022). Denmark, which is not bound by the directive, has adopted national legislation that strongly resembles it.
- ³ See the Council of the European Union web page on the **main results of the Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting of 13–14 October 2022**.
- ⁴ FRA (2022), *The war in Ukraine – Fundamental rights implications within the EU: Bulletin 1*, Luxembourg, Publications Office of the European Union (Publications Office); FRA (2022), *The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine – The broad fundamental rights impact in the EU – Bulletin 2*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

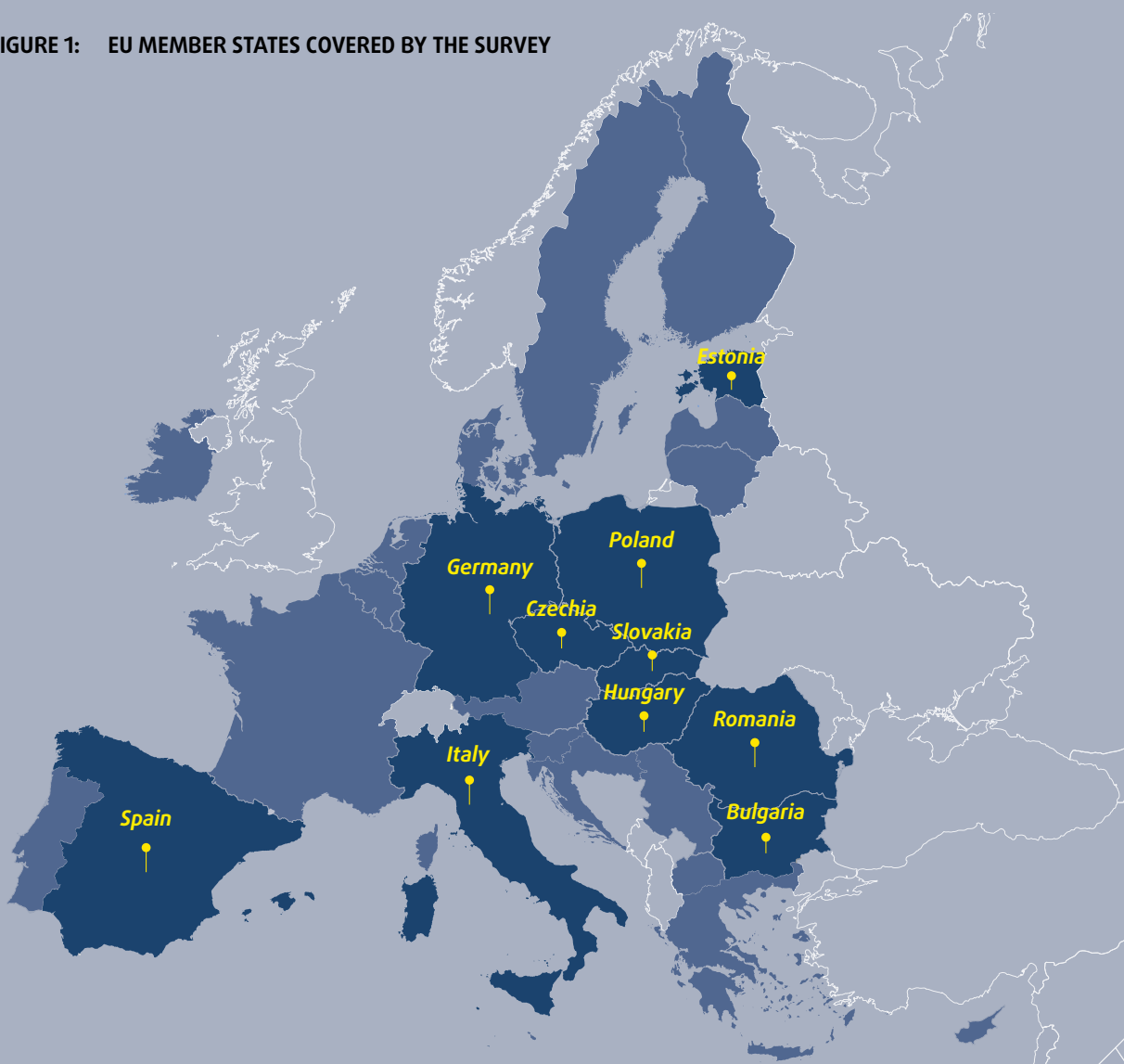
About the survey

This survey was an open online survey. It was accessible via URL link or QR code from **22 August 2022 to 29 September 2022**. The results reflect people's responses during this period.

It was carried out in 10 EU countries that:

- share a land border with Ukraine (Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia); or
- had the largest numbers of people displaced from Ukraine when FRA chose the countries for the survey (Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Italy and Spain); or
- had a large population of people displaced from Ukraine relative to their total population (Estonia).

FIGURE 1: EU MEMBER STATES COVERED BY THE SURVEY



Eligible respondents had to:

- be at least 12 years old;
- be staying in a country selected for the survey (even if only passing through it at the time);
- be Ukrainian citizens or residents, including EU or third-country nationals, who resided permanently in Ukraine prior to 24 February 2022; and
- have arrived in the EU shortly before or after 24 February 2022.

Please refer to the annex to this report for the relative proportions of different groups of respondents within the overall sample.

Adjusting survey questions for children

Children aged 12–17 received a shorter, age-appropriate version of the adult questionnaire, with several child-specific questions. Children aged 16–17 received relevant questions from the adult questionnaire.

Children aged 12–15 could take part only if a parent or legal guardian provided consent and forwarded the child the link to the children's questionnaire. Therefore, the sample of 12- to 15-year-old children is relatively small. It may not represent the full variety of situations that children fleeing the war in Ukraine have faced.

The Agency's research network Franet helped to promote the survey to ensure high rates of participation and representation of various strata of the target population. It used various channels to inform potential respondents about the survey and promote participation. These included social media and other online and offline channels (e.g. banners on the websites of relevant organisations and posters in the premises of non-governmental organisations and in churches). The offline channels were used to recruit hard-to-reach groups within the target population (e.g. elderly people).

Open online surveys do not claim to be representative of the target population. FRA took several steps to make the survey as representative as possible. For example, it tried to reach out to as many people displaced from Ukraine as possible. In doing so, it aimed to account for their diversity (in terms of age, gender, religion, sexual orientation and skin colour), while bearing in mind that the majority of people who have fled Ukraine are women and children.

The findings are based on weighted data that account for differences in the estimated size of the target population in each country surveyed, including in terms of gender and age. Estimates of the size of the target population were based on statistics from the countries surveyed.¹

The report includes selected key results. These show what EU countries have done to implement selected Temporary Protection Directive provisions in the light of the unprecedented situation and the experiences of people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine.

The questionnaires encouraged respondents to add personal comments or notes on their experiences at the end. This report quotes some of them to illustrate the results.

The report refers to specific age groups. These are young children (12–15), children (12–17), respondents aged 16+, adults (18+), and children and adults (12+). If an age group is not specified, the results refer to the entire sample (all aged 12+).

The results are disaggregated by sociodemographic characteristics. These characteristics include, for example, country of residence, gender, age, limitations in daily activities and self-identified minority status (as Jewish, LGBT, or a minority in terms of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion² to the

extent the sample sizes allow this). Noteworthy differences between groups in this regard are highlighted in the report.

With regard to gender identification, respondents could select from the options 'as a woman', 'as a man' or 'in another way' when asked how they would describe themselves. The sample of respondents who selected 'in another way' was insufficient for analysis.

The overwhelming majority of respondents were women aged 18–64 (87 %). Men of this age accounted for only 8 % of respondents. The sample also included children aged 12–17 (2 %) and respondents aged 65+ (3 %).

This report does not include separate results for unaccompanied children. Only a small number (8) completed the survey, which meant that no conclusions could be drawn.

For more details, see the annex to this report.

Endnotes

- ¹ Franet contractors collected the national-level statistics. The sample benchmarks were calculated as weighted averages of the collected target population estimates. Weights were assigned to the target population estimates based on how recent they were and on their estimated accuracy.
- ² This category covers respondents who identified as 'Muslim', 'of Asian origin (e.g. from Vietnam, China, India)', 'Roma' or 'Black or of African descent'.

1

ARRIVING IN THE EU – HUMANITARIAN AID AND PROVISION OF INFORMATION

- ★ Entering the EU was relatively straightforward for most respondents.
- ★ Provision of information on rights and services available under the Temporary Protection Directive was fully or partly sufficient for the majority of respondents.

“We travelled 4,000 kilometres, the road was terrible, mountains of broken equipment, huge mass graves. There were a lot of checkpoints set by the occupants. They checked us and treated us very disrespectfully. I was 6 months pregnant and it was very hard and scary, but it was even more scary to stay there, in basements under shelling. I managed to calm down only after arriving in Europe. I gave birth to my daughter and I plan to stay here as there is nowhere else to go back to.”

(Slovakia, woman, 30)

1.1. BACKGROUND

Four EU countries – Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia – share a land border with Ukraine. They have all provided those fleeing the war with access to their territories from the beginning of the invasion.

Ukrainian nationals with a biometric passport have been able to enter the EU and non-EU Schengen countries visa free since 2017.¹ They were able to stay for up to 90 days within any period of 180 days. All others – including third-country nationals and stateless people – were able to enter because of the Schengen Borders Code humanitarian exception clause (Article 6 (5)).²



1.2. ENTERING THE EU

The survey asked respondents about problems they might have faced when entering the EU. These included long waiting times at the border, border officers treating them badly, confiscation of items and other issues.

More than half of respondents aged 16+ who fled the conflict in Ukraine (57 %) did not experience any problems. Respondents' most common problem was long waiting times at borders (40 %).

No remarkable differences were found between women and men. However, more respondents who identified as a minority in terms of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion said that border officials did not treat them well (11 %) than respondents who did not identify as such (3 %).

People fleeing from Ukraine often got separated from their families or members of their families.

Male Ukrainian citizens aged 18–60 were prohibited from travelling abroad unless they fulfilled exemption conditions. Exemption applies, for example, to those raising three or more children under the age of 18, those raising a child or children under the age of 18 on their own and those who have left for another state for permanent residence.

As a result, about half of the adult female respondents who were married, in a registered partnership or cohabiting (54 %) said that their partners were staying in Ukraine. This figure is about four times lower for married, partnered or cohabiting adult male respondents (14 %). Of all adult respondents, 5 % had a child under 18 and 15 % had a child over the age of 18 who remained in Ukraine.

“We stood on the Ukrainian border for 13 hours in the cold, with children!! We were standing all night! There were a lot of people in the line with small children who were crying loudly!!! There were elderly people as well ... We had nowhere to hide from the cold ... We had to light a fire to keep us warm. I still don't understand why this happened in this way!!! My children and I often remember that horror in February!!! I am very grateful to the Polish brothers who met us with sincerity right at the border. They understood everything, everything we had encountered, and they did everything to help! Warm food and drinks, personal hygiene products and even food for the dog were prepared for us. All procedures related to crossing the border in Poland were simplified as much as possible and everything was done quickly enough! We were placed inside warm, heated buses where we could warm up a little before the next trip to a temporary refugee camp. Wherever we appeared, we were treated with respect, sincerity and a desire to help!”
(Poland, female woman, 42)

Legal corner

Schengen Borders Code*

Article 6(5) – Entry conditions for third-country nationals

“(c) third-country nationals who do not fulfil one or more of the conditions laid down in paragraph 1 may be authorised by a Member State to enter its territory on humanitarian grounds, on grounds of national interest or because of international obligations. Where the third-country national concerned is the subject of an alert as referred to in paragraph 1(d), the Member State authorising him or her to enter its territory shall inform the other Member States accordingly.”

Article 7 – Conduct of border checks

“1. Border guards shall, in the performance of their duties, fully respect human dignity, in particular in cases involving vulnerable persons.

[...]

2. While carrying out border checks, border guards shall not discriminate against persons on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.”

*** Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders, OJ 2016 L 77 (Schengen Borders Code).**

“I would like to say a big thank you to all the people we met along the way for their help.”
(Slovakia, woman, 27)

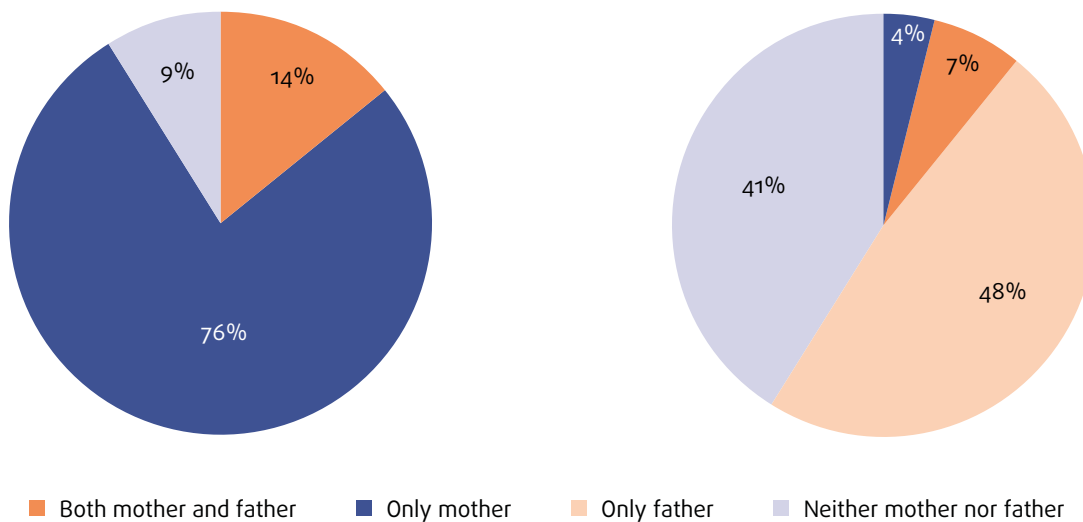
1.3. CHILDREN FLEEING FROM UKRAINE

Most of the children who responded to the survey fled Ukraine with only their mother (76 %). Only one in seven children (14 %) fled with both parents. Nearly one in 10 (9 %) fled with people other than their parents.

The survey also asked about other family members who might have fled with the children and/or their parents. Almost half of the children who responded to the survey fled with their sibling(s) (49 %). One in six children (16 %) had grandparents with them. One in eight children (12 %) were with other relatives.

More than half of the child respondents mentioned that their father was still in Ukraine (55 %). The proportion of children whose mothers were still in Ukraine was considerably lower (12 %).

FIGURE 2: WHO CHILDREN FLED UKRAINE WITH (LEFT)^{a,b,c} AND CHILDREN'S PARENTS REMAINING IN UKRAINE (RIGHT)^{a,d}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12–17, EU-10 (n = 324); weighted results.
- ^b The figure does not include the answer category 'Only father' because of 0 % prevalence.
- ^c Question was "With whom did you flee Ukraine?" (FamFlee).
- ^d Question was "Select from the list below all your family members who are still staying in Ukraine." (FamLeftUA).

1.4. INFORMATION ABOUT RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

National authorities have a duty to provide correct and accessible information about temporary protection and the benefits it entails. This stems from the right to good administration, which is a general principle of EU law.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 9

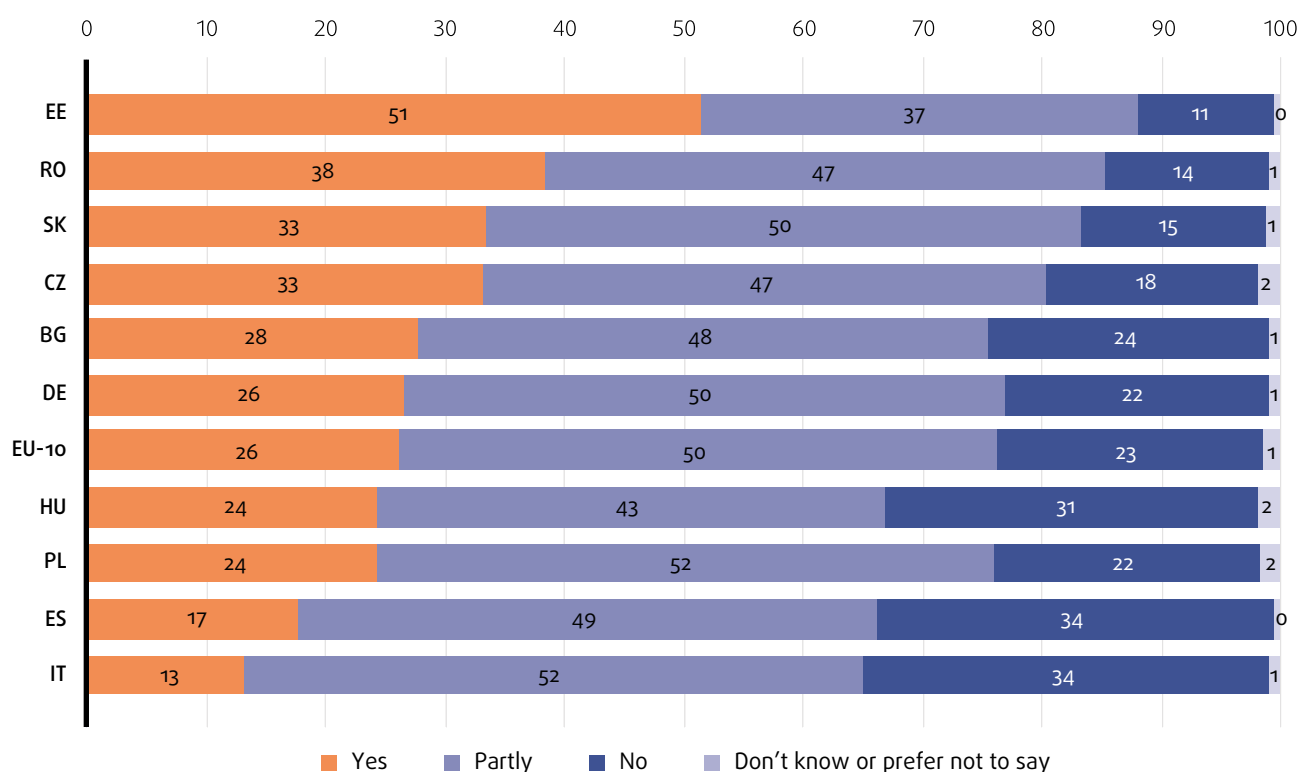
"The Member States shall provide persons enjoying temporary protection with a document, in a language likely to be understood by them, in which the provisions relating to temporary protection and which are relevant to them are clearly set out."

All adult respondents were asked about the information they had received on the rights and benefits they were entitled to in a language that they understood.

On average, around one in four respondents (26 %) said that they had received enough information in a language they understood. Half of respondents (50 %) said that the information they had received had been partly sufficient. However, almost one in four (23 %) respondents stated that they had not received enough information (Figure 3). This proportion was larger among respondents who identified as a minority in terms of racial or ethnic origin (33 %), or as Jewish (31 %).

“Loneliness and confusion are the biggest problem abroad!!!! I learned all the information from the chats of telegram channels!!! No one told me anything or invited me anywhere when I was applying. I searched for everything myself. Meetings of Ukrainians, psychological help, etc., all through social networks from refugees like myself.”
(Spain, woman, 43)

FIGURE 3: SUFFICIENT PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON RIGHTS AND BENEFITS IN A LANGUAGE THE RESPONDENTS UNDERSTOOD, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ (n = 14,361); weighted results.

^b Question was “Did you receive enough information on the rights and benefits you are entitled to as a person fleeing war in Ukraine in a language that you understand?” (SURPR3).

All respondents, children and adults, were asked how well they knew their rights and the services available to them in the host country.

The respondents were least aware of psychological support services. About one third had no awareness of these services (33 %). Considerably fewer respondents were not aware of other services and rights asked about in the survey. These included, for example, healthcare, accommodation, education in the host country, employment and support for learning the language of the host country (Table 1).

More than half of respondents thought that they had some or a lot of knowledge about services that could offer assistance in learning the language of the host country (61 %), accommodation services (59 %), education services in the host country (58 %), employment services (56 %) or healthcare services (55 %). More than half of the children (53 %) thought that they had some or a lot of information about leisure activities, sports, etc.

TABLE 1: PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS WHO WERE NOT AT ALL AWARE OF THEIR RIGHTS AND THE SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THEM, BY COUNTRY AND TYPE OF SERVICE (%)^{a,b,c}

Right/service	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
Psychological support services	33	38	31	41	13	43	31	44	26	19	19
Healthcare	12	16	9	10	8	8	20	11	14	11	15
Accommodation	12	9	13	8	8	17	21	23	13	2	5
Education in the host country	10	12	8	11	6	16	22	18	9	7	7
Employment	10	11	8	12	3	19	11	17	8	11	6
Support for learning the language of the host country	8	15	9	5	6	10	26	14	7	12	9

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

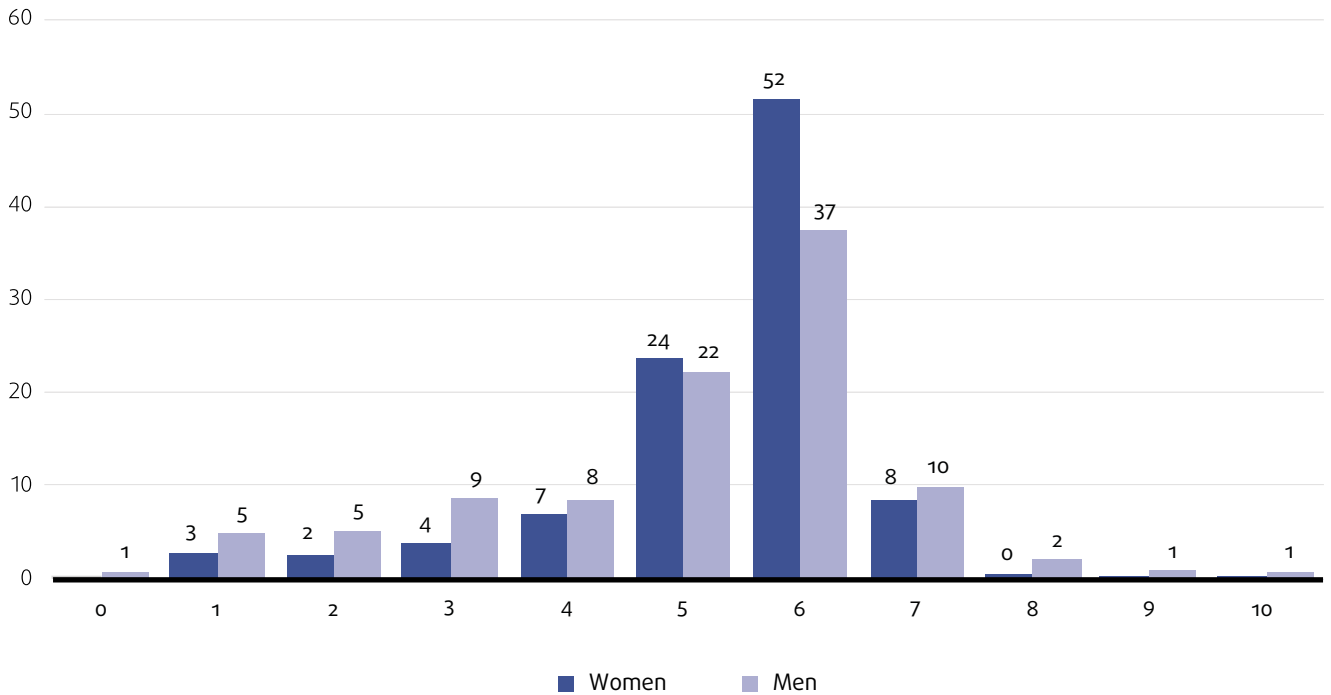
- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12 + (from top row down: n = 14,361; n = 14,685; n = 14,685; n = 14,685; n = 14,361; n = 14,685); weighted results.
- ^b Question was “How well do you know your rights and the services available to you in your current country?” (InfoRec). Question had the following response categories: ‘Not at all’, ‘A little’, ‘Some’, ‘A lot’ and ‘Don’t know’. The proportions presented in the table refer only to the response category ‘Not at all’.
- ^c Only respondents aged under 18 were asked the subquestions “Education in Ukrainian in your current country” and “Leisure (free-time) activities, sports, etc.”. This table does not include these questions due to insufficient sample size at country level.



1.5. LENGTH OF STAY IN HOST COUNTRY

At the time of the survey, most respondents aged 16+ had been staying in the host country for 5–6 months. This suggests that most left Ukraine in the early days of the conflict (Figure 4).

FIGURE 4: RESPONDENTS’ LENGTH OF STAY IN THE HOST COUNTRY IN MONTHS, BY GENDER (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+, EU-10 (n = 14,467); weighted results.
- ^b Question was “Since the start of the war in February 2022, how many months have you been staying in your current country?” (EntCountry).
- ^c Given the data collection period, some months of stay pre-date the war.

Endnotes

- ¹ European Commission (2017), *European Commission welcomes the Council adoption of visa liberalisation for the citizens of Ukraine*, Statement, STATEMENT/17/1270, 11 May 2017.
- ² FRA (2022), *The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine – The broad fundamental rights impact in the EU – Bulletin 2*, Luxembourg, Publications Office, p. 14.

2

SETTLING IN THE EU – RESIDENCE AND LEGAL STATUS

- ★ Almost all respondents applied for temporary protection. About one third applied for asylum. These figures differ significantly between Member States.
- ★ About one in three respondents would like to return to Ukraine in the long term. A similar share would like to stay in their host country. Almost one in four respondents has not decided.

“My family is grateful to the European Union for the asylum. We met nice people in different European countries and received letters of support from our European friends. In Germany, they are helping us a lot. And we have faced a good attitude towards us.”
(Germany, woman, 43)

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 17

“1. Persons enjoying temporary protection must be able to lodge an application for asylum at any time.”

Article 19

“1. The Member States may provide that temporary protection may not be enjoyed concurrently with the status of asylum seeker while applications are under consideration.”

2.1. BACKGROUND

The conflict in Ukraine forced millions of people to leave their homes and seek safety elsewhere. The EU had recorded 4,776,606 registrations for temporary protection as of 29 November 2022.¹

Beneficiaries of temporary protection receive a residence permit valid for one year. Temporary protection can be extended for up to three years. In October 2022, the EU decided to extend temporary protection until March 2024.²

Temporary protection beneficiaries are granted an extensive range of rights and benefits. These include access to employment, accommodation or housing, social welfare and medical care. Children have access to education, and families have the right to reunite. Beneficiaries also have access to banking services and can travel within the EU for 90 days within a 180-day period.³

The survey asked respondents if they had registered for **temporary protection** in their current country. Another question asked if they had applied for **asylum** since their arrival in the current country. Respondents were also asked about their citizenship: Ukrainian, Russian, citizenship of an EU country, other citizenship or no citizenship.

Almost all survey respondents (91 %) aged 16+ who did not have EU citizenship said that they had applied for temporary protection in the host country (**Figure 5**). Respondents who identified as a minority in terms of racial or ethnic origin were less likely to have applied for temporary protection than those who did not (76 % versus 92 %).

2.2. TEMPORARY PROTECTION AND ASYLUM APPLICATIONS

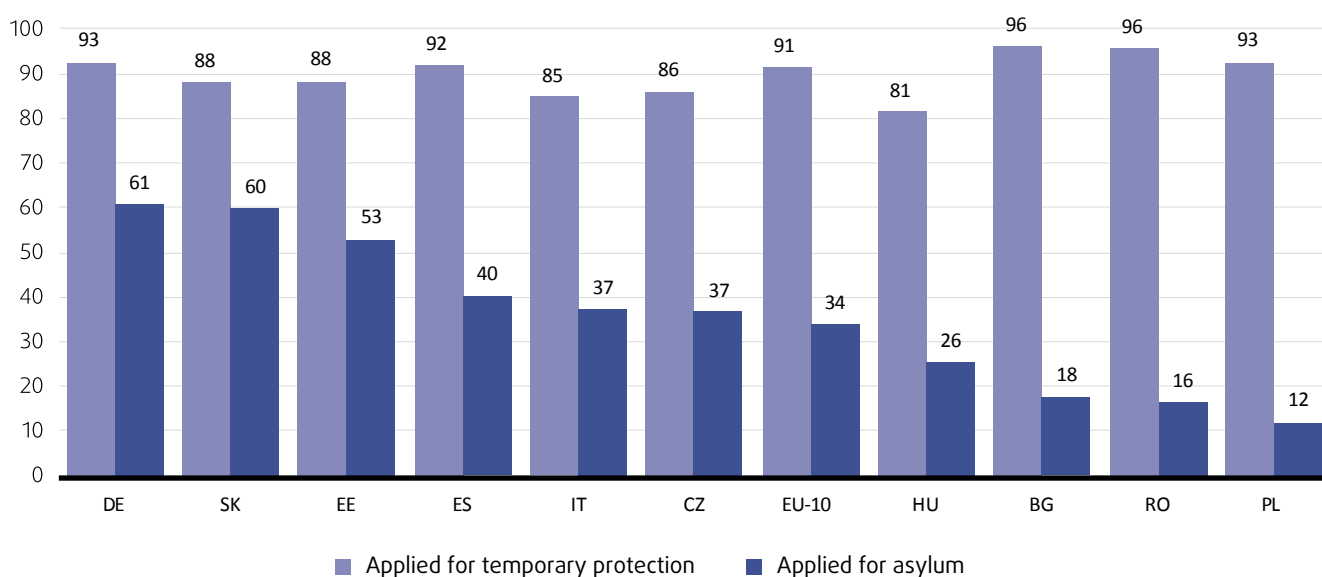
Beneficiaries of temporary protection must be allowed to apply for asylum if they wish.

Refugee status provides a very similar range of rights to temporary protection. The main difference is that not all rights become available to a person from the moment of applying for refugee status. For example, asylum applicants do not have access to employment while their applications are being considered. Temporary protection and asylum also differ in their validity periods, the possibility of free movement inside the EU, the assessment of individual circumstances and the administrative procedure for obtaining them.

If asylum is not granted, the applicants can enjoy temporary protection until the end of the protection period (Article 19 of the Temporary Protection Directive).

About a third of respondents (34 %) had applied for asylum (Figure 5). The proportion of people applying for asylum varied considerably between the countries surveyed. It ranged from 12 % in Poland to 61 % in Germany. No noticeable differences were observed with regard to gender, age or minority status.

FIGURE 5: PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS WHO HAD APPLIED FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTION^{a,b} AND ASYLUM^{c,d} IN THEIR HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

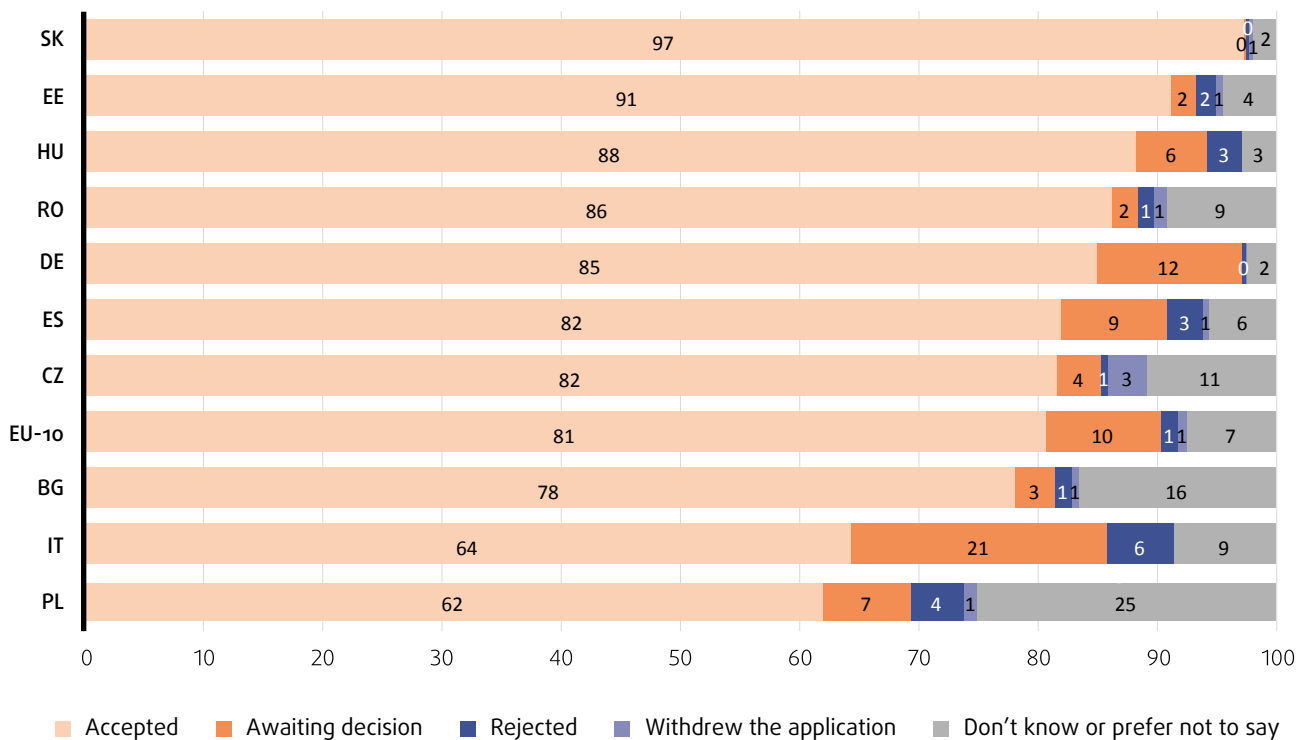
▲
Notes:

- ^a Values for temporary protection are out of all respondents aged 16+ who do not possess citizenship of an EU country (n = 14,445); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Have you applied for 'temporary protection' in your current country?" (SURPR1). Respondents in Poland were asked "Have you registered for PESEL/'temporary protection' in your current country?" The question was altered to reflect Poland's specific situation regarding temporary protection registration. PESEL is the Universal Electronic System for Registration of the Population (Powszechny Elektroniczny System Ewidencji Ludności).
- ^c Values for asylum are out of all respondents aged 18+ (n = 14,361); weighted results.
- ^d Question was "Since you arrived in your current country, have you applied for asylum?" (AsyApI).

Respondents were also asked about the outcome of their application. The asylum applications of four out of five (81 %) of these adult respondents had been accepted (Figure 6). One out of 10 (10 %) respondents were still awaiting a decision.

Only 1 % of the respondents across all countries surveyed said that their application for asylum had been rejected. Italy (6 %) and Poland (4 %) had the highest rates of rejection. Italy also had the highest proportion of respondents who were still awaiting a decision (21 %), followed by Germany (12 %).

FIGURE 6: OUTCOMES OF RESPONDENTS' ASYLUM APPLICATIONS (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ who applied for asylum (n = 4,666); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "What happened to your asylum application?" (AsyOut).

"No matter how good it is in the country I am in, my heart and soul wants to go home, so much that I am ready to return despite the war and shelling. I didn't think that emotionally it would be so difficult, although local people do a lot to help us and this pleases my soul, but my thoughts are only about home and my husband."
(Estonia, woman, 34)

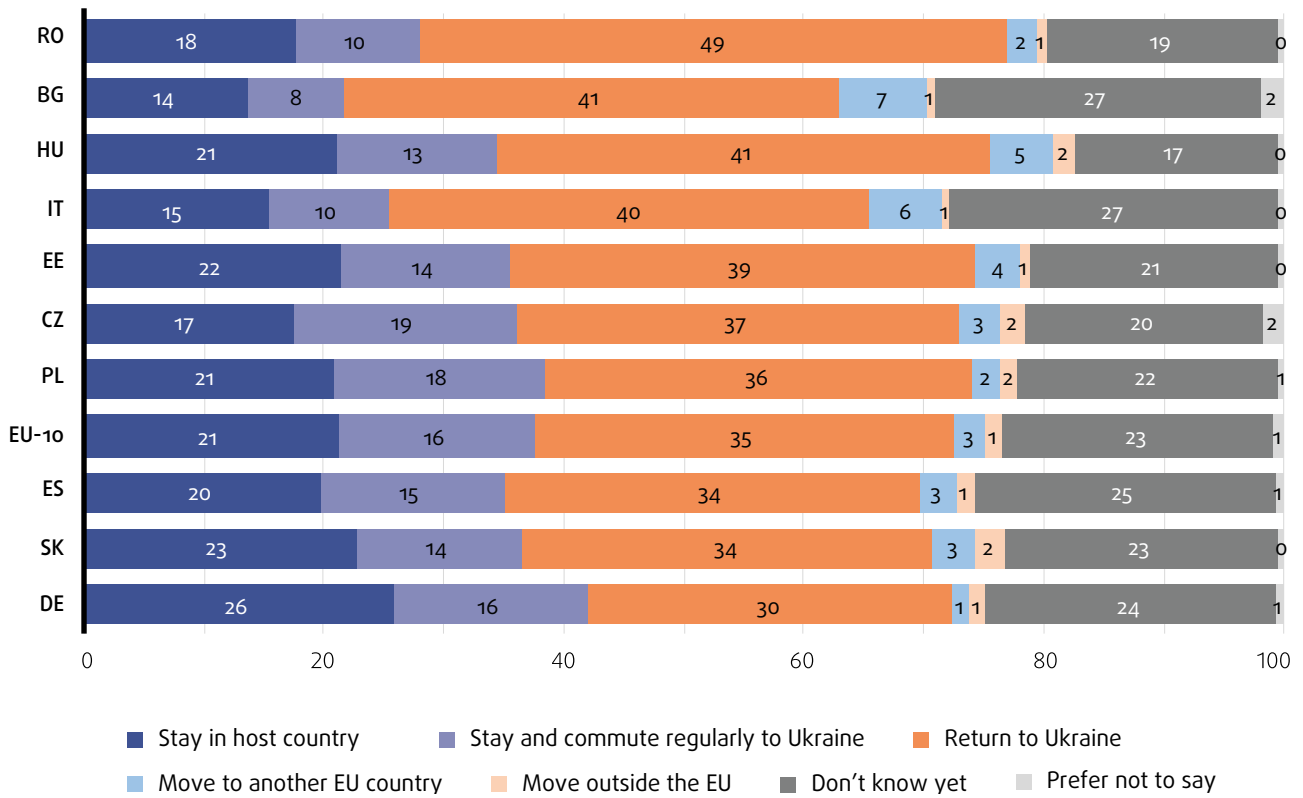
2.3. FUTURE PLANS OF RESPONDENTS

The survey also asked respondents aged 16+ about their future plans (Figure 7). The proportion of those who would like to return to Ukraine (35 %) was similar to the proportion of those who would like to stay in their host country (38 %). Almost one in four respondents (23 %) did not know what they would do yet. About 4 % planned to move elsewhere.

Considerably more men (45 %) than women (35 %) plan to stay in the host country.

Among respondents who have an ethnic minority background, more than half (52%) plan to stay in the host country. The share of respondents without an ethnic minority background who plan to stay in the country amounts to 37 %. Among those who self-identify as LGBT, 44 % plan to stay in the host country, compared with 37 % among those who do not.

FIGURE 7: LONG-TERM PLANS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 14,504); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "In the long term, are you planning to stay in your current country?" (FutPI).

Endnotes

- ¹ See the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [Operational Data Portal page on the Ukraine refugee situation](#).
- ² See the Council of the European Union web page on the main results of the [Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting of 13–14 October 2022](#).
- ³ FRA (2022), *The war in Ukraine – Fundamental rights implications within the EU: Bulletin 1*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

3

HOUSING

- ★ Nearly six out of 10 respondents were at the time of the survey staying in a private apartment or house. Of those, more than half were paying fully or partially for their accommodation.
- ★ The most common problems with accommodation are lack of privacy and sharing a kitchen or bathroom with strangers.
- ★ Most adult respondents live with dependent children. Often, they are in accommodation without a quiet or separate room for the children to study in.
- ★ Less than one in five respondents aged under 18 live with both their parents in the host country.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 13

"1. The Member States shall ensure that persons enjoying temporary protection have access to suitable accommodation or, if necessary, receive the means to obtain housing."

"The first 5 months of my stay was in the host family's flat. There were seven of us in a three-room flat. This was unrealistically hard. I have a small child. 2 years old. I had to handle absolutely all the issues in household matters with my child. Whether it is queuing at the migration service, filling out documents, doctors, shopping, looking for a flat, or buying and bringing furniture. I can't attend language courses because I don't have somebody to stay with my child."

(Germany, woman, 35)

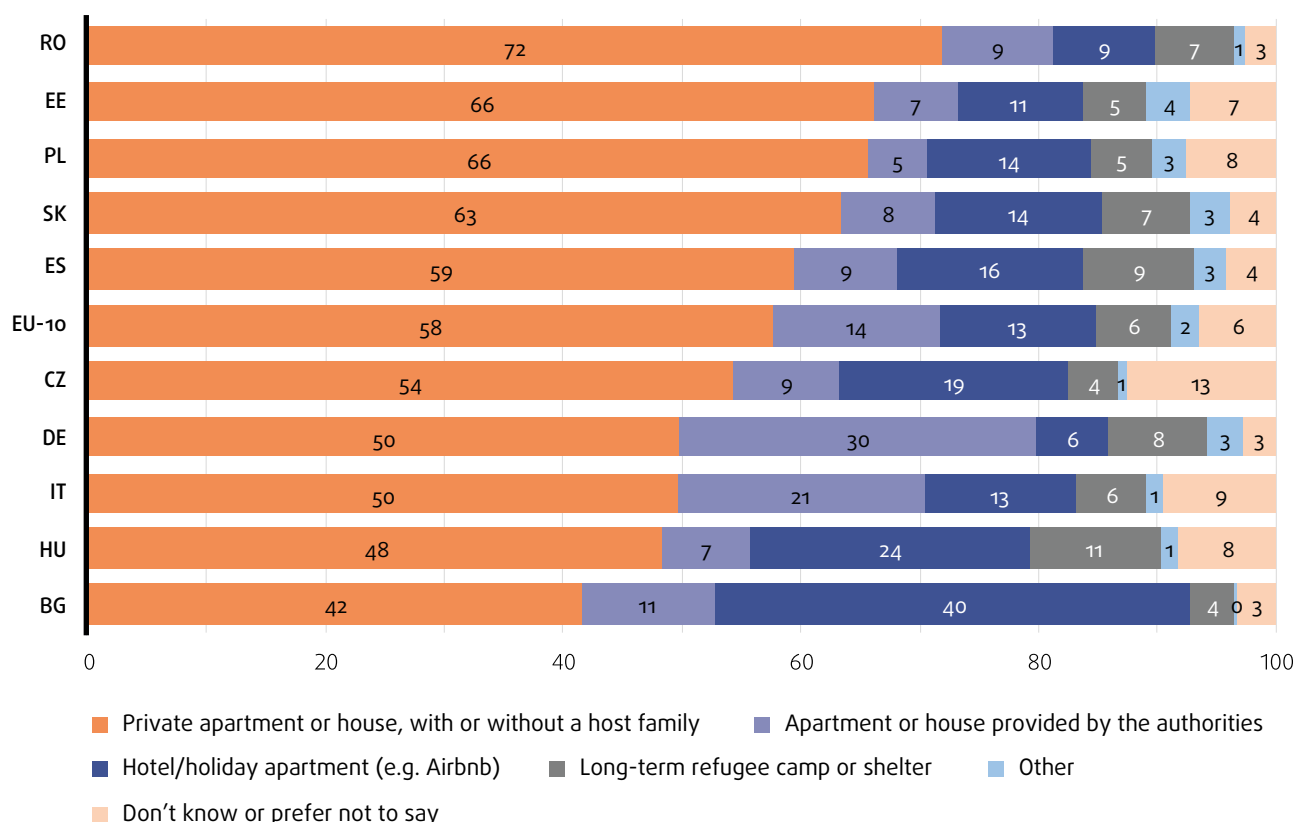
3.1. TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (the Charter) (Article 34 (3)) protects the right to social housing and housing assistance. The aim of this provision is to ensure a decent existence for all those who lack sufficient resources.

A European Commission communication of March 2022 highlights the need for Member States to include more permanent solutions in their broader housing policies. It notes the availability of the European structural and investment funds to support community-based housing and services.¹

The survey asked respondents aged 16+ what type of accommodation they were currently staying in. On average, more than half (58 %) were in private apartments or houses (**Figure 8**). Many respondents in Bulgaria (40 %), Hungary (24 %) and Czechia (18 %) were staying in hotels or holiday apartments. In Germany and Italy, similar proportions of respondents were living in accommodation provided by the authorities (30 % and 21 % respectively). Respondents with children were slightly more likely to be living in private apartments or houses than those without children (60 % versus 54 %).

FIGURE 8: TYPE OF CURRENT ACCOMMODATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Respondents were asked whether they paid, either fully or partly, for rent and/or utility costs. Those staying in long-term refugee camps or shelters, or other (unspecified) accommodation, were not asked this question.

On average, one third of respondents (35 %) were not paying rent (Figure 9). This rose to 49 % for respondents aged 65+. Four out of 10 respondents (38 %) said that they were paying the full cost (rent and/or utility costs).

There were notable variations between countries. Most respondents in Estonia (65 %) and Poland (54 %) paid in full for their accommodation. However, most respondents in Romania (65 %), Italy (58 %) and Slovakia (53 %) did not pay for housing.

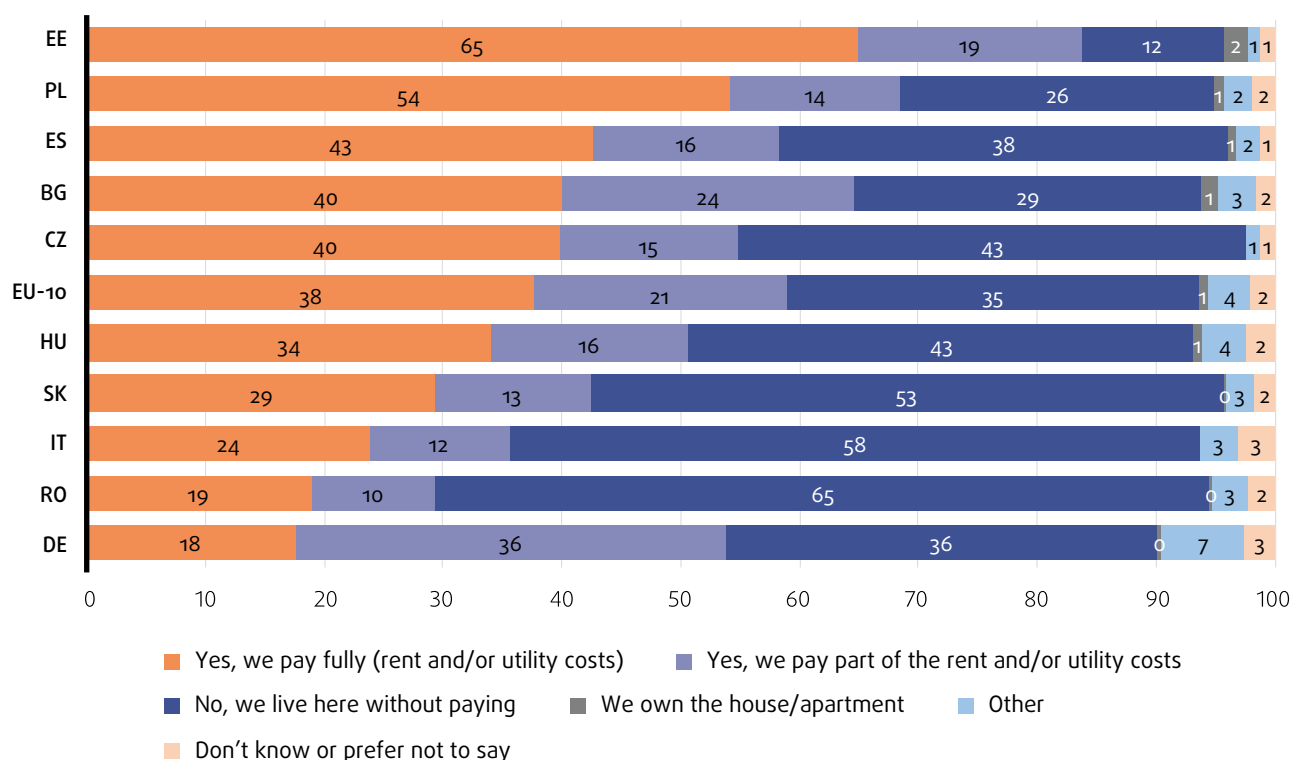
Almost one in five (18 %) adult respondents who were asked about payment mentioned doing housework or caring for children or older people in exchange for housing. Four in five (79 %) did not do housework or provide care in exchange for housing, while 3 % did not know or preferred not to say.

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 14,504); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "In what type of accommodation are you currently staying?" (AccTyp). Category 'Other' = 'Short-term shelter/sports hall/reception centre' + 'Unofficial shelter (e.g. tent in a train station, etc.)' + 'Special home for unaccompanied children'.

"Something needs to be done with the landlords to make them more loyal to Ukrainians, so that we can have a contract for renting a flat without a minimum term and without a deposit, because if a person cannot find housing without a deposit, it is very difficult with the rent because there is a minimum term of six months or a year plus the deposit, but people from Ukraine cannot plan in a state of war, they do not know when they will return home."
(Romania, woman, 32)

FIGURE 9: RESPONDENTS' PAYING FOR ACCOMMODATION WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY STAYING, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ who currently stay in a 'private apartment or house', an 'apartment or house provided by the authorities' or a 'hotel or holiday apartment' (n = 12,432); weighted results.

^b Question was "Do you pay for your housing?" (HLS02).

3.2. LACK OF PRIVACY

Most respondents across all survey countries note a lack of privacy (36 %) and sharing a kitchen (28 %) or bathroom (24 %) with strangers as problems with their accommodation (Table 2). Only 5 % said that they did not feel safe in their accommodation and 3 % felt unsafe in their neighbourhood.

TABLE 2: RESPONDENTS' PROBLEMS WITH THEIR CURRENT ACCOMMODATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}

Problem	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
Lack of privacy	36	36	38	34	33	39	24	39	38	26	31
Need to share a kitchen with strangers	28	17	33	26	18	27	24	32	29	12	27
Need to share a bathroom/toilet with strangers	24	12	27	22	17	23	22	22	26	9	19
No quiet/separate room for children to study	23	27	25	20	11	23	15	18	25	20	19
Too much noise	22	24	23	20	13	29	15	28	23	18	17
Don't get along with the people I share accommodation with	11	4	10	16	9	14	3	12	9	6	11
Too cold, leaking roof, mould or damp	7	12	7	7	5	7	7	13	7	4	3
Don't feel safe in my accommodation	5	4	5	6	3	5	3	8	4	3	4
Don't feel safe in my neighbourhood	3	4	4	4	4	5	3	2	3	3	3

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 14,685); weighted results.

^b Question was "Where you live now, do you face any of the following issues?" (AccProb). Respondents' could select multiple responses, so totals may add up to more than 100 %.

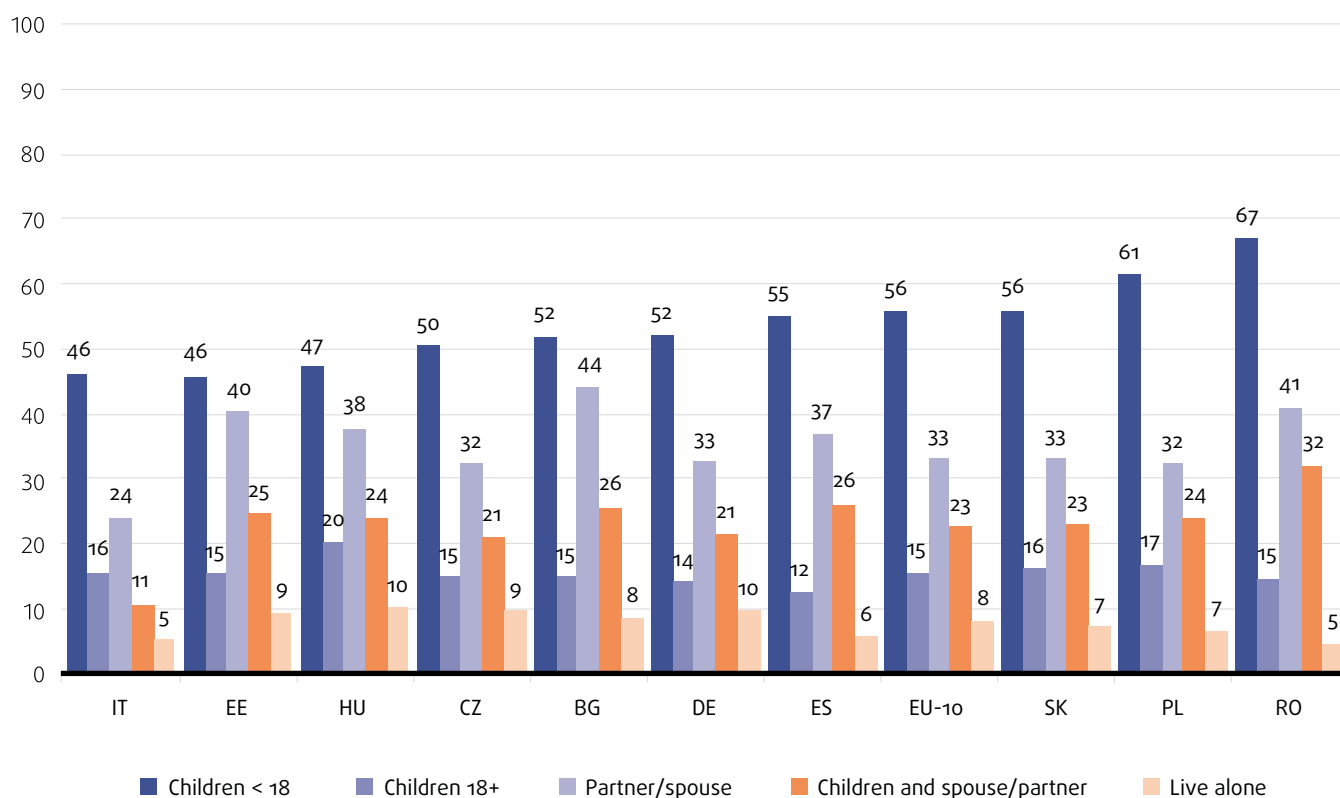
Almost a third of respondents aged 65+ noted a lack of privacy (29 %) and the need to share a kitchen (28 %) or bathroom/toilet (26 %) with strangers as problems. Not getting along with the people sharing their accommodation was a problem for 26 % of respondents who identified as a minority in terms of racial or ethnic origin. It was a problem for 20 % of LGBT respondents. LGBT respondents also considered lack of privacy (47 %) and too much noise (33 %) to be problems more often than non-LGBT respondents.

Respondents were asked who shared their accommodation. They could select several responses, unless they lived alone.

Two thirds of adult respondents (66 %) were living with their or their partner’s children (regardless of age), and 56 % with children younger than 18 (Figure 10). A third of adult respondents (33 %) were living with their partner/spouse. Less than a quarter of adult respondents (23 %) were living with children and their partner/spouse. A small share of respondents were living alone (8 %).

“There are big problems with housing in Germany. Living with strangers who have bad habits. Impossible to find housing. In refugee centres, there are many wild people everywhere who drink, smoke and listen to loud music. There is no control, no video cameras and no officers on duty.”
(Germany, man, 23)

FIGURE 10: PEOPLE STAYING WITH RESPONDENTS AGED 18+ IN THEIR CURRENT ACCOMMODATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ (n = 14,361); weighted results.

^b Question was “Who lives with you in the same accommodation in the country you are staying?” (FamCC). Multiple responses could be selected, so totals may add up to more than 100 %. ‘Children < 18’ = ‘Children younger than 18 years under your responsibility’; ‘Children 18+’ = ‘Children 18 years or older (your or your partner’s)’.

3.3. CHILDREN AND HOUSING

The overwhelming majority of children aged 12–17 said that they lived with their mothers (88 %); 52 % lived with their siblings, 21 % with their fathers, 19 % with both their mothers and fathers, 15 % with their grandparent(s) and 12 % with other relatives. In addition, 6 % lived with people who had offered them housing, 4 % with legal guardians or carers, and 3 % with other people. No child reported living alone.

Children most often spoke of lack of privacy and lack of a quiet or separate room to study as problems with their accommodation. Lack of privacy was an issue for 48 % of 16- to 17-year-olds and for 42 % of 12- to 15-year-olds. Not having a room to study in was a problem for 45 % of 16- to 17-year-olds and 40 % of 12- to 15-year olds.

The survey asked all respondents how satisfied they were with their current accommodation. Respondents answered using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means 'very dissatisfied' and 10 represents 'very satisfied'. About four in 10 respondents (43 %) gave a score of 8 or higher, meaning that they were satisfied. By contrast, 6 % gave a score of 2 or lower, meaning that they were dissatisfied.



Endnote

- ¹ European Commission (2022), *Welcoming those fleeing war in Ukraine – Readyng Europe to meet the needs*, COM(2022) 131 final, Brussels, 23 March 2022.

4

EDUCATION

- ★ Less than half of respondents who were in education shortly before leaving Ukraine have continued their education in their host country.
- ★ Almost two thirds of children attend online education with a school/university in Ukraine or teach themselves using materials/with support from Ukraine.
- ★ Language issues are the main reason for not attending education offered by the host country.
- ★ Nearly four in 10 respondents who need to learn the host country's language to continue their education have not attended a language course since arriving.

“Big problems with education: It is impossible to find a place in a kindergarten (it is a vicious circle, if a mother arrived alone with a child, she cannot go to work, but must stay at home with the child), it is difficult with free places in schools.”

(Slovakia, woman, 36)

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 14

“1. The Member States shall grant to persons under 18 years of age enjoying temporary protection access to the education system under the same conditions as nationals of the host Member State. The Member States may stipulate that such access must be confined to the state education system.

2. The Member States may allow adults enjoying temporary protection access to the general education system.”

4.1. ACCESS TO EDUCATION

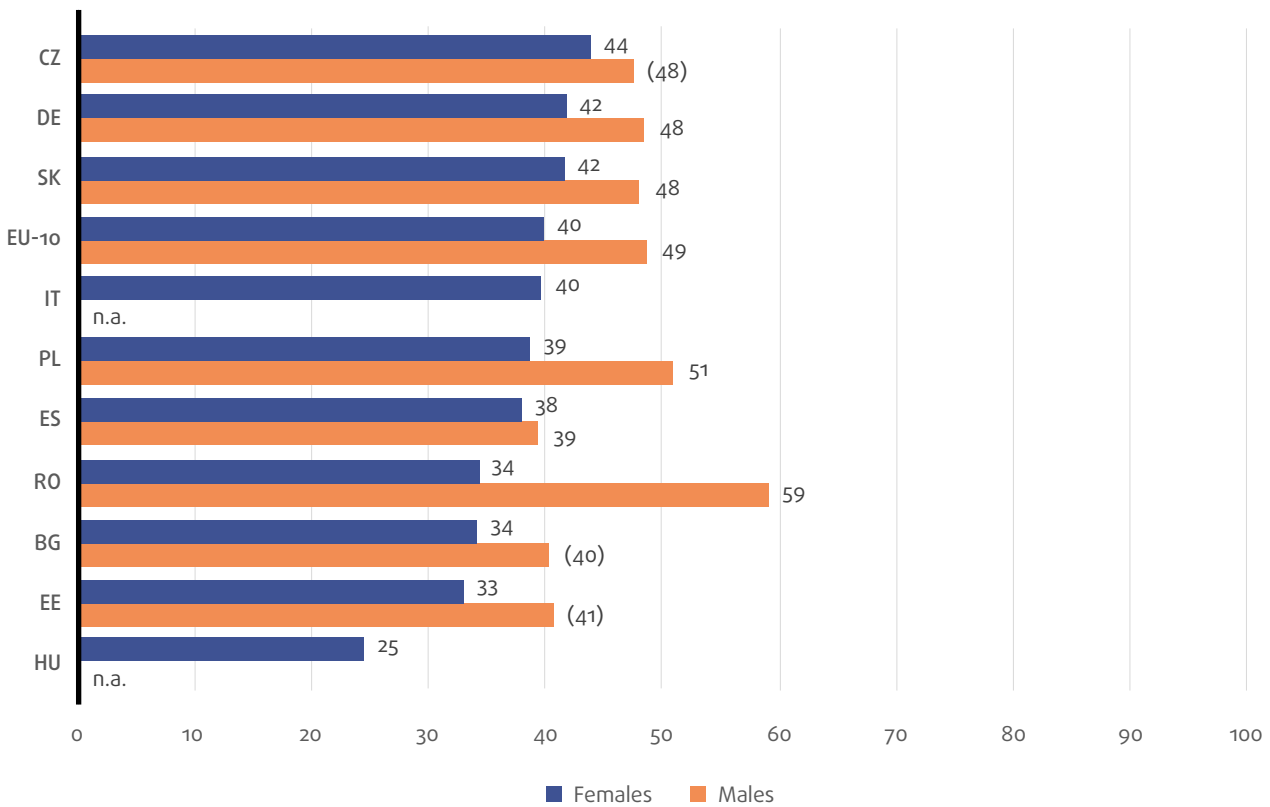
Article 14 of the Charter guarantees the right to education. In March 2022, the European Commission emphasised the need to address language barriers and psychological trauma; provide parents with information about educational support; ensure access to extracurricular activities, psychological care and language classes; and recruit Ukrainian-speaking teachers to support children's integration into the education system.¹ The Commission also underlined that children's access to education must be ensured as soon as materially possible.²

In April 2022, the European Commission suggested steps to facilitate recognition of qualifications obtained abroad.³ In June 2022, it collected experiences of and knowledge on the educational inclusion of displaced children from Ukraine.⁴

Respondents were asked if they had been in education just before leaving Ukraine, and whether they were in education now. This could be online (with an institution in Ukraine) or in person in the host country.

On average, almost a quarter of all respondents (23 %), children and adults, were currently in education (online with a school in Ukraine or in person with a school in the host Member State). A total of 43 % of those who had been in education shortly before leaving Ukraine had continued their education (**Figure 11**). Attendance rates differed for females (average 40 %) and males (average 49 %) across all countries surveyed. Most children aged 12–15 (93 %) and aged 16–17 (73 %) who had been in education shortly before leaving Ukraine were attending school.

FIGURE 11: RESPONDENTS IN EDUCATION IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY AND GENDER (%)^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Respondents who had been in education shortly before leaving Ukraine but were not attending education in their host country were asked why they had not continued their education (Table 3).

The largest proportion said that this was because they had completed their education (74 %). The next most popular reason was inability to speak the language of the host country (19 %), except in Italy. A smaller proportion of respondents said that they needed to care for their children or older relatives (12 %). On average, 9 % could not afford to continue their education. This was an issue particularly in Italy (12 %).

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+ who attended education just before leaving Ukraine (n = 5,248); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Do you attend education now? This may be online or in person in your current country. If you currently have summer holidays, but you generally attend education, please select 'yes'. By education we mean attending school, university, other educational institution or following a job-related training (apprenticeship or vocational education)." (EduCC).
- ^c Figure does not include values calculated from less than 20 observations in a group total (indicated as not applicable ('n.a.')). Values calculated from 20-50 observations in a group total are in brackets.



TABLE 3: RESPONDENTS' REASONS FOR NOT ATTENDING EDUCATION, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}

Reason	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
I completed my education	74	79	73	74	73	68	84	69	75	79	84
I don't speak the language	19	15	19	27	13	23	20	10	16	13	12
I have to take care of my children/ older relatives	12	14	8	9	6	10	10	9	15	12	12
I cannot afford it	9	5	12	7	4	9	15	12	9	6	6
I don't have enough time	8	8	10	5	4	6	12	6	11	5	10
I don't have a laptop or tablet to follow online education	8	7	4	8	4	4	7	2	10	5	5
I have no steady place to live yet	7	8	10	8	3	9	9	2	7	1	1
Other	6	4	10	5	9	7	3	12	4	6	5
My Ukrainian certificates weren't accepted	3	4	2	3	2	3	3	9	2	1	3
The course/activities have not started yet	3	0	6	4	7	2	0	0	1	3	4
Apprenticeship, traineeship or other job-related training wasn't possible	2	1	4	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	2
I wasn't accepted to a school/ educational institution	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	5

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+ who attended education just before leaving Ukraine and do not attend education in the host country (n = 3,604); weighted results.

^b Question was "You mentioned that you attended education in Ukraine but not any more. Why? Select all that apply." (ReasNoEdu).

4.2. EDUCATING CHILDREN

The school attendance rate of young children (12–15) is 92 %. Overall, 73 % of children aged 16–17 who had been in education in Ukraine were in education in their host country (either online with a school in Ukraine or in person with a school in the host EU Member State).

When asked why they did not attend school, 40 % of those aged 12–15 mentioned not having a laptop or tablet to follow online education (13 % of those aged 16–17). More than a quarter (27 %) of those aged 12–15 cited not having a steady place to live yet as the reason (11 % of those aged 16–17). Some 19 % had not been accepted by a school (6 % of those aged 16–17) and 19 % could not afford to attend school (11 % of those aged 16–17).

Children who were attending school were also asked also about how they were learning (in a school in the host country, online with a Ukrainian school or on their own, or doing job-related training). Overall, 71 % attended school or university in the host country (76 % for young children (12–15) and 64 % for children aged 16–17). Almost two thirds of children (59 %) attended online education with a Ukrainian school or taught themselves using materials/with support from Ukraine. Fewer young children (12–15) were learning online than those aged 16–17 (55 % versus 64 %).

Children who attended school in the host country were asked if the school taught any subjects or provided study materials in the main language they spoke at home.

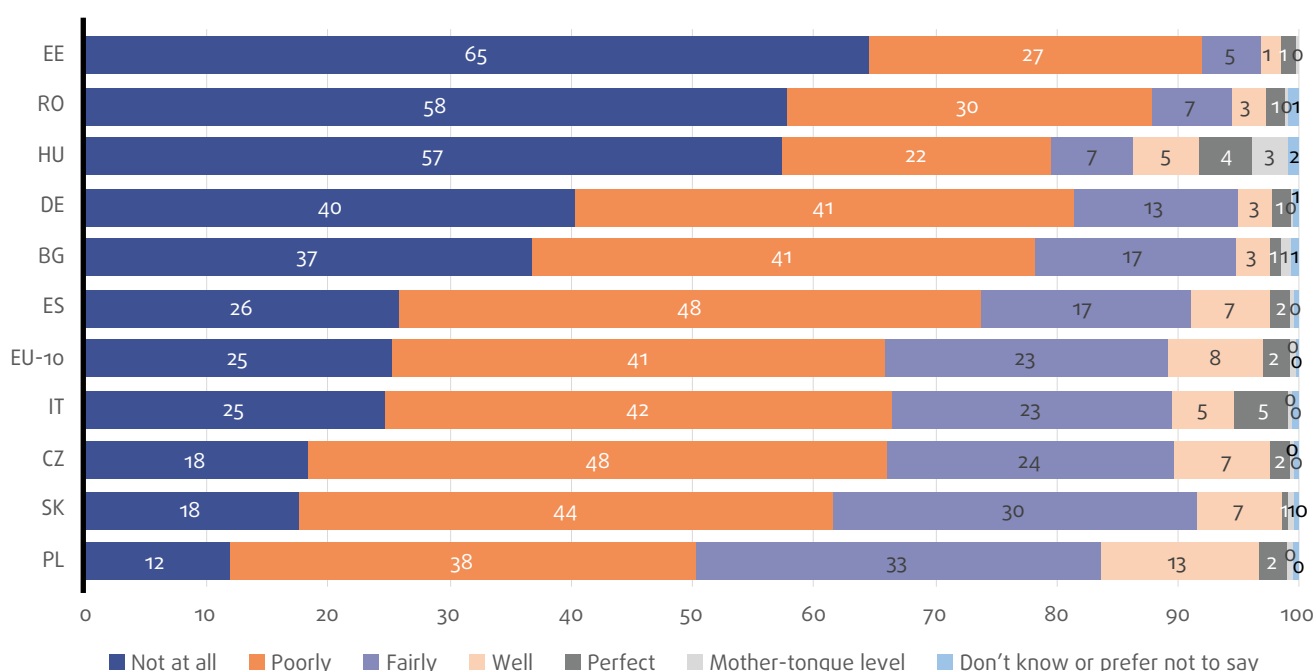
Most children (71 %) who go to school in their host country were not taught any subject in school in the language they mainly spoke at home. At least some subjects were taught in the main language spoken at home to 24 % of the children. Half of these children (55 %) did not have any of the learning materials they were currently using in the language they mainly spoke at home. However, 22 % had at least some materials and 19 % had many or all materials in the main language spoken at home.

4.3. UNDERSTANDING AND SPEAKING THE HOST COUNTRY'S LANGUAGE

Respondents (12+) were asked how well they spoke the language of the host country. Across all countries, only 10 % of respondents spoke the language well, perfectly or at mother-tongue level.

A quarter of respondents (25 %) did not speak the language at all (Figure 12). This proportion reached 65 % in Estonia, 58 % in Romania and 57 % in Hungary. It was only 12 % in Poland, and 18 % in Czechia and Slovakia. The proportion increased with age, reaching 40 % for respondents aged 65+. However, it was only 13 % for young children (12–15) and 6 % for children aged 16–17.

FIGURE 12: RESPONDENTS SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE OF THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Respondents who did not speak the language of their host country sufficiently well were asked if they had attended any national language courses since their arrival.

Almost a quarter of respondents (23 %) said that they were attending a course at the time of the survey (Figure 13). This share was higher in Germany (37 %) and Spain (31 %). A larger share of respondents had not and did not plan to attend a language course (39 %). This figure varied between the countries surveyed, ranging from 69 % in Hungary and 64 % in Bulgaria, to 19 % in Germany.

Two thirds (61 %) of respondents aged 65+ had not attended any language course since their arrival.

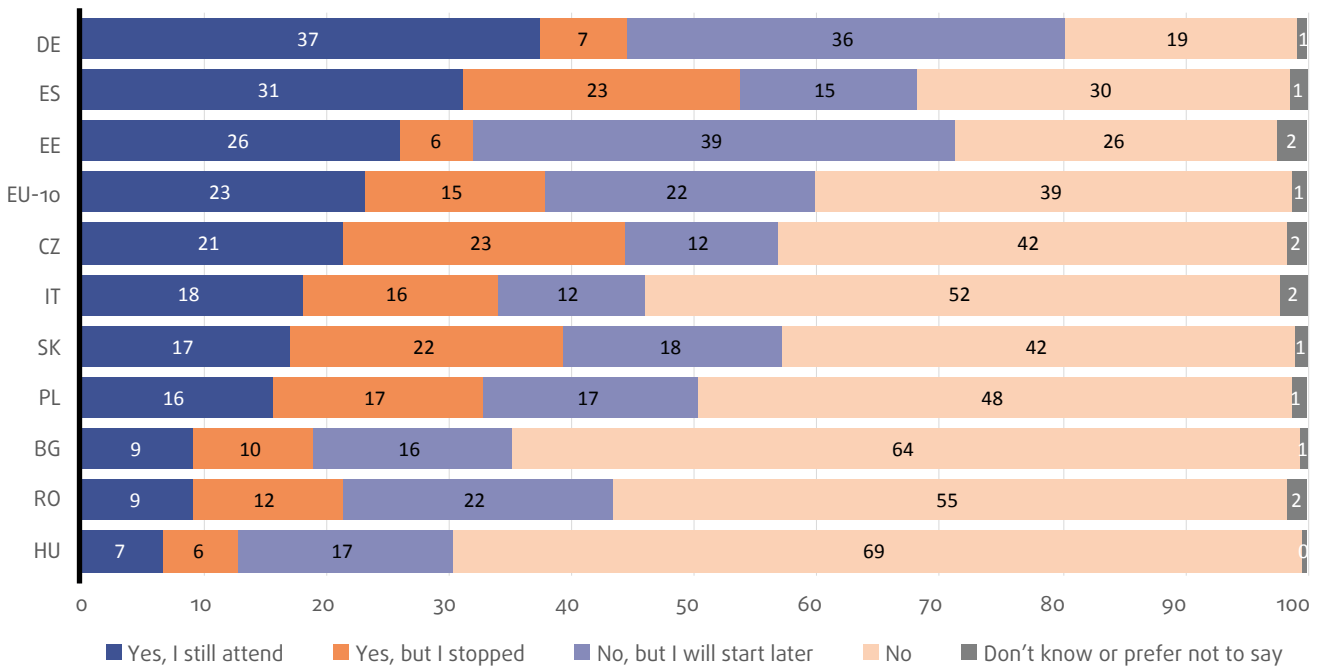
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+ (n = 14,665); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "How well do you speak the language of the country you are currently staying in?" (LanCC).

4.4. CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE SKILLS

More than half (57 %) of children whose mother tongue was not the language of their host country had attended a language course. Almost a third (31 %), however, had not attended a course when they completed the survey, and 9 % said that they planned to attend a course.

FIGURE 13: RESPONDENTS' ATTENDANCE AT NATIONAL LANGUAGE COURSES, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+ who speak the language of their current country at a level lower than mother-tongue level (n = 14,504); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Since you arrived here have you attended national (local) language courses?" (PB08).

"It is very difficult to be in a country where you do not understand and do not speak the language, you lack information that many organisations simply do not provide, although it is not difficult for them to do so. In many cases, there are no translators – and this is a very big problem in solving many issues. It is emotionally difficult because everything is on schedule, and when you need to make a phone call the problem is that you do not speak and do not understand the language."

(Germany, woman, 35)



Endnotes

- ¹ European Commission (2022), *Welcoming those fleeing war in Ukraine – Readyng Europe to meet the needs*, COM(2022) 131 final, Brussels, 23 March 2022.
- ² European Commission (2022), *Operational guidelines for the implementation of Council Implementing Decision 2022/382 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Directive 2001/55/EC (Article 5), and having the effect of introducing temporary protection*, OJ 2022 C 126.
- ³ European Commission, *Commission Recommendation (EU) 2022/554 of 5 April 2022 on the recognition of qualifications for people fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine*, OJ 2022 L 107.
- ⁴ European Commission (2022), *Supporting the inclusion of displaced children from Ukraine in education: Considerations, key principles and practices for the school year 2022-2023*, Commission staff working document, SWD(2022) 185 final, Brussels, 30 June 2022.

5

EMPLOYMENT

- ★ Overall, around two thirds of respondents aged 16+ were not in paid work at the time of the survey.
- ★ Around two thirds of respondents who were in paid work in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 found a job in the host country.
- ★ The main barriers to accessing employment for adults not in paid work are not knowing the language of the host country well enough and caring responsibilities. The latter is an issue for women in particular.
- ★ Around three in 10 respondents experienced exploitation at work.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 12

“The Member States shall authorise, for a period not exceeding that of temporary protection, persons enjoying temporary protection to engage in employed or self-employed activities, subject to rules applicable to the profession [...]”

5.1. ACCESS TO PAID WORK

The European Commission has emphasised that early employment is beneficial for both people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and the host communities. In this context, the Commission’s operational guidelines invite Member States also to support access to early childhood education and care under the same conditions that apply to nationals and other EU citizens. In June 2022, the Commission issued guidance on access to the labour market, vocational education and training, and adult learning.

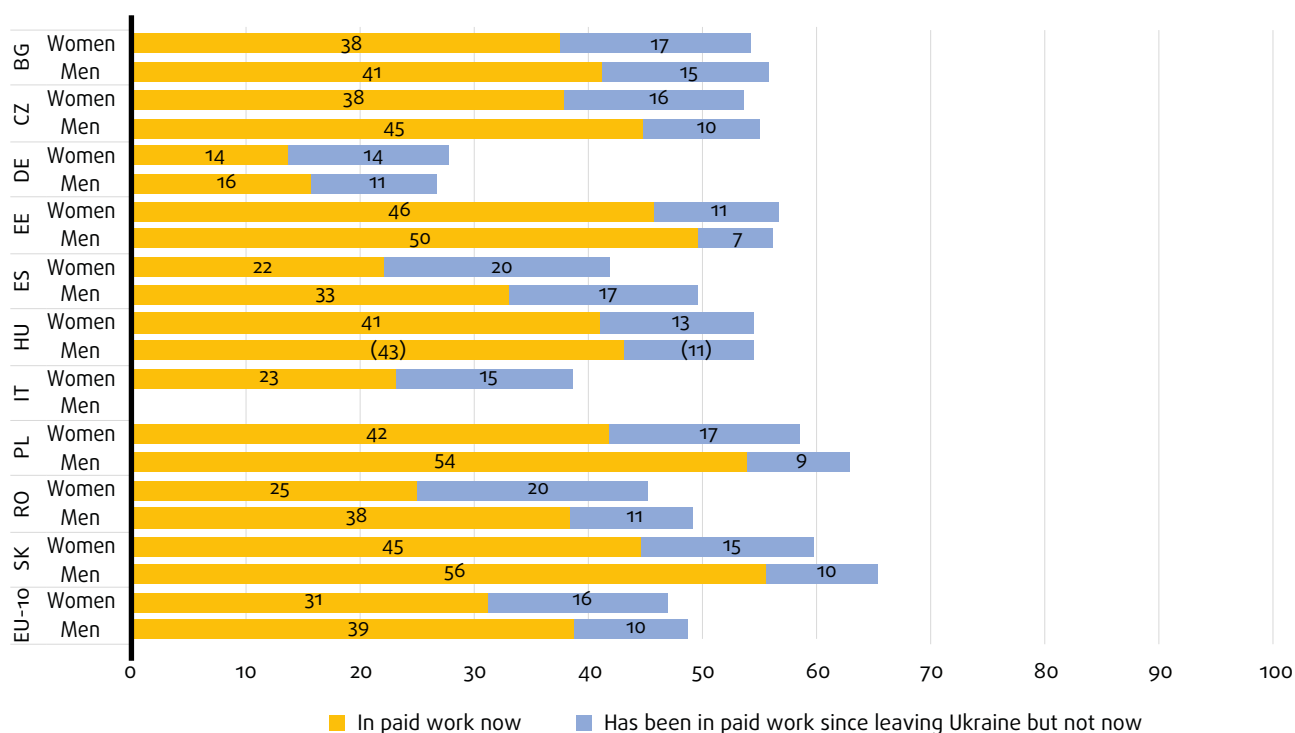
The Council also referred to these benefits and called on Member States to address employment and skills challenges, including the recognition of qualifications.

The survey asked respondents aged 16+ whether they were/had been in paid work in the host country.

On average, 39 % of male respondents and 31 % of female respondents were in paid work (**Figure 14**). Some 10 % of men and 16 % of women had been in paid work since they left Ukraine, but were not at the time of the survey (August–September 2022). About half of men (47 %) and women (49 %) had not been in paid work since leaving Ukraine.

Respondents with limitations in daily activities were less likely to be in paid work (27 %) than those without (37 %).

FIGURE 14: RESPONDENTS' PAID WORK RATES, BY COUNTRY AND GENDER (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

The survey asked respondents aged 16+ who were in paid work for more details about their current work (Table 4). Around two thirds of respondents (66 %) had found a new job in the country hosting them. One in four (24 %) had continued the job or business they had in Ukraine remotely. About 3 % had started a new business or become self-employed in their host country.

TABLE 4: CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS' PAID WORK (%)^{a,b}

Characteristic	Women	Men
A new job in host country	70	58
A new business/self-employed in host country	2	6
Continued the job or business they had in Ukraine (i.e. remotely)	20	31
Other	8	6
Don't know/prefer not to say	2	2

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ who are in paid work, EU-10 (women, n = 4,637; men, n = 531); weighted results.

^b Question was "Is this a new job or business you started in your current country?" (WorkLoc).

Respondents aged 16+ who were in paid work in the host country were asked if their new job corresponded to their level of education. Almost half of the respondents (48 %) said that their current job was below their level of education. This was more often the case for women (51 %) than men (39 %). Around a third of respondents (35 %) had a job that corresponded to their level of education.

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 14,291); weighted results.

^b Results based on a small number of responses are statistically less reliable. Therefore, values based on 20-49 unweighted observations in a group total are noted in brackets. Values based on fewer than 20 unweighted observations in a group total are not displayed.

^c Questions were "Are you currently in paid work?" (WorkNow) and "And were you in paid work in your current country since you left Ukraine?" (WorkPast).

^d The figure does not include the categories 'Not in paid work since leaving Ukraine', 'Don't know' and 'Prefer not to say'.

"I feel crushed and exhausted. After 20 years of working as an accountant, you have to work as a janitor. Salaries for online work in Ukraine have been reduced. To get another job, you have to learn the language, and physically you simply don't have the time to learn it, so you continue to work hard on two jobs."
(Poland, woman, 40)

Legal corner

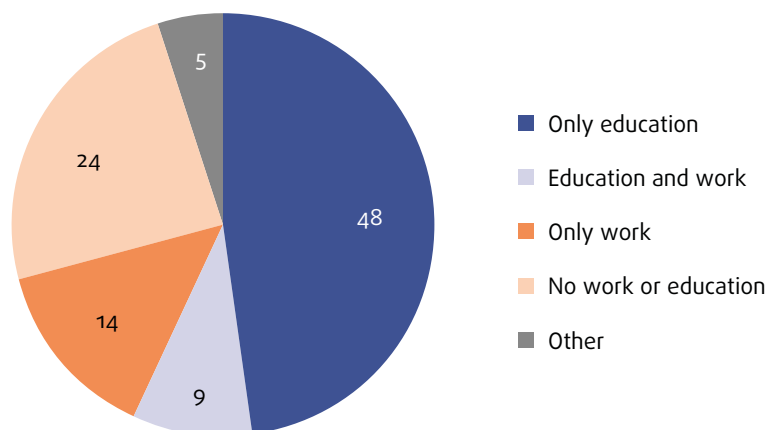
Temporary Protection Directive

Article 12

“The Member States shall authorise, for a period not exceeding that of temporary protection, persons enjoying temporary protection to engage in [...] activities such as educational opportunities for adults, vocational training and practical workplace experience.”

Almost a quarter (24 %) of respondents aged 16–24 years were not in either paid employment or education (Figure 15). Around half (48 %) were in education at the time of the survey and did not work. Overall, 14 % were in paid employment, and 9 % were in both paid employment and education.

FIGURE 15: CURRENT PARTICIPATION IN EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION AMONG RESPONDENTS AGED 16–24^{a,b,c}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16–24, EU-10 (n = 1,046); weighted results.
- ^b Category ‘Other’ refers to respondents who selected ‘Don’t know’ or ‘Prefer not to say’ for at least one of the questions.
- ^c Questions were “Do you attend education now?” (EduCC) and “Are you currently in paid work?” (WorkNow).

5.2. BARRIERS TO FINDING PAID WORK

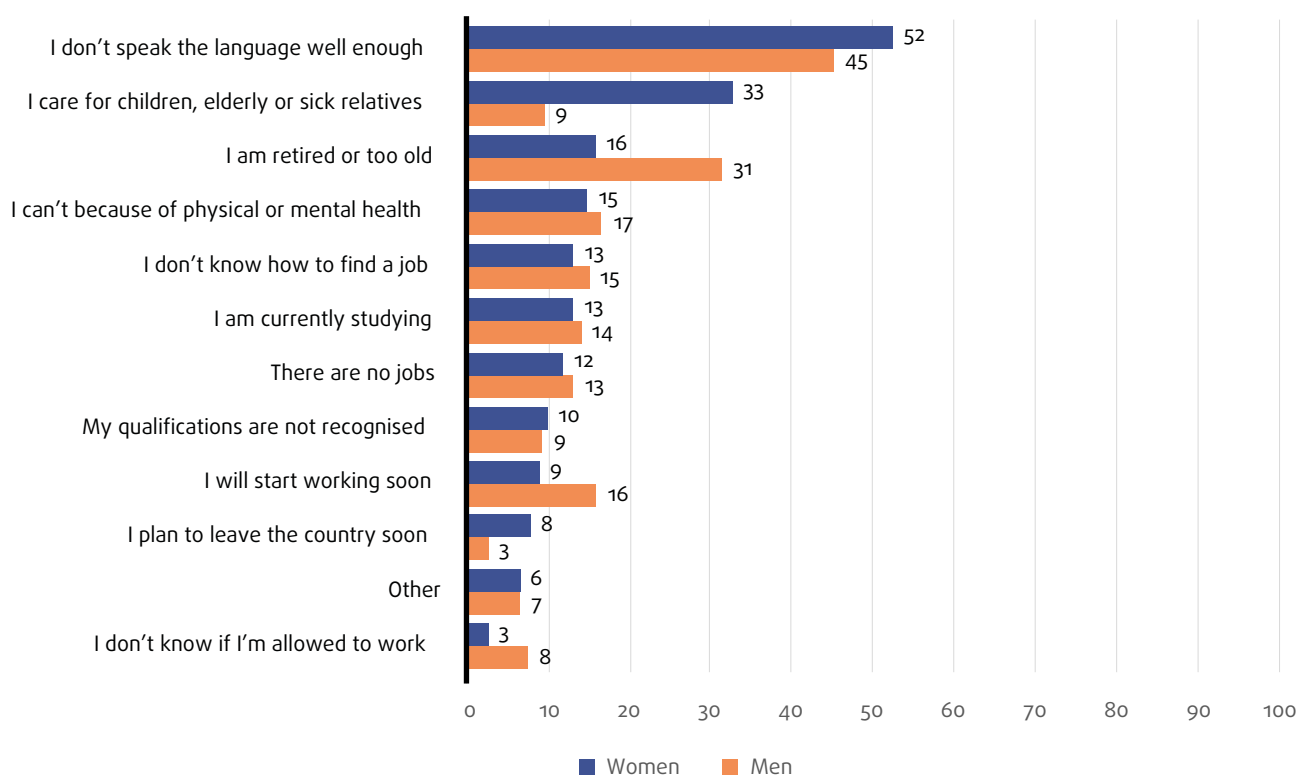
The survey asked adult respondents why they were not in paid work. Insufficient knowledge of the host country’s language was the main barrier (51 %), the results show (Figure 16). Respondents in Germany (67 %) and Spain (65 %) mentioned this most often. Better provision of intensive, free language courses could increase respondents’ participation in host countries’ labour markets, the results indicate.

Almost three in 10 respondents (28 %) could not work because of responsibilities caring for children, or elderly or sick relatives. This was markedly more often a barrier to employment for women (33 %) than men (9 %). Better access to childcare and pre-school education would allow these respondents to enter the labour market, the results suggest. Nearly one in five respondents were not working because they had already retired or were too old (19 %).

“Many Ukrainians have a good education. But in the host countries, we often cannot work in our specialty or do the type of business we had in Ukraine. There is a lot of bureaucracy (for example, recognition of diplomas takes a long time, the state language exam is held once a year).”

(Slovakia, woman, 46)

FIGURE 16: RESPONDENTS' REASONS FOR NOT BEING EMPLOYED (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

5.3. WORKING CONDITIONS

The vulnerable situation of many people fleeing the war in Ukraine has raised concerns that they may be recruited for informal employment, which increases their risk of labour exploitation.

According to the Charter (Article 15), third-country nationals authorised to work in the Member States are entitled to the same working conditions as EU citizens.

The survey asked respondents aged 16+ who had worked since they fled Ukraine whether they had experienced exploitation at work. Overall, almost two thirds of respondents (59 %) had not experienced exploitation (Table 5).

However, 16 % mentioned having to work very long hours and 10 % stated that they had been underpaid or not paid at all. About 8 % said that they could not communicate freely with other workers or anyone else. The same proportion (8 %) said that they had worked without a contract or with a contract that did not cover all working hours.

In general, men mentioned experiencing exploitative conditions more often than women. Not being allowed to communicate freely is an exception to this trend.

In addition, people who had worked without a written employment contract were more likely to have experienced other forms of labour exploitation than people who had one.

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ who are not in paid work, EU-10 (n = 8,460); weighted results.
- ^b Figure does not show answer categories 'I have savings and don't need to work', 'Nobody hires me because of my ethnic background/ religion/skin colour', 'Prefer not to say' and 'Don't know' because of low prevalence (less than 4 %).
- ^c Question was "Why are you currently not working?" (EU06).
- ^d Respondents were able to choose more than one answer, so totals may add up to more than 100 %.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 12

"The general law in force in the Member States applicable to remuneration, access to social security systems relating to employed or self-employed activities and other conditions of employment shall apply."

TABLE 5: SHARE OF RESPONDENTS WHO EXPERIENCED EXPLOITATION AT WORK (%)^{a,b,c}

Form of exploitation	Women	Men
Underpaid or not paid for work	9	13
Work without a contract/a contract not covering all working hours	7	12
Very long work hours	15	19
Couldn't take breaks or rest time	7	8
No access to drinking water, food or a toilet	1	2
Not given protective gear when needed	1	3
Couldn't communicate freely with others	9	8
Threats or violence by the employer	1	3
None of these	60	58
Don't know/prefer not to say	13	11

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ who have been in paid work since they left Ukraine, EU-10 (n = 7,397); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Since you arrived in the country you are now staying, have you personally experienced any of the following problems at work?" (LabExpl).
- ^c Respondents were able to choose more than one answer, so totals may add up to more than 100 %.

Among women, labour exploitation had occurred mostly in manufacturing (26 %) and tourism/hospitality (16 %). Among men, exploitation was most common in construction (26 %), manufacturing (22 %) and transport/logistics (16 %).



Legal corner

Directive on preventing human trafficking*

This directive criminalises trafficking, defined as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or reception of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction or of fraud for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the forced labour of others.

Employers' Sanctions Directive**

This directive provides minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of third-country nationals staying in a Member State illegally. It criminalises the employment of migrant workers in an irregular situation under particularly exploitative working conditions.

* **Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA**, OJ 2011 L 101.

** **Directive 2009/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 providing for minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers of illegally staying third-country nationals**, OJ 2009 L 168.

6

INCOME AND ENTITLEMENT TO SOCIAL BENEFITS

- ★ Half of respondents aged 16+ report that their household has some or great difficulty making ends meet.
- ★ More than a quarter of adult respondents cover their basic day-to-day living expenses through their work.
- ★ Every second adult respondent states that the authorities have assisted them since they arrived in their host country.
- ★ Eight out of 10 respondents consider that they were never or rarely treated unfairly because they came from Ukraine.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 13

"2. The Member States shall make provision for persons enjoying temporary protection to receive necessary assistance in terms of social welfare and means of subsistence, if they do not have sufficient resources, as well as for medical care."

6.1. SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Everyone in the EU is entitled to social security benefits and social services, as recognised in Article 34 of the Charter. Many people displaced from Ukraine do not have the resources to meet their own needs. Member States, international organisations and civil society have tried to address humanitarian needs. The European Commission provided more flexibility in the use of EU funding to reinforce this effort.¹

Adult respondents were asked to select all types of income obtained by their household to pay for day-to-day costs in the host country (see [Table 6](#) for the list and results). The most common source of income was 'other social benefits' (32 %) in all Member States surveyed. This was the main source of income for respondents in Germany (52 %) and Czechia (41 %).

More than a quarter of adult respondents (28 %) selected income from work in the host country, including remote work. This was the main source of income for respondents in Slovakia (41 %), Poland (39 %), Estonia (38 %) and Hungary (35 %). A quarter of adult respondents mentioned savings (25 %). Almost a quarter mentioned social benefits for accommodation (24 %).

The most common sources of income for respondents aged 65+ were pensions (57 %), other social benefits (26 %) and social benefits for accommodation (25 %).

Income from work in the host country was the most common source of income for LGBT respondents (46 %).

Adult respondents with children under the age of 18, or with older children with no income of their own, relied more on other social benefits (35 %), child benefits/alimony (26 %) and social benefits for accommodation (26 %). They were also more likely to receive support from their family/partner in Ukraine (25 %).

TABLE 6: RESPONDENTS' SOURCES OF INCOME FOR DAILY COSTS IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a, b}

Source of income	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
Other social benefits	32	8	41	52	24	9	15	21	20	28	32
Income from work in current country (including remote work)	28	28	35	12	38	24	35	24	39	25	41
Savings	25	37	26	11	18	35	24	39	31	37	34
Social benefits for accommodation (rent support)	24	2	15	58	22	8	6	9	8	27	27
Support from family/partner in Ukraine	21	28	24	5	18	28	25	36	28	31	31
Child benefits or alimony	15	6	7	9	18	6	10	9	26	11	9
Pensions	13	26	13	6	20	13	12	17	17	19	18
Borrowed money	8	8	10	5	6	14	7	15	8	7	7
Other	6	8	6	4	8	12	16	14	6	7	5
Income from investment or property	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	0	1	2

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ (n = 13,617); weighted results.

^b Question was "How does your household pay for day-to-day costs in the country you are staying? Please think of the income of all household members and select all that apply." (Income).

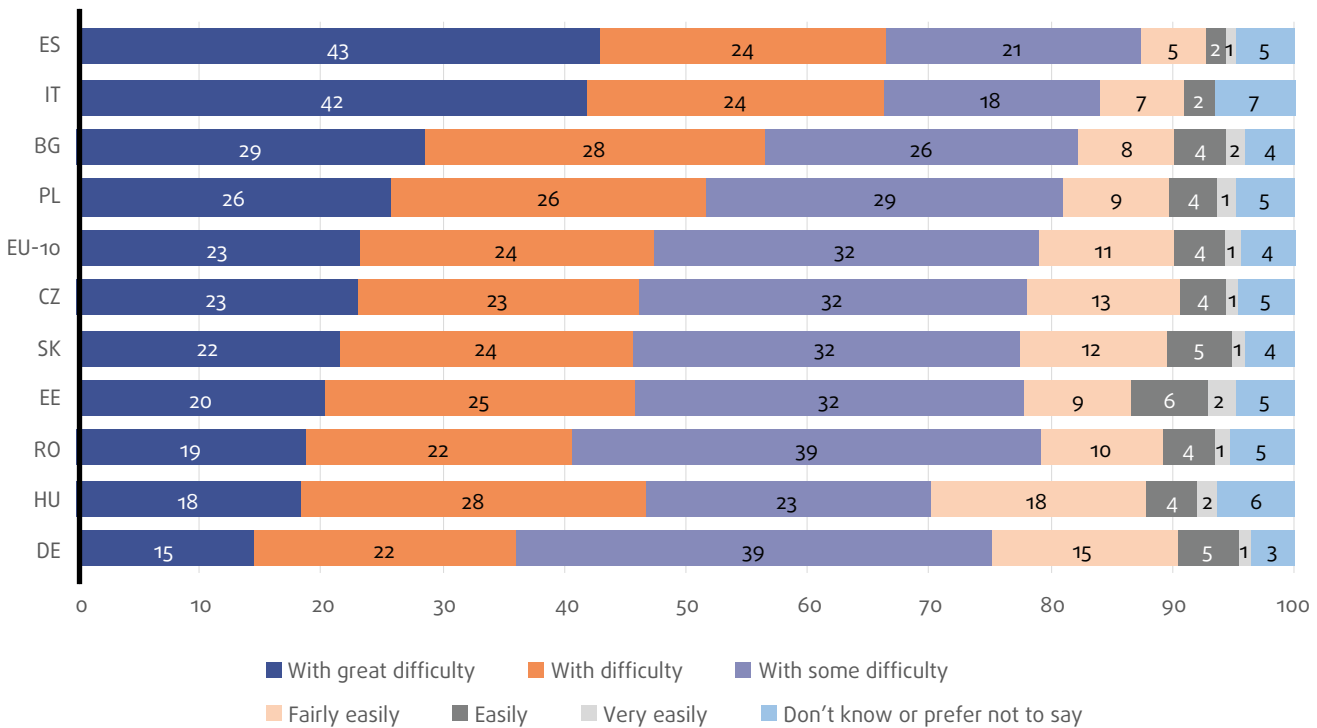
6.2. MAKING ENDS MEET

On average, every second respondent aged 16+ reported that the household could make ends meet only with some or great difficulty (47 %). Two thirds of households faced hardship in Spain (67 %) and Italy (66 %). Only one third did in Germany (36 %).

On average, respondents with limitations in daily activities were more likely to have difficulty making ends meet (57 %) than those without limitations (41 %).

"We arrived on 13 March and received our first social payments on 9 May. In order to survive in Germany, we collected plastic bottles from garbage cans and returned them to the supermarket to buy food for the children."
(Germany, woman, 35)

FIGURE 17: ABILITY OF RESPONDENTS TO MAKE ENDS MEET IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 13,507); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Thinking of your household's total income in your current country, can you make ends meet?" (SI06).

"I am amazed at how much they have been taking care of us, Ukrainians, since the beginning of the war, helping and supporting us."
(Romania, woman, 31)

6.3. ASSISTANCE IN HOST COUNTRY

Adult respondents were asked whether they had a bank account in their current country. Almost four in five (78 %) respondents said yes, and almost one in five (19 %) said no. The remaining 3 % did not know or preferred not to say.

The survey asked respondents about who had helped them since their arrival in the host country. On average, 56 % stated that the authorities had helped. This proportion was higher in Czechia, Estonia and Germany. In Hungary and Romania, volunteer organisations were cited as having provided assistance more often than any other category (Hungary, 45 %; Romania, 59 %).

Overall, every third respondent (34 %) had received assistance from ordinary people in the host country whom they had not previously known. Fewer respondents with ethnic minority backgrounds said that they had received assistance from the authorities (47 %) in the host country than those with other backgrounds (57 %). However, more said that they had received assistance from volunteer organisations (42 % versus 33 %) and ordinary citizens (40 % versus 34 %).

Respondents who self-identified as LGBT were more likely to have received assistance from relatives, friends and acquaintances than non-LGBT respondents (52 % versus 35 %). They were also more likely to have received assistance from ordinary citizens (46 % versus 34 %). Adult respondents with children mentioned receiving assistance from ordinary citizens more often than those without (40 % versus 26 %).

TABLE 7: ACTORS PROVIDING RESPONDENTS WITH ASSISTANCE IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}

Actor	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
Authorities in the country they're living in now	56	48	62	73	66	31	24	46	49	34	52
Relatives, friends and acquaintances	35	31	38	31	39	38	33	50	36	25	38
Ordinary citizens of the country they live in now who they did not know before	34	19	32	39	29	25	24	24	33	38	43
Volunteer organisations	32	38	29	30	30	30	45	27	33	59	49
Church or religious organisations	14	8	8	14	5	15	22	29	12	33	17
Foundations, institutions, businesses	13	12	6	6	5	12	23	10	20	35	18
Did not receive any assistance	7	13	6	3	6	16	9	8	8	3	6
Ukrainian state authorities	3	5	4	2	3	2	3	1	3	5	6

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 18+ (n = 13,477); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Since you arrived in your current country who has provided you with assistance? Select all that apply." (Assist).

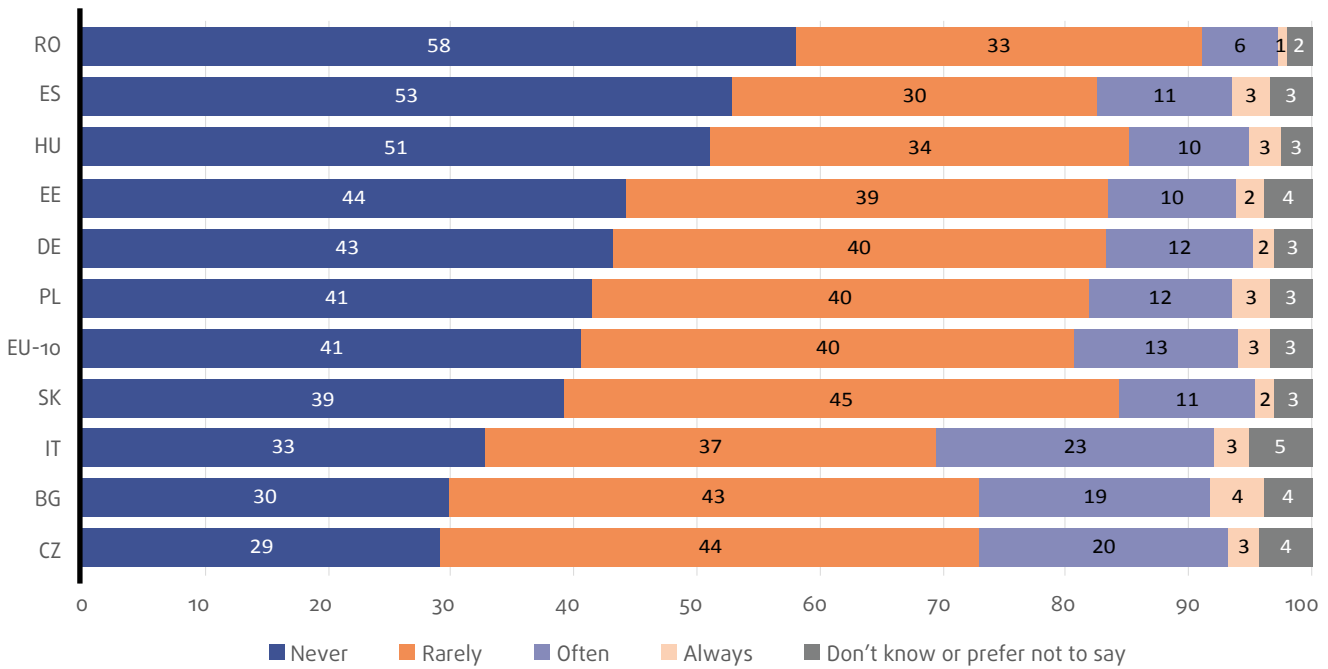
6.4. PERCEPTIONS OF UNFAIR TREATMENT

Respondents were asked how often they felt that they had been treated unfairly in the Member State hosting them because they came from Ukraine.

Across the Member States surveyed, more than eight out of 10 respondents (81 %) said that they had never or rarely been treated unfairly because they came from Ukraine (Figure 18). The proportion of those who said that they had been treated unfairly at some point was lowest in Romania (40 %), Spain (44 %) and Hungary (46 %). On average, 16 % of respondents often or always felt treated unfairly. This proportion was higher in Italy (26 %), Bulgaria (23 %) and Czechia (23 %).



FIGURE 18: RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF UNFAIR TREATMENT IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents (n = 13,646); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "In the country you are currently staying, how often did you feel that you were treated unfairly because you came from Ukraine?" (DifTreat).

6.5. CHILDREN TREATED UNFAIRLY FOR BEING UKRAINIAN

The proportion of respondents who felt that they had been treated unfairly because they came from Ukraine was higher among children aged 16–17 (70 %) than those aged 12–15 (47 %).

"Among the Czechs, there are only a few who have a negative attitude towards Ukrainians, but unfortunately, there are more Ukrainians with a bad attitude towards their own people."
(Czechia, woman, 31)

Endnote

- ¹ See, for an overview, European Commission (2022), *Report on migration and asylum*, COM(2022) 740 final, Brussels, 6 October 2022.

7

HEALTH

- ★ Almost a third of respondents assess their health as good or very good. On average, children assess their health as better than adults do.
- ★ More than half of respondents have a longstanding illness or health problem.
- ★ Almost half of respondents aged 16+ mention 'language difficulties' and almost a third mention 'not knowing where to go or whom to contact' as the most frequent problems when seeking healthcare.
- ★ Almost half of respondents has often or always felt downhearted and depressed since arriving in the host country.
- ★ Nearly two out of three respondents feel optimistic about the future. Around a third of respondents feel part of the community in their host country.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 13

"2. The Member States shall make provision for persons enjoying temporary protection to receive necessary assistance [...] for medical care. Without prejudice to paragraph 4, the assistance necessary for medical care shall include at least emergency care and essential treatment of illness.

[...]

4. The Member States shall provide necessary medical or other assistance to persons enjoying temporary protection who have special needs, such as unaccompanied minors or persons who have undergone torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence."

7.1. ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

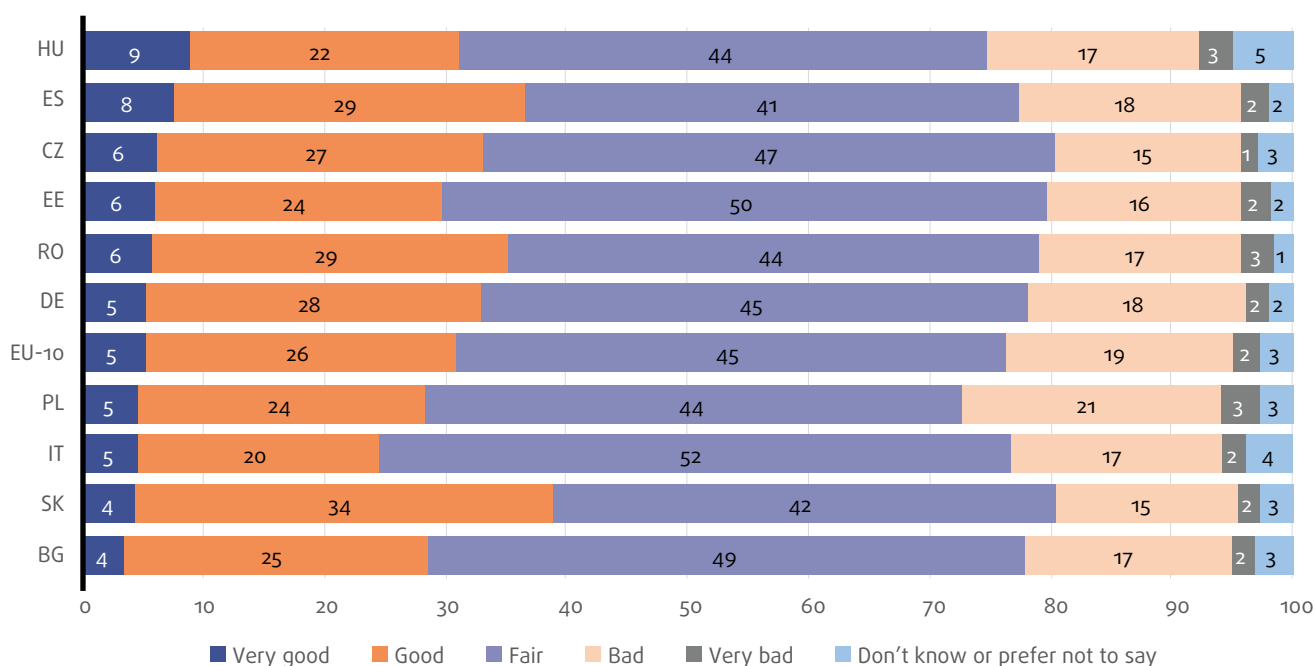
Under Article 35 of the Charter, everyone has the right to access preventive healthcare and the right to benefit from medical treatment under the conditions that national laws and practices establish. Member States should provide broad access to sickness benefits and link those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine to the host country's public healthcare systems, the Commission recommends.¹

Respondents were asked to assess their own health as very good, good, fair, bad or very bad. On average, most respondents assessed their condition as fair (45 %). Almost a third of respondents (31 %) assessed their health as good or very good (Figure 19).

More men assessed their health as very good or good (39 %) than women (28 %).

Only 7 % of respondents aged 65+ assessed their health as good or very good. This contrasts with the 63 % of respondents aged 12–15 and 50 % of those aged 16–17 who did so.

FIGURE 19: RESPONDENTS' SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF THEIR OWN HEALTH, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022



Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents (n = 13,577); weighted results.

^b Question was "How is your health in general?" (DHE01).

On average, just over half of respondents (52 %) said that they had a longstanding illness or health problem.

The survey asked respondents about their experiences when using or trying to use healthcare services in the host country.

Almost half of respondents (47 %) said that they faced language difficulties. This was the most frequent problem in all countries except Estonia. There, the major problem was not knowing where to go or whom to contact (Table 8).

Overall, almost a third of respondents (30 %) did not know where to go or whom to contact when seeking healthcare services. Almost one in five respondents believed that they had no health insurance (18 %).

Respondents with an ethnic minority background mentioned not knowing where to go or whom to contact as a problem less frequently than those with other backgrounds (20 % versus 31 %). However, LGBT respondents identified this as a problem more often than non-LGBT respondents (45 % versus 30 %).

"Me and my disabled husband live in a small town by the sea. It does not have a medical institution here, the nearest hospital is very far, and we do not know where and who we can address in order to receive medical help."

(Bulgaria, woman, 70)

TABLE 8: RESPONDENTS' BARRIERS TO ACCESSING HEALTHCARE IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}

Barriers	EU-10	BG	CZ	DE	EE	ES	HU	IT	PL	RO	SK
Language difficulties	47	34	49	58	17	58	42	43	39	48	45
Didn't know where to go/whom to contact	30	31	31	35	19	16	23	30	28	30	36
Have/had no health insurance	18	24	3	23	15	9	21	16	19	28	28
Couldn't afford healthcare	13	17	6	9	13	10	14	20	18	17	19
Was unfairly treated because of being a foreigner	7	11	10	8	5	6	3	5	5	2	9
Was refused treatment	6	4	10	7	5	4	5	7	3	2	7
Other barriers	12	12	18	12	13	16	7	12	11	7	11
Didn't try to use any healthcare services	19	24	21	16	19	16	24	16	19	22	21

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ (n = 13,226); weighted results.

^b Question was "Since you arrived in your current country, have you experienced any of the following problems when using or trying to use healthcare services?" (HeaBarr).

“Now everything is relatively good, but I can't cope with the worries, nightmares and anxiety. I want to go home.”
(Poland, woman, 19)

7.2. EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Fleeing from war and arriving in a new country affects emotional well-being (Figure 20). Overall, almost four out of five respondents (79 %) stated that they had always or often been able to **think clearly** since their arrival in the host country. Respondents identifying as LGBT felt so less frequently (66 %).

Two out of three respondents (67 %) mentioned that they always or often **dealt well with problems**. However, fewer LGBT respondents (55 %) felt this way.

Nearly two out of three respondents (62 %) always or often **felt optimistic about the future**. Fewer LGBT respondents felt this way (53 %). However, more respondents with ethnic minority backgrounds felt this way (79 %). Respondents with children were also more optimistic than those with no children (67 % versus 57 %).

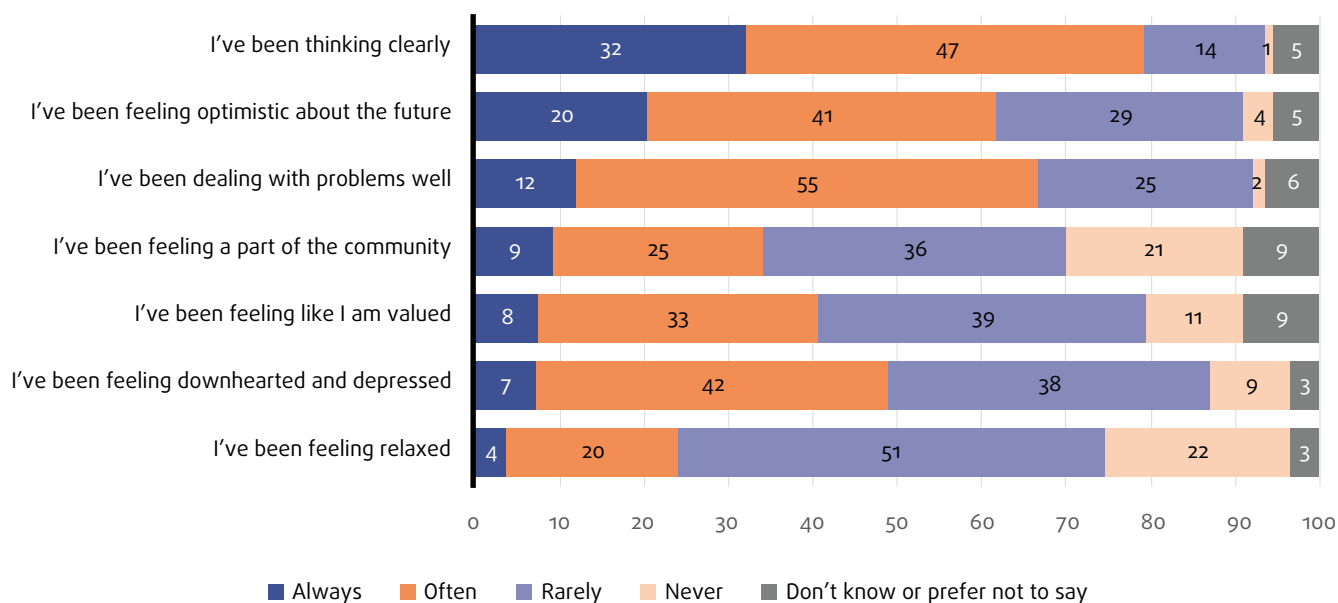
Around a third of respondents (34 %) **felt part of the community**. More respondents aged 65+ (46 %) and respondents with ethnic minority backgrounds (45 %) felt this way. By contrast, fewer LGBT respondents felt this way (25 %).

Just over two out of five respondents (41 %) always or often **felt valued**. This proportion was lower for respondents with activity limitations (35 %) and LGBT respondents (33 %).

Overall, only just under a quarter (24 %) of respondents always or often **felt relaxed**. A similar share (22 %) never felt this way. Female respondents were less likely to always or often feel relaxed than male respondents (21 % versus 31 %). Respondents with children were less likely to always or often feel relaxed than those with no children (18 % versus 29 %).

Almost every second respondent (49 %) has always or often **felt downhearted and depressed** since arriving in the host country. This proportion was much higher among LGBT respondents (77 %) and lower among respondents aged 65+ (41 %). Differences can be seen also between women (54 %) and men (35 %), and respondents with limitations in daily activities due to health problems (58 %) and those without (44 %).

FIGURE 20: RESPONDENTS' FEELINGS SINCE ARRIVING IN THE HOST COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+, EU-10 (from top row down: n = 13,244; n = 13,245; n = 13,244; n = 13,243; n = 13,243; n = 13,242; n = 13,244); weighted results.
- ^b Question was "Please indicate for each of the statements how often you have been feeling this way since you arrived in your current country." (Feel).

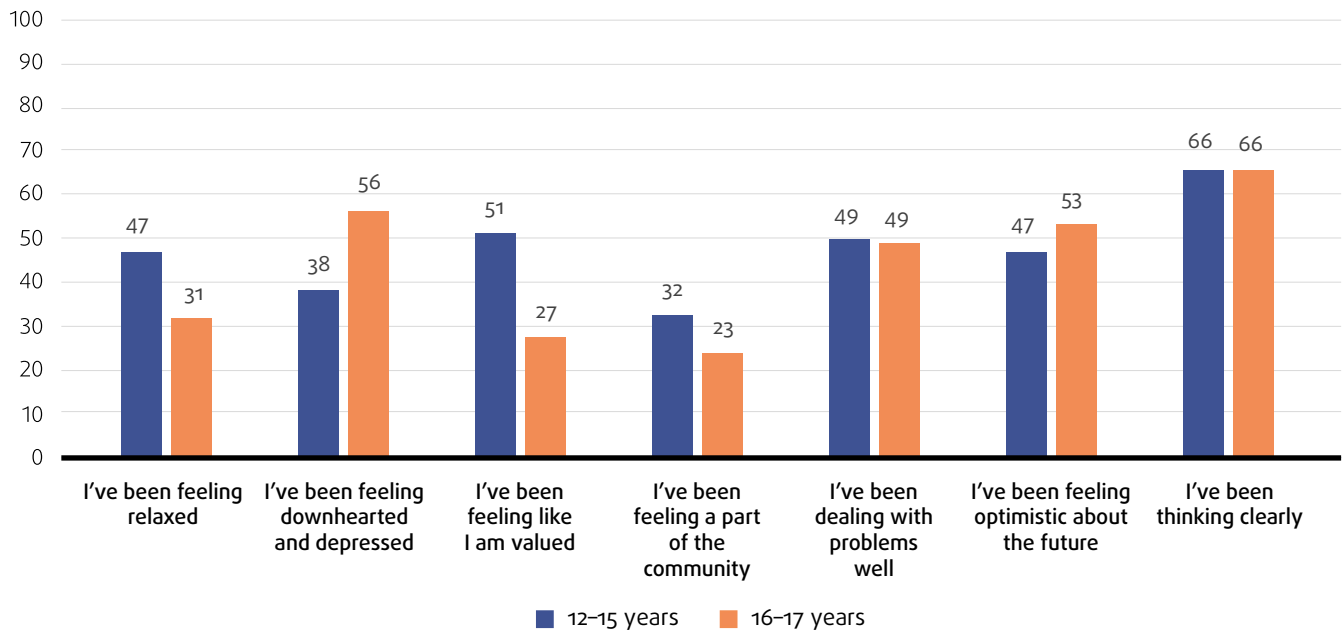
7.3. CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Almost two out of three young children (12–15 years, 63 %) and 50 % of children aged 16–17 assessed their health as good or very good. A total of 25 % of young children (12–15) and almost every third child aged 16–17 (30 %) reported longstanding illness or health problems.

When asked about their feelings since they arrived in the host country, differences between young children aged 12–15 and children aged 16–17 could be observed in most of the areas covered by this question (Figure 21).



FIGURE 21: CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL STATES SINCE ARRIVING IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY AGE GROUP (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of respondents aged 12-17, EU-10 (aged 12-15, n = 181; aged 16-17, n = 136); weighted results.
- ^b Figure shows proportion of respondents who answered 'always' or 'often' to the question "Please indicate for each of the statements how often you have been feeling this way since you arrived in your current country." (Feel).

"I really miss communication with my peers. I do not speak the local language, and I cannot find a sports club where I can train. In Ukraine I had been practising my favourite sport for 9 years, but I do not have such an opportunity here. It is very difficult for me to study online, I do not understand everything and I do not have textbooks. I miss my relatives who stayed in Ukraine. I want to go home to Ukraine!!! Very much!!!!"

(Romania, boy, 16)



Endnote

- ¹ European Commission (2022), *Welcoming those fleeing war in Ukraine – Readyng Europe to meet the needs*, COM(2022) 131 final, Brussels, 23 March 2022.

8

EXPERIENCES OF VIOLENCE AND ACCESS TO SPECIALISED SUPPORT

- ★ A large share of the people fleeing Ukraine have been exposed to traumatic experiences, especially in Ukraine.
- ★ Incidents that have occurred in the EU have remained mostly unreported.
- ★ Three in 10 respondents aged 16+ (who experienced any of the incidents that the survey listed) have sought medical or psychological support since they arrived in the host country. About a quarter of those who sought medical or psychological support did not receive it.
- ★ About half of young children (12–15) have difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating. A similar proportion have lost self-confidence or feel vulnerable.



8.1. TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES IN UKRAINE

Many people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine have had traumatic experiences. The survey asked respondents aged 16+ about their experiences of various incidents in Ukraine since the start of the conflict in February 2022. These included incidents such as experiencing or being under threat of shooting, bombing or missile attacks, or hiding in cellars and air-raid shelters. In Ukraine, they also tested with certain expressions to identify Russian soldiers, spies or saboteurs. *Palyanytsya*, for example, was used as an important shibboleth pronunciation test.

Almost two thirds of respondents aged 16+ (63 %) had experienced being under threat of shooting, bombing or missile attacks in Ukraine (Figure 22). Over half had experienced shooting, bombing or missile attacks (52 %). Almost as many had to hide in cellars, air-raid shelters or similar places (50 %).

Almost four in 10 respondents (39 %) mentioned experiencing severe hardship during the journey out of Ukraine. This included fear and lack of food or water, sleep or hygiene. Men were more likely to report experiencing some incidents than women. For example, they were more likely to report threat of physical assault, humiliation or intimidation; encountering corruption or being blackmailed; physical attack; robbery, theft or fraud; and imprisonment or detention.

Experience of rape or attempted rape

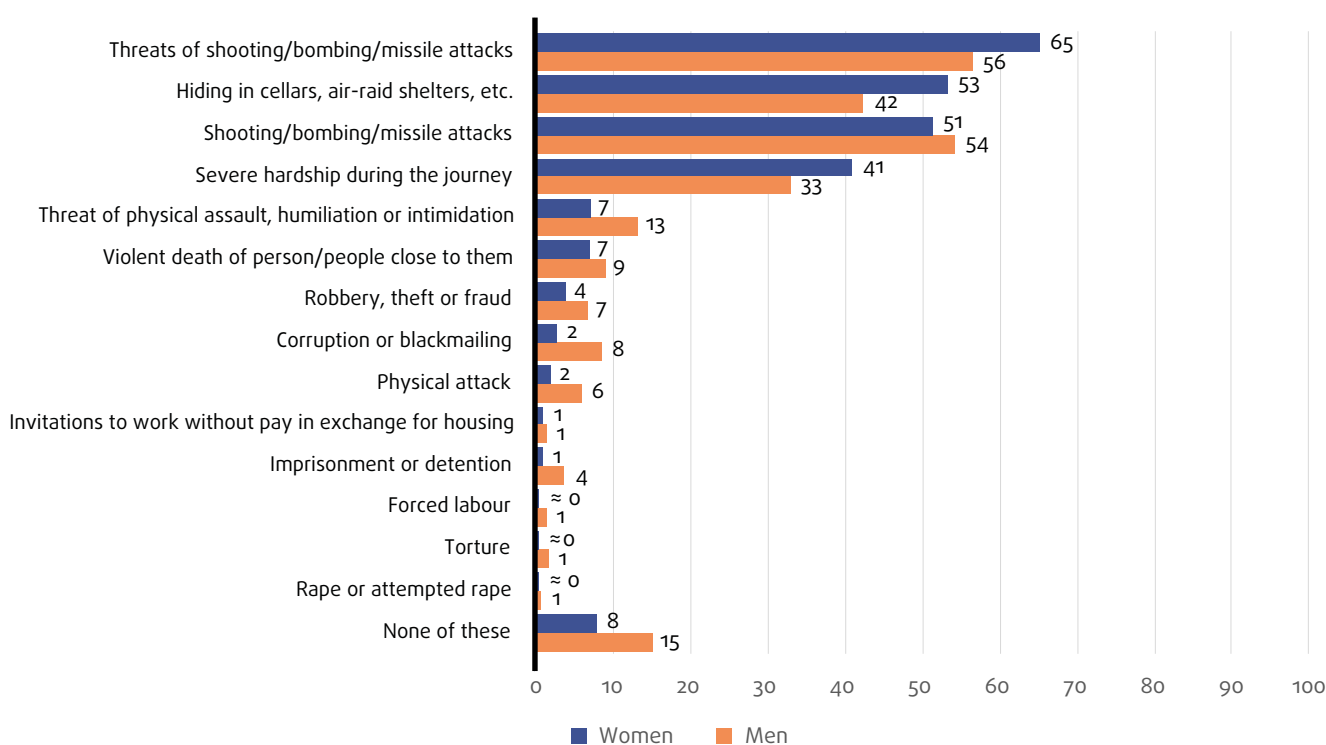
Survey respondents were asked whether they had experienced rape or attempted rape. In the unweighted sample, 21 women (0.18 %) and eight men (0.70 %) mentioned experiencing rape or attempted rape in Ukraine.

These results must be read with caution. An online survey cannot fully capture very personal and deeply disturbing experiences. FRA is considering alternative data collection methods in its work on violence against women to explore these experiences further.

Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+, EU-10 (women, n = 11,701; men, n = 1,140); weighted results.
- ^b Figure does not include categories 'Sexual harassment' or 'Invitations to provide sexual services' because of their 0 % prevalence for men and women.
- ^c Question was "The following questions refer to your personal experiences in Ukraine since the war started in February 2022. Did you experience any of the following? Select all that apply." (VioUA).
- ^d Respondents were able to choose more than one answer, so totals may add up to more than 100 %.

FIGURE 22: INCIDENTS EXPERIENCED BY RESPONDENTS IN UKRAINE SINCE THE CONFLICT STARTED IN FEBRUARY 2022, BY GENDER (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

"I live in Poland and there are a lot of good people ready to help. But I've also met many who hate and disrespect the Ukrainians and believe that we are to blame for inflation and rising prices. There were a few times when they learned that I was Ukrainian and started calling me names, humiliating and insulting me, there were also obscene offers from Polish men."

(Poland, woman, 39)

Legal corner

Victims' Rights Directive*

Article 8 – Right to access victim support services

"1. Member States shall ensure that victims, in accordance with their needs, have access to confidential victim support services, free of charge, acting in the interests of the victims before, during and for an appropriate time after criminal proceedings."

Anti-Trafficking Directive (2011/36/EU)**

Article 18 – Prevention

"2. Member States shall take appropriate action, including through the Internet, such as information and awareness-raising campaigns, research and education programmes, where appropriate in cooperation with relevant civil society organisations and other stakeholders, aimed at raising awareness and reducing the risk of people, especially children, becoming victims of trafficking in human beings."

* **Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA, OJ 2012 L 315.**

** **Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA, OJ 2011 L 101.**

8.2. CHILDREN'S TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES

The experiences of children aged 16–17 were similar to those of adults. However, the children were more likely to have experienced threat of shooting, bombing or missile attacks (74 %); hiding in cellars, air raid shelters or other similar places (58 %); and severe hardship during the journey, such as fear, or lack of food or water, sleep or hygiene (51 %).

8.3. INCIDENTS IN THE EU

The survey asked respondents aged 16+ about any incidents that they had experienced after they had entered the EU. The list of incidents was similar to that in the question on traumatic incidents in Ukraine (see Figure 24). However, it omitted 'Shooting/bombing/missile attacks', 'Threats of shooting/bombing/missile attacks' and 'Violent death of one or more persons close to me'.

On average, three out of four (75 %) had not experienced any incidents. A total of 14 % mentioned fear, or lack of food or water, sleep or hygiene; 6 % spoke of threat of physical assault, humiliation or intimidation; and 3 % mentioned criminal incidents, such as robbery, theft or fraud.

Respondents with an ethnic or religious minority background were more likely to mention negative experiences in the EU than other respondents. For example, LGBT respondents (23 %), Jewish respondents (22 %) and those with ethnic minority backgrounds (22 %) mentioned severe hardship more often. A total of 16 % of LGBT respondents, 14 % of Jewish respondents and 11 % of respondents with an ethnic minority background mentioned threat of physical assault, humiliation and intimidation. These respondents were also more likely to have experienced physical attacks with or without weapons (7 %).

8.3.1. Reporting the incident

Respondents aged 16+ who had experienced any incident in the EU except severe hardship during the journey were asked whether they had reported it to the police or another authority or organisation.

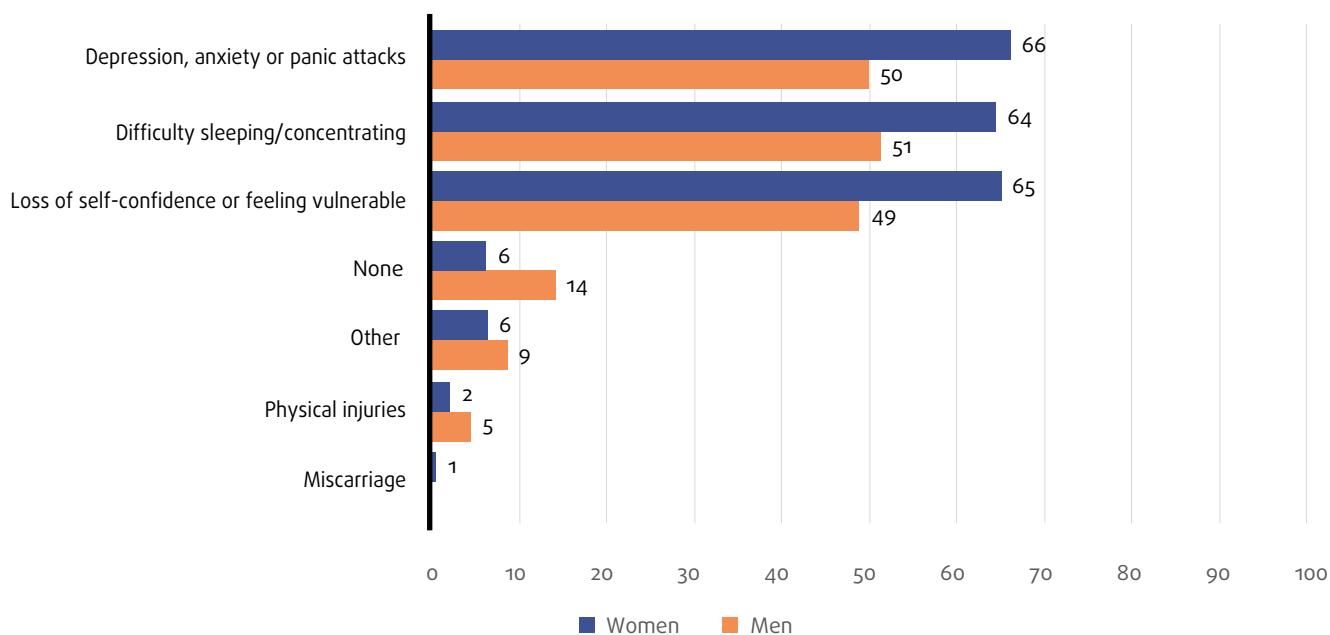
The majority of incidents (71 %) that happened in the EU to respondents aged 16+ were not reported to any of the aforementioned bodies. Only 16 % of these incidents were reported to the police or other authorities and 12 % to an organisation providing support.

8.3.2. Impact on well-being

Traumatic experiences can have a long-lasting impact on mental well-being and health. Those respondents aged 16+ who had experienced any of the listed incidents since the start of the war were asked if they had suffered any consequences (Figure 23).

Almost two thirds of respondents said that they had experienced depression, anxiety or panic attacks (62 %), difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating (61 %), or a loss of self-confidence or feeling vulnerable (61 %). The prevalence of these problems was higher among women than men. Men mentioned physical injuries more often than women (5 % versus 2 %). Only 6 % of women and 14 % of men said that they had suffered no consequences.

FIGURE 23: CONSEQUENCES OF INCIDENTS RESPONDENTS HAVE EXPERIENCED ELSEWHERE SINCE THE START OF THE CONFLICT IN UKRAINE, BY GENDER (%)^{a,b,c,d}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Compared with non-LGBT respondents, respondents who self-identified as LGBT disproportionately experienced depression, anxiety or panic attacks (80 % versus 62 %), difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating (78 % versus 60 %) and a loss of self-confidence or feeling vulnerable (81 % versus 60 %) as a result of the incidents. Over 14 % of respondents with ethnic minority backgrounds had suffered physical injuries, compared with less than 3 % of respondents with other backgrounds.

Respondents aged 65+ were less likely to experience depression, anxiety or panic attacks (46 %, versus 64 % for both those aged 18–64 and those aged 16–17). They were less likely to experience difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating (50 %, versus 63 % for those aged 18–64 and 54 % for those aged 16–17). They were also less likely to suffer a loss of self-confidence or feel vulnerable (41 %, versus 64 % for those aged 18–64 and 60 % for those aged 16–17).

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ who experienced any incident elsewhere since the conflict in Ukraine started, EU-10 (n = 11,189); weighted results.
- ^b Figure does not show answer categories 'Prefer not to say' and 'Don't know'.
- ^c Question was "Did you or do you suffer from any of the following problems as a result of the incidents that you experienced since the war started in February 2022?" (VioCons).
- ^d Respondents were able to choose more than one answer, so totals may add up to more than 100 %.

Legal corner

Temporary Protection Directive

Article 13 (4)

"The Member States shall provide necessary medical or other assistance to persons enjoying temporary protection who have special needs, such as unaccompanied minors or persons who have undergone torture, rape or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence."

"Russian troops destroyed my city, my flat, my future, my dreams and my mental balance. I was wounded twice. I often think of suicide. No confidence in the future. Fear of buying something. State of apathy to everything, nothing pleases since the beginning of the war."
(Estonia, man, 33)

“We have gone through a lot of suffering in Ukraine, with 3 children, the shelling, hiding in the basement, without gas, water and electricity, because the Russian military bombed the electricity pylons, difficult evacuation under the shelling by Russian troops, passed a minefield mined by the Russian military.”

(Spain, woman, 34)

8.3.3. Medical or psychological support

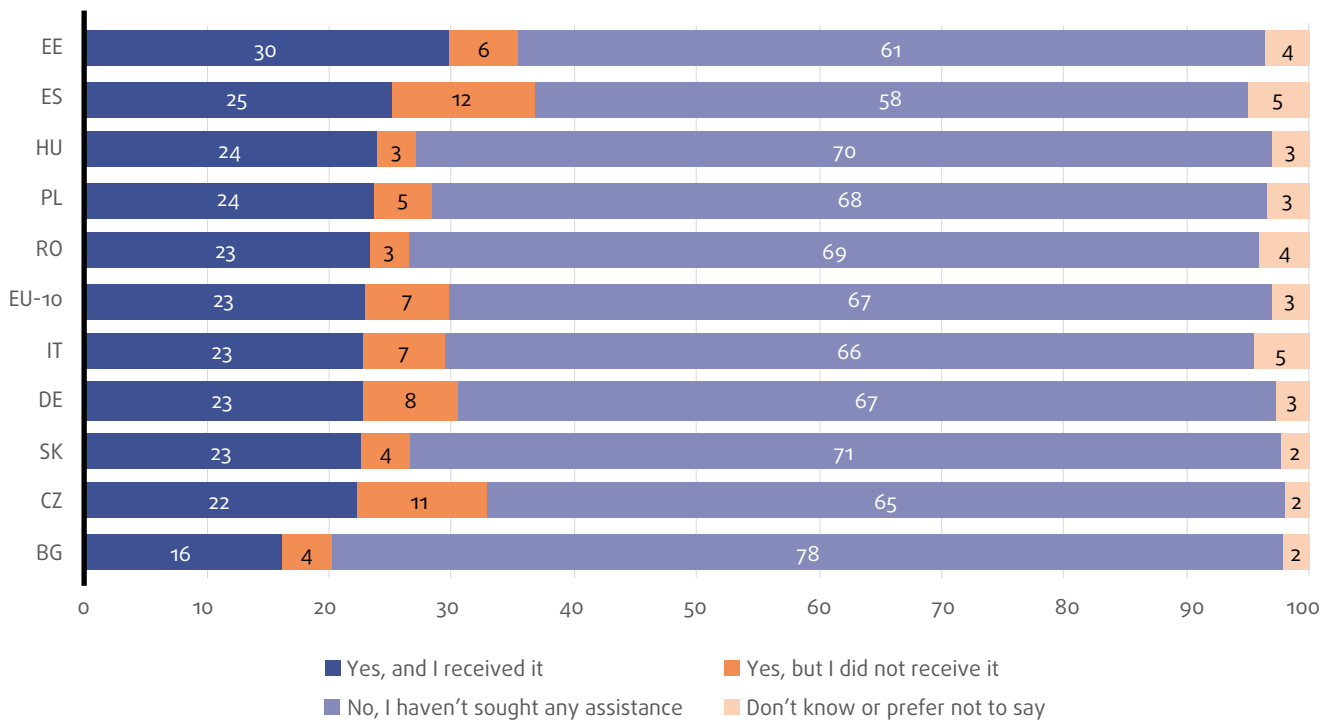
The survey asked respondents aged 16+ if they had sought medical or psychological support since arriving in the host country. In total, 30 % of respondents had sought support (Figure 24) and more than three out of four (78 %) of those had received it.

However, there were noticeable differences between countries. For example, the proportion of those who had sought and received medical or psychological support was lower in Czechia (68 %) and Spain (69 %). By contrast, in Romania and Hungary, the proportion was much higher (both 88 %).

Fewer younger respondents had asked for medical or psychological support (16–17 years, 11 %; 18–64 years, 29 %; and 65+ years, 49 %). Of those, even fewer reported having received it (16–17 years, 46 %; 18–64 years, 77 %; and 65+ years, 85 %).

Respondents with ethnic minority backgrounds seeking medical or psychological support were less likely to receive it than respondents with other backgrounds (66 % versus 78 %).

FIGURE 24: RESPONDENTS WHO HAVE SOUGHT MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND WHO HAVE RECEIVED IT SINCE ARRIVING IN THE HOST COUNTRY, BY COUNTRY (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 16+ who have experienced any incident since the conflict in Ukraine started (n = 11,184); weighted results.

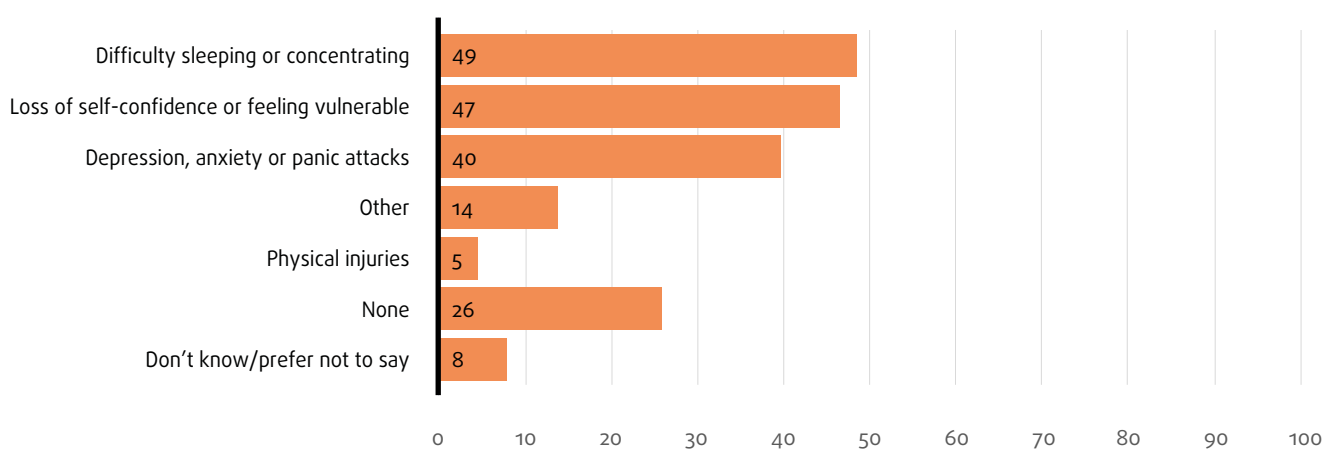
^b Question was “Since you arrived in your current country, have you sought medical or psychological support?” (SpeSup).

8.4. CHILDREN EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS

The survey did not ask young children (12–15 years) about their experiences of violence to avoid any risk of re-traumatisation. Children were, however, asked whether they had experienced certain problems since the conflict in Ukraine started in February 2022 (Figure 25).

Almost half of the young children (12–15) said that they suffered from difficulty sleeping and/or concentrating (49 %) or experienced loss of self-confidence or feeling vulnerable (47 %). Four in 10 children mentioned depression, anxiety or panic attacks. More than one in four, however, did not indicate having any of these problems.

FIGURE 25: PROBLEMS 12- TO 15-YEAR-OLDS HAVE EXPERIENCED SINCE THE CONFLICT IN UKRAINE STARTED (%)^{a,b}



Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022

Only 7 % of young children (12–15) had received help from a school counsellor and 7 % from a psychologist outside the school since their arrival in the host country.

▲
Notes:

- ^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12–15, EU-10 (n = 181); weighted results.
- ^b Question was “Did or do you have any of the following problems since the war in Ukraine started? Please choose the answers that include the time in Ukraine and in the EU since the war started in February 2022.” (VioConsChild).

Annex: The survey sample

The total survey sample consists of 14,685 respondents whose questionnaires fulfilled the quality criteria.

Women account for 91 % of the sample (see [Table 9](#)). The gender imbalance reflects men's underrepresentation in the target population. This was because martial law forbade most male Ukrainian citizens aged 18–60 from travelling abroad.

The survey sample has a mean age of 40 years. It includes predominantly people of working age (18–64 years).

TABLE 9: RESPONDENTS BY AGE AND GENDER BY COUNTRY (%), AND TOTAL SAMPLE SIZES^{a,b}

Country	Aged 12–17		Aged 18–64		Aged 65+		Other	Total sample size
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male		
BG	1%	1%	82%	10%	5%	2%	0%	646
CZ	2%	1%	87%	9%	1%	0%	0%	671
DE	1%	1%	85%	10%	2%	1%	1%	2,989
EE	1%	1%	86%	9%	2%	1%	0%	749
ES	2%	1%	85%	10%	2%	1%	0%	1,219
HU	1%	0%	82%	12%	2%	3%	1%	310
IT	3%	1%	88%	6%	2%	1%	0%	189
PL	1%	1%	90%	5%	3%	1%	0%	5,164
RO	1%	1%	85%	8%	3%	1%	0%	1,488
SK	2%	2%	88%	7%	2%	0%	0%	1,260
EU-10	1%	1%	87%	8%	2%	1%	0%	14,685
Total sample size	181	138	12,768	1,112	346	101	39	14,685

Source: FRA, Ukrainian survey 2022



Notes:

^a Values are out of all respondents aged 12+ who provided a questionnaire that passed the quality criteria; unweighted results.

^b Category 'Other' refers to respondents who described their gender 'In other way'. Due to a small sample size, this category is not split by age.

More than six out of 10 (64 %) women aged 18+ were responsible for children under 18 in the same accommodation as them in the host country. This share was lower among men (47 %).

In total, 66 % of the adult sample had a university-level education (bachelor's degree or higher), 18 % had vocational training or technical vocational education, 9 % had general secondary education and 5 % had lower secondary education or lower.

Out of all respondents who answered the question about belonging to a minority group, about 4 % identified as LGBT, 3 % as Jewish and 2 % as a minority in terms of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion.

About 39 % of respondents said that they had experienced limitations in daily activities in the past 6 months.

"I want to say thank you very much to all the people we met on our way, for their help."

(Slovakia, woman, 27)

The collected data were thoroughly checked. The controls included checks for 'speeders'. These are respondents who complete the survey too fast, not taking the minimum time necessary to read the questions. They also checked for internally inconsistent answers, answers that aimed to distort the results, etc.

The results published in this report are based on the 14,685 respondents whose questionnaires fulfilled the quality criteria. The sample includes 2,691 unfinished questionnaires in order to capture all information provided. These questionnaires were taken into account because they did not miss out more than 200 out of 288 variables that are included in the questionnaire. Sample sizes differ between questions because of this, and because some questions addressed only respondents of certain ages.

Getting in touch with the EU

In person

All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you online (https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en)

On the phone or in writing

Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:

- by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11
(certain operators may charge for these calls),
- at the following standard number: +32 22999696,
- via the following form: https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en

Finding information about the EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website (europa.eu).

EU publications

You can view or order EU publications at: op.europa.eu/en/publications. Multiple copies of free publications may be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local documentation centre (european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en).

EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR Lex (eur-lex.europa.eu)

Open data from the EU

The portal data.europa.eu provides access to open datasets from the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. These can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. The portal also provides access to a wealth of datasets from European countries.



PROMOTING AND PROTECTING YOUR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS ACROSS THE EU —

Russia's military aggression against Ukraine triggered scenes not seen in Europe for decades. It has since caused death, immense destruction, and unspeakable suffering. It also set in motion a mass movement of people not seen since World War II. To protect them, the EU activated the Temporary Protection Directive for the first time. In doing so, all EU Member States must offer protection to those displaced from Ukraine.

This report presents the findings of FRA's 2022 online survey of displaced people from Ukraine. It covers the 10 EU countries that host a large number of people under temporary protection – Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. Some 14,685 respondents shared their views of arriving and settling in the EU. These provide a unique insight into their experiences and feelings, including those of violence.

The survey findings also illustrate the challenges inherent in applying an instrument of temporary protection to a situation that is likely to have a long-term impact on people and our societies.



FRA – EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Schwarzenbergplatz 11 – 1040 Vienna – Austria

T +43 158030-0 – F +43 158030-699

fra.europa.eu

 facebook.com/fundamentalrights

 twitter.com/EURightsAgency

 linkedin.com/company/eu-fundamental-rights-agency



Publications Office
of the European Union