



Regional Refugee Response  
for the Ukraine Situation

# Shelter, Housing & Accommodation Sector

Special Act amendments: focus on collective  
centers

# Key changes in the special act

## Article 12

- Definition of the collective site: at least 10 people, public finance sector ownership or permanent management
- Management of the reception points
- Co-financing of accommodation above 120 days (50%) & above 180 days (75%) with exceptions: people with disabilities, elderly, pregnant woman or carrying for child up to 12 months or single parents of more than 3 kids of which at least one is below 14yrs, unaccompanied children.
- Co-financing payment for children in case parents receive social support for their care
- Humanitarian exemption assessed by voivode
- Voivode can sign agreement with NGO running CC with less than 10 beds. But only if its existing for 24 months and provides support for PwD, elderly and unaccompanied children
- **Abolished:** fee public transportation, cleaning and hygienic items provision, set-up and management of emergency medical support points, special assistance for persons with Covid

# Possible consequences of the changes in the special act

## Article 12

- Closures of small CC (under 10 beds).

In Małopolskie, Śląskie and Dolnośląskie, share of small CC is very high (30-35%). According to data obtained in Dec 23 – Jan 24, app. 2.000 refugees are benefiting from this type of accommodation.

- Humanitarian exemptions will be now assessed by Voivode office.

There is a possibility that the process might become very long and thus ineffective.

- Possible agreements with NGO to run CCs

The definition of such CC sites is very narrow, and it might not be applicable for many existing CC. On top of that, MOI promised fast track agreements with NGOs so they would become financed from art. 12.

- **CCs ongoing closures**

The process of closures, decongestion and merging, that has started last year, and was related to cost optimization, is still on-going. As of end of June, 2 large CCs in Małopolska and 1 in Lubelskie are announced to be closed.

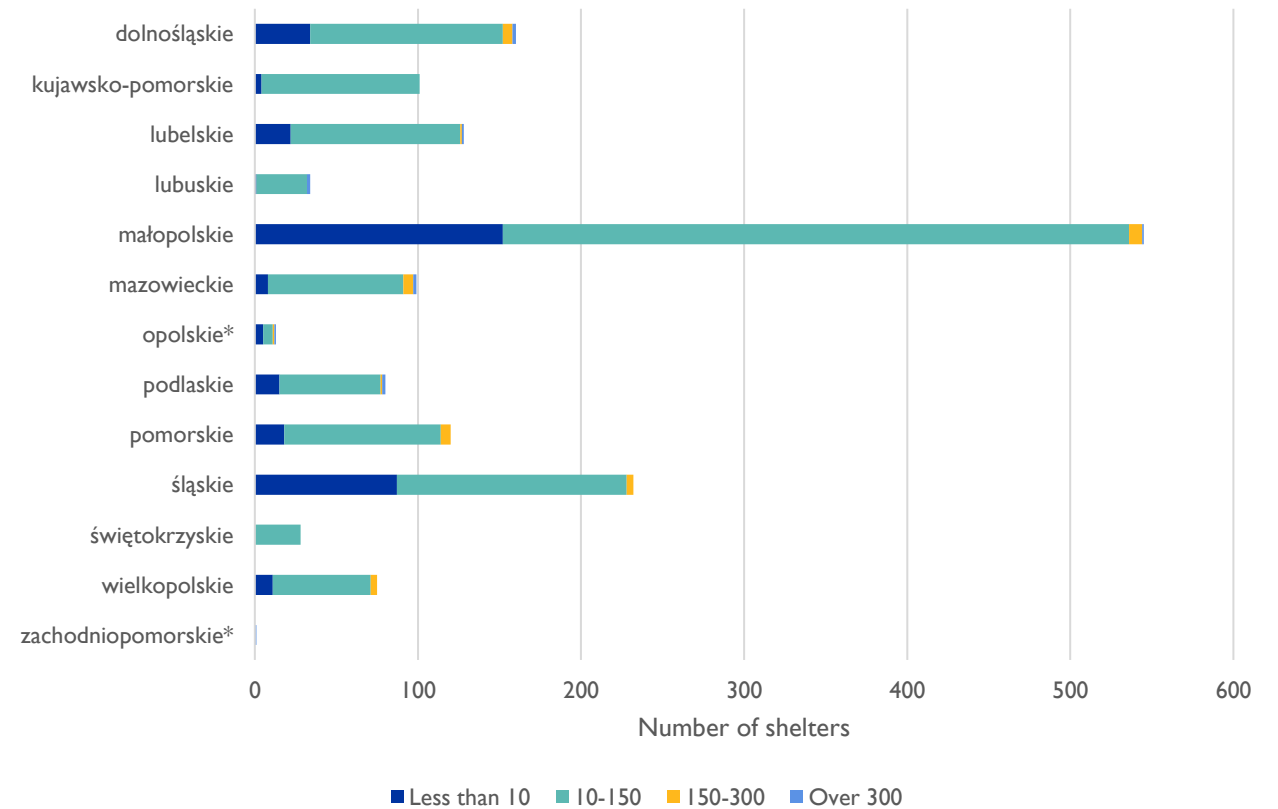
- **Solutions for ethnical minorities** – none. Recommended technical discussion with MOI/Voivod.

# Collective Centers – based on data from public enquiry submitted to Voivodships as per end of December 2023

Overall number of CC according to their capacity



Capacity of CC per voivodeship



\*voivodeships with less than 20 data entries

# Key changes in the special act

## **Article 13 and 13a**

- Abolished

At the meeting with Mazowiecki Voivodship Office on 4th June, it was mentioned that private owners will be able to submit their refund claims until end of July 2024.

## **Article 68.1**

- No changes: law protecting tenants is not applicable
- New paragraph 2: the owner can ask Ukrainian tenants in written to leave previously shared premises.  
Relevant voivode is to provide accommodation support as per art. 12 according to needs

# Possible consequences of the changes in the special act

## Article 13

Cancellation of so-called 40+ financial support for private home/apartments owners for providing accommodation

- Many NGOs were running their CC under this article, as mentioned agreements to transfer them under art. 12 with Voivods are not in place everywhere. During the meeting with Mazowiecki Voivodship office, it was mentioned that enquiries from UKR refugees regarding accommodation have significantly increased in last weeks. CFR actors also see much higher interest.
- MOI has launched a large-scale project in collaboration with PCK & PCPM to support accommodation needs on the private market. Target is 6000 families (18.000 – 24.000 ppl).
- NOTE: in a meeting at MOI that took place in the end of March, we were informed of 50.000 people benefiting from the 40+ financial support.

**Risks:** premature decisions to return to Ukraine, homelessness, pressure on already stretched housing market resulting in further prices increase.

**Meeting with Mazowiecki Voivodship:** information campaign for available accommodation is still planned and supposed to be launched soon(?); special task force is currently working at the MOI to establish clear guidelines for humanitarian exemptions, CC agreements and management, criteria to accommodate refugees seeking support after the change in law etc.