Assistance for the voluntary return of non-Ukrainian nationals who have fled Ukraine

The Federal Republic of Germany provides assistance for non-Ukrainian nationals who have fled Ukraine and would like to return to their countries of origin or travel to other countries of destination. This assistance includes funding for travel expenses. Additional assistance is available for travel to certain specific countries. The assistance available depends on the circumstances of each individual case. Information about specific assistance is provided by return counselling centres.

1. Who can receive assistance?

If you were living in Ukraine as a national of a different country and fled Ukraine because of the war there, you can receive assistance for voluntary return and reintegration if you entered Germany after 24 February 2022, are officially registered here and do not have your own resources to leave Germany. This applies regardless of your residence status in Ukraine.

2. What assistance is available for voluntary return and reintegration?

Possible support for voluntary return:

- Money to pay for a flight ticket or bus ticket
- Money to travel from your home to the airport, train station or bus station
- Money for the journey (travel aid)
- One-time financial start-up assistance depending on your nationality
- If necessary: medical assistance

Possible reintegration support (depending on your country of destination):

- Further financial start-up assistance
- Reintegration support for housing and medical care
- Vocational training, help with finding a job, help with starting a business

You will need individual return counselling to clarify exactly what support is available to you (see also question 4).

3. Is it also possible to leave Germany for another country?

You can move to a country other than your country of origin if your desired country of destination is willing to admit you. You must be able to demonstrate that you are entitled to permanent residence (at least 12 months) in the country of destination.
4. Where can I get advice and apply for assistance?

You can seek advice at return counselling centres in your area. There are nearly 1000 return counselling centres in Germany.

- Counselling is free and comes with no obligation to leave Germany.
- The return counselling will help you with organising and preparing for departure and with applying for assistance.
- Counselling is offered in German and usually in English too; it may also be offered in other languages as well.
- You can only submit your application for assistance through a registered return counselling centre that offers this service.

You can find a return counselling centre near you by using the search function on the website:  
www.returningfromgermany.de/en/centres/

To apply for assistance, you should select a return counselling centre which offers the service “counselling and application”.

5. What documents do I need to apply for assistance?

- Passport or emergency travel document from your country of origin
- If available, residence permit in Ukraine/proof of residence in Ukraine
- Proof of official registration in Germany
- Proof of lack of funds: if necessary, this can be an affidavit.

6. Where can I find more information?

You can find more information about return and reintegration programmes and about programmes for specific countries on the website ReturningfromGermany.de in numerous languages (including English, French, Russian, Arabic and Farsi):  
www.returningfromgermany.de/en/