



DRC Ukraine Legal Alert: Issue 91 | 16 February – 15 March 2023

1. The Parliament Establishes Mechanism for Providing Compensation for Damaged and Destroyed Property

On 23 February 2023, the Parliament adopted <u>Law №2923-IX</u> introducing a mechanism for providing compensation for damaged and destroyed housing. Following are the salient features of the law:

Compensation Mechanism			
Eligible Period and	was damaged or destroyed after 24 February 2022		
Locations	was located in GCA as of 24 February 2022		
Eligible Persons	Ukrainian Citizens, who		
	 own damaged/destroyed housing, or 		
	 have started/ordered the constructions of housing, but have not completed 		
	it (the permit to perform construction work has been obtained), or		
	 own damaged/destroyed objects of unfinished construction, or 		
	have financed the construction of housing for which the permit to perform		
	construction work has been obtained, or		
	 are members of housing cooperatives who have purchased an apartment or 		
	other residential premises of the cooperative, but have not formalized the		
	right of ownership for it		
	heirs of the above persons.		
	Entities, which are		
	homeowner associations		
	housing cooperatives		
	 persons authorised by co-owners of apartment buildings. 		
Principles Governing the	first-come first-served basis		
Compensation	Right to Appeal against denial		
Mechanism			

Persons Holding	families with 3 or more children	
Priorities	 persons with disability of I/II group or with disability as a consequence of war 	
	participants of military actions	
	 persons mobilized after 24 February 2022 	
	families of fallen (deceased) war veterans.	
How to apply	 digitally - via Diia (whether website or mobile application) paper-based - via TSNAP, social protection authority, or notary. 	
	Executive authorities to establish mobile points for receiving applications.	
	NB! Information and notifications on the destruction of property previously	
	submitted through Diia ¹ are considered as valid application. However, the missing	
	documents have to be supplied.	
Necessary documents	ID-documents or power of attorney	
	 Depending on property right category under which a person or entity 	
	becomes eligible, a list of documentation options is provided to establish	
	applicant's connection with the property (for instance, a copy of the	
	document confirming the right to perform construction works, document	
	confirming the death of the owner of the damaged/destroyed housing etc.)	
When to apply	The application may be submitted during the Martial Law and one year (3 years for	
	certain objects) after its suspension/termination.	
Application Processing	Application has to be processed within 30 calendar days, which can be prolonged	
Time	for additional 30 calendar days if the property is located in non-government-	
	controlled areas (NGCA) or in areas of active hostilities.	
	A decision on compensation has to be made by the executive board of the alocal	
	authorities within 5 days of the date of the Commission's decision	
Decision-rendering Body	Local Compensation Commissions ² .	
Form of Compensation	Compensation for destroyed property will be provided in the following forms:	
	 money transfer to the bank account of the person, which can be used only 	
	for the construction of the housing	
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¹ For more information, please see <u>DRC Legal Alert 78.</u>

² The Cabinet will develop the typical provisions for the establishment of the local commissions. The commission's personnel composition is subject to approval of the respective local executive body.

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	• financing the nurshare/construction of a housing (in the form of a digital		
	 financing the purchase/construction of a housing (in the form of a digital 		
	Certificate valid for 5 years).		
	Compensation for damaged property shall be provided in the following forms:		
	performance of construction works		
	provision of construction-related materials.		
Additional provisions	Simultaneously with the provision of compensation the recipient of		
	compensation shall conclude an agreement under which he/she will assign		
	his/her 'right to claim' compensation from the Russian Federation to the		
	State/Local self-government.		

In order to ensure effective implementation of the Law, a Register of Damaged and Destroyed Property is established for collecting and processing information. The Register will be jointly administrated by the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Digitalization.

2. The Cabinet Introduces Mandatory Evacuation of Children from Areas of Hostilities

On 7 March of 2023, the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree No209</u>, requiring mandatory evacuation of children from the areas of hostilities and armed conflicts. The Decree provides power to relevant authorities to carry out mandatory evacuation of children during Martial law even in situations where the parents or legal guardians refuse to cooperate.

The following authorities are provided with the decision-making power:

- regional military administrations
- military commanding authorities of the respective territories
- Coordination Hub for mandatory evacuation.

3. The Cabinet Assigns New Roles to the Coordination Hub on Children's Rights During Martial Law

On 10 March of 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree Nº217</u> assigning new functions to the Coordination Hub on Children's Rights During the Martial Law. In addition to the previously assigned activities the Coordination Hub will:

- coordinate the actions of executive authorities to create conditions for integration at the new place of residence for the evacuated children
- monitor cases of violence against children
- coordinate activities related to the return of the children forcibly displaced to the NGCA or to the territory of the Russian Federation or other states.

The Coordination Hub will be headed by the Minister for Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories.

4. The Cabinet Creates Youth Fund and Promotes Youth Participation in Restoration and Reconstruction

On 28 February 2023, the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree №182</u>, establishing the Ukrainian Youth Fund. The principal objectives of the Fund include:

- Provision and supervision of budget grants for youth projects
- Development and facilitation of youth policy and youth activities.

The Fund, among other matters, will provide grants to youth driven projects for restoration and reconstruction in the post-war period. At least 70% of the volunteers participating in any such project should be young persons. Activities of the projects may include:

- public works
- community reconstruction, including youth centres and social infrastructure
- integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) into the receiving communities, etc.

5. The Parliament Empowers Certain Parliamentary Committees with Functions Necessary for Post-War Restoration

On 23 February 2023, the Parliament adopted <u>Decree Nº2929-IX</u>, assigning new decision-making roles on post-war restoration to certain Parliamentary Committees.

Parliamentary Committee	New areas of authority matter of the Committee
Budget Committee	Financing, financial control and audit of post-war restoration
Committee on the Organisation of State	State policy in the sphere of restoration of infrastructure (except for
Power, Local Self-Government, Regional	transport), regions and territories affected by war
Development and Urban Planning	
Committee on Transport and	State policy in the sphere of restoration of transport infrastructure
Infrastructure	affected by war

6. The Cabinet Approves a List of Prioritized Activities of the Government Including Integration and Support for the Internally Displaced Persons

On 14 March 2023, the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree Nº221-p</u> laying down the government's priorities for 2023. The 246-page document lists 569 priority actions including the following activities that may have positive impact on IDP durable solutions:

 Securing concessional loans from the Council of Europe Development Bank for social projects such as social housing and other IDP support

- Activating the eOselia program, including the provision of mortgage loans at 7% interest for 20 years with a 20% down payment
- Stimulating the development of small and medium-sized businesses and creating new jobs, which will
 encourage the return of employees who left Ukraine due to war
- Ensuring support to SME and Micro SME under international technical assistance projects, aiming at strengthening their ability to operate and provide critical goods and services to IDPs and host communities
- Implementation of programmes, projects and activities aimed at the development of youth from the territories of hostilities and NGCA, and IDPs
- Expanding the geographic outreach of state enterprise "Document" outside Ukraine and ensuring the provision of administrative services to citizens of Ukraine who left Ukraine due to war
- Improving the quality of life of IDPs by implementing medium-term solutions; strengthening their capacities and social resilience; stimulating economic activity; and ensuring their return to their place of residence.

Other Developments

- 1. The Cabinet Establishes the Procedure for Verification of Qualification of Medical Workers Employed Abroad During the Martial Law (Decree No149 of 17 February 2023).
- 2. The Cabinet Denounces the Agreement on Cooperation and Coordination of Development of New Border-Crossing Points at the Ukraine-Russia Border (<u>Decree Nº175</u> of 28 February 2023).
- 3. The Cabinet Denounces the Belarus-Ukraine Agreement on Mutual Control on Border-Crossing Points at the Ukraine-Belarus Border (Decree №176 of 28 February 2023).
- 4. The Cabinet Allows to Attach IDP Certificate as a Document Proving the Fact of Raising a Children From Previous Marriage in Order to Get The Certificate of a Parent of the Family With Many Children (Decree Nº191 of 3 March 2023).
- 5. The Cabinet Establishes that an Applicant Will Pay Only the Fee for International Passport While Applying for both National and International Passports (is applicable for the initial issue of the National Passport only) (Decree Nº210 of 7 March 2023).
- 6. The Cabinet Approves Additional Funding of 10 bln UAH for Local Self-Governments of Conflict-Affected Areas, Newly Accessible Areas and NGCA (Decree No209-p of 10 March 2023).
- 7. The Cabinet Amends the Composition of the Working Group on the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Ukrainians Under Temporary Protection in the EU and Other Countries Adding, *Inter Alia*, the Commissioner for Internally Displaced Persons (Decree Nº200-p of 7 March 2023).

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