

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
Regional Governor of Plovdiv Region

**The Plovdiv - Ukraine Coordination Center** will start working today (01.03.2022) in the Regional Administration of Plovdiv Region. The Center will synchronize the work of local authorities, regional state bodies and NGOs to provide timely and comprehensive assistance and support to Ukrainian citizens fleeing the war who arrive on the territory of the Plovdiv region.

This was announced by the Governor of Plovdiv region Yordan Ivanov, on whose initiative today was held a coordination meeting with the mayors of municipalities in Plovdiv region, representatives of the administration, state institutions, NGOs, employers, trade unions.

A real environment will be created for the institutions to work, as the Centre will collect and provide information on all possible resources for accommodation of Ukrainian citizens, support the campaign of the Bulgarian Red Cross (BRC) for humanitarian aid, coordinate actions related to the settlement of employment relations of Ukrainian citizens, according to their mode of residence on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, liaise with institutions in the education system, provide jobs, etc.

Plovdiv-Ukraine Coordination Centre also opened a 24-hour telephone line - the number is **+359 32 605550**.

The email address for contact, information and questions to the Center is [oa@pd.government.bg](mailto:oa@pd.government.bg)

Work of the Plovdiv-Ukraine Coordination Centre in different areas:

- **Accommodation resources:** data on accommodation resources for Ukrainian citizens will be collected and updated weekly. Information will be collected by the Bulgarian Red Cross – about provided private accommodation homes, from all municipalities on the territory of Plovdiv region, from other organizations and citizens willing to help. All this will be stored in the Coordination Centre and will be made available when needed.
- **Labour relations:** the Labour Inspectorate, together with the Regional Administration, will provide full institutional support to both the Ukrainian citizens in need who have arrived in the region and to the Plovdiv businesses, so that these people can be legally introduced into the labour market.
- **Education:** the Director of the Regional Education Inspectorate, Antoaneta Pakova, pledged to ensure that no child on the territory of the district, regardless of their residency status and whether they speak Bulgarian or not, will be enrolled in the Bulgarian education system.
- **Business:** the Coordination Centre will work in close cooperation with the "Thrace Economic Zone" and "Business for Plovdiv", which has already provided 100 jobs with accommodation for citizens from Ukraine.
- **Bulgarian Red Cross campaign:** At Stoycho Mushanov str, 48 donations for Ukrainian citizens will be collected. Only new clothes and shoes, bed linen and blankets will be accepted, used items with compromise, can also be accepted, provided they are well sanitized, any hygiene materials, tents,

heaters, lanterns and generators. The Bulgarian Red Cross is fully prepared to send the donations to the necessary points in Ukraine after collection and packaging. At this stage there is no need to collect food items, so the organization is not accepting them, but is ready to start a campaign if necessary.

- **Healthcare:** 50 beds for adults and 10 beds for children and neonatal treatment have been opened in the University Hospital Plovdiv AD Plovdiv, which will be completely free of charge for medical care and treatment of Ukrainian citizens. The hospital will provide medical and neonatal services to patients with medical and neonatal conditions. St. George's Hospital is also ready to open beds if necessary.
- **Security services:** the security services shall stand ready to provide logistical, transport and any other kind of support according to their competence.

The Plovdiv - Ukraine Coordination Centre, will work in sync with the Council of Ministers and the national level policies. All information gathered will be sent at least once a week to both the Council of Ministers, so that there is clarity on available resources for assistance, and to the Center for Bessarabian Bulgarians and the Municipality of Bolgrad, Ukraine.

Plovdiv Regional Administration will prepare an information bulletin with complete information on employment opportunities, education, health, accommodation and residence in Bulgaria.

A procedure under the protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria to initiate a meeting of the Regional Governor of Plovdiv Region Yordan Ivanov and the Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Plovdiv Dimitar Georgiev is also underway.

Psychological support is available in coordination with the Plovdiv-Ukraine Centre on **0800 114 66**.

Funds can be donated via **SMS to 1466** (cost 1 BGN) to all mobile operators.

A donation account of the Bulgarian Red Cross for the victims of the crisis in Ukraine was also opened:

**BULGARIAN RED CROSS**

**UNICREDIT BULBANK AD**

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