



# INFORMATION FOR REFUGEES

## Keeping yourself safe from abuse and exploitation

Due to the current situation in Ukraine, many people like you are leaving their homes to seek safety in other countries. Unfortunately, there are always those who want to take advantage of such a situation and seek to benefit for themselves. In this regard, please, be careful! Human Trafficking is a reality!

Human Trafficking is when people are deceived into being recruited, transported, held or used against their will. Traffickers seek to sell or exchange people for money or favours. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which is illegal in every region of the world. The traffickers often use violence or fake promises to trick and coerce their victims.

### Helpful tips

Whatever country you are in or thinking of moving to, the following tips will protect you from traffickers:

- Always keep **money and documents** with you or in a safe place.
- Do not give your **passport** to anyone other than the police/customs/government agencies. For employment, it is enough to give a photocopy of the passport and show the original, do not leave your passport with the employer.
- Do not give your **documents** as a pledge of paid/free rent.
- Agree only to work with the signing of an individual **work contract**. If you work without a contract, you risk not being paid or being paid a different amount from what you agreed on. All agreements about your work arrangement must be specified in writing.
- Carefully read the **documents you sign** (especially paragraphs written in small print). Don't sign what you don't understand. In government agencies, if you have to complete documents in a language you do not understand, they will provide help. In all other cases, get help from an interpreter you trust.
- You have the **right to refuse** support from citizens or organizations if you feel suspicious, and you can go directly to the police.
- If someone who is not a government official or a worker with a registered agency (e.g. Red Cross, The Salvation Army etc.) asks to **hold or keep your identity documents**, do not let them.
- Do not hand over your **mobile phone** to anyone and try to keep it charged.
- No one is allowed to ask you for **sexual services** against your will or force you to work/beg in exchange for help (money, transportation, accommodation, meals or work).

## Offers of free help?

- If you see someone willing to help with free transportation or housing but **only** to **young single women or a young mother** with a maximum of one small child, get the attention of the police, these people can be traffickers, especially seeking to force people into the sex trade.
- Also be wary of people who **offer to drive you** (in a car, van or truck) to another country and provide you with food, housing and work.



## Moving to a country

Before you move to another country, ask the following questions and then give the information to a trusted person, so that someone knows where you are and how to find you:

- Know the city to which you will move and the **address** of the place you will live or work.
- Find out your rights and the legal procedure to **register** in the country where you want to settle.
- Make sure you have enough **information** about the person you are travelling with and the route you will travel. Share this information with someone you trust.
- Contact details for the **person who will meet you** (full name, photo of the person with an identity card in his/her hands, phone number).

## When you arrive

As soon as you arrive in your new country:

- Contact a trusted person and tell them **where you are**.
- If something **changes** (e.g. where you live or work) immediately notify that person of the changes.

This way, if contact with you is lost, the person can go to the police and provide all the necessary information for your search.

## Police / Embassy

Also, try to find out before you go, the address and phone number of the Ukrainian Embassy in the country where you are going, as well as the phone number to call the police. To have these two phone numbers with you may save your life!

In case of suspicious or harmful actions from people hosting you, immediately contact the police or embassy.

## Phone numbers