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### Presentation slides, "The Deserving and the Undeserving: Ukranian Migrants and Middle Eastern Asylum Seekers in Poland"

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# The Deserving and the Undeserving: Ukrainian migrants and Middle Eastern asylum seekers in Poland

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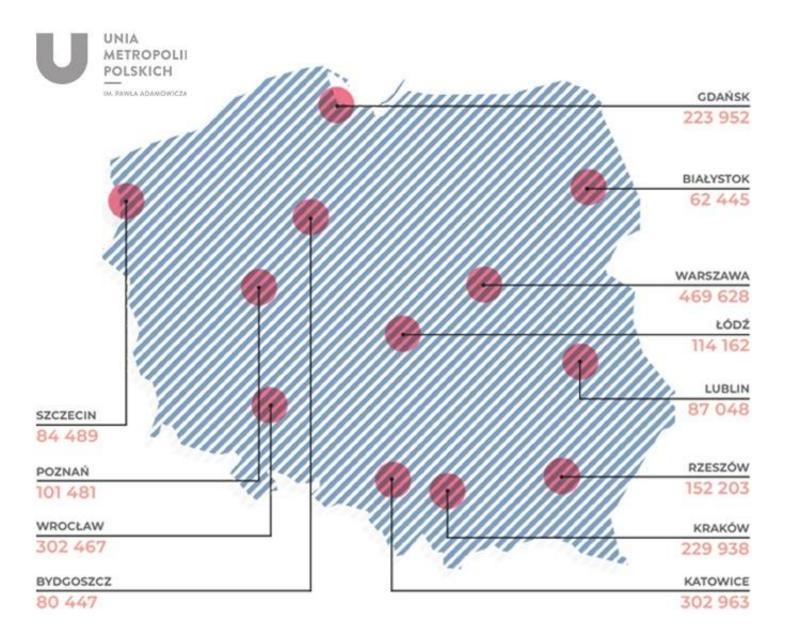
## Invasion of Ukraine

- On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine.
- Following the invasion, Ukrainians began fleeing their homes in the eastern part of the country.
- Most were headed to other parts of Ukraine, while others began to trickle across international borders into Poland.
- Since February 24, 2022 more than 8.3 million refugees from Ukraine have crossed the Polish border, with the largest number on March 6 more than 142 thousand people.
- By September, 19 2022, 1.4 million individuals registered for Temporary Protection in Poland, the highest number among the EU countries.



The welcome mat has been rolled out





### ILU UKRAIŃCÓW I UKRAINEK PRZEBYWA W NAJWIĘKSZYCH POLSKICH MIASTACH?

DANE NA PODSTAWIE RAPORTU MIEJSKA GOŚCINNOŚĆ: WIELKI WZROST, WYZWANIA I SZANSE. RAPORT O UCHODŹCACH Z UKRAINY W NAJWIĘKSZYCH POLSKICH MIASTACH





- As of Thursday, February 24, 2022 Ukrainians can cross the border without documents.
  - The consent of the Commander of the Border Guard given at the border crossing is sufficient;
  - Such a permit is issued for a stay of up to 15 days.
  - After 15 days, the refugees will decide whether to stay in Poland or return to Ukraine if the situation there normalizes.
- They are exempt from the coronavirus (COVID-19) quarantine.
- People traveling with animals do not need to have proof of vaccination, and the animal itself does not need to be microchipped.
- Reception points at border crossings: temporary accommodation in Poland, a hot meal, a drink, basic medical care, and a place to rest.
- Citizens of Ukraine were able travel free of charge in class 2 on TLK and IC national economy trains.



### Assistance

- Hours after the Russian attack, the Bureau for Foreigners' Affairs in the Polish Ministry of Interior set up a website, in Polish and in Ukrainian, offering information on available assistance to Ukrainian refugees.
  - Legal information on how to regularize one's stay in Poland;
  - Scannable QR codes for eight reception centers near crossing points on the 500-kilometer Polish-Ukrainian border.
  - Adam Niedzielski, the Polish Health Minister, said Poland will set up a special medical train to ferry injured people to 120 Polish hospitals.
     "We think that at this moment it would be possible to accept several thousand patients — wounded in military actions," he told Politico.

## Government's assistance





#### НАЙВАЖЛИВІШЕ: номер PESEL

це унікальний ідентифікаційний номер для кожного мешканця, який надається як дорослим, так і Дітям. Номер PESEL необхідний для вирішення справ у державних установах Польші.

Дізнайтеся більше на

gov.pl/ua

#### ЯК ОТРИМАТИ HOMEP PESEL?

Зверніться до будь-якої адміністрації гміни або до адміністрації міського району. Там ви зможете отримати номер PESEL і створити довірений профіль.

Щоб отримати номер PESEL, вам потрібно залишити свою кольорову фотографію на фотопапері 35 мм х 45 мм (ширина х висота) та відбітки пальців. Щоб налаштувати довірений профіль, необхідні мобільний телефон із SIM-карткою польського оператора мобільного за Язку та адреса електронної пошти. Перед тим, як отримати номер PESEL, підготуйте свій номер телефону та адресу електронної пошти, ви не можете використати чужий номер телеформу.

Номер PESEL буде видано після встановлення особи на підставі навених у тому числі недійсних документів, таких як паспорт. [D карта, Карта Поляка, водійське посвідчення або інцимі документ із дотографією, що дозволяє ідентифікувати особу. Для того, щоб встановис особу дитини можні надати свідоцтво про народження. Якщо у вас немає вищезазначених документів – номер PESEL буде присвоено на підставі відповідної заяви.



#### довірений профіль

Якщо вам виповнилося 18 років, створіть довірений профіль, це допоможе вам вирішувати справи за допомогою мережі Інтернет.

Деякі справи можна вирішувати лише в електронному вигляді. Довірений профіль – це цифровий інструмент, який дозволяє вирішувати справи у державних установах онлайн, не виходячи з дому.

#### Який найпростіший спосіб створити довірений профіль?

Під час ресстрації в державній установі, при присвоенні номера РЕSEL, у формулярі потрібно зазначити позицію: «Надаю свою згоду на передачу даних до ресстру контактних даних та підтвердження довіреного профілю. Введіть свою адресу слектронної пошти та номер телефону.

На вказану електронну адресу вам буде надіслано логін, а на номер мобільного телефону ви отримаєте одноразовий пароль для активації вашого довіреного профілю та вктановрення пароля

#### **mOBYWATEL**

- це цифровий гаманець для документів, який дозволяє підтвердити свою особу так само ефективно, як і посвідчення особи або паспорт. Кожен повнолітній громадянин України, якому присвоено номер PESEL та який має довірений профіль, може скористатися послугами, доступними в додатку торуwatel. Для підтвердження в ній буде створено нову вкладку під назвою Дів пл (Dila,Di)

Дізнайтеся більше на

#### gov.pl/ua

### Встановіть програму mObywatel

– ви знайдете її лише в App Store та Google Play. Потрібен смартфон з операційною

Android версії 6.0 (або новішої)



або iOS 13 (або новішої) та доступом до Інтернету.









Civil society involvement



# Civil society involvement





# Change of heart?

- In 2015, Poles were vehemently opposed to receiving refugees
- What brought about this change of heart?
  - cultural or ethnic similarity with Ukrainians
  - longstanding ties between the two countries
  - a sense of solidarity with opponents of their longtime adversary, Russia



The deserving refugees:
White,
European, and
Christian





Polish-Belorussian Border

Belarus

ukrai

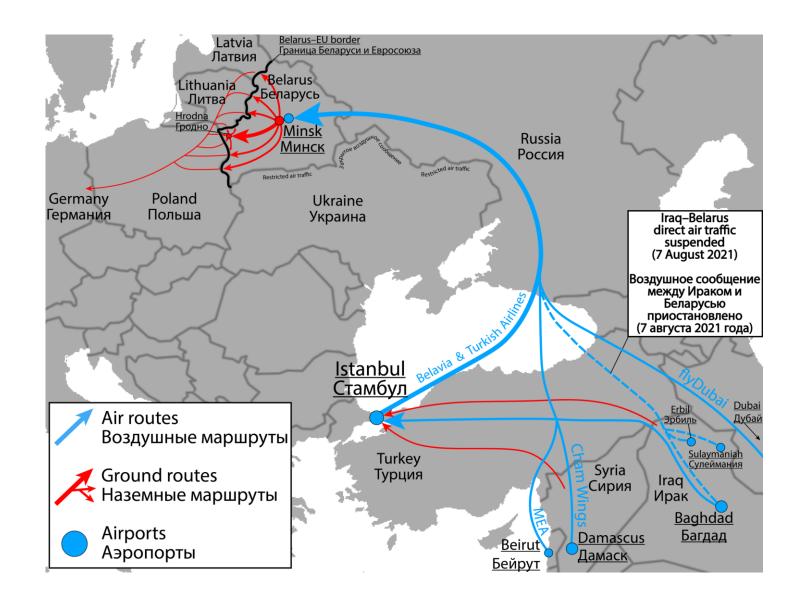
Poland

Slovakia

Czech Republic



### The Journeys







# The undeserving refugees: Brown Non-Christian

- Afghans and Syrians at the Polish-Belarusian border are dying in the cold winter forest in an attempt to cross into Poland to launch an asylum claim.
- They are kept at arm's length.
- The Polish government sees them as a security threat.
- As of December 26, 2022, 50,668 asylum seekers were pushed back by border guards

### Out of sight



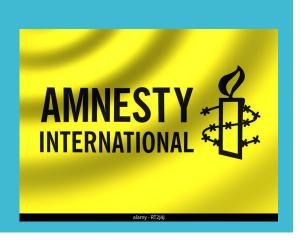
- As of January, 2023, 37 dead on the Polish side of the border
- Difficult to assess how many perished in the forest
- Come from countries where conflict is ongoing, such as Yemen, Syria or the Iraqi Kurdistan, including members of the severely persecuted Yazidi community.
- Most of the asylum seekers have been repeatedly caught, and illegally and violently pushed back to Belarus by Poland's border guards.
- EU policies and restricted access for aid organizations could result in yet more migrants and refugees dying.

# State of emergency





 Citing danger to Polish citizens living in the borderlands, on September 2, 2021, the President of Poland declared a state of emergency in 15 localities in the Podlasie Province and 68 localities in the Lublin Province.



 Asylum-seekers who crossed the Belarus border into Poland, including many forced to do so by Belarusian Border Guards, are now detained in filthy, overcrowded detention centers where guards subject them to abusive treatment and deny them contact with the outside world.

Jelena Sesar, Regional Researcher at Amnesty International

### Belonging



# An insecure sanctuary

- 1.5-2 million Ukrainian migrants were already in Poland before the war, mostly performing low-paid jobs in industries such as construction, transport and agriculture.
- But there has been a massive demographic shift as some 150,000 Ukrainian workers, mostly men, have left Poland since February to join the war effort.
- Gender policies in Poland
- The Polish government has said that female refugees from Ukraine seeking contraception and abortions will be subject to the same rules as the Polish population.
- The number of Polish women receiving abortions after rape is practically non-existent: in 2020 there were only two terminations granted on these grounds of Poland's 1,000 or so legal abortions.

# Ukrainian enterprises

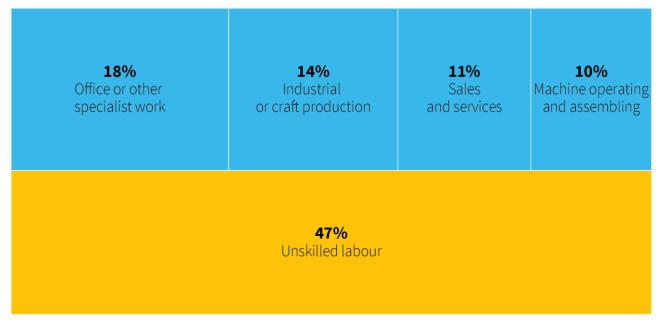
- 3,600 companies with Ukrainian capital and 10,200 Ukrainian sole proprietorships were established between January and September 2022
- As of January 2023, 24,100 companies with Ukrainian capital operated in Poland
- Ukrainian companies constitute 25% of all companies with foreign capital
- 75% started operating in Poland because their founders needed to earn money to support themselves and their families
- 66% declared that they would continue to operate in Poland regardless of the situation in Ukraine

# Labor force participation

### Ukrainian workforce in numbers

Estimates indicate that around 120,000 Ukrainians have found employment since arriving in Poland, mainly in the services sector and seasonal work.

#### **EMPLOYEES FROM UKRAINE BY TYPE OF WORK**



Sources: Statistics Poland, Personnel Service



# **Qualified** solidarity

- ZOiS Survey in 2022, opinions differed by age
- Economic benefits of Ukrainian immigration (older Poles)
- Increased competition over scarce resources such as access to childcare or healthcare (younger Poles).
- Ukrainians don't seem to fit this stereotype of Ukrainian refugees as poverty-stricken people willing to take any job. The fact that some Ukrainian refugees are better off than the average Polish citizen has also led to confusion in the host country.
- What to do with talented Ukrainian high-school graduates blocked from accessing free higher education because of their insufficient Polish language skills?

### Children

- Integration/belonging in schools and the wider society
- Lack of expertise to work with foreign-born children
  - Especially pedagogical expertise
- Practices aimed at social integration
  - Intercultural Youth Clubs
  - Essentialization of culture
- After school activities
  - Meeting diverse student populations through chess, karate clubs





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