Federal Minister of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria

Mr. Martin F. Polaschek

Dear Minister,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the support provided by the Republic of Austria and the educational institutions of the Republic of Austria to those Ukrainian children and students who were forced to leave Ukraine due to the military aggression of the Russian federation.

We are doing our best to ensure the educational process in almost all regions of Ukraine in such difficult times for the country, and we are also doing everything possible to conduct the enrollment campaign to higher education institutions.

In recent years, enrollment to higher education institutions in Ukraine was carried out based on the national standardized test exams used to ensure fair admission to higher education institutions. Exams were conducted in 13 school disciplines in written format and held during May-June in special testing points in all Ukrainian regions simultaneously throughout the country.

Because of the military aggression of the Russian federation in Ukraine and missile strikes on the objects on entire territory of Ukraine, including civilian infrastructure, it is impossible to conduct centralized exams in the traditional format.

In this regard, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has changed approaches to the organization of the enrollment campaign in 2022. This year in order to enter Bachelor Programs the applicants will need to pass one National Multi-subject Test (NMT) consisting of three subjects (Ukrainian language, Mathematics, History of Ukraine), which will be conducted in format of proctored computer online testing in computer classrooms. To enter Master Programs applicants will have to pass combined Master's Test of Educational Competence (MTEC) plus the Master's
Comprehensive Test (MCT) those also will be conducted in format of proctored computer online testing. It is planned that each applicant will sit one exam and testing will be offered in multiple sessions during certain period in summer. Specific dates will depend on the security situation and agreeing with stakeholders.

A lot of children have left to the Republic of Austria, but plan to return to Ukraine and study further at higher education institutions in Ukraine. However, they will not be able to apply for tuition-free university places until they sit the enrollment testing.

Therefore, we would like to ask you to help Ukrainian children and Ukraine as a country and provide support in organizing enrollment testing (NMT, MTCE+MCT) on territory of the Republic of Austria.

Please find attached to this letter (see the Annex) a list of the main stages of preparation and conducting NMT (MTEC+MCT). The main assistance from the Austrian side will be needed at stages 2, 4 and 6.

We ask for assistance in organizing and conducting the NMT (MTEC+MCT) on the territory of the Republic of Austria and ask to identify a responsible representative from the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria for further coordination of joint actions.

Contacts from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine:

We would be very grateful for the support of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research of the Republic of Austria for this initiative, which will allow Ukrainian children to receive higher education and work in the future for the benefit of Ukraine as a member of a large European family!

Please accept, dear Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.

With kind regards,

Serhiy SHKARLET
Minister
MAIN STAGES
of preparation and conducting
the National Multi-Subject Test

Stage 1. Registration of participants of NMT (MTEC+MCT). In Ukraine appropriate software is being developed that will be used for online registration of children, who are abroad.

Stage 2. Formation of a network of computer test points according to the number of participants in the NMT (MTEC+MCT). In our opinion, the use of computer classes of higher education institutions seems to be optimal in terms of reducing resource costs and forming a distributed network of testing points.

Testing points (hereinafter – TP) must meet the following requirements:
1) each TP classroom should be equipped with personal computers (hereinafter – PC) for participants and one for instructors;
2) TP must have a backup PC.

PC hardware must meet the following requirements:
1) dual-core processor with a clock frequency of 1.8 Hz;
2) RAM from 4 GB, optimally – 8 GB;
3) display, optimally – 17 inches;
4) Internet connection – broadband wired or wireless (3G or 4G / LTE) with a bandwidth of 10 Mbps.

PC software must meet the following requirements:
1) possible operating systems:
   Windows 7/8/10/11;
   macOS X 10.10 or later;
   Ubuntu 14.04 or later;
   RedHatEnterpriseLinux 6.4 or newer and similar (Mint, CentOS, Fedora, etc.);
2) possible browsers:
   Edge 90 or later, Firefox 78 or later, Chrome 90 or later;
   for Mac: Safari 7 or later, Firefox 78 or later, Chrome 90 or later;
   for Linux: Firefox 78 or later, Chrome 90 or later.

Stage 3. Distribution of participants of NMT (MTEC+MCT) by testing points and notification of their place, date and time of testing.
Stage 4. Search and selection of persons who can perform the role of proctors and supervise and support the NMT (MTEC+MCT).

Stage 5. Training of proctors on conducting NMT (MTEC+MCT). Such training can be provided online by support team from a special government agency in Ukraine that organizes such exams.

Stage 6. Conducting NMT (MTEC+MCT) on certain dates (up to 10 days, depending on the number of participants).