

# **Regional State Administration** provides security

#### Oleksii SHAFOROSTOV,

Director of the Training and Methodology Centre for Vocational Education and Training in Ivano-Frankivsk Region The military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022, has become a challenge to the very existence of our state, its sovereignty and unity. The main challenges for the education sector are:

1. Threats to the lives and health of participants in the educational process, restrictions on access to basic human needs.

2. Large-scale destruction of the educational infrastructure: damage to the premises of educational institutions, educational material and technical equipment, training and production bases of practice.

3. Forced large-scale displacement of participants in the educational process within Ukraine and abroad, resulting in significant losses of students, teachers and lectures.

Vocational (vocational-technical) education, professional higher education, and higher education institutions found themselves in new realities, as students and teachers joining the Armed Forces of Ukraine and territorial defense in large numbers. Some teachers continued to teach students even from the front line. Educational institutions became headquarters for helping the population and the military. Students and teachers worked as volunteers. The Ivano-Frankivsk Regional State Administration discussed the challenges for education in the region caused by the full-scale war and developed an Education Development Strategy for 2023-2027, which provides for:

- 1. Ensuring accessibility and improving the quality of VET.
- 2. Development of the professional potential of VET teachers.

3. Balancing the labor market and restoring the prestige of working professions through the popularization of VET.

4. Updating the material and technical base of VET institutions in the region.

## The current state of education in Ivano-Frankivsk region

According to statistics, 161,000 pupils are studying in 587 general secondary education institutions in Ivano-Frankivsk region.

Another 466 pre-school education institutions in the region are attended by 36,000 pupils. Currently, almost 12,000 school-age children are temporarily abroad, which is 7% of the total number.

In addition, since the beginning of the full-scale war, the number of internally displaced persons in the region has increased significantly. Thus, there are 4,300 IDP schoolchildren and 1,398 children attending nursery school.

Professional higher education27 institutions of professional higher education1,700 teaching staff15,700 students

Professional (vocational) education20 VET INSTITUTIONS1,120 teachers11,120 students

In order to facilitate the professional development of VET students, retraining of the unemployed population, advanced training, internships for company employees, and the organization of internships for masters of industrial training, 11 training and practical centers were established at the region's educational institutions. These are effective workshops, new forms and methods of work, and a new status for the educational institution.

After the war, the situation on the labor market will change, and specialists in the country's reconstruction will be in the greatest demand. In particular, there will be the greatest demand for bluecollar occupations: mechanics, electricians, welders, carpenters and installers. 116 students from among internally displaced persons study in 20 institutions of vocational (vocational and technical) education in the region.Mostly these are students from Donetsk, Luhansk and Kherson regions

In the context of the war, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine provides support to participants in the educational process and assesses the current needs of educators and does everything possible to support them. To ensure that every VET student, regardless of their actual place of residence within Ukraine, has the opportunity to study at any VET institution during martial law, the Ministry of Education and Science has developed the Regulations on Internal Academic Mobility of Vocational Education and Training Students Studying at VET Institutions of Ukraine.

The internal academic mobility program provides the right to: receive educational services, undergo training/production practice, receive a scholarship and all other social benefits in accordance with the law in the VET institution where the student studied. The life and health of the participants of the educational process is the main thing during the training, so the first requirement is their safety.

Educational institutions in Ivano-Frankivsk region have shelters that are provided with additional equipment, tools and supplies in accordance with the standards established for the facilities.

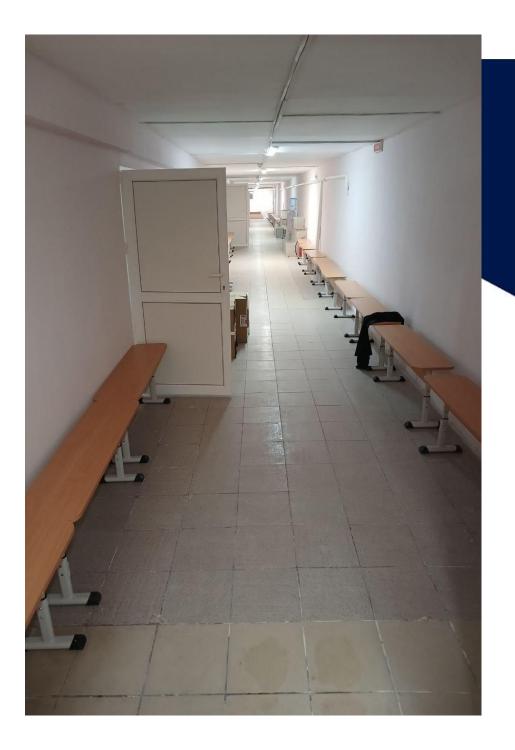
# Photos of shelters in educational institutions of Ivano-Frankivsk region











We thank the European and international community, embassies and ministries of different countries, all partners, international organizations, institutions, projects, everyone who has responded and is supporting Ukraine in this difficult time, for the many proposals for cooperation, for the access to educational platforms, for creating new opportunities for our students and teachers.

Together, we continue to create prospects for the innovative development of Ukraine, shaping the human personality.

### **Dear colleagues!**

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your support.