

# Southern China International MUN

Official Background Guide

Human Rights Council: On measures to uphold refugee rights for displaced peoples from the Ukraine-Russian War.

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#### **<u>1. Discussion of the Issue</u>**

#### **1.1 History of the Issue**

The roots of the conflicts between Ukraine and Russia trace back to the inception of the USSR. Ukraine's inclusion in the Soviet Union upon its formation was coercive, leading to internal dissent against the Soviet regime within Ukraine. Notably, during this period, the Holodomor occurred, marked by Soviet leader Stalin's imposition of compulsory grain production, resulting in armed suppression and widespread casualties, with over 4 million lives lost due to the imposed conditions.

In 1991, the dissolution of the Soviet Union granted Ukraine independence. The geopolitical influences on Ukraine from the West and Russia contributed to internal divisions, with the western part aligning as a pro-Western region and the eastern part leaning towards a pro-Russian orientation, fueling domestic conflicts.

The expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1999, 2004, and 2017, particularly in European nations, heightened tensions and posed a security threat to Russia. Presently, Ukraine's expressed interest in joining NATO has emerged as a pivotal development. Given Ukraine's position as the last border between Russia and NATO, its potential accession to the alliance could result in increased Western military presence, significantly impacting regional dynamics and potentially creating heightened geopolitical concerns for Russia.

Ukraine holds strategic significance for Russia not only as its last border against NATO but also due to its fertile land, a crucial source of wheat production, and as the gateway to central Europe. Geopolitically, politically, and militarily, Ukraine serves as a vital bridgehead for Russia, prompting historical attempts to reclaim its territory. The annexation of Crimea exemplifies this, where the port city, essential for access to the Black Sea, housed a predominantly Russian population. The subsequent conflict in Donbas and Lugansk, pro-Russian regions, escalated tensions between Russia and Ukraine, leading to the Ukraine-Russian war. Ukraine's pursuit of NATO membership intensifies the geopolitical struggle, generating an unprecedented number of refugees and contributing to global confusion.

In the context of human history, war has been an inevitable factor, shaping civilizations and exacting considerable tolls on civilians, communities, human resources, economies, and national morale. War refugees, often neglected in terms of rights, face homelessness, insecurity, and immense pressure. The Ukraine-Russia war, initiated in February 2022, resulted in millions of refugees flooding mainly European nations, creating a crisis. The UNHCR estimates 6.2 million

refugees in foreign nations, with 5.1 million internationally displaced and 17.6 million civilians in need of humanitarian aid. Refugees, considered a vulnerable group by the World Health Organization (WHO), encounter discriminatory actions, inadequate health services, limited employment opportunities, and low living standards.

The Ukraine-Russia war highlights the challenges faced by refugees, particularly social inequality. OECD data reveals that over 60% of these refugees are women and children, with women facing numerous disadvantages, often leading female-led households. Employment remains a critical concern, with refugees struggling to enter the labor market, and it is speculated that achieving an employment rate equal to native-born populations could take decades. The destruction of international infrastructure further exacerbates the challenge of providing livelihoods for these refugees. Collective international efforts are needed to address the rights, employment, and well-being of Ukraine-Russia war refugees.

# <u>Key terms</u>

**Ukraine-Russia war:** A war that initially started in 2022 February 24, with Federation of Russia's invasion. Past years, Russo-Ukrainian conflict has made collision between two nations, territorial conflict, ethnicity conflict etc. The main reason of Russia's invasion is highly related to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Lead by the United States, almost all nations of Europe, including Poland, Romania, Turkey, and Baltic states which are closely located to Russian territory. Meanwhile, Ukraine sharing almost 2295km of border with Russia has shown movement to join the NATO. Therefore, Russia invaded Ukraine in protection of its own nation and to regain supremacy in Europe.

**Asylum Seeker:** War refugee refers people who leaves their own nation to escape from the effects of armed conflicts. War refugees could number from thousands to millions. An infamy incident World War 2 possessed about 11.3million of war refugee. Ukraine-Russia war also produced unprecedented number of refugees(6.2mil)

**Rights of refugee:** Office of the high commissioner (OHCHR) data shown that approximately 3.6% of world's population are refugees. Rights of refugee is the right for that 3.6% people to not be discriminated, violated and to get protection internationally. The UN's founding mission was to prevent war and promote human rights, which war refugee falls directly in this mission. Diverse nations strictly ban any discriminatory actions done to refugees.

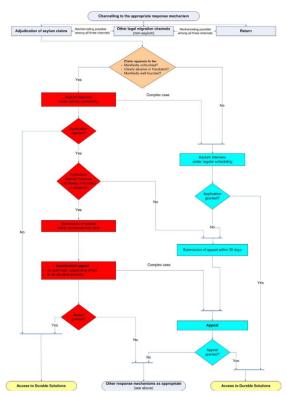
**North Atlantic Treaty organization (NATO):** A military alliance facilitated mainly by the West. Its main purpose is to guarantee freedom and security of the members political, military means and to make diplomatic ties. And mainly to dissent the communist force, Russia. 31 nations are the member of NATO including Albania, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Canada, Denmark, France, Greece, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia etc.

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees:** United nation agency mandated to support refugees, forcefully displaced communities, and stateless people. UNHCR takes huge place in

protection of Refugee for Ukraine and Russian war. They produce voluntary support in various ways, mainly safe accommodations, food etc.

## **1.2 Recent developments**

The objects on securing rights for Ukraine-Russian war refugee has been developing gradually. Main example can be seen in European Union, EU's reaction. For the first time in history EU activated the Temporary protection directive setting the legal rules for refugees. Policies such as for EU's member to facilitate on gathering information from its situation, which mainly is to efficiently give humanitarian aid for the Ukraine refugees. Such as Eu migration preparedness and Crisis blueprint collects main essential information. Additionally, solidarity platform has been set up for provision of temporary protection. Its main role was to identify needs for the Ukraine refugees. Solidarity platform also supports on the implementation of the 10-point plan from extraordinary justice and home affairs council. 10 point plan is basically a 10 step plan to support Ukraine refugees.



1. Cooperation among key partners

-Affective approaches for mixed movements, depending on full cooperation between key actors such as UNHCR, OHCHR, UNICEF, IOM etc. Hence to identify and gather such actors to gather information, establish terms and conditions for coordination. Mainly for the benefits of the temporary protection. This point will take important part on informative force.

2. Data collection and analysis

-A key to a comprehensive strategy is the collection and its analysis of data and movements of the major system. Data includes, major transportation, transit and entry routes and motivation for movements. Mainly the international or regional organization will be offered in support of data collection and analysis to benefit the 10point plan's mission. Data or information is the main source for major actors to provide aid for Ukraine refugees. Information hubs and approach for valuing transportation will support.

#### 3. Protection of sensitive entry systems.

-Establishment on the function of entry system is a element for a strategy that relates to mixed movements. Border controls, takes place in combating international crimes, smuggling trafficking. Due to this element border guards and immigration officials would benefit, from its training and instructions. On ways how to handle asylum application, and victims from the war. In regard of maritime immigration, respecting the obligations of maritime law, to maintain, safety rescue and smooth flow in maritime traffics. This point will support on understanding, accepting irregular amount of Ukraine refugee that has occur and that might occur in future.

#### 4. Reception arrangements

-Appropriate reception arrangements are needed for the people that are included in the mixed movements. The reception arrangement provides the temporary documents. UNHCR, facilitates in putting new arrivals in adequate region with principally responsible party. Which supports refugee geographically and geopolitically.

### 5. Mechanism for profiling and referral -Once the new arrival is registered and provided a temporary documents, initial determination of their identity, reasons for leaving their nation and their initial destination should be made. These provides opportunity, to establish to seek asylum or to identify other options for refugee. Which we can collectively say refugee status determination process. Profiling a mechanism that works for the refugee status.

## 6. Differentiated process and procedure

-A common anti-trafficking plan is one process. Under the EU, EU will make antitrafficking plans to which will be developed to address risks for the victims, Ukraine refugees. Such as the international protection for the refugees that migrated from Ukraine. UNHCR could support on the protection mainly with aid for determination of identity of the Ukraine refugees. However, mainly the regional or inner nation organization is being a part of main for plan to action.

Reinforced and new solutions for refugees

 Protection based solutions are required for the refugees, which mainly should be a
 durable solution. Receiving nation level protection and international assistance could
 support on protection of the refugees. Also legal migration should benefit Ukraine
 refugee in further ways

8. Addressing secondary movements

-Addressing the situation of Ukraine refugee and asylum seekers who gained protection formerly require more strategy. Therefore, internal security seems to be inevitable. Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) network is mainly support on protection against organized crimes. Member states will be encouraged on deployments of police officers in the plan.

- Return of non-refugees and alternative migration options.
   For people who are not found to be refugee and wish not to seek asylum will mainly be returned in safety. UNHCR, may assists states to return people who are not in need for a international protection. Therefore, examination of refugee identity comes to a crucial process.
- 10. Information, adequate resource and funding

-In providing guidance and individualised support for the EU members. Efforts to encourage member, actors and organization on plan to action and in protection of homeless people. All countries may implement these information campaign, and be prepared for possible irregular migrations. Mainly UNHCR, IOM and the EU takes the important role in planning and practicing the 10 point plan for the refugees.

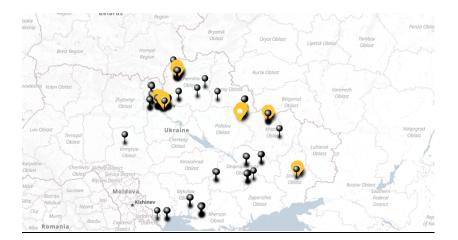
Recently, many developments are being made to solve the rights for Ukraine refugee and their protection. Many refugee still face unsolved problems and policies related to enhancing discriminatory laws, social protections and medical cares are essential for many of the refugee society existing around the globe.

# 2. Emphasis of the Discourse

## 2.1 Stance of intergovernmental organization

Various IGOs are included in movements for the Ukraine-Russia war and in supporting the Ukraine refugees. European Union (EU) as mentioned takes an essential role in the action. As mentioned earlier, EU's 10-point plan in order to clarify situations and provide protection to Ukraine refugee, are an essential part. EU claims the Ukraine-Russia war as an invasion that threatens the peace of European nation, EU stays as an opposition of the war and criticize the act of Russia. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees(OHCHR) focuses on the direct support on the Ukraine refugees, also taking part as a essential partner for the 10-point plan. OHCHR promotes humans rights and strongly disagrees about the war.

International criminal court(ICC) takes place in supporting refugees using law and sees Vladmir Putin, Russia President as a criminal for the war. ICC seeks for crimes done in the war and done to the refugees that are innocent. This the map of all war crimes and crimes done to civilians and refugee from Russia. Therefore, ICC focuses on reducing crime in the region and provide protection for the Ukraine refugees. Still more IGOs has stances against Russia and supports Ukraine refugees.



#### 2.2 Stance of developed countries

Since the war 15million refugee has gone across the border of Poland, Lublin. In Poland rights of refugee is being kept perfectly, with the support of education and provisions. United Nations (UN) and Ministry of foreign affairs Republic of Poland's data has shown that more than 35thousand population in Poland, Lublin has donated in support for Ukraine refugees. The ways of supporting refugee ranged mainly in a digital way. In Poland the internet penetration rate stood up to 87 percent, making the population equal to Ukraine's population. This connectivity has facilitated digital based assistance and protection. Digital service allows refugees in Poland and collectively the whole Europe to communicate with remaining family or acquaintance in Ukraine. However, accommodations aren't as sufficient as other service. Due to this unpredictable affair millions have crossed the border, and in various of nation, mainly Europe faced sudden refugee crisis. Unlike how Poland reacted to Ukraine refugee crisis, almost all nations have problems connected to refugee rights. Such as Ireland, which had recent conflict between Ukraine refugees and the Irish citizen about free medical service and accommodations. To look more specific in refugee status, Ukraine refugee in Russia is a factor. Ukraine refugee in Russia is forbidden to go back, recent situation Ukraine port city Mariupol has been occupied by Russia military. Millions of populations went across the border, under the supervision to take a risk. Obviously, Ukraine refugee in Russia has lacking humanitarian aid.

On October 12 2022, United Nation General Assembly(GA) voting procedure took place on adopting resolution about ceasing attack from Russia done to Ukraine. In total 143 nations agreed, 35 nations abstained and only 5 nations went against the resolution. Countries that were in in favour included variety of nations, almost all type of nations agreed on the resolution.

#### 2.3 Stance of developing countries

As mentions 143 votes were voted from variety nations on ceasing fire. Which included high percentage of developing countries. Many nations from developing countries has stance of going against the major attack of Russia. On the other hand some nations disagreed on the resolution, North Korea, Belarus, Syria etc. Their main stances are on the support of Russia and sees the

invasion as an act of legitimacy. Belarus mainly has done a joint training with the Russian army,



# 3. Possible solutions

## 3.1 In favor of developed countries

Adoption of the 10-point plan worldwide 10-point plan plays a key role in supporting Ukraine Refugees. European Nation has shown its progress and even results from the plan. Therefore, a world wide adoption of the 10-point plan could enhance the support, analyse data and investigate war crimes efficiently. And also prepare for a possible irregular migration on the country. Additionally, EU membership for Ukraine will enhance the support of the EU. Adopting strategic measures is necessary to address the refugee situation in Ukraine and Russia in favor of developed nations. First off, effective immigration laws can close the skills gap in the labor force by assisting talented refugees in reintegrating into society. Second, educational programs can assist refugees in adding to the pool of skills in the receiving country. Furthermore, the financial burden on developed nations might be lessened through international cooperation to divide resettlement duties and funding. Prioritizing the stabilization of origin regions for possible repatriation should be the focus of diplomatic efforts. Developed countries may turn the refugee

crisis into a chance for cultural and economic advancement and build a more resilient and inclusive society by implementing these ideas.

# 3.2 In favor of developing countries

Addressing the Ukrainian and Russian refugee crisis requires a collaborative effort with a focus on supporting developing countries. Firstly, international organizations can establish robust aid programs to assist host nations in providing essential services like education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for refugees. Secondly, fostering economic partnerships between developed and developing countries can stimulate job creation and infrastructural development, benefitting both the local population and the displaced individuals. Additionally, diplomatic initiatives should encourage dialogue and peaceful resolutions to the root causes of the crisis. Ultimately, investing in long-term solutions that empower developing nations can create a more sustainable and inclusive environment for Ukrainian and Russian refugees, fostering global stability.

# 4. Keep in mind following

When researching the countries stance on the topic, make sure to research on the Ukraine Refugee status on your nation, and support that's given to refugees. Also focus on the stance of your nation for the Ukraine-Russian war. If your nation is included on the EU or the NATO, focus politically and on the military support.

- 1. What have your nation done on supporting Ukraine refugee by recently?
- 2. Do your nation allied with Russia, Ukraine or is counted as neutral?
- 3. What type of NGO or IGO focuses in supporting Ukraine in the nation?
- 4. Does your country emphasize on protecting Ukraine refugees or giving military support for the war?
- 5. Is your nation actively involved in peacekeeping or humanitarian missions in the regions affected by the conflict between Russia and Ukraine?
- 6. Have there been any cultural or educational exchange programs between your country and Ukraine to foster understanding and cooperation?
- 7. Does your government collaborate with international organizations, such as the United Nations or European Union, to address the humanitarian aspects of the Ukraine refugee crisis?

# 5. Evaluation

Ukraine-Russian war has led to a crisis world-wide, producing dozens of refugees leaving their nation. Ukraine refugees still faces everyday problem due to Ukraine's situation or the circumstances of themselves. To tackle this problem supporting them in various of ways are indispensable. Innocent people has no reason to be forced out of their loving nation. We should focus on the aspects of war and analyse data of the Ukraine refugees daily life.

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