

Additional support mechanisms for residence and labour rights of Ukrainian civilians

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On 15 March, the Cabinet of Ministers approved a draft law "Amendments to the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians". The draft law provides for new instruments for organizing rights of residence and work of Ukrainian civilians fleeing the Russia's war in Ukraine.

The draft law endows Ukrainian civilians holding a travel document issued in Ukraine with the right to work in Latvia without additional proof of the right to employment. This support will be valid for up to 30 days from the date of conclusion of the employment contract in Latvia. The Ukrainian civilian is obliged to submit an application to the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs for a document confirming the right to employment within 10 days after embarking on employment, and the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs issues or refuses to issue the said document within 20 days of receipt of the application.

The draft law also clarifies the right of access to education for Ukrainian civilian minors. Respective minors will receive right to access general education and the right to continue vocational education in the manner and to the extent as an asylum seeker.

To ensure the social services all municipalities shall to the extent possible provide support to Ukrainian civilians in a coordinated and swift manner. The draft law provides that the support will be provided even if a person has not registered their place of residence.

Persons will be entitled to an extraordinary benefit of €272 for adults and €190 for children.

It was already notified that on 3 March, the Parliament adopted in its second - final - reading the Law on Support for Ukrainian Civilians, which has been recognized as urgent. More detailed information is available here:

<https://www.iem.gov.lv/en/article/saeima-adopts-law-outline-support-ukrainian-civiliansseym-priymae-zakon-dlya-pidtrimki-civilnogo-naselennya-ukraini>

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