

Estonian education system and the Ukrainian war refugees

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1. Context
2. Challenges
3. Policy responses

Context and aims

- Population of 1.3 million people, **138,000+** in compulsory education
- 44,200+ refugees, **9,444** of compulsory schooling age (**6.8%** of student body)

- Local Ukrainian community and their support
- Social inclusion and basic right to education:
 - child protection perspective - creating a safe environment for children,
 - getting children involved in education,
 - bringing children to school - providing access to all support services

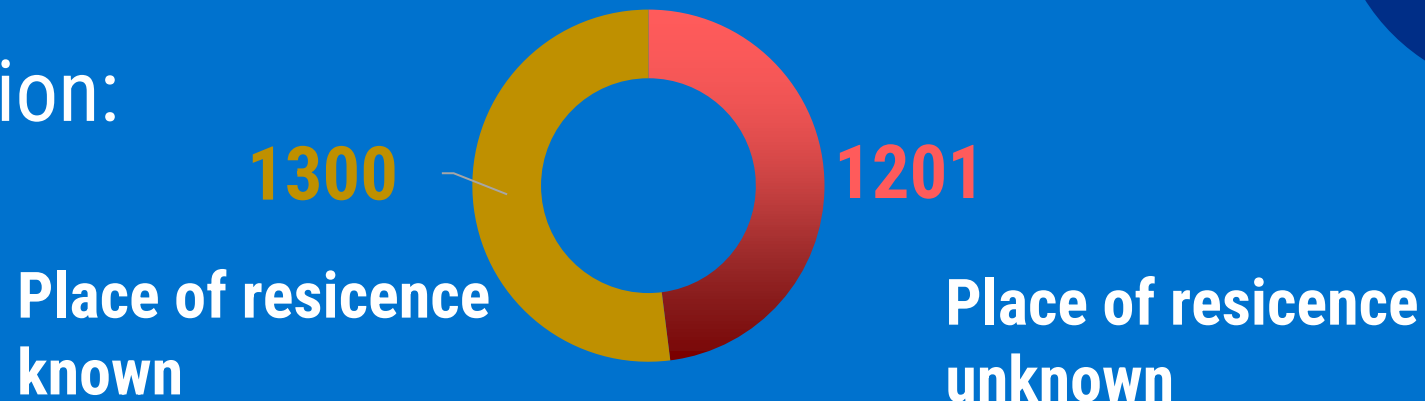
Compulsory schooling:

In Estonia **9 444**
7-17 year-old war refugees



- Active in compulsory levels
- Compulsory level completed
- Not in education

Not in education:



Challenges and miscalculations

- Enrolling children and youth in the local system
- Integrating into the local system vs. supporting their return to Ukraine
- Motivating teenagers to learn in a new language without them intending to stay
- Access to post-compulsory levels
- Involving the Ukrainian educators

Policy responses and success

No ideal solutions in the context of crises

- Child-centred approach
- Flexibility in laws and approaches
- Early distribution of essential information and opportunities
- Strong support from the local community
- Involvement of the Ukrainian educators



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As a government you may make plans and set goals,
but in the end you need to
remain as flexible as possible.





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Thank you!

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