

Order No. 09/2022

Students in emergency situations for humanitarian reasons

The armed conflict in Ukraine puts millions of Ukrainian citizens at serious risk, leading to a large-scale humanitarian crisis. This situation has justified an urgent humanitarian appeal by the United Nations for assistance and protection needs in Ukraine and the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine.

Council of Ministers Resolution No. 29-A/2022 of 1 March set out the specific criteria for granting temporary protection to persons displaced from Ukraine as a result of the recent armed conflicts in that country. Subsequently, the Council of the European Union adopted Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022, by which it declared, pursuant to Article 5(1) of Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001, the existence of a mass influx into the European Union of persons who had had to flee Ukraine as a result of the armed conflict. In its wake, article 3 of Decree-Law 24-B/2022 of 11 March, consecrated, in the field of higher education, the possibility for beneficiaries of temporary protection under Council of Ministers Resolution 29-A/2022 of 1 March to apply for student status in an emergency situation for humanitarian reasons.

Under the provisions of article 8-A of Decree-Law no. 36/2014, as amended by article 3 of Decree-Law no. 62/2018, of 8 June, **international students** who are in an emergency situation for humanitarian reasons may apply for **international student status**.

By law, students in emergency situations for humanitarian reasons enrolled and registered in public higher education institutions are subject to the same regime of fees, charges and emoluments established by the institution for national students. International students who are granted the status of students in situation of emergency for humanitarian reasons also benefit, by law, from all the support foreseen in the scope of direct and indirect social benefits.

Regarding students coming from Ukraine in the present context of humanitarian crisis, it is important to define the terms of **verification of the conditions for admission** to the various study cycles of NOVA School of Law, as provided in paragraph c) of paragraph 1 of art. 14 of Decree-Law No. 36/2014 of 10 March.

Thus, I determine:

1. If the documents proving the candidate's previous qualifications are not available, their absence does not mean that they will be excluded, in which case the qualifications invoked shall be preliminarily checked by means of an interview intended to confirm their plausibility.
2. The verification of knowledge of the language or languages in which the study cycle will be taught is made under the following terms:
 - a. In the study cycles leading to the master and doctorate degrees, the applications of students in emergency situations for humanitarian reasons are presented in the same way and in the same open competition, which does not depend on the origin or typology of the candidate. Given the abundant supply of courses entirely taught in English, it is not considered necessary to introduce a special regime for checking the language knowledge of these candidates.
 - b. In the law degree, students in emergency situations for humanitarian reasons must apply in the competition for international students. Since this cycle of studies is taught partly in Portuguese and partly in English, also taking into account that it is the duty of the host institution "to take initiatives to promote the academic and social integration of admitted students, organizing the actions that they consider appropriate for an active participation, namely in the areas of language", it is understood that initially only proof of knowledge of the English language is required from these students, this being documented or, if no document is available, the candidate will be subject to an English exam on the date of the interview referred to in no. 1. Given that the teaching offer allows for a semester of courses exclusively taught in English, only in cases of students in emergency situations for humanitarian reasons, the verification of sufficient competence in Portuguese is postponed to a later moment, under a solemn undertaking from the candidates that they will attend the preparatory courses necessary for the minimum command of the Portuguese language required to obtain a degree in Law at NOVA School of Law.



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