

**TEMPORARY SPECIAL COMMISSION**  
**on the protection of property and non-property**  
**rights of internally displaced persons and other**  
**persons affected by the armed aggression of the**  
**Russian Federation against Ukraine**

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July 24, 2024

**DECISION**

**On the coordination, information exchange, and other steps to increase the efficiency of providing financial assistance to internally displaced persons and other Ukrainians affected by Russian aggression by the state and international humanitarian organizations (based on the results of the conference "Cash Assistance for IDPs" on June 17, 2024)**

In order to consolidate the efforts of the state and international partners to address the issue of providing financial support to internally displaced persons, the Temporary Special Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on the Protection of Property and Non-Property Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and Other Persons Affected by the Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine (hereinafter – the Committee), with the support of the USAID Program "Rada: The Next Generation," held the conference "Cash Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons" (hereinafter – the Conference) on June 17, 2024.

As a result of the Conference, the Committee's decision dated June 19, 2024, "*On the Results of the Conference 'Cash Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons'*," was made, with item 2 instructing the Committee Chair Pavlo Frolov to analyze the issues raised at the Conference and to consider the problems highlighted by Ukraine's international partners working within the Ukrainian Cash Working Group at one of the next Committee meetings.

In implementation of this decision, the Committee appealed to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, and the Ministry of Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine with a proposal to analyze the issues and challenges presented by the Ukrainian Cash Working Group at the Conference regarding the provision of financial support (multi-purpose cash assistance in Ukraine) and the materials developed, to provide their position on them, and to suggest possible ways to resolve the problems raised by international partners.

As a result, the Ministry of Social Policy informed the Committee by letter dated July 22, 2024, No. 17449/0/2-24/56, that in the conditions of martial law and the difficult financial and economic situation in Ukraine, issues of strengthening the social protection of various categories of the population should be addressed comprehensively, taking into account the need to ensure the sustainability of the social

protection system and the priority allocation of funds for the needs of the security and defense sector. Given the impossibility of providing a large number of cash payments based on an application principle, the main approach to providing social support is the development of universal social assistance tools that consider the principle of targeting and stimulate overcoming difficult life circumstances.

In order to ensure the social protection of citizens who need it most, the Ministry of Social Policy, together with international organizations, implements projects aimed at additional financial support for Ukrainian citizens funded by international partners, including an initiative to coordinate international donor and partner support in the transition from emergency humanitarian assistance to the creation of a sustainable social protection system for the population, aimed at overcoming shocks caused by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and strengthening and supporting the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine's program to reform the social protection system.

Since August 2023, in cooperation with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), an additional payment has been provided to pensioners living in combat zones whose pensions are less than 3,250 UAH. This assistance covers over 421 thousand pensioners. To date, the total amount of financial assistance from the WFP under this project is approximately 1.85 billion UAH.

From February to April 2024, a joint project with the WFP was extended to individuals with childhood disabilities and children with disabilities receiving state social assistance of less than 3,250 UAH. The implementation of this project has improved the level of social protection for over 327 thousand people with childhood disabilities and children with disabilities. The amount of such support from the WFP is over 830 million UAH.

Since December 2023, a joint project of the Ministry of Social Policy and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been implemented. Under the project, low-income large families and low-income families with children with disabilities living in certain areas of the Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kharkiv regions, as defined by UNICEF program documents, received funds to enhance social security during the autumn-winter period.

Payments were made to 6,861 households (families) with 29,748 members. The total amount of allocated funds is about 462 million UAH.

Currently, the joint project of the Ministry of Social Policy and UNICEF has been revised to include families with children living in areas subject to mandatory evacuation, as well as those affected by bombings and airstrikes.

Payments were made to 9,383 families with children from vulnerable categories (30,284 individuals) living in the Sumy and Kharkiv regions, subject to mandatory evacuation. The total amount of allocated funds is about 327 million UAH.

A joint project of the Ministry of Social Policy with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has been implemented to provide financial

support to approximately 90 thousand households for the purchase of solid household fuel during the winter period using UNHCR funds. The allocated amount is over 0.9 billion UAH.

These projects provide an opportunity to assist the most vulnerable segments of the population without increasing the burden on the State Budget of Ukraine.

Additional social support to vulnerable categories of the population from international partners is provided without the need for the recipient of state social assistance to apply, using the information contained in the databases of the Ministry of Social Policy, based on a decision agreed upon with international partners to provide such assistance.

This mechanism allows support to be extended to all citizens in the specified categories regardless of their awareness of the humanitarian projects being implemented.

The Ministry of Social Policy also reported working on expanding cooperation in this direction and involving other international partners.

The Ministry of Finance, in a letter dated July 23, 2024, No. 15020-05-2/21627, stated that given the limited budget funds, the need to ensure the efficiency and targeting of state assistance to the most vulnerable categories of citizens, including internally displaced persons, the verification and monitoring of state payments carried out by the Ministry of Finance is of great importance.

Verification, which essentially involves checking information about an individual regarding the legality of receiving state payments, is conducted by comparing the data provided by recipients during the assignment of these payments with the data in various registers and databases received by the Ministry of Finance from various information providers (the Ministry of Social Policy, the Pension Fund, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Tax Service, the State Border Guard Service, banks, etc.). Currently, automated information interaction of the Ministry of Finance with 23 registers and databases has been ensured.

In recent years, a regulatory framework has been created for verification (the Law of Ukraine "On Verification and Monitoring of State Payments," government and Ministry of Finance by-laws, agreements and protocols on information interaction, methodologies for the verification of state payments), which is constantly being improved.

For verification, the Ministry of Finance has built an information-analytical platform for electronic verification and monitoring based on modern technologies, which consolidates information about state assistance recipients from many sources in one place. This allows verification to be carried out automatically according to pre-configured algorithms based on legally defined criteria for assigning specific payments. At the same time, personal data processing is carried out without human intervention, in strict compliance with data protection laws.

After additional verification of the recommendations received from the Ministry of Finance, the agencies responsible for state payments (the Ministry of Social Policy, the Pension Fund of Ukraine, the Ministry of Economy, the State Employment Center, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine) make final conclusions regarding the legality of benefits, assistance, subsidies, and other payments.

The decision to terminate payments is made exclusively by the agency responsible for state payments, in accordance with the legislation governing state payments, and overpaid funds are to be returned to the budget (state target fund) in the manner prescribed by law, including through court action.

Verification of living assistance for internally displaced persons (hereinafter referred to as IDP assistance) is carried out automatically using the information-analytical platform at the stage of citizens applying for IDP assistance online (preventive verification) and monthly checks to ensure that IDP assistance recipients comply with the law (current verification).

The criteria and algorithms for the checks conducted by the Ministry of Finance are based on current legislation regulating state payments. If the legislation changes, the criteria and algorithms for verification change accordingly.

The verification carried out by the Ministry of Finance ensures control over the effective and targeted use of budget funds, positively affecting the targeting of state assistance and reducing poverty in Ukraine, as it aims to ensure that the ultimate recipients of state payments are the citizens who genuinely need state support.

The introduction of verification contributes to the state's timely response to changes in the financial and property status of households or families, promoting the efficient use of taxpayers' funds and ensuring the targeting of state payments under conditions of limited financial resources.

Based on the analysis of verification and monitoring results of state payments, the Ministry of Finance systematically provides proposals for improving legislation on state payments to enhance the efficiency of budget funds use.

The Ministry of Reintegration, in a letter dated July 19, 2024, No. 22/3.1-5904-24, reported that the decisions of the Committee are being considered and taken into account in their work, with systematic advocacy for the preservation of living assistance payments to internally displaced persons, including within the meetings of the Coordination Headquarters on Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons, established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on April 18, 2023, No. 330, chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine - Minister for Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, Iryna Vereshchuk.

The issue of living assistance payments to internally displaced persons is consistently included on the agenda of the above-mentioned Coordination Headquarters meetings, within which relevant proposals, including drafts of regulatory acts, are developed and submitted to the Ministry of Social Policy.

Specifically, the Ministry of Reintegration has initiated amendments to the provisions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine resolution of March 20, 2022, No. 332 "Certain Issues of Living Assistance Payments to Internally Displaced Persons":

- automatic extension of assistance payments for a second six-month period to persons with disabilities of Group III;
- Assignment of assistance payments for a second six-month period for such categories: families with members aged 55 years and older, considering the average monthly total income per family member; pension-age individuals not receiving pensions under the Law of Ukraine "On Pension Provision"; individuals whose residential premises have been destroyed or damaged (to the extent that they are uninhabitable), provided that the individual or any family member does not own another residential premises/part of a residential premises suitable for living, with a size of at least 13.65 square meters per person, located in areas not included in the list of territories where hostilities are (were) taking place or temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation, approved by the Ministry of Reintegration, or in areas included in the mentioned list for which the date of the end of hostilities (the possibility of hostilities) or temporary occupation has been determined and these individuals have not received compensation for the damaged/destroyed real estate object or a housing certificate for the purchase of a real estate object.

The Ministry of Reintegration is also developing other proposals to protect families with children, low-income families, and others.

The Ministry of Digital Transformation did not provide a response to the Commission's relevant inquiry.

Meanwhile, as part of the collaboration with the Commission, national and international humanitarian organizations and cash assistance providers, including the PeReHID Initiative, Caritas Ukraine, the Ukrainian Cash Working Group, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, the Norwegian Refugee Council in Ukraine, the Collaborative Cash Delivery Network (CCD), the UNHCR, and UNICEF presented recommendations to the Commission. *These recommendations, developed by the Ukrainian Cash Working Group and international and national humanitarian organizations following the "Cash Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons" conference, include the following proposals:*

1. To create a digital platform to identify people in need of humanitarian assistance based on the lists of beneficiaries of state social assistance programs;

2. To provide humanitarian organizations with digital access to data on income and social benefits to identify priority groups of low-income populations;
3. To develop bilateral mechanisms for referral to humanitarian and social protection programs and a catalog of social protection programs;
4. To enhance coordination with national and international humanitarian organizations at the state and local levels by introducing special government coordinators to strengthen active cooperation;
5. To amend the legislation to exempt humanitarian assistance from taxation.

On July 24, 2024, during the Commission meeting, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine Koshylenko K.B. noted that the Ministry of Social Policy has been cooperating with various international organizations since the first month of the war. Consequently, several different projects have been implemented, allowing more than a dozen international organizations to provide payments to various categories of Ukrainians in different regions.

Regarding information exchange, Koshylenko K.B. informed that Ukraine has developed a Unified Information System of the Social Sphere, with the Unified Social Register at its core, containing all information about people receiving social benefits and those in need of assistance. The Ministry of Social Policy, working with international organizations, provides them with all the necessary information according to their goals for certain categories of people. For example, they provide generalized information by region, age, and other demographic indicators so that the international organization can fulfill its mandate and ensure that payments and cash assistance are comprehensive and cover all citizens who need them.

Koshylenko K.B. also emphasized that coordination and interaction with international partners are ongoing, with the PeReHID platform serving as the basis for this coordination. The platform aims to ensure a transition from humanitarian response to an effectively functioning social support system.

Deputy Minister of Finance of Ukraine Yermolichiev R.V. noted that the Ministry of Finance has developed ways to receive international assistance by crediting cash assistance to special accounts, which are separately available at the Ministry of Social Policy and the Ministry of Reintegration. All international organizations can direct financial support (international assistance) to these accounts and further jointly determine with the ministries where and on what measures to use these funds.

Based on the discussion of this issue and the review of *recommendations developed by the Ukrainian Cash Working Group and international and national humanitarian organizations following the "Cash Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons" conference*, the Commission has **d e c i d e d**:

1. To recognize the appropriateness of exchanging information on cash assistance payments to internally displaced persons and other Ukrainians affected by

Russian aggression between the state, international and national humanitarian organizations, local self-government bodies, and other providers of such assistance. The goal is to enhance the effective use of limited resources, optimize the targeting of assistance to the most vulnerable categories of affected Ukrainians, and avoid duplication of assistance.

2. To support the urgent adoption in the first reading of the Euro-integration draft Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of Personal Data" (registration No. 8153 dated October 25, 2022).

РАД To address the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the heads of parliamentary factions and groups of the IX convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine regarding the inclusion of this bill in the agenda of the nearest plenary session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

3. To highlight the importance of communication and information exchange between representatives of international, national humanitarian organizations, and Ukrainian state authorities for verifying the data of persons applying for cash assistance to international and national humanitarian organizations. The aim is to ensure compliance with the established criteria and conditions for such assistance, as well as to provide Ukrainian state authorities with an aggregated list of recipients and the volume of such assistance.

4. To propose that the Ministry of Social Policy, the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, the Ministry of Digital Transformation, regional and Kyiv city state military administrations designate responsible officials for interaction with the Ukrainian Cash Working Group and international and national humanitarian organizations to enhance communication at the operational, tactical, and strategic levels.

5. To address the Prime Minister of Ukraine with a proposal to hold a coordination meeting to discuss *the recommendations developed by the Ukrainian Cash Working Group and international and national humanitarian organizations following the "Cash Assistance for Internally Displaced Persons" conference*. The meeting should include members of the Commission, representatives of the Ukrainian Cash Working Group and international and national humanitarian organizations, the Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine – Minister for the Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, the Vice Prime Minister for Innovations, Development of Education, Science, and Technologies – Minister of Digital Transformation of Ukraine, the Minister of Social Policy, the Minister of Finance, the Head of the State Tax Service of Ukraine, and the Head of the Pension Fund of Ukraine.

6. To send the Commission's decision to the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the heads of parliamentary factions and groups of the IX convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Prime Minister of Ukraine, as well as to the Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Human Rights, De-occupation, and Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, National Minorities, and Interethnic Relations, the Ministry of Social Policy, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry for the Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, the Ministry of Digital Transformation, regional, and Kyiv city state military administrations.



**Chairman of the Commission**



**P. Frolov**



**Secretary of the Commission**

**S. Velmozhnyi**

