

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2026

The Honorable Joseph B. Edlow
Director
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
One Capital Gateway Drive
Camp Springs, MD 20588

Dear Director Edlow,

We write to express serious concern regarding ongoing delays in the processing of Ukrainian humanitarian parole and re-parole applications, as well as related employment authorization requests, which continue to place thousands of Ukrainian nationals in prolonged uncertainty.

Our offices regularly assist constituents who lawfully entered the United States under the Uniting for Ukraine (U4U) program and who have timely filed applications for re-parole and Employment Authorization Documents (EADs). Despite compliance with all filing requirements, many of these individuals remain in extended processing backlogs, resulting in lapses in work authorization and the loss of lawful presence through no fault of their own.

It has come to our attention that a significant number of Ukrainian re-parole applications filed in early and mid-2025 remain pending well beyond posted processing timeframes. Although U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has resumed processing these applications following the June 2025 federal court order¹ lifting the administrative freeze on parole renewals, many cases appear to be functionally stalled, with limited approvals issued to date. As a result, many of our constituents remain unable to work, support their families, or maintain financial stability while awaiting adjudication.

Our offices have also experienced increasing difficulty obtaining timely and substantive responses through congressional inquiries. In many instances, cases remain pending despite clear eligibility and evidence of timely filing, limiting our ability to assist constituents effectively and undermining confidence in the parole renewal process.

To ensure USCIS addresses these concerns, we respectfully request thorough answers to the following questions:

- What steps is USCIS taking to reduce the backlog of Ukrainian humanitarian re-parole applications and ensure timely adjudication?
- What are the primary drivers behind the current delays and the decline in approval rates?
- To what extent are enhanced security reviews or manual case processing contributing to current delays?
- What measures are in place to prevent lapses in employment authorization for individuals who have timely filed re-parole and EAD renewal applications?

¹ See [Memorandum & Order Granting Partial Relief on Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Stay of Administrative Action](#) at 2, *Svitlana Doe v. Noem*, No. 1:25-cv-10495-IT (D. Mass. 2025).

- When does USCIS anticipate processing times for Ukrainian re-parole and related EAD applications will return to reasonable and predictable levels?
- Is USCIS considering streamlined or blanket relief mechanisms for Ukrainian parolees while backlogs persist?

We share your commitment to ensuring that USCIS adjudications are both thorough and timely. However, Ukrainians who fled a war and sought safety here because of U.S. humanitarian commitments should not be left in legal and economic limbo due to prolonged administrative delays. We look forward to your response outlining the steps USCIS is taking to address these urgent issues.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued service.

Sincerely,


James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress


Eugene Simon Vindman
Member of Congress


Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress


Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress


Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress


Josh Riley
Member of Congress


James P. McGovern
Member of Congress


Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress