

# Lithuania

Lithuania begins processing extension applications under the Temporary Protection Directive

## **Executive summary**

Effective 12 December 2023, Lithuania's Migration Department began accepting appointments for the renewal of temporary residence permits held by refugees of the Ukraine crisis issued under the Temporary Protection Directive (TPD).

#### Background

Under the TPD, Ukrainian citizens and third-country nationals (i.e., nationals of countries outside the EU or EEA) who fled Ukraine may be eligible to receive various rights in an EU country that has adopted the TPD, including residence and work authorization, housing and medical assistance. The TPD was initially in effect until 4 March 2023 and was then extended until 4 March 2024. In September 2023, the European Commission proposed extending the TPD further until 3 March 2025.

## Key developments

In Lithuania, temporary residence permits issued under the TPD are currently valid until 4 March 2024. In line with the European Council's proposal, holders who seek to extend their permits until March 2025 must file extension applications online on the Lithuanian migration information system MIGRIS, book an appointment with any office of the Migration Department regardless of their place of residence in Lithuania, and present a valid identity document at the appointment. Successful applicants will receive a new electronic permit via their MIGRIS account.

For children under 16, parents or guardians must file extension applications on their behalf. In-person appointments are mandatory for all individuals aged over two years. Children

aged two or below are not required to attend in-person appointments, and their parents can submit scanned copies of their documents to the Migration Department.

#### Impact on employers

Employers may communicate with impacted employees to ensure that extension applications are submitted prior to 4 March 2024 to avoid the possibility of these individuals losing their ability to work lawfully in Lithuania.

## Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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