

## **Recommendations for the Biden Administration on Refugee Protection and Humanitarian Assistance to Ukraine**

*March 2022*

**Refugee Processing:** Ensure swift processing of pending refugee applications for Ukrainians, and non-Ukrainians who had been in Ukraine, at all potential processing locations and especially in Ukraine's neighboring countries. Cases of current and new Ukrainian applicants who qualify for the Lautenberg program should be expedited.

**Family Reunification:** Facilitate [family reunification](#) processing to reunite loved ones, such as by processing Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians who had been displaced in Ukraine with pending I-130 family petitions through the U.S. resettlement program.

**Unaccompanied Children:** Given the extraordinary numbers of children who have fled Ukraine, paying particular attention to their unique vulnerabilities is important, as is ensuring a strong multi-agency coordinating body with the ability to quickly share data between agencies, enhanced tracing and reunification capabilities, and additional training regarding assessing children's refugee claims. The administration should make use of the lessons learned during Operations Allies Welcome about best practices for identifying, tracking, and reunifying unaccompanied and separated children.

**Humanitarian Assistance:** Support non-governmental organizations in Ukraine and neighboring countries to assist internally displaced individuals or individuals seeking asylum in Ukraine and other host countries. The administration should further invest in humanitarian and displacement assistance and to support UNHCR's emergency response efforts to ensure people have access to shelter, food, medicine, and other forms of humanitarian aid in Ukraine and neighboring countries.

**Special Student Relief:** Immediately [designate Special Student Relief \(SSR\)](#) to protect Ukrainian students in the United States.