



3000+

children from Ukraine were supported in our child-friendly spaces in Moldova, Romania and Hungary

5000+

children and caregivers from Ukraine benefited from our services since the start of the war

10

multidisciplinary teams are active and provide support to children and families affected by the war

Context

In 2014, Russia invaded eastern Ukraine and annexed the Crimean Peninsula. Despite a peace deal, fighting has been ongoing between Ukraine's troops and separatists in Donbass.

On February 24, 2022, Russia has started a full-scale war against Ukraine. Several cities are under attack. The war has forced more than 14 million people to leave their homes in search of a safer place.

The war has a devastating impact on children. The UN estimates that 5.2 million children now need humanitarian assistance: three million inside the country and more than 2.2 million in refugee-hosting countries.

"I come here almost every day with my six-month-old daughter to get porridge, games, dummies, wipes or nappies. Or just to talk. It's a must."

Katya, a 19-year-old mother at the mother-baby-corner



©Tati/Ramona Mearu - Moldova

An immediate response to children's needs

Terre des hommes has been helping children in Europe for more than 30 years, being recognised by the authorities and partners as an important child protection agency.

In the first days of the war in Ukraine, **our teams in Moldova, Hungary and Romania launched an emergency response**, building on the in-country presence. We immediately started providing support in reception centres and train stations where mothers and children needed it most.

In Ukraine, we first ensured the safety of all our employees that were working in eastern Ukraine and Kyiv. Since May, we are active in the west of the country to help the internally displaced families.

A multidisciplinary approach

Both in border countries and in western Ukraine, **our multidisciplinary teams assess the needs of children, youth and families**, temporarily living in reception and transit centres as well as in communities.

Then, **we improve their well-being and protection** by providing them with food and non-food items or cash/vouchers, psychological first aid, information about available help and potential risks, and by referring them to specialised services if needed. **We set up several child-friendly spaces and organise psychosocial activities** where children are listened to, play and build new friendships. Our **baby-mother corners** are a place for mothers to rest, take care of their babies and get necessary products.

As many refugees are hosted in communities, we implement **local projects for integration and social cohesion**. We also empower refugees by supporting grassroot initiatives such as Ukrainian schools. To ensure quality services for more children and families, we collaborate with authorities and other organisations and train frontline workers.



“At Tdh, on the first day of the war, we were all overwhelmed by our personal reactions. From the second day onwards, we began to think and act from a professional perspective.”

Elena Madan, Tdh Country Director in Moldova

How you can help

By making a donation, you will contribute to our response for the families affected by the war in Ukraine. Here's how you can support us:

- By online bank transfer:
CH58 0076 7000 R047 0535 0
- Via www.tdh.ch/donate
- At a post office in Switzerland

For more information, please contact:

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Additionally to our global channels, visit us at:

Ukraine: www.facebook.com/TdhUkraine | tdh-ukraine.org

Moldova: www.facebook.com/tdhmoldova | tdh.md

Romania: www.facebook.com/TdhRomania | tdh.ro

Europe region: www.facebook.com/TdhEurope

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Terre des hommes (Tdh) is the leading Swiss organisation for children's aid. In 2021, we provided direct and indirect assistance to over five million children and members of their communities in 30 countries through our health, protection and emergency relief programmes.



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Terre des hommes
Helping children worldwide.

Helping refugees like herself

In March, Yana Smelianska started working for Tdh as a child protection specialist at MoldExpo, the main refugee centre in Chisinau, Moldova. *“The children stimulate me all the time. The fact that I can pass on some normality to them is a source of joy,”* she shares.

In fact, Yana is not new to Tdh. Until February, she lived with her husband and daughter in Kharkiv and worked for the organisation in the Donbass region, helping families who had fallen victim to landmines and other explosive remnants of war. She lived in Luhansk until 2014, when the city was occupied by Russia.

Forced to flee the war for the second time, she arrived in Chisinau and started helping refugees like herself.

“At MoldExpo, I work with children and their families who have had and are having similar experiences to mine. Working with them takes my mind off what is happening at home,” she says.

With CHF 50

we can, for example, provide hygiene items for a mother and baby for two weeks

With CHF 80

we can, for example, equip a child-friendly space with a children's house

