

UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN NORTH MACEDONIA

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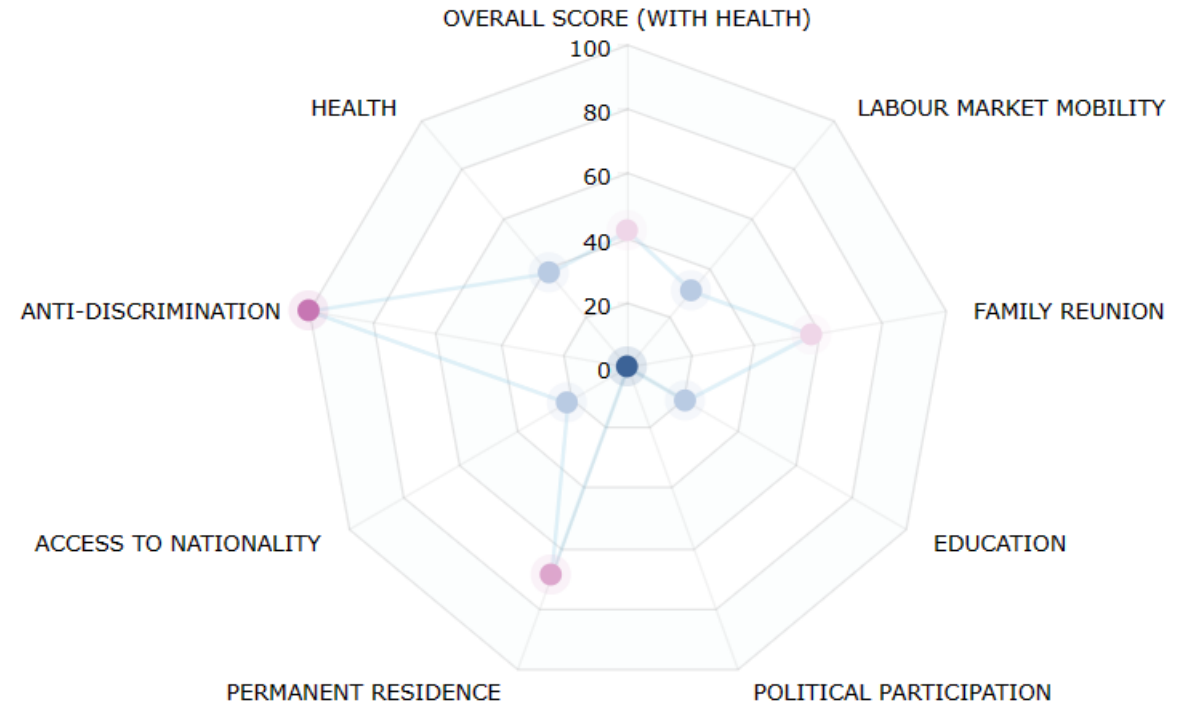
General description of immigration policy

- Ratification of major international conventions
- Resolution on Migration Policy (2021-2025)
- National Strategy for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration (2021-2025)

North Macedonia – MIPEx (2020)

- Improvement in right to autonomous residence permit for partners and children
- Obstacles for integration in labor market, education, health, political participation, access to nationality
- Basic rights and some security, but not equal opportunities
- Public encouraged to see immigrants as equals
- Integration policies – below average in Europe

North Macedonia, 2019



LEGEND

80-100 - Favourable

60-79 - Slightly favourable

41-59 - Halfway favourable

21-40 - Slightly unfavourable

1-20 - Unfavourable

0 - Critically unfavourable

General description of immigration policy – number of refugees before 2022

- North Macedonia (UNHCR, 2021)

Country of Asylum	Refugees under UNHCR's mandate	Asylum-seekers	IDPs of concern to UNHCR	Other people in need of international protection	Stateless persons	Host community	Others of concern
North Macedonia (MKD)	292	25	116	-	554	-	25



Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 - demography

- Number of migrants before 2022: (2017) 64; (2016) 140; (2010) 60; (2005) 58; (2000) 57; (1995) 61; (1990) 65
- As of 1 October 2023 (UNHCR):
 1. 18,345 people recorded in the country
 2. 405 applied for asylum, TP or similar protection schemes

Data from Ministry of Interior (24 February 2022 – 18 September 2022):

1. 21,106 citizens entered North Macedonia
2. 15,539 citizens left
3. 4,130 under the age of 16
4. 664 – 70+
5. 358 temporary residence permits on humanitarian grounds



Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 – legal and economic position

Law on Foreigners

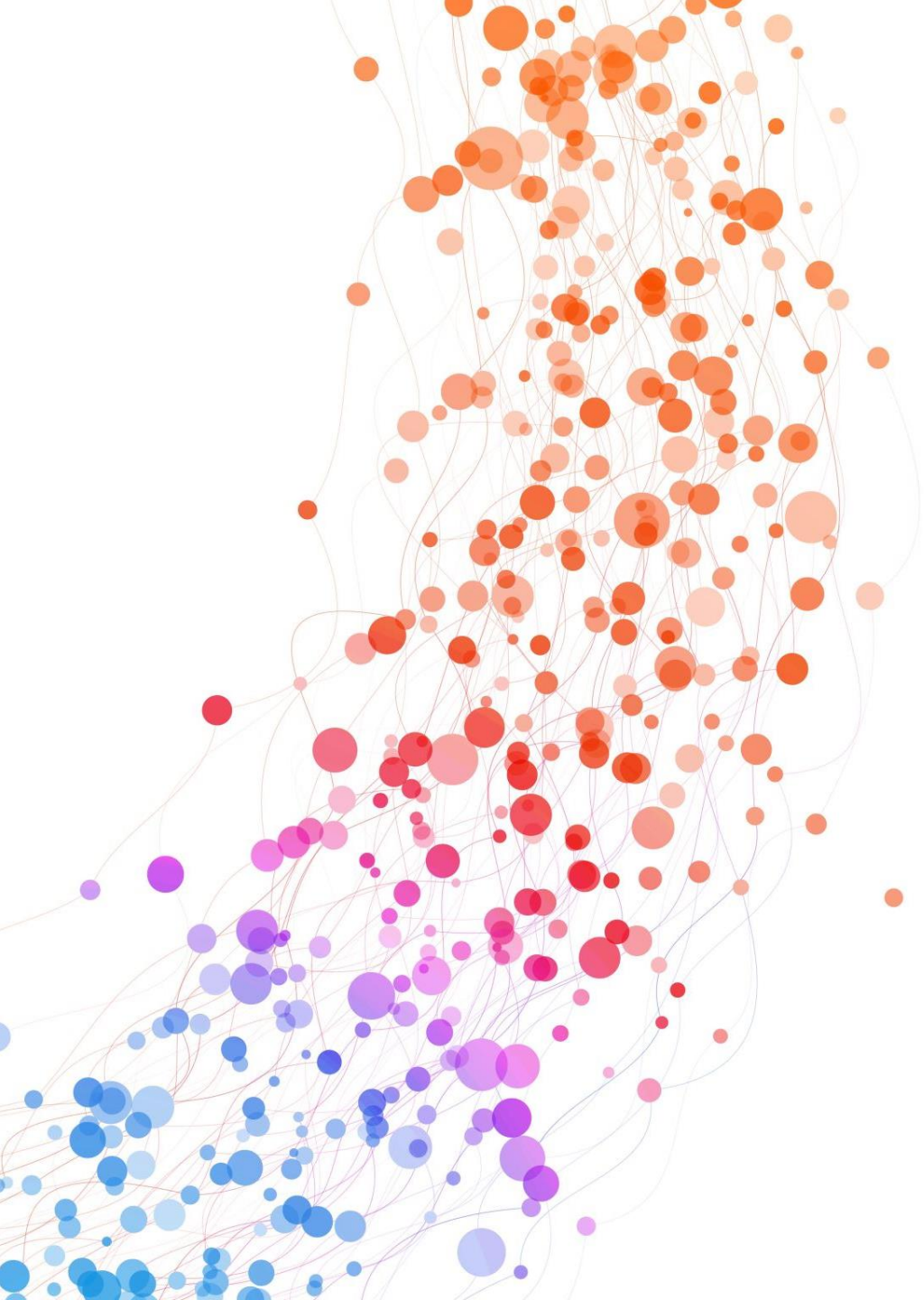
Law on Border

Law on Movement and residence of foreigners

Law on Employment and Work of Foreigners

Law on International and Temporary Protection

Temporary Protection granted by the Government to Ukrainians (august 2023)



Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 – legal and economic position

- No employment centers
- Law on Employment and Work of Foreigners does not work as a result of humanitarian grounds status
- Private level – domestic and foreign companies:
 - Certified diploma with a 6-month validity (if required for professional occupation) and other documentation
 - Deed contract
 - Application for health insurance – uncertain
- State level – nothing particular

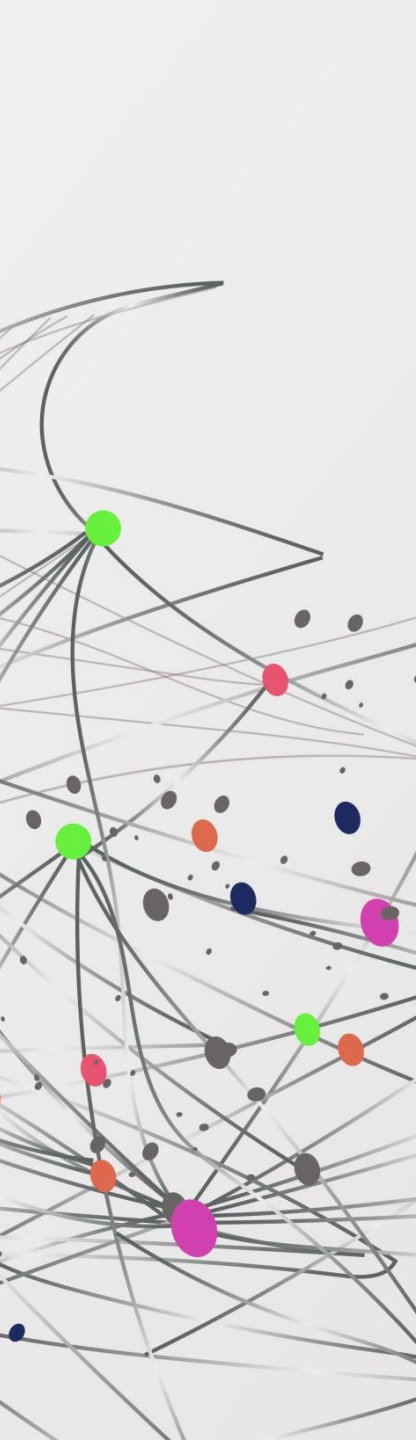
Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 – legal and economic position

- 40 companies – at least one of the owners is from Ukraine
 - Micro or small companies
 - 3 companies – incomes greater than 3 million denars or €50,000 (as of 2020)
 - Total income – €412,000; total profit – €84,100; 5 employees
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- Organizations that represent the Ukrainian diaspora in North Macedonia:
 - Association of Ukrainians “Lesya Ukrainka”
 - Joint Home for Mothers and Children From Ukraine - Skopje

Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 – legal and economic position

- Integration difficulties
- Lack of information
- Legal provisions (asylum procedure) create multiple uncertainties
- Unfulfilled promises by domestic institutions





Ukrainian diaspora characteristics before and after 2022 - attitudes

- Relatives, friends, funds, online working
- IOM survey (in cooperation with Red Cross, summer of 2022) – 61 refugees interviewed:
 - No need to apply for asylum, intention to return to Ukraine
 - Intention of staying:
 - Until war is over and return home (55%)
 - Did not know (14%)
 - A year and then return (12%)
 - Few months (6%)
 - Start a new life (4%)
 - At least 1 year (4%)
 - Decision depending on situation (2%)

Political institutions' reaction – general overview of the situation

- March 2022:
- Financial resources for hotel accommodation and additional services (€ 2,000,000)
- Exemption from paying border insurance until 30 June 2022



Migration Authorities

Responsible Body

Ministry of Interior

Line Ministries

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Finance

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Economy

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

Ministry of Education and Science

Ministry of Political System and Inter-Community
Relations

Agencies

Employment Agency of the Republic of North Macedonia

Immigration Agency of the Republic of Northern
Macedonia

Sector for Border Affairs and Migration

Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative

Key Policy Documents

Law For Foreigners (2021)

Law for Foreigners and by-laws

Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection and by-laws

Law on Citizenship

Law on Border Control

Law on Police and bylaws

Regulation With Legal Enforcement for the Application of the Foreign Law (*) During The Emergency And By-Laws

Law on Employment and Insurance in Case of Unemployment

Law on Social Protection (104/19)

Relevant Publications

Human Resources Management Strategy 2020-2022

National Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration 2017 - 2020

North Macedonia | Profile 2021 Migration Governance Indicators, IOM

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Receiving society's
reaction – general
overview of the situation

- Solidarity, humanity, compassion
- Providing assistance and housing
- Common people expressing support and helping



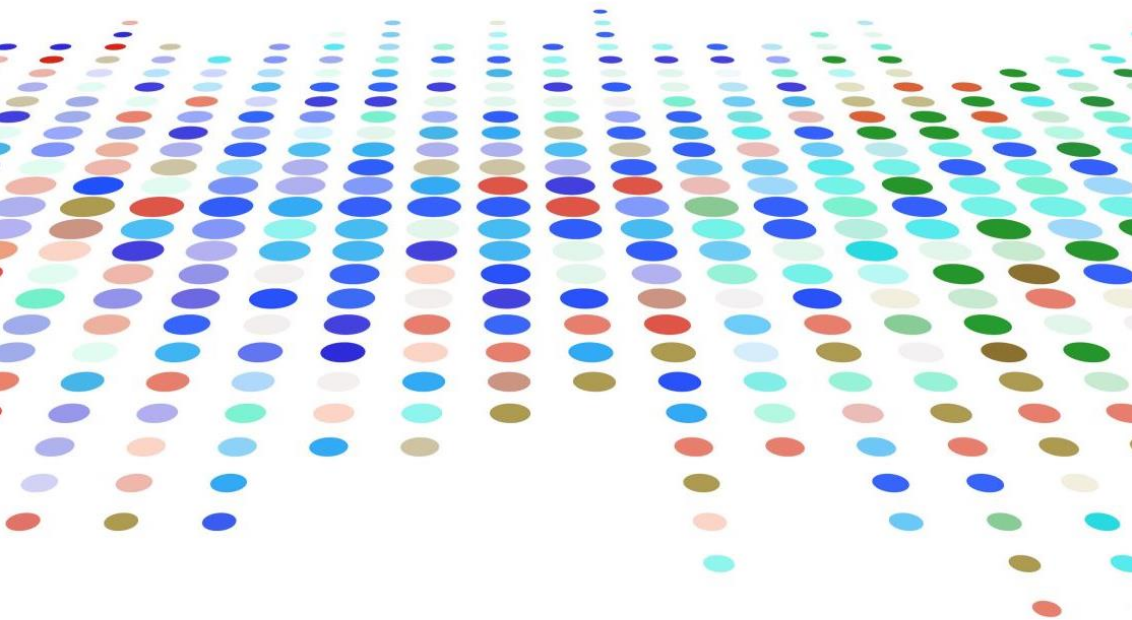
Receiving society's reaction – main institutional actors involved

- Activities of Ukrainian NGOs, international organizations, domestic NGOs and institutions, companies and others:
 - Accommodation and housing;
 - Basic needs and items;
 - Documentation and employment assistance;
 - Donations and financial support;
 - Organizing events and actions



Receiving society's reaction – refugees' image in public discourse

- 2 Surveys carried out: on behalf of UNHCR, and Red Cross
- No specific image or opinion on Ukrainian refugees



Conclusions

