

## A TRUCE IS NECESSARY NOW DUE TO THE HUMANITARIAN TRAGEDY IN UKRAINE-RUSSIA WAR

### 2,5 MILLION CIVILIANS FLED UKRAINE

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**USPA NEWS** - As the assaults continue in Ukraine, where the escalating the rhythm of bombardments, killing massively civilians, and arising out of Russia's attack on its neighbor country, which has led to (The unknown number of human losses, is so far unknown), so far and over 2,5 Million of civilians, who fled Ukraine, to border countries such as Poland and Romania (members of the European Union), under panic and the fear of being killed by the bombing, France has and is still deploying efforts to stop this war, whose battlefield is close to the gates of Europe. In the light of this tragic situation, while the armed conflict is ongoing live streamed, as if it was a War 2.0, (The Ukrainian President Zelensky is updating the rest of the world, over social medias, and proving he is still alive) and at this point of the talks held (Four rounds of talks) between the Russian and Ukrainian delegations, a truce is necessary, as we publish, due to that catastrophic humanitarian that should ring the bell, and also vibrate the emotional and human part of the belligerents... According to UNHCR's office (OHCHR) more than 2.5 million people have fled Ukraine since 24th February start of the War in Ukraine.

### UNHCR SCALES UP FOR THOSE FOR DISPLACED BY WAR IN UKRAINE, DEPLOYS CASH ASSISTANCE

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It is sadly, to observe that the Western countries, and basically the est of the world, are watching live, hopelessly, from their TV screens, and smartphones, the developments of the armed conflict in Ukraine, for three weeks, already, causing rising casualties and refugees. The risk of extension of the offensive , striking other countries of the European Union, is high. The besieged cities of Marioupol (Southern Port City), and Kharkiv encircled, have been particularly targeted by the strikes, letting no options to the traumatized the civilians, amongst them have been wounded and killed under the repeated bombings.

The situation is strongly critical, humanly wise, despite the human corridors monitored y the NGO's effort to evacuate citizens and displace them to a safe place. The access to food and drinkable water has also tragically impossible for some civilians, especially the woman and their children. Since the negotiations between Russia and Ukraine are in progress (Already 3rd round), and progress towards a "diplomatic way in the middle of the war" the leaders of the rest of the world, for some, encerhrirssnat the sanctions more and more strong and offering their help as mediator, should avoid adding fuel to the fire because the slightest provocations, even the slightest, would bring down the current unstable balance of this conflict. Indeed, obtaining a ceasefire should be THE PRIORITY of everyone on both sides of the border between Russia and Ukraine, and would avoid continuing to gradually impose sanctions, with direct consequences on Russia of course, but whose boomerang effect is felt by the rest of the world, so much inflation has become gendered and the cost of energy (Gas, Petroleum) as well as wheat, food source of the most vulnerable of this planet who might face shortage ... One should avoid fueling this war that caused terrible damage, so far, human wise and democratically wise.

**UNHCR HAS SIGNIFICANTLY STEPPED UP ITS ASSISTANCE IN UKRAINE**-----« UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has significantly stepped up its assistance in Ukraine and the neighbouring countries receiving refugees in response to acute humanitarian needs as the fighting intensifies. In Ukraine, the UN estimates that there are now at least 1.85 million internally displaced people, and an additional 12.65 million people directly affected by the conflict. They are also contending with freezing temperatures. Access to conflict-affected communities in hard-hit areas like Marioupol and Kharkiv remains very restricted due to the ongoing military activities and increased presence of landmines, exacerbating humanitarian needs by the day. Food, water, medicines and medical care, shelter, basic household items, blankets, mattresses, cash, building materials, generators and fuel are urgently needed. UNHCR staff are on the ground in Ukraine and – like the civilian population – remain caught up in the hostilities. We

are committed to stay and deliver assistance when and where access and security allow. Our Office has scaled up its presence and operations in central and western Ukraine, where conditions enable more humanitarian access, and where needs are also growing as people evacuate to the west and onwards and become internally displaced. We are also coordinating with the local authorities to improve the reception conditions at the international border crossing points where people are waiting in line for hours. We publish a UNHCR's summary of what was said by UNHCR spokesperson Matthew Saltmarsh – to whom quoted text may be attributed – at today's press briefing at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, 11 March, 2022.

« The UN continues to negotiate to secure access, safety and security for the delivery of lifesaving aid. UNHCR repeats its urgent call for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, respect for international humanitarian law, and again thanks neighbouring countries for keeping their borders open to those fleeing.

#### UNHCR IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN UKRAINE

- UNHCR has opened warehouses in Vinnytsia, Uzhhorod, and Chernivtsi and two in Lviv. Core relief items for around 1.5 million people are being prepared for dispatch from UNHCR global stockpiles.
- On 26 February, UNHCR delivered core relief items for 2,000 people, including blankets, sleeping mats, jerry cans, kitchen sets and buckets to Kryvyi Rih in central Ukraine, where thousands of IDPs have arrived.
- On 8 March, four trucks with 8,600 thermal blankets and 3,000 mattresses arrived in Lviv from Poland. These will be used to scale up the capacity of reception centres for IDPs. In Lviv, 200 mattresses and 400 blankets have been distributed to reception centres run by local authorities.
- In Vinnytsia, UNHCR distributed over 1,000 blankets, 230 mattresses and sleeping mats to three transit centres with the most urgent needs. We also conducted needs assessments in 13 transit centres to inform forthcoming support. A humanitarian cargo departed for Dnipro on 10 March, for distribution in heavily affected areas in Mariupol as soon as safe passage is secured.
- UNHCR is working closely with authorities and partners to establish and expand reception capacity for IDPs particularly in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsia, Uzhgorod, Chernivtsi, and other localities and to provide key protection services. In Chop, UNHCR and partners are working with local authorities to support accommodation for 4,300 people and to provide legal, psychological and information support at reception points.
- Many stores in Ukraine now require payments in cash, making cash support critical. UNHCR is preparing to roll-out a pilot multi-purpose cash assistance programme, with WFP, through six registration centres to help IDPs meet their basic needs in Lviv. It will then be quickly expanded to other IDP-receiving region.
- At the international border crossing points, we are working with partners to provide heating points where people with specific vulnerabilities, such as pregnant women, people with disabilities, and older persons, can sit and stay warm while they wait for hours at the border. UNHCR partner NEEKA has been providing hot tea and snacks at border points with Poland.
- UNHCR is working with local authorities in western Ukraine to produce information materials that include QR codes for UNHCR Help sites, hotline numbers, referral roadmaps, and other resources to distribute at checkpoints.

#### SOUTHERN UKRAINE

- In Odessa, UNHCR is supporting a partner delivering food, tea and blankets at transit points in the train station, where evacuees from Mykolaiv arrive daily to move to western Ukraine. ?

#### IN EASTERN UKRAINE

- UNHCR is coordinating with partner Proliska to supply humanitarian assistance from the west to the east; 1,400 square meters of tarpaulin and rolls of plastic films were delivered to households damaged in the shelling in Popasna, Novomykhailivka and Slavne to protect them from the cold, as well as baby food and hygiene items.
- UNHCR also delivered humanitarian supplies, including 2,000 cans of stewed meat and 700kg of frozen meat, to Sievierodonetsk, Lysychansk and Popasna.
- In Luhansk, UNHCR supplied emergency shelter kits for onward distribution in Shchastia. Thermal blankets, plastic sheets, mattresses and jerry cans have been loaded in Dnipro to depart to Luhansk as soon as it is safe to drive.
- Working with the Donbas Development Center, UNHCR has delivered critical supplies such as bedlinen sets, towels, hygiene items to conflict-affected individuals in Donetsk NGCA.

OUTSIDE UKRAINE , the number of refugees in neighbouring countries has exceeded 2.5 million, and UNHCR commends the efforts of hosts and the immense solidarity shown by locals, volunteers and humanitarian organizations, who have been providing support for accommodation, transport, food, and financial and material donations. In all neighbouring countries, reception and assistance is being provided by State authorities, civil society and volunteers.

UNHCR is working with the authorities and partners to roll out emergency cash programmes. The payments will tide refugees over, allowing more dignity and independence, until they can work or receive social support. ? It allows refugees to prioritize, while providing a boost to local businesses. ?

In Poland, UNHCR, Caritas Poland and other partners, have worked to get financial assistance to refugees, with the first families receiving payments today in Warsaw. The programme will quickly expand to towns and cities hosting large numbers of refugees. The project also partners with Santander Bank, using its BLIK instant payments system. Initial one-off payments, of the same value as the social assistance in Poland, will be made available to registered refugees.

In the Republic of Moldova, UNHCR, with the Ministry of Social Protection and a local partner, started emergency cash distributions on 28 February, while the mechanism for larger-scale assistance is being set up with more payments reaching vulnerable refugees in coming days. A one-off cash grant for host families is also being set up with the authorities. Source: UNHCR

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