

# Thematic Legislative Update

## Regarding State Strategy on Internal Displacement (2023-2025) and its Operational Plan

On 7 April 2023, the Government of Ukraine adopted a [State Strategy on Internal Displacement \(2023-2025\)](#), together with its [Operational Plan](#). The new Strategy aims to develop a state policy that provides an effective response to the new challenges presented by mass displacement resulting from the full-scale invasion by the Russian Federation and addresses the needs of persons impacted by the war.

The Strategy sets out five main strategic goals, each of which has separate objectives and indicators of achievement:

- **Goal 1: Strengthening the State's capacity to respond to internal displacement challenges and ensuring conditions for the implementation of the state policy on internal displacement:**
  1. Amending legislation regarding internal displacement, including the current Law on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
  2. Improving the Information Database on IDPs by integrating it with other databases and state registries and further developing a Digital Cabinet of an IDP.<sup>1</sup>
  3. Conduct regular needs assessments of IDPs through regular data collection and effective coordination with stakeholders.
  
- **Goal 2: Ensuring safe evacuations of people residing in areas of active fighting and addressing their humanitarian needs:**
  1. Organizing safe evacuation from the territory of active fighting by:
    - (i) Establishing a system of Coordination Centers for Evacuation (Coordination Center at the central level and local coordination centers).
    - (ii) Updating the legal framework on evacuation, including the adoption of procedure on mandatory evacuation.
    - (iii) Coordinating with international and non-government organizations on evacuations.
    - (iv) Providing access to full and reliable information on evacuations to persons living in areas of active fighting.
  2. Providing humanitarian assistance to the evacuated population.
  3. Supporting communities hosting IDPs.
  
- **Goal 3: Assisting in the initial-stage integration of IDPs:**
  1. Providing support to communities hosting IDPs.
  2. Ensuring social integration of IDPs after their evacuation.
  3. Staged resettlement of IDPs from collective sites. The strategy suggests a wide range of work regarding collective sites, including developing the legal framework and appointing a responsible government body.

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<sup>1</sup> A personal digital account for persons who want to receive services in digital form

4. Introducing preferential terms for the rent of state property.
5. Ensuring access to education for IDPs, engagement in the cultural life of communities, and sports activities.
6. Providing IDPs access to full and reliable information on available services.
7. Providing IDPs access to psychological support.

■ **Goal 4: Facilitating the integration of IDPs by creating conditions for the development and strengthening of the capacity of host communities.**

1. Addressing the housing needs of IDPs by:
  - (i) Ensuring access to affordable housing solutions.
  - (ii) Creating temporary housing funds.
  - (iii) Expanding the loan and investment mechanisms for providing housing for IDPs.
2. Introducing a mechanism for periodic monitoring and assessment of the integration of IDPs in host communities.
3. Integrating war-affected children.
4. Professional training/skills building employment support and self-employment for IDPs, including the implementation of relevant projects and support programs.
5. Creating advisory bodies to involve IDPs in the decision-making process of local executive authorities and local self-government bodies.
6. Ensuring the social cohesion of communities with the engagement of IDPs.

■ **Goal 5: Supporting safe returns to home communities and reintegration of IDPs.**

1. Development of state policies regarding the return to home communities and reintegration of IDPs.
2. Establishing procedures for accounting and compensation for destroyed and/or damaged property.
3. Providing adequate conditions for IDPs to consider their return to their home communities.
4. Ensuring proper planning for the restoration of regions affected by the war.
5. Promoting measures to increase social cohesion and conflict-resolution.
6. Creating a basis for the restoration of damaged infrastructure in de-occupied settlements.

The Operational Plan appoints authorities responsible for the implementation of specific tasks under each of the Goals and Objectives, timelines for implementation, sources of funding, and performance indicators.

The Strategy provides an overarching framework; goals and objectives require further development of separate programs for implementation. However, recent legislative developments indicate that the Government is already taking steps toward implementing the actions outlined in the Strategy. These steps include the adoption the [Law on Compensation, Resolution #209](#) (on mandatory evacuation), [Resolution #248](#) (which adds social integration to the list of social services), [Resolution #264](#), and [Resolution #237](#) (updating the system of state services provided in the area of employment).

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