



**Poland**  
**Third-country nationals (TCN) Sub-Sector Working Group**  
**Terms of Reference (TORs)**

## Background

By the end of March 2022, Third-country nationals (TCN) and stateless persons represent approximately 5% of the number of people crossing the border between Ukraine and Poland. They are considered as a particular group as per their increased vulnerability and specific needs. TCN in Poland face many protection challenges resulting from various factors as they do not benefit from the same legal status nor access to services as citizens of Ukraine fleeing the conflict.

To support the global response but also tailor it to this distinct group, IOM will lead the Working Group in close collaboration with the Protection Sector, national partner authorities, UN agencies, NGOs, as well as other agencies and any relevant stakeholder.

## Purpose of the Working Group

In line with the Refugee Response Plan, the Sub Sector Working Group on TCN will aim at building a comprehensive network and approach to ensure that specific needs of Third-country nationals fleeing Ukraine are addressed in the global governmental response.

## Objectives of the Working Group

With the aim of achieving the above-mentioned objective, the Sub Sector Working Group undertakes the following:

- **Mapping:** The Sub Sector Working Group will aim at ensuring systematized and updated mapping of the specific needs and challenges of TCNs and of actors and support available to TCN. This will allow for a comprehensive identification of operational needs and advocacy gaps, production of joint recommendations for responses and ensure adequate fundings/allocation of resources. The Working Group will work toward avoiding duplication of efforts and highlight synergies between relevant stakeholders in close cooperation with national and local authorities.
- **Information and communications:** The TCN Sub Sector Working Group will facilitate the production of comprehensive communication content and better coordination on the formulation as well as dissemination of key messages to TCNs and governmental authorities, drawing on consultation with TCNs. The WG will work on establishing an aligned messaging approach.
- **Advocacy:** The TCN Sub Sector Working Group is also responsible for identifying advocacy gaps and developing appropriate advocacy, together with the Protection sector, messages and tools to engage relevant governmental and non-governmental partners.
- **Monitoring:** The TCN Sub Sector Working Group will monitor the flow of TCN out of Ukraine, their needs, intentions and inform actors involved in the response on dynamics, trends, needs to ensure timely and effective engagement.

## Principles and definitions

The work of the Working Group shall be guided by the main Principles of Partnership, namely:

- Equality among partners in consultation and decision making
- Transparency among partners



- Result-oriented approach to humanitarian action
- Commitment among partners to accomplish undertaken tasks
- Complementarity between the capacity and activities of local and international actors
- Accountability

The activities of members of the Working Group shall be guided by the **Protection Principles** contained in the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response, namely:

- **Do-no-harm**: avoiding exposing people to further harm as a result of your actions as well as protect people from physical and psychological harm arising from violence and coercion.
- **Impartiality**: providing assistance in proportion to need and without discrimination.
- **Claiming rights**: Assisting people to claim their rights, access available remedies and recover from the effects of abuse.

## Geographical coverage

The TCN Working Group has a national, country-wide coverage providing strategic direction and guidance to all actors engaged in the Ukraine emergency response in Poland.

## Working Group tasks and responsibilities

- Jointly identify gaps and relevant recommendations for response through participatory methods
- Establish and maintain coordination systems to support and monitor service delivery
- Develop, apply and promote standards, guidelines and good practices, including capacity building
- Manage information to support decision making
- Advocate on behalf of affected populations and sector participants
- Ensure accountability to affected populations, including engagement with and support of the affected population, promotion of effective two-way communication reflecting languages and communication preferences of persons of concern.

## Membership and Chairing

The Working Group aims to support the global effort of the Protection Sector and all partners which are currently or planning to be engaged in actual delivery of protection services to Third-country nationals (as part of their humanitarian response to the refugee crisis).

Donors can be invited to participate in the TCN Working Group meetings as agreed upon by Members.

The TCN Working Group is led by the International Organization for Migrations (IOM). (IOM will strive to invite a national partner to co-lead the WG).

## Meeting and Reporting

The TCN Working Group will convene weekly basis, every Friday at 12pm on Microsoft teams. Ad hoc meetings may be called at short notice in case of specific issues. Minutes of the TCN Working Group meetings will be circulated among all members in a timely manner.

## Revision of Terms of Reference

The terms of reference guiding the structure and activities of the Working Group will be revised every two months and/or based on immediate needs as agreed by the members.