

The Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee



***Aiding Ukrainian Immigrants in Preserving Their Cultural
Values***

-Research Report-

Mihai-Teodor Ailincăi

-Chairperson-

Andrei Miclaus

-Chairperson-

Table of contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Definition of key terms**
- 3. History and Timeline**
- 4. Key Issues**
- 5. Major Parties Involved**
- 6. Evaluation of previous attempts**
- 7. Possible solutions**
- 8. Bibliography**
- 9. Appendices**

1. INTRODUCTION

"A people without the knowledge of their history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots."

Looking at this quote by Marcus Garvey, we can only find it most assimilated to the current topic. The human race was always in touch with their cultural values and always rather ambitious in trying to better improve their lives. Nowadays, the world is tackling great threats and difficulties, the most recent one being the Russia-Ukraine war. Leading to its catastrophic events, members of the Ukraine nationality came to many countries to settle and continue with their lives. That particular aspect, is, of course, most reassuring, since our top priority in this conflict is the well-being of the Ukrainian citizens. Although they are able to continue their lives safely and soundly, the worry of their loss of ancestral roots is arising. As one is connected to its culture by tradition, they are in grave danger of losing such touches. This topic makes us question ourselves: Should we let the culture of the Ukrainian people go to waste or should we act upon the matter?

2. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Immigrants = the international movement of people to a destination country of which they are not natives or where they do not possess citizenship in order to settle as permanent residents or naturalized citizens.

Cultural Values = are the core principles and ideals upon which an entire community exists and protect and rely upon for existence and harmonious relationship.

Refugees = is a person who has lost the protection of his or her country of origin and who cannot or is unwilling to return there

3. HISTORY AND TIMELINE

10 November 2021, reports from the USA confirmed the unusual movement of Russian troops near Ukraine.

28 November 2021, Ukraine declared there to be 92.000 Russian troops.

7 December 2021, US President Joe Biden warns President Vladimir Putin of measures that are to be taken if Russia pushes the troops into the territory of Ukraine.

17 December 2021, Putin proposes a prohibition on Ukraine from joining NATO, which Ukraine rejects.

19 January 2022, the US gives Ukraine \$200 million in security aid.

24 January 2022, NATO puts troops on standby, while Russian exercises involving 6,000 troops and 60 jets take place in Russia near Ukraine and Crimea.

17 February 2022, fighting escalated in separatist regions of eastern Ukraine.

21 February 2022, Vladimir Putin ordered Russian forces to enter Ukraine. He also announced Russian recognition of two pro-Russian breakaway regions in eastern Ukraine (the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic). This announcement led to the first round of economic sanctions from NATO countries the following day.

24 February – 7 April 2022, The first phase of attacks arise from Russian territory, directing the fights from the northeast and Kyiv towards the south and east of Ukraine

8 April – 11 September 2022, Fighting continues in the east and south of Ukraine with even more casualties and pushing Ukraine into surrender

12 September – 9 November 2022 - Ukrainian forces retook substantial ground during counteroffensives in the south and east, to 9 November 2022 when Ukrainian troops retook Kherson. Starting in October, Russia began a campaign of massive strikes against Ukrainian infrastructure.

10 November 2022 – present time - both Ukrainian counteroffensives ended. Starting in October, Russia began a campaign of massive strikes against Ukrainian infrastructure, which continued into the next phase. Russia achieved some advances, starting with the capture of Soledar on 16 January 2023.

In recent times, Ukrainian people have immigrated to countries open to helping the cause.

4. KEY ISSUES

There are different kinds of concerns regarding this particular issue. Among them, one of the most important is the culture of new-born Ukrainians on unfamiliar grounds, drifting them further apart from their culture and civilization, which can cause much capital loss in the future of Ukraine, since the future generations are not at all linked to their ancestral values.

Another very important issue is the history of the country, since the loss of cultural values can affect future events.

A final concern - that is rather controversial - is the one regarding the veterans of the countries that immigrated alongside their families, in need to express their cultural side and teach their descendants.

5. MAJOR PARTIES INVOLVED

The International Organization for Migration (IOM)

- is part of the United Nations System as the leading inter-governmental organization promoting ever since 1951 humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, with 175 member states and a presence in over 100 countries.
- It is the main organization that supports immigrants. This has been proven in many instances, by their mobilizing teams and boosting capacity in Ukraine and neighbouring

- countries to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Ukrainians forced to flee the country, those internally displaced, and stranded third-country nationals.

The countries that are considered to be the most involved in the aid of Ukrainian Immigrants are:

-Poland: As Russian troops invaded, over seven and a half million Ukrainian refugees fled across the borders to Poland. Thousands of Polish volunteers mobilized to help the displaced and welcome them into their homes, schools, and business.

With no end in sight to the conflict, Poland faces a new challenge-settling these arrivals for the long term.

To help integrate the Ukrainian refugees, the European Investment Bank approved a 2 billion euros loan, signed in June this year. The financing is made under the Eu bank's Solidarity Package for Ukraine, prepared in cooperation with the European commission. Poland has been or great help to the cause, taking 1.5 million refugees per capita.

-Germany: Germany stands in strong solidarity with the people of Ukraine and is providing billions in aid – support that is by far not limited to military equipment, also taking approximately one million refugees per capita.

The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine has brought immeasurable suffering to millions of people. Russia is specifically targeting civilian infrastructure, such as the systems that supply electricity and heat, and is thereby depriving people of the basic necessities of life. This is why the German Government is giving top priority to helping to provide Ukrainians with precisely what they need. Consequently, Germany is supporting Ukraine and its neighbouring countries through humanitarian assistance, as well as helping meet the needs of internally displaced persons and refugees.

Since the outbreak of the war, the German Government has made available more than 12.5 billion euros in bilateral support; this aid includes a substantial winter assistance program, helping those who have fled Ukraine, and assisting efforts to investigate war crimes.

-The Czech Republic: The Czech Republic has also been involved in helping the cause by taking approximately 500.000 refugees per capita. The country has also been participating in the building of new infrastructures for refugees with the help of their Ministry of Interior, which will, eventually, be able to safely get any immigrant into a safe home.

-Romania: Romania was one of the first countries to show interest in the bordering state, by establishing a high-level task force, run by the Prime Minister. The purpose of the task force is to release a series of normative acts to legalize the population fleeing from the war in Ukraine and provide them with access to services around Romania. The country is also one of the first to implement high-level safehouses and provide shelter for refugees.

-Hungary: Since the war in Ukraine began on 24 February 2022, over 2,443,583 people have crossed into Hungary directly from Ukraine or via third countries, the majority women and children ($\approx 69\%$), as well as older people and those with disabilities. UNHCR has opened information centres called “Blue Dots.” Two static Blue Dots and one mobile Blue dot are operational with partners Baptist Church Aid and Menedék in Tiszabecs, Zahony, and throughout Hungary. Summer schools were supported throughout Hungary for Ukrainian students to better integrate into the upcoming Hungarian school system. Language courses were also provided to adults in addition to Hungarian cultural and workforce development courses.

-Moldova: Around 90,000 Ukrainian refugees have taken refuge in Moldova from the fighting in Ukraine, and the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova (CNSM), with support from the ILO (the International Labour Organization), has stepped in to help.

The CNSM has made its properties available to refugees and their families. They are being housed in the Institute of Labour in the capital, Chisinau, and in sanatoriums, and

are also receiving three meals a day. The program is being supported by the ILO, along with other donors and the Moldovan government.

“CNSM is dedicated to assist people in need. When refugees began to arrive from the war in Ukraine, we immediately started a solidarity operation to assist those most in need. With support from ILO and other partners, we have been able to provide food and shelter for thousands of refugees. It shows the versatility of the trade union movement and the impact of international solidarity,” CNSM President, Igor Zubcu said.

So far, the CNSM scheme has delivered more than 20,000 bed nights – or roughly 85 bed nights per day – which has cost US\$ 71,000. Of this, the ILO has supported 3,550 bed-nights

-Slovakia: Financial support for the accommodation of persons who fled the war in Ukraine will continue to be available at least during the summer, the Slovak Interior Ministry announced. Initially, the financial support was granted up until the end of June 2022. The ministry is preparing a new resolution now.

The Slovak government also launches an allowance for food that will be available to refugees as of June. The details are to be announced, but it is expected that the food allowance will also be available throughout the summer, the interior ministry website reads.

Food compensation is possible thanks to an amendment to the Asylum Act introduced within the framework of Lex Ukraine 3.

-France: Ukrainian citizens holding a biometric passport do not need a short-stay visa to travel to the Schengen area and thus to France.

Those who wish to travel to France and do not have a biometric passport (or do not have a travel document) are invited to go to one of the consular offices in the countries bordering Ukraine (Poland, Romania, Hungary, etc.) so that their situation can be examined (to obtain a visa or a travel pass).

Within the Schengen area, Ukrainian nationals have a legal stay of 90 days. They can, if they wish, obtain protection in the country where they are staying.

Any other person displaced from Ukraine who is not a Ukrainian citizen should inquire about the conditions to come to France for a short stay (less than 90 days).

-USA: Since the start of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine on February 24, 2022, USAID has remained committed to helping Ukraine win the war against the Kremlin's aggression and, ultimately, win the peace by emerging strong and capable of continuing to advance as a sovereign, independent, democratic, and prosperous society, free to choose its own future.

USAID has focused on meeting Ukraine's urgent needs while maintaining support for long-term development goals: helping Ukraine maintain a well-functioning state with strong institutions free of corruption; fostering a vibrant, inclusive economy, a free press, and robust civil society; encouraging greater citizen engagement in civic activities and democratic processes; and helping build a health system that is transparent, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the Ukrainian people.

To help meet Ukraine's wartime needs and lay the foundation for a successful recovery, USAID has provided \$13 billion in direct budget support, helping the Government of Ukraine fund basic public services like healthcare, education, and emergency response; \$1.4 billion in humanitarian assistance to save lives and meet the urgent needs of the Ukrainian people; and over \$800 million in development assistance to bolster Ukraine's energy grid, governance institutions, agriculture, small businesses, and civil society in wartime, while also remaining focused on what will be needed for recovery and reconstruction.

6. EVALUATION OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS

In 2012, during a UN summit, inside the SOCHUM committee, a resolution with the same purpose - that being the preservation of cultural values along immigrants and minorities - was signed.

That particular resolution had many Operative Clauses that were put in order, but those specific clauses do not apply in the current situation, due to the numerous aspects of the issue previously mentioned.

The Ukrainian people have not just immigrated due to the need for a new ethnicity, but because they were forced by the war, this marking the need for a new resolution to solve this urgent matter, that being the preservation of their cultural values.

7. POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

By looking at the many threats triggered by the neglecting of the cultural values of immigrants faced by various nations all around the globe, there seem to be two main viable solutions: either develop a program in schools and also outside for adults, with the help of war veterans to further develop the education and history of the culture in Ukraine; and implementing physical attractions related to culture throughout the countries, with the approval of the Federal Ministry of Housing, Urban Development, and Building.

8. BIBLIOGRAFY

- <https://help.unhcr.org/>
- http://www.ijhssnet.com/journals/Vol_5_No_2_February_2015/30.pdf
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-60555472.amp>
- https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/HR-PUB-12-07_en.pdf

9. APPENDICES

- https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/HR-PUB-12-07_en.pdf
- the previous resolution on the subject
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7291808/> - ideas for preserving the cultural values
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/amp/news/2023/2/18/russia-ukraine-war-list-of-key-events-day-360> - further develop on the Russia-Ukraine war