



**Małopolska Coordination Group Meeting**  
Meeting Minutes – 9 February 2023

<b>Meeting subject:</b>	Małopolska Coordination Group Meeting
<b>Time &amp; location:</b>	9 am – UNHCR Krakow Sub-Office
<b>Chaired by:</b>	UNHCR; Open Krakow Coalition
<b>Minutes prepared by:</b>	UNHCR
<b>Participants:</b>	Małopolski Urząd Wojewódzki; DRC; FEELBEAR sp.z.oo; Fundacja Faros Elpidas Poland; Fundacja Kalina Krakow / Zupa dla Ukrainy; Fundacja Kocham Debniki; Fundacja Jednosc; Fundacja Zustricz; Halina Niec Legal Aid Center; Hope Groups; IOM; NGO Forum „Razem” /PAH; One World One Heart; Project Hope; UNHCR; UNICEF; VOICE Amplified; Wolno Nam; Zero Camps’ ZHP Chorągiew Krakowska;
<b>Agenda:</b>	<p>Introduction from the co-chairs and update on the points decided on the last Coordination meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction and updates from the co-chairs</li><li>• Updates from refugee and Ukrainian-led organizations</li><li>• Presentation from the Department of Foreigners of the Małopolska Voivodeship</li><li>• Presentation of BV Referral Pathways (UNHCR)</li><li>• AOB</li></ul>
<b>AGENDA POINT</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<b>Introduction and update on points from last meeting</b>	Participants were welcomed to the twelfth Małopolska Coordination Group meeting.

<p><b>Agenda point 1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundacja Jendnosc shared that the organization is continuing to organize a multicultural center and would like to open a school for Ukrainian children.</li> <li>• Zustricz shared that the organization currently has four centers in Krakow located on Karmelicka, Rajska, and Krolewska streets, offering activities such as psychological support, an information point, an educational center and a Ukrainian Club. Zustricz also invited participants to share information about activities outside of Krakow city. Representatives of Zustricz have been visiting smaller locations and beginning pilot programs, as these locations have often received less help.</li> <li>• Fundacja Zero Camps shared that the organization has a hostel for refugees and has recently opened “Cieplo” - a restaurant and meeting space inspired by refugees. There is currently an art exhibition taking place in “Cieplo” Following the conclusion of the current exhibition, Zero Camps will be looking to invite another artist. In addition, Cieplo is looking for individuals to work in the restaurant who can communicate in Polish and also want to improve their skills.</li> <li>• One World One Heart asked if the Cieplo space is open for the use of other organizations planning events and workshops for refugees and further whether the use is free or paid.</li> <li>• Fundacja Zero Camps responded that the use of the space can be discussed during certain hours. However, during the restaurants opening hours the restaurant needs to be open for its purpose, as the profits are keeping the restaurant open. At the current moment, hours in the first half of the day are more available, while hours in the evening are more difficult to arrange.</li> <li>• Fundacja Wolno Nam invited participants to an art exhibition on 22<sup>nd</sup> February entitled “Art Beyond Borders” in Tomaszowice. The exhibition comprises artwork of refugees in detention centers in Latvia.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda point 2</b></p>	<p>The Malopolska Voivodeship Office Department for Foreigners shared a presentation about the work of the Department and he applications procedures for temporary residence status. The Department works exclusively on the legalization of stay and employment for foreigners. However, individuals currently under temporary protection (UKR Status) will be able to begin filing for temporary residency status in the coming months.</p> <p>Key points of the presentation and question and answer session include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department reviews both applications for residency permits and for work permits for nationals of countries outside of the EU. These two permits differ, and in order to receive a work permit an applicant needs to have a legal stay.</li> </ul>

- The waiting time for the Department to respond to request varies from 60 days to 6 months depending on the type of permit applied for. Number of residency applications have doubled in previous years. As such, there is currently an increased waiting time for decisions on an application. While applicants are waiting for decisions, they may have difficulties with procedures such as traveling abroad and getting credit.
- Residents of third countries who do not have UKR status should send applications to Foreigners Office in Warsaw, not to the Foreigners Office of the Voivodeship. However, it is still unclear what fully will happen in these cases. It is similarly unclear what will happen to children in temporary care.
- If someone who has UKR status does not file for a temporary residence permit, they will not be deported from Poland. Rather, by gaining residency, individuals will be able to move around the EU. Furthermore, the EU will likely extend the temporary protection status past August.
- If someone applies for residency, they will lose UKR status at the time of application. A participant noted that this fact could make filing for residency a difficult decision for those with UKR status.
- UNHCR suggested collecting questions or arranging a separate meeting with the Foreigner’s Department when more information is available.
- The Foreigner’s Department also shared information on the Malopolska Otwarta project in which the Voivodeship Office and Marshall’s Office are partners. The goal of the project is to open info points. Some are already functional. One point at the Department provides help with questions related to the Department’s work, such as legalization of stays. Through the project there are also “Open Saturdays” during which the Foreigner’s Office is open on Saturday and matters can be taken care of.

**Agenda point 3**

- UNHCR shared with participants the GBV referral pathways document for Krakow. The document was created in cooperation with the Women and Children Working Group after it was noted that many providers are Warsaw based and that the need existed for more localized referral pathways. The referral pathways document is meant for front line workers who may come across individuals who have experiences gender-based violence. It is not only for Ukrainian refugees, but for all survivors of GBV. At the current moment the referral pathways document is available in English. Polish and Ukrainian version will be available soon. Similar documents are currently being prepared for Wroclaw and Poznan. Additionally, partners wishing to share their feedback on the document may contact Tai Sayarath ([sayarath@unhcr.org](mailto:sayarath@unhcr.org)).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One World One Heart asked if the Crisis intervention Center listed on the document provides assistance in multiple languages, as the Foundation works with different types of refugees and migrants.</li> <li>• UNHCR notes that this feedback has been taken into account and that more information about languages can be added to the document.</li> </ul>
<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Coordinator of the “Razem” NGO Form shared that a humanitarian negotiation training will take place in Krakow in March. More information will be sent to partners by email.</li> </ul>

<b>ACTION POINTS SUMMARY</b>				
<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status (as of )</b>
1.				
2				