



# Cyprus



Manuscript completed in August 2022

Neither the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) nor any person acting on behalf of the EUAA is responsible for the use that might be made of the information contained within this publication.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2022

PDF ISBN 978-92-9400-353-9      doi: 10.2847/614184      BZ-05-22-184-EN-N

Print ISBN 978-92-9400-349-2      doi: 10.2847/79646      BZ-05-22-184-EN-C

Cover page photograph, Joel Carillet © iStock, 2022 © European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA), 2022

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged. For any use or reproduction of photos or other material that is not under the EUAA copyright, permission must be sought directly from the copyright holders.



# Contents

General information	4
Entry to Cyprus	6
Temporary protection	6
International protection	12
Annex I. Repository of sources	13



# 1. General information

## Language



As provided in the Constitution, Greek and Turkish are the official languages of the Republic of Cyprus, used in legislation and the public administration. It is also provided in the Constitution that each community, Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot, is responsible for its educational and linguistic matters. In this respect, the language of instruction in the public pre-primary, primary and secondary level of education in the Government-controlled area is Greek, while the official languages in public universities are Greek and Turkish. The language of instruction in public non-university level institutions is either Greek or English. Private institutions at all levels of education offer programmes in both Greek and English.

## Administrative settings



Cyprus is a presidential republic. The president is both head of state and government. Despite joining the EU as a de facto divided island, the whole of Cyprus is EU territory. Turkish Cypriots who have, or are eligible for, EU travel documents are EU citizens. EU law is suspended in areas where the Cypriot government (Government of the Republic) does not exercise effective control. Find more information here: [http://www.cyprus.gov.cy/portal/portal.nsf/citizen\\_en?Open-Form=&%3Baccess=0&%3BSectionId=citizen&%3B-CategoryId=none&%3BSelectionId=home&%3Bprint=0&%3Blang=en](http://www.cyprus.gov.cy/portal/portal.nsf/citizen_en?Open-Form=&%3Baccess=0&%3BSectionId=citizen&%3B-CategoryId=none&%3BSelectionId=home&%3Bprint=0&%3Blang=en)

## Population



The population of the Government controlled area was estimated at 888 000 at the end of 2019, compared to 875 900 at the end of 2018.





## Emergency contacts

- ◆ Medical emergencies **199/112**
- ◆ Police / Gendarmerie **199 / 112**
- ◆ Firefighters **199 / 112**
- ◆ European emergency number **112**
- ◆ Hospital information **1400**
- ◆ The Call Centre for Ukrainian Refugees, run by the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, provides information on immigration, education, welfare and other relevant matters. For Cypriot phone numbers use: **1477**. For foreign phone numbers use: **+357 22 285777**



## Driving licence

The Ukrainian driving licence is valid in Cyprus without any other procedure for 6 months. After a 6-month stay in Cyprus beneficiaries of temporary protection are entitled to convert the Ukrainian driver's license into a Cypriot one directly without examination.



## Ukrainian diaspora

The largest Ukrainian populations are settled in the cities of Nicosia, Larnaka, Paphos, Limassol, Famagusta, but a greater concentration of the Ukrainian population is observed in Limassol.



## Ukrainian embassy in Cyprus

- ◆ Address: Nicosia, Engomi, 2415 A.Miaouli Street, 10
- ◆ Phone: **+357 22464380**
- ◆ Email: [emb\\_cy@mfa.gov.ua](mailto:emb_cy@mfa.gov.ua)
- ◆ Consular: **+33 (0) 1 43060737**
- ◆ website: <https://cyprus.mfa.gov.ua>



## 2. Entry to Cyprus

All displaced persons from Ukraine may enter the Republic of Cyprus provided they hold:

- ◆ a valid biometric or non-biometric passport or an expired biometric or non-biometric passport irrespective of the date of expiration;
- ◆ identification cards issued by the Government of Ukraine;
- ◆ internal passports;
- ◆ temporary travel documents issued by the Government of Ukraine;
- ◆ permanent or temporary residence permit, issued by the Government of Ukraine.

### Health screening / COVID-19 requirements / vaccinations

For all displaced persons, Cyprus Flight Pass or proof of COVID-19 vaccination records are not requirements to enter Cyprus. The government of Cyprus as from 3 March 2022 offers free Covid PRC tests for all displaced persons from Ukraine arriving at the airports of Larnaca and Paphos as well as vaccination against COVID-19 and the EU Digital COVID Certificate / recovery certificates.

## 3. Temporary protection

According to the Ministerial Decision of 22 March 2022, the following categories of persons displaced from Ukraine on 24 February 2022 or later as a result of the military invasion of the Russian armed forces during that period are eligible for temporary protection:

- ◆ Ukrainian nationals, beneficiaries of international protection in Ukraine, and their family members living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.
- ◆ Stateless persons and non-Ukrainians living in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 with a permanent residence permit, who are unable to return safely to their country of origin.
- ◆ Members of the families of the abovementioned categories. As member of the families are considered spouses and minor children (under 18) on the condition that the family existed and resided in Ukraine before 24 February 2022.



- ◆ In the case of adult children or other family members, a separate application should be submitted.

Temporary protection procedures are coordinated by the Ministry of Interior and the Asylum Service. The Asylum Service decides on granting temporary protection.

The Civil Registry and Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior is responsible for recording biometric data and issuing the residence permits for beneficiaries of temporary protection.

Other competent authorities that are actively engaged. These are the Social Welfare Services of the Deputy Ministry for Social Welfare for the guardianship of unaccompanied minors; the Ministry of Tourism for the temporary accommodation of displaced persons from Ukraine; the Ministry of Health for the provision of healthcare services for beneficiaries of temporary protection; and the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, which has established dedicated call centre for the provision of information on immigration, education, welfare and other relevant matters for displaced persons from Ukraine

## **Where can you register for temporary protection in Cyprus?**

Registrations for temporary protection can be submitted either online through the website of the Asylum Service or at one of the district Immigration Offices of the Police at Nicosia, Larnaka, Limassol, Paphos or Famagusta.

## **Which documents do you need for registration?**

You are requested to complete the registration form available on the website of the Asylum Service here: [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/index\\_en/index\\_en](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/index_en/index_en) as well as the following documents:

- ◆ a copy of the passport (valid or expired) or ID;
- ◆ a page of the passport with the official stamp showing the date that the person left Ukraine or the date of arrival to the first country of entry (if available);
- ◆ the same documents should also be provided to the Asylum Service for applicants who submit the application in person.



## **What is the procedure to access temporary protection in Cyprus?**

Registrations can be submitted in person at the Asylum Service premises for persons residing in Nicosia. Persons registering for temporary protection will receive the decision within the same day by the Asylum Service. The decision will concern all the members of the family included in the registration. If required documentation is not submitted with the application, the process could be delayed.

After receiving the decision by the Asylum Service, the applicant and relevant family members included in the same application have 2 working days to visit any district Immigration Office of the Police to submit the biometric data, which is necessary for the issuance of residence permit. There is no need for booking an appointment for the submission of biometric data and issuance of a residence permit. Beneficiaries can simply visit the Immigration Office of their district. Applicants residing in Nicosia can apply for the issuance of a biometric residence permit by visiting the offices of the Civil Registry and Migration Department. Once the submission of biometric data is completed the beneficiary will also receive an ARC (Alien Registration Certificate) number and the residence permit, which is issued within 72 hours.

Persons subject to temporary protection procedures are exempt from paying fees.

## **Which documents will you receive as a beneficiary of temporary protection?**

The residence permit is issued by the Immigration Office of the Police 72 hours after the provision of biometric data. Delay in providing biometric data will result in the delay of the issuance of the residence permit.

## **Duration of the temporary protection**

Temporary protection is valid until 4 March 2023. Subsequently, all residence permits issued are valid until the abovementioned date.



## Your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection in Cyprus

Your rights as a beneficiary of temporary protection are:

- ◆ Freedom of movement and residence.
- ◆ Information about the contents of temporary protection.
- ◆ Travel title. For those beneficiaries of temporary protection who do not have a valid passport or a travel document and need to travel.
- ◆ Residence and work authorisations.
- ◆ Social assistance. When beneficiaries do not have sufficient resources, they may benefit from social and health services.
- ◆ Family reunification. Upon your request, temporary protection will be granted to your family members as long as the said family was already existing in the country of origin and you were separated because of the armed conflict in Ukraine.

Family members are considered:

- ◆ a spouse or unmarried partner.
- ◆ their unmarried minor children or those of the partner, whether born inside or outside of a marriage or adopted.
- ◆ other close relatives who lived together as part of the family unit at the beginning of the armed conflict, depending totally or mainly on them.

### More information about these rights

#### Accommodation

Cyprus is currently focusing on the provision of emergency temporary accommodation for displaced persons from Ukraine arriving in the Republic. For this, the Ministry of Tourism has been delegated by the Council of Ministers to establish lease agreements with hotel units.

More information is available here:

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\\$file/Frequently Asked Questions for applicants of temporary protection.pdf](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf)





## Access to the labour market

A person who is granted temporary protection has the right to access the labour market and to engage in employed or self-employed activities. More information is available at the dedicated leaflet of the Asylum Service here: [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\\$file/Frequently Asked Questions for applicants of temporary protection.pdf](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf)



## Social welfare

Beneficiaries of temporary protection are entitled to social welfare assistance and means of subsistence if needed. More information is available at the dedicated leaflet of the Asylum Service here: [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\\$file/Frequently Asked Questions for applicants of temporary protection.pdf](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf)

## Means of subsistence in the reception system

While in the reception system, basic financial aids and specific support might be available depending on the reception phase of the person.



## Public health

### Medical care/medical prescription

A person who is granted temporary protection has access to medical care and to medical or other assistance if the person has special needs. Such medical care is provided in all public hospitals of the country and in all pharmacies of public hospitals. More information is available at the dedicated leaflet of the Asylum Service here: [http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\\$file/Frequently Asked Questions for applicants of temporary protection.pdf](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf)

### Psychosocial support and disabilities

Medical care and any other assistance is provided in all public hospitals.



## COVID-19



There is free access to vaccinations against COVID-19, as well as with any other vaccine deemed necessary for public health purposes. Vaccination / recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificates) are issued to persons who have been vaccinated or had the disease in Ukraine, regardless of the equivalence of the Ukrainian certificate.

To protect yourself and those around you from COVID-19, the application of barrier gestures, particularly in places of collective living and the vaccination, which is free, is recommended. You can have free access to vaccination.

### **Mandatory check-up with a veterinarian for pets**

Pets that do not meet health requirements (e.g. vaccinations) are quarantined, without the owners having to pay any fees.

## Access to education

Children under 18 years old, beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to education. More information is available at the dedicated leaflet of the Asylum Service here:

[http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\\$file/Frequently Asked Questions for applicants of temporary protection.pdf](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf)

### **Childcare/nursery, primary and secondary school**



Children under 18 years old as beneficiaries of temporary protection have free access to education. For children who are beneficiaries of temporary protection and are of non-compulsory education age, a tuition fee exemption applies.

### **University**

A number of scholarships has been offered to beneficiaries of temporary protection, as well as researcher jobs at Universities in Cyprus.

### **Education titles recognition**

Standard rules and procedures apply. The competent authority is the Cyprus Council Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications (KY.S.A.T.S)



## Information from the European Union Agency for Asylum

The European Union Agency for Asylum provides more information on your rights here:

<https://euaa.europa.eu/euaa-response-russian-invasion-ukraine>

More information about temporary protection in different EU+ countries is available in the form of a 'Who is Who' page here:

<https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/>

## 4. International protection

Applicants or beneficiaries for international protection have the right to apply for international protection.



If the examination of the application for international protection is completed before the temporary protection period expires, the applicant is entitled to rights deriving from temporary protection. If the examination of an application for international protection has not been completed before the temporary protection period expires, the applicant is entitled to the rights of an applicant for international protection.

Temporary protection is without prejudice to the recognition of the status of a person as a beneficiary for international protection.



# Annex I . Repository of sources

General information		
Service	Website	QR
General information about Cyprus	<a href="http://www.cyprus.gov.cy/portal/portal.nsf/citizen_en?OpenForm&amp;access=0&amp;SectionId=citizen&amp;CategoryId=none&amp;CategoryId=none&amp;SelectionId=home&amp;print=0&amp;lang=en">http://www.cyprus.gov.cy/portal/portal.nsf/citizen_en?OpenForm&amp;access=0&amp;SectionId=citizen&amp;CategoryId=none&amp;CategoryId=none&amp;SelectionId=home&amp;print=0&amp;lang=en</a>  Available in English only	
Ukraine embassy/consulate	<a href="https://cyprus.mfa.gov.ua">https://cyprus.mfa.gov.ua</a>  Available in English and Ukrainian	
Driving licence	<a href="http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mtcw/mtcw.nsf/mtcw02d_en/mtcw02d_en?OpenDocument">http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mtcw/mtcw.nsf/mtcw02d_en/mtcw02d_en?OpenDocument</a>  Available in English only	
Entry requirements	<a href="http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf">http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf</a>  Available in English only	



Temporary protection		
Eligibility criteria	<a href="http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf">http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf</a>	
Registrations		
Procedure/Registration		
Requirements		
	Available in English only	
Accommodation		
Housing system	<a href="http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf">http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf</a>	
	Available in English only	
National accommodation system	<a href="https://www.tourism.gov.cy/tourism/tourism.nsf/telephones_en/telephones_en?OpenDocument">https://www.tourism.gov.cy/tourism/tourism.nsf/telephones_en/telephones_en?OpenDocument</a>	
	Available in Greek only	
Private housing/registration	<a href="http://www.dmsw.gov.cy/dmsw/socialwelfare.nsf/contact_el/contact_el?OpenDocument">http://www.dmsw.gov.cy/dmsw/socialwelfare.nsf/contact_el/contact_el?OpenDocument</a>	



<b>Public health</b>		
General information on the Health system	<a href="http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf">http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/asylum/asylumservice.nsf/All/3BFEC5EBDF867909C22588010054933B/\$file/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20for%20applicants%20of%20temporary%20protection.pdf</a>  Available in English only	
<b>Access to education</b>		
Education tiles recognition	<a href="https://www.kysats.ac.cy/index.php/en/component/contact/category/8-contacts?Itemid=213">https://www.kysats.ac.cy/index.php/en/component/contact/category/8-contacts?Itemid=213</a>  Available in English only	
<b>International protection</b>		
Information on how to apply for international protection	<a href="http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2004_1_241.pdf">http://www.cylaw.org/nomoi/arith/2004_1_241.pdf</a>  Available in Greek only	
<b>Free travel options</b>		
Transport	<a href="http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mtcw/mtcw.nsf/mtcw02d_en/mtcw02d_en?OpenDocument">http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mtcw/mtcw.nsf/mtcw02d_en/mtcw02d_en?OpenDocument</a>  Only available in English	
More information about temporary protection in different EU+ countries	<a href="https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/temporary-protection">https://whoiswho.euaa.europa.eu/temporary-protection</a>  Only available in English	



