



Safe Homes initiative: Sustainable and safe housing for people fleeing the war in Ukraine

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As part of the Safe Homes initiative the Commission has developed targeted guidance to support the efforts of **Member States, regional and local authorities and civil society** in organising private housing initiatives for those in need of protection.



"I was watching the news from Ukraine on the TV, and as we have an extra room in our apartment, with my children we decided that we should welcome people in our home to help them. They settled in immediately. It was like they arrived to their own home."

Barbara, from Warsaw, Poland, has taken in three Ukrainian women with kids

Securing conditions for suitable and private accommodation, by:



Supporting hosting families through a single communication channel for those who wish to become hosts, providing questions and answers guide for hosts and guests, clarity about duration of the stay and other conditions of stay, organising capacity building and mentoring sessions for hosts, creating networks to support hosts.



Facilitating proper matching between hosts and those in need through trusted websites centralising offers and providing a real time view of the offers and of the individuals seeking accommodation, promoting hosting of displaced people in smaller and rural communities, factoring specific needs of vulnerable people in the matching procedure.



Ensuring suitable and safe accommodation through tailoring offers to the needs of hosted people, standardised criteria to check the safety of housing, adequate screening of specific needs from the outset, regular visits, background checks and proper vetting of hosts.

→
Find the
Safe Homes
guidance here



Developing innovative partnerships, through:

- involving cities and regions receiving displaced people and ‘twinning’ opportunities;
- exchanges between Member States, Ukrainian authorities, the private sector;
- partnering with architects, designers and urban planners for the experience of the New European Bauhaus;
- partnerships and community sponsorship schemes, where several actors team up to help newcomers become independent.

Developing sustainable solutions for the future, by:



Capturing lessons learned: to strengthen and scale-up community sponsorship programs to welcome refugees across the EU.



Supporting the transition to being autonomous: by building on the solidarity of individuals and communities, and on successful projects and initiatives that combine stay with an integration pathway, for example on education and work.



Developing a whole of society approach: by nurturing and maintaining partnerships and networks with civil society, private sector and foundations.

EU funding can help provide more sustainable accommodation for displaced people by supporting private house solutions.

- The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) can support transnational projects on integration, and community sponsorship schemes.
- The ‘Cohesion’s Action for Refugees in Europe (CARE)’ and the ‘Flexible Assistance to Territories (FAST-CARE)’ provide additional flexibility in Cohesion Policy funding to support Member States hosting people fleeing from the war in Ukraine including through private housing schemes.

