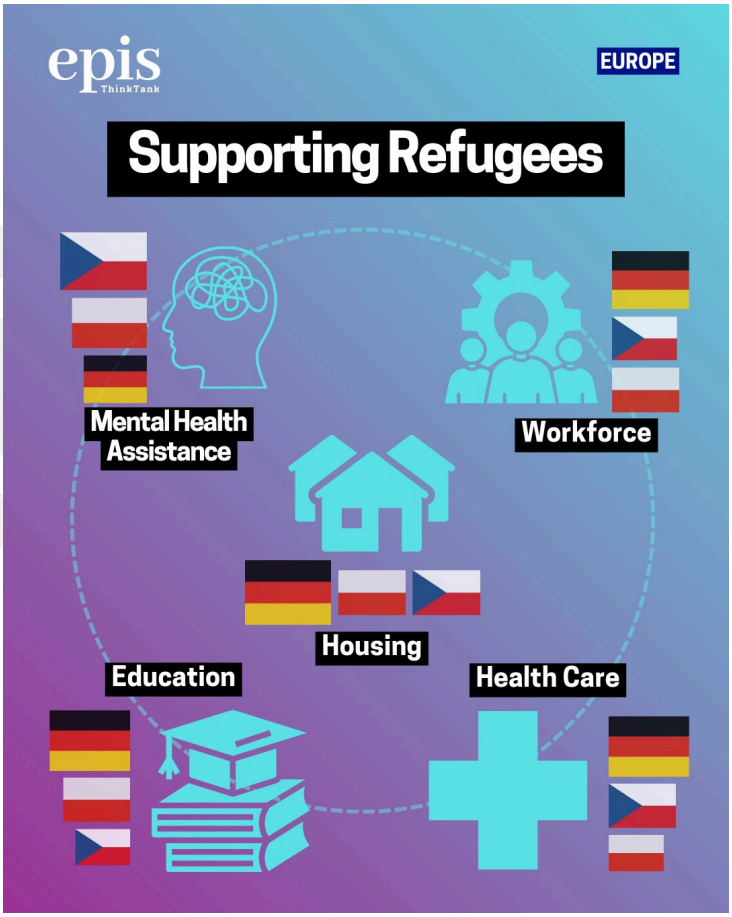
Supporting Refugees: Germany, Poland, Czech Models

29 DECEMBER 2024

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Headline

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Summary

The ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine has profoundly reshaped the landscape of international relations and diplomacy since the Russian invasion in 2022. With over 6 million Ukrainians seeking refuge across Europe, this humanitarian crisis poses a significant challenge for the continent. Beyond the numbers, it also raises important questions about how European nations are adopting both socially and economically to this influx. To show such dynamics, this brief highlights the dynamics by focusing on three countries that have experienced some of the highest influxes of Ukrainian refugees to date: Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic.

One-sentence summaries of each event you report on:

Main sources

Article

Germany:

Germany has emerged as a key country in supporting Ukrainian refugees, having spent €30.6 billion on assistance since the conflict began.In response to the ongoing conflict, the country has rolled out educational programs and labor market initiatives designed to facilitate long-term integration. The programs include: languages courses, vocational training, job placement service. Moreover, Germany's dedication to educational support for young refugees ensures their smooth transition into public schools. With targeted resources and tailored programs, these students are not only set up for academic success but also fostered into a community where they can thrive socially. With this in mind, Germany's holistic approach can be seen as an effective track towards sustainable integration.

Poland:

Poland has emerged as a leader in managing and integrating Ukrainian refugees, prioritizing immediate humanitarian assistance and seamless access to public services. The Polish Border Guard estimates that around 4 million Ukrainian refugees arrived in Poland in 2022, with 1 million staying and registering for temporary protection . Hence Poland provided vital resources such as housing, healthcare, and educational support, all driven by a combination of proactive government policies and grassroots initiatives. The private sector in Poland has also stepped up, creating tailored job and fostering economic integration through partnerships. This multifaceted strategy, fueled by the compassion of Polish citizens, distinguishes Poland for its rapid response and community-centered support.

Czech Republic:

As of summer 2024, the Czech Republic hosts approximately 560,000 Ukrainians and has allocated €7 billion to provide assistance to those affected by the invasion. Therefore, the Czech Republic's approach to integrating Ukrainian refugees stands out for its pragmatic focus on language acquisition, workforce readiness, and community support, all tailored to the nation's modest economic resources. Despite being smaller in size and having fewer financial resources than Poland and Germany, the Czech Republic has effectively prioritized efficient, budget-conscious initiatives that significantly impact the lives of refugees. Then, the government has streamlined legal access to employment, making it easier for newcomers to contribute to the economy. This approach allows the Czech Republic to effectively balance immediate needs with the goal of sustainable integration.

Conclusion

Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic each take a unique approach to integrating Ukrainian refugees, but all rely on the active support of local communities. In Germany, long-term programmes such as education are successful thanks to community efforts. Poland's rapid response highlights the power of local networks to ensure refugees have access to essential services and housing. Then, the Czech Republic also relies on local education and community support, focusing on cost-effective solutions. All these community efforts are vital for keeping society stable. Without them, refugees may face poverty, exploitation, and isolation, which could lead to greater tensions and a breakdown in social unity. In the absence of that, security risks increase, potentially leading to economic instability and unrest. Ultimately, these initiatives highlight the importance of community solidarity, for maintaining social harmony and ensuring long-term stability.

Source: Statista. (2024). **Number of Ukrainian refugees in different countries as of 2023**. Statista. https://www.statista.com/statistics/1312584/ukrainian-refugees-by-country/

Source: Statista. (2022). Number of Ukrainian refugees per thousand inhabitants in selected countries as of mid-September 2022. Statista

. https://www.statista.com/statistics/1342702/ukrainian-refugees-per-thousand-inhabitants-by-country/