



Mr Andrew Rosindell MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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DECS Reference MIN/0267078/22

 April 2022



Thank you for your email of 22 March concerning a fast-track visa scheme for Ukrainian students and academics.

Our humanitarian response has been developed in close consultation with the government of Ukraine. On 4 March, I launched the Ukraine Family Scheme, for the following relatives of British nationals and people settled in the UK: spouses, civil partners, durable partners, children of any age, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings, aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins, and in-laws.

Further information on the visa process for Ukrainian family members who wish to come to the UK can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/support-for-family-members-of-british-nationals-in-ukraine-and-ukrainian-nationals-in-ukraine-and-the-uk#non-british-family-members-of-british-nationals-in-ukraine>

We are also helping Ukrainians who do not have family here through the new Homes for Ukraine scheme, launched on 18 March. It will match Ukrainians with no family here with individuals, businesses, community organisations, or local authorities who are willing and able to act as their sponsor.

We are setting no limit on the numbers of people who can come here. We will be glad to welcome as many Ukrainians as wish to come for whom we can find sponsors.

Students and academics displaced by the conflict are able to apply for the Ukraine Family Scheme if they have existing family ties to the UK, or to the Homes for Ukraine Scheme if they are sponsored by individuals or organisations here in the UK. They can also apply under existing points-based system routes if they are eligible.

The United Kingdom has a long, proud history of helping people in need, and I hope that we are flooded with offers from potential sponsors.

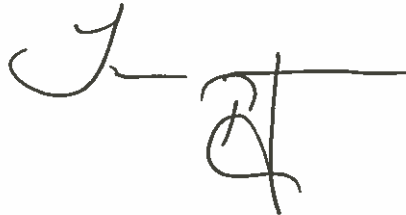
Our generous humanitarian approach builds on our proud record of welcoming 20,000 Afghan nationals, 97,000 BNOs from Hong Kong, and 20,000 Syrian nationals under resettlement schemes.

This crisis, like the Afghanistan crisis that came before it, underlines the importance of reform of our immigration system, so that we have the capacity to welcome refugees swiftly and in large numbers, and can focus our efforts on people in genuine need.

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We will do everything we can to support Ukrainians, continuing this country's proud history of being a place of sanctuary and of standing for freedom and democracy and against barbarism and tyranny.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me about this important issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical line that curves back down, resembling the initials 'JP'.

**Rt Hon Priti Patel MP**