



# THE EUROPEAN UNION AND UKRAINE

#StrongerTogether  
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## Ukraine is a priority partner for the European Union

The EU stands united in its **unwavering support to Ukraine** in the face of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified aggression and the illegal annexation of Ukrainian territory

by the Russian Federation and continues to condemn this violation of international law. The EU remains steadfast in its commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The EU has stepped up its **political, humanitarian, financial support and military assistance** to Ukraine and is imposing **massive sanctions** against the Kremlin to cripple its war machine.

The **Association Agreement (AA)**, including its **Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)**, signed in 2014, is the legal framework bringing Ukraine and the EU closer together, promoting deeper political ties, stronger economic links and respect for common values. Visa-free travel for Ukrainian citizens with biometric passports entered into force in 2017.

The Commission has proposed an unprecedented financial support package of up to **€18 billion** for Ukraine in 2023

So far, Team Europe has mobilised over **€19.7 billion** in financial, budget support and humanitarian assistance

And an additional **€3.1 billion** in military assistance for Ukraine has been made available under the European Peace Facility

On **28 February 2022**, Ukraine presented its application for EU membership.

On **17 June**, the Commission delivered its Opinion.

On **23 June**, the European Council endorsed the European Commission Opinion and granted candidate status to Ukraine.

The DCFTA has supported the continuous increase of bilateral trade between the EU and Ukraine. The EU has reinforced its position as Ukraine's number one trading partner, accounting for close to 40% of Ukraine's total international trade





## EU SUPPORT TO UKRAINE IN RESPONSE TO THE RUSSIAN INVASION

Following the European Council meeting of 20-21 October 2022, the Commission has proposed an unprecedented support package for Ukraine of up to **€18 billion** for 2023, in the form of highly concessional loans. Thanks to this stable, regular and predictable financial assistance (averaging **€1.5 billion per month**) Ukraine will be able to keep on paying wages and pensions and maintain essential public services running, such as hospitals, schools, and housing for relocated people. It will also allow Ukraine to ensure macroeconomic stability, and restore critical infrastructure destroyed by Russia in its war of aggression.

Since the Russian aggression, the EU, Member States and Financial Institutions have mobilised over **€19.7 billion in financial, humanitarian, emergency and budget support** to Ukraine.

This includes **€4.2 billion** in EU macro-financial assistance and **€620 million** in budget support and a further **€3 billion** in macro-financial assistance will be disbursed by the end of

the year. The EU will provide **€100 million** to rehabilitate damaged schools.

A **€330 million emergency package** announced in March is focused on the immediate needs of internally displaced persons, including social housing and repair of damaged infrastructure, in particular heating, water and sewage facilities, as well as support to resilient digital transformation and cyber security, independent media and civil society, while previous on-going projects worth **€185 million** have been adjusted to meet urgent needs on the ground.

An additional **€3.1 billion** has been made available under the **European Peace Facility** to deliver military equipment to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

People fleeing the war in Ukraine can receive **temporary protection in any EU country**, including residence permits, access to the labour market and housing, medical assistance and access to education for children.



The Commission has allocated **€485 million for humanitarian aid** programmes in Ukraine to be implemented by humanitarian partners on the ground. In addition, over 70,000 tonnes of in-kind assistance worth **€440 million** has been delivered to Ukraine from EU Member States and third partners via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. This includes via the **RescEU** emergency stockpiles, almost **€34 million** worth of medical and specialised equipment for public health risks such as chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats for Ukraine have been delivered.

The EU has also successfully coordinated **1,000 medical evacuations** of Ukrainian patients via its Civil Protection Mechanism to provide them with specialised healthcare in hospitals across Europe.

Through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, 17 EU countries have also sent **500 power generators** to Ukraine.

Since the beginning of the war, the EU has stepped up its immediate support to strengthen Ukraine's **cyber resilience** with **€10 million** for equipment, software and other related support. A further **€15 million** from the €330 million package has been provided to support **resilient digital transformation**.

As part of a wider €79 million rapid reaction support measures for early recovery and rehabilitation, the EU is also supporting the fight against impunity in Ukraine with a **€7.5 million** project to support the International Criminal Court **investigations into war crimes committed by Russia**. An EU Joint Investigation Team set up with Poland, Lithuania and Ukraine, is also supported by Europol and Eurojust.

The EU is providing **€31 million** to support civil society under the Civil Society and the Human rights and Democracy Thematic programmes.

The EU is also providing support via IFIs, such as the EIB and EBRD, by providing EU guarantees that enable them to lend to the Ukrainian government and companies providing vital services.

**€1 billion**, including contributions from the Commission, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank Group, are being mobilised for the Solidarity Lanes to increase global food security and provide a lifeline for Ukraine's economy.



# RECOVERY RESILIENCE REFORM

## INSTITUTIONS

The 'U-LEAD with Europe' programme aims to increase the capacity of local self-government to ensure **good local governance and regional development**, and to offer quality services to citizens, with an overall envelope of **€158 million for the period 2016-2023**. This programme has become a key emergency responder at the local level during the war.

## ECONOMY

As part of the EU solidarity response with Ukraine, the EU has proposed to suspend import duties on all Ukrainian exports to the EU and all EU anti-dumping and safeguard measures in place on Ukrainian steel exports for one year and set out an action plan to establish 'EU-Solidarity Lanes' to ensure Ukraine can export grain, but also import the goods it needs, from humanitarian aid to animal feed and fertilisers. Since the start of the war The EU-Solidarity Lanes enabled over 60% of Ukraine's grain exports, i.e. amounting to

**15.4 million tonnes.**

## SOCIETY

On 4 March, the EU unanimously agreed to trigger the Temporary Protection Directive giving rights to a **residence permit for at least one year**, access to the labour market and housing, medical assistance, and access to education for children to the people fleeing the Russian aggression. More than **4.4 million** Ukrainians have received temporary protection in the EU.

## GREEN

The EU supports security of energy supply by increasing gas reverse flows, electricity grid synchronisation since March 2022, and by substantial investments of the **Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund**. Ukraine will be able to benefit from EU common purchase of gas, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and hydrogen. In 2021, the EU and Ukraine launched a dedicated dialogue on the European Green Deal and Ukraine's Green Transition.

## DIGITAL

In order to address the consequences of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the EU has mobilised **€25 million** to increase Ukraine's cyber and digital resilience. Out of this, €10 million has been used for equipment, software and other related support, whilst a further €15 million from the €330 emergency package is supporting resilient digital transformation.



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