



INTERNATIONAL LIFE SAVING FEDERATION OF EUROPE

DROWNING PREVENTION COMMISSION

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WORKING GROUP

INFORMATION

UKRAINE REFUGEES AND WATER SAFETY/SWIMMING

Introduction

In a moment when many European countries receive Ukrainian refugees, it is essential to know what knowledge they have about water safety and swimming, in order to prevent drowning.

Therefore, the Migrants and Refugees Working Group of the Drowning Prevention Commission of the International Life Saving Federation of Europe contacted Beach Patrol - Пляжний Патруль, Ukraine ILSE Corresponding Member.

Results

Two questions were asked, which we will now transcribe:

1 – What is the knowledge of water safety that the Ukrainian population has, especially school-age children?

The answer obtained was: *“... We have some theory about lifesaving steps in different dangerous situations without any practice in schools. But I cannot say that our teachers pay enough attention. They don't put emphasis on this. So children, especially young age, cannot realize importance of this subject...”* and *“...some went through water safety in schools, but not much time is devoted to this according to*

the Ukrainian school curriculum, so I think many people forget. We (Beach Patrol - Пляжний Патруль) also conduct lessons on our own for safety, but unfortunately we cannot cover all children. So I think it would be great to remind them about water safety”.

2 – What is the knowledge of swimming that the Ukrainian population has, especially school-age children?

The answer obtained was: “... *In general, we don’t have swimming pool at schools. Only few private schools have...*” and “...*Many of our children went in for swimming (private swim schools)...*”.

Conclusion

With these two answers obtained, it is to be expected that Ukrainian refugees do not have much knowledge about water safety and that they also do not have great knowledge of swimming, so it is recommended the national analysis of this information and the creation of specific programs for the prevention of drowning.

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