Switzerland extends temporary protection status (status S) for Ukrainians until 2027

The Swiss Federal Council has decided to maintain the temporary protection status (status S) for displaced persons from Ukraine until 4 March 2027. Support measures for beneficiaries under Programme S are also extended to this date.

The Federal Council determined that the conditions for maintaining protection remain fulfilled, as a lasting stabilisation in Ukraine is not foreseeable in the medium term. This decision provides clarity for cantons, municipalities and employers for the next 18 months. Switzerland will reassess the situation if conditions in Ukraine improve significantly.

Following a parliamentary motion by Councillor Esther Friedli, Switzerland introduced a new rule distinguishing between Ukrainian regions. Temporary protection will now only be granted to people from areas under Russian occupation or active conflict zones. Returns are currently deemed possible to the regions of Volyn, Rivne, Lviv, Ternopil, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi. Individuals already with status S and their family members in Ukraine are not affected by the change. The State Secretariat for Migration will regularly review which regions are considered safe and adjust the list as needed.

Applications for status S will continue to be assessed individually. If a person comes from a region where a return is deemed reasonable, the application will be rejected, though they may apply for asylum or receive provisional admission if a return is impossible.

The new regulation takes effect on 1 November 2025 and applies to all pending and future status S applications. On the same date, new travel rules enter into force, allowing status S holders to visit Ukraine for up to 15 days per semester (instead of per quarter).

The Federal Council also extended funding for integration measures under Programme S until March 2027. The Confederation will continue contributing CHF 3,000 per person per year to support language learning, education access and labour market integration.

Source(s)

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- Federal Council | Der Bundesrat | Conseil fédéral | Consiglio federale (8 October, 2025), Le statut de protection S est maintenu [Protection status S is maintained], https://www.news.admin.ch/fr/newnsb/3q4IMpZVrA6n

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