Supporting Ukraine through digital 

This department of the Commission is working to support the digital and cultural sectors in Ukraine, help Ukrainians stay connected, and tackle disinformation.

The European Commission’s Directorate General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT) is supporting Ukraine and Ukrainians through a variety of actions. The main objective of our work is to re-establish connectivity infrastructures, and ensure businesses can continue operating. This supports the wider work of the European Commission in tackling Russia’s military aggression.

Staying connected

It is essential that refugees fleeing Ukraine have access to affordable connectivity to keep in touch with family and friends, and find out the latest information. The European Commission and European Parliament [helped to coordinate steps to ensure this](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/ukraine-eu-facilitates-coordinated-steps-telecom-operators-help-refugees-stay-connected) with telecom operators from the EU and Ukraine. They issued a statement outlining [coordinated efforts to secure and stabilise affordable or free roaming](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/joint-statement-eu-and-ukrainian-operators-help-refugees-ukraine-stay-connected) and international calls between the EU and Ukraine. Although the initial agreement was only for 3 months, the Commission has called on telecoms operators in the EU and Ukraine to [prolong their agreement](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/commission-calls-telecom-operators-continue-help-refugees-stay-connected).
A report from the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) (https://www.berec.europa.eu/en/news-publications/news-and-newsletters/berec-reports-on-support-measures-for-ukrainian-refugees-by-european-telecom-operators) mentions that, as of July 2022, 80 EU mobile operators were offering free international calls to Ukraine and a further 44 offered calls at a lower price. Furthermore, 55 European operators provide free roaming to subscribers travelling in Ukraine. EU operators also helped to establish Wi-Fi hotspots for refugees, and distributed over 2.5 million SIM cards between March and May 2022.


**Supporting digital**

The European Commission signed an agreement to associate Ukraine to the Digital Europe Programme (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/solidarity-ukraine-digital-europe-programme-open-ukraine-access-calls-funding) in September 2022. Ukrainian businesses, organisations and public administrations will be able to benefit from the funding and support of the programme in areas such as supercomputing, artificial intelligence, and digital skills. They will also be able to participate in Digital Innovation Hubs – one-stop shops that help companies dynamically respond to the digital challenges and become more competitive.

The European Commission and French Presidency of the Council of the European Union organised an event on continued support for Ukraine’s digital sector at the Digital Assembly 2022, held on 21-22 June.

The Tech4UA event saw the launch of a digital tech hub (https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/digital-compass/tech4ukraine/your-support-ukraine/introducing-digital-tech-hub-ukraine) for equipment donations to Ukraine. Based in Slovakia, the hub will reduce red tape at the border for companies donating equipment. Participants also agreed to offer EU-level coordination for technical support.

The Commission also launched the EUTech4Ukraine Futurium Community (https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/digital-compass/tech4ukraine) at the Digital Assembly. This community aims to bring together stakeholders, encourage discussions, and share information about new measures to support Ukrainian refugees, companies and government in the digital field.

**Laptops for Ukraine**

Laptops for Ukraine (https://laptopsforukraine.com/) aims to collect and deliver laptops, smartphones and laptops for schools, hospitals and public administrations in Ukraine’s most affected war regions.

At present, about 70,000 teachers are in need of laptops, and schools are in need of digital devices to ensure children can keep learning. And, there is a demand for laptops and devices across other vital sectors.

Organisations, companies and individuals based in Belgium can donate devices via Digital Europe. Donations can include new or used devices, as long as they are functioning. Other donation hubs will be set up in due course.
Companies wishing to make larger donations can do so directly through the EU civil protection mechanism. So far, the Commission has helped to ship 12,000 donated devices to Ukraine through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. A further 13,000 devices will be transported in the coming weeks.

In June 2023, the "Laptops for Ukraine" initiative was extended to help museums and libraries safeguard their cultural heritage. The initiative is organised by the European Commission, the Ukrainian Ministry of Digital Transformation and Digital Europe, a European organisation representing the digital technology industry.

Supporting Culture and learning

The European Competence Centre for cultural Heritage (4CH) worked with partners to create the Supporting Ukrainian Monuments initiative. This initiative helps to digitise and preserve Ukrainian cultural heritage for future generations.

Organised by Professor Franco Niccolucci, Director of VAST-LAB, the Save Ukrainian Monuments initiative is supported by the European Commission, the Ukrainian embassy to Italy, the Italian Ministry of Research and many Ukrainian ministers.

Levebee, an app developed with help from an EU-funded project, is now available in Ukrainian. This will support remote learning for children displaced by war. Its content includes, maths, and languages.

Find out more about actions to support culture.

Tackling Disinformation

Disinformation is false or misleading content that is spread with an intention to deceive or secure economic or political gain, and which may cause public harm.

The European Commission has worked to tackle disinformation for some time, in particular with signatories of the code of practice on disinformation. The signatories are heavily involved in taking urgent action to limit disinformation related to the war in Ukraine.

Furthermore, the Commission introduced measures to suspend the broadcasting activities of Russia Today, Sputnik, Rossiya
RTR/RTR Planeta, Rossiya 24/Russia 24, and TV Centre International in or directed at the EU. These state-owned, pro-Kremlin outlets are essential and instrumental in supporting Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and spreading disinformation.

Learn about wider EU support for Ukraine

EU sanctions against Russia
Contact the EU (also in Ukrainian and Russian)
Questions and answers: Supporting Ukraine
On 9 July, the Commission welcomed the twelve-month prolongation of the operators’ agreement allowing displaced refugees from Ukraine to stay connected across borders.
Laptops for Ukraine initiative extended to help museums and libraries safeguard cultural heritage

The "Laptops for Ukraine" initiative is expanded to help cultural heritage institutions in Ukraine to digitally document, scan and photograph documents and objects at risk of being lost due to the war.

PRESS RELEASE | 08 March 2023
Laptops for Ukraine: 13,000 more laptops and smartphones to be shipped to Ukraine

13,000 additional laptops, smartphones and tablets have been gathered and will be delivered to Ukraine through the Commission-supported initiative Laptops for Ukraine.

PRESS RELEASE | 14 February 2023
A further step towards a long-term ‘Roam like at home’ agreement with Ukraine

Ukraine is one step closer to the EU's free roaming area, as the Commission adopted this week a proposal to incorporate roaming into the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

Browse Actions to Support Ukraine
The European Union works with countries around the world and international organisations to ensure technology helps to improve lives everywhere.

See Also

Through digital partnerships, the EU can strengthen connectivity across the world.


As more countries are inspired by the European digital model, European companies have more opportunities to do business, creating more jobs for citizens.

**Source URL:** [https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/support-ukraine](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/support-ukraine)