

Mobility: Immigration alert

March 2022



Czech Republic

Special immigration provisions for Ukrainian nationals

Executive summary

In light of the current armed conflict in Ukraine, and in an effort to assist Ukrainian citizens who are seeking to depart Ukraine, the Czech Government recently introduced several immigration-related measures designed to facilitate the entry of Ukrainian citizens to the Czech Republic.

New long-term D visa for Ukrainian citizens

As part of the new measures, the Czech Republic introduced a new, special type of long-term D visa that allows Ukrainian citizens to reside lawfully in the Czech Republic. Ukrainian citizens must apply for the long-term visa from within the Czech Republic, by appearing in person at the offices of the Ministry of Interior (Departments for Asylum and Migration Policy). Applicants must submit their passport (if available), a photo and a completed visa application form. Successful applicants will be granted a long-term D visa on the spot. The visa does not confer authorization to work in the Czech Republic; therefore, special long-term D visa holders will still be required to apply for, and obtain, a Czech work permit prior to commencing work in the Czech Republic.

Entry requirements

Ukrainian citizens normally require a biometric passport to enter the Czech Republic without a Czech entry visa. However, Ukrainian citizens who do not hold biometric passports, or who do not have a passport at all (e.g., infants), and who travel to the Czech Republic from within the Schengen Area are currently being granted permission to enter and remain in the Czech Republic on an exceptional basis. Ukrainian citizens are still required to register with the Czech Foreign Police no more than three working days following their arrival in the Czech

Republic, unless they stay in a hotel (in which case, the hotel will complete the registration on their behalf).

Admissible Ukrainian citizens are not required to carry proof that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or that they tested negative for COVID-19 in advance of travel. They are also not required to complete any entry forms before being granted admission.

Temporary suspension of deportation

The Czech Minister of the Interior also recently announced that the Czech Republic has suspended the deportation of Ukrainian citizens who are subject to deportation until further notice and will make efforts to accommodate these individuals.

Residence permits and long-term visas

Ukrainian citizens who filed applications for long-term Czech residence permits (e.g., Blue Cards) with the Czech Embassy in Ukraine prior to the start of the current conflict, and whose applications have not yet been adjudicated, may complete the process from within the Czech Republic. Provided the application is approved, they will be able to collect their residence permit at the offices of the Ministry of Interior.

Ukrainian citizens who filed applications for long-term D visas (e.g., for family reunification) with the Czech Embassy in Ukraine must collect their visas from another Czech Embassy.

Ukrainian citizens who hold valid Czech work/residence or long-term study permits and are seeking to extend their permits may follow the existing processes for requesting extensions (i.e., they must file their extension applications with the Ministry of Interior). Those who have permits that are due to expire in 14 days or less may apply for a special D visa at the offices of the Ministry of Interior.

In-country support for Ukrainian citizens

The Czech Ministry of Interior has set up a hotline (+420 974 801 802) to assist Ukrainian citizens in the Czech Republic. Ukrainian citizens can also contact the Ministry of Interior by [email](#) or visit the Ministry's [website](#) for more information. They can also visit the offices of the Czech Humanitarian Registration Center (Vyšní Lhoty 234, 739 51) for further assistance.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, please contact any of our immigration professionals.

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