

The Rwandan government is closely monitoring the situation in Ukraine and liaising with authorities in neighbouring countries to facilitate the safe passage of 35 remaining Rwandan nationals stranded in Kiev, a senior official said on Tuesday.

Taking on Twitter, the Rwandan Government Spokesperson, Yolande Makolo said the Government is concerned about Rwandans affected by the crisis (in Ukraine).

“We are working with our embassies in Poland, Germany and Russia to coordinate their safe return,” she said.

The statement by the Rwandan government follows reports that African migrants have been ill-treated by officials in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, including being shot at.

The official urged any other Rwandan national who may be stranded in Ukraine to inform the relevant authorities so that they could be assisted.

The Rwandan student community is among the largest of foreign university students in Ukraine, it said.

However, some relatives express concerns on their relatives who are still stranded in Ukraine urging for practical solutions such as providing security guidance to the blocked students in the most tense areas.

The families of 85 Rwandan nationals in Ukraine are asking the government to provide necessary means to evacuate all these students” from the war-zone country or, failing that, land transport to airports in neighboring countries, following an official reaction by the deputy spokesperson of the government in Kigali, Alain Mukuralinda.

Speaking to reporters Monday, Mukuralinda was quoted as saying that 18 out of 85 Rwandan students in Ukraine have so far been evacuated to Poland thanks to the intervention of Rwandan Embassy in Germany.

However, some relatives have expressed concerns at several occasions on their relatives who are still stranded in Ukraine urging for practical solutions such as providing security guidance to the blocked students in the most tense areas.