Council of the European Union

Brussels, 24 June 2024
(OR. en)

11119/24
ADD 1

Interinstitutional File:
2024/0143(NLE)

ASILE 84
JAI 1031
MIGR 279
FRONT 197
COEST 370
SOC 473

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	10709/24 + COR 1
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Implementing Decision extending temporary protection as introduced by Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 - Statements by Germany and the Czech Republic

Delegations will find in annex statements by Germany and the Czech Republic for the minutes of Coreper and of the Council.

Statement by the German delegation

Protocol Statement concerning TOP 98

(Coreper II, 24.06.2024)

General Affairs Council on June 25 2024 - Note from Germany on doc. no. 11031/24

- *Germany continues to stand steadfastly with Ukraine.*
- *It remains a particularly important priority for Germany to support Ukraine in its resolute struggle against the various threats to freedom and democracy that it faces and also to provide best support to Ukrainian citizens seeking protection in Germany.*
- *In doing so, Germany is managing the challenges in different areas of government operations by working together with the European family and the European institutions.*
- *Germany would therefore like to expressly thank the European Commission for its efforts to date and especially for presenting the implementing decision in a timely manner, which ensures a coordinated EU-wide procedure beyond 4 March 2025 and thus enables legal residence for people fleeing Ukraine.*
- *Article 1 of the Temporary Protection Directive states the goal of a balance of effort between Member States in receiving displaced persons and the consequences of receiving them. From Germany's perspective, this goal has not yet been met when it comes to receiving refugees from Ukraine and the consequences of receiving them. Even the Solidarity Platform, a mechanism created specifically for this purpose, has not brought any significant progress in this area.*
- *According to the available information, in absolute numbers the largest number of registered beneficiaries of temporary protection are living in Germany. However, the differences in this regard within the European Union are also evident when the number of Ukrainian refugees is considered in relation to each receiving country's population.*
- *Because Germany's reception capacity is strained, it will hardly be manageable to take in more refugees from Ukraine.*
- *For this reason, Germany is pushing for a solution at European level to be found as quickly as possible so this challenge can be met.*
- *From Germany's perspective, in light of the current situation it is also necessary to provide (additional) financial support for particularly affected Member States through existing budget allocations under the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027 to mitigate the costs of receiving, housing and providing for Ukrainian refugees.*

Statement by the Czech delegation

Statement by the Czech Republic on the proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION extending temporary protection as introduced by Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 (doc. no. 11031/24)

The Czech Republic reiterates its continuous solidarity with Ukraine as demonstrated, inter alia, by hosting the highest number of beneficiaries of temporary protection per capita in the EU.

In that spirit and in line with the European approach, the Czech Republic can agree with the extension of the temporary protection by one more year, while reminding of the need for a timely discussion on alternative durable solutions at EU level.

The disproportionate pressure on certain Member States including the Czech Republic shall not be ignored. With our national capacities stretched to the limit and considering current average arrival rate of more than 1000 applicants for temporary protection a week, accommodating the needs of Ukrainian refugees further is not sustainable without additional EU financial support.

Highlighting the results of February European Council conclusions pleading for providing sufficient funding to Member States affected by the war in Ukraine and adoption of corresponding regulations, the Czech Republic calls for a redistribution of relevant funds as a matter of urgency.

Against this background and taking into account also the supplementary issue of secondary movements, not fully functioning IT tool and consequent possibility of temporary protection shopping, the Czech Republic is no longer in a position to fully apply the derogation to Article 11 of the Temporary Protection Directive as initially agreed in the statement of 4 March 2022.

At the same time and as a matter of principle, the Czech Republic continues supporting a coordinated approach at EU level; an approach recognizing also the specific situation and needs of individual Member States.