



Our humanitarian aid and plans in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Introduction: **We felt a huge commitment**

**Our work and our plans in Ukraine**

**We sent trains and trucks with humanitarian aid to Ukraine**

- We transport water mainly to the east of Ukraine
- We deliver food aid to hard-to-reach places
- We are equipping collective centres for internally displaced people
- We support specific people and the local economy with cash distributions
- Material assistance and the reconstruction of homes
- We have not forgotten about mental health
- We support education
- Through partner organisations, our help reaches where we cannot
- Helping those who help refugees in Moldova
- We support Ukrainian refugees in Georgia

**In Ukraine, we support human rights and civil society**

- Helping human rights defenders
- We support the media in Ukraine
- We organise rehabilitation retreats to help our supporters recover from trauma

**A year of assistance to Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic**

**Tens of thousands of refugees receive information in their mother tongue on our website and our social media.**

- We are providing counselling and psychosocial assistance in the field
- We teach Czech, we tutor, and we prepare children for school
- We maximise our aid through collaboration with dozens of partner organisations
- We are negotiating with politicians to effect systemic change

**We offer lessons for schools in the Czech Republic**

- We teach about the workings of Russian propaganda
- Contemporary Russian propaganda (jsns.cz)

**A Summary of Our Aid to Victims of War in Ukraine**

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# SOS Ukraine

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# We felt a huge commitment

from the very beginning of Putin's aggression against Ukraine because we are an organisation that tries to be there when things are terrible; because we know how to work in wars; of course, we know that aggression against a neighbouring country cannot leave anyone indifferent and cold; but also because of the support we have received from all those who kindly donated to us.



For me personally, it is a huge responsibility that we carefully use the donations of the approximately half a million people, institutional donors and companies who have supported us. For us, helping the embattled Ukraine—which is fighting for its existence and the future it sees for itself in Europe, and not under the domination of the Kremlin—is one of the most significant humanitarian operations in the history of People in Need. Ukraine's fight is also a fight for values which has lasted for three decades; it is a fight for peace, justice, freedom, and democracy. These are not empty words; on the contrary. However, we seem to only realise their meaning and value in times of danger, like now, when our neighbours a half-day drive away from us are being killed.

We have been working in Ukraine since 2003, when we began working on human rights issues. However, since 2014, we have ramped up our humanitarian assistance efforts in the country. Our humanitarian work was made necessary by Putin's first efforts to weaken, destabilise, and keep Ukraine under the Russian yoke. Putin's first attempt failed, and eight years later, the Russian Army launched a full-scale invasion. However, Ukraine is courageously defending itself and fighting back, although civilians and soldiers are dying. I am proud that the Czech Republic is helping; I thank everyone who is helping, regardless of the size of their contribution.

Thank you all, everyone, who contributed, be it 10 Euros or millions, it all counts. Together, we are helping those trapped in an awful situation, people near the front lines, refugees, and mothers with children whose men are fighting or have already given their lives—together, we must uphold the principle that aggression must not win.

Today, I present you with an overview of our first year of work. Our work is only possible through your trust and with your support; with these our work continues to make a difference. Thank you for helping us with food aid, home repairs, support for the most vulnerable families, psycho-social work for traumatised children and adults, and all we do to help Ukraine and Ukrainians.

Sincerely,

Šimon Pánek  
Director of People in Need

We helped over **1 million people** thanks to the significant support of institutional donors as well as over **500 000 individuals**.

\*For more information about the funding and use of the SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal, see page 34.

## In Ukraine

We have supported at least

890 000

people during the past year

we have

296

employees working on the ground

213 555

people have received drinking water by bottle and by tanker truck

57 387

people have obtained material assistance such as bedding, stoves, etc.

67 815

people have received direct cash assistance

19 865

war-damaged homes received repairs

24 682

people received psychosocial support

200

partner organisations have further assisted hundreds of thousands of people

## In the Czech Republic

38 229

people and families were directly supported by our colleagues

in 223 597

other cases, we helped together with 114 organisations that we supported financially from the SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal

The data is correct as of 17 February 2023. For conversions of CZK to euro, we used the exchange rate published by the Czech National Bank on 1 February 2023



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# Our work and our plans in Ukraine



When Russia's aggression came to pass in February 2022, we were quick to act; our main office moved from Kyiv to a safer location in Lviv, we doubled the staff in our team, and we began assisting throughout nearly all of the oblasts in the country.

Our work has varied; early on, we delivered hundreds of tonnes of aid to Ukraine from the Czech Republic. However, now that the private sector in Ukraine is functional again, we are procuring in-kind items directly in the country to support local economies. Furthermore, we provide multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to thousands of people to buy essentials. We also support local NGOs and civil society actors, who put their lives on the line to get humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable. We also help repair homes and improve conditions in the collective centres for internally displaced people.

After a year of war, Ukrainians are enduring enormous psychological pressure, so we continue providing psychosocial support through mobile teams and one-on-one sessions for adults and children. We also support the education system in Ukraine. Abroad, we assist Ukrainian refugees in Moldova, Georgia, Romania, and the Czech Republic.

As Russian bombs, drones, and missiles continue to fall on Ukrainian towns and villages, destroying civilian infrastructure, Ukrainians must endure winter without electricity, water, and heat. Hundreds of thousands of homes have been destroyed. However, we are focused on rebuilding war-torn areas by repairing housing, schools, and WASH infrastructure and promoting alternative renewable energy sources. We aim to build resilience and promote sustainable development in Ukraine by supporting businesses, social housing, and participatory governance.

A year of war has brought many experiences. Not only adapting to work on a vast scale but also learning about the suffering of the victims of the barbarism that some are still capable of in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, we will continue to help wherever we are needed.

**Petr Drbohlav**  
Regional Director for Eastern Partnership and the Balkans

We cooperate with **200** partner organisations.

Our team in Ukraine has **296** employees.



We provided **57 387** people with material assistance to repair their homes.

**67 815** people received direct multi-purpose cash assistance from us.

Food distribution in Toretsk, Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine.



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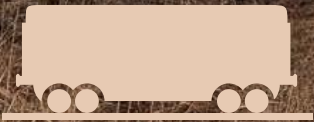
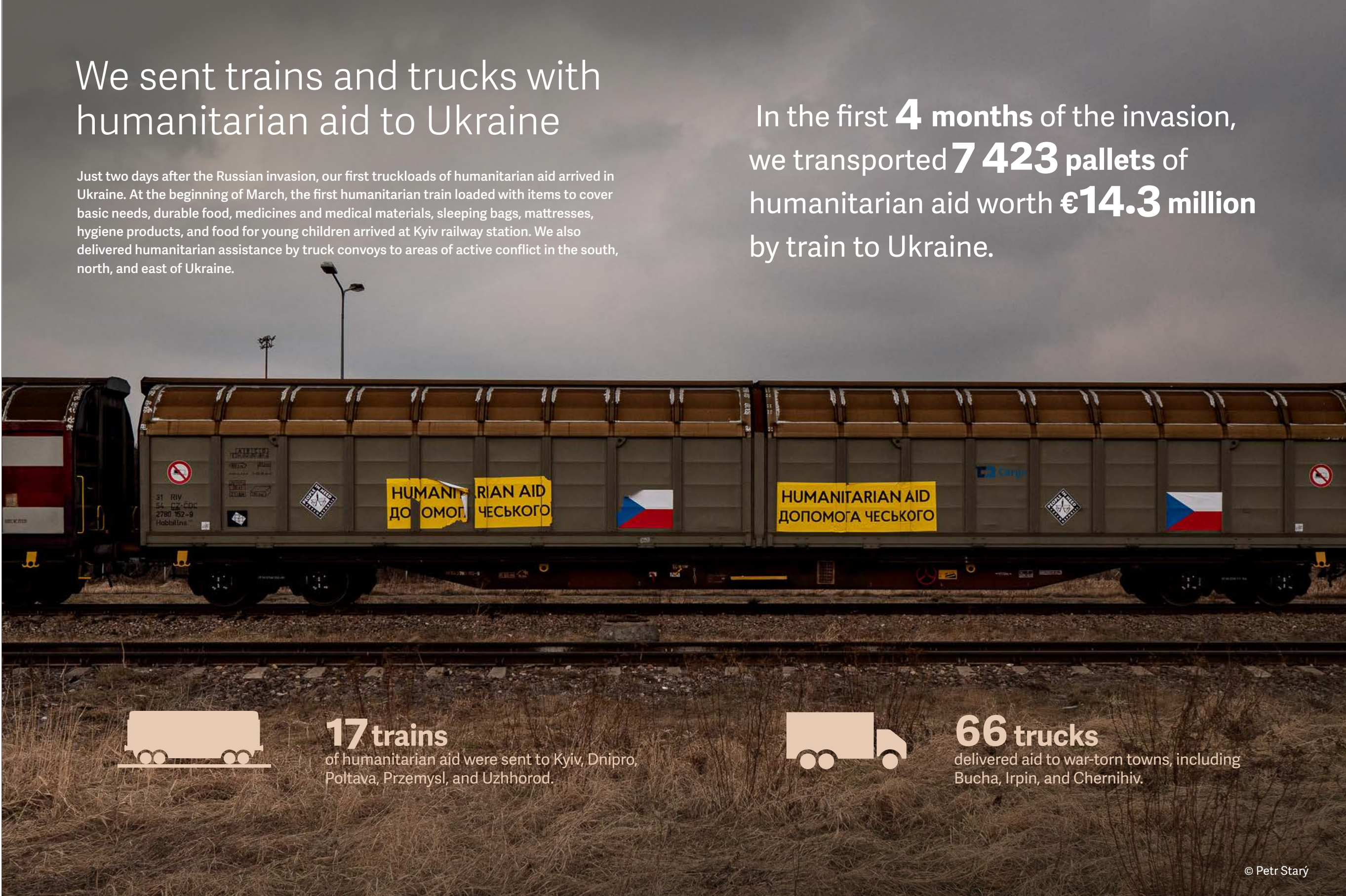
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# We sent trains and trucks with humanitarian aid to Ukraine

Just two days after the Russian invasion, our first truckloads of humanitarian aid arrived in Ukraine. At the beginning of March, the first humanitarian train loaded with items to cover basic needs, durable food, medicines and medical materials, sleeping bags, mattresses, hygiene products, and food for young children arrived at Kyiv railway station. We also delivered humanitarian assistance by truck convoys to areas of active conflict in the south, north, and east of Ukraine.

In the first **4 months** of the invasion, we transported **7 423** pallets of humanitarian aid worth **€14.3 million** by train to Ukraine.



**17 trains**  
of humanitarian aid were sent to Kyiv, Dnipro, Poltava, Przemysl, and Uzhhorod.



**66 trucks**  
delivered aid to war-torn towns, including Bucha, Irpin, and Chernihiv.



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# We transport water mainly to the east of Ukraine

In Ukraine, access to clean water is one of the critical issues the people face. Many Ukrainians have limited or no access to this vital life-sustaining resource. Russia's air and missile attacks have heavily damaged Ukraine's water infrastructure, and in some places, the water either does not flow or is undrinkable. Where the situation was most critical, and no water sources were left, we supplied bottled water and sent water trucks.

"We drank rainwater," Victoria describes her situation in Izium, where we delivered four truckloads of water. Since the beginning of the invasion, we have been delivering bottled water and distributing hygiene kits to the people of Ukraine. As parts of the country are gradually liberated, we have begun urgent repairs to water lines to provide access to clean, drinkable water.

# We deliver food aid to hard-to-reach places


In Ukraine, many people have remained cut off from services, and even basic foodstuffs are often lacking. "Children were crying and begging for bread. They didn't want sweets, just bread," says a resident of Davydky, describing the bleak situation.

During the year, aid was delivered to hard-to-reach places near the frontlines, and we reached people


in their hiding places, such as bomb shelters. People hiding in damp cellars often had nowhere to cook, so we supported them by delivering food parcels designed to last two weeks. "When they bring humanitarian aid, we can save a little bit. Now we can't go to work, so we don't get paid," says a resident of one of the villages where we delivered food aid.



 **213 555 people** received (bottled and imported) water.

 **27 151 people** have gained access to clean water through our repairs to water systems.

 **133 114 people** received hygiene packages.

 **358 911 people** were provided with food aid.

Water distribution in Izium, Kharkiv Oblast.  
© Alyona Budagovska



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# We are equipping collective centres for internally displaced people

Around 10 million Ukrainians have had to leave their homes since the invasion. As of January 2023, Ukraine has over 5 million internally displaced people. Such people have sought safety from fighting in collective centres; schools, kindergartens, administrative buildings and sanatoriums have become temporary homes. These places are often inadequately equipped for their new role, so we are working on getting them equipped.

Since the invasion, we have supplied collective centres with mattresses, washing machines, cookers, blankets, and other equipment to help people pass the time that they are forced to spend away from home in some semblance of comfort. We are also replacing windows and reconstructing bathrooms and showers. "When we arrived here, they were waiting for us; they gave us food, showed us our rooms and gave us everything we needed. The team is great, and we are very grateful," says Svitlana, an internally displaced person staying with her family in a PIN-supported collective centre.

81 collective centres for internally displaced people have been reconstructed thanks to our team.

# We support specific people and the local economy with cash distributions

From our experience in earlier wars and conflicts, we know that direct multi-purpose cash assistance for people and families is one of the

67 815 people received direct multi-purpose cash assistance from us.

most effective forms of aid. As soon as we could—in places where shops and markets continued to function or have subsequently started working again—we started distributing MPCA to those most in need. The most vulnerable families will receive €71 in

hryvnia for three months. "This allows people to decide how the money can best be used. This prevented people from selling their possessions below cost to get at least some money and enabled them to choose what they buy," says Petr Drbohlav, Director for the Eastern Partnership countries at People in Need. This year we supported 67 815 people with cash assistance, and 44 610 people received funds from us to get through the winter.

44 610 people oreceived funds from us to survive the winter.



Valentina, an internally displaced person at the collective centre in Selydov.  
© Petr Štefan



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# Material assistance and the reconstruction of homes

Constant fighting and Russian air attacks have damaged the public infrastructure and housing. As of the summer of 2022, 140 000 buildings in Ukraine had been damaged or destroyed; this makes it difficult for people to survive the harsh winter. Therefore, we started undertaking home repairs as soon as we could; we knew that early intervention was vital to prevent this crisis from becoming a catastrophe. "Staff from People in Need came to us and asked what we needed. They surveyed the situation and said they would help us," says a resident of Shevchenkove—one of the places where People in Need is conducting home repairs.

57 387 people received material assistance for household equipment (beds, bedding, stoves).

6 308 households were provided with basic home repairs such as replacing broken windows and doors and repairing roofs.

13 557 households were provided material for emergency home repairs.

Repairing the roof of a house in Shevchenkove.  
© Petr Štefan



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## We have not forgotten about mental health

The protracted war and its associated stresses—like losing loved ones, long-term separation of families, and forced migration—create anxiety and psychological strain, which are significantly impacting many Ukrainians' mental and physical health. To address the war's adverse psychological effects on Ukrainians, our assistance includes mental health and psychosocial assistance. Our psychosocial teams have been working in Ukraine even before the invasion. We continue to operate a nationwide helpline. The number of calls to our helpline increased by 73% after 24 February 2022; we've spoken to 12 615 people in the last year. "Our mobile teams

work primarily in collective centres for internal refugees. In addition, we also support volunteers and host communities because they, themselves, are often in need of help," explains Eva Kravtsova, a psychologist with People in Need in Ukraine. Our psychosocial services helped 24 682 people in the last year.

**12 615 people** received help on our helpline.

**24 682 people** have received psychosocial support from us.

## We support education

In the past 12 months, we have repaired 6 schools and will complete 14 others this spring. We made education available to 2 092 Ukrainian children. We also support teachers' education, some of whom we have trained and provided with

teaching materials. We opened 10 child-friendly spaces (CFSs) in Ukraine for children to play and experience at least some childhood normality; 631 children visited these places last year.

**6 schools** have been repaired.

**20 schools** are planned to be repaired in total.

**2 092 children** were provided accessible education.

**19 teacher** trainings or teacher packages provided.

**10 CFSs** were opened  
**631 children** attended.

Collective centre in the town of Kryvyi Rih.  
© Petr Štefan





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Through partner organisations, our help reaches where we cannot

We have distributed

€5.4 million

to 200 partner organisations.

In Ukraine, we financially support local NGOs and volunteer initiatives that are in contact with local government and can effectively support local needs. In the first month of the war, we provided

€1 million in such support. Through these partners, we are implementing assistance like

distributing water, food, and hygiene supplies; our partners also support internal refugees in collective centres and provide multi-purpose cash assistance distributions. We provide capacity building for them in fundraising, accounting, donor rules, accountability to beneficiaries, and monitoring and evaluation. In the past year, we distributed €5.4 million in assistance among 200 local organisations.



Outdoor kitchen run by PIN-supported Ukrainian NGO Posmiška.  
© Alberto Lores

Helping those who help refugees in Moldova

7 000 households

have received solidarity payments.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has impacted Moldova significantly. Moldova is a country which, before the invasion, was struggling with an energy crisis and high inflation. Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees have passed through the country, of which about 90 000 remain. Many Ukrainians are staying in the homes of ordinary Moldovan families. We have provided many of these families with solidarity payments to help cover utilities and

other emergency expenses. We have provided solidarity payments to 7 000 households. At the same time, we have provided grants to 17 Moldovan non-profit organisations that provide refugees with legal, psychosocial, and material assistance. Over the past year, we have provided psychosocial support or socio-legal protection to 2 517 refugees from Ukraine in Moldova. We also support Ukrainian children with distance-learning and leisure activities with their Moldovan peers.

We support Ukrainian refugees in Georgia

670 refugee families

have received multi-purpose cash.

Georgia has not been spared the impacts of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Since February 2022, almost 190 000 Ukrainians have passed through Georgia, and approximately 30 000 remain in the country. We have provided financial grants to Ukrainian and Georgian NGOs helping refugees; so far, 670 refugee families have received direct multi-purpose cash assistance to cover their financial needs for four months this winter. We also support several collective centres where people from Ukraine can be accommodated and where they are provided food. We are giving material support to schools where Ukrainian children attend. We are creating several centres for Ukrainian and Georgian children to meet and spend time together after school. We intend to continue supporting refugees through multi-purpose cash assistance, and we want to support their integration into Georgian life and society with language classes and employment support.



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# In Ukraine, we support human rights and civil society



Nadiia Ivanova and Ukrainian activist Maksym Butkevych; Maksym has spent 8 months in Russian captivity.

My name is Nadiia Ivanova; I work for People In Need; I am a Ukrainian—from Kyiv.

On 24 February at 04:00 in the morning in Prague, I was speaking to my loved ones by phone, and through the phone, I could hear the sounds of my hometown being bombed. It was heartbreaking. I wanted to be there, work, help, or stand by my people

and be with them. And that's why I understand our Ukrainian colleagues—those human rights defenders who have remained in the country. Many of them went to fight, like my close friend Maksym Butkevych, who has spent eight months in Russian captivity. Others went to continue their work, for example, documenting war crimes,

informing the world about them, and appealing for the criminals to be punished.

At the same time, at 04:00 on 24 February, the People in Need Ukrainian Crisis Team was established. The team, which as of this terrible hour and thanks to incredible donor support, has been helping the victims of the war in Ukraine, the surrounding countries, and the Czech Republic.

It is only because of this support that my team at the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy can help our human rights colleagues in Ukraine and thus seek justice for the victims of this war.

Thank you, and we stand for Ukraine!

Nadiia Ivanova

Director of the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy of People in Need

# Helping human rights defenders

## We provide financial assistance

Most Ukrainian human rights activists, journalists, bloggers, and lawyers live from one day to the next. To enable them to continue doing their vital work, we have started funding salaries and other necessary living expenses for 16 of them.



## We are providing psychosocial support

As Russia's war prolongs, the need for individual psychosocial support for journalists, human rights defenders, and their families is growing. So far, in Ukraine, we have provided psychosocial support to more than 70 such people; each recipient received 10 hours of consultations on average. Sadly, this form of assistance is in high demand.



150



## Moving activists to safety

Within days of Russia's aggression, our team carried out a vital operation; from Kyiv, which was being shelled daily, we quickly moved several dozen foreign activists—who had fled from oppression in their own country to Ukraine—to safety in third countries. In the event of capture by the Russian forces, these activists would likely have faced horrific treatment by the Russian security services and the potential forcible return to their home countries.



## Mapping war crimes

We have provided robust support to organisations that focus on war crimes. Specifically, we support the 5 AM Coalition, a newly formed consortium of several human rights organisations, the Ukrainian Helsinki Union for Human Rights (UHU), and the Kharkiv Human Rights Group. This trio monitors human rights violations with a particular focus on vulnerable groups (children, the elderly, minorities, women, etc.).



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Mapping war crimes

The main task of these organisations is the documentation of war crimes with the aim of bringing to justice those who perpetrated these crimes against humanity.

Activists travel tirelessly and document cases in detail. In addition to collecting testimonies of witnesses and victims, they're also focusing on securing forensic evidence. They create expertly documented material for national and international institutions and, at the same time, provide victims with legal and psychosocial support.

We support 3 organisations, involved in documenting war crimes so that the perpetrators are caught and brought to justice.

We have provided groups collecting witness accounts of war crimes with funding to purchase the necessary equipment.



We support the media in Ukraine

We are financially supporting 10 Ukrainian media outlets.

Immediately following Russia's aggression, we began financially supporting 10 Ukrainian media outlets.

After Russia's attack, advertising revenue dropped immediately to zero, so we worked to secure facilities and salaries for their editors. In addition, we've secured power generators for three media outlets.

More than 60 journalists and activists have been provided vital psychosocial support.

Specifically, we supported the following :

- 4 national media outlets, including Zaborona.com and Babel—some of the country's best-known independent news and investigative websites—as well as Detektor media and Rubryka.
- We also support 6 smaller regional media; most have never worked with donors and only survived on advertising revenue. These regional media outlets provide crucial practical information through various formats, including print, which is especially important for older people without the internet.

We organise rehabilitation retreats to help our supporters recover from trauma

The hardships of war are taking increasing tolls on the psyche of its victims. For CSOs and certain media outlets, we have run 14 rehabilitation retreats in safe places in Ukraine and, in exceptional cases, abroad. More than 300 beneficiaries have used these retreats to recover from their

trauma. In addition, we provided direct support to two organisations to support the retraining of psychologists, who will be provided free of charge to those needing psychosocial support, and to 2 LGBTQ+ organisations who support the LGBTQ+ community.

300 people attended our rehabilitation retreats.



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# A year of assistance to Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic



Following Russia's invasion, it was vital that we respond quickly to the needs of Ukrainian refugees arriving in the Czech Republic—these were primarily women with children and seniors. Many had nothing to eat and no spare clothes; some did not know where they would sleep; others needed to have documents processed, and some needed medical care. Eventually, 450,000 Ukrainians arrived in the Czech Republic—the highest per capita of any EU country. We immediately started assisting wherever we worked in the Czech Republic.

We partnered with local organisations and initiatives in places or areas where our services were unavailable. We distributed humanitarian aid; we assisted in obtaining housing; we helped refugees with basic navigation of the state system. Initially, it was a completely new agenda for us, working with refugees, new procedures, legislation, and knowledge of Ukrainian and Russian.

Hundreds of workers provided social counselling, assistance with housing and employment, and psychosocial assistance; colleagues who tutor children ran adaptation groups for pre-schoolers or helped teenagers. It was a challenge to manage it all and help as quickly and effectively as possible.

Now the challenge is to keep helping, to persevere, to adapt to new situations and to trust that our mission will soon be over and Ukrainian mothers with children will be able to return home or, in cases where that is not possible, with our support to find a home here.

**Zuzana Ramajzlová**  
Head of SOS Ukraine in the Czech Republic

Our staff directly helped **38 229** individuals and families.

we helped in **223 597** cases through **114** organisations, whom we supported financially through our SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal.



© Petra Lupták Burzová

Pregnant Tetiana and her eight-year-old daughter Zlata travelled for three days through Romania to reach the safety of Pilsen. Tetiana comes from the Ukrainian city of Dnipro. After the invasion, she first fled with her family to the countryside, but after three weeks of hesitation, the family separated for the children's sake. Her husband remained in Ukraine; he has not yet seen his son, who was born in the Czech Republic. "In the beginning, your integration programme helped me immensely; it became my second family. They advised me on everything I needed, with the paperwork and interpreting. We lived together through one of the most joyful and difficult events in my life, the expectation of my son Mark. They provided us with material help, clothes and diapers; they even helped Zlata to participate in an adaptation group. Today she is in the third grade of primary school, and her report card shows straight A's." Tetiana wants to return home after the war.

Tens of thousands of refugees receive information in their mother tongue on our website and our social media.

So far, we have spent **€4.5 million on aid** in the Czech Republic.



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# We are providing counselling and psychosocial assistance in the field

Many of our colleagues in regional assistance centres have been working tirelessly to support Ukrainian refugees since the early days of the war. At the same time, we have set up specialised Ukrainian teams. Despite the difficulties, we have diligently ensured that the avalanche of needs from Ukraine did not detract us from assisting our Czech clients. Gradually, we have grown by dozens of new colleagues; initially, these were mainly Ukrainians already living in the Czech Republic (field social workers), but later also refugees (psychologists, adaptation group workers etc.). "Just a few days after the start of the war, we launched a telephone helpline whose counsellors speak Czech, Ukrainian, and Russian. In Pilsen, Olomouc, Central Bohemia, and Karlovy Vary, help centres were established first. Later community and integration centres, which we also run in cooperation with local NGOs, were established," describes Jan Černý, Director of Social and Educational Programmes in the Czech Republic.

We are constantly mapping the terrain, communicating with municipalities, and visiting collective housing facilities. While in the beginning, we focused on groups, we gradually started concentrating on individual social work in ten regions of the Czech Republic. We focus on the most vulnerable refugees, such as those with health problems or other special needs. "We interpret and help with processing documents, humanitarian benefits, finding housing, work, medical care, and registering for kindergartens and schools. In the beginning, we provided basic food aid and clothes," says Zuzana Ramajzlová, Head of SOS Ukraine for the Czech Republic.

We protect refugees from abuse in the housing and labour markets; we also protect them from misinformation. We cooperate with the National Headquarters against Organised Crime to collect war crime testimonies. Furthermore, our psychologists are responding to the growing need to support refugees suffering from extreme symptoms of depression and anxiety. Our psychologists are learning new treatment methods and even working online.



© Maxim Sačok

We have been working with the Yaremko family for almost an entire year. We helped them find doctors, enrolled their children in schools, and—despite initial capacity difficulties—we arranged a computer, online tutoring, and the opportunity to improve their Czech. We were in constant contact with the family because their temporary accommodation in the college dormitory was precarious, the language barrier in dealing with the authorities was initially great, and we helped Oksana find a job that she could balance with her children's commute.

## Support from People in Need

**14 981** people have benefited from social, legal, and psychological counselling.

Housing mediation and assistance was provided to **2 205** people.

We delivered material assistance—clothing, hygiene, food—to **5 746** people.

We provided frequent—often repeat—assistance to **8 419** people on the helpline.



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# We teach Czech, we tutor, and we prepare children for school

Education is an essential pillar of our support and integration; we have opened adaptation groups for pre-school children in Ústí nad Labem, Pilsen and Central Bohemia, where we teach Czech to all ages. With the increasing number of Ukrainian children in Czech primary schools, we have also launched individual and group tutoring. We are recruiting volunteers from all over the country. We're creating educational materials, videos, and courses and organising debates. On our website, [www.doucujte.cz](http://www.doucujte.cz), we have materials for working with Ukrainian children, and we have also prepared an online course to teach professional Czech to Ukrainian teaching assistants. We also support Czech teachers who teach newly arrived children.

This material is also used by the Institute of Language Training at Charles University. "The course

can be thematically linked to the traditional Czech textbooks for foreigners and students with an added value for the students in, for example, language retraining courses. The material's usability is advantageous both in the classroom on the smart-board and in online courses," says Petra Jirásková from the Language Institute. We also support Czech teachers who teach newly arrived children.

"We are always looking for ways to help Ukrainian teenagers 15+, who often do not yet attend school in the Czech Republic. In preparing them for high school entrance exams, we offer a scholarship program for students from families in difficult socio-economic situations and actively seek out those still isolated," adds Zuzana Ramajzlová. We lend them the necessary technology for online learning and home study. We also organise children's and youths' leisure activities, trips, and suburban camps in the summer months.

## Supporting People in Need

We have provided educational support for **6 781** children and adults.

**1 746** people took our Ukrainian teaching assistant's course.

**255** preschool children attended our adaptation groups.



© Lukáš Hanusek



© Lukáš Hanusek

Seva (in the shark shirt) is in first grade today. Entering the Czech elementary school system was made easier for him through our adaptation group in Bílina. Being in a foreign country where he didn't understand anyone, it was imperative for Seva to meet his Ukrainian peers and learn new things, such as Czech words, poems, and songs, with them. For Seva's mother, Lisa, it was reassuring that Seva was in the group, as it meant she could go about her business, arrange her papers and look for a job. "The adaptation group was a big deal for us initially; it helped us greatly. I'm very grateful to everyone, to the organisers and teachers who have provided our children with such opportunity to develop, play, and learn," Lisa says.



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# We maximise our aid through collaboration with dozens of partner organisations

In places where we can't directly aid or work—through lack of capacity or local presence—we help address acute needs through partnerships with dozens of other organisations and entities dedicated to supporting refugees across the Czech Republic.

From our SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal, we provided €2.6 million in aid to non-profit organisations; these include schools, children's centres, firefighters, medical clinics and organisations such as the Federation of Food Banks.

€2.6 million was distributed among 114 partner organisations in the Czech Republic.

## Support for People in Need with partner entities and organisations

Advice including interpretation, educational orientation, legal, and psychosocial assistance for 27 585 people.

Medical consultations for 11 599 people.

Educational assistance for 82 027 people.

21 000 information leaflets distributed.

Support for themes in the framework of the NGO Consortium working with migrants.

32 302 people received special support from People in Need and the Hlavák Initiative.



Between July 2022 and January 2023, 32 302 people were helped by members of the Hlavák Initiative who worked with People in Need. Since February 2023, the Initiative has become an independent legal entity, and our support continues in a partnership to whose activities we contribute through the SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal.

© Anežka Gündogdu

# We are negotiating with politicians to effect systemic change

Based on our experience, we strive to analyse situations, anticipate risks, and propose timely, workable approaches. We are a member of the Consortium of NGOs Working With Migrants, as well as the Strategic Commission for Integration and Adaptation of Ukrainian Refugees; we meet regularly with the leadership of the National Assistance Centre for Ukrainians, and we are involved in most key working groups." Together with our partner organisations,

we are working to stabilise the national housing programme for refugees and support the integration of refugee families into the standard Czech welfare system in case they lose their jobs, find themselves with insufficient income, or are caring for their loved ones. We are involved in expert groups within state ministries, highlighting conflicts and finding resolutions, for example, to the overburdening of Labour Offices," says Jan Černý.



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# We offer lessons for schools in the Czech Republic

Within days of Russia's invasion, the audio-visual learning portal of our educational program, One World in Schools (jsns.cz), created a unique webpage to cover the war in Ukraine. Here we have made available a selection of existing lessons and activities to make it easier for primary and secondary school teachers to talk to pupils and students about Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the impact on the lives of ordinary people, refugees, as well as the propaganda and media manipulation that preceded and accompanied the aggression.

"Given the current situation, I am working with the jsns.cz portal and lessons related to Ukraine almost every day. I use them in history and Russian lessons—just take the lessons and use them according to

the instructions," Eva Kohoutková, a teacher from a primary school in Česká Třebová, wrote to us in the spring of 2022.

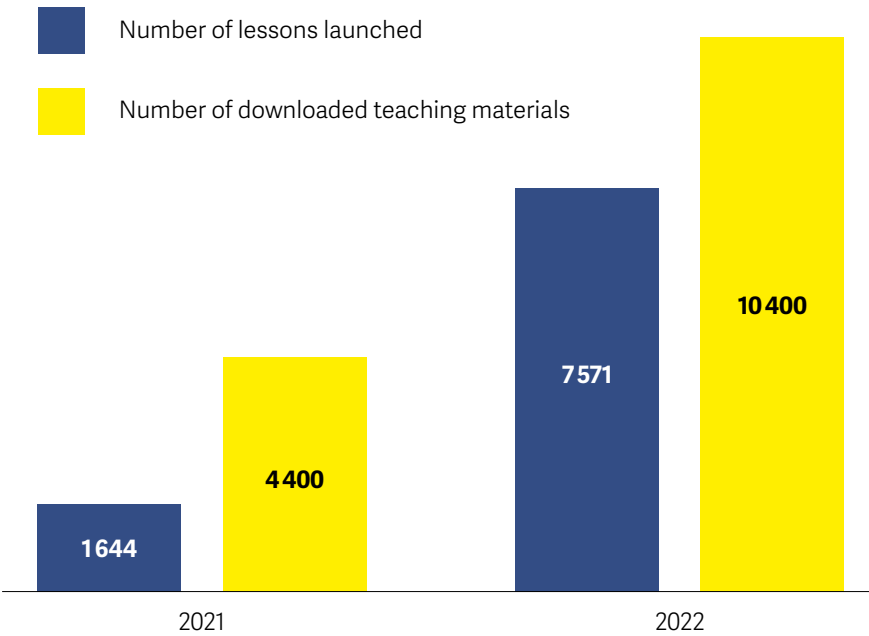
In a matter of weeks, we have significantly expanded the range of teaching materials and media education, which includes dozens of examples of partial narratives of Russian propaganda related to the war in Ukraine. Teachers of secondary and higher primary school students were provided actual examples of narratives directed inside Russia and at other countries, including the Czech Republic. Examples of manipulative messages are supplemented by extensive informational texts, an index of terms, didactic and methodological materials and tips on activities for the classroom.

# We teach about the workings of Russian propaganda

The new materials build on the set 'Contemporary Russian Propaganda' we published back in 2015 as a response to the annexation of Crimea. Following Russia's war in Ukraine, interest in the materials has grown when compared to the previous year.

The number of lessons launched and tutorials downloaded on this topic has increased several times. From the invasion to the end of March 2022, the jsns.cz portal lessons have been used seven times more compared to the same period the

# Contemporary Russian propaganda (jsns.cz)



previous year. In total, for the entirety of 2022, the total number of Contemporary Russian Propaganda lessons launched was five times more than in 2021 (nearly 7 600) and educational material downloads were twice as many as the previous year.

On Friday, 4 March, a week after Russia invaded Ukraine, we launched a debate called "Pupils and students, ask questions!". The debate had a considerable reach—we had over 2 600 expressions of interest in the event on Facebook within two days. It was shown on over 4 500 devices, even to entire classes; the viewer-

ship thus most likely exceeds that number significantly. Pupils and students asked questions of experts that interested them about news about Russian aggression in Ukraine. Every day in the media and everyday life, they were confronted with photographs from the conflict, powerful stories of Ukrainians, and different opinions on both the conflict itself and the subsequent migration of Ukrainians. The pupils and students sought answers to mitigate their fears, anxieties, and feelings of anger and hopelessness—some also sought ways to help the people who needed it.



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JSNS Studio's debate gave the participating children confidence in these areas; this was helped by experts and personalities in security, war, intelligence, humanitarian aid, migration, human psychology, crisis intervention and disinformation. In the spring of 2022, we held regular broadcasts for these schools.

As we approach the first anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, we plan to organise another live broadcast of JSNS Studio, this time from the Světozor cinema in Prague. In addition to

media materials education, we have updated the lessons for teaching modern history, such as the end of the lesson, "They helped us too". In June, under the banner of the Stories of Injustice, we held our annual Stories of Injustice Day, when we broadcast a live debate with historians from Jungmann Square.

The topic of the debate was the occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968, the facts that led to and preceded it, and its consequences (the influence of the Soviet Union

and the presence of Soviet troops during the period of normalisation, and the departure of the occupation troops in 1991), with an overlap of the current situation in Ukraine. The debate was attended by dissident and spokesperson of Charter77 Věra Roubalová Kostlánová, journalist and Russianist Libor Dvořák, and historian Prokop Tomek. The role of moderator was Karolína Koubová from

Czech Radio. During the autumn of 2022, we published a new podcast series called Same Stories, Different Names, in which we explored the stories of people from the countries of the former Soviet bloc and their parallel with the stories of today.





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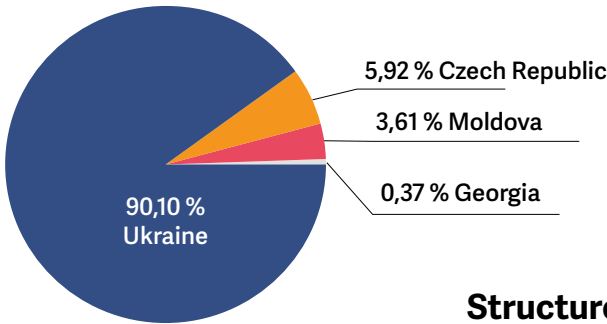
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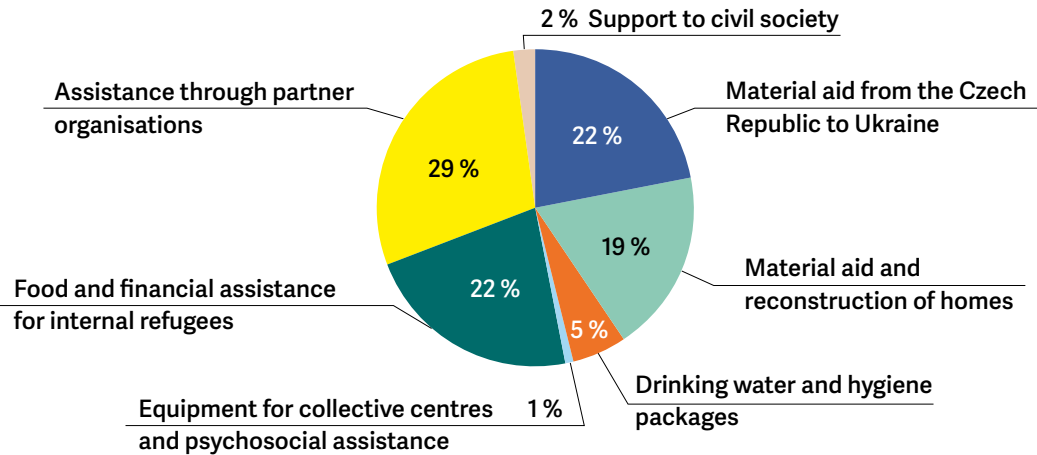
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To date, we have provided assistance worth **€101.1 million**.

Structure of aid by country



Structure of aid in Ukraine



Over **500 000** private and corporate donors generously contributed **€88.3 million** to our SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal. Institutional donors and private foundations have granted a further **€109.4 million**, which is used for ongoing humanitarian projects.

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Contemporary Russian propaganda (jsns.cz)

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