



COALITION OF OVER 100 ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS CALL UPON SECRETARY MAYORKAS AND PRESIDENT BIDEN TO IMMEDIATELY DESIGNATE UKRAINE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS OR DEFERRED ENFORCED DEPARTURE IN LIGHT OF RUSSIAN INVASION

Conditions in Ukraine satisfy requirements for TPS or DED under existing law and policy priorities

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WASHINGTON, DC—In light of the [Russian invasion of Ukraine](#)—representing the most significant attack on a European state since World War II—and subsequent armed conflict and extraordinary conditions, the [TPS-DED ACC](#) calls upon Secretary Mayorkas and President Biden to immediately designate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) for Ukraine. These protections would provide work permits and protection from deportation for Ukrainian noncitizens who cannot be safely returned to Ukraine. According to the U.S. Census' 2019 American Community Survey, there are 104,618 Ukrainian noncitizens (including over [100 DACA holders](#)) in the United States who would benefit from TPS, representing the ceiling of potential beneficiaries.¹ The [Migration Policy Institute](#) estimates that roughly 30,000 Ukrainians in the United States would be potential beneficiaries of TPS or DED, as they do not have U.S. citizenship or permanent status². SSR would protect nearly [2,000](#) F-1 Ukrainian international students.

Sara Haghdoosti, Executive Director at Win Without War said: “The U.S. needs a comprehensive foreign policy that protects, not jeopardizes, the lives and well-being of the world’s most vulnerable populations, including victims of war and mass suffering. Particularly in this moment, where at-risk groups like the Ukrainian LGBTQI community are more likely to have few safe options available to them, the U.S. should lead by example and designate TPS or DED and SSR to respond to the violence and provide safe haven to those in need.”

Kristie De Peña, Vice President for Policy at the Niskanen Center stated: “The need for action supporting our Ukrainian allies has never been more urgent. Granting TPS, SSR, and DED designations for Ukrainian nationals is the only immediate response to the pending humanitarian crisis. Additionally, as conditions deteriorate, the U.S. government and private sector should prepare for large-scale refugee flows and ensure those inside Ukraine can safely evacuate and restart their lives without fear of violence and persecution.”

Eskinder Negash, CEO and President, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), stated: “The Russian military invasion into Ukraine is of immediate and extreme concern. The humanitarian consequences on civilians will be catastrophic. The

¹ This estimate includes lawful permanent resident status holders, undocumented immigrants, and other visa holders. This estimate was obtained by research conducted by Professor Tom K. Wong and the U.S. Immigration Policy Center.

² This figure was added on February 25, 2022 after the data was shared by MPI.

administration must act now to protect Ukrainian nationals in the U.S. through the use of TPS, DED and SSR.”

Lisa Parisio, Director of Advocacy at the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., stated: “TPS and DED are readily available tools that the administration has at its fingertips to provide life-saving protection to Ukrainians here in the U.S., as well send a direct and clear foreign policy message to the world that Ukrainian nationals must be protected everywhere. TPS and DED should always be a part of a U.S. response to war and conflict, and we call on the Biden administration to use its clear authority now. There should be no debate and no delay.”

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The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.