



Ministry of Education

Department for Education and Training System Head of Department

To the Directors-General and Heads of Regional
Education Offices

To the Heads of State Education Institutions

c. Al Sovrintendent School
for the School in Italian in Bolzano

To the school student
for the German-language School of Bolzano

To the school student
for the School of Ladine Sites of Bolzano

To the Head of the Department of Education
of the Province of Trento

Al Sovrintendent School
for the Valle d'Aosta Region

Head of Department of the Department of Civil
Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior

Head of Department of the Department for Human,
Financial and Material Resources of the Ministry of
Education

Subject: School reception of Ukrainian students out of school. First indications and resources.

Our country, together with its European partners, is committed to ensuring humanitarian reception for those fleeing the territories affected by the war in Ukraine.

Many children in school age are growing very rapidly, forced to 'suspend' their normal daily life and leave their land of origin in order to flee and start an uncertain journey. Among the multiple needs to be addressed, it is a priority to ensure that they continue their education and training, not least so that they can regain minimum conditions of daily 'normality'.

As things stand, it is not possible to predict the number of people who will come to our country in search of protection, but the first available data shows, among the Ukrainian exiles entering Italy, a very high proportion of minors, partly accompanied by their family members and, in many cases, tragically alone or temporarily placed in the care of family friends.

This Ministry and the educational institutions of the national education system are now called upon to make every effort to accommodate Ukrainian school-age exiles, giving them all the necessary support and support to this end.



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Reception of schools

Italian schools have long been committed to ensuring that foreign minors fulfil their training requirements by applying, including to them, institutions and guarantees concerning the right to education, access to educational services and participation in the life of school communities.

The Consolidated Immigration Act (Article 38 of Legislative Decree No 286 of 25 July 1998) guarantees the right to study for foreign minors present on Italian territory and provides for the application of the relevant national provisions. The same protection is granted to minors seeking international protection and to minors who are the children of applicants for international protection (Article 21 of Legislative Decree No 142 of 18 August 2015), as well as to unaccompanied foreign minors for whom provision is made for the preparation of specific projects using the appeal or coordination of cultural mediators (Article 14 of Law No 47 of 7 April 2017).

In application of the above provisions, the schools and regional education offices — in their divisions of regional directorates and local offices, in the exercise of their usual supporting and supporting functions — will take steps to achieve the educational integration of students fleeing war, ensuring integration as close as possible to the places where they find asylum.

School leaders and regional education offices will take into account the particular fragility of each of the exiles received, resulting from the uprooting of their communities and, in more than one case, their removal from one or both parents. Care must be taken, as far as possible, to ensure that the network of relations between refugees and their families is not dispersed, by encouraging links with permanently integrated Ukrainian communities in Italy, in order to avoid any form of isolation and facilitate integration. For this reason, it will also be necessary to promote as much as possible the preservation of small groups of origin, *primarily* households, and then by considering that they belong to the same territorial or geographical community.

In receiving children and young people at school, reference may be made to multiple *peer education and peer tutoring experiences, particularly* in the early stages of the approach to ITABASE, as well as to the tried and tested use of bilingual or mother tongue teaching materials. It is also recommended that utmost care be taken to involve the family unit with which the students arrived and to link up time between school and time outside school, in order to offer opportunities for socialisation, recreation or sports, for example.

Psychological support

The severity and abrupt nature of the events that occurred must have caused traumatic effects, especially for the smallest ones, which require adequate psychological support. To this end, schools will be able to use the funds allocated by Article 1 (697) of Law No 234 of 30 December 2021 to provide psychological assistance to Ukrainian students and families whose distress is associated.



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the epidemiological emergency has been severely exacerbated by war events. The measure allocating the resources in question to State educational institutions is currently being finalised.

Linguistic support

The language barrier is the first obstacle to educational action that schools are called upon to carry out, particularly in the reception, support and socialisation phase. It is therefore necessary for school staff to be able to be supported by linguistic and cultural mediators that facilitate interpersonal interaction and communication. This also requires the intervention of the Regional School Offices, which, through their local offices, will coordinate the actions of the schools with those of the ELLs, which are competent in this area, in order to activate their own linguistic and cultural mediators.

Financial resources for first school support

As an initial support for educational institutions in the delicate reception and integration task, this Ministry has, as a matter of urgency, sought an initial allocation of EUR 1.000.000 to be allocated to the educational institutions involved significantly in the reception activities referred to above.

Since it is currently impossible to define the distribution of arrivals in Italy, the allocation in question will be allocated by the central administration on the basis of the needs represented by the local education offices, in agreement with the relevant prefectures, to the schools concerned, in view of their specific needs, in order to meet the costs of linguistic and cultural mediation, as well as the needs relating to the reception and literacy of students arriving from Ukraine. A subsequent note will provide further guidance on the administrative and accounting procedures for the financing in question.

On the basis of developments in the situation — which is constantly developing — and in agreement with the Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration of the Ministry of the Interior, this Department will provide further guidance, suggestions and support. It is confident of the usual collaboration of the entire world of school, which, despite having experienced a long period of pandemic, will be able to mobilise once again its best efforts to cope with the new and tragic emergency, making itself a welcoming community.

Head of Department
Stefano Versari

Signed digitally by
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□ MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITIES
AND RESEARCH