

UKRAINIAN CITIZENS IN TURKEY

IMMIGRATION – RESIDENCE – EMPLOYMENT



Entry and Residence

Within the scope of the valid visa exemption agreement between Turkey and Ukraine, **citizens of Ukraine can enter Turkey with a passport or ID and stay in the country legally with a visa exemption for up to 90 days.**

Deputy Minister and Spokesperson of the Ministry of Interior of Turkey announced that 20 thousand 550 Ukrainian citizens have entered Turkey in the first two weeks since the beginning of the Russian occupation on February 24, 2022. Reminding that Ukrainian citizens have a 90-day visa exemption, the deputy minister emphasized that the necessary convenience will be provided for those who complete relevant period. In other words, for those who will stay longer than 90 days, an application must be made to the Presidency of Migration Management for a residence permit. For the Ukrainian citizens who entered Turkey legally but could not leave before the conflict period, the Governorships were instructed to provide the necessary convenience in their residence permit applications.

Work permit

Ukrainian citizens cannot work in Turkey without a work permit during both the visa exemption and residence permit period. They must obtain a work permit to engage in professional activities in Turkey.

In case a Ukrainian citizen resides in Turkey, **the work permit application is made to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security by the employer who will employ the Ukrainian citizen. To make an application from within the country, the Ukrainian citizen must have a residence permit for at least 6 months.** The application must be made by the employer and it is not possible for the person to apply for a work permit himself/herself. Ukrainian citizens are subject to Law No. 6458 on Foreigners and International Protection and to the Law No. 6735 on International Labour. In the last months, no other legal regulation has been made to facilitate the processes for residence permits or work permits for Ukrainian citizens.

Istanbul, 20.04.2022

Contact

Senem Güçlüer

Istanbul attorney at law, partner

senem.gucluer@schindhelm.com

ISTANBUL

GEMS Schindhelm

istanbul@schindhelm.com