



Home Office

Seema Malhotra MP
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Rt Hon Dame Karen Bradley MP
Chair, Home Affairs Committee
Committee Office
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

21 August 2025

Dear Dame Karen,

Ukraine Permission Extension – Nationality Assurance

I am writing to advise you that I have signed a Ministerial Authorisation under paragraph 1(1)(d) of Schedule 23 to the Equality Act 2010 allowing Ukrainians in the UK apply for Ukraine Permission Extension, and with valid Ukrainian international passports to upload digital copies of their passports directly unto Home Office systems without attending a Visa Application Centre (VAC). Non-Ukrainians, dependants who are applying for permission under the same scheme, will however be required to go to the VAC regardless of whether they have a valid passport, in line with other foreign nationals who make an application to stay in the UK.

This decision has been made exceptionally to ensure VACs across UK can focus their efforts on helping Ukrainians without passports. This benefits most applicants by reducing the need for in-person appointments and frees up VAC capacity, while maintaining public safety.

I am placing a copy of this letter and the authorisation for this measure in the Libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Seema Malhotra MP
Minister for Migration and Citizenship

EQUALITY ACT 2010
SCHEDULE 3, PART 4, PARAGRAPH 17 (4) (a) MINISTERIAL AUTHORISATION

Equality (further nationality identity and verification for certain UPE applications) Authorisation 2025

Made	21/08/2025
Coming into Operation	22/08/2025

I make the following authorisation under Schedule 3, Part 4, paragraph 17 (4) (a) of the Equality Act 2010¹.

PART 1
GENERAL

Citation and interpretation

1. This authorisation may be cited as the Equality (further nationality identity and verification for certain UPE applications) Authorisation 2025. It permits UKVI to allow Ukrainian nationals, who previously did not provide a passport confirming their nationality and identity, to upload a digital copy of their passport to verify their nationality and identity in a UPE application.

2. In this authorisation –

“affected cohort” means persons who were permitted to enter the UK to apply to Ukraine-related schemes, without providing a passport to verify their nationality and identity, using a Form for Affixing the Visa.

“Ukrainian national” means a national of Ukraine.

“UPE” means the Ukraine Permission Extension scheme under Appendix Ukraine Scheme to the Immigration Rules.

PART 2
DISCRIMINATION ON GROUND OF NATIONALITY –
VERIFICATION OF NATIONALITY AND IDENTITY

Accepting digital copies of Ukrainian passports to verify nationality and identity

3. (1) This paragraph applies where:

- a. A Ukrainian national in the affected cohort makes a UPE application; and
- b. That application has not yet been determined.

¹ 2010 c. 15.

(2) Where this paragraph applies, UKVI may accept digital copies of the Ukrainian national's passport to establish their nationality and identity.

Duration

4. This authorisation will remain in force until revoked.

[MINSTER]
[DATE]

S. Malhotra
21 August 2025