



**RAPID SITUATION ANALYSIS
AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF UKRAINIAN
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR
FAMILIES IN SLOVAKIA**

March 2023



PLATFORM OF FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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Project: Supporting the inclusion and protection of Ukrainian and Slovak children with Disabilities and Their Families (Activity 2.1.)

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Platform of Families with Children with Disabilities (Platforma rodín detí so zdravotným znevýhodnením)

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ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

| | |
|-------------|--|
| ECCE Gvt | Early Childhood Care and Education Government, governmental |
| MinEdu | Ministry of Education |
| MoLSAF | Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family |
| TP | Temporary Protection |

Disability - „Long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder [a person’s] full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.“¹

Integration - (social) A process which aims to create “a more stable, safe and just society for all, in which every individual, each with rights and responsibilities, has an active role to play.”²

Inclusion - “The process of improving the terms of participation in society, particularly for people who are disadvantaged, through enhancing opportunities, access to resources, voice and respect for rights.”³

¹ The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

² United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Social Integration, <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/social-integration-social-policy-and-development-division.html>

³ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Leaving No One Behind: The Imperative of Inclusive Development, Report on the World Social Situation 2016, New York.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since the war in Ukraine broke out in February 2022, the Platform of Families, a pioneer in parent-to-parent support in Slovakia, has been receiving dozens of questions through its InklusLINKA Hotline from the **families of Ukrainian children with disability** and their local supporters. Ukrainian refugee families are trying to navigate the Slovak system to get the best possible care for their children, and the Platform of Families decisively stands with them. To deepen the **understanding of the current needs of these families and the services available to them**, and **to be able to offer better-targeted services**, we performed **a rapid assessment study** between January and March 2023 through **a sample of 41 interviews**. Completed with secondary data from government databases and various reports, the following report presents the assessment's main conclusions.

Main findings:

303

Ukrainian children with disabilities in Slovakia **received the Carer's Grant from UNICEF** in 2022

187

Ukrainian children with disabilities in Slovakia **received the government form of Carer's Grant** in January 2023 (out of the 34,000+ children with TP status)

82

Ukrainian children with disabilities **enrolled in Slovak schools¹** in 2022 (less than 1% of the 9,000+ Ukrainian children enrolled)



Healthcare

- **A lack of pediatric and specialized care, and an insufficient complementary health care and health aids coverage** (therapies, massages, special equipment, etc.) were cited as main concerns. This results in a decreased quality of life for many children with disabilities and an undue financial burden for families.
- Specialists interviewed spoke of **families with children with disabilities who chose to permanently return to Ukraine** (likely due to the unavailability of needed health services in Slovakia) **or who periodically migrate to Ukraine** for diagnostics, treatment or to seek health aids. Yet others move to third countries.

Recommendations:

- **Improve availability of coverage** for complementary procedures and health aids for child TP holders;
- **Improve referred-care pathways;**
- **Promote health-hub forms of care and mobile health teams;**
- **Promote long-term psychosocial support** and prevention, and **trauma-informed and disability-sensitive training** for pediatricians in particular.

¹ All schools combined, between February and September 2022.





Education

- **A lack of disability-adapted early childhood and formal education capacities** was a major complaint on behalf of parents as well as professionals. Apart from potential developmental and intellectual delays, the participants reported that excluding children from formal education often causes previously schooled children to regress, worsens the carers' and children's social isolation, and excludes many carers from the labor market.
- Complaints of **bullying of Ukrainian students by classmates as well as by teachers** are common.

Recommendations:

- **Increase capacities in ECCE facilities and schools** for children with disabilities, while providing special assistants, psychologists and other supportive measures; strengthen **pre-school preparation** for children with disabilities;
- **Increase capacities in counseling centers** to provide quality and timely diagnostics as well as regular re-assessments of the child's development;
- Promote inclusive education through **Inclusive Education Teams** to assess children's needs and define areas of support for children, and to support teachers' competencies for inclusive education and pedagogies;
- Invest in **trauma-informed and disability-sensitive training** of teachers; support **school intervention teams** of psychologists to address and prevent bullying; provide **teacher support and capacity building** on bullying prevention and actively **apply disciplinary and supportive measures in cases of recurrent bullying** by students and/or teachers;
- **Increase parental support** through peer support groups on particular topics, deep-dive sessions, advisory consultations, etc.;
- Consider allowing enrolment of children with disabilities with **an official diagnosis from Ukraine** without requiring a new diagnosis from Slovakia;
- Streamline **pathways for the hiring of Ukrainian staff** in schools (i.e. specialists, support staff).



Social aid, work and other forms of social support

- **87 Ukrainian children were receiving MoLSAF** support in Jan 2023, a 38% drop from the 303 Ukrainian children supported with UNICEF's Carer's Grant in 2022. More research is needed into why more families did not transition into the new scheme.
- **The Labor Office's new disability assessment tool** for Ukrainian families can be an important pilot for MoLSAF in streamlining its disability assessments in general.
- **Other government subsidies for disability** are currently unavailable to most Ukrainian TP-holders (unless they hold a temporary or permanent residency in Slovakia).
- Finding **full-time employment is impossible for 24/7 carers**, particularly for mothers. However, **part-time work from home** is sought-after as an alternative.

Recommendations:

- Pilot the **streamlined disability assessment tool** for TP holders in the general population;
- Consider giving **access to other forms of government support** for families with disability to TP holders as well, modelled after those available to asylees and subsidiary protection holders;
- Provide **more child-care options**, especially for single parent TP holders with small children;
- Ensure that existing **housing options** (especially state structures, such as high-capacity accommodation, transit camps, etc.) for the Ukrainians are **more accessible**.
- Make **public transportation and parking free-of-charge** to TP holders with disability and chaperons.



Integration and Socialization

- **The integration of families is often facilitated by local "buddies" or allies** who help the family navigate daily life in Slovakia and create first local social bonds. Interestingly, these relationships are frequently started through colleagues at the spouse's work, which may point to the importance of employment for local integration. Many parents were also interested in the Platform's peer-to-peer counselling services for its personalized format, and there is great potential in developing these one-on-one connections between refugees and locals.
- Several cases of **bullying and discrimination** on the account of nationality, language, or ethnicity (in the case of Roma Ukrainians) were documented in schools, health facilities and at an emergency accommodation facility.



Recommendations:

- Support **community events and employment-search** for Ukrainian carers to facilitate local integration;
- Promote **peer support programs and employee buddy programs** among employers;
- Support established **complaint mechanisms** (e.g. Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities) to identify and address cases of discrimination;
- Conduct an **assessment on discriminatory and/or abusive practices** by staff working with Ukrainian children.



Information and Data

- **Reliable, real-time information about legislature pertaining to TP holders on the ground is often missing.** Families and practitioners are frequently at a loss keeping up with a changing set of rules for Ukrainian refugees related to healthcare, housing, social aid, etc. Health providers are often underinformed about the range of benefits available to Ukrainian children with TP status. In practice, this leads to the refusal of treatment or overcharging for health services. Many legislative resources are not available in Ukrainian or are difficult to access, making appeals difficult.

Recommendations:

- Conduct punctual **informational campaigns** and **regular information dissemination** through official communication channels (including on social media) about services available to TP holders;
- Collect and make publicly available **up-to-date, disaggregated data about the number of refugees with disabilities** in schools, healthcare facilities, etc.

INTRODUCTION

Ukrainian refugee children in Slovakia

Of the pre-war Ukrainian population of around 40 million, over 8 million refugees have fled the country¹ – a fifth of the population, overwhelmingly composed of women, children and the elderly. Over 5,000,000 Ukrainian refugees had received a temporary protection or related status across the European countries. Within the already-vulnerable refugee population at large, children and people with disability face additional hurdles and risks to their existence in exile. When these three categories intersect, and refugees are also children with disabilities, the need for protection of this extremely vulnerable population is even greater.

To better advocate for the rights of children with disabilities and to monitor their needs and conditions in which they live, UNICEF has been highlighting the need to gather reliable data on disabilities across the world, including in regions hosting large refugee populations^{2,3,4}. Despite some progress since the adoption of the Inclusive Data Charter by global leaders⁵, exact numbers of people with disability across the world remain difficult to obtain, and the same is true for the Ukrainian refugee population.

The European Disability Forum **estimates that around 200 000 Ukrainian refugees present across Europe may be children with disabilities**⁶. In a recent UNHCR survey about Ukrainian refugees in Europe, 17% of the sampled households with two adults and a dependent had a member with a disability⁷. The report does not state what proportion of these members were children, however.

In Slovakia, over 110 000 Ukrainians have applied for TP status since the onset of the war⁸ and **nearly 100 000 are currently valid TP holders**⁹, a staggering figure in a country of 5 million. It is worth remembering that Slovakia had granted asylum or subsidiary protection to less than a 1000 people in the 10 years preceding the Ukraine war¹⁰. **35% of all TP holders in Slovakia are children.**

The exact figures on the number of disabled persons from Ukraine in Slovakia are currently not available, as the border police do not require people to report the presence of disability, due to the streamlined, simpler documentation requirements of the Temporary Protection Directive¹¹. We can attempt to extrapolate an approximate number of beneficiaries from the data by

¹ As of February 28, 2023.

² United Nations Children's Fund, Seen, Counted, Included: Using data to shed light on the well-being of children with disabilities, UNICEF, New York, 2021

³ United Nations Children's Fund, Included, Every Step of the Way: Protecting the rights of migrant and displaced children with disabilities, UNICEF, New York, 2023

⁴ United Nations Children's Fund Evaluation Office, Disability-Inclusive Evaluations in UNICEF, New York, 2022

⁵ https://www.data4sdgs.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/IDC_onepager_Final.pdf

⁶ <https://www.edf-feph.org/content/uploads/2023/02/221215-BRIDGING-THE-GAPS-extended-summary-FINAL.pdf>

⁷ <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/99072>

⁸ <https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>

⁹ As of March 1, 2023. Source: Ministry of the Interior of Slovakia, <https://www.minv.sk/?docasne-utocisko>

¹⁰ Data by the Slovak Migration Office.

¹¹ <https://www.edf-feph.org/content/uploads/2023/02/221215-BRIDGING-THE-GAPS-extended-summary-FINAL.pdf>



UNICEF on the number of beneficiaries of the Carer's Benefit for children with disabilities in Slovakia. It initially aimed to reach 1500 children¹, although only **303 refugee children from Ukraine who have a disability or a serious illness eventually received the cash transfer** before December 2022 (see more in Social Aid section). The Carer's Benefit has subsequently passed onto the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family (MoLSAF)². In January 2023, **187 children were receiving the government-issued Carer's Benefit**, a nearly 40% drop from the number previously sponsored by UNICEF's Carer's Benefit.

Based on our research, we predict that many **more Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities in Slovakia pass under the radar** of the Slovak government and the international organizations, likely due to several factors:

- The child's disability was not officially diagnosed before leaving Ukraine, and the child has not yet been diagnosed in Slovakia, for various reasons.
- The family is not aware of or does not wish to apply for disability cash transfers or other disability services in Slovakia.
- The family has applied for disability support but has been misdiagnosed, or the degree of disability was not judged sufficiently high to qualify for the support (less than 40% disability).

Living with disability in Slovakia

Children with disability in Slovakia and their carers face a system still marked by several decades of institutional neglect and disregard of people with disabilities during the Socialist period. Under the totalitarian regime, the families of people with disabilities lived largely isolated and stigmatized, and people with disabilities were routinely kept in residential asylums, their rights violated.

Since 1989, a progressive but relatively slow advancement has been observed in protecting the rights of people with disabilities and in expanding the accessibility of services, education, work, housing or public spaces to them³. Even more than 30 years after the fall of the Iron Curtain an alarmingly high number of families of children with disabilities continue to live in social isolation, minimally integrated in local communities. Outpatient and community-based services remain rare and expensive where available.

Many families caring for a child with disability struggle financially. The average cost for special care and therapies is 4217 Euro a year⁴, and oftentimes carers have limited employment opportunities⁵. With a minimal financial support from the state, many families depend on charity and donations, finding it difficult to make ends meet.

¹ Call for Expression of Interest UNICEF Emergency Cash Assistance (Disability Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation, Feedback Mechanism) CEF/SVK/2022/001.

² Newly called „a subsidy to support humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine with severe disabilities“ (Dotácia na podporu humanitárnej pomoci pre osoby s osobitnou ochranou so závažným zdravotným postihnutím), https://www.upsvr.gov.sk/buxus/docs/KGR/27110A_leta%CC%81k-UA_-_ds_ANK_new_UKR.pdf

³ European Semester 2020-2021 country fiche on disability – Slovakia.

⁴ <https://www.socia.sk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/DOTAZNIK-vyhodnotenie-final.pdf>

⁵ European Semester 2020-2021 country fiche on disability – Slovakia.

The Platform of Families has been working since 2016 to make the topic of disability in children mainstream, partnering with families, experts, and practitioners, as well as policy makers to lobby for a systemic change to the way children with disabilities are perceived, accepted and included in the Slovak society. The Platform regularly gathers feedback from carers of children with disability about the difficulties that they deal with day-to-day.

Their most frequent concerns are:

- Late assessment of disability
- Improper announcement of a diagnosis without providing appropriate psycho-social support
- Lack of early childhood development therapy options and other services
- High financial burden (medicine, therapy, health aids, assistance, special diet)
- Various governmental disability databases that are not connected between different departments (e.g. health, education, social affairs)
- Lack of medical providers and other specialists (pediatricians, neurologists, speech therapists, physiotherapists, special education teachers...)
- A complicated public cash assistance system, built on diagnoses instead of real needs, making many children with rare or chronic illnesses ineligible for financial compensations
- Lack of social services on the local level
- Lack of supportive measures in nurseries, schools and high schools, leading to forced home schooling, and dropping out of education
- Absence of a coordinated interdepartmental and specialized support: a child with disability is often “lost in the system” after the diagnosing without referral to further support.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a deepening negative impact on children with disabilities and their families. Their access to assistance from various institutions has become more complicated, waiting lists to access services and diagnostics have grown longer, and fewer pupils were able to follow online learning than their non-disabled peers¹.

Independent analyses mentioned below confirm these concerns, showing that the government does not provide adequate support to these families:

- Only 10% of children with disabilities have access to Early Childhood Intervention services²
- Only 9,4% of children with disabilities are included in kindergartens³ and 12,34% of school children are diagnosed as having special needs (4th highest in the EU)³

¹ European Semester 2020-2021 country fiche on disability - Slovakia

² <https://www.employment.gov.sk/files/slovensky/rodina-socialna-pomoc/socialne-sluzby/ostatne/narodna-strategia-rozvoja-koordinovanych-sluzieb-vcasnej-intervencie-ranej-starostlivosti.pdf>

³ https://www.european-agency.org/data/18785/datatable-country-report/2018_2019/web



- 5,6% of Slovak children are educated in special schools (the highest educational segregation at the EU level)¹
- Less than half of schools' needs for special assistants were met by the government in 2022²

Ukrainian refugee children with disability in Slovakia

Ukrainian refugee families of children with disabilities arriving in Slovakia since 2022 have therefore encountered a system that was already struggling to accommodate for the needs of Slovak children with disability. Now, as the system faces increased demand, **serious concerns arise about the access of Ukrainian children with disabilities to essential services**, critical for their wellbeing and development, and in many cases, survival.

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine, the Platform of Families has received dozens of questions through its InklusLINKA Hotline from carers of Ukrainian children with disability who are trying to navigate the Slovak system to seek the best possible care. We desired to go a step further in understanding the needs and providing support to these families and decided to **launch a rapid needs assessment to shed light on the realities of Ukrainian refugee children with disability and their families in Slovakia** at a particular moment in time (early 2023), providing concrete examples of the reception they have encountered. We focus primarily on the area of health care, welfare/social assistance, and schooling. The assessment draws on a series of interviews with families and experts, as well as on secondary data by international and various government agencies. This analysis will also zoom in on some of the most pressing needs these families are facing and highlight a sample of best practices from service providers across Slovakia. We believe these findings will aid in improving existing services, provide new ones, and serve as a springboard for systemic reform to make the Slovak society welcoming to children with disabilities no matter their nationality.

¹ https://www.european-agency.org/data/18785/datatable-country-report/2018_2019/web

² According to an official from the Ministry of Education during a meeting between UNICEF partners in refugee education, Sept 30, 2022.

Methodology



Research question

What are the **current needs** of Ukrainian families with children with disabilities in Slovakia, what is their **access to disability-adapted services**, and what is the **level of inclusion** of these families in Slovak society?



Date

January – March 2023



Snowball sampling, initiated through a pre-established network of contacts in the field (peer counsellors in touch with Ukrainian families, NGOs collaborating with the Platform, health practitioners, social workers, Ukrainian families referring other carers, etc.).



In-field qualitative data gathering

- **36 semi-structured interviews**, in Slovak or English (questions in Annex 2,3) **with Ukrainian mothers**, and **with professionals** working with Ukrainian families (Slovak and Ukrainian health specialists, humanitarian and social workers, psychologists, and related professions¹)
- **1 focus group** with 4 Ukrainian mothers and a grandmother, in Ukrainian/Russian
- **In-person, online, via phone or email**, based on the subject's availability and preference



Secondary data gathering

- Data about **Carer's Benefit** recipients (UNICEF)
- Data about **pupils with disabilities enrolled in primary schools** (MinEdu) between February 2022 – September 2022
- Data about child beneficiaries of the humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine with **severe disabilities**² – January 2023

LIMITATIONS

- Not a representative sample but a snapshot of the situation on the ground at a given time.
- Possibility of inaccuracy of some facts as interviewed professionals acted as intermediaries between UA families and the Platform of Families.
- Due to the rapid nature of the assessment, we were not able to obtain the current government statistics on the numbers of refugee children with disabilities in schools.

¹ See Annex 1 for a detailed break-down of these professions.

² For the sake of brevity, the term „government-issued Carer's Grant" is used despite the official change of name.



Study Participants



41 participants¹
(28 females, 3 males)



37% refugees
(15 participants)

UA

49% Ukrainians²
(19 participants)

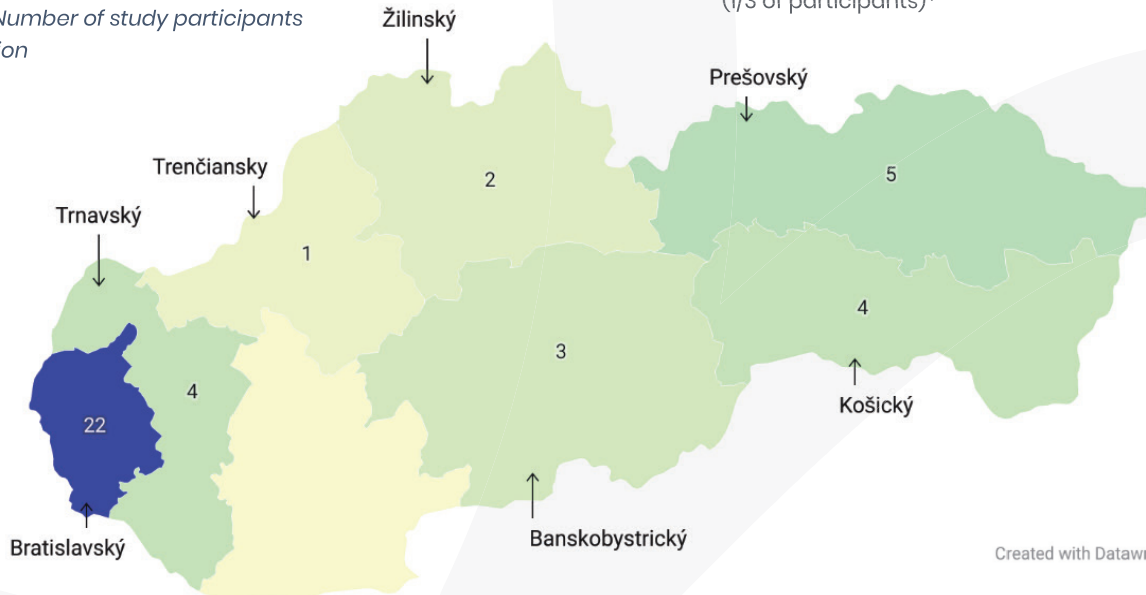


**12 Ukrainian carers
of a child with
disability³**
(1/3 of participants)⁴



29 professionals
working with
Ukrainian families⁵

Map 1 Number of study participants by region



Created with Datawrapper

| Region | No. of participants | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Bratislavský | 22 | 6 | 16 |
| Prešovský | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Trnavský | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| Košický | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| Banskobystrický | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Žilinský | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Trenčiansky | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 41 | 12 | 29 |

*One mother was both a professional and a carer

- Originally, we aimed to interview at least 20 carers and 20 professionals, and at least 1 from each category in each region.
- Ukrainians by place of origin, whether recent arrivals or established in Slovakia long-term. Both are important informants as due to their cultural and language familiarity, they may understand the lived needs of the Ukrainian community better than their Slovak counterparts. Ukrainians established in Slovakia for some time often serve as important social bridges between the local society and the refugee community and help refugees navigate the Slovak system more effectively.
- Among the carers in the sample, none was caring for a child with serious illness as opposed to disability (e.g. cancer). However, many of the interviewed professionals work with Ukrainian children with serious illness and their views were incorporated in this report.
- To best gauge the direct views on their own situation in Slovakia, we originally planned to ensure that carers themselves make up at least half of the sample. However, due to logistical challenges and the limitation of time, we were only able to conduct up to a third all the interviews with carers.
- See Annex 1 for a detailed break-down of these participant's professions.

FINDINGS



A: Access to Health Services and Complementary Health Care

- **Disrupted treatment, rehabilitation and daily routines of children with disabilities** between leaving Ukraine and settling in Slovakia were a major concern of carers. Many children are experiencing a regression or a worsening of their condition due to the absence or change of treatment, environment, various traumas, estrangement from family members and friends, etc.
- **Longer-term therapy options and complementary health procedures**, as opposed to one-time consultations, **are often unavailable**. Where existent, they are prohibitively expensive, as public insurance generally does not cover them (e.g. psychotherapy for autism, , animal therapy, etc.). **Health aids**, crucial for children with disability, are rarely covered by basic health insurance, and the various forms of financial aid from MoLSAF are not available to TP holders. Hence these health aids remain inaccessible to many Ukrainian children. Soliciting grants and receiving private donations have been the go-to methods for the carers when procuring these.
- **Where therapy is available and continuous, it often brings positive results.** A family in Košice frequented a local Center for Early Childhood Intervention for six months to practice visual thinking with their autistic son who had started to show signs of severe anxiety over having moved to a new country. According to his therapist and pediatrician, the exercise eventually helped the boy gain confidence navigating daily life (e.g. he no longer needed assistance going to the bathroom). Another pre-teen boy with Down syndrome in Bratislava has started to speak after six months of therapy with the interviewed psychologist.
- **Ukrainian children with disabilities are routinely refused by Slovak doctors** (GPs and specialists alike), especially in Bratislava. This might be because of a short-age of doctors in general, the increased administrative burden that the Ukrainian population represents for the doctors' practice (e.g. translation of documents and of medication), a communication barrier, low initial refunds for Ukrainian patients by insurance companies¹, or social prejudice against Ukrainians. For example, a mother trying to make health appointments by phone was told by several nurses that they do not understand her and was hung upon.

To combat this trend, **personal networks of contacts and referrals are used** as opposed to simply cold calling a doctor's office. The two interviewed pediatricians stated that over the first months of the crisis they had built a trusted referral pathway to particular specialists whom they knew. They would contact these specialists directly and ask to accept their patient in order to avoid refusals. One of the pediatricians stressed how much advocating for their patients in this way is vital, yet extremely time-consuming and exhausting. Sometimes phone consultations with specialists in Slovakia (e.g. a pedo-neurologist) or in Ukraine are proposed as an alternative.

¹ According to one pediatrician, before 11.2023 doctor's offices generally got refunded about a tenth of the price of a regular consultation for a UA patient as opposed to Slovak patients. We were not able to verify this information.



Several professionals we interviewed told us of families who did not find accessible treatment in Slovakia and decided to **travel back to Ukraine** (e.g. for a CT scan, genetic testing), whether **for treatment or to return permanently**. Yet others travel on to third countries.

- According to the interviewees (both professionals and carers), the doctors most commonly in short supply when it comes to basic care for their children with disabilities are **pediatricians, pedo-psychiatrists and pedo-neurologists**.
- **Diagnostic treatment is often unavailable** due to the aforementioned factors, as well as due to the aggravated wait times caused by the pandemic lockdowns. The language barrier also hinders the diagnostic process, particularly in children with mental or developmental problems. According to a Ukrainian psychologist in Bratislava, modern diagnostic tools in Ukrainian are currently unavailable in Slovakia, and specialists find themselves having to improvise with self-made materials or with the help of interpreters, which may negatively impact the accuracy of the diagnostic process. Some families find themselves traveling back to Ukraine to get a diagnosis. Children without an official diagnosis can subsequently be refused an enrollment by a school or kindergarten. On the Ukrainian side, the fathers of children without an official diagnosis cannot leave the country with the rest of the family due to the mobilization order.
- **Carers postpone their children's or their own prophylactic care while focusing on securing basic needs (housing, employment, etc.) or because of logistical hurdles**. Some families postpone regular check-ups or non-urgent treatment of their only seek prophylactic care after having completed a few months in Slovakia and having gained a steadier footing. A social worker from a medical charity told us that many Ukrainian patients postpone the treatment of chronic conditions. A recent UNHCR study about the living conditions of Ukrainian refugees in Slovakia found that nearly half of the respondents did not have a general doctor¹.

One mother with a son who has cerebral palsy has only sought medical care after completing a year in Slovakia as she lives in an isolated village, was without a means of transportation adapted for her son's condition, and she lacked local social connections that could assist her.

- **Doctors and pharmacies sometimes charge unjustified amounts for treatment or refuse to prescribe/release medicine**. This happens despite the official right to insurance for urgent and referred healthcare for Ukrainian children with temporary refuge status since January 1, 2023². In practice, families see themselves charged even for referral treatment (e.g. the parents of a 2,5 year-old girl with cerebral palsy were charged 1000 euros for a referred MRI scan and a massage done in January 2023; the parents cancelled all the remaining scheduled procedures as a result and have not yet found an alternative). This seems to be often caused by a **lack of awareness of the current legislation in place on behalf of service providers**, possibly caused by a lack of communication between the

¹ UNHCR, Area Based Assessment, February 2023.

² <https://www.health.gov.sk/?urcenie-rozsahu-potrebnej-zdravotnej-starostlivosti>

Ministry and medical providers. Moreover, in 2022, many non-urgent medical procedures for TP holders were only covered by the public insurance on a case-by-case basis, as announced on the state insurance website¹. We argue that this approach is not sustainable and inefficient, as the insurance company would have to make individualized decision for potentially hundreds of Ukrainian patients per month.

However, **some cases of overcharging seem to be rooted in staff being unwilling to serve Ukrainian clients**. A family shared that a pharmacist told the father that they are currently out of stock on a particular medicine for his autistic son. The same pharmacist released the medicine to the mother who went to the pharmacy a few minutes later.

- **Mental health capacities are lacking, and more preventative care is needed for both children and their parents**. At the time of writing, the Bratislava region, which has the highest number of Ukrainian children, only has one mobile team of Ukrainian-speaking school psychologists from the Centres of counselling and prevention- Bratislava 3. While initial psycho-social help was available at border crossings, many refugee families have now spread across Slovakia, and in-person access to free psychosocial support may be more difficult for them. A UNHCR study has shown that 54% of its participants were not aware of mental health and psychosocial services nearby². This may be similarly true for carers of children with disability or serious illness in remote areas who may feel isolated while tending to their children 24/7. They also have to deal with the trauma of war in parallel, as is the case of a Ukrainian mother in a small town in the Trenčín region whose daughter has epilepsy and cannot go to school.

A psychologist and a pediatrician we interviewed stressed the need for the frontline professions (field workers, doctors, teachers) to be **trained in trauma-informed approaches as well as in basic disability-informed approaches** so that the system is more sensitive and responsive to the needs of refugees and of children with disabilities from the moment of first contact.

- Many families and practitioners would welcome a **“health hub” model** where various services are offered under the same roof. Many families with children with disability appreciate this model from Ukraine where various special needs-related practitioners helped make the experience more seamless for them. In Bratislava, the Child Protection Hub at Bottova or the Ukrainian clinic at Rovniankova were mentioned by many parents and specialists as good examples of a similar approach.

Mobile teams of doctors and nurses were another model of care appreciated by both professionals and carers. Equita is one of the NGOs that has been referenced several times as providing timely medical and social assistance to Ukrainian communities with disability across Slovakia³.

¹ <https://www.vszp.sk/o-nas/informacie-media/tlacove-spravy/vszp-podava-vojnovym-utecencom-z-ukrajiny-pomocnu-ruku.html>

² UNHCR, Area Based Assessment, February 2023.

³ By interviewees having solicited Equita's services on behalf of UA families in Bratislava, Banská Bystrica and Prešov.

B: Access to Early Childhood Education and Care and Schooling



- According to the most recent data from the Ministry of Education¹, **82 Ukrainian children with TP with disability enrolled in Slovak schools or kindergartens between February and September 2022**. Out of the total number of 9665 Ukrainian children with TP enrolled in this time period, **this figure represents less than 1%**. For comparison, among Slovak students, children with disabilities represent over 8% of all students².

A fourth of the enrolled Ukrainian children with disabilities were studying in Bratislava. The statistic does not reveal how many children dropped out or how constant their attendance has been. According to the Ministry of Education, the next round of data on the enrolment of children with disability will only be available in late 2023.

Based on the initial estimations by UNICEF, there were at least 1500 Ukrainian children with disabilities in Slovakia in 2022³. According to the most recent data on the government-issued Carer's Grant recipients from Ukraine, there were at least 117 children of school-going age living in Slovakia in December 2022. The low numbers of Ukrainian children enrolled in Slovak school remain a persistent issue⁴. Based on the abovementioned numbers, we assume that Ukrainian children with disabilities are even more severely underrepresented in Slovak schools than Ukrainian children in general.

- **The unavailability of spaces for children with disabilities at all levels of education** (both special and conventional schools) continues to be raised as a concern by families and field workers, especially in Bratislava. The lack of pedagogical assistants to support the children during their school day was one of the main reasons why schools turned away parents. All of the above may be a reason for the low enrollment of children with disability.
- **Early-childhood care adapted to the child's special needs**, crucial for carers who wish to work or have a few hours per day to themselves, **remains extremely rare**. Moreover, our study indicates that the "child groups" model (*detské skupiny*)⁵, designed and advertised by MoLSAF as a more informal and easier-to-create form of childcare has in practice not caught on among the refugee parents. The setting up and registering of such a structure is bureaucratically difficult for carers who are often overwhelmed by meeting their children's basic needs. And, for many parents living in high-capacity centers, this model is not an option, as it has strict space requirements.

¹ At the time of writing in March 2023.

² <https://analyza.todarozum.sk/docs/19082218400002gxxk0/>

³ UNICEF Call for Expression of Interest: Disability Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation, Feedback Mechanism, May 24, 2022.

⁴ <https://www.ta3.com/clanok/253590/ukrajinske-deti-utecencov-nenavstevuju-slovenske-skoly-ucia-sa-doma-online>

⁵ <https://www.employment.gov.sk/sk/uvodna-stranka/informacie-media/aktuality/lex-ukrajina-3-podpori-starostli-vost-deti-aj-odidencov-so-zdravotnym-postihnutim.html>

- Used to a more integrated school system back home, Ukrainian parents often aim to enroll their children with disability in a regular school. They are often **surprised at the very low number of regular schools that integrate** children with disability in Slovakia.
- **The Slovak school system remains a mystery to many Ukrainian parents due to its relative complexity.** Even once they find a school willing to enroll their child, parents give up enrolling them because of difficulties with registration (a Slovak-issued diagnostic of the disability is required by schools, and the process can take months and be expensive). Others hope to return to Ukraine soon and have their child attend online classes. Yet others have had negative experiences, or their child has had health issues, and they decided to take him or her out of the school system altogether.
- We have heard occasional reports of **bullying of children by fellow classmates, as well as by teachers** (e.g. declaring in front of the whole class that Russia will win the war; in a particular example, a teacher used the map of USSR in a geography lesson to show where Ukraine was located). Several practitioners called for clear penalties for teachers who engage in the bullying of students, as well as for safe and anonymous abuse-reporting mechanisms for students and parents.

Several field workers reported that **some teachers prohibit children from speaking Ukrainian while in school**, so as to learn Slovak faster.

- Despite the acute shortage of Ukrainian-speaking assistants, special pedagogists and other supporting professions in the Slovak education sector, **it remains difficult for trained Ukrainian specialists to be employed in Slovak schools.** The need for a Slovak-language exam and the lengthy diploma-approval process by the Ministry of Education discourage potential applicants. Schools are also underfunded and must seek volunteers or procure extra funds by themselves to secure trained Ukrainian staff¹.
- Our interviews revealed that **families may not disclose on their child's diagnosis** in order to facilitate their enrollment in school or their integration in the wider society.

An example was given by a social worker of a girl with a mental disability in Eastern Slovakia. Her mother possessed a detailed diagnosis from Ukraine in her daughter's medical file but only shared it with the school once her daughter started showing behavioral problems in class. According to the mother, she had never read the diagnosis before and acted surprised to learn that her daughter has a disability. Another mother whom we interviewed is aware that her son has autism, but she has decided to not have him diagnosed to not decrease his chances at "living a normal life". According to a Ukrainian psychologist working with parents of children with behavioral difficulties, in some cases families have not yet accepted that their child has a disability and refuse to pay any attention to the diagnosis.

¹ Interview with an NGO worker collaborating with selected schools through the funding of learning assistants.

C: Access to Social Aid, Work and Other Forms of Social Support



Carer's Benefit for Children with Disabilities

In the first weeks of the Ukraine crisis, the Government of Slovakia (GoS) requested temporary assistance from international humanitarian agencies present in Slovakia with the enrolment of new refugee applications and the provision of various forms of short-term emergency cash assistance. We focus here on the aid provided to Ukrainian children with disability.

To cover the period from June–November 2022, UNICEF provided a temporary cash transfer to households with children with disabilities or serious illness who registered for Temporary Protection with the Government of Slovakia and through UNHCR¹. Initially, this aid was **predicted to reach some 1500 refugee children with disabilities**². In the end, **303 children benefitted** from the cash transfer. In **86% of the cases, the main carer was a female**³.

| Region | Boys | Girls | Total | Percent |
|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Bratislava | 73 | 42 | 115 | 38% |
| Žilina | 23 | 19 | 42 | 14% |
| Košice | 17 | 11 | 28 | 9% |
| Nitra | 17 | 11 | 28 | 9% |
| Trnava | 15 | 9 | 24 | 8% |
| Banská Bystrica | 15 | 8 | 23 | 8% |
| Trenčín | 14 | 8 | 22 | 7% |
| Prešov | 14 | 7 | 21 | 7% |
| Total | 188 | 115 | 303 | 100 |

Table 2 Children supported by UNICEF Carer's Benefit in Slovakia between May–November 2022, by region. Source: UNICEF

When children did not yet possess a disability card from Ukraine, a **disability assessment was done in homes by field workers** from the NGO Tenenet. A set of questions was asked to caretakers from the Child Functioning Module, based on the Washington Group disability assessment questions, distinguished by age (2–4 years, 5–17 years). In addition to questions related to the child's disability, the family's living conditions and acute protection risks were to be observed by the enumerator.

This form of assistance of 508 euros per month **passed under the responsibility of MoLSAF from December 2023**, and is now called *humanitarian aid for refugees from Ukraine with severe*

¹ The cash transfer program aimed at supporting adults with disabilities was managed in parallel by the IOM.

² UNICEF Call for Expression of Interest: Disability Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation, Feedback Mechanism, May 24, 2022.

³ This data roughly mirrors the general demographic situation among the Ukrainian TP holders, where 77% of all adults were females in March 2023 (<https://www.minv.sk/?docasne-utocisko>). We assume that even in two-parent Ukrainian families, the mother is most often chosen by the family as the main care taker of the child with disability, hence the even higher proportion of females in the beneficiary sample than the general refugee population.

disabilities. It amounts to 300 euros for 40–59% degree of disability, and 508 euros for persons with over 60% disability. Families having received the UNICEF-issued Carer’s Grant were requested to register again in person at their local Labor Office (*Úrad práce*). Any **new assessments are done by field workers of the Labor Office** through a 12-question assessment tool (children formerly assessed by Tenenet will not be reassessed)¹. This form of assessment marks an innovation in the government assessment of disability, which is currently lengthier and requires various doctor’s assessments. This new procedure **can serve as an important pilot** in seeking more efficient ways of assessing disability in Slovakia.

Based on the latest data made available by MoLSAF, **187 Ukrainian children with TP status received this form of cash assistance** in January 2023². The drop from 303 original beneficiaries may have been caused by various factors, including the departure of the family back to Ukraine or to a third country, or by failing to re-register at the Labor Office. Some families reported a delay in payments for a month or two while the database was transferred from UNICEF to MoLSAF³. A deeper program evaluation would be needed to uncover how common these delays have been, and whether families received their back-logged payments.

Based on the current statistics of Ukrainian refugee children present in Slovakia (over 34 000 children in January 2023) we predict that **many more Ukrainian refugee children with disabilities who could be eligible do not benefit from this form of aid**.

- The **transition of Carer’s Benefit from UNICEF to MoLSAF** was seen as relatively smooth by two of the families, as they received assistance from the Labor Office workers in re-registering. However, a few mothers complained that their November and December installments had not yet arrived at the end of January, possibly due to some logistical challenges as the database shifted from UNICEF to MoLSAF⁴.

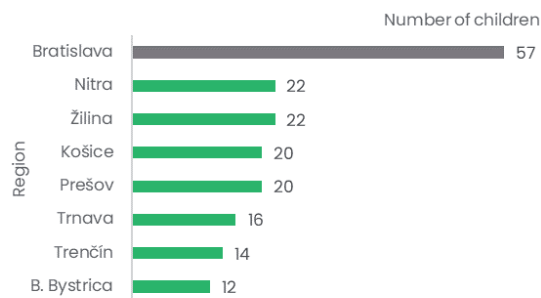
¹ This is also true for adults assessed under a parallel scheme managed by the International Organization for Migration.

² Only one child was assessed as having less than 50% disability and received 300 euros in January 2023.

³ Based on an explanation by UNICEF staff, when UNICEF transferred the Carer’s Benefit caseload in December 2022, beneficiaries could qualify for the government support at earliest in January (in case they re-registered with the Employment Office in December). In addition, MoLSAF does not disburse retroactive payments. This means that families who re-registered later (e.g. February, March) would not receive the benefit for the months prior to them re-registering.

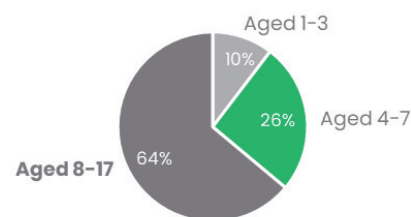
⁴ Interview with a UNICEF worker.

Most Ukrainian children in Slovakia benefiting from the government-issued Carer’s Grant are in the **Bratislava region**



▲ Figure 1 Gvt-issued Carer’s Grant to Ukrainian children with TP in January 2023, by region

Most Ukrainian children in Slovakia receiving the government-issued Carer’s Grant are of **school-going age**



▲ Figure 2 Gvt-issued Carer’s Grant to Ukrainian children with TP in January 2023, by age

Ukrainian children in Slovakia benefiting from the government-issued Carer’s Grant in January 2023, by sex



- Some families **refused to apply for the allowance** as they desire to return to Ukraine as soon as possible. More research is needed into how aware families with children with disabilities are of the availability of the aid and of the streamlining of the process (the Labor Office makes a decision and disburses aid within 30 days). Others do not wish to have their child diagnosed (e.g. with lighter forms of autism) so as to not threaten their chances of integration in school/society (see Section 2 - Access to Education).
- **Most other social benefits for people with disability in Slovakia remain inaccessible to Ukrainian refugees**, unless they possess a temporary or permanent permit, or have been granted asylum/subsidiary protection.

Work

- **The need for employment for carers of children with disabilities resonated as one of the main needs**, although the explicit focus of our assessment was not to evaluate the level of integration of Ukrainian care takers of children with disabilities in the labor market. Many families experience financial hardship due to the cost of care for their child with disability, and are seeking extra income. Tied to this is the necessity of finding childcare for children under 6, and that of finding specialized care where integration in a regular school is not an option due to the disability's severity.
- **Work from home has helped some families secure extra income.** One mother of a child with cerebral palsy and epilepsy successfully kept her job in Ukraine and is working remotely, while another mother of a boy with the same condition started a cooking business at home.

Housing and Transportation

- **Lack of affordable housing accessible for people with disability** was raised as a concern by frontline staff, be it in state-run facilities (dormitories/*ubytovne*, Humenne Emergency Transit Center) or in private buildings.
- **Disability-friendly transportation to necessary services is a related problem** for families who found cheaper housing in smaller towns and villages but do not own a personal vehicle.
- **The cancellation of the policy offering free public transportation** for Ukrainian refugees has also been raised as a concern by some interviewees, incurring additional costs to families with children with disabilities, already in a vulnerable financial position. One NGO worker joined the larger public call and suggested that public transportation be made free for all people with disabilities and their chaperons, regardless of nationality or immigration status¹.

¹ <https://spravy.rtvs.sk/2022/07/slovensko-pri-cestovani-diskriminuje-ukrajincov-s-tzp-tvrdi-komisarka/>

D: Integration and Socialization



- Many carers, especially mothers, live **isolated from the rest of society due to their child's disability**. Providing care 24/7 limits their interaction with the public. They are often prevented from holding a job or learning Slovak, further perpetuating isolation and increasing their overall vulnerability (financial, psycho-social, etc.). One mother caring for a daughter with severe epilepsy kept her part-time job from Ukraine and works remotely. She desires to take a Slovak course and meet other moms, but she shared that since she has found no daycare centers appropriate for her sound-sensitive daughter, it is impossible for her to leave home and she feels extremely lonely.
- Families with members who are disabled are **frequently “made feel like a burden”** by renters and the wider society, according to one social worker. This can be compounded with the general social climate in Slovakia, whereby over 60% of respondents in a recent opinion poll do indeed see Ukrainian refugees as a burden¹. For illustration, in a particularly harrowing scenario a mother of a little boy with a disability was made to get off the bus by a driver after her ill son vomited. She was then told to: “Go back to Ukraine.”
- **Peer-to-peer connections make the transition into the Slovak society smoother for many families.** Having a local “buddy” or in other words a local sponsor who can assist the family in understanding the Slovak system and communicate with institutions seems to be crucial in **facilitating integration**. We spoke to several such sponsors who have helped families enroll their children in schools, accompanied them to the Labor Office, scheduled health appointments or looked for material aid for them, often **using a net of trusted local contacts**. Some Ukrainian parents show interest in participating in peer-to-peer events, such as the Platform’s meetings between Ukrainian and Slovak parents, as this form of support is deemed more personal and individualized. We believe these one-on-one relationships have a great potential in speeding up the family’s integration as well as in contributing to their psycho-social wellbeing.
- More research is needed about **the possible discrimination of Roma Ukrainians and their children with disabilities who are refugees in Slovakia** on account of their ethnicity. A humanitarian worker whom we interviewed argued that some Roma Ukrainians would periodically come to their center in Eastern Slovakia to get humanitarian aid but would actually be based in their hometowns in Eastern Ukraine. The worker reported that their organization discontinued the aid program because of this supposed phenomenon. While it may be true that certain groups of the Ukrainian-based population benefitted from the humanitarian aid in this way, it is important to investigate about possible discriminatory practices from service providers when in contact with the Romani *refugee* population.

¹ <https://www.startitup.sk/prieskum-k-ukrajincim-mame-negativny-postoj-neprajeme-im-a-cakame-pomoc-od-statu/>



E: Access to Information and Data



- Practitioners and other service providers mentioned **an urgent need for up-to-date, disaggregated data** by government agencies (at minimum by disability, age and region) to be able to adapt the offer of services to particular groups of refugees with disability. This is particularly the case in the healthcare and education sectors.
- The government together with international and community-level organizations should **address the informational barrier that carers face in access to healthcare, education, social benefits, etc.** In an often-changing legislative environment, working on periodic and timely informational campaigns that target not only Ukrainian carers but also local practitioners and social workers assisting this demographic is crucial in making the already available services more accessible.

Earlier, we have noted that healthcare providers are sometimes unaware of the benefits currently available to TP holders, and they tend to overcharge for services or refuse to offer treatment.

In another example, a humanitarian worker shared her frustration about the tardiness of the government's announcement of prolonging the state housing aid for refugees. The extension was announced only two weeks before the original expiration date (Feb 28, 2023). Consequently, families were having difficulties finding housing in the weeks leading up to the deadline, since the government had not clearly communicated to landlords what the funding scheme would look like past Feb 28.

ANNEXES

Annex 1 – Break-down of participants (non-carers), by profession and sector of activity

| Profession | No. of participants |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Civil servant – Education | 3 |
| Civil servant – Migration Office | 1 |
| Humanitarian worker | 1 |
| Charity worker | 2 |
| Pediatrician | 2 |
| Physical therapist | 3 |
| Program coordinator | 6 |
| Psychologist | 7 |
| Social worker | 3 |
| UNICEF staff | 1 |
| Total | 29 |

▲ Table 3 Break-down of participants (non-carers), by profession.

| Sector | No. of participants |
|---|---------------------|
| Health (doctors, physical therapists) | 5 |
| Education | 3 |
| Humanitarian aid and material support | 5 |
| Psycho-social support (psychologists, social workers, etc.) | 16 |
| Total | 29 |

▲ Table 4 Break-down of participants (non-carers), by sector of activity.

Annex 2 – Questions for semi-structured interviews with Ukrainian carers of children with disabilities

- **Where are you from** in Ukraine? Are any of your immediate family members still living in Ukraine?
- **How long have you been in Slovakia**, and where have you lived?
- **How did you come to Slovakia?** Did you come alone or with family/friends? Who do you live with currently?
- What is your family's current **housing situation**?
- What is your/your spouse's **work situation**?
- What is your **financial situation**? Do you currently experience any financial distress? (Can state income if willing)
- Is your **child's disability officially recognized** in Ukraine and in Slovakia? If not, have you applied for an official disability document? If you applied for a disability document, can you describe the process? If you do not possess this document, what are the reasons? (e.g., I am waiting for approval; it is administratively difficult; I do not wish to have an official document for my child because it may limit his chances of enrolment in a regular school, etc.)
- What was the general **reception you have found in Slovakia** since the beginning of the conflict? Was your child's disability accounted for? (e.g., at the border, Foreign Police, Social Affairs Office/Úrad práce, doctors, neighbors, fellow Ukrainians, etc.)
- Do you receive **cash assistance for persons with disability**, from UNHCR/UNICEF or the State? If so, do you think it sufficient to cover your child's basic needs? If not, what would be an ideal minimum amount of aid?
- Do you receive any (other) form of official **social assistance**? (e.g., free school lunches, etc.)
- Does your child attend **school/pre-school/nursery**? If so, please describe the process of enrollment. If not, why? (e.g., lack of availability, not interested in enrollment, cost, etc.)
- Have you had to use any **health services** for your child with disability in Slovakia? What has your experience been?
- Have you encountered any **negative reactions** to your child's disability? (e.g., from the neighbors, at school, etc.) Have you been prevented from using certain services/frequenting certain places because of your child's disability?
- Where and how does your family **socialize**? (e.g., groups of Ukrainian friends, meeting with Slovak friends/colleagues, church activities, etc.) Is your child with disability involved in these circles? If so, to what extent? If not, what are the barriers?
- Are you and your child **learning Slovak**? If so, where? If not, why? (e.g., I wish to return to Ukraine asap; I don't have time/money for a course, etc.)
- **What do you like about your life in Slovakia? What would you like to see improved?**

Annex 3 – Interview questions for field workers in contact with families of children with disabilities (in Slovak)

Rodinná situácia detí so ZZ z Ukrajiny

- Odkiaľ pochádzajú rodiny detí so ZZ, s ktorými pracujete (obec, región)?
- Kde aktuálne bývajú? (obec a typ ubytovania, napr. ubytovňa, záchytné centrum, podnájom, ubytovanie zadarmo u známych, atď.)
- Ako dlho sú tieto rodiny na Slovensku, a presťahovali sa od ich príchodu v rámci SK alebo späť na Ukrajinu? Ak áno, odkiaľ, kam, a prečo? (kvôli práci, škole, službám, atď.)
- Ako sa dostali na Slovensko? Prečo si vybrali práve Slovensko?
- Aké je aktuálne zloženie týchto rodín (sama matka s deťmi; otec a matka; starí rodičia a deti, atď.)?
- Aká je pracovná situácia týchto rodín?
- Aká je finančná situácia týchto rodín? Zažívajú v súčasnosti nejaké finančné ťažkosti?
- Ako ste sa spojili s danými rodinami?

Zdravotne znevýhodnené dieťa

- Aké je zdravotné znevýhodnenie detí, s ktorými pracujete? Je toto znevýhodnenie oficiálne uznané na Ukrajine a na Slovensku? Ak nie, požiadala rodina o úradný doklad o zdravotnom znevýhodnení? Ak požiadali o doklad o zdravotnom znevýhodnení, môžete opísať tento proces? Ak tento dokument nevlastnia, aké sú dôvody? (napr. čakajú na schválenie; je to administratívne náročné; nechcú mať oficiálny dokument pre svoje dieťa, pretože to môže obmedziť jeho šance na zápis do bežnej školy, atď.)
- Ako si toto dieťa zvyká na život na Slovensku?
- Aké všeobecné prijatie zaznamenala rodina na Slovensku od začiatku konfliktu? Bol braný ohľad na zdravotné znevýhodnenie ich dieťaťa so ZZ? (napr. na hraniciach, cudzi-necká polícia, úrad práce, lekári, susedia, atď.)
- Dostávali/dostávajú peňažnú pomoc pre osoby so zdravotným znevýhodnením od UNICEF alebo od štátu? Ak áno, myslíte si, že postačuje na pokrytie základných potrieb tohto dieťaťa? Ak nie, aká by bola ideálna minimálna výška pomoci?
- Dostáva rodina nejakú (inú) formu oficiálnej sociálnej pomoci? (napr. dávku v hmotnej núdzi, bezplatné školské obedy, atď.)
- Navštevuje dieťa so ZZ školu/škôlku? Ak áno, opíšte proces zápisu. Ak nie, prečo? (napr. nízky vek, vyučovanie online, nedostatočná dostupnosť, nezáujem o registráciu, náklady, atď.)
- Musela rodina využiť nejaké zdravotné služby pre dieťa so ZZ na Slovensku? Ak áno, ktoré? Aké sú ich skúsenosti s týmito službami? Existujú zdrav. služby alebo pomôcky, ktoré ich dieťa potrebuje, ale nie sú im dostupné?

- Stretla sa rodina s negatívnymi reakciami na znevýhodnenie ich dieťaťa? (napr. od susedov, v škole, na verejnosti, atď.) Bolo im zabránené využívať určité služby/navštevovať určité miesta z dôvodu znevýhodnenia ich dieťaťa?
- Kde a ako sa rodiny s deťmi so ZZ socializujú? (napr. skupiny priateľov z Ukrajiny, stretnutia so slovenskými priateľmi/kolegami, cirkevné aktivity, a pod.) Je ich dieťa so zdravotným znevýhodnením zapojené do týchto kruhov? Ak áno, do akej miery? Ak nie, aké sú prekážky?
- Učí sa rodina a ich dieťa/deti po slovensky? Ak áno, kde? Ak nie, prečo? (napr. chcú sa čo najskôr vrátiť na Ukrajinu; nemajú čas/peniaze na kurz, atď.)
- Čo sa im páči na Vašom živote na Slovensku? Čo by ste chceli, aby sa zlepšilo?

Systemový pohľad

- Čo sa nám na Slovensku darí zastrešovať z hľadiska potrieb rodín detí so zdravotným znevýhodnením z Ukrajiny? (t.j. príklady dobrej praxe)
- Čo by sme ako krajina mali zlepšovať pri zabezpečovaní potrieb týchto detí a ich rodín (štátny, súkromný, mimovládny sektor)?

Annex 4 – Informed consent form for interview data analysis in Slovak



PLATFORMA RODÍN
DETÍ SO ZDRAVOTNÝM ZNEVÝHODNENÍM



Informovaný súhlas so zberom dát za účelom situačnej analýzy a mapy potrieb

Dátum a lokalita:

Projekt: Podpora inklúzie a ochrany detí so zdravotným znevýhodnením a ich rodín z Ukrajiny a Slovenska

Svojim podpisom súhlasím s dobrovoľnou účasťou na kvalitatívnom výskume v projekte Platformy rodín detí so zdravotným znevýhodnením, financovaným organizáciou UNICEF.

Pre účely analýzy v rámci uvedeného výskumu a pre účely na neho nadväzujúcej výskumnej činnosti môže byť písomný, vizuálny alebo audio záznam tohto rozhovoru spracovaný len v anonymizovanej podobe, bez súvislosti s mojim menom a kontaktom na moju osobu. V prípade, že úryvky alebo priame citácie z tohto rozhovoru budú súčasťou verejnej prezentácie výsledkov výskumu, môžu byť uvedené len v anonymizovanej podobe. Som si vedomý/-á, že účasť na tomto výskume nie je spoplatnená ani speňažená, a že môžem svoju účasť vo výskume kedykoľvek ukončiť a požiadať, aby mnou poskytnuté informácie neboli zahrnuté vo výskumnej štúdii.

Meno a priezvisko:

Podpis:

Meno a priezvisko **osoby realizujúcej rozhovor:**

Podpis **osoby realizujúcej rozhovor:**

Kontakt **osoby realizujúcej rozhovor:**



Annex 5 – Informed consent form for interview data analysis in Ukrainian



PLATFORMA RODÍN
DETI SO ZDRAVOTNÝM ZNEVÝHODNENÍM



Інформована згода на збір даних з метою ситуаційного аналізу та потреб на карті

Дата та місце: 21/2/2023, телефоном

Проект: Підтримка інклюзії та захисту дітей з інвалідністю та їхніх сімей з України та Словаччини

Своїм підписом я даю згоду на добровільну участь у якісних дослідженнях у проєкті «Платформи сімей дітей з інвалідністю», що фінансується ЮНІСЕФ.

Для цілей аналізу в рамках згаданого дослідження та для цілей подальшої дослідницької діяльності письмовий, візуальний або аудіозапис цього інтерв'ю може оброблятися лише в анонімній формі, без зв'язку з моїм іменем та контактною інформацією. У випадку, якщо уривки або прямі цитати з цього інтерв'ю будуть частиною публічної презентації результатів дослідження, вони можуть бути представлені лише в анонімній формі. Я усвідомлюю, що участь у цьому дослідженні не оплачується та не монетизується, і що я можу припинити свою участь у дослідженні в будь-який час і вимагати, щоб надана мною інформація не була включена до дослідження.

Ім'я, Прізвище:

Підпис:

Прізвище та ім'я особи, яка проводить інтерв'ю
(Meno a priezvisko osoby realizujúcej rozhovor):

Підпис особи, яка проводить співбесіду
(Podpis osoby realizujúcej rozhovor):

Контакт особи, яка проводить співбесіду
(Kontakt osoby realizujúcej rozhovor):







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Online
analysis

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