



Global Immigration alert

July 2024

Denmark

Denmark proposes extending the Special Act on displaced persons from Ukraine until March 2026

Executive summary

The Danish government recently proposed extending the Special Act on displaced persons from Ukraine (“Special Act”) until March 2026.

Background

Under the Special Act, eligible individuals (i.e., Ukrainian citizens, individuals recognized as refugees in Ukraine, close family members of a person in Denmark who has been granted a residence permit under the Special Act or a displaced person from Ukraine staying on the Faroe Islands) who arrived in Denmark in the aftermath of the 2022 armed conflict in Ukraine receive various rights and benefits, including work authorization and coverage under public health insurance. The Special Act is currently in effect until March 2025.

Key developments

The government’s proposal to extend the Special Act is in line with the European Council’s decision to extend the Temporary Protection Directive for Ukrainian nationals. The proposal will be sent for external hearing in the upcoming months and then to the Danish parliament for final voting. The government has also recommended that until the parliament decides on the extension of the Special Act, processing of asylum applications filed by Ukrainian nationals who currently hold permits under the Special Act is suspended, as these individuals will not be required to obtain asylum if the Special Act is extended. The immigration authorities are expected to render a decision regarding this recommendation soon.

If the parliament adopts the proposal to extend the Special Act, the authorities will release further information, including the official steps on how to extend existing permits.

Impact on employers

If the Special Act is extended, impacted individuals will be eligible to continue working in Denmark without a break until March 2026, which may help employers avoid business disruptions.

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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