



LATVIJAS REPUBLIKAS SAEIMA
IZGLĪTĪBAS, KULTŪRAS UN ZINĀTNES KOMISIJA

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No. 142.9/5-33-13/22

**To the Committee on Education, Science and Innovation of the
Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**

On support for Ukrainian children

On 24 May, the Education, Culture and Science Committee of the Saeima received a letter from the Committee on Education, Science and Innovation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine requesting more detailed information on educational support for Ukrainian children in Latvia.

The Education, Culture and Science Committee of the Saeima tasked the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia—the main public administration institution responsible for education, science, and sports, as well as youth and national language policy—with compiling this information. In view of the above, we are sending (enclosed) a letter drafted by the Ministry of Education and Science on the support to Ukrainian civilians in terms of obtaining education that meets Latvian national education standards.

Enclosed: Letter from the Ministry of Education and Science on 3 pages

Kind regards,


Arvils Ašeradens
Chair of the Committee



Izglītības un zinātnes ministrija

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Rīga	Date is in the timestamp	No.	4-2e/22/1891
Re:	30 May 2022	No.	142.9/5-30-13/22

Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Education, Culture and Science Committee

Regarding your request

The Ministry of Education and Science (hereinafter—MoES), referring to the letter No. 142.9/5-30-13/22 of 30 May 2022 from the Education, Culture and Science Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, hereby provides the information requested in the letter from the Committee on Education, Science and Innovation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on support for Ukrainian children.

Ukrainian civilians are entitled to the education that meets the standards of Latvian state education, including preschool education, primary education, general secondary education, and vocational secondary education. Given that in Latvia it is compulsory to prepare children from the age of five for primary education and to complete or continue primary education until the age of 18, all Ukrainian civilians of that age are required to complete either preschool (from the age of five) or primary education, which exclude the study of subjects that meet Ukrainian educational standards, including the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian history. The legal representative of a Ukrainian minor must choose whether the Ukrainian minor will continue to obtain their primary education remotely in a Ukrainian educational institution or in person in a Latvian educational institution. Ukrainian civilians who study in person in a Latvian primary or secondary educational institution may continue to remotely study subjects that meet Ukrainian educational standards, including the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian history, in their free time. Currently, Latvian educational institutions are entitled to consider and decide independently whether to teach Ukrainian as a second foreign language to Ukrainian civilians.

Article 13¹ of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians entitles Ukrainian minors—as well as Ukrainian civilian adults who had started and continued general secondary education in the school year 2021/2022—to education at the relevant level in a state or municipal educational institution according to the same procedures that apply to asylum-seeking minors under the Asylum Law and other laws and regulations.

According to the State Education Information System, as of 20 June 2022, among the children with the status of Ukrainian civilian, 1298 were integrated into Latvian preschool education programmes, and 2583—into school grades 1-12. Sixty-four children are integrated in sports schools. Ukrainian children are enrolled in age-appropriate grades, with individual education plans and support activities.

Amendments to the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians provide that Ukrainian civilians can study in the national language or in a minority (Ukrainian) language from 1 September 2022. The Ukrainian-language education programme is implemented by the Riga

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AND CONTAINS A TIMESTAMP**

Ukrainian Secondary School, which has 136 Ukrainian pupils. The Riga Ukrainian Secondary School in Latvia provides considerable support to the exchange of experience in education. The School uses Ukrainian educational standards and curricula for individual subjects. At the same time, remote education of pupils in Ukraine is also supported. A link to Ukrainian study materials is published on the website of the MoES (<https://www.izm.gov.lv/en/ukraine-latvia>).

In order to provide the opportunity for Ukrainian pupils planning to enter Ukrainian universities this year to take the Ukrainian National Multi-subject Test (in mathematics, Ukrainian language, and history), the Riga Gymnasium No. 3 is planning to set up a testing centre in cooperation with the Riga Ukrainian Secondary School.

Article 15 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians enables Ukrainian civilians to work as teachers, without regard to the requirements for the teaching profession set out in the legal acts, if they participate only in the implementation of the educational process for Ukrainian minors.

Within the framework of the Project No 8.3.2.2/16/I/001 “Support for the Development of Individual Competences of Learners” implemented by the National Centre for Education, funding is provided for teaching assistants to work with Ukrainian refugee children. For this purpose, educational institutions have involved at least 60 teaching assistants from Ukraine (persons with pedagogical education). These teaching assistants help both during and after school hours by explaining the subject matter after having discussed and agreed upon the content with the subject teachers. At the same time, the Project provides for possible additional Latvian language lessons to ensure that pupils have a basic knowledge of Latvian. In cooperation with the Latvian Language Agency, 34 Ukrainian teachers are learning Latvian.

To support Ukrainian civilians in learning Latvian, the Latvian Language Agency has developed an introductory course of basic Latvian (<https://valoda.lv/informacija-par-latviesu-valodas-apguvi-ukrainu-berniem-un-pieaugusajiem/>), as well as digital content for learning Latvian at different levels (<https://maciunmacies.valoda.lv/>).

Article 13¹ of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians entitles Ukrainian minors—as well as Ukrainian civilian adults who had started and continued general secondary education in the school year 2021/2022—to vocational education by enrolling in vocational secondary education programmes after primary education in a state or municipal educational institution, according to the same procedures that apply to asylum-seeking minors under the Asylum Law and other laws and regulations.

The admission of Ukrainian civilians to vocational secondary education programmes is determined by the algorithm set out in the Cabinet of Ministers Regulation No. 488 of 26 July 2016 on Procedures by which Minor Asylum Seeker shall be Provided with Opportunities for Acquiring Education. Financing is also based on the rules laid down in this Regulation:

- EUR 257 per month for teachers' remuneration (including compulsory state social insurance contributions provided for in laws and regulations) for implementing the individual education programme learning plan during the school year and while carrying out additional educational activities;
- EUR 50 per school year for the relevant teaching tools;
- EUR 15 per month per civilian in scholarships in vocational secondary education programmes;
- EUR 76.08 per month per civilian in vocational secondary education programmes, and EUR 108.32 per month per civilian in the thematic area of education 'the Arts'.

According to the MoES data, as of 20 June 2022, a total of 24 Ukrainian civilians were enrolled in vocational education programmes in 16 vocational education institutions in eight municipalities in the following vocational education programmes:

Education Programme	Number of Students
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Motor transport	1
Construction	1
Computer systems, databases, and computer networks	1
Catering services	7
Hairdressing services	1
Interior design	1
Commerce	1
Forest works and machinery	1
Music	1
Printing production technology and product manufacture	1
Programming	2
Advertising design	1
Playing string instruments	1
Sewing technology	1
Telecommunications	1
Telemechanics and logistics	1
Hotel services	1
Total	24

On 29 April 2022, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the Action Plan for Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians in the Republic of Latvia, which includes the following measures to support Ukrainian children: provision of preschool education; provision of comprehensive education in state, municipal, or private educational institutions; continuation of previously started vocational education by studying in vocational secondary education programmes after primary education in state or municipal educational institutions; continuation of previously started studies in relevant vocational fields; provision of free lunch (in grades 1-4); and provision of assistant services in educational institutions.

Minister

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