

Ukraine's Black People Are Racialized And Are Trying To Leave

With millions of citizens in Ukraine leaving the country following Russia initiated a deadly attack on February. 24 There have been more reports of racial discrimination against Black citizens of Ukraine as they try to leave the country.

The hashtag #AfricansinUkraine has been utilized on Twitter to highlight cases of racial injustice and to draw attention to the ways Black people are being ignored as they try to escape danger.

The Independent reports that Black individuals trying to escape the country were left at border crossings, and were discriminated against when they attempted to board public transport. Independent was even informed by a citizen of his family that they were denied the right to board a bus when it crossed the border. The man claimed that they were told "no people of color."

"I cannot imagine a scenario where white Ukrainians would ever be denied asylum, therefore the way they treat us isn't justified. It's baseless. We're all at risk, and we must all work together to create an unifying thread." the citizen said.

A medical student from another school was also involved in the war. They utilized social media to discuss their experiences and claimed that the war continued for a long time after they had been able to cross the border.

"...Several buses are crossing the border each hour and no foreigner is permitted to cross," they wrote on Twitter. "We managed to cross the border and we're told there is no accommodation in the hotel. exclusively for Ukrainians. In three days, there's no food or sleep... Who decides who rests?"

According to the Irish Times 20% of Ukrainian students are African. Nigeria, Egypt, Morocco and Nigeria are the top 10 countries hosting foreign students from Ukraine. It was African activists who first started the hashtag #AfricansinUkraine, to spread awareness about discrimination and racism. Since the hashtag was launched photos and videos of Black and African citizens being denied evacuation from Ukraine have flooded global social media timelines. Once you desire special info about black history, [sneak a peek at this site](#).

With flights out of Ukraine being grounded, African governments have had to provide assistance to their citizens at a distance. The Nigerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated in an announcement that Nigerians will be allowed visa-free entry to Hungary and Romania on Sunday, February 27th. They also urged citizens to visit these borders.

Nigeria's President Buhari also took to Twitter to denounce the discrimination that is being reported against Nigerian citizens living in Ukraine and wrote: " "...it is crucial that everyone is treated with respect and dignity, without prejudice. Anyone fleeing a conflict situation are

entitled to travel in peace under UN Convention and the colour of their passports or their skin is not a factor in determining their rights."

The African Union (AU), also released a statement stating the Chairs of its organization are "disturbed by allegations of discrimination."

"Reports that Africans are targeted for unfair treatment would be shockingly racist, and in violation of International law," the statement reads. "In this respect, the Chairpersons urge all nations to respect international law and show empathy and compassion to all who are fleeing war, regardless of their race."

The Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland released an apology to the reports, calling the reports as "fake information."

"Refugees fleeing war-torn Ukraine are entering Poland regardless of country of origin," the statement reads. "... The Border Guard also cleared citizens from different [community](#), like India, the USA, Nigeria and India.

Authorities and leaders around the world have responded to the reports in solidarity with the people.

"It is quite disturbing that you still have episodes of discrimination based on one's skin color, especially under such conditions," Spokesperson for South Africa's Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Clayson Monyela said.

"Sorting [refugees] according to their color of skin or origins is not right," European MP Raphael Glucksmann declared. "The Polish government must abide by our values and the law. Solidarity with the thousands African students who are being blocked

This weekend, African citizens in Ukraine took to Twitter Spaces to discuss evacuation procedures and talk about their experiences in trying to leave the country. The Irish Times also reports that Africans trapped in Ukraine have been linked on WhatsApp and Telegram for the same reasons.