

REPORT



Aid initiatives in support of Ukrainian refugees in Poland

as of 1 September 2023

A word of introduction

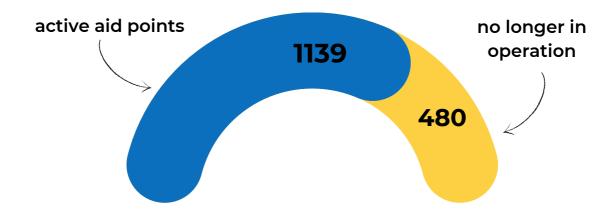
On the online platform <u>mapujpomoc.pl</u>, you can find establishments providing material and service assistance targeted at refugees from Ukraine. Aid points are a key element in providing essential services and means of survival and play a significant role in mitigating the effects of the ongoing crisis. This is the fourth time that we are providing you with a report on current aid activities in Poland.

This report is the result of a summer 2023 comprehensive update of information on help points added or self-registered on the Mapuj Pomoc platform between March 2022 and March 2023. The report presents information on the location, organisation and type of support available at these facilities.

We invite you to read the study, which aims to increase awareness and the effectiveness of humanitarian action for people from Ukraine in need of support.

Detailed information on activities in each region of the country can be found in separate reports for each province. Links to the reports can be found at the end of this paper.

How many places are we helping in?





Active help points by province

Help points operate throughout the country. The largest number of aid points can be found in the Mazowieckie Voivodeship (310). There are half as many in the Małopolskie Voivodeship - 124 centres. The third place is held by Wielkopolskie Province (74). The lowest number of centres can be found in the following provinces: Zachodniopomorskie (29), Opolskie (28), Warmińsko-Mazurskie (27) and Lubuskie (20).



Number of active help points

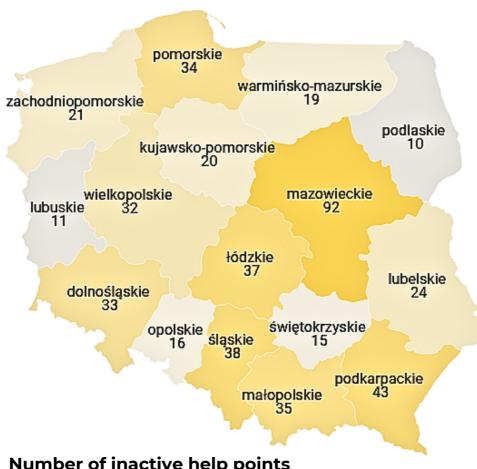
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Help points no longer in operation by province

In the Mapuj Pomoc database, we mark points that have ceased to operate or no longer offer free support to refugees. This allows us to better describe and monitor the dynamics of change.

The number of closed aid points is mostly proportional to the number of points still active in a given voivodeship. The highest number of inactive projects was recorded in the Mazowieckie voivodeship (92). The second most is the Podkarpackie Voivodeship with 43 closed points - many of the initiatives there were aimed at Ukrainian women and men who were in transition so the nature of the activities was also rather temporary. The smallest number of mapped inactive points is in the Opolskie (16), Lubuskie (11) and Podlaskie (10) voivodeships.



Number of inactive help points

10 92



Degree of centralisation of help points in voivodship cities

The chart below shows the percentage share of aid points located in provincial capitals in relation to all points in a given region. The most diversified, in terms of geographical distribution of active points on the help map, is the Śląskie voivodeship - only 23% of the aid points are located in Katowice. This is probably due to the fact that it is the only conurbation in Poland - the Upper Silesian Metropolis. Other provinces, after Silesia, where a maximum of 52% of active aid points are located in the capital cities are: Podkarpackie, Pomorskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie. A high degree of centralisation is found in the Lower Silesian, Kuyavian-Pomeranian and Lesser Poland Voivodeships. The highest score is achieved by Lubuskie Province (95%).



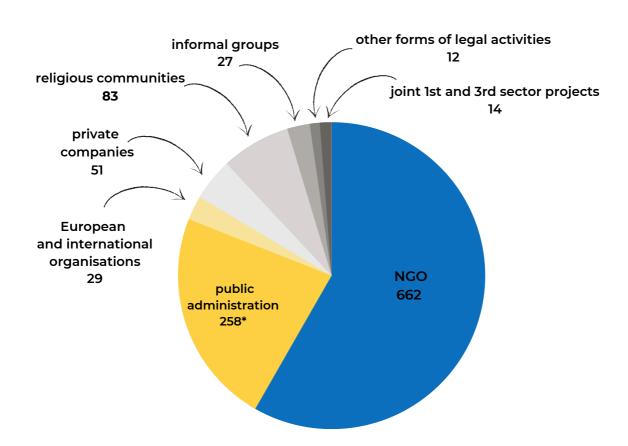




Active help points by form of legal activity

NGOs run a total of 662 projects, the public administration 258 (48 cultural centres, 32 social welfare centres, 11 service points for foreigners, 18 information points, 5 reception points, 2 kindergartens, 3 community centres, 4 labour offices and 135 other points)*. 14 projects are run jointly by NGOs and the local government. Involved in humanitarian aid are 51 companies marked on the map.

The UN agenda, European Union institutions and international organisations operate 29 aid points. Religious communities are helping through 83 different initiatives. 27 informal groups continue to support refugees. 12 institutions with a different form of legal activity were also mapped.

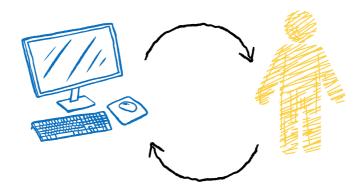


*There are many more public administration units supporting refugees in Poland. Until 1 September 2023, Mapuj Pomoc did not map all institutions providing direct social or economic support on its website. The 258 points listed are those that have been exceptionally active in supporting refugees and have been highlighted and recognised by the Mapuj Pomoc team.



Accessibility of assistance

The availability of support offered by the help points varies. If someone prefers or is forced to stay at home, they can receive **assistance online and through helplines - this is offered by 275 aid points.**

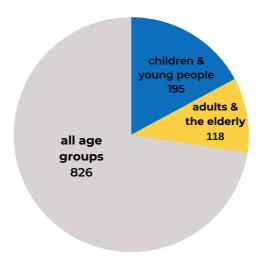


There are 549 centres where you can communicate in two languages, 243 places where you can communicate in three languages, and **106 initiatives** offer assistance in Polish, Ukrainian, Russian and English.



195 of the 1139 active points provide help to children and young people. 118 centres offer support to adults and the elderly.

In 826 centres assistance is directed to all age groups.





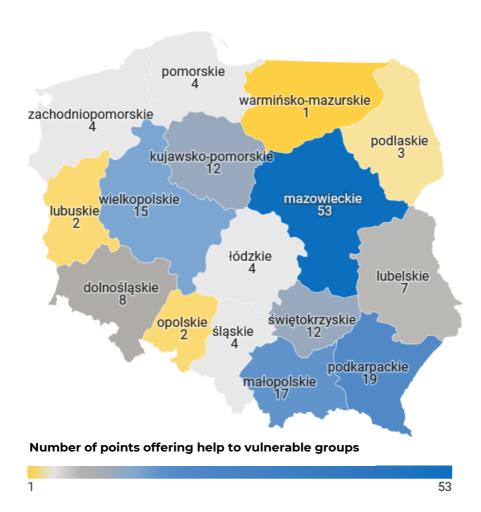
Vulnerable groups



- 1. People with disabilities
- 2. LGBTQIA+ people
- 3. Refugees from outside Ukraine
- 4. Chronically ill persons
- 5. Pregnant women & new mothers
- 6. Single parent
- 7. Unaccompanied children
- 8. Large families
- 9. Elderly people
- 10. Roma community

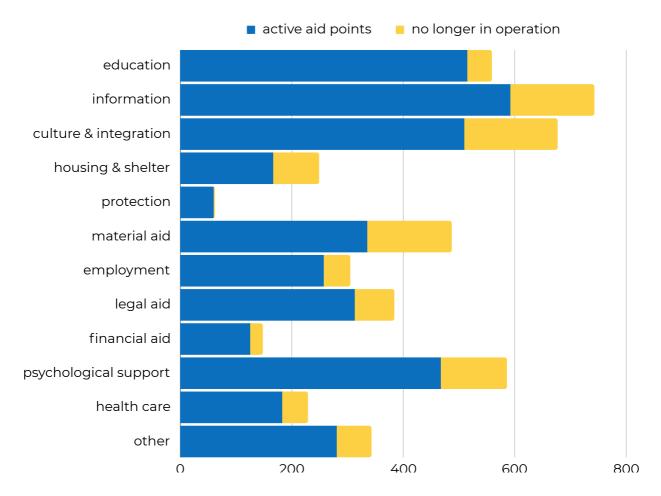
In Poland, 167 projects target people from so-called vulnerable groups.

They aim at satisfying basic needs in an individualised way.





Active and no longer active help points in Poland by category of provided assistance



Most active points in Poland offer assistance in the categories:

- **information** general information, employment, housing & shelter, psychological support, health care
- **education** training and workshops, Ukrainian schools and preschools, schools and preschools with preparatory classes, language classes
- culture & integration activities for children, art workshops, meetings, etc.
- psychological support help offered by psychologists and therapists

The largest percentage of closed help points in relation to all mapped centers in each category are:

- housing & shelter 33% (80 of 249 sites)
- material aid 31% (151 of 487 sites)
- culture & integration 25% (167 of 677 sites)

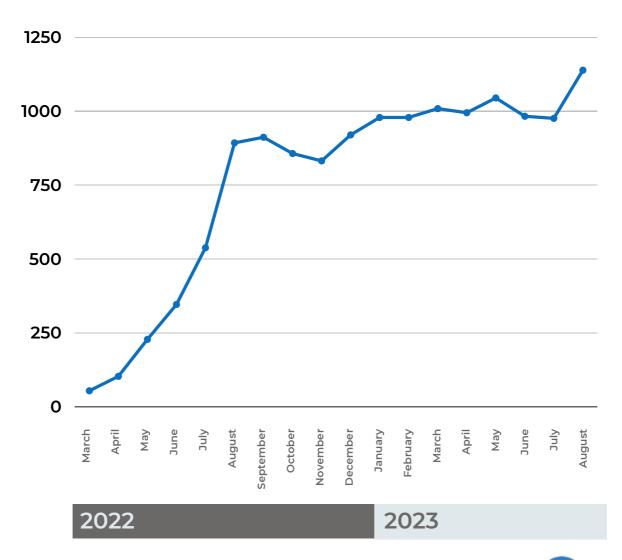
^{*} One help point may offer support in several categories of assistance, hence the total number of assistance activities is greater than the number of points in operation.



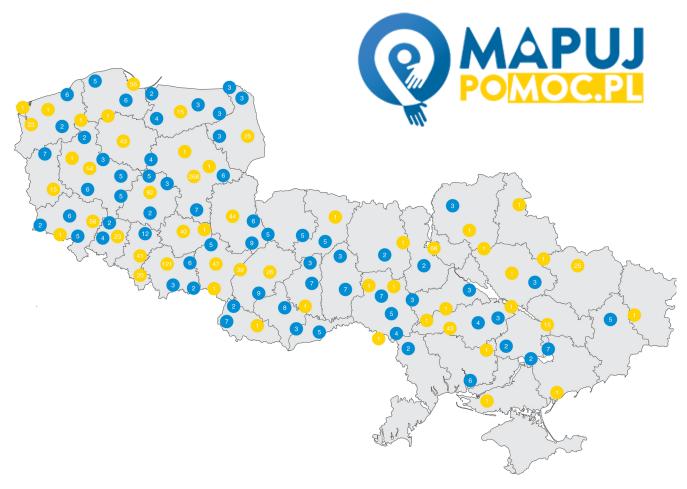
Mapping of assistance points March 2022 - August 2023

Since the beginning of the escalation of the conflict, the Mapuj Pomoc team has been mapping initiatives providing support to the Ukrainian community. The chart below shows the dynamics of this process in Poland over the last 18 months (March 2022 - August 2023).

In the first four months, we mapped 346 support facilities across Poland. By September 2022, this number had risen to 912. In the meantime, some initiatives have been terminated, others have changed the form of support provided. However, new points of assistance are still being added to the map. In May 2023, their number stood at 1,045. This summer, as a result of a comprehensive update, we noted a reduction in the number of active initiatives. We continue to map more projects; currently 1139 help points are actively supporting refugees.







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 Reports for individual provinces are available at: www.mapujpomoc.pl/bazawiedzy

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