Civil Protection
Shelter Coalition
For Ukraine

SHELTER COALITION FOR UKRAINE: INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAFETY OF THE POPULATION

As a result of the russian aggression against Ukraine and the constant attacks against civilian population, there is a need to rapidly increase the number of civil protection shelters in Ukraine. Currently, Ukraine has around 62 000 protective structures, which, in theory, could provide protection to approximately half of the population. However, most of the existing shelters are categorised as the simplest form of shelters.

The Civil Protection Code of Ukraine stipulates that every citizen should be provided with protective facilities. Following the adoption of the **Shelter Strategy in March 2025**, Ukraine intends to construct over 10 000 new civil protection shelters in the period up to 2034 and develop a comprehensive civil protection shelter system.

The **Civil Protection Shelter Coalition** was launched in May 2025 through a Joint Statement between the Prime Minister of Ukraine and the Prime Minister of Finland.

The Coalition • raises funds to scale up Ukraine's shelter network • strengthens capacities of the shelter system • promotes alignment with Ukraine's Shelter Strategy. The Coalition's main purpose is to fund the construction of new civil protection shelters or the renovation of existing protective spaces, depending on Ukraine's prioritisation.

HOW DOES THE COALITION WORK?

Coordination

A key objective of the Coalition is to effectively coordinate all efforts for the construction of civil protection shelters. The Coalition will support the implementation of Ukraine's strategy through Ukrainian prioritization and jointly-agreed project selection criteria.

Capacity building

A functional regulatory framework is needed to scale up shelter construction in Ukraine. The Coalition aims to ensure the safety and high quality of the constructed shelters as well as optimizing the utilization of available funds. Finland and Ukraine have launched a project to strengthen Ukraine's shelter system and to support the work of the Coalition, with the aims of **optimising the normative framework on shelters, promoting standardization and replicable shelter construction solutions, and increasing of the knowhow of institutions and shelter related enterprises in Ukraine.** Further capacity building efforts within the Coalition are planned.

Financing mechanism

The primary mechanism for financing the construction of civil protection shelters in Ukraine within the Coalition is the **EU's Ukraine Facility**, a financial support instrument for Ukraine. Any donor wishing to join the efforts to support Ukraine in construction of shelters is provided with an opportunity to do so by using this streamlined channel, which is open also for non-European partners. However, using this particular mechanism is not mandatory – donors who choose to use another mechanism are also welcome to join the Coalition.

Construction

The construction process depends on the chosen financing mechanism. With the funding channelled through pillar III of the Ukraine Facility, the construction process is managed by the EU project implemented by the **Lithuanian International Partnerships Center | CPVA** and the **Belgian agency for international cooperation** (Enabel). All construction projects, regardless of the chosen financing mechanism, are coordinated in the Coalition.

The Coalition's structure

The Coalition's structure consists of a Governing Board, Steering Group, Project Selection Group, and a Secretariat. **The Governing Board** is the highest level of the Coalition, and its primary function is to monitor and ensure that the Coalition activities align with the Shelter Strategy. **The Steering Group** defines criteria for prioritising shelter construction projects and coordinates between Ukraine Facility projects and projects implemented through other instruments. **The Project Selection Group** collects, reviews and submits proposals for shelter construction projects to the Steering Group. **The Secretariat** supports the work of all groups.

HOW TO JOIN THE CIVIL PROTECTION SHELTER COALITION?

States or organisations that wish to support Ukraine in shelter construction financially, materially or technically may join the Coalition.
By signing a Letter of Intent, the willing partner confirms readiness to cooperate on the basis of the provisions set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the founding members of the Coalition, as well as the principles outlined in the Joint Statement between the Prime Minister of Ukraine and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland on the Launch of the Civil Protection Shelter Coalition for Ukraine, dated May 28, 2025.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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