

Information for Ukrainians in Israel Questions & Answers

- 1. *Can Ukrainians who are unable to return home in the present circumstances register with UNHCR in Israel to obtain refugee status? Can UNHCR provide them with refugee documentation?***

Registration and documentation of asylum-seekers in Israel is the responsibility of the Government. This is carried out by the Population and Immigration Authority (PIBA), which is part of the Ministry of Interior. For details, please see [PIBA's website](#).

From the onset of the conflict in Ukraine, PIBA has announced that all Ukrainians present in Israel without a visa will be allowed to remain in the country until such time as the security situation in Ukraine has improved. According to PIBA, Ukrainians do not need to apply for asylum to be able to remain in Israel under this new policy. The government's decision can be [found here](#).

- 2. *Does the new Government policy allow Ukrainians to legally work while they remain in Israel?***

This depends on the type of visa or status that the Ukrainian has. If the asylum seeker's current visa includes the right to work, this will be extended by the PIBA. However, new arrivals who came to Israel after the conflict started in Ukraine, hold a tourist visa which does not include the right to work. Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked announced on March 8, 2022 that the State of Israel will reexamine working rights issue for Ukrainians soon (approx. 3 months), dependent on the situation in Ukraine. If the situation does not improve, all Ukrainians currently in Israel and those who arrive as a result of the conflict may be allowed to work.

- 3. *Will asylum seeker children be able to attend school in Israel?***

Israeli law provides that all children are entitled to attend school, regardless of their legal or migration status. Enrolment and placement of children in schools is done through local Municipalities in the town or city where you live.

- 4. *Does the policy allow for reunification of family members left behind in Ukraine or in neighbouring countries?***

UNHCR understands and appreciates the concerns Ukrainians in Israel have for the safety and welfare of their family members who remain in Ukraine or have fled to neighbouring countries. Prolonged separation from loved ones is one of the biggest traumas involved in forced displacement. The policy announced by PIBA did not include the issue of family reunification, but UNHCR hopes that the authorities would take a pragmatic and flexible approach depending on the length of stay.

- 5. *What assistance is available for Ukrainians in Israel?***

There are several organizations that assist asylum-seekers in Israel in different ways. Ukrainians may contact any of the following organizations depending on their particular needs:

Legal assistance

- **Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)**
<https://hias.org.il/english/>
Phone: 03 6911322
Email: info@hias.org.il
- **Hotline for Refugees and Migrants:** <https://hotline.org.il/en/main/>
WhatsApp for text or voice messages at 054 6270898
Address: 8 HaTzifra Street, Tel Aviv
Reception Hours: Tuesday 9.00 to 12.00 and from 13.00 to 17.00

Employment

- **Kav LaOved (Workers' Hotline):**
<https://www.kavlaoved.org.il/en/contact-us/telconsul/>
Phone: 03-6883766
Questions can be sent via Facebook to [Kav L'Oved Refugees](#) or [Kav L'Oved Russian](#)

Material assistance, social counselling, schooling

- **Tel Aviv Municipality:** Details are at the following link in various languages.
[Campaign to Support Ukrainian Refugees \(tel-aviv.gov.il\)](https://www.tel-aviv.gov.il/en/campaign-to-support-ukrainian-refugees)
- **Aid Organization for Refugees and Asylum-seekers in Israel (ASSAF):**
Sundays and Tuesdays at 15:30-19:30
The registration for the open hours is done by setting appointments through phone: 055-6650022
The registration for Sunday is at 10:00-11:00
The registration for Tuesday is at 10:00-11:00
Address: 52 Golomb St, Tel Aviv
- **Aid and Information Centre for Migrant Workers and Refugees (Mesila):**
Reception:
Sunday and Tuesday 15:00-18:00
Monday and Wednesday 09:00 – 12:00
Address: 66 Wolfson St. Tel Aviv
mesila@mail.tel-aviv.gov.il

Asylum seekers can also contact the Welfare Department of their local municipality in the town or city where they reside.

Healthcare

- **Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR):**
Reception hours:
Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 3PM
4 Baruch Sapir St., Jaffa,
Tel: 0549169924 / 035133124

The Israeli government has indicated that, for now, Ukrainian asylum seekers entering due to the conflict in Ukraine will not have access to the Israeli national health insurance scheme (Bituach Leumi).

6. *Is UNHCR able to resettle Ukrainian asylum-seekers from Israel to other western countries?*

Resettlement is the transfer of refugees from an asylum country to another State that has agreed to admit them and ultimately grant them permanent settlement. UNHCR in Israel has no resettlement quotas or places for Ukrainian refugees. It is the authorities of the third country who make the decision as to whether or not to accept a refugee for resettlement. UNHCR has no decision-making authority on resettlement cases. Each country has its own regulations and procedures in respect to the resettlement of refugees. Ukrainian asylum-seekers in Israel who have relatives in third countries may wish to check the relevant website of the country where their relatives are residing to find out if there are procedures or pathways for relocation to that country.

Some countries may have dedicated programmes for Ukrainian refugees. For example, Canada has announced a special measures for people affected by the conflict in Ukraine. [Immigration measures for people affected by the situation in Ukraine - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizens/2022/02/immigration-measures-for-people-affected-by-the-situation-in-ukraine.html)

Warning against “refugee visa” fraud

Bogus organizations are using internet chat groups and fake websites to promise resettlement and employment opportunities in Europe and North America for a fee. There are fake visa and migration companies targeting refugees and offering to “secure” them immigration through local embassies in return for considerable fees. **These are all scams.** Some of these fraudsters are also claiming affiliation to UNHCR. **UNHCR never charges for any services it provides to refugees, asylum-seekers or other persons of concern to the organization.**