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### DRC Legal Alert: Issue 93 | 16 April – 30 April 2023

# 1. Compensation for Damaged Housing to be Provided Through the "eVidnovlennia" Service of the Diia App

**Background**: On 23 February 2023, the Parliament adopted <u>Law №2923-IX</u><sup>1</sup> introducing a mechanism for providing compensation for damaged and destroyed housing. The law required subsidiary legal acts necessary for outlining implementation procedure.

**Recent developments**: On 21 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree N $_{2381}$ </u> introducing the Procedure of compensation for the restoration of certain categories of housing damaged as a result of war. Compensation is to be provided via "<u>eVidnovlennia</u>" electronic public service<sup>2</sup> and upon the decision of the relevant local commission.

	Citizen of Ukraine who:	
	<ul> <li>has reached the age of 18</li> </ul>	
Eligible persons	has applied through the Diia application	
	• is the owner (co-owner) of the damaged object, whose ownership has been	
	confirmed	
Priority principle	In general, the compensation is provided under the principle first come first serve. But	
	there is a list of vulnerable groups of persons who are eligible for priority treatment.	
Componention numbers	Purchase of construction products for repair whether independently or through relevant	
Compensation purpose	services in accordance with the <u>list.</u>	
	Compensation shall be provided when:	
	<ul> <li>housing was damaged after 24 February 2022</li> </ul>	
Prerequisites	<ul> <li>housing is located on the Government-Controlled Areas (GCA)</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>ownership of the damaged housing is confirmed</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>damaged housing has not been repaired.</li> </ul>	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information, please see <u>DRC Legal Alert 91</u>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An electronic public service created for providing compensation for the restoration of certain categories of damaged housing. Application for compensation is possible electronically through the Register of Damaged and Destroyed Property. For more information, please see <u>DRC Legal</u> <u>Alert 78</u>.

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Amount of	The amount of compensation cannot exceed 200 000 <sup>3</sup> UAH for one damaged object.		
compensation			
Terms	<ul> <li>compensation shall be used within 12 months from the date of its receipt</li> <li>funds that will not be used within the prescribed period shall be returned</li> <li>application for compensation shall be considered by the Commission within 30 days.</li> </ul>		
Restrictions for usage of funds	<ul> <li>It is prohibited to:</li> <li>transfer funds from the special account to other accounts, except for the accounts of business entities involved in the implementation of the eVidnovlennia electronic public service</li> <li>withdraw cash from the special account</li> <li>to refund the funds in cash or to another account of the recipient of compensation, except for the special account in case of return of the goods, refusal to perform the relevant services and works.</li> </ul>		
How to apply	<ol> <li>install and register in the Diia app</li> <li>submit information about the damaged property (or choose one of the previously submitted applications)</li> <li>make sure that information about the damaged property is available in the State Register of Real Estate (register in case of absence of such information)</li> <li>open a special account for transferring compensation to "Oschadbank"</li> <li>select the "eVidnovlennia" service in the Diia application</li> <li>create an application in the Diia noting personal data (full name, date of birth, contact details, tax number, special account number (IBAN), address of the damaged property, and information on the priority right to compensation (if any).</li> <li>provide the consent of the coowners to receive compensation (if any)</li> <li>receive a confirmation of registration of the application in the Diia</li> <li>in case of receipt of requests for additional information from the Commission, provide the requested information.</li> </ol>		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> According to the amendments, introduced by the Cabinet in <u>Decree Nº487</u> of 12 May 2023.

### 2. The Cabinet Regulates Issuance of Childbirth Allowance for Ukrainians Under Temporary Protection Abroad

**Background**: Under previously existing mechanism woman giving birth abroad could apply for childbirth allowance only upon returning to Ukraine. Such application had to be done in-person.

**Recent developments:** On 18 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree Nº340</u> amending certain decrees on the provision of financial assistance, benefits and housing subsidies, and the Procedure for the appointment and payment of State aid to families with children (<u>Decree Nº1751</u> of 27 December 2001).

Ukrainians, temporarily residing abroad now can apply for childbirth allowance remotely during the period of Martial Law. Steps to be taken by the applicant:

- open a bank account for social payments (can be done remotely)
- fill in an application for childbirth assistance
- attach the documents certifying the child's birth issued by the competent authorities of the country of residence and duly legalized
- send the application and documents certifying the child's birth by post to the social protection authority at the registered (declared) place of residence (stay) in Ukraine.

The application shall be done within 12 months of the child's birth (this period has been extended for the duration of the guarantine and one month after its suspension).

#### 3. The Cabinet Allows Cross-Border Payment of Pension for Persons Under Temporary Protection

#### Abroad

**Background**: Pensioner who fled from war and took temporarily protection abroad have been facing obstacles to accessing their pension. This was especially problematic for pensioners who do not have current bank accounts in Ukraine. Moreover, to renew the payment pensioners had to apply to the Pension Fund in person.

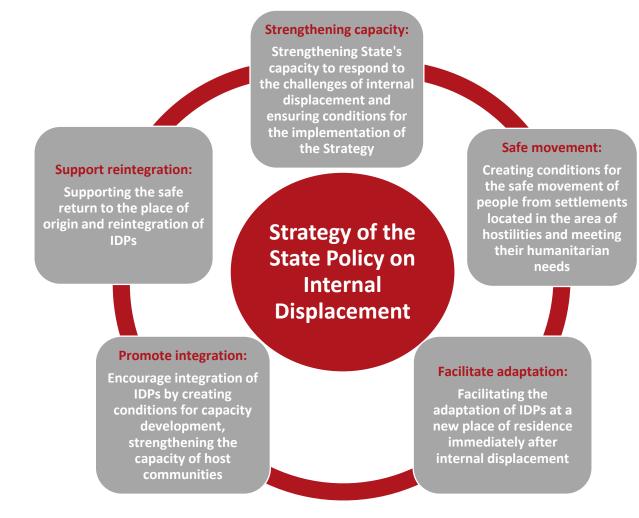
**Recent developments**: On 18 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree Nº328</u> introducing a mechanism for payment of pensions to persons temporarily residing abroad and who were granted temporary protection or refugee status. The amendments provide the following opportunities:

- receive pension payments abroad by international transfer via Ukrposhta postal service
- renew the payment of pensions by sending a relevant application by post to the Pension Fund
- apply for payment of pensions or financial assistance through authorised banks in electronic form using a qualified electronic signature.

## 4. The Cabinet Adopts Short and Medium-term Strategy of the State Policy on Internal Displacement

On 7 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree No312-p</u>, elaborating short- and medium-term Strategy of the State Policy on Internal Displacement (the Strategy). The Strategy is elaborated for triennial period. It is aimed at creating conditions under which IDPs:

- will not be in need of special assistance or protection as consequence of their displacement
- will enjoy constitutional rights without any discrimination, including on the basis of origin or fact of internal displacement.



Strengthening capacity:

- update the legislation on internal displacement
- improve the Unified Information Database on IDPs
- introduce a system of periodic needs assessment of IDPs

Safe movement:

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- ensure coordination by the State of the process of mass displacement of persons during war
- coordinate the provision of humanitarian assistance to persons evacuated from settlements where hostilities are taking place
- introduce systematic support for the communities to which evacuation is carried out

Facilitate adaptation:

- create conditions for psychological assistance and rehabilitation of IDPs, including children
- ensure access to educational services for IDPs

Promote integration:

- create conditions for the social integration of children affected by the war
- implement the measures for vocational training and employment support for IDPs
- provide IDPs with affordable housing

Support reintegration:

- introduce a procedure for accounting and compensation for the value of destroyed and/or damaged property
- ensure proper planning for the restoration of regions and territories affected by the war
- create the basis for restoring the damaged infrastructure of the newly-accessible areas.

### 5. The Cabinet Establishes Coordination HQ for Ensuring the Implementation of the Rights and Freedoms of IDPs

**Background**: On 7 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted Strategy of the <u>State Policy</u> on Internal Displacement. Previously, in a significant structural reorganization the Cabinet established a position of the Commissioner for Internally Displaced Persons in order to consolidate IDP protection response framework<sup>4</sup>.

**Recent developments**: On 18 April 2023 the Cabinet introduced <u>Decree №330</u> establishing Coordination Headquarters (HQ) for ensuring the implementation of the rights and freedoms of IDP as the practical step towards the implementation of the Strategy.

The Coordination HQ aims to strengthen the interaction of executive authorities in the integration of IDPs at their new place of residence. This includes functions of monitoring, analysis and determine approaches to solving problematic issues related to the implementation of the rights and freedoms of IDPs.

The HQ will be headed and managed by the Minister for reintegration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For more information, please see <u>DRC Legal Alert 82</u>.

#### 6. The Cabinet Improves Mechanism for Granting Financial Aid to Conflict-Affected Civilians

On 18 April 2023 the Cabinet adopted <u>Decree №347</u> improving <u>Procedure</u> for the use of funds for evacuees and persons living in newly accessible areas.

Financial assistance to the evacuees is to be payed within five days from the date of arrival of the respective persons to the evacuation reception point.

Required documents:

- identity document, or eDocument
- document confirming the registration number of the taxpayer's registration card (if any)
- document confirming disability (if any)
- child's birth certificate or e-birth certificate (if any).

If the person does not have the relevant documents, the information on the payment of financial assistance shall include the data of the documents of two persons who can confirm the identity of the person receiving the assistance. No payment is made to a person who has previously received financial assistance as an evacuee.

## 7. Parliament Removes the Requirement for Deregistration for IDPs to Register Place of Residence at the New Location

On 11 April 2023 the Parliament introduced <u>Law №3054-IX</u>, simplifying registrational procedure of the place of residence for IDPs from the territories of active hostilities or non-government-controlled area (NGCA) and their newborns. The amendments are aimed at ensuring easier access to State services.

According to the amendments, IDPs whose place of residence is registered or declared at the territories of active hostilities or NGCA may declare or register new place of residence without a deregistration of previous one. Children will be registered at the place of residence of their parents (written application shall be submitted when parents are registered separately).

#### 8. Cabinet Provides Compensation to Employers and Small Businesses Creating New Job

On 18 April 2023 the Cabinet introduced <u>Decree №338</u> adopting compensation mechanisms to employers and small businesses creating new job. By such decision Government envisages to:

- support and booster economic incentives for business, and
- reduce unemployment.

Thus tax-related expenses are subject to compensation under the following terms:

	Compensation to employers	Compensation to small businesses
Subject of	50% of the actual expenses related to the	actual expenses in the amount of a single
compensation	payment of a single contribution to the	contribution to the obligatory state social
	obligatory state social insurance	insurance

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Eligible entities	<ul> <li>Legal entities that:</li> <li>create new jobs (vacancies)</li> <li>employ employees by concluding an employment contract</li> <li>pay to such employee a monthly salary of at least three minimal salaries<sup>5</sup> during the following 12 months.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Small business entities that</li> <li>create new jobs</li> <li>employ registered unemployed persons by concluding an employment contract <ul> <li>for a biennial period</li> <li>upon referral from the employment centre.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Duration of compensational payments	12 months	Compensation is paid for each odd month of work from the date of employment of a registered unemployed person. The total duration of compensation is 12 months over the following two years	
How to apply for compensation	In order to receive compensation, the employer shall apply for compensation to the employment centre located at the place of business no later than 45 calendar days after the end of the 12-month period from the date of conclusion of the employment contract with the person hired for the new job	In order to receive compensation, the employer shall, within two months from the date of employment of the registered unemployed, apply for compensation to the employment centre located at the place of business	
Compensation shall not be provided	<ul> <li>the employer is in arrears:         <ul> <li>on payment of a single contribution</li> <li>payment of insurance contributions for obligatory state pension insurance</li> <li>payment of salaries</li> <li>to the state (local) budget for more than six months</li> </ul> </li> <li>the employer is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or the is in the process of liquidation.</li> </ul>		
Right to appeal	The decision on granting or refusing to grant compensation may be appealed in administrative or court procedure.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 1 minimal salary per month is 6700 UAH as of 1 January 2023. Please, see <u>DRC Legal Alert Special, Issue 87</u>.

#### **Other developments:**

 The Government has declared withdrawal from the Multilateral Agreement that Granted Social Assistance, Compensatory Payments and Alimony. (Decree №368 of 21 April 2023)

The Multilateral Agreement on Guarantees of the Rights of Citizens in the Field of Social Assistance, Compensatory Payments to Families with Children and Alimony was done in 1994 among certain former Soviet Republics, including Russia. Guaranties stipulated in this Multilateral agreement shall be further regulated under International Law and relevant bilateral agreements done by Ukraine. The obligations to pay social assistance that arose during the period of participation in this Agreement remain in force until they are fully fulfilled.

- 2. The Government Establishes Unified Register of Persons Deported or Forcibly Displaced as Consequence of War in Order to Effectively Protect the Rights and Interests of Such Persons (Decree №339 on 18 April 2023)
- The Cabinet Amends Procedure on Issuance of Pension Certificates to IDPs Allowing Them To Receive Such Certificates Both in Digital and Paper Forms During the Martial Law and Three Months After Its Suspension or Termination (<u>Decree №325</u> of 7 April 2023)

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