President of Ukraine meets with Czech officials in Prague

On 5 May 2025, members of the Czech government met with the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, and representatives of the Ukrainian government. The Czech Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, Vít Rakušan, together with the Ukrainian Minister for National Unity, Oleksiy Chernyshov, signed a joint statement on the establishment of the Unity Hub in Prague, which will serve as a contact point for Ukrainian citizens in the Czech Republic. The Unity Hub will be established in July 2025 and its primary tasks will include providing information to Ukrainian citizens on issues related to the status of temporary protection as well as voluntary return and reintegration in Ukraine. The Unity Hub will also serve as support for the Ukrainian community in Czechia; will organise cultural and educational events, and offer the space for educational and professional development opportunities.

Temporary protection for Ukrainian refugees is activated in the EU until March 2026 and its future will depend on the current situation. According to the Czech Minister of the Interior, in the event of an agreement on a sustainable ceasefire, the Czech Republic will promote the rapid termination of temporary protection for all new arrivals and the implementation of returns. As Vít Rakušan pointed out, in order to achieve this goal, it is necessary for the Ukrainian government to actively assist with the reintegration of its citizens directly in Ukraine.

At the moment, 370 thousand Ukrainian citizens have temporary protection in the Czech Republic. 160 thousand are employed, which is 60% of those who can be employed. Since 15 May 2024, the Czech Ministry of the Interior has been offering assistance with voluntary return to those who have decided to end their stay in Czechia.

Source(s)

- Ministry of the Interior | Ministerstvo Vnitra (5 May, 2025), Vít Rakušan jednal s prezidentem Ukrajiny a členy tamní vlády. Podepsal důležitý dokument o vzniku návratového centra Unity Hub v Česku [Vít Rakušan met with the President of Ukraine and members of the government. He signed an important document on the establishment of the Unity Hub return center in the Czech Republic],

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https://mv.gov.cz/clanek/vit-rakusan-jednal-s-prezidentem-ukrajiny-a-cleny-tamni-vlady-podepsal-dulezity-dokument-o-vzniku-navratoveho-centra-unity-hub-v-cesku.aspx

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