

To: All undergraduate and taught postgraduate students
From: executive.communications@durham.ac.uk
Subject: War in Ukraine: Update on information and support
Date: Wednesday 22 June 2022

Message sent on behalf of Janet Stewart, Executive Dean (Arts & Humanities), Claire O'Malley (Pro-Vice-Chancellor Global) and Stephen Willis (Finance Officer)

Dear students,

This email contains updates on our commitment to provide practical and humanitarian support in relation to the war in Ukraine. Please take the time to read it carefully.

- **Information on being twinned with a Ukrainian university**
- **Supporting displaced students and academics**
- **Becoming a registered sponsor for Homes for Ukraine**

Twinning with Zaporizhzhia National University

As part of a large-scale twinning initiative supported by Universities UK (UUK) and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education, Durham University has been matched with [Zaporizhzhia National University \(ZNU\)](#).

ZNU is located in the Zaporizhzhia Oblast region in the Southeast of Ukraine, 25 miles away from the conflict zone.

The twinning scheme aims to mitigate the impacts of the conflict by offering tangible support to Ukrainian universities, both in the short term, but also in the long term as the country's universities look to rebuild. Most Russell Group universities are participating in the scheme.

A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between Durham and ZNU at this early stage to underpin our partnership and to enable ZNU to access additional support from both the UK and Ukrainian HE systems. We look forward to sharing more details with you on this important partnership in the coming weeks.

'Homes for Ukraine' scheme

We have registered for the Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme which provides accommodation for those who have been displaced for an agreed period.

We are working with Durham County Council to house people who have been displaced in identified University accommodation.

To register your own homes/rooms on the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme click [here](#).

Support for displaced students and academics

We continue to provide support for students displaced by the war and who wish to continue their studies. If you are aware of any such students, please encourage them to email information.centre@durham.ac.uk.

Alongside our support for continuing students, a decision was made on 31 May to offer Sanctuary Studentships, on a recurring annual basis, to support students displaced by conflict.

We are also offering four PhD studentships through a themed call based on the UN Year of Peace and Trust. This call has now closed, and review of applications is underway.

We are aware that there are displaced academics in the region, through schemes such as Homes for Ukraine. The University has an [Honorary and Visiting Titles Policy](#), under which Visiting Academics may be based at Durham University for a defined period, with access to the library and other resources.

Supporting the humanitarian effort

We would like to thank everybody who has played a part supporting our humanitarian effort, whether through organising a craft sale at Durham Market and raising money in other ways, coordinating vans of supplies to be taken to Poland, and raising awareness through public talks. If you would like your activity to be included on our web pages, please email the details to dialogue@durham.ac.uk for consideration. Please note our policy on [Freedom of Expression and external speakers](#).

To find out more about how you can help, please visit our [webpages](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

Our staff and student [FAQ pages](#) continue to be updated. If you have a specific question that is not answered by these FAQs, please email information.centre@durham.ac.uk.

We are an inclusive community. Thank you for continuing to respect and support one another.

With very best wishes,

Janet Stewart
Executive Dean
(Arts & Humanities)

Claire O'Malley
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Global)

Stephen Willis
Chief Financial Officer

Joint Chairs (weekly rotation) European Crisis Planning Group (ECPG)