



**American  
Red Cross**

## Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis

THREE-MONTH UPDATE | MAY 2022

### Providing Critical Aid to People Devastated by Conflict

Fighting in Ukraine has continued to displace millions and bring devastating impacts to lives across the region. The American Red Cross has joined with our partners in the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network to provide critical aid for individuals and families coping with this destructive conflict — both in Ukraine and in nearby European countries.

Three months since the conflict intensified in late February, more than 6 million people living in Ukraine have sought refuge in nearby countries, and up to 18 million people need humanitarian assistance. Powered by the generosity of compassionate donors, the American Red Cross is actively supporting this critical effort. We are providing financial support and deploying humanitarian experts to help lead the delivery of sorely needed relief and comfort for people coping with traumatic displacement and heartbreaking losses.

Nearly \$50 million has already been spent or committed to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Red Cross national societies and implementation partners to advance their work in Ukraine and surrounding countries. Our contribution is funding vital aid delivered by the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network, including distributing critical care items, providing first aid and offering physical and emotional health services to impacted individuals within Ukraine and in nearby countries. Red Cross workers have also served warm meals, provided shelter and ensured people can stay connected with loved ones amid the turmoil.

The American Red Cross has also sent highly trained humanitarian experts to Poland, Moldova, Hungary and Romania to lead and support Red Cross operations to aid families forced from their homes. They are providing critical assistance in information management, relief distribution, cash assistance programming, geographic information systems (GIS), communications and leadership. These on-the-ground experts are working alongside local teams, including the Polish Red Cross, Moldovan Red Cross, Romanian Red Cross and other local humanitarian actors.

To learn more about the global Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian network, and how we are working together to help people facing the devastating impacts of this crisis, please visit our [website](#).



Above: Ukrainian Red Cross volunteers and local residents from Vyshhorod, Ukraine, built a river crossing to Demydiv, Ukraine, after the permanent bridge was destroyed. Volunteers evacuated thousands of people, and hundreds of tons of humanitarian goods were transferred using this river bridge. Photo by Ukraine Red Cross



At the Red Cross city branch in Uzhhorod, Ukraine, Red Cross volunteers distribute hygiene kits (each enough to last one family of five for a month) to displaced families. Photo by Marko Kokic/IFRC

## In Ukraine: Delivering Lifesaving Support Amid the Violence

While facing life-threatening danger, Ukrainian Red Cross teams have worked tirelessly to help people and communities impacted by conflict. In early May, teams from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) completed three safe passage operations, evacuating more than 500 civilians from the war-ravaged city of Mariupol. The ICRC has helped facilitate the safe passage of more than 10,000 civilians from that city as well as Sumy, in eastern Ukraine, since March. In addition, many of the humanitarian corridors that allow for safe passage of people and relief supplies have been negotiated with the ICRC's expertise, under the internationally recognized Red Cross emblem.

Constant violence across the country has left hundreds of thousands of people without electricity, water and food. Families are huddled underground for hours on end seeking safety while homes are reduced to rubble. Damaged roads have disrupted supply chains, leaving communities cut off from food and basic supplies.

Around the clock, Red Cross teams continue providing emergency aid amid fear and uncertainty, such as the 60 tons of food and relief items delivered by the ICRC to the embattled city of Kharkiv in late March.

Red Cross teams have helped evacuate older persons, those with disabilities and children — and have supported logistics pipelines into Ukraine to ensure delivery of critical items.

In the weeks ahead, Red Cross volunteers will increase their work reuniting separated families, providing food and other household items, and raising awareness about areas made dangerous by unexploded military ordnance. The needs of people in Ukraine are urgent and daunting, including water delivery, support to health facilities and medical care for injured civilians, and our workers will remain on hand wherever possible to meet ongoing needs as the conflict continues.



## In Neighboring Countries: Assisting People Who Have Fled their Homes

More than 6 million people have been forced to flee their homes in Ukraine to neighboring countries. It's a heartbreaking situation, with many families leaving loved ones, pets and essentials behind. To help, over 42,000 Red Cross volunteers have rolled up their sleeves to deliver aid.

Red Cross volunteers have supported displaced people in Poland, Hungary, Moldova, Belarus, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and other countries. Trucks and planes loaded with goods are arriving regularly to provide critical relief items for war-weary individuals and families.

The IFRC has begun its largest-ever rollout of emergency cash assistance to people in need, aiming to reach 2 million people. These funds provide fast, efficient and dignified assistance, empowering refugees from Ukraine to purchase items specific to their needs and take an active role in decision making, while also supporting local economies. American Red Cross humanitarian experts are leading the planning efforts for this important mission.

Red Cross and Red Crescent teams across eastern Europe are delivering vital aid, including:

- Distributing essentials like food, water, clothing, bedding, hygiene sets, blankets, baby products and services for children, as well as SIM cards for mobile phones so people can get in touch with loved ones.
- Setting up tents and making shelters as comfortable as possible for refugees who need a place to sleep and feel safe.
- Providing medical care and health services to those in need, including psychosocial support like mental health services and spiritual care for people who are physically, mentally and emotionally stressed.
- Helping connect displaced families to other essential services.



At a Red Cross aid station in Humenné, Slovakia, Slovak Red Cross volunteer Kristian Knap offers Ostop some snacks. Ostop's family crossed the Ukrainian border after fleeing their home in southern Ukraine during a lull in the fighting. Photo by Marko Kocic/IFRC

Red Cross aid and emotional support has meant so much to families like Larisa and her sons Rusan (15) and Sergei (8), from Odesa, Ukraine. They found refuge at a shelter run by the Slovak Red Cross in Senica, Slovakia, but worry about what is happening back home. "Right now we are safe, but it's such a horrible feeling not knowing what is happening at home in Odesa," Larisa said. "I could never have imagined that this could happen."

## "I ... feel safe here."

Masha, age 15, whose family received aid from the Red Cross after fleeing their home in Ukraine

To escape the escalating conflict, Masha (15), Nastia (11) and their mother traveled from Boryspil, Ukraine, through Odesa and across the Slovak border. They took only what few belongings they could carry. The girls described how, as fighting got closer and closer to their home, they would hide in the basement, because the bomb shelter was too far away to reach safely.

When asked what they miss most, Masha said she misses her home and peace, while Nastia shared that she really misses her grandparents, who stayed behind. "Right now I feel safe, but every loud sound makes me frightened," Nastia said. "I too feel safe here," added Masha, "but when we were in Odesa, I was very scared because I felt that anything could happen to us at any moment."



IFRC worker Angelina Savchuk, who is Ukrainian, speaks with Nastia (left) and her sister, Masha, at a Red Cross aid station in Veľké Slemence, Slovakia. Photo by Marko Kocic/IFRC

## Global Red Cross Network Response at a Glance\*

To help people impacted by this crisis, both inside Ukraine and in nearby countries, more than **42,000** Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers have delivered vital assistance, including:



**46,000**

Provided first aid training for **46,000** people



**\$4.4 million**

Provided in cash assistance to nearly **42,000** people



**335,000**

Provided **335,000** hygiene kits



**219,000**

Offered psycho-social support to **219,000** people

\*Cumulative service delivery by the global Red Cross network both within and outside Ukraine since February 24, 2022





## Red Cross Kits Provide Necessities for Displaced Families

People forced from their homes by conflict in Ukraine had little time to pack necessities. In Uzhhorod, Ukraine, many displaced families who had taken refuge from dangerous combat zones welcomed Red Cross hygiene kits containing essentials like laundry detergent, toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, disposable razors and hygienic pads — enough supplies to last a family of five for one month.

Among those families receiving Red Cross hygiene kits were Natalia and her three children, Hanna, George and Fedir (pictured right). After fleeing from Kharkiv, they had been living for three weeks near Uzhhorod, while the children's father returned to Kharkiv to care for his mother, whose home was destroyed. They were still unsure what had become of their own home.

Similarly, Karina and her Aunt Nataliya (pictured above) fled in late February from the Kyiv region with another relative, also named Nataliya. While they were living in Uzhhorod, Karina's parents were still hiding out in the family's basement near Kyiv. Karina's family relies on volunteers to deliver food and other necessities when they can.



(Bottom) Natalia and her three children (from left to right, Hanna, George and Fedir). (Top) Karina (center) and her Aunt Nataliya (right) and another relative, also named Nataliya (left). Photos by Marko Kocic/IFRC



## Red Cross Cash Assistance Helps Ukrainians in Need

As the urgent needs of people affected by the conflict in Ukraine continue to grow, the Red Cross is providing an innovative cash assistance program to reach as many as 2 million people suffering loss and hardship. Deployed American Red Cross humanitarian experts are working alongside the IFRC and local Red Cross teams to lead the design and implementation of the program.

The American Red Cross serves as a technical resource for cash assistance programs within the global Red Cross network. In the two years leading up to the current crisis in Ukraine, we joined with our Red Cross and Red Crescent partners to develop cash assistance programs that delivered more than \$900 million to people in need across the globe. Our expertise in cash assistance programs will help people impacted by the crisis in Ukraine.

As Stephen Hagerich, the IFRC cash assistance program coordinator explained, financial assistance means more than just cash; it allows families to prioritize what they need most. “I give you money, you buy something with it,” he said. “You need a can of soup; you buy a can of soup. You need some medicine; you buy the medicine. But there’s a real emotional impact to this as well.”

Hagerich added that the emotional context of helping people in this way can sometimes be really difficult to capture. “Behind every dollar that goes out, there’s a story about how people use it,” he said.



At Zilina train station in Slovakia, Slovak Red Cross volunteers stand ready to assist arriving Ukrainian refugees who may need help. Photo by Marko Kocic/IFRC

This meaningful assistance, made possible by compassionate Red Cross supporters, will make a real difference for families in the weeks and months ahead. “With every day that passes, we know vulnerabilities increase,” said IFRC regional director for Europe Birgitte Ebbesen. “We know there are so many uncertainties for people right now, but one thing that’s clear is the needs are immense, and they will be for a long time.”

## Generous Donors Power Relief for People in Need as Conflict Continues

Thanks to the remarkable generosity of our supporters, as of May 24, 2022, the American Red Cross has raised \$130.1 million to support relief for people affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. In just the first three months of this response, the American Red Cross has already spent or made commitments to spend \$49.4 million to respond to the humanitarian needs generated by this crisis.

We will continue to program the remaining funds to assist with immediate and ongoing relief efforts, long-term recovery, resilience or other critical humanitarian services as needs arise, both in Ukraine and surrounding countries, including support for displaced populations.

As the situation evolves, if assistance is needed for people who have fled Ukraine to the United States, the American Red Cross is prepared to provide relief and assistance in coordination with U.S. government authorities.

Our efforts will last years, not months, and the people impacted by this crisis know that when others leave, the Red Cross will serve — and we stay to help for as long as help is needed. We stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian Red Cross during this crisis, and the American Red Cross is proud to extend a hand of friendship from donors across the U.S. to families devastated by this unprecedented humanitarian crisis.



**American Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Expenses and Commitments (in millions)**

as of May 24, 2022 (\$130.1 million raised)

Expense Categories	Food, Shelter, and Relief Items	Total	Expense %
Grants to support financial assistance, food and other relief items	\$44.0	\$44.0	89.1%
Deployment of volunteers and staff (includes airfare, lodging, meals and vehicles)	\$0.1	\$0.1	0.2%
Other program and program support costs	\$0.3	\$0.3	0.7%
<b>Total Program Expenses and Commitments</b>	<b>\$44.4</b>	<b>\$44.4</b>	<b>90.0%</b>
Management, general and fundraising <sup>1</sup>		\$4.9	10.0%
<b>Total Spent and Committed</b>		<b>\$49.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Program Dollars Remaining		\$72.6	
Management, general and fundraising remaining to be applied		\$8.1	
<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>\$130.1</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Management, general and fundraising expenses support our work at its core and are indispensable to running the organization and helping people in need. They include the people and systems to maintain our enterprise-wide computer and telecommunications, HR and payroll systems to support our more than 20,000 employees and approximately 300,000 volunteers, fundraising and communications functions, and other support services across all program lines. 90 cents of every dollar received for the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis will be spent on our services to people affected by this crisis.

*Thank you!*

The American Red Cross responds to disasters and other crises around the world by mobilizing cash support, pre-positioning relief supplies, deploying disaster response experts and in some cases, implementing recovery and preparedness programs. The remarkable generosity of our supporters—individuals, corporations and foundations—drives our ability to provide relief and assist our partners in the global Red Cross network. We are grateful for your trust.