

## Policy & Legal review for children in alternative care & unaccompanied and separated children from Ukraine arriving in: LATVIA

**Contributors:** SOS Children's Villages Latvia; Protect the Children Latvia; The Ministry of Welfare; The Ministry of the Interior; The State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights; Eurochild

1. What are the laws and/or policies covering care arrangements for children temporarily or permanently deprived of family care (with translation into English if available)?

### Legal framework:

- **Law on the Protection of the Children's Rights** (Bērnu tiesību aizsardzības likums); LV: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=49096>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/49096-law-on-the-protection-of-the-childrens-rights>
- **The Civil Law, PART ONE: Family Law** (Civillikums, Ģimenes tiesību daļa); LV: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=225418%20>; ENG: <http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/LV/publikacijas/civillikums.pdf>
- **Law on Orphan's and Custody Courts** (Bāriņtiesu likums), LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/139369-barintiesu-likums>; En: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/139369-law-on-orphans-and-custody-courts>;
- **Law on Social Services and Social Assistance** (Sociālo pakalpojumu un sociālās palīdzības likums); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/68488-socialo-pakalpojumu-un-socialas-palidzibas-likums>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/68488-law-on-social-services-and-social-assistance>
- **Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians** (Ukrainas civiliedzīvotāju atbalsta likums); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/330546-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-atbalsta-likums>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/330546-law-on-assistance-to-ukrainian-civilians>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 354 Regulations for Foster Families** (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 354 "Audžuģimenes noteikumi"); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/300005-audzugimenes-noteikumi>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/300005-regulations-for-foster-families>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 354 Procedures for Adoption** (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 667 "Adopcijas kārtība"); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/302796-adopcijas-kartiba>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/302796-procedures-for-adoption>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 355 Regulations Regarding the Out-of-family Care Support Centre** (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 355 "Ārpusģimenes aprūpes atbalsta centra noteikumi"); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/299998-arpusgimenes-aprupes-atbalsta-centra-noteikumi>; ENG:

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/299998-regulations-regarding-the-out-of-family-care-support-centre>

- **Cabinet Regulation No. 857 Regulations Regarding Social Guarantees for an Orphan and a Child Left without Parental Care who is in Out-of-Family Care as well as After the Termination of Out-of-Family Care (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr.857 “Noteikumi par sociālajām garantijām bārenim un bez vecāku gādības palikušajam bērnam, kurš ir ārpusģimenes aprūpē, kā arī pēc ārpusģimenes aprūpes beigšanās”);** LV: <https://likumi.lv/doc.php?mode=DOC&id=121592>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/121592-regulations-regarding-social-guarantees-for-an-orphan-and-a-child-left-without-parental-care-who-is-in-out-of-family-care-as-well-as-after-the-termination-of-out-of-family-care>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 338 Requirements for Social Service Providers (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 338 “Prasības sociālo pakalpojumu sniedzējiem”);** LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291788-prasibas-socialo-pakalpojumu-sniedzjiem>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/291788-requirements-for-social-service-providers>

2. What are the laws and/or policies or bi-lateral agreements covering care arrangements for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) from foreign countries (with translation into English if available)?

#### Legal framework:

- *General regulation - Asylum Law* (Patvēruma likums); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/278986-patveruma-likums>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/278986-asylum-law>
- *Regulation specific to Ukrainians - Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians* (Ukrainas civiliedzīvotāju atbalsta likums); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/330546-ukrainas-civiliedzivotaju-atbalsta-likums>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/330546-law-on-assistance-to-ukrainian-civilians>
- **Law on the Protection of the Children's Rights** (Bērnu tiesību aizsardzības likums); LV: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=49096>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/49096-law-on-the-protection-of-the-childrens-rights>
- **The Civil Law, PART ONE: Family Law** (Civillikums, Ģimenes tiesību daļa); LV: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=225418%20>; ENG: <http://www.vvc.gov.lv/export/sites/default/LV/publikacijas/civillikums.pdf>
- **Law on Orphan's and Custody Courts** (Bāriņtiesu likums), LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/139369-barintiesu-likums>; En: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/139369-law-on-orphans-and-custody-courts>;



- **Law on Social Services and Social Assistance** (Sociālo pakalpojumu un sociālās palīdzības likums); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/68488-socialo-pakalpojumu-un-socialas-palidzibas-likums>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/68488-law-on-social-services-and-social-assistance>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 354 Regulations for Foster Families** (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 354 “Audžuģimenes noteikumi”); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/300005-audzugimenes-noteikumi>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/300005-regulations-for-foster-families>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 355 Regulations Regarding the Out-of-family Care Support Centre** (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 355 “Ārpusģimenes aprūpes atbalsta centra noteikumi”); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/299998-arpusgimenes-aprupes-atbalsta-centra-noteikumi>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/299998-regulations-regarding-the-out-of-family-care-support-centre>
- **Cabinet Regulation No. 338 Requirements for Social Service Providers (Ministru kabineta noteikumi Nr. 338** “Prasības sociālo pakalpojumu sniedzējiem”); LV: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/291788-prasibas-socialo-pakalpojumu-sniedzjiem>; ENG: <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/291788-requirements-for-social-service-providers>

3.

- a. What is the legal status of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) [from Ukraine] in this country?
- b. Does this status guarantee that a child will be able to return to Ukraine once the situation normalises? Or if there is no such “guarantee”/clause please also indicate.
- c. Is there a difference in how the legal system treats the child classified as unaccompanied vs. separated?
- d. Does this status allow the adoption of the Ukrainian child who has entered this country without the consent or participation of parents and/or representatives of Ukrainian relevant state parties?

a.

In accordance with Section 1.1 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians (<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/330546-law-on-assistance-to-ukrainian-civilians>) Ukrainian civilians (including UASC) have granted a legal status of temporary protection in the Republic of Latvia within the meaning of the Asylum Law (<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/278986-asylum-law>).

b.

Latvian law does not provide such a specific guarantee. The assistance specified in the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians shall be provided during the course of the armed conflict caused by the Russian Federation. The Asylum Law states that temporary protection should be granted for one year. Temporary protection may be extended for six months, but not more than one year in total (Section 63 of The Asylum Law). Adoption of the unaccompanied child is prohibited (Section 18 paragraph 2 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians).

c.

There is no difference in the legal system depending on whether the child is unaccompanied or separated.

d.

Adoption of the unaccompanied child is prohibited (Section 18 paragraph 2 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians).

According to the *Amendments to the Law on Support of Civilians of Ukraine*, “after the end of the war, these children will be returned to Ukraine, where, in accordance with Ukrainian law, the situation of each child will be assessed and decisions made on the child's future care. Consequently, the adoption of these children in Latvia is prohibited.”

General information on adoption in Latvia is available here, but has not been updated since the invasion of Ukraine: <https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/normativie-akti>. It should be noted that Latvia has adopted The Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption of 29 May 1993 (see <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/56708-konvencija-par-bernu-aizsardzibu-un-sadarbibu-starpvalstu-adopcijas-jautajumos>).

4.

- a. What is the legal status (especially the length of the status, benefits and restrictions) of the Ukrainian guardian accompanying a Ukrainian separated child arriving in this country (for example a member of staff from the evacuated institutions which has been appointed by the Ukrainian authorities as a guardian for a group of children during evacuation of an institution)?

b. What safeguarding measures are in place to check and protect the best interests of the child if the child has a guardian from Ukraine (i.e., verifying who the guardian is, approve the guardian status in relation to the child, provide support and monitoring, etc.)?

a.

Issues related to extraordinary guardianship are primarily regulated in Sections 18 and 19 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians. In order to ensure the protection of the rights of a minor Ukrainian civilian entering the Republic of Latvia without being accompanied by parents (the unaccompanied child) and to provide assistance to him or her, the chairperson of an Orphan's and Custody Court, the vice-chairperson of an Orphan's and Custody Court, or a member of an Orphan's and Custody Court shall unilaterally take the decision to establish extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian for an unaccompanied child. A person to whom the accompanied child arrives, and also a person who has been granted the status of a guardian or adopter, the status of a foster family or guest family in Latvia, or a person with whom the unaccompanied child has arrived in Latvia may become an extraordinary guardian. In order to become an extraordinary guardian, a person shall submit a submission to the Orphan's and Custody Court in the operational territory of which the unaccompanied child is.

A person who has undertaken the obligations of an extraordinary guardian may not later request, without a justified reason, to be relieved of such obligations. A unilateral decision shall be taken by the chairperson, vice-chairperson, or member of such Orphan's and Custody Court in the operational territory of which is the unaccompanied child. The abovementioned decision may also be taken in the case when the unaccompanied child cannot present a personal identification document. A unilateral decision shall be taken within two working days from the day of receipt of the submission. A unilateral decision shall be in effect until the unaccompanied child attains legal age or until the moment when the Orphan's and Custody Court takes the decision to terminate the extraordinary guardianship collectively. The Orphan's and Custody Court shall take other decisions on ensuring the interests of an unaccompanied child collectively.

An extraordinary guardian has the following obligations: to represent the unaccompanied child in ensuring his or her personal, legal, and property interests in the territory of the Republic of Latvia. The extraordinary guardian shall not be responsible for the management of such property of the unaccompanied child which is located outside the territory of Latvia; to cooperate with the State and local government institutions in ensuring the personal and legal interests of the unaccompanied child; to provide the unaccompanied child with living arrangements and care corresponding to his or her age and health condition (health care, upbringing, and education); to inform the Orphan's and Custody Court of such obstacles which significantly affect the ability of the extraordinary guardian to continue the performance of the obligations of an extraordinary guardian; to notify the Orphan's and Custody Court without delay if: the unaccompanied child has been injured in an accident; health of the unaccompanied child has rapidly deteriorated; the unaccompanied child has committed a criminal offence; the unaccompanied child has run away; a conflict situation has arisen between the unaccompanied child and the extraordinary guardian; the unaccompanied child has died; other information which may significantly affect further care for the

unaccompanied child has become known to him or her; to agree with the Orphan's and Custody Court on the unaccompanied child leaving the country; to inform the Orphan's and Custody Court of the change in the place of residence of the unaccompanied child.

An extraordinary guardian has the right: to receive the assistance specified in Section 19 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians; to receive social services of the local government for the improvement of the social situation of the unaccompanied child; to turn to the Orphan's and Custody Court which took the decision to establish an extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian for the unaccompanied child if a disagreement arises between the extraordinary guardian and the unaccompanied child.

The reasons referred to in Section 18 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians which preclude a person from being appointed as an extraordinary guardian shall also be the reasons for the suspension of an extraordinary guardian if they are found after the extraordinary guardian has been appointed. An extraordinary guardian shall be suspended in accordance with the procedures laid down in Paragraphs 9 and 10 of Section 18 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians.

The chairperson of the Orphan's and Custody Court, the vice-chairperson of the Orphan's and Custody Court, or a member of the Orphan's and Custody Court shall take a unilateral decision to place children in an institution of long-term social care and social rehabilitation (the child care institution) within two working days from the day when information on a group of unaccompanied children in its operational territory has been received, indicating the name of the institution in the decision. If the Orphan's and Custody Court has received information on a group of such unaccompanied children in its operational territory who had been in the same child care institution in the territory of Ukraine, the chairperson of the Orphan's and Custody Court, the vice-chairperson of the Orphan's and Custody Court, or a member of the Orphan's and Custody Court shall not, when taking a unilateral decision to place the unaccompanied children in the child care institution, evaluate the possibility to establish extraordinary guardianship for the unaccompanied child.

If care for the abovementioned group cannot be provided in the child care institution, the Orphan's and Custody Court may take the decision to establish extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian for the unaccompanied child. The child care institution may provide a long-term social care service to unaccompanied children also in places which have not been registered with the Register of Social Service Providers if the place where the service is provided is suitable for living, has lighting and heating, and is suitable for long-term shelter and placement of household objects of the person.

An extraordinary guardian shall receive a remuneration for the fulfilment of the duties of an extraordinary guardian, a benefit for the maintenance of an unaccompanied child, and also an allowance for the purchase of clothing and soft furnishing (for example, bed linen, blanket, pillow, mattress) to be disbursed from the budget funds of the local government the Orphan's and Custody Court of which has taken the decision to establish the extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian.

Remuneration for the fulfilment of the duties of an extraordinary guardian shall be EUR 171 per month regardless of the number of unaccompanied children. The benefit for the maintenance of an unaccompanied child per month shall be: EUR 215 for an unaccompanied child up to seven years of age and EUR 285 for an unaccompanied child from seven to 18 years of age.

In order to receive a remuneration for the fulfilment of the duties of an extraordinary guardian, the benefit for the maintenance of an unaccompanied child, and the allowance for the purchase of clothing and soft furnishing, the extraordinary guardian shall submit a written submission to the local government the Orphan's and Custody Court of which has taken the decision to establish the extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian. The local government shall examine the abovementioned submission within 10 working days after its receipt and take the decision to grant the remuneration for the fulfilment of the duties of an extraordinary guardian, the benefit for the maintenance of an unaccompanied child, and the allowance for the purchase of clothing and soft furnishing or to refuse to grant them.

The allowance for the purchase of clothing and soft furnishing shall be disbursed in the amount provided for in the binding regulations of the local government which has been specified for children placed in a foster family. The local government may, instead of the abovementioned allowance, issue clothing, footwear, and other items necessary for the unaccompanied child. A local government may decide to grant additional services necessary for the improvement of the social situation of the unaccompanied child. After the unaccompanied child has attained legal age, the local government shall disburse the benefit for the maintenance of a child to the child himself or herself until the moment when he or she attains 19 years of age.

Disbursement of the benefits and allowances referred shall be discontinued from the first day of the month which follows the month when any of the following circumstances have set in: an Orphan's and Custody Court has taken the decision to terminate the extraordinary guardianship; an unaccompanied child has been placed in an institution of long-term social care and social rehabilitation or is in a prison or social correction education institution; the extraordinary guardian or unaccompanied child for whom a benefit is being paid has died or information or documents on his or her disappearance have been received.

An extraordinary guardian has the same right to receive the services provided by an out-of-family care support centre which have been determined for guardians in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding out-of-family care support centres. The extraordinary guardian shall enter into an agreement with the out-of-family care support centre for the receipt of services.

b.

Before taking a unilateral decision to establish extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian to the unaccompanied child, the Orphan's and Custody Court shall without delay: ascertain the opinion of the unaccompanied child on the establishment of extraordinary guardianship if the child is able to formulate it, taking into account his or her age and level of

maturity; ascertain the motivation of the person who has submitted a submission for the appointment of an extraordinary guardian to the unaccompanied child to become the extraordinary guardian of the particular unaccompanied child; assess the living arrangements of the person; request information from the Punishment Register; request information from the National Health Service as to whether a card of a narcological patient or a card for a patient with mental and behavioural disorders has been entered in the unified electronic information system of the health sector. The Orphan's and Custody Court shall ascertain that the person to be appointed as an extraordinary guardian has the abilities and characteristics necessary for the fulfilment of the obligations of an extraordinary guardian and shall assess the following in relation to the person: motivation for becoming the extraordinary guardian; living arrangements; ability to represent the unaccompanied child in personal relationships.

When assessing the conformity of the person for the fulfilment of the obligations of an extraordinary guardian, the Orphan's and Custody Court shall take into account the information provided by the National Health Service on whether a card of a narcological patient or a card for a patient with mental and behavioural disorders has been entered in the unified electronic information system of the health sector, and also information from the Punishment Register if such is available.

If a person together with the unaccompanied child change the place of residence, the Orphan's and Custody Court which took the unilateral decision shall send copies of the materials of the extraordinary guardianship case to the Orphan's and Custody Court in the operational territory of which is the new place of residence of the person in order to monitor the extraordinary guardianship.

The Orphan's and Custody Court shall notify it to the extraordinary guardian of the unaccompanied child, the State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights, and the social service office of the local government the Orphan's and Custody Court of which took the decision to establish extraordinary guardianship and to appoint an extraordinary guardian to the unaccompanied child. The State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights shall create and maintain a unified register of unaccompanied children and their registration to ensure the provision of the information necessary for the reunification of the child and his or her family, and also to ensure standardised retrieval of information and to create a statistical analysis. Exchange of information between the State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights, the social service office of the local government, and the Orphan's and Custody Court shall take place electronically. The Orphan's and Custody Court shall arrange a file on the establishment of extraordinary guardianship, and also ensure photographing of the unaccompanied child and his or her personal belongings and placement of such information in the file.

The Orphan's and Custody Court has the following duties in supervision of extraordinary guardianship: to continuously supervise actions of the extraordinary guardian in ensuring personal interests of the unaccompanied child by controlling whether the extraordinary guardian looks after the upbringing of the unaccompanied child with the same care as conscientious parents would look after the upbringing of their own child; at least once in the first three months after establishment of



extraordinary guardianship and appointing an extraordinary guardian, and also subsequently at least once a year, inspect the living arrangements of and care for an unaccompanied child in the family of the extraordinary guardian, and to draw up an inspection report on the living arrangements; to decide on suspension of the extraordinary guardian from the fulfilment of the duties of the extraordinary guardian and on appointing a temporary guardian, or on placement of the unaccompanied child into a foster family or an institution of long-term social care and social rehabilitation if the Orphan's and Custody Court establishes faults, deficiencies, or abuse in the behaviour of the extraordinary guardian or threats to life or health of the unaccompanied child.

Latvian Orphan's Court conducts interviews with the potential extraordinary guardian, ascertaining all information about the relationship with the particular child, motivation and ability to become an extraordinary guardian. The orphan's court must find out the child's opinion.

5.

- a. What are the regulations and procedures in case a child arrives without parents and any legal guardian (or any papers authorizing the person to care for the child), e.g., a child which is looked after by an adult (e.g., a family friend, a neighbour, someone who found the child alone on the street and took it along to keep it safe...)?
- b. May the return of these children to Ukraine, after the normalisation of the situation, be questioned/hampered by the legal status they receive?

a.

The regulations and procedures are identical to that described under Question 4. Sections 18 and 19 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians prescribes a unified legal framework and procedure for all unaccompanied children.

b.

The return of children to Ukraine cannot be questioned. It is provided by the coordinating institution of the Republic of Latvia - the Ministry of Welfare.

6. Which government ministry/department is responsible for the:

- a. the care of children temporarily or permanently deprived of family care & would it be possible to provide immediate contacts?

b. the care of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) [from Ukraine] & would it be possible to provide immediate contacts?

a.

Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia, Department of Children and Family Policy. Contacts (general): [lm@lm.gov.lv](mailto:lm@lm.gov.lv); + 371 67021600; <http://www.lm.gov.lv/>; Coordinator Inga Mārtinsone, +371 64331825, [inga.martinsone@lm.gov.lv](mailto:inga.martinsone@lm.gov.lv).

b.

Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia, Department of Children and Family Policy. Contacts (general): [lm@lm.gov.lv](mailto:lm@lm.gov.lv); + 371 67021600; <http://www.lm.gov.lv/>; Coordinator Inga Mārtinsone, +371 64331825, [inga.martinsone@lm.gov.lv](mailto:inga.martinsone@lm.gov.lv).

7. Has the government adopted specific legislation/policy or bi-lateral agreements on USAC from Ukraine? If not, would the government develop such legislation / regulations or bilateral agreements?

Latvia has not concluded bilateral agreements with Ukraine on USAC from Ukraine. Discussions on this issue have taken place between the responsible ministries in Latvia and Ukraine, but the agreement has not yet been concluded.

The issue of the USAC is specifically addressed in Sections 18 and 19 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians, which is a special law in Latvia.

8.

a. Has the government in this country put in place a system/process to track children from Ukraine, especially UASC?

b. Who is responsible for identification and registration of these children, as well as accommodation and care?

a.

In accordance with Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians Section 18 paragraph (11) – (13) the State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights shall create and maintain a unified register of unaccompanied children and their registration to ensure the provision of the information necessary for the reunification of the child and his or her family, and also to ensure standardised retrieval of information and to create a statistical analysis. Exchange of information between the State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights, the social service office of the municipalities, and

the Orphan's Court shall take place electronically. The Orphan's Court shall arrange a file on the establishment of extraordinary guardianship, and also ensure photographing of the unaccompanied child and his or her personal belongings and placement of such information in the file.

b.

The State and local government unified customer service centres and local government service centres are responsible for registration of UASC through the unified management system of services of customer service centre [www.pakalpojumucentri.lv](http://www.pakalpojumucentri.lv).

The appointment of an extraordinary guardian is the responsibility of the Orphan's and Custody Court of the relevant municipality where the child is located.

An extraordinary guardian has the obligations: to represent the unaccompanied child in ensuring his or her personal, legal, and property interests in the territory of the Republic of Latvia. The extraordinary guardian shall not be responsible for the management of such property of the unaccompanied child which is located outside the territory of Latvia; to cooperate with the State and local government institutions in ensuring the personal and legal interests of the unaccompanied child; to provide the unaccompanied child with living arrangements and care corresponding to his or her age and health condition (health care, upbringing, and education) etc.

9. Which authorities have responsibility for family tracing and reunification? Contact information provided where available.

The State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights shall create and maintain a unified register of unaccompanied children and their registration to ensure the provision of the information necessary for the reunification of the child and his or her family, and also to ensure standardised retrieval of information and to create a statistical analysis (Paragraph 9 and 11 of Section 18 of the Law on Assistance to Ukrainian Civilians).

The State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights is the coordinating body, but daily decisions about the child are made by the Orphan's and Custody Courts, depending on the child's place of residence. Contacts of all 43 Latvian Orphan's and Custody Court are available here: <https://www.bti.gov.lv/lv/barintiesu-adreses>.

**Contacts:** The State Inspectorate for Protection of Children's Rights, [pasts@bti.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@bti.gov.lv) , +371 67359128.

**Additional relevant information & resources:**



- Government web portal for people arriving from Ukraine:  
<https://www.lm.gov.lv/lv/node/5365>
- The information on the entry, stay, accommodation and job opportunities in Lavita is available for Ukrainians who arrive in Latvia, fleeing the Russian war in Ukraine on the website: [www.palidziukrainai.lv](http://www.palidziukrainai.lv); 24/7 helpline: +37127380380.