



EASTERN EUROPE TERRITORIAL SITUATION REPORT UKRAINE REFUGEE CRISIS

22 April 2022

on the photo: Sophia Bakhtadze, Major (Divisional Leader of SA in Republic of Georgia) works at the tent for refugees from Ukraine at the Ukrainian - Romanian border Siret

EET Statistics on April, 17 2022

Numbers of

15516	cooked meals distributed
17647	food parcels given
4704	water bottles distributed
7063	hygiene products
6283	diapers given
1272	baby formula given
2586	adults accommodated in TSA buildings
1358	children accommodated in TSA buildings
1170	people accommodated in non-TSA buildings assisted
498	people assisted with health and medication
2029	volunteers
630	officers
147	trip transporting people
566	trip transporting goods
2164	clothing/blankets distributed
4802	Anti Human Trafficking flyers distributed
2372	monetary value vouchers distributed
185	school supplies distributed

52 485

meals/hydration items
were distributed
including baby's
formula

temporary
accommodation
was provided for

5 114

people

Heart to God, Hand to Man

Ukraine Response Update 4th – 22nd April

Ukraine

- Kiev is still not safe to travel to at the present time, Odessa has been bombed on several days in the last week. Rail network is starting to breakdown due to bombing of the tracks, this makes it difficult for people to leave or travel great distances.
- Kharkov - the corps officers cannot use the bank or corporate credit cards, so getting money to them is difficult. They are only using cash at the present time, and at times supplies are very difficult to find.
- Dnipro – Officers are working with many people as they do not want to leave the country but need somewhere to shelter.
- Kropyvnytski – Officers and volunteers are seeing more than 100 people per day. They are still able to purchase supplies but it is limited.
- Lviv - The corps is receiving pallets of aid from Poland this has been arranged by International Emergency Services. This is to be a weekly occurrence so that aid continues to flow to Lviv. The officers have had discussions with the local government to create a camp for people to stay that has kitchen and bathroom facilities, they are hopeful that a school may be made available for this purpose
- Vinnytsai officer has been to Lviv to pick up aid then went to Kropyvnytski to drop off some aid to them and then went back home to distribute the rest of the aid. They are hopeful that this will continue.

There has been increased fighting and bombing Kharkiv, Pesochin, Kiev and Dnipro Kropyvntski, Lviv and Vinnytsia are relatively quiet at the moment although there has been bombing and fighting on several days. They are working hard in these places provide cooked meals and parcel of food and hygiene items
IES has arranged several conveyors of goods to Lviv, 4 pallets of good arrived, and another one due over the Easter weekend
The IES team has changed in Poland, and the Divisional leaders will have a meeting with the new IES team, so that supplies will continue to come to Lviv.

Moldova

- Moldova has sent two officers and a cadet to the border with Romania. As they speak Russian this is a helpful with communication and translation. They are distributing food items and information including AHT flyers.
- Different Corps are distributing food parcels, there are two main centers, central corps and Ialoveni
- There has been an increase in numbers of people coming for food. The displaced people from Ukraine had money when they first arrived but as time gone the money that came with has now gone so they need help.
- The Division is looking at opening another distribution center.
- IES went to Ungleni and visited a center.
- The Division is hoping to start with the vouchers next week, this has been problematic due to legal and company constraints.

The IES team has conducted Emergency training this week for the officers in Moldova
Chisinau Central and Ialoveni are providing meals, programs and hygiene, food packs. They are also providing blankets, as it till cold.
There is collaboration with churches, they have assistance from churches with donations. They are also looking at working at the train station, as part of a team, to provide food, tea/coffee etc.
They have invited mothers and children to come to the meeting and other programs running at the corps.

Romania

- The teams continue to work at the border, although the numbers are slowing down.
- There is a higher number of people in Bucharest, which has meant that the work has risen in the capital.
- There is a government site 'Romexpo' which the Salvation Army is assisting with giving out vouchers and food/cloths parcels. In the last two and half weeks, they have served almost 5000 people. Discussion with world vision – the need is great and they have had as many people donating have slowed down. Looking working with 10,000 people per month. Looking at three months agree.
- The IES team is staying until the 8th of May, working hard at Romexpo distributing vouchers.
- People from Ukraine have started to find work, so come to TSA for referrals and information regarding employment and education for children. There is a government website with jobs for Ukraine people, it also gives information regarding doctors, dentists and information for children who are starting school in Romania.

The team is still at Romexpo (government operated displaced persons hub) and they will be there for another month. They have been distributing vouchers which will allow people to purchase food, hygiene and medicine. This is good as there limits in shops on oil, flour and other items so it would be difficult to purchase these items in bulk.

The team at the border of Romania/Ukraine for a couple of days (2 officers with 2 volunteers) and the teams will keep rotating

It has been noted that displaced people are wanting to go back to Ukraine, as they want to be at home, visit elderly relatives or buy and take medical and other supplies to take home people in Ukraine.

They have identified two buildings but owner is out of country but coming back in May. This has the potential for accommodation for displaced place

There is a program 'Romania adopting a family for Easter celebration meal' which has had good take up. The Romanian government has provided payment for people who have taken in Displaced People from Ukraine for 60 days which finishes soon. There are concerns about what this will mean for people who have accommodation but may not at the end of the 60 days.

Bulgaria

Red Cross is in charge of the response and the Salvation Army is involved. As the officer team speak Russian this is assisting helping people as many Bulgarians do not speak Russian.

One team has come back from the border, and another team has gone. There are more than 20 buses a day with 50 people coming to the boarder and this has lessened for the last two days, due the roads being closed in Ukraine.

There are less volunteers helping than at the beginning of the response. There has been a request to divisional leadership to assist with translation at a children's program and they are looking at which days they can assist

The Divisional Leaders are exploring the option of vouchers as this will be easier to distribute assistance as they do not have a large team in Bulgaria.

- Two of the officers from Bulgaria are going to the Bulgaria/Romanian border for 4 days. They are joining with the Red Cross. They will assist with the distribution of food parcels, hot meals and a listening ear as they speak Russians. In the last several days 400 people we served and helped.
- People wanting to go back to Ukraine, to find relatives to bring them out of Ukraine or to go home.

Georgia

- Georgia is now starting to see displaced people from Ukraine in Georgia. They have travelled through Russia to get to the.

- In Batumi and Tbilisi, The Salvation Army is providing assistance including food parcels, hygiene supplies, clothes and blankets.

Displaced People from Ukraine are crossing from Russia to Georgia

There is a family from Ukraine staying at the flat at central corps flat, they do not stay long as they are obtaining documents so that they then can travel to Europe

Government giving shelter for month, although this has now finished. As a result, people are looking for accommodation. The corps in Tbilisi is investigating ways that they can assist by providing meals and accommodation.

In Batumi they are working with a restaurant to provide meals they are currently feeding 500 per day. Displaced people would like to stay in Batumi as there is a Ukraine community there.

Batumi officers are looking at working with the children and providing activities two days a week in the corps building. They will also distribute dry foods from the corps



My Volunteer story by Sophia Bakhtadze (Republic of Georgia)

I spent about 8 days at the Ukraine-Romania border. I've met refugees who came into Romania to go to some European Countries. Most of them said that after a while they go back to Ukraine because they want to be closer to their husbands, fathers, brothers, and sons who stayed behind to fight. It was exhausting being on my feet all day, but it's also really uplifting to work alongside motivated Christian people from all over the world and from Romania in the city of Siret. I do wish I could be doing more and wish I had more diverse skills to offer (like a doctor or a psychiatrist), but I'm happy that my husband and I with our team decided to come there and feel that we were making a difference in our small way.

It's profoundly depressing to see hundreds of refugees passing through the buses, cars or by walk every day and hear the harrowing stories they told me. I'm glad that I have the language skills to communicate with them and listen. Many just wanted a sympathetic ear and to be heard and listened to. Very often I could not find proper words to say something, but listened to their stories and prayed for peace.

I reminded myself to balance mixed emotions while volunteering because witnessing an inner crisis in people is very tough. Each of them crossed the borders with their heavy baggage, but their war stories were heavier.

Every morning my thoughts are there, thinking of people who cross the borders at that very moment and I start praying and asking God to be stopped war.

Ungheni is a municipality in Moldova.

With a population of 35,157, it is the seventh largest town in Moldova. There is a bridge across the Prut and a border checkpoint to Romania. There is another border town with the same name in Romania (Ungheni, Iași), on the other side of the Prut River.

The Salvation Army in Ungheni activates for 22 years, and is doing a great job with all their project. They have proven a good level of interaction with the local Authorities throughout the years. Especially now, while working with the refugees, they have a great collaboration.

The Government providing Housing for the refugees, the Salvation Army brings in the activities, food packages, clothing, covers most of the basic needs, and provides psychological help. You can see in the picture, one of the last events, a visit to the local Fire Station Department with the kids.

by Irina Lopuhov, Communication&PR from Moldova Division



Hincesti, a smaller town in the central part of the country, with a population of 17,400 is hosting now 130 refugees. People staying at locals, in houses with no facilities and utilities outside of the house. All of them are coming to the Salvation Army Core, to receive food and stuff.

They are doing their best to feed all this people, on a daily basis, having only one cook, and little resources.

At the picture you can see a family of 5, grandpa with 4 children, who are orphans. They have fled from the war in Ukraine, at the beginning of March, and stayed. A week ago, the grandpa decided to go back home, in order to protect his house from the looters.

EET photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/salvationarmyeet/>

Romania photos: [flickr.com/armatasalvariromania](https://www.flickr.com/photos/armatasalvariromania/)

EET map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1EjlpCSE0nRbgtfnAGIGStBnW2FXp8sd4>

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