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**МЕХАНІЗМИ ЗАБЕЗПЕЧЕННЯ КРИМІНАЛЬНОЇ**  
**ВІДПОВІДАЛЬНОСТІ ЗА ЗЛОЧИН АГРЕСІЇ**  
**РОСІЙСЬКОЇ ФЕДЕРАЦІЇ НА ТЕРИТОРІЇ УКРАЇНИ**

**Анотація.** У науковій статті автори звертають увагу на ключові особливості механізму забезпечення кримінальної відповідальності за злочин агресії рф вчиненого на території України, адже не дивлячись на досить розгалужену систему нормативно правових актів, які регулюють це питання, багато перешкод для притягнення винних до міжнародної кримінальної відповідальності.

В межах цього дослідження звернуто увагу на судову практику що свідчать про відсутність на законодавчому рівні належного дієвого механізму врегулювання питання притягнення рф до юридичної відповідальності на міжнародно-правовому рівні щодо актів агресії та інших міжнародних злочинів, з урахуванням відшкодування завданої ними шкоди. Зокрема, серед важливих здобутків дослідження слід назвати створення Спецтрибуналу з можливим укладенням окремого Міжнародного кодексу воєнних злочинів, в якому буде деталізована диспозиція статей з урахуванням сучасних реалій, а також підстави і принципи міжнародної кримінальної відповідальності, можливі санкції та підстави звільнення від відповідальності і покарання.

**Ключові слова:** злочин агресії, міжнародні злочини, індивідуальна кримінальна відповідальність, Спецтрибунал, ратифікація Римського статуту, міжнародне судочинство, країна-агресор.

**Submitted:** 10.01.2024

**Revised:** 12.02.2024

**Accepted:** 23.02.2024

UDC 328+341

DOI 10.31733/2786-491X-2024-1-184-194



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**LATVIAN POLICY TOWARDS UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN 2022**  
**AS THE EXAMPLE OF EU TEMPORARY PROTECTION**

**Abstract.** Latvian policy towards Ukrainian refugees and their social conditions in 2022 passed through the period of wide financial support in the end of the winter and spring as well as attempts to decrease financial aid in the summer and autumn. Being the part of EU policy of temporary protection, however, Latvian experience of support for Ukrainian citizens presented how such a little state could be one of those that provided the most aid to Ukraine having spent 1 % of the GDP in 2022. Offering almost the same rights for Ukrainian citizens staying in the country as for its residents, Latvia covered all the necessary costs of refugees' living.

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Having compared the experience of Latvian policy towards refugees with other EU states, particularly with Poland, the article is the attempt to define all advantages and disadvantages of temporary protection for Ukrainian refugees. Due to the terms of Russo-Ukrainian war the policy became the attempt to integrate refugees into society and to decrease the state outcomes making refugees to be responsible for their social conditions.

**Keywords:** *Ukrainian refugees, temporary protection in the EU, Latvian government.*

**Introduction.** The problem of Ukrainian refugees since the aggression of Russia in February, 2022 effected Europe. Thousands of Ukrainians, who had to leave their home and to move to EU countries trying to find safety, showed Europe a new fact – whether European countries are ready to meet new refugees. Latvia became one of those countries that immediately started to give protection for Ukrainians and provide simplified border crossing for the refugees in spite of European bureaucracy.

The aim of the research is to analyse social issues met by Ukrainians in Latvia and the policy of state towards refugees in comparison with experience in other EU members. As a novelty the study will present the problem of Ukrainian refugees in Latvia at the scientific level, taking into account social challenges, public attitudes and the state's position towards refugees. The social conditions of Ukrainian refugees in Latvia are compared with other EU members to give the analysis of Latvian experience in synthesis of European policy towards Ukrainian refugees in 2022.

**Analysis of recent research and publications.** Such scientists as Ya.Gurbyk, A. Zaviryuha, Ya. Nechiporuk, V. Nikyforak, O. Olenych and others devoted their works to the clarification of the theoretical and legal foundations of the legal status of refugees. The problematic aspects of the legal nature of the status of Ukrainian refugees were investigated in their works by N. Grobar, K. Kuryakovska, K. Levandovsky, S. Lozinska, O. Panova, A. Svyaschuk, I. Soroka, V. Chuyenko and others.

**The purpose of the article.** The main objectives of this research are to define the amount of Ukrainian refugees in Latvia since the full-scale invasion of Russia, with a distinction of the regions of resettlement and social conditions, and to determine Latvian legislation regarding the status of refugees, their social and economic support. Therefore, the research presents the problem of refugees – state, and state – refugees.

**Formulation of the main material.** The problem of Ukrainian refugees in Latvia is not yet sufficiently represented in the scientific field. Modern scientific works studying the issue of Ukrainian refugees focus on several EU states, while only passingly mentioning the Baltic States. Unlike Poland, which is often mentioned by scientists, Latvia is practically ignored. The position of Ukrainian citizens who have found themselves in Latvia with the definition of a refugee is the most interesting to study, taking into account the position of the local population. In 2022, there was some information about pro-Russian sentiments, language conflicts and negative attitudes towards refugees in Latvia. Such sentiments are characteristic of Russians who do not have citizenship according to the laws of Latvia, but are part of the population of the state. Therefore, Ukrainian refugees in Latvia could obviously face the problem of discrimination from the pro-Russian part of the population. Across society, the

attitudes of citizens and non-citizens of Latvia contrast, from support to intolerance towards refugees.

The research outcomes. When considering the policy of Latvia and other EU countries, it should be noted that the governments generally made decisions about the status of Ukrainian refugees, their social security and rights within the framework of the policy of the European Union. Hence on March 4, 2022, the EU introduced a directive on the temporary protection of Ukrainian refugees. The directive was originally adopted in 2001, when Europe was faced with a wave of refugees from the Balkans. Therefore, the policy of the EU states quite consistently follows the principles of pan-European legislative acts. It means the policies of the states of the region, as a rule, concern displaced persons with the aim of providing immediate and collective protection. Since February 24, 2022, Ukrainian citizens, residents of Ukraine who could not return to their own countries and refugees who were within the borders of the state received the right to enter the EU states.

It is worth noting that the last two categories allowed foreigners who were in the territory of Ukraine and persons who were forced to leave their previous places of residence and received protection under Ukrainian legislation to cross the border. The same principles were applied to such persons as to citizens of Ukraine, therefore, such categories of refugees received the right of asylum in the way of the inability to return to the states of their previous residence. All these categories receive the status of displaced persons and the right to residence, access to jobs, accommodation, social security, and access to education. Such protection was granted for at least one year, but not more than three years, taking into account the war events. Temporary protection was granted automatically to all immigrants, but the principle of submitting an application for residence to any state of temporary residence became a mandatory condition. In addition, unlike displaced persons after the World War II, all displaced persons have the right for free movement without obtaining the necessary visas and can independently choose their host country (EU temporary protection for displaced persons).

The normalizing of the social security problem of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians required certain norms regarding the move and the period of stay in the territory of the countries. As a result, such norms were adopted in EU members. The countries that border on Ukraine or have met more of the refugees, however, agreed the aid in middle March, 2022. On March 12, 2022, the Polish Parliament adopted a decision according to which Ukrainians who were forced to leave the territory of Ukraine due to the Russian invasion, after a special application, received the right to stay in Poland for 18 months. Moreover, Ukrainians received the right to obtain residence and apply for a tax identification number from March 16, 2022. On March 26, the President of Poland signed an act on assistance to Ukrainian immigrants. In addition, the issue of accommodation and food for refugees, which was divided between the central and local administrations, was resolved. This practice, by the way, was introduced in other countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

In part, local administrations were supposed to provide food for Ukrainian refugees (Poland: parliament adopts law on assistance to Ukrainian refugees).

For example, in the Czech Republic, such norms were determined by a special law adopted on March 17, 2022. According to this law, Ukrainian refugees received the right to employment, social welfare and unemployment payments (Czech Republic: "Lex Ukraine" law package enters into force). In comparison with other EU members, Latvia was among the first countries to offer state support for Ukrainian DPs. On March 3, 2022 Latvian government adopted the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians, a day before the temporary protection was agreed in the EU. Due to the Law all the Ukrainians got the same rights mentioned above. DPs were guaranteed to get social welfare, housing and accommodation, financial support, medical care, access to education etc. (Latvia: New law on assistance for people from Ukraine).

The fact Latvia had adopted the Law one of the first in the EU showed the country officially were ready to meet refugees from Ukraine and emphasised its support for Ukrainians. This statement also can be proved that Latvia was one of the first countries that granted permission for simplified entry and stay on the territory of states without proper documents, such as foreign passports and visas. However, it should be emphasised that more of those in the first waves of Ukrainian refugees moving to European states went to countries of Eastern part of the EU, such as Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania. Latvia does not border on Ukraine and the route to this country as well as quantity of DPs coming to was not the priority for Ukrainian refugees. The choice of Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania is explained by the closest borders and the fastest possibility to leave the country.

However, Baltic states together with the neighboring countries started a simplified border crossing system, which led to a flow of refugees to European cities and towns. In case of Latvia Ukrainian citizens could also cross the border without all the necessary documents, i.e. passports or visas. Those Ukrainians who did not have either a valid biometrical passport or any other document confirming the person and giving the right to enter the EU borders could be issued a visa and in the case of holding an expired travel documents issued by Ukraine got the consideration of such documents valid till February 28, 2023 (Latvia 2020: 5). Moreover, the state officially condemned russia's aggression, established responsibility for discrimination against refugees, and banned the entry of foreigners who did not condemn russia's aggression and express a negative attitude towards Latvia (The entry of the russian federation citizens into the Republic of Latvia to be restricted).

Due to July report of IOM that surveyed 265 representatives of DPs in three Latvian regions of Riga, Latgale and Vidzeme, the most Ukrainian DPs came to Latvia through the russian federation. In details, 56 % of DPs arrived to Latvia from it, 32 % came from Lithuania, 8 %, from Estonia and 4 from Belarus or other states by air. Most of those Ukrainians moved from Eastern Ukraine or Kherson region in the Southern part of the state: 32 % from Kharkiv oblast, 17 % from Donetsk, 15 % from Luhansk and 8 % from Kherson (Survey on displacement patterns, needs and intentions, 2022:1). Explaining the route from Ukraine to Latvia could be found in the closest borders for refugees from those oblasts. On February 24, 2022 russian military troops moved in Eastern, Southern and Northern directions.

Such conditions made Ukrainian citizens of temporary occupied regions leave their places of living immediately not to be imprisoned or killed by russians. From three Eastern oblasts Ukrainian could only move through the russian federation. In case of Kherson oblast, the route was chosen taking into consideration the closest connection with occupied Crimea and from the Ukrainian peninsula occupied by russia Ukrainians could move through russian cities to European or Asian countries. Leave Ukrainian cities occupied by russians and reach EU could those who had enough possibilities to move, incl. vehicles, financial resources and documents that allowed to cross the border with foreign countries.

Two months later, in April 2022, about 22 thousands of Ukrainian refugees were already officially registered in Latvia, 16,5 thousands of whom received the right to employment, and about 10 thousands needed state assistance with settlement. The number of Ukrainians who arrived in Latvia grew and till summer 2022 was approximately 35 thousands, mostly middle-aged and older women (Latvia. EMN country factsheet 2022:4). The number of refugees from Ukraine in Latvia was one of the lowest and contrasted with Poland, Germany, the Czech Republic and other EU states.

However, the aid Ukrainians got in Latvia is one of the biggest. The government at the state level established guarantees for Ukrainian refugees and allocated funds from the budget for support. Therefore, Ukrainian refugees in Latvia received 270 euro per adult and 190 euro per minor as a one-time benefit, 109 euro per adult and 76 euro per family member were given per month. Ukrainian refugees received food and accommodation for 120 days, if the refugees arrived in Latvia after May 25, then food provision was reduced to 30 days. Citizens who provided housing for Ukrainians received compensation from the budget. A household received 100 euro of compensation per month per person and 50 for each member of family, but not more than 300 euro per month. In general, the policy in this humanitarian field did not differ from other EU states. For instance, in April 2022 in Poland, the government made a decision that for 120 days, citizens who provided accommodation to refugees from Ukraine could receive compensation in the amount of 8 euro per day. Another step of the local government was the decision on compensation for businesses that helped refugees (Ukraine to Latvia).

The problem of housing and accommodation was the main for Ukrainian DPs in Latvia in 2022. Probably the country was not ready to meet thousands of refugees due to the limit of its availability. July survey of Ukrainian DPs of 2022 showed housing and financial issues to be the most problems for Ukrainians in Latvia – 42 % and 40 % (Survey on displacement patterns, needs and intention 2022:6). Due to the statics of summer 2022 approximately 120 Ukrainians came to the country every day (Latvian cities announce halt on accepting Ukrainian refugees). The main issue for Latvian government was that Ukrainian DPs were not able to find working position. It meant that just the government should have found sources to cover accommodation of such groups of Ukrainians. On the one hand, there were a lot of mothers with children and infants as well as seniors and people with disabilities, on the other hand, out of three tens of thousands of Ukrainian refugees faced a lack of jobs in Latvia. The language barrier did not

allow Ukrainians, who received the official right to employment, to find a proper job. In addition, the labor market in Latvia was not ready for such a large number of people needing the job.

The access of Ukrainian refugees to the medical system has become another issue of the policy of EU members. The EU states should have covered those medical services they had provided. Having equalized the rights of Ukrainians with citizens, some of the states provided almost the same support in the medical sphere as to their own citizens. Free access to all the Ukrainian DPs was provided in Romania and the Czech Republic, later limited to 150 days, while Hungary limited access to free medicine only to certain categories of officially registered with temporary protection and Slovakia followed a similar example, guaranteeing the right to medical care for Ukrainian refugees who had received the right to stay in the country (EU cities and regions welcoming Ukrainian refugees 2022).

All the Ukrainian civilians received the state covered and free of charge medical service in Latvia. In case of chronic diseases Ukrainians got the opportunity for treatment having a handwritten or typed prescription issued in Ukraine. Recognition of such documents was one of the steps of Latvian support given to Ukrainians. Among other benefits, DPs from Ukraine could also get exemption from patient co-payments during the time of being not socially insured. Moreover, due to the regularities Ukrainians got some veterinary services free of charge. For instance, all the necessary vaccinations and even chips were provided for animals of DPs in Latvia (Latvia 2022: 12-15).

However, for Latvia, 35 thousands of refugees were quite a large number, considering the state budget. Therefore, in July 2022, Latvian cities announced the plan to refuse to accept refugees, due to the lack of funds in the budget. Riga, the capital of Latvia, announced to stop accepting Ukrainian refugees on July 1, 2022. The state program for support Ukrainian refugees could not cover the costs for Ukrainians, although it had been officially announced that the program would be extended until the end of the year. For example, in August, 2022 in Latvia, 3.5 euro were funded for food per person (Latvian cities announce halt on accepting Ukrainian refugees). If to count the expenses only for food for Ukrainian refugees, then in a month such an amount will reach more than 3 million euro per month. Consequently, state support for Ukrainian refugees was decreasing, which might lead to a worsening of the social situation of Ukrainians.

Such appeals to decrease funding needs of refugees from Ukraine were not exception for the EU. Many other EU states began to consider the same possibility of reducing financial support for Ukrainian refugees. At the end of November, the office of the Prime Minister of Poland published a decision on the establishment of fees for accommodation and meals for Ukrainians who, starting in January 2023, should continue to receive state assistance. This decision was explained by budget expenditures for more than 1,5 million Ukrainian refugees. For Poland, which had the largest number of displaced persons since the full-scale invasion of Moscow troops, such a number of refugees had become quite expensive.

Therefore, the decision to limit budget funds for the needs of Ukrainian

refugees had to be made by the country's parliament. Taking into account the data of the Polish Economic Institute, such a decision became fully justified, because Poland spent more than other EU states on the needs of Ukrainians. At the same time, the economic costs became tangible for the Poles themselves, which could mean dissatisfaction with the government's policy. Considering the rise in prices and the need to save budget funds, the Polish parliament decided to establish a partial payment for accommodation after four months of stay. Therefore, Ukrainians in general accommodation centers were planned to pay half of the cost of accommodation, which was 8 euro per day per person. After 180 days of stay, the cost was 12 euro. But elderly people who could not work or pregnant women were exempted from payment (Poland says it will ask Ukrainian refugees to pay some housing and food costs next year).

The comparison of Latvian and Polish experience differed a lot. First of all, Poland had to give the support for 1,5 million of refugees while Latvia had just 35 thousands. The area of Latvia is 65,5 thousand square kilometers that is the fifth part of Poland's territory. Population of Poland is 38 million while in Latvia live 1,9 million people. Till October 3, 2022 Latvia had donated 0,9 % of its GDP to Ukraine in amount of 314 million euro, Estonia spent 0,8 % and Poland had given 0,5 % (Latvian minister: we're Nr. 1 when it comes to military aid for Ukraine). In general Latvian aid for Ukraine including military support exceeded 1 % of GDP in 2022 while Poland had spent 2 % of its GDP (Poland spent 2 pct of GDP on Ukraine aid says FinMin). Polish authorities have informed about 10 billions euro given for Ukraine. Such statics showed Latvia was among the main supporter for Ukraine even the fact in 2022 Latvia had a government budget deficit of 4,4 % of its GDP while Poland had the deficit of 3,7 % of GDP (Latvia Government Budget, Poland Government Budget).

A change in approaches to financing the needs of refugees could also be found in the attitude of the population of EU countries towards Ukrainian refugees. It should be noted that the population of neighboring countries partly positively perceived state aid to Ukrainian refugees. The exception was the attitude towards refugees from Ukraine in Slovakia that was completely opposite to other countries. Based on the data of the Slovak Academy of Sciences regarding public opinion about Ukrainian refugees, it can be concluded that almost half of Slovaks did not support state aid to Ukrainians in 2022. In total, as of April 11, 2022, there were 324,133 refugees from Ukraine in the country. According to the study conducted in the spring of 2022, only 40 % of respondents agreed with the opinion about the possibility of accepting Ukrainians with the right to stay on the territory of the country for a longer time than established by the law. More than 50 % of respondents agreed that Ukrainians should have had equal rights with Slovak citizens. In total, only 42 % of Slovaks support the authorities' decision to provide assistance to Ukrainians (Where is the public opinion on the perception of Ukrainian refugees. Slovak Academy of Science, 2022).

This indicator was significantly lower than in neighboring Poland, the Czech Republic and even Hungary. For example, in Poland, 85 % of the population agreed with the local government's position on helping Ukrainians, 82 % supported Ukrainian refugees in Hungary, and 73 % in the Czech Republic

(Perception of Ukrainian refugees in the V4 2022). It is worth noting that the mentioned countries were the centers where the labor migration of Ukrainians was concentrated, besides, the local population of these states was not too loyal to the russians, remembering the events with the suppression of local political opposition sentiments in the last century.

If to speak about Latvia, the statics is given in two groups of Latvian speaking and russian speaking representatives of the society. People preferring to speak Latvian are considered to support Ukrainians as well as Ukraine in russo-Ukrainian war, while those who speak russian are supposed to support russian policy. 78 % of Latvian speaking and 27 % of russian speaking persons in Latvia support Ukraine (Survey: 27 % of Latvian russians support Ukraine). This result is higher then in Slovakia but lower then in Poland and Hungary. However, the phenomenon of Latvia is that this is the country where majority of russian speaking belong to non citizens of the state. Hence, this fact also should be taken into account and defining just citizens for survey could have another result of support for Ukraine as well as refugees.

The problem of Ukrainian refugees also dealt with their children in the educational sphere. In 2022 those children who attended schools in Ukraine and had to leave for EU members were in a very unsuitable situation. The Ukrainian government and the Ministry of education and science agreed online study process both for secondary and higher education. After two weeks of holidays given to all the students in Ukraine since the invasion, all the students should have returned to lessons online. This norm did not depend on the living place of students. They could join study process from Ukrainian territory and from abroad as a result those who moved to EU members did not begin to attend schools. In 2022, Ukrainian students were most successfully involved in the educational process in schools in Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Latvia. In May 2022, 194 thousand of over 528 thousand students were enrolled in Polish schools, which was 37 % of the total number. Out of more than 70 thousand Ukrainian students in the Czech Republic, more than 26 thousand attended school, which was 38 %. In Slovakia, this indicator was slightly more than 9 thousand out of more than 31 thousand Ukrainian students, which was 31 % of the student youth. In Balkan states there were almost the same 30 % of those who attended schools but due to the total number of students they did not play the leading role in regularities in EU.

Taking into account the fact that Ukrainian youth were not integrated into the educational life of European states in 2022, government adopted recommendations regarding the educational process of schoolchildren. It should be noted that in some European countries there is simply no state approach to the educational process of refugees. Estonia became an exception and essentially was the only state that comprehensively took into account the needs of refugees.

There, an individual approach became a condition for enrolling students. In most states, after enrolling students, the educational process takes place in two ways. In the first, students learn the language of the country of residence, in the second, they are fully involved with other students. In the second case, the state does not take into account either the psychological or moral state of the student, limiting itself to the approach of determining the level of knowledge and basic



knowledge of the language. Among all the states of the region, except Estonia, only Romania takes into account the psychological state of refugee children involved in the educational process in schools. At least we are talking about the norms provided by the legislation of the country. But considering the small percentage of students who moved to Romania from Ukraine, the example of this country is not taken into consideration (supporting refugee learners from Ukraine in schools in Europe).

Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Romania have introduced the practice of involving Ukrainian students in regular classes. This involves studying national languages at the same level as other students according to educational programs. In Latvia all the students of school should have been involved in the study process as well. Children of Ukrainian DPs were offered to have study process in Latvian or minority languages. Ukrainian as the language of study process was agreed in Riga Ukrainian Upper-secondary School. The problem of Latvian society and policy towards refugees is the Russian language in education. This language in study process was already the subject of conversation between politicians and even blaming in populism that some political parties provided.

Another policy was adopted in Poland, where was the practice of separate classes, taking into account the use of the Ukrainian language, which is combined with education in regular classes with the Polish language. However, in some states, on the other hand, the question of the involvement of Ukrainian students has not become a subject of national policy, i.e. in Bulgaria, decisions regarding the educational process are made at the local level. Such situation shows not equal policy towards education for DPs. However, the countries, as a rule, offer free courses for learning the national language. In Estonia, for example, every refugee must attend free Estonian language classes at A1 level. At the same time, remote and face-to-face formats are offered throughout the country (Temporary protection for Ukrainians in Estonia).

Comparing the support measures for refugee learners before and after Russia's invasion due to the official EU report, it should be noticed that Latvian government have offered specific financial support in non-repayable grants and scholarships. Realizing perception of state language Latvian universities paid more attention to language training and support. However, the practice of such courses were given even before the Ukrainian DPs came to Latvia and depended more on the policy to involve foreigners into study process at universities. Ukrainian students of Latvian universities got the same scholarship as Latvian students, in amount 140 euro per month and researchers from Ukraine had a state funded fellowship in amount 900 euro per month. Such funding became the support for Ukrainians DPs obtaining the education or scholars providing scientific work (Supporting refugee learners from Ukraine in higher education in Europe 2022).

The mentioned steps of Latvia and other EU members in the field of education indicate an understanding of the problem of Ukrainian refugees in the coming time. The initial period of stay within the countries of the region, as a rule, was one year, and local governments did not count on a longer period of stay for refugees. However, the course of war events led to the abandonment of

a significant number of Ukrainians in neighboring countries, which affected the change of policy, the limitation of funding programs and attempts to integrate refugees. Ensuring the right to learn the national language and access to education for the children of Ukrainian refugees indicates the readiness of governments to extend the period of stay of Ukrainian displaced persons in accordance with the EU directive.

In general, the policy of Latvia towards Ukrainian refugees shows a gradual transition from budget programs to attempts at integration into society with the possibility of economic independence. The problem of Ukrainian refugees shows how European states are ready for the influx of refugees from other regions, pointing out the shortcomings of state problems and provides an opportunity to develop new approaches to providing asylum to refugees.

**Conclusions.** Latvian policy towards Ukrainian refugees in 2022 was a part of European temporary protection adopted on March 4, 2022. Following the policy of EU, Latvia offered social welfare, medical care, employment and education as well as all other necessary support for Ukrainians. Being not ready for such a number of refugees and meeting the problem of budget funding, Latvia met problems of social conditions of refugees that probably were the basis of perception DPs in Latvian society. However, such experience was not the exception for the EU members. The research showed the main measures Latvian government had provided to cover social needs of refugees and their children trying to involve them into society and to give financial support until they can cover their needs by themselves. The social conditions of Ukrainian refugees in Latvia were not unique.

There are some common policy steps in other EU members that in general show the perception of Ukrainian refugees among Europeans as well as all the necessary changes provided for social conditions of refugees and implemented into the laws of the states. The research results could be practically applied in the form of the presented model of studying changes in the social living conditions of refugees and changes in governmental policy to the problem of refugees. The practical component will allow the integration of refugees into society, searching ways to provide accommodation without gradual funding from the state with a right of extended stay in the state. At the same time, it is expected that the research makes it possible to note Latvia's contribution to the support of Ukrainian refugees at the state level in Ukraine.

*Conflict of Interest and other Ethics Statements*

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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#### ПОЛІТИКА ЛАТВІЇ ЩОДО УКРАЇНСЬКИХ БІЖЕНЦІВ У 2022 РОЦІ ЯК ПРИКЛАД ТИМЧАСОВОГО ЗАХИСТУ ЄС

**Анотація.** Політика Латвії щодо українських біженців і їхнього соціального забезпечення у 2022 пройшла період широкої фінансової допомоги у кінці зими і навесні і період спроб зменшити фінансову підтримку влітку і восени. Частина політики ЄС щодо тимчасового захисту, латвійський досвід підтримки українських громадян представляє як невелика держава може бути однією з тих, що надали Україні найбільше допомоги, витративши 1 % ВВП у 2022. Пропонуючи права для українських громадян, як для інших резидентів, Латвія покрила усі необхідні витрати на потреби українських біженців.

На основі порівнянь досвіду Латвії з іншими державами ЄС у межах політики щодо біженців стаття є спробою визначити переваги і недоліки тимчасового захисту українських біженців. Відповідно до тривалості російсько-української війни політика стала спробою інтегрувати українських біженців у суспільство і зменшити державні видатки для відповідальності біженців за соціальне становище.

**Ключові слова:** українські біженці, тимчасовий захист в ЄС, уряд Латвії.

**Submitted:** 23.01.2024

**Revised:** 15.02.2024

**Accepted:** 27.02.2024