I. Beneficiaries of temporary protection (Who can get temporary protection in Hungary?)

1. If a Ukrainian national has a non-Ukrainian and non-EU citizen family member, can she/he apply for temporary protection together with the other Ukrainian family members?

   Yes, if that family member is a spouse (husband or wife), partner, minor child of the said Ukrainian national or that of his/her spouse, or if she/he is another close relative living together with the Ukrainian national.

2. If someone is not entitled to get temporary protection (because she/he is not a Ukrainian national or his/her family member, or not a recognized refugee of Ukraine or his/her family member) can he/she apply for other type of protection?

   You can apply for a residence permit for specific purposes (e.g. to work, study, family reunification etc, if you have the practical possibility to work, study, reunite with your family member in Hungary). You can see the different types of residence permit here: www.bevandorlas.hu. If you cannot safely return to your home country, please contact us directly to discuss the legal options.

3. Is the temporary protection status the same as the refugee status?

   No. The temporary protection status is different from the refugee status, as this latter one is granted within an asylum procedure, which is a long and complex procedure. We advise people fleeing Ukraine to apply for temporary protection, as it provides people fleeing the war with instant and necessary protection.

II. Entry to Hungary directly from Ukraine

1. For a child traveling with only one parent, is the consent from the other parent needed?

   No.

2. Can the Hungarian Helsinki Committee help with evacuation from Ukraine?

   Unfortunately, we cannot.

3. What happens to those that enter without documents (without biometric passport)?

   Those having problems with documents are escorted to various registration points throughout the border zone, where their personal data and their application for protection is registered. If they are Ukrainian nationals or family members of Ukrainian nationals, were recognized as refugees in Ukraine or their family members, they will likely be asked whether they want temporary protection (valid for a year) or just a temporary residence permit (so-called ‘ideiglenes tartózkodásra jogosító igazolás’, initially valid for up to 3 months). If they are neither nationals of Ukraine or family members of Ukrainian nationals, nor nationals of an EU country, they will be issued with the latter temporary residence permit.

4. Can asylum seekers (people who applied for refugee status in Ukraine but have not been granted the status yet) in Ukraine cross the Ukrainian-Hungarian border?

   Yes, they can, however, they are not entitled to apply for temporary protection upon arrival. They can register with the immigration authority and then they will be issued with a temporary residence permit (so-called ‘ideiglenes tartózkodásra jogosító igazolás’, initially valid for up to 3 months). If someone has problems with traveling any further or is unable to return to their country of origin, please contact us.

III. Entry to Hungary from other neighbouring countries (not directly from Ukraine)

1. Can people fleeing Ukraine enter from other neighbouring countries to Hungary?

   Ukrainians with biometric valid passports: Yes.

   Ukrainians without biometric valid passports: We have not received information on anyone, who was not allowed to crossed the border with old (not biometric) Ukrainian passport.

   Third country nationals (non-Ukrainian or non-EU citizen) without Schengen area (EU countries, Lichtenstein, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland) or Hungarian visa/residence permit: no, unless the third country national is a close family member of a Ukrainian national or that of a refugee recognized in Ukraine.
IV. Traveling from Hungary to other EU/Schengen countries

1. Can Ukrainian nationals with biometric passports travel any further?
   They can move freely for up to 90 days.

2. Can Ukrainian nationals who have no biometric passports travel any further?
   If a Ukrainian national without a biometric passport wants to travel from one EU country to another, it is worth doing some inquiries (e.g. calling the border guards/police/consulate of the target country) to see whether a border is open also for those not having a biometric passport. Rules can be different for traveling by plane, train, bus or car. If these people only want to spend a shorter period of time in Hungary, they should register for a temporary residence permit (so-called 'ideiglenes tartózkodásra jogosító igazolás'). Note, that a Ukrainian national and his/her family member, as well as refugees of Ukraine and their family members can apply for temporary protection anywhere in the EU, even without a biometric passport. We advise you to contact the respective embassy of your travel destination that might inform you about the specific rules recently adopted due to the war in Ukraine (e.g. all restrictions have been lifted on the entrance to Germany for people fleeing from Ukraine).

3. What happens if family members entitled to have temporary protection are in different EU countries?
   Family members can start a family reunification procedure. If family members want to live in Hungary, please contact us for further information. If family members want to live in other EU countries where the other family members are, please contact the embassy/ NGOs providing free legal aid of the target country and ask them about the family reunification requirements.

4. Can third country nationals (not Ukrainian/not EU citizen/not family members of Ukrainians) travel any further?
   No, unless they comply with the visa regulations of that country. They are advised to register for temporary residence permit with the Hungarian authority. It enables them to stay in Hungary for 30-90 days. If someone cannot return to their country of origin and cannot travel any further in the EU, please contact us and we will talk about the possible legal options. We advise you to contact the respective embassy of your travel destination that might inform you about the specific rules recently adopted due to the war in Ukraine (e.g. all restrictions have been lifted on the entrance to Germany for people fleeing from Ukraine).

5. If parents (or legal guardians) are Ukrainians with biometric passports, but their child doesn’t have an ID or passport, can they travel any further?
   In this case, they should try to get the document for the child from the Ukrainian embassy. Other than that, the same applies as is written under question 2 above.

6. If people fleeing Ukraine apply for temporary protection in Hungary, can they move on and apply for temporary protection again in another EU country?
   People can travel for 90 days freely to other EU countries in possession of temporary protection card. This card should be issued within 45 days after your application for temporary protection. It is different in EU states whether or not the application for temporary protection from those, who have already been granted this status in another EU state, is accepted. Therefore, we also advise to contact the immigration authorities/embassies of the target EU country, as some EU countries do not accept applications for temporary protection from those, who have already been granted temporary protection elsewhere. If, however, the temporary protection card is issued and then the beneficiary travels to another EU country, where s/he can again applies for temporary protection, which is then granted, the first temporary protection card will be withdrawn. This is so as the rights entailed by temporary protection can only be exercised in one EU state.
   People holding temporary protection card might regularize their status otherwise too in other EU countries (e.g. applying for a residence permit for work or studying purposes).
V. Traveling from Hungary to countries outside the EU

1. If people fleeing Ukraine come to Hungary, but they want to travel to countries outside the EU (USA, UK, Canada), what should they do?

First, they have to get the necessary documents in Hungary, either by applying for temporary protection or temporary residence card, unless they can stay visa free (e.g. 90-day visa-free period with a biometric passport). Then they have to contact the embassy of the country where they want to travel to. The embassies can give information on the immigration/visa/protection rules of the country. If embassies are busy and they do not respond, it is worth contacting NGOs providing free legal aid in the target country. These NGOs can be searched via google.

2. Are people holding temporary protection/temporary residence cards prevented from traveling any further to countries outside the EU?

No. People with these documents can travel further, but they have to comply with the immigration/visa requirements of the target country.

VI. Forms and procedure for temporary protection

1. Can those Ukrainians (and their family members) who have a valid passport apply for temporary protection and if so, in which country can they apply?

Yes, they can, even if they don't have a biometric passport. The old type of Ukrainian passport (which does not contain a chip) is also enough. Ukrainian nationals and their family members can freely choose in which EU country they want to apply for temporary protection. However, if a Ukrainian national without a biometric passport wants to travel from one EU country to another, it is worth doing some inquiries (e.g. calling the border guards/police/consulate of the target country) to see whether a border is open also for those not having a biometric passport. Rules can be different for traveling by plane, train, bus or car.

2. Which is the form that applicants for the temporary protection status should fill out?

There is a form to be filled out. It contains questions about personal data, documents, entry place and date, and whether the person needs accommodation in Hungary. People are given this form by the immigration case-officers at the registration points/immigration authority's client service.

3. Where can people submit their application for temporary protection status?

In Budapest you can do so at the immigration client service at Harmat u. 131, everyday between 8-16.00. Otherwise, in the countryside, you can do that at any immigration office. You can find their address here. You can also do that at registration points, which are in Zátorny, Fehérgyarmat and Cigánd, these are towns/villages close to the border area. Please note that based on the actual occupancy and capacity these registration points might be changed.

4. Should a prior appointment with the immigration authority be made?

Based on the information we received on 18 March 2022, the immigration office receives only people who are at the immigration office early in the morning around 8 am. Registration of maximum 300-400 people is possible on a daily basis.

5. How long does the procedure take?

Decision on temporary protection status should be adopted in 45 days. There will be no interview. Those arriving without biometric passports can expect more questions.

6. If someone got a temporary residence permit (‘ideiglenes tartózkodásra jogosító igazolás’), can she/he still apply for temporary protection status?

Yes, if the said person is a Ukrainian national or refugee and their family members. The temporary residence permit will then be withdrawn.
VII. Material and financial support relating to temporary protection status /questions on employment

1. Can the Hungarian Helsinki Committee help people fleeing Ukraine to get accommodation and advise them on the state support they could get?

Although we try our best to respond to all inquiries, our expertise concerns legal matters concerning the procedure and content of temporary protection. To answer questions regarding the social welfare system, we advise you to contact the Menedék Association at menedek@menedek.hu.

2. Should one ask for accommodation when applying for temporary protection?

Yes. If the applicant has accommodation only for a couple of days, but no long-term solution is available, then it has to be clearly indicated to the authorities that shelter is needed. This is to be done at the same time as the application for temporary protection.

Once the temporary protection status is granted, the beneficiary remains eligible for shelter and food provision by the authorities for the entire duration of the protection status.

3. What kind of monetary compensation can applicants get during the temporary protection procedure, if they choose to stay in private accommodation and not in the one provided by the authorities?

Applicants and beneficiaries of temporary protection are eligible for state financial support in the amount of a monthly 22,800 HUF (around 60 EUR). Families with children get a monthly financial aid per child. After one child, this amount is 13,700 HUF (around 35 EUR). Once you start working or receive a pension this financial aid ceases.

4. If someone was given only the temporary residence permit, is she/he still gets shelter (accommodation) from the state?

Yes.

5. Where can people get accommodation?

Here you can find some useful websites, which help people to get accommodation:
- https://shelterukr.com/
- https://help.budapest.hu/
- https://www.supportukraine.hu/
- https://ukrainehelp.hu/en/
- https://www.ukrainetakeshelter.com
- menekult@utcarollakasba.hu

6. How can people fleeing Ukraine work in Hungary?

Those who get temporary protection can now work in certain jobs without a special permit. For most jobs, those who get temporary protection can now get a work permit more easily. Apart from that, we have no expertise to answer your questions, but you can send your questions concerning these matters to ukraine@mukenet.hu and ukraine@bpbar.hu, or you can ask for assistance with job seeking at Menedék Association at menedek@menedek.hu.

7. Can people holding temporary protection access the public health services? Can people who applied for temporary protection, but have not yet been granted protection, access public health services?

Yes. People with temporary protection have the right to use public health services and are entitled to have necessary and emergency medical treatment. The same applies to those who applied, but not yet received temporary protection. These people can get necessary and emergency services treatment. In addition, they are entitled to get oncological treatment as well as other specialized treatment in case of chronic diseases.

8. How can people get medical services?

People living in accommodations designated by the state authorities should indicate their needs of medical treatment to the personnel of accommodation. People who applied for temporary protection or hold temporary protection and stay in private accommodation, should go to the general practitioner (GP, district doctor, “háziorvos” in Hungarian) for prescriptions and basic medical examinations. For addresses you should google the district/town in which you are and write “háziorvos”. If someone needs urgent medical treatment, then one can go to the closest hospital. He/she will be provided. Please use google for addresses.