



ONE PROPOSAL

Jesuit response to Ukraine Crisis

ANNUAL REPORT
01/01/2023 - 31/12/2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Summary

February 24th marks a somber milestone: two years of the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. More than 6 million individuals have been displaced across Europe, with neighboring countries such as Poland, Romania, Hungary, Moldova, and Slovakia bearing the brunt of this humanitarian crisis.

A notable phenomenon is the continuous movement of about 1.8 million people back and forth into Ukraine, exposing themselves to protection risks, notably human trafficking, bombings and missile rockets.

According to reports from International Government Organizations like IOM and UNHCR, Ukraine hosts a staggering 3.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), and the total number of individuals in need of assistance is projected to reach 14.6 million by 2024, emphasizing the far-reaching and enduring consequences of the conflict.

In response to this dire situation, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), in tandem with the Xavier Network and the broader Society of Jesus, has been a steadfast supporter to the Ukrainian people over the past two years.

In the twelve months of 2023 alone, JRS supported 44,723 people, with 10,412 beneficiaries receiving assistance through the Integration Fund.



Photo by Sergi Camera

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



When combined with previous efforts, this sums up to 100,765 refugees aided since the inception of the conflict. Remarkably, JRS first set a target of supporting around 73,000 people over three years (2022-2025), surpassing this milestone with dedication and resilience.

Recognizing the evolving dynamics of the crisis, JRS strategically shifted its response from emergency relief to a focus on mid- and long-term inclusion of refugees as of the beginning of 2023. The success or failure of this shift hinges on the impact of JRS's activities, a truth underscored by a Needs Assessment conducted in the last quarter of the year.

The assessment revealed that the lack of inclusion, spanning access to jobs, health services, and suitable housing, poses a grave threat to the integration of Ukrainian refugees, with the potential for their return to Ukraine, even to war zones.

With its presence in Lviv and in partnership with L'Arche, JRS's commitment extends beyond the borders of Ukraine. Intensive efforts have been directed toward neighboring countries - Romania, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and Moldova - where the need for assistance has been most acute.

The One Proposal initiative has been instrumental in providing short-term emergency humanitarian aid, evolving seamlessly into medium- and

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

long-term support. This comprehensive approach includes integration and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) activities, accommodation, and continued access to basic needs assistance.

The transformation from urgent, large-scale, short-term assistance to sustained service reflects a key feature of JRS's efforts in these neighboring countries as the conflict persists.

Furthermore, JRS has launched the second Integration Fund, forwarding over 500,000 euros in 2024 to support projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Croatia, Serbia, North Macedonia, Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland.

This fund is not only dedicated to addressing the immediate needs of Ukrainian refugees but also focuses on actively facilitating their integration into host societies.

In a world fraught with crises, JRS stands as a beacon of hope, navigating the complex landscape of displacement, resilience, and compassion in the face of ongoing adversity.



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2. The One Proposal structure - An evolving body

In March 2022, JRS and the Xavier Network conducted the first needs assessment mission in Ukraine and its neighboring regions. Collaborating with teams in various country offices, we worked to define and structure a unified response.

With the goal of assisting, serving, and accompanying Ukrainian refugees, the JRS team developed the One Proposal around five main pillars, encompassing ten sectors. The structure and its connection to JRS's work from February 24th to June 30th are outlined below: Welcome – Protect – Promote – Integrate – Institutional Strengthening

At the start of 2023, following a thorough analysis, JRS decided to merge the "Promote" and "Integrate" pillars, as activities and sectors were found to be overlapping, leading to confusion in both budget allocations and beneficiary counting.

Under this new framework, and building upon the initial One Proposal plan, each country office validated the existing activities, incorporated new needs, and eliminated activities that were no longer necessary. The revised structure is as follows:

WELCOME



PROTECT



PROMOTE



INTEGRATE



INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AXIS	SECTORS	DEFINITIONS (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)
WELCOME	Short-term shelter	Temporary Protection or Stay Arrangements as responses to humanitarian crises for a maximum of 2 months. The food provided while sheltering is accounted here.
	Emergency aid, relief and basic need assistance	Assistance to the victims of conflicts or disaster situations in urgent situations, which cause human suffering or imminently threatens lives or livelihoods through short-term distribution, and long-term accompaniment, other than non-food items and shelter provision.
	Long-term shelter	Long-term Protection or Stay Arrangements (TPSAs) as responses to humanitarian crises for a longer than 2 months . Food provided while sheltering is accounted here.
PROTECT	Non-Food Items	Distribution of items other than food, including vouchers, household items, soap, containers, cooking items, among others.
	Mental Health and psychosocial support	Activity providing Mental Health and Psycho-Social support both towards beneficiaries and staff.
	Health	Distribution of general hygiene products, medicines, health assistance, and items dedicated to the beneficiaries' wellbeing.
	Legal Assistance	Provision of legal and social counselling and assistance towards a beneficiary, a family or a household.
	Education	Provision and support of access to Education activities both for adults and minors.
	Livelihood	Technical and Vocational abilities development with the objective of improving quality of life.
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	Awareness raising	Activities aimed to raise consciousness in the general public about Ukrainian refugees and the situations they are facing.
	Advocacy	Advocacy activities aimed at promoting the rights and access to services for Ukrainian refugees' integration and safety in the community.
CAPACITY BUILDING	Integration and Peacebuilding	Activities supporting a two-way process between refugees and the host society to reduce economic and social marginalization, and support more cohesive, inclusive, and robust societies, as well as peacebuilding activities related to conflict management and resolutions among the hosting communities and refugees or among refugees themselves.
	Capacity building	Activities aimed at improving the country office knowledge, skills and capacities through staff hiring, training and space improvement, among others.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The people we serve

The One Proposal project is dedicated to assisting individuals in three main categories affected by the conflict in Ukraine:

1. Internally Displaced People (IDPs):
 - Definition: Those displaced within Ukraine due to the conflict who have not yet crossed an international border.
 - Objective: To provide support and aid to those who have remained within the country despite being displaced.
2. Refugees of Ukrainian Nationality:
 - Definition: Ukrainian citizens displaced by the conflict seeking refuge.
 - Objective: To offer assistance and resources to Ukrainian nationals who have been forced to leave their homes.
3. Refugees of Other Nationalities:
 - Definition: Individuals of non-Ukrainian nationalities displaced by the conflict in Ukraine.
 - Objective: To extend support to refugees of diverse nationalities affected by the ongoing conflict.

By the end of 2022, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and its partners successfully aided over 56,000 individuals. Much of the support was provided in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Additionally, 2,942 refugees received assistance through the Integration Fund in countries of secondary movement.

In the first six months of 2023, JRS, in collaboration with the Xavier Network and other partners, extended assistance to 15,480 new unique beneficiaries.

By the close of 2023, 44,723 people had received aid, with 10,412 individuals benefiting specifically from the Integration Fund. Surpassing the initial goal of 73,168 beneficiaries planned for the three-year period, JRS and its partner have already helped 100,765 people.

**People served
in 2023** **44.723**

**People served
in 2 years** **100.765**

**in Ukraine &
Neighbouring
countries** **90.353**

**Through the
Integration
Fund** **10.412**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AXIS	SECTORS	Ukraine	L'Arche	Poland	Hungary	Romania	Moldova	Slovakia	Integration fund	Total
WELCOME	Short-term shelter	-	-	33	-	-	-	-	480	513
	Emergency aid, relief and basic need assistance	4.021	16	217	3.096	1091	3.428	-	1.802	13.671
	Long-term shelter	38	22	500	1.149	1.502	366	-	829	4.406
	Non-Food Items	8.667	-	234	-	-	-	540	848	10.289
	Mental Health and psychosocial support	4.032	-	2.331	1.562	321	184	126	1.744	10.300
PROTECT	Health	185	1	138	192	1.485	83	-	2.011	4.095
	Legal Assistance	134	-	682	1.418	9.103	101	1.296	1.164	13.898
	Education	-	-	1.357	1.533	5.429	228	219	783	9.586
	Livelihood	-	-	15	-	1.831	17	13	470	2.346
	Awareness raising	-	-	1.168	95.911	161	-	-	43.989	141.229
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	Advocacy	4	-	-	95.911	-	-	-	0	95.915
	Integration and Peacebuilding	5.953	-	1.460	142	1.967	676	495	3.770	13.787
CAPACITY BUILDING	Capacity building	-	-	20	30	245	-	-	40	40
UNIQUE BENEFICIARIES		14.625	38	2.265	1.182	14.518	3.329	1.296	7.470	44.723

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4. Coordination and main events

2024 proved to be a pivotal year for JRS and its partners, marked by the increasing scale and complexity of operations, coupled with the pressing needs of Ukrainian refugees who had endured two years of conflict. This demanded a coordinated and proactive effort, challenging many countries with modest pre-conflict operations.

Building on the skills and capabilities honed in 2023, which focused on consolidating team expertise and expanding regional offices, 2024 witnessed growth across all countries and partners, aimed at achieving a more effective and targeted response to the beneficiaries' needs.

During the initial six months of 2023, JRS and Xavier Network engaged in constant meetings to coordinate and plan developments for the One Proposal project review.

In March, a Regional Coordination Meeting in Lisbon brought together country offices involved in the One Proposal, where 2022 results were shared with the European network, and thematic topics were discussed.

April saw Programmes and Finance Officers from JRS Europe and Xavier Network undertaking a mission to Poland and Ukraine. Also, a coordination meeting in Brussels involved JRS Europe, Xavier Network, JRS International, and JRS USA to assess progress and review the budget.



Photo by Sergi Camera

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This ongoing coordination process reached its pinnacle with the Strategic Plan, Evaluation, and Good Practices meeting hosted by JRS Romania in Bucharest at the end of June 2023. The gathering, attended by around 50 people, from management, spanned three days and delved into four main programmatic areas: EDUCATION, HOUSING, MHPSS, and INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

After summer, JRS completed a year-long capacity-building training plan involving all Country Offices in 8 modules covering diverse topics such as MHPSS, Core Humanitarian Standards, Cybersecurity, Safeguarding Policies, and Staff care. Teams benefited significantly, paving the way for more modules in the second half of 2024 focusing on specific topics.

In the fall of 2023, an in-depth needs assessment was carried out in Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania.

In the latter half of the year, with the support of all partners, JRS and Xavier Network conducted a comprehensive needs assessment on the One Proposal. JRS Europe enlisted a consultant who, in collaboration with JRS Europe staff, developed the methodology, conducted field visits, and drafted the final report.

The inception phase occurred in October, while field visits in Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Ukraine took place in November and December.

The needs assessment had two primary objectives: to investigate the needs of Ukrainian refugees in the hosting Country Offices and to assess the development status of the Country Offices to support and strengthen their operations.

The experience proved valuable for planning in 2024 and operations, marked by success in terms of the number of people interviewed and reached through surveys, as indicated by the provided tables:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LOCATION	IDPS AND REFUGEES		JRS STAFF	
	TARGET	ACHIEVED	TARGET	ACHIEVED
ROMANIA	369	1050	105	105
SLOVAKIA	205	206	8	29
HUNGARY	276	106	13	13
POLAND	212	298	18	18
UKRAINE	344	286	7	7
TOTAL	1.406	1.946	151	172

LOCATION	KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS	FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION	OBSERVATION SITES	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
ROMANIA	15	16	7	133
SLOVAKIA	8	6	1	49
HUNGARY	9	5	1	39
POLAND	20	10	6	94
UKRAINE	6	5	2	39
TOTAL	41	31	15	266

Several key findings have emerged, shedding light on critical areas requiring attention and intervention for the well-being of displaced populations.

Education stands out as a paramount concern, with challenges encompassing language barriers, difficulties in the recognition of certificates and diplomas, the need for harmonization between diverse educational systems, and a demand for vocational training opportunities for adults. Support for educational activities, particularly childcare, has become increasingly crucial in this context.

Housing emerges as a pressing issue, characterized by skyrocketing rent prices, depleting government funds, diminishing landlord hospitality, and the pervasive issue of low income among displaced individuals. The shortage of funds for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees exacerbates the already challenging housing situation.

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In the realm of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), pervasive stigma among the adult population necessitates a targeted approach. Group therapy activities have proven more effective than individual interventions, particularly with the youth who demonstrate greater openness. The acute need for professional staff to address traumas and distress stemming from the complex situation, including the effects of war, living conditions, and uncertain futures, is evident.

Awareness raising emerges as a critical component, addressing issues such as acts of discrimination or bullying. Local communities, facing fatigue, require sustained efforts to remain engaged. The shifting political discourse and changes within political parties add another layer of complexity to the situation.

Livelihood concerns are underscored by the over-skilling of refugees for available jobs, coupled with a lack of competencies to access quality employment. The insufficient availability of vocational courses and the pressing need for childcare support compound the challenges faced by displaced individuals in establishing sustainable livelihoods.

The health sector grapples with obstacles like limited access to quality treatments, language barriers in healthcare interactions, and a lack of official communication outlining the duties and rights of both medical professionals and refugees.

These findings collectively paint a vivid picture of the multifaceted challenges faced by displaced populations, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions and comprehensive support across education, housing, mental health, awareness raising, livelihood, and healthcare domains.

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5. Financial Overview

All sums are indicated in Euros

AXIS	CODE	SECTORS	Ukraine	L'Arche	Poland	Hungary	Romania	Moldova	Slovakia	Integration-fund	Total
WELCOME	1A	Short-term shelter	0,00	0,00	1.474,06	0,00	€ 0,00	0,00	0,00	€ 3.450,00	328,993.70
	1B	Emergency aid, relief and basic need assistance	39.419,28	0,00	1.326,70	5.771,64	€ 38,626.32	109.505,31	0,00	€ 109,420.39	
PROTECT	2A	Long-term shelter	102.903,82	6.913,22	119.137,66	148.568,19	370.090,98	13.223,48	1.822,33	€ 205,552.87	1.773.982,60
	2B	Non-Food Items	105.582,30	2.383,50	7.106,70	5.396,02	81.620,62	0,00	20.552,06	€ 36,245.34	
	2C	Mental Health and psychosocial support	35.802,93	0,00	107,829.48	12.087,49	22.314,69	1.785,09	21.224,58	€ 49,505.98	
	2D	Health	950,89	152,53	7.069,04	65,74	161.191,82	24.519,47	0,00	€ 14,405.75	
	2E	Legal Assistance	0,00	0,00	21.624,51	3.376,12	20.134,50	0,00	17.916,84	€ 24,926.09	
	3A	Education	3.866,70	0,00	138.934.19	27.732,94	459.083,41	12.268,59	22.639,17	€ 52,610.43	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	0,00	0,00	15.240,73	0,00	4.80.230,37	0,00	7.423,67	€ 23,566.23	1.722.025.00
	3C	Awareness raising	0,00	0,00	12.724,25	0,00	34.404,39	0,00	0,00	€ 38,731.74	
	3D	Advocacy	0,00	0,00	2.899,80	0,00	31.029,79	5.193,01	0,00	10.256,05	
	3E	Integration and Peacebuilding	13.689,66	0,00	83.384,69	0,00	111.650,34	27.092,23	6.279,12	101.093,51	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	74.473,15	0,00	219.248,56	44.216,66	49.626,92	0,00	1.000,23	14.174,95	402.740,47
TOTAL			376.688,72	9.449,25	758.000,37	247.214,78	1.860.004,14	193.587,18	98.858,00	683.939,31	4.227.741,77

UKRAINE

UKRAINE

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 01/05/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Lviv



Contact Person

Inga Dul, CEO JRS Ukraine



Photo by Sergi Camera

UKRAINE

1. Summary

The Russian war on Ukraine, that has been going on for almost 2 years, has caused widespread death, destruction, displacement and human suffering, and left at least 17.6 million Ukrainian people in need of multisectoral humanitarian assistance in 2023. This includes 6.3 million internally displaced people, 4.4 million returnees and 6.9 million people who have remained at their homes throughout the war.

Frequent missile launches reported a multitude of devastating consequences, including the loss of lives and the destruction of infrastructure. Air raids, which sometimes lasting up to 3.5 hours, necessitate significant disruption of the economy and livelihoods.

All these factors lead to the vast fatigue of Ukrainian society because of the challenge of war.

Despite all of that, JRS Ukraine team continues to use all of its resources to assist IDPs people who have been forced to flee their homes through the full-scale invasion of Russia into Ukraine.

**People served
in 2023**

14.625



UKRAINE

We successfully provided such activities as:

- Provision of short-term shelter, food and hygiene facilities in shelter in Lviv.
- Provision of mid-to long-term accommodation and access to living facilities in 2 shelters.
- Provision of food, necessary hygiene supplies, and other goods for shelter's residents.
- Provision of advice and referral to other potential sources of assistance (state shelters).
- Provision of food parcels for IDPs, that don't live in our shelters.
- Provision of NFI items for IDPs in other shelters or private sector.
- Provision of power generators and other necessary equipment, for ours and other shelters (incl. state financed).
- Provision of vouchers for food, household items, clothes for IDPs outside of the shelters.
- Recreational activities for our shelter's residents and IDPs outside the shelters.
- Organizing group and individual visits to psychologists for our shelter residents.
- Assistance in organizing medical support for those staying in the shelters.
- Advice provided to new-coming IDPs to access their rights, government benefits, and other services.
- Scholarship for students of universities.
- English language courses.
- Ukrainian speaking clubs for children and adults, residents of our shelters.
- Integrational activities for our shelter residents and IDPs outside the shelters.

During the implementation of this project, we encountered various obstacles and negative factors of influence, mostly caused by the war and its negative consequences for our country and people.

Some of them are related to anxiety, frequent night rocket attacks, long-term air alarms, the death of loved ones, fear for the future, which negatively affects the emotional and psychological state of employees and

UKRAINE

the working process of the team in general.

Besides this difficulties, JRS Ukraine faced as an insufficient number of employees in the team, difficulties in finding qualified specialists, employee burnout, lack of volunteer culture in the country, absence of a vehicle in the organization, lack of suitable office space for the team, absence of warehouses for humanitarian aid.

All these factors significantly complicated work of JRS Ukraine team.

But despite all these obstacles and negative perpetrators, we managed to help approximately 23.097 IDPs by providing various assistance within 2023.

2. People served

Within this project, we provided assistance to the internally displaced people, who have been forced to flee their homes. Most of them are women and children, as well as people with special needs and people from vulnerable

**People served
in 2023** **14.625**

**People served
in 2 years** **15.298**



UKRAINE

categories. This figure also includes beneficiaries who have been provided with short-term housing in our shelters and beneficiaries from the capacity building.

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	783	729	2.142	367	4.021
Shelter/Non-Food Items	5.81	2.574	2.567	983	8.705
Legal assistance	-	-	99	35	134
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	1.377	1.172	1.356	127	4.032
Health	64	37	79	5	185
Education	19	18	-	-	37
Livelihood	-	-	-	-	-
Awareness raising/ advocacy	-	-	4	-	4
Integration & Peacebuilding	1.573	1.523	1.984	873	5.953

3. How Svitlana found a safe home away from home in JRS Ukraine

In the fall of 2021, Svitlana fell seriously ill. She was in the city of Pokrovsk in the Donetsk region, and it took intensive treatment for her to be able to walk again. So, when the war began, she was uncertain about what to do. They anxiously watched the events unfold, until March 2022. “The situation was only getting worse and when a rocket fell near our home, my daughter and I finally decided to evacuate”, she says.

“I was already feeling better that day, gradually regaining my ability to walk, but it was very frightening and worrisome because we didn't understand what awaited us... it was incredibly difficult to leave our native home. Throughout the night, my daughter and I were almost motionless on the train because there was no space. People around us were scared, children were crying, but the feelings of heading into the unknown were much heavier...”, she recalls.

UKRAINE

Once in Lviv, she found JRS who provided her with housing and food, or as she puts it “the most essential and immediate need for refugees”. “Thanks to JRS, we began to feel safe. Support from JRS has built my new life far from home.”, she adds.

Once feeling safe, Svitlana also started participating in some of the activities of JRS such as “beautiful and necessary” gift giving for both children and adults and training sessions.

As for what the future holds, Svitlana only hopes that the war will end, and she will be able to come back home. "I truly hope that the war will end, and we will return home. My fears revolve around the war itself and everything associated with it”.



UKRAINE

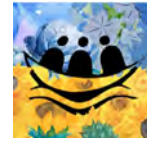
4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 39,419.28
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 39,419.28	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 102,903.82	€ 245,239.93
	2B	Non food Items	€ 105,582.30	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 35,802.93	
	2D	Health	€ 950.89	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 0.00	
	3A	Education	€ 3,866.70	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	€ 0,00	€ 17,556.36
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 0,00	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 0,00	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 13,689.66	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 74,473.15	€ 74,473.15
TOTAL				€ 376,688.72

**L'ARCHE
KOVCHEH
LVIV**

L'ARCHE

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 01/05/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Lviv



Contact Person

Jan Burda



1. Summary

Ukraine entered the second year of the full-scale war with great difficulties.

Due to rocket shelling of power and heating plants, light and heat were often lost; under two autumn successes of the Ukrainian defences (near Kharkov and Kherson) the front was halted.

The situation of millions of displaced civilians also appeared stabilized. However, neither international nor local organisations were entirely successful in finding suitable accommodation and work for all those in need.

Although the city, with Polish support, has built a container settlement for IDPs from the eastern regions of Ukraine, its capacity is very small compared to the number of IDPs.

Critical moments were when rockets attacked Lviv itself and a smaller wave of displaced people rose after the destruction of the Kakhovka dam.

**People served
in 1 year**

147



L'ARCHE

Thanks to project support from JRS, we have continued to provide stable accommodation preferably for IDPs with special needs, for whom it was and is more difficult to find suitable accommodation.

Since the summer, we have seen a new type of need - we are often contacted, especially by mothers of wounded soldiers who are being operated on and treated in local hospitals. They are looking for a short-term shelter so that they can spend at least a few days at their sons' bedsides.

2. People served

The project serves internally displaced persons from the eastern part of Ukraine. It was aimed mainly at families with members with special needs.

In 2023, we accepted and accommodated 22 people, including 1 girl, 1 boy, 1 man and 1 woman with small or special needs.

People served in 2023 **38**

People served in 2 years **185**

Since most of them are poor or have little income, the possibility of free accommodation is a great help to them. In addition to a warm and relatively safe place, we also help them buy food.

This second year, we had fewer trips with our minibuses adapted to transport people in wheelchairs, which we no longer transported to the border with Poland, but mostly between hospitals and accommodation facilities within the city.

The biggest challenge was and there remains the situation of Dmytro who has an intellectual disability and his injured leg.

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	-	1	3	12	16
Shelter/Non-Food Items	2	4	12	4	22
Health	-	-	-	1	1

3. How Liudmyla found a home that allowed to continue Dmytro's treatment

Liudmyla had lived in Bakhmut for 63 years and she was planning on staying at her hometown. She lived with her son Dmytro when war came to their backyard. "His tracksuit pants were drying on the street. And he went out to get them. He opens the door and that's it. An explosion and that's it. The leg was left hanging on the skin", she describes.

Dmytro had stepped on mine in their yard, which left his left leg shattered, his right leg broken, and more fragments scattered all over his body. He was in deep need of immediate intensive care. First, they were taken to the closest medical facility. They later were moved to a bigger city and after that they were transferred to Lviv.

"Here we were met by our best doctor. I'll remember this doctor for the rest of our life and I will tell everyone this man is not a man, he is a ray of God, honestly He met us, placed us in the hospital, and 15 days later we had our first surgery. One leg had a broken toe, and the other... they were putting it together and "gluing" it, just gluing it together... In the end, we had 10 surgeries in one year", she expresses.

After all these surgeries, Dmytro could not walk on his own and he need



L'ARCHE

continuous medical monitoring. They were offered multiple shelters, hospitals, and monasteries but all of them were very far from the traumatologists, surgeons and rehabilitation specialists who had been so helpful in Dmytro's recovery.

Eventually, social workers offered the possibility of the L'Arche-Kovcheh community, which is close to the hospital and Svitlana and Dmytro decided to give the community a visit. "We just came in, the guys from an ambulance carried Dmytro on a stretcher, he was moving to the bed, and a social worker was standing there asking: "How do you like it?", he said, 'It's so good here'. And Dmytro didn't want to go anywhere", she says.

Svitlana and Dmytro have been at L'Arche-Kovcheh community since March 2023 and happy to be close to the specialists. "We have our own room in the house, Dmytro can move around the whole ground floor in his wheelchair. Our hospital is close, our doctors, physiotherapists, masseurs, and nurses come to us. And when it was warm in the summer, he liked to sit in the garden", she mentions.

But beyond the special care that the community and the nurses provide, they have also found some soul accompaniment at the community. "In April, we were celebrating Easter here and Dmytro's birthday. The girls sang so beautifully for him, he was very happy. It was very important to Dmytro. Now we live in paradise. That's how it is."

4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 0,00	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 6,913.22	€ 9,449.25
	2B	Non food Items	€ 2,383.50	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 0,00	
	2D	Health	€ 152.53	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 0,00	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3A	Education	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
	3B	Livelihood	€ 0,00	
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 0,00	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 0,00	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 0,00	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
TOTAL				€ 9,449.25

HUNGARY

HUNGARY

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 01/05/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Budapest



Contact Person

Emőke Takács and Beáta Palóczné Kovács



HUNGARY

1. Summary

Hungary is not a primary destination for refugees because of the language, the economic situation, and the lack of communities of their original language, culture and religion. This makes it difficult to plan for a longer term and allocate human and material resources to help at all levels.

Even more there is a distrust, sometimes hostility among the refugees towards the temporary host communities, aid agencies and authorities, as a result of prior misinformation and deliberate creation of mistrust against Hungary even before their arrival to the country.

The number of border crossings from Ukraine had totalled over 4.1M. According to the statistics of the National Directorate General for Aliens Policing as of October 2023, 63 775 persons were registered. However, there are no accurate statistics on how many Hungarian-Ukrainian dual citizens have arrived in Hungary since February 2022.

TP status in Hungary provides refugees with the right to reside, work, access essential services like housing, healthcare, and education.

**People served
in 2023**

1.182



HUNGARY

Nevertheless, life in exile remains challenging for many due to language barriers, facing difficulties in accessing services (e.g. disability grants), limited income and the absence of a long-term outlook. At the same time, living costs are dramatically increasing, free or affordable housing opportunities are missing and the very few community shelters are full.

Refugees with dual nationality still face challenges in accessing certain rights and services (such as healthcare and social services).

The experience of JRS HU and the needs assessments carried out by UNHCR, IOM Hungary also shows that the primary needs highlighted are accommodation, followed by food, and language support.

In line with our plans, we continued our work through the social aid scheme for Ukrainian refugees, which consists of support for: 1) medical expenses; 2) food and personal hygiene items (vouchers); 3) housing costs.

We have a medium and long-term housing program for individuals and families. Where housing equipment was needed to ensure adequate living conditions, we were able to provide it; 4) education-related costs. We paid particular attention to the winter period and distributed specific, winter-related packages.

In addition to a system of one-off grants, we also offered regular casework, accompaniment in schools, help in enrolment, and Hungarian lessons to children and adults. Free time activities to promote integration and skill development were also offered. Our summer camps brought together local and refugee children.

In 2023 we published the second volume of our Hungarian language workbook. They are niche publications in the Hungarian textbook market and are cited as an excellent example in university HFL courses. JRS HU was present in 9 institutions (8 schools, 1 childcare centre for unaccompanied minors) in 2023. In Q4, we released a monthly teachers' club.

Mental health support and psychosocial counselling were provided by facilitating conversations to provide emotional support thanks to specialists and volunteers.

Due to our beneficiaries' reluctance to resort to direct psychosocial support, we organised group counselling and community building events. We organized 99 MHPSS related events with the participation of 880 people.

HUNGARY

Individual psychosocial support was also available, but we had to face the fact that our beneficiaries were reluctant to take advantage of this professional service as being afraid of psychological counselling that might be labelling or stigmatizing. Therefore, our original plans had to be modified to meet the needs of the refugees. To provide them with the widest possible range of MHPSS assistance, we wanted to create a safe, welcoming community space for them.

Beside using our communication channels to raise awareness, we also held interactive workshops in secondary schools.

2. People served

By the current project, JRS HU serves refugees of Ukrainian nationality, third-country nationals previously residing in Ukraine and holders of Hungarian-Ukrainian citizenship).

In 2023 under the scope of One Proposal, JRS Hungary 1182 beneficiaries out of which 595 were

**People served
in 2023** **1.182**

**People served
in 2 years** **2.999**



HUNGARY

adults (210 men, 385 women) and 587 were minors (297 boys, 290 girls). In addition, we registered and handled a further 540 email and telephone inquiries from Ukrainian families. (We do not have detailed data on the family members in cases when we were asked for information only by email or phone).

In 2023, 78 people (12 male, 66 female) were involved in our teacher training courses.

We provided free language books for additional schools and Ukrainian students. 13 teachers (1 male, 12 female) and 91 Ukrainian students (39 boys, 52 girls) requested the JRS-developed Hungarian as a foreign language teaching language book.

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	709	723	1.025	639	3.096
Shelter/Non-Food Items	238	234	433	244	1.149
Legal assistance	314	251	560	293	1.418
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	184	229	953	196	1.562
Health	48	34	69	41	192
Education	602	749	230	52	1.533
Livelihood	-	-	-	-	-
Awareness raising/ advocacy	-	-	-	-	95.911
Integration & Peacebuilding	5	13	69	55	142
Capacity building	-	-	25	5	30

3. How Olena found a sense of home in the JRS Hungary community

“February 24th was just another day. I woke up in the morning, got ready for work and got the kids ready for kindergarten, but then we heard the

HUNGARY

news, Ukraine was under attack from Russia”, Olena recalls.

She adds, “I will never forget the moment I called my husband, who fortunately was in Hungary for work. I was already packing our papers and most important documents without thinking. He immediately told us to leave for the border as soon as possible, to go to Hungary”.

Olena and her family decided to leave as soon as possible but the situation was already chaotic. “By that time, panic had taken hold in the town, as it had in the people. So, we set off for Hungary with our most important documents and a change of clothes”, she summarizes.

When they arrived in Hungary, they stayed with relatives waiting for developments “because at that time we were hoping that it would all blow over in a few days. But unfortunately, it didn't”.

“I hoped in my heart that this would not last more than six months or a year, that everything would be the same. That we would go home and go on with our lives. But unfortunately, we must admit now that this is not the case and who knows what will happen next”, she expresses. Finally, they managed to rent an apartment and enrol their son in the regional kindergarten.

Their next challenge was for Olena to find a job. “Unfortunately, this did



HUNGARY

not happen so easily and quickly, as it is not easy to find flexible work with a child. It wasn't easy", she highlights. After some time, uncertainty and anxiety started to affect Olena.

"When I was a little bit really out of hope and couldn't find a job, that's when I heard about the JMSZ (JRS Hungary). Luckily, we got into the support programme, where we not only received financial help for housing, but also real spiritual help, as they were always able to offer a little encouragement", she comments.

"This was a great help for us. Because I feel that we belong to a community where, if I have a problem, I can tell them, and we try to find a solution. If not with anything else, at least with some words of encouragement. And what has given me the most from the community is that they have tried to make me think about our long-term future, try to plan here, not dwell on the past", she highlights.

While Olena and her family are more settled today, they are still longing for home. "Since then, I've been lucky enough to get a job, I feel like I've found my place here, our child is in kindergarten and my husband is working. Now we are trying to make a living here, which is not easy, because our hearts are longing for home, but we don't think about it every day".

HUNGARY

4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 5,771.64
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 5,771.64	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 148,568.19	€ 169,493.55
	2B	Non food Items	€ 5,396.02	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 12,087.49	
	2D	Health	€ 65.74	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 3,376.12	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3A	Education	€ 27,732.94	€ 27,732.94
	3B	Livelihood	€ 0,00	
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 0,00	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 0,00	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 0,00	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 44,216.66	€ 44,216.66
TOTAL				€ 247,214.78

MOLDOVA

MOLDOVA

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 01/05/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Tudora
Bolohan
Ruseștii Noi
Stăuceni

Rîșcani



Contact Person

Caroline Lercher Tauber, Partnerships and Projects Coordinator
(CONCORDIA Social Projects)



MOLDOVA

1. Summary

The Republic of Moldova is facing multiple social, economic, political, and security issues, exacerbated by ongoing global and regional developments.

From over 6 million people who escaped from Ukraine, 112,811 Ukrainian refugees remained in Moldova as of data from December 2023. Since the introduction of the Temporary Protection in March 2023, 26,382 individuals have received the status.

The temporary protection status includes the right to remain in Moldova until March 2024, access to healthcare, social assistance and education, access to the local labor market, and accommodation in the temporary centers for persons in need. Integration measures, including access to employment, education, and healthcare, need to be prioritized.

Despite the government's efforts to manage the crisis, the country's political, economic, and security capacities are limited compared to other European nations, as Moldova is not a member of the EU and NATO.

**People served
in 1 year**

3.329



MOLDOVA

The government has requested international assistance to manage the strain on its social systems. The situation has prompted a need for external support, especially from European partners, UN agencies, and other international organizations.

The security environment in Moldova has undergone significant changes due to the transformation of regional and international security dynamics. Political instability, regional conflicts, and internal issues pose contemporary threats, requiring a shift from static security strategies to more dynamic and adaptable approaches.

In response to the escalating humanitarian crisis triggered by the conflict in Ukraine, the project in the Republic of Moldova has taken a robust and multifaceted approach to address the needs of displaced individuals.

The comprehensive initiative spans a spectrum of vital services, ranging from immediate assistance to long-term support, with a focus on providing relief, fostering emotional well-being, ensuring safe transportation, and facilitating integration into the community.

In the frame of the One Proposal, during January 2023 and December 2023, Concordia distributed direct support packages, being a vital support for over 3000 refugees, offering not just sustenance but a tangible expression of solidarity.

Financial support has been a crucial aspect of the intervention, with a focus on providing assistance to refugee families. A total of 168 refugee families received a financial boost of 5000 MDL each, making a substantial impact on their daily challenges.

Accommodation efforts for refugees, coupled with the provision of monthly food supplies, have been a testament to the project's commitment to ensuring the well-being of those in temporary shelters.

Additionally, the support extended to hosting families through psycho-emotional assistance has proven invaluable, with 101 families benefiting from encouragement and advice. Education services for refugee children have been initiated, with eight children actively participating in online classes and educational activities.

Efforts to facilitate their integration into Moldovan educational institutions underscore the project's commitment to the future of these children. Overall, the project has focused on addressing the immediate needs of refugees while also working towards long-term solutions for their integration and well-being.

MOLDOVA

2. People served

Women (UA): Refugee women are especially burdened with childcare and worries about their families back home. The target group is assisted in psycho-emotional support, administrative and legal matters as well as education and training and job search. In the MFC

in Tudora, some refugee women have been organising regular events, such as choir and fitness sessions, and DIY workshops.

Children & UASC: The school children are provided with all necessary school materials according to age and school level for the Moldovan schools and for online Ukrainian schools. Children participate in the activities at the MFCs, which include homework support, remedial education and recreational activities with the children of the Moldovan population, thus promoting integration into the host society. There was no Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) registered in CONCORDIA Moldova during the reporting period.

**People served
in 2023** **3.329**

**People served
in 2 years** **4733**



MOLDOVA

Elderly and people with disabilities: This target group can visit the multifunctional centres and is encouraged to participate in various activities with the children, and other programme participants. They have the opportunity to engage and socialise with people from the local community and get actively involved in the daily programme. Elderlies are getting supported furthermore, through consultations, packages and hot meals in the centres.

Hosting Families & Hosting Communities: CONCORDIA Moldova works closely with the local public authorities in order to support the families and households hosting refugees with direct support packages.

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	651	683	306	501	3.428
Shelter/Non-Food Items	8	10	242	106	366
Legal assistance	7	-	91	3	101
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	85	86	130	34	336
Health	13	17	43	10	83
Education	100	98	24	6	228
Livelihood	3	5	7	2	17
Awareness raising/ advocacy	-	-	-	-	-
Integration & Peacebuilding	5	13	69	55	676 hosting families
Capacity building	-	-	-	-	-

3. How Ivan and Natalia found home in the Concordia Moldova community

Ivan and Natalia were enjoying their pension years together. “Finally, the children had grown up, and Natalia and I took care of the garden. During summers, we spent time with our grandchildren, went fishing, and once

MOLDOVA



a year, we used to go to the sea in Odesa. It was beautiful, peaceful, and serene, and now look at what has become of us”, recalls Ivan.

The outbreak of the war originally did not convince them to leave but it all suddenly changed. Natalia remembers, “In the middle of the night, a rocket destroyed our kitchen. The street was in ruins, many houses had windows shattered from explosions. Out of fear, we moved to the basement, where we cooked and slept for a week. It was during that time I fractured my leg. We realized we had to leave for our safety”.

Ivan and Natalia memories of arriving in the Concordia Moldova multifunctional Centre Sănătăuca are very vivid. “Oh, the broth!”, exclaims Natalia when thinking of the soup she was offered as soon as she entered the centre. It has been her favourite food since arriving in Moldova. Beyond food, the centre offers comprehensive support including access to the activities of the centre and the facilities such as the laundry room.

“Concordia Moldova’s support has been a lifeline for us. It's not just about the practical assistance, although that has been crucial. The financial aid has eased our burden, and the daily activities organized at the centre provide a sense of normalcy and purpose. But beyond that, it has given us

MOLDOVA

a community”, she highlights.

“The emotional support, the friendships we've forged here, it's like finding a second family. In times of displacement, where everything is uncertain, having Concordia by our side means more than words can express. It's a like a source of encouragement for us., a reminder that we're not alone in this journey. Concordia's support is the warmth that keeps us going”, she adds.

Looking forward, both pray to God for peace in Ukraine. “We know we have to remain strong and hopeful and witness peace with our own eyes. Ideally, our greatest desire is to return to Ukraine and see an end to the war. Staying here in Moldova is a temporary solution, and our hearts long for the day when we can go back home”, concludes Ivan.

MOLDOVA

4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 109,505.31
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 109,505.31	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 13,223.48	€ 39,528.04
	2B	Non food Items	€ 0,00	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 1,785.09	
	2D	Health	€ 24,519.47	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 0.00	
	3A	Education	€ 12,268.59	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	€ 0,00	€ 44,553.83
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 0,00	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 5,193.01	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 27,092.23	
	4A	Capacity building	€ 0,00	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
TOTAL				€ 193,587.18

POLAND

POLAND

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 01/05/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Warsaw
Poznan
Gdynia
Nowy Sacz



Contact Person

Agnieszka Sucharska, Communications Officer



POLAND

1. Summary

The One Proposal project is being conducted in four Polish cities: Warsaw, Gdynia, Poznań, and Nowy Sącz, where 200k Ukrainians are estimated to be currently living. They are primarily refugees, with women and children accounting for almost 90%. In 2023, JRS Poland focused especially on providing them with psychosocial support, organizing integrational activities, and helping with education.

Poland is among the countries most strongly supporting Ukraine. At the end of 2023, there were around 960k Ukrainians under temporary protection in Poland - a lower number compared to 2022, as after finding the first shelter in our neighbouring country, many decided to travel further.

Those who stayed focused on enhancing their Polish language skills, looking for a job or a place to continue their education, and considering a long-term presence in the country. Therefore, their primary needs were met by JRS Poland with language courses (A1-B2), finding ways to provide for themselves (vocational counseling, student tutorials), and integrating with local communities (social events).

**People served
in 1 year**

2.265



POLAND

On top of that, there was still a high demand for psychological support. Most refugees who can work are women who often care for children but cannot always work. Therefore, PTSD stress is very often strengthened by the frustration of not finding a job or, in many cases, by the necessity to work under the qualification possessed.

Poland's security and economic situation did not interfere much with accommodating further Ukrainians in 2023. The country has been growing steadily with a GDP growth rate of 4.5% in 2021 and 4.9% in 2022.

The war took its toll in 2023, as the GDP decelerated and is estimated to have grown only by 0.4%, but the country's GDP growth is expected to rise again by 2.9% in 2024 and 3.3% in 2025. Simultaneously, although Poland noted a high rise in the inflation index - 11.1% – it managed to keep unemployment at a remarkable 3% rate.

The government is the significant factor that changed and might soon have implications. After 8 years of right-wing party leadership, Poles gave power to a coalition of center, right-center, and left-wing parties. We do not expect substantial changes regarding the Ukrainians living in the country, but Poland's economy and international perception will indeed be affected.

In 2023, JRS Poland served 2 265 beneficiaries, providing each person with, on average, three to four different types of support. We run 30 Polish course groups with over 450 participants, almost 1000 people benefited from psychotherapy sessions, and we helped integrate more than 1300 refugees via dedicated events in our four locations.

As JRS Poland, the One Proposal project is a success, and the best proof is the relationships built with refugees and the close-knit community where they can always find support.

Thanks to our holistic approach, one can benefit from a few services and feel more protected – from Polish courses via shelters and youth clubs to drone piloting training, we do accompany those in need, which counts to them most.

Depending on needs, we start and finish temporary projects like English courses, art activities, camps for children, speaking clubs in Polish and English, or switch from support groups to individual psychological sessions. These adjustments are nevertheless within the originally proposed concept where the stated areas of support were the ones that occurred much needed.

POLAND

2. People served

The Project benefited:

- Refugees of Ukrainian nationality displaced by the conflict in Ukraine,
- Refugees of other nationalities displaced by the conflict in Ukraine,
- Refugees of other nationalities displaced by the conflicts other than in Ukraine.

People served in 2023 **2.265**

People served in 2 years **39.313**

In 2023, JRS Poland served 2,265 unique Ukrainian beneficiaries. The total number of actions undertaken, counted as interactions between the JRS Poland and the refugees, amounted to 6.8k. As stated in the table below, the most needed help sector is psychosocial support – accounting for 1/3 of the help given, followed by integration/peacebuilding and education, each representing around 20% of the Polish team’s efforts. Additionally, our integration activities gathered local Polish citizens – 65 people, and participants of other nationalities – 350 people.

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	89	85	25	2	217
Shelter/Non-Food Items	12	60	529	121	767
Legal assistance	-	1	156	49	682
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	875	416	535	341	2.331
Health	7	5	104	15	138
Education	150	219	748	100	1.357
Livelihood	-	1	8	-	15
Awareness raising/ advocacy	130	122	300	246	1.168
Integration & Peacebuilding	336	244	600	165	1.460
Capacity building	-	-	16	4	20

POLAND

3. How Galina found spiritual refuge in JRS Poland

“Never again ...”, Galina recalls. “We couldn’t have imagined something so terrible, and devastating could happen again, but it did ... again. It is tremendously difficult to come back to my memories of those days.”

It all began on a frosty winter morning. Galina lived in the Bucha region and her family was abruptly awakened by echoes of explosions. “From that moment, our life was like a horrible dream.”

Day by day, the realization set in that their chances of survival were diminishing. There was no electricity and no mobile reception. As the days went by, bread became scarcer. “I will never get rid of the feeling of fear that I have only a few pieces of bread left”, Galina shares.

Throughout the occupation, it was tough for Galina and her family to stay calm. Every moment was full of fear, grief, and suffering. The family no longer wanted to reside in this environment. “We had to save our own lives. I believe that it was God’s will that we managed to flee”.

Upon crossing the border, they were relieved to have arrived in Poland, but at the same time devastated. They were in a foreign country without any knowledge on anything or knowing anyone. Fortunately, Galina and her family found compassionate volunteers who guided them to the city of



POLAND

Poznan and offered shelter to them.

This turning point was accompanied by another momentous encounter. “Later, we met our good friends from JRS, Father Dariusz Michalski and Father Grzegorz Dobroczyński, people with great hearts who still support and pray for us, Ukraine, and the world”.

“JRS became our second home, not only physically, but also spiritually” Galina describes. A second home providing a sanctuary for prayer, psychological support, understanding and care, where Galina’s husband was also supported in his priestly mission.

Grateful for the prayers of their Jesuit friends, Galina feels God accompanying them, on their temporary journey in Pozan, instilling their hearts with peace, calmness and faith in a better tomorrow.

Galina is unsure about her future plans because “life can drastically change”. For the time being, she feels that JRS’ support means a “safe haven”. “My family is sincerely very grateful to God for His kindness and blessing us to meet such a wonderful team of JRS, for their restless work and great support”.

POLAND

4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 1,474.06	€ 22,800.76
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 21,326.70	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 119,137.66	€ 262,767.38
	2B	Non food Items	€ 7,106.70	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 107,829.48	
	2D	Health	€ 7,069.04	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 21,624.51	
	3A	Education	€ 138,934.19	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	€ 15,240.73	€ 253,183.66
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 12,724.25	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 2,899.80	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 85,384.69	
	4A	Capacity building	€ 219,248.56	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 219,248.56	€ 219,248.56
TOTAL				€ 758,000.37

ROMANIA

ROMANIA

Local project implementation
Partner



Project Implementation

Start date: 24/02/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Bucharest	Baia Mare
Constanta	Satu Mare
Isaccea	Sighetul
Galati	Marmatiei
Radauti	Timisoara
Siret	Arad



Contact Person

Catalin Albu - General Manager - JRS Romania



ROMANIA

1. Summary

As of early 2024, Romania's political and security context is shaped by several interconnected factors, including its response to the war in Ukraine, economic challenges, and internal political dynamics.

Romania has actively engaged in security discussions with Ukraine, being the ninth country to enter into bilateral talks. These negotiations, held in Switzerland, are part of Ukraine's strategy to secure international support and protect itself against future threats, particularly from Russia. Romania's participation in these talks underscores its commitment to supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Economically, Romania faces the dual task of managing elections and achieving fiscal consolidation. In 2023, the economy displayed resilience, with a shift expected from investment-led to consumption-led growth in 2024. This economic backdrop is crucial as it affects Romania's ability to address internal and external pressures, including those related to the crisis in Ukraine.

Politically, Romania is navigating through multiple crises that are

**People served
in 1 year**

14.518



ROMANIA

expected to define the electoral battles of 2024. The war in Ukraine, alongside other international events, is likely to continue exerting pressure on the national budget, creating uncertainty for both politics and the economy. Domestically, issues like inflation are also sources of socio-economic stress.

Regarding the impact on Ukrainian refugees, Romania's involvement in security talks with Ukraine and its efforts to manage internal economic and political challenges suggest a complex backdrop for addressing the needs of refugees. The country's economic resilience and political decisions in 2024 will likely influence its capacity to support Ukrainian refugees effectively.

The majority of NGOs have concluded their projects, and significant donors have shifted their intervention focus from Romania and neighbouring countries to Ukraine. The lack of financial support or extensive delays in payments from the Romanian authorities lead to the situation where refugees find themselves in a state of uncertainty due to the fact that the Romanian authorities have not assumed the responsibility of providing functional support systems. This lack of action has led to refugees being denied effective access to the rights they are legally entitled to.

JRS Romania has delivered a holistic integrated set of tailored services to Ukrainian refugees in six regions of Romania that fill gaps in the state support available and support urgent and medium-term basic needs and integration efforts. This approach recognised that the vast majority of refugees in the country have registered for temporary protection (155,035 according to UNHCR), but that significant issues concerning the execution and oversight of the 50/20 programme and its replacement in Spring 2023 have resulted in continued and growing precarity among the refugee community. As a result, many Ukrainian refugees have returned to Ukraine during summer 2023, with 85,710 currently living in Romania in December 2023.

The project aimed to provide support in four main areas: Welcome, Protect, Promote/Integrate and Capacity building with activities covering emergency aid/relief/assistance, shelter/NFI, legal assistance, psychosocial support, health, education, livelihoods, awareness/advocacy, and integration/peacebuilding.

The implementation of our project activities has been strategically designed to cater to the immediate and essential needs of the refugee community, facilitating their transition from a state of emergency to the

ROMANIA

process of integration. Resources were dedicated to ensure refugees have access to adequate living conditions and a guaranteed basic livelihood, in spite of the limited and delayed financial aid provided by the state.

JRS has successfully established secure environments where a variety of educational programs and MHPSS activities are being conducted for children and adults. These spaces operate according to a well-structured weekly schedule, boasting a team of trainers from the Ukrainian and Romanian communities. Thanks to the refurbishment of our facilities, we have expanded our educational reach by inaugurating a full-time kindergarten that operated eight hours per day, and additional classrooms dedicated to both adult and child-centered activities. These programs include support groups, psychological counselling, therapeutic sessions, parent-teacher meetings, informational and legal counselling, and various skill-building classes such as chess, Romanian and English language courses, and IT classes.

2. People served

In total, the project has reached 23.135 persons served with 14.518 unique beneficiaries. Among the services provided, the Legal and social assistance sector served the highest number of beneficiaries, reaching a total of 9.103 beneficiaries, followed by the Education component with 5.429



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persons served. This demonstrates a substantial emphasis on education in the project's activities and the critical need for educational resources and support among refugee children and underlines the importance of ensuring access to education in such communities.

People served in 2023 **14.518**

People served in 2 years **23.699**

SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	18	20	884	169	1.091
Shelter/Non-Food Items	212	190	914	186	1.502
Legal assistance	487	495	7.252	869	9.103
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	61	50	205	5	321
Health	585	240	524	136	1.485
Education	2.595	2.120	607	107	5.429
Livelihood	306	211	1.184	130	1.831
Awareness raising/ advocacy	3	10	126	22	161
Integration & Peacebuilding	296	209	1.310	152	1.967
Capacity building	-	-	235	10	245

3. Ainur feels at home with JRS Romania's advice and accompaniment

At Ainur's cozy family café, "people came not as customers but as guests and could feel themselves at home". Ainur had just opened the café in Odessa, when war came hitting at her door. She had hoped that the war would end soon, but a little over a month and a half after of the start there was a turning point.

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“When the “corn agreement” was signed, the next day a missile hit the port. We saw it all with our own eyes because we were right on the waterfront. The younger son clung to my leg, and I couldn't calm him down for a long time... He became afraid of even the slightest sounds”, she recalls. At that point it was clear to her that it was urgent to save her children.

She decided to flee to Romania, where she found safety, but new challenges arose. “It was incredibly difficult for the children. We were alone; all relatives and close acquaintances remained in Ukraine. And the children felt like strangers here, everything was different: language, culture, customs, traditions. If I felt like a stranger, what could I say about the children?”, she explains.

This became her biggest challenge. Finding the way “to give the children the opportunity to learn and develop comfortably”. As she puts it “I didn't only want to save the children from the war, but I also wanted them to have a normal life, where there is development, learning, and communication with other children”.

After a month of looking for possible solutions, she learned about JRS Romania's Educational hubs. She decided to give it a try but she was not

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sure what to expect. “The first thing that impressed me was how warmly the staff welcomed me. This attitude, this care, genuine and unfeigned. Then we met with the educators. JRS selected such specialists for working with children. The adaptation happened quickly and easily”, she highlights.

This was crucial assistance because educational and developmental activities for children are a priority for Ainur. But since then, she continued to come to JRS for assistance when needed and she always found a helping hand. “I know for sure that when you come here, they can help you. Yes, perhaps it won't be an instant solution to certain issues, but it will be the right advice, a hint on which direction to move, where to find solutions, and what needs to be done for it”, she explains.

This became the first of many interactions with JRS Romania. According to Ainur, JRS support is like “wings”. She adds, “Without them, you can seemingly live, move, and continue to exist... But it will be entirely different. Now I am sure: it was a great stroke of luck to find JRS. This organization helps you feel not like a refugee but as a person with a future. JRS helped me and my children not to feel like I am not a stranger in a foreign country.”

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4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 38,626.32
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 38,626.32	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 370,090.98	€ 655,352.60
	2B	Non food Items	€ 81,620.62	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 22,314.69	
	2D	Health	€ 161,191.82	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 20,134.50	
	3A	Education	€ 459,083.41	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	€ 480,230.37	€ 1,116,398.30
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 34,404.39	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 31,029.79	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 111,650.34	
	4A	Capacity building	€ 49,626.92	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 49,626.92	€ 49,626.92
TOTAL				€ 1,860,004.14

SLOVAKIA

SLOVAKIA

Local project implementation
Partner



JESUITS

Project Implementation

Start date: 24/02/2022
End date: 28/02/2025

Project Reporting

Start date: 01/01/2023
End date: 31/12/2023

Location

Trnava



Contact Person

Mrs. Kristina Königová, Director of the Family Help Centre;
Peter Girašek SJ, project manager



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1. Summary

Early parliamentary elections were held in the Slovak Republic on 30 September 2023 to elect members of the National Council and also new government was created. It supports Ukraine's fight against Russian aggression, but it does so less actively than its predecessors and with numerous conditions.

Based on the recent IOM research, UA refugees in Slovakia regards the following:

- Immediate needs: health services (50%), financial support (48%), medicine (45%), language courses (34%), education for adults (31%).
- Inclusion challenges: financial issues (45%), lack of job and employment opportunities (32%), language barriers (26%), access to services (26%)

Uncertainty about state aid for refugees and support for NGOs assisting refugees has an impact also on our project. For example, the termination of one of the state projects supporting UA refugees' inclusion into the job

**People served
in 1 year**

1.296



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market, negatively influenced the running of the Eco Wardrobe, which via this state program employed UA women. Various state financial contributions to refugees will be terminated, or at least reduced to a minimum (for example accommodation subsidies were reduced by 50% from January 2024).

By and large, Our Family Help Centre continues with all the activities within the One Proposal project. Furthermore, some other small initiatives not included in OP were carried out in 2023 (for example, “Friendship Picnic” on the occasion of the celebration of the Independence Day of Ukraine attended by 107 participants, “Christmas benefit concert” with 97 participants and sending of NFI to Kharkiv, UA). Most of our activities are focused on integration.

In the field of education, we have seen a major challenge in strengthening the language skills of the refugees, as well as helping Ukrainian children and youth to acquire an adequate education in our school system, which will provide them with stability and security in the future. While enrolment in the national education system is high in comparison to neighboring countries, many children continue to follow the Ukrainian curriculum online. September 2024 obligatory school attendance for all UA children in Slovakia under 16 years makes all educational activities for UA children in particular, and integration efforts in general, even more meaningful.

Project activities and beneficiaries according to areas:

By and large, our Project in 2023 provided services for 1296 beneficiaries.

I.Regarding long term shelter and NFI distribution, we provided services for 540 people.

a) The Jesuit community in Trnava provides long term shelter/accommodation and basic food for 6 persons.

b) The Eco-Social Wardrobe (ESW) is a primary contact tool for refugees from Ukraine, which helps them to get the basic needs/supplies of life (mainly clothes, hygiene, and children's needs). It is also a contact point for other activities and help for the refugees. In total, we served 534 people. There were 297 women, 46 men, 105 girls, and 87 boys.

II. Legal Assistance

Number of served beneficiaries is in total 1296. Information leaflets received 783 people. Leaflets informed us about our activities, as well as services/activities of various organizations focused on refugees. The

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outcome of this activity was an increase of the level of information of the beneficiaries. Moreover, 513 “one-to-one” UA beneficiaries were served on the field of a legal advice in more focused way by hired full-time Ukrainian lawyer at the Family Help Center. Services offered to clients regarded issues such as recognition of foreign diplomas/documents, permanent/temporal residence, networking with Slovak Educational System, NHS, etc.

In the sector of Psychosocial support, we provided services for 126 people. This activity serves to support refugees in their various challenging situations in the host community. It has various forms:

a) Counseling. Most of the refugees who come to the consultation are mothers who share their everyday problems, whether in raising children or maintaining family unity in the absence of their husbands. Thus, a space is created to listen, support, and strengthen one's capacity to face difficult challenges. Psychosocial support and counseling were provided to 24 refugees.

b) Zumba dance course /group for Ukrainian and Slovak women attended by 72 women and 3 girls. Led by a professional instructor, it has been a space for physical and psychological relaxation, stress relief, and also with integration dimension. The measure of the effectiveness of this activity is the continuous interest of the UA and SVK women in this activity. They



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improved their dancing skills while reducing stress and strengthening their mental health.

c) Parkour is a recreational sports activity conducted for SVK +UA children, led by a certified instructor together with volunteers. The running of this activity helped with the exchange and forming of relationships between local and refugee children, and also improved the psychosocial and physical well-being of both groups through the provision of recreational activity. The activity was attended by 14 boys and 1 girl.

d) Trip and excursion for UA and SVK children around the city of Trnava and sports activities in the Jump Arena. One time activity for 8 boys. The activity has been focused on enhancing children's psychological well-being, performance and improving their mental and physical activity. The measure of this activity is the improvement of children's psychological well-being at home and school.

e) After school, the Slovak club was organized for 4 children, 3 girls, and 1 boy. Those children were practicing the Slovak language in different ways. This activity helps children improve their Slovak language in a creative way through play, singing, and acting.

III. Education.

In the sector of Education, the total number of beneficiaries was 219.

a) The Learning Help Assistance received 76 children, 28 girls, and 46 boys, all of them attending Slovak primary schools. It aims to help Ukrainian children with their writing homework and improve their Slovak. In addition to developing their Slovak, students learn the differences and similarities between Slovak and Ukrainian cultures. It has inter-cultural exchange features. As a result, it fosters mutual understanding, acceptance, and celebration of one another.

b) Slovak Language Courses.

The Family Help Centre provided the Slovak Language Courses, both for children and adults, for 126 people in total. There were 61 children. Some 65 adults were attending the Slovak Language Courses, 61 women of them and only 4 men.

Generally speaking, improving of the language skills of UA refugees is crucial instrument for integration into Slovak society.

The measure of the effectiveness of this activity is the improvement of school results of Ukrainian children in the school year 2022/2023 (by

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feedback from school authorities), strengthening of their capacities and motivation to learn, development of skills, successful admission to secondary schools, as well as the creation of friendships between Ukrainian children and Slovak volunteers.

c) Guitar courses for 2 boys. The activity aims at developing the musical skills of the Ukrainian children and fulfilling their desire to be able to play the guitar.

d) Parents and Tots Sing-Along and Storytime. The number of participants was 17.

The main challenge was the mixture of the group. We had a mixed group of Slovak and Ukrainian children, between the age of 2 – 5 years old. The activity was focused on English-Slovak language learning.

e) Creative workshops attended by 13 people. It was Children ´s artistic activity which develops their imagination, and spatial perception, as well as their discernment and cognitive skills, fine motor skills, talent, creativity, and imagination.

IV. Integration/peacebuilding.

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Total number of the beneficiaries served by area: 1065.

a) "The Ukrainian Food Day".

It was organized in cooperation with the Slovak Catholic Charity as an intercultural event between local people and refugees. This event connected the Slovak and Ukrainian communities in our city and promoted the cooperation of Caritas Trnava and FHC on a joint project to help Ukrainian refugees. The event visited 158 people.

b) Exhibitions of Slovak and Ukrainian artists.

It regarded three exhibitions of Slovak and Ukrainian artists. Overall participation was 156 people.

c) Summer camps

In 2023 we have run two SVK-UA mixed camps for children. It included trips to the surrounding area and artistic and sports activities for children. There were 60 children, 27 of them were Ukrainians.

d) Other activities.

UA Animated Films projection, hosted by 24 beneficiaries.

Dancing balls/Carnival were integration activities, where Slovak and Ukrainian families met and had fun together. It was attended by 546 people, including 168 girls, 143 boys, 126 women, and 109 men.

Challenges of the Project

Political situation in Slovakia represents one of the challenges we have to face. On the organizational level it means uncertainty regarding state support to NGO's working with UA refugees.

Moreover, Project demands constant flexibility in terms of adapting of our planned activities according to real life situation and circumstances of the UA refugees. For example, as mentioned before, some activities were adapted, some new activities/initiatives were added...

Big challenge for us was an increase on the level of administration of the project. We addressed this challenge via external JRS Europe audit to the FHC. As a result some structural adaptations are being implemented. Namely, strengthening our back-up office, etc.

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2. People served

The main beneficiaries of this project are the refugees from Ukraine with temporary refugee protection (TRP), especially women and children.

We also met complete families, because the fathers had been already working in Slovakia before the outbreak of the war, and after the outbreak of the war, their wives and children came to join them in Slovakia.

Children aged 6 - 17 are mainly involved in educational activities.

Elderly people, as a vulnerable group, are not a significant large group we have met in our city, but we try to be attentive to their needs, providing them with our services. There have been 14 women (65+) and 1 man (65+) who have been beneficiaries of our activities OP.

The beneficiaries of this project are also the host community - the citizens of Trnava region in the context of some of our activities aimed at strengthening the integration of refugees in our region.

There are also 48 Slovak volunteers 3 Ukrainian volunteers who are mostly students at high schools and secondary schools, and two Slovak volunteer teachers who have been involved in a tutoring program to ensure learning support for Ukrainian children.

The total number of beneficiaries in the year 2023 who have received our services is 1296.

Of these people, every single one of them received at least one service (legal assistance), and most of them benefited from multiple services that we provided.

People served in 2023	1.296
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People served	4.126
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SECTOR	GIRLS	BOYS	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL
Emergency Aid/ Relief/ Assistance	-	-	-	-	-
Shelter/Non-Food Items	106	87	300	47	540
Legal assistance	95	87	974	140	1.296
Mental Health & Psychosocial Support	10	25	90	1	126
Health	-	-	-	-	-
Education	59	95	61	4	219
Livelihood	7	6	0	0	13
Awareness raising/ advocacy	-	-	-	-	-
Integration & Peacebuilding	257	256	350	202	1.065
Capacity building	-	-	-	-	-

3. How Katerina found an understanding home in Slovakia

Katerina used to live in the town Chasov Yar in the Donetsk region when war came to her doorstep. “On the 24th of February, we were woken up by explosions in our forest. We were forced to move to the house of our grandmother because there was a cellar”, she remembers.

For more than a month she lived alongside her grandparents, her mother and her friend. “There were just a few products in the stores, often there was no light and every day we heard explosions. We decided on the 4th of April to leave our country for Slovakia. It was very difficult for us to decide where to go, and in which country, because we had never been abroad”.

“We traveled with my mother, and we only had one suitcase because we were thinking the war would end very soon and we would return home. We left with a special evacuation train, in which there were many people and animals too. People couldn't even sit, and so we were on the train for

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27 hours in full darkness”, she adds.

Once in Slovakia, they had a positive surprise. “We were very surprised at how friendly the volunteers welcomed us on the border with Slovakia. We were very afraid, but they helped us to handle our fears. We got help with everything: food, water, clothes, medicine, accommodation, transport, paperwork. After their assistance, we felt finally safe”, she describes.

In Trnava, they found the Family Help Centre who provided a lot more than material aid. “In the beginning, we got clothes from Eco – clothing. But when we adapted a little, we started attending Slovak language classes and going to Zumba dance classes. We are very grateful to the Family Help Center and JRS for the assistance and help we have received here and still can get. In addition, we constantly attend events organized by the Family Help Center”.

“Here we found interesting activities and people with whom we could communicate in our native language or just have fun. This support means humanity and understanding. Even in our difficult situation, we do not feel alone. We can see those people who are interested in us, they can feel our pains and sorrows. We always have somebody here who can advise us, who can be here for us. Then we can move forward, we can still live our lives”.



SLOVAKIA

4. Financial summary

AXIS	CODE	BUDGET CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE IN EUROS	TOTAL
WELCOME	1A	Short term shelter	€ 0,00	€ 0,00
	1B	Emergency aid relief	€ 0.00	
PROTECT	2A	Long term shelter	€ 1,822.33	€ 61,515.81
	2B	Non food Items	€ 20,552.06	
	2C	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	€ 21,224.58	
	2D	Health	€ 0,00	
	2E	Legal Assistance	€ 17,916.84	
	3A	Education	€ 22,639.17	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3B	Livelihood	€ 7,423.67	€ 36,341.96
	3C	Awareness raising	€ 0,00	
	3D	Advocacy	€ 0,00	
	3E	Reconciliation & Peacebuilding	€ 6,279.12	
	4A	Capacity building	€ 1,000.23	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	€ 1,000.23	€ 1,000.23
TOTAL				€ 98,858.00

INTEGRATION FUND

INTEGRATION FUND

1. Introduction

In 2022, the Integration Fund supported various projects across different countries.

In Serbia, the JRS project commenced in 2022, extended through 2023, and concluded in that year. Similarly, in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, projects funded by the Integration Fund started in 2022 and concluded in 2023.

The JRS Macedonia project, part of the Integration Fund 2022, was implemented in 2023 and is set to continue into 2024. In Kosovo, due to unspent funds from the Integration Fund 2022, the JRS project continued into the first two months of 2023.

In Spain, the SJM project, initiated in 2022, extended through 2023, utilizing all funds allocated as part of the IF 2022 grant.

Transitioning to the Integration Fund 2023, JRS projects in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Croatia were implemented and concluded in

**People served
in 1 year**

7.470



INTEGRATION FUND

2023. In Macedonia, the project slated for the Integration Fund 2023 is anticipated to take place in 2024, as the Integration Fund 2022 project is still ongoing.

Similarly, in Spain, the SJM project, part of the Integration Fund 2023, is planned for execution in 2024, building on the previous year's efforts.

In Ireland, the JRS project, starting in 2022 and running through 2023, concluded in May 2023.

Moving on to Portugal, the "Safe Rent" project, funded by the Integration Fund 2022, ran its course during 2022 and 2023, with plans for continuation into 2024 under the name of "Empower UA" project, part of the Integration Fund 2023, kicked off in January 2024 and is scheduled to run until the end of July 2024.

These endeavors collectively reflect the diverse and ongoing initiatives supported by the Integration Fund in fostering integration and support across different regions.

2. Serbia

Due to unsolved political issues on Balkans, and as the reflection of the wars in Ukraine and the most recently in Middle East, the political and security context in the Western Balkans had a downgraded, it became more tense.

According to Serbian government sources, the number of the Ukrainian refugees in Serbia vary from month to month, since most of them do not see Serbia as their final destination. In August 2023, Serbian Prime Minister stated that 43.000 refugees from Ukraine reside in Serbia.¹ From this number, according to Ukrainian Embassy data published in June 2023, approx. 5.000 applied and received temporary protection.² In 2023 Serbian government extended Decision for temporary protection of Ukrainian refugees by an additional year, now in effect until March 18, 2024.

JRS accomplished planned tasks in the main activity sectors of NFI, Education, Integration and Peacebuilding, and Awareness Raising. Besides that, we increased the capacity of our team by improving public communication.

NFI support – From August to December we managed to provide cash cards (value of 12.000 RSD or approx. 100 € per card) for 143 persons, from which vast majority are women and children. Beneficiaries were using funds for different purposes, from food, medicaments, hygiene items, baby

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diapers, school equipment for children, and other needs. We also provided school bags and school materials for the Ukrainian schoolchildren.

Education – On the online classes of the Serbian language we have a group of 9 adults that meet online 2 to 3 times per week. So far there is only one language level, now already reached level above basic. But if a new group will be gathered in 2024, we will start beginners level for them separately. We have gathered a group of adult Ukrainian beneficiaries whose first wish was to have place to meet, have a tea, and talk with their national fellows. For now, their learning of the Serbian language remains as one part of meetings. We are planning a Club for Ukrainians and live classes in 2024. We received a donation in kind from UNHCR for that purpose, new office furniture. A new Cultural Mediator for Ukrainians (Ukrainian women with excellent knowledge of the Serbian language) was hired to strengthen this segment, and to start activities directed to improvement of employment opportunities of Ukrainian refugees. However, the problem of taking care of children and care of elderly, remains the biggest obstacle for work engagement of Ukrainian refugees, who are dominantly women. This challenge is making JRS reflecting on starting a new project that could be directed to cover needs of Day Care for Ukrainian children, or Home Care visits of nursing assistants for elderly Ukrainian refugees. These ideas, among others, are considered within our team, because information from the contacts with beneficiaries was leading in this direction. However, more comprehensive exploration and consultation with the individuals from our target group will show us more opportunities and future directions.

Integration and Peacebuilding – Our online classes of the Serbian language for the Ukrainian refugees who live in different places of Serbia have gained an additional quality. Online classes are not just plain lectures, but have become meetings where beneficiaries, under the leadership of experienced online teachers, share their problems, their thinking, sad news, but also good news from their families. In addition, we supported stay of the Ukrainian children in the summer camp for children on Kopaonik, where they had joint play and living with Serbian children.

Awareness Raising – JRS Cultural Mediator for Ukrainian refugees has traveled to Vranje, Subotica, Novi Sad, and visited municipalities of Belgrade, to promote further support and joint actions with local authorities.

People served

Direct beneficiaries of the project were 166 refugees from Ukraine, and

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additional 36 local population in strengthening of Awareness/Advocacy for the needs and rights of refugees in Serbia. That makes Total of 202 unique beneficiaries. (Project period from August to December 2023.)

Furthermore, a group of Indirect beneficiaries, comprising individuals who engage with our social media platforms, actively participated in our social campaign and posts focused on raising awareness and advocating for the rights of refugees. However, these figures are not incorporated into the tables above, accounting for 650 followers on Facebook, 160 followers on X, and 765 followers on Instagram.

3. Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the current political context, Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to grapple with political complexity and fragmentation between entities and the state level. The division into entities, namely the Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, complicates the political situation. Thus far, this has posed challenges in making joint decisions and implementing policies, potentially affecting the country's stability. This political landscape may indirectly impact the refugee integration project, hindering coordination between entities and the state level.

Regarding the security context as of January 2024, Bosnia and Herzegovina has maintained relative security stability, albeit facing challenges such as organized crime, corruption, and regional tensions. The security framework has not significantly affected the perception of refugees or their integration, especially in the context of political instability and potential conflicts.

In the economic sphere, Bosnia and Herzegovina grapples with challenges including low economic growth, high unemployment, and limited economic opportunities. This is exacerbated by a significant number of the local population seeking employment abroad. These economic conditions have a direct impact on refugees during integration, necessitating project adaptations to address economic challenges and ensure the sustainability of the integration process.

Considering the sustainability of integration amidst political, security, and economic challenges, the long-term success of integrating Ukrainian refugees into Bosnian society depends on adapting projects to environmental changes. Continuous monitoring of social sentiments, economic conditions, and political shifts has been crucial to achieving successful integration.

In this context, Bosnia and Herzegovina has demonstrated a welcoming

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attitude towards Ukrainian refugees, with the government swiftly implementing measures to facilitate their integration, including the inclusion of refugee children in schools. However, challenges persist, particularly in the employment sector, where high unemployment rates pose difficulties for both refugees and the local population. This economic backdrop underscores the importance of project adjustments to meet economic challenges and ensure the sustainable integration of refugees.

Since the initiation of the project in response to the onset of the war in Ukraine by the end of February 2022, over 800 refugees, predominantly women and children, sought refuge in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in Medjugorje and Sarajevo. The local communities warmly welcomed them, showcasing immense generosity.

Ukrainian citizens faced no significant entry barriers due to the existing 30-day no-visa regime.

As of now, there are 280 refugees from Ukraine in Bosnia and Herzegovina, along with approximately 2000 beneficiaries originating from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Cuba, Morocco, and Algeria, who have sought asylum in the country.

The project's primary goal is to enhance and integrate Ukrainian refugees and beneficiaries from various countries (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Cuba, Morocco, and Algeria) into Bosnian society through educational and MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial) activities. The overarching objective is to actively incorporate them into Bosnian society, lessening their dependence on humanitarian aid.

To support single mothers among the refugees from Ukraine, daycare services have been provided, addressing challenges related to opening a new kindergarten due to legal procedures. Facilitating kindergarten fees for children enable/enabled mothers to allocate free time for work, education, and training. JRS has continued to offer vouchers and various forms of support for living expenses throughout the training and job search process.

Addressing housing and livelihood needs, the project offered rent assistance to vulnerable families with children with disabilities and elderly individuals. Additionally, medical assistance, including purchasing glasses and dental visits, was provided to vulnerable families.

Education is a central focus, incorporating Bosnian language courses and vocational training in areas like hairdressing, tour guiding, beauty services, IT, and more. Integration courses familiarize refugees and beneficiaries

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with host communities, local culture, and identity. Cultural and historical site visits, museum tours, and joint celebrations of important dates for the Ukrainian community alongside the local population were organized. Markets featuring traditional crafts, decorations, and exhibitions of Ukrainian ornaments and paintings by local artists further contribute to cultural exchange.

To strengthen organizational capacity, staff received training to offer psychosocial support through HEART (Healing and Education through the Arts) activities. The project has enhanced visibility by painting murals in the city centers of Bihać and Sarajevo, raising awareness among local communities about the war situation in Ukraine.

In summary, the project has successfully implemented a range of activities to empower Ukrainian refugees and beneficiaries from other countries, promoting their integration into Bosnian society while providing crucial support and skills for self-sufficiency.

Yes, the project implementation was in line with what was proposed in the application. The provided text gives an overview of various activities outlined in the original project proposal, including support to refugees from Ukraine and beneficiaries from other countries, educational initiatives, medical assistance, childcare arrangements, and assistance to single mothers. It also highlights the strengthening of organizational capacities, as well as activities focused on integration and promoting cultural exchange between refugees and the local population. All these activities reflect the goals and strategies presented in the original project proposal.

Additionally, we conducted spiritual empowerment activities for refugees through regular prayer meetings held every Wednesday at the Polish House in Medjugorje. Alongside refugees from Ukraine, participants included pilgrims from Poland and individuals from the local community in Medjugorje. We also organized home visits to refugees residing in Medjugorje, particularly families with children facing developmental challenges and elderly individuals. Furthermore, we facilitated the procurement of medications for sick members of the Ukrainian community in Medjugorje.

The challenge was the integration of Ukrainian refugees into the local job market, primarily due to the region's weak economy. The economic difficulties in the area posed obstacles to the employment prospects of refugees, requiring a targeted approach to address employability issues and foster self-sufficiency. Finding suitable courses and training

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opportunities near Međugorje also proved challenging, demanding extensive efforts to identify accessible educational programs that align with the project's objectives.

Additionally, a challenge encountered during implementation was the risk of over-reliance on humanitarian aid by refugees. Balancing the immediate need for assistance with long-term strategies for self-sufficiency required careful planning and continuous assessment to ensure the holistic success of the integration process.

These challenges will continue to be addressed through ongoing collaboration with partners, strategic adjustments to employment and training initiatives, and a balanced approach to humanitarian aid.

The biggest challenge for camp beneficiaries regarding education occurred during the summer when participants were less interested in attending courses and were focused on attempting to cross the border. Although a large number of people attended the camps, the average stay was only 5 days, making it challenging to implement certain educational workshops.

People served

The beneficiaries of the project included refugees from Ukraine, some residing in private accommodations in Međugorje, and others housed in Hotel Valter under subsidiary protection. Among them were Ukrainian women aged between 30 and 65, children aged 4 to 17, young adults aged 18, family fathers exempted from military service due to having more than three children, and men aged 38, 56, and 67 who were excluded from military duty due to illness or physical age. Programs were tailored to their specific needs and age groups.

In addition to Ukrainian refugees, the project also extended support to refugees from Afghanistan, Morocco, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, as well as beneficiaries from the Lipa camp in Bihać and the family camp in Bihać.

Through various educational workshops such as IT courses, language courses, and hairstyling courses, these beneficiaries acquired new skills. Psychosocial support was also provided. Also, the beneficiaries of the Day Centre in Bihać, among them mainly beneficiaries from Afghanistan were provided with basic humanitarian help, like clothes and shoes, with psychosocial support and medical assistance, and educational and creative assistance.

The beneficiaries from the family camp Borići included families with

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children, unaccompanied minors, and adult male residents of the Lipa camp. The age range varied from 7 to 60. The programs aimed to empower individuals with valuable skills and knowledge, preparing them for new opportunities.

4. North Macedonia

The political and economic situation in the Republic of Macedonia have implications on the lives of refugees who arrived fleeing the military conflict in Ukraine.

According to the Law on Foreigners, they initially received temporary residence for humanitarian reasons, but starting from 8 August 2023, they were offered to voluntarily change their previous status to a status of temporary protection in accordance with EU directives and the Law on International and Temporary Protection.

The number of refugees from Ukraine who were offered this option is 300 people.

Still, the Government of North Macedonia and NOT any other NGO's does not provided any support to the Ukrainian refugees other than their registration at the border crossings and because of that the refugees from Ukraine in North Macedonia organized by themselves and registered the Association of single mothers and children from Ukraine "Common Home" with 75 members mostly single mothers and children.

The implementation of the project was in line with the proposed application, JRS Macedonia together with the Association of single mothers and children from Ukraine "Common Home" several times organized distributions of food, clothes, diapers, medical devices and other NFI items and also anticipate distribution of food, clothing, medicines, support for visits to specialist doctors.

JRS Macedonia organized several consultation meetings with the members of "Common Home" in line with the transformation of their status from temporary residence to temporary protection according to the EU directive and JRS Macedonia Advocacy team was lobbying for as soon as possible implementation of the new status.

People Served

The number of beneficiaries during the project who directly received support from the Jesuit Refugee Service Macedonia according to the project were 210 with special attention to the vulnerable single mothers

and children members of “Common Home” because most of their husbands are at the moment on the battle field in Ukraine.

The support from JRS Macedonia is from crucial importance because we help them in their lives to survive in Macedonia while their expectations are that we will continue with our help and support because their funds are decreasing day by day.

They themselves are afraid for their future in the direction of what will happen in Ukraine, and also in Macedonia, considering the procedure for transferring their status to temporary protection, hoping that JRS Macedonia will support them as much as it can because the support is very significant for them.

5. Portugal

In 2023, the Portuguese housing market real state panorama experienced a crisis in line with the other European countries. This shortage of houses for rent has been pressuring rent values, leaving very few houses available at affordable prices. The average monthly rent for an apartment has risen sharply, emphasizing the importance of rent financial support projects such as SAFE RENT for those migrants and refugees who are in the most vulnerable situation, thus accompanied by JRS Portugal.

Considering the context described above regarding the Portuguese housing context, namely the challenges associated with high rent prices, with the demand of guarantors, with the lack of affordable public solutions, and with the fact that housing is a critical factor in the autonomy and sustainability of refugee families, the project aims at providing the conditions for stable accommodation for extremely vulnerable Ukrainian refugees, namely through renting support.

The project implemented a flexible funding or co-funding model, adjusting this financial support according to a set of vulnerability criteria and taking into consideration the profile and budgetary needs of the family and their empowerment and autonomy capacity. This support would be given up to a maximum of 800 euros during a maximum period of 12 months. The aim was to provide stable accommodation to a minimum of 63 Ukrainian refugees, corresponding to financial support for rent payments to a minimum of 21 Ukrainian families.

In 2023, the Safe Rent project supported a total of 59 lease contracts, which benefited 132 people, corresponding to the full or partial payment of

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403 monthly rents.

During 2023, JRS Portugal carried out a national AMIF Call Project called ARCA, that had a special concern for the reception and support of beneficiaries of international and temporary protection who came from Ukraine. In this project we aim to create a response of reception and support for sustainable autonomy through two responses: a Temporary Reception Center located in Porto; and a multidimensional and integrated monitoring and training team for the project's beneficiaries, with the aim of their progressive autonomy.

In the ARCA Project, among the multidimensional responses, an intense focus was given to the search and maintenance of autonomous housing; this includes visiting the families and, working towards reducing some passivity and managing expectations, and in general, reinforcing the motivation for autonomy; the sensibilization of landlords and real estate agents; the social mediation between landlords and the refugees; all the above essential activities that complement the monthly rent payments provided by Safe Rent Project.

There are two main challenges the project team has faced: first, JRS team had to deal with the beneficiaries' expectations about the end of the war. This stand constituted a serious obstacle to involving the families who were at the halter in a 12 months rental contract; second, the Portuguese housing market presents high prices, lack of affordable and public housing offer and anybody who wants to apply to a rental contract as tenant has to fulfill certain requests (copy of employment contract, 3 months payment receipts. A lack of confidence of landlords to rent to refugees, since they are afraid of renting to other origin, cultural or religious backgrounds and habits tenants still prevails in Portuguese society.

People served

In 2023, the project promoted 59 contract leases, providing an autonomous house for a total of 59 households, which benefited 132 direct beneficiaries. The financial support helped to pay rent for 46 autonomous apartments and 13 individual rooms. There were 124 Ukrainian refugees and 8 refugees from other countries (Siria, Morocco, India, Ethiopia, and Nigeria).

One can count a total of 961 financial supports throughout 2023, of which 445 to women, 158 to men, 229 to underage girls, and 129 to boys. There were 13 monoparental families who benefited from this project. Overall, the households showed a significant geographical concentration of rental

contracts in the metropolitan areas of Lisbon and Porto.

6. Croatia

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, 22,407 Ukrainians have entered the Republic of Croatia. Among them are 11,162 women, 7,443 children, and 3,802 men. The Civil Protection Directorate has activated 46 facilities for displaced persons, one laundry service company, and one transportation company. There are 22 mobilized facilities (3 shelters and 19 collective accommodations), with many individuals and organizations offering short-term refugee accommodation. Currently, 1,552 people are accommodated in collective housing, while 20,855 individuals are in individual housing.

The project proceeded according to the planned schedule. Language courses, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and cultural mediation were regularly provided to the beneficiaries. Despite the Ukrainian refugee population's legal status being based on the EU Directive on Temporary Protection, challenges persist in implementing these rights. This is especially true for individuals with health issues, children transitioning from primary to secondary education, university admissions, and diploma recognition.

The majority of refugees have recognized that their stay in Croatia will be extended, prompting active engagement in language learning and seeking assistance for labor market integration. The Integration Package offered to beneficiaries, along with language courses, includes psychosocial support through individual and group sessions, webinars addressing trauma recovery. Children receive language courses, learning assistance, and psychological workshops, while preschool-aged children participate in language courses through storytelling and psychological art workshops.

For adults, legal workshops, cultural business orientation, resume writing assistance, support in requalification and diploma recognition, connecting with employers, and monitoring in the initial months of employment have been conducted. Numerous outings, visits to cultural events, and monthly intercultural meetings have been organized for men, women, children, and young people. These gatherings provide opportunities for building new friendships among refugees and Croatians alike. Dance, cooking, sports, and self-defense courses have been initiated.

Approximately 506 women, 194 children, and 58 men have directly benefited from language courses, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and cultural mediation. The activities cater to various age groups and include individuals with diverse backgrounds. Additionally, intercultural

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events have facilitated connections between refugees and local Croatians, promoting a broader community impact. The estimated number of indirect beneficiaries, including local communities impacted by integration activities, is not provided but contributes to fostering social cohesion.

7. Ireland

In Ireland, since the outbreak of the war, public and political support to the Ukrainian refugees had been unequivocal, and undoubtedly more generous than any previous response to forced migration crises. Ireland was the first country in the EU to waive visa requirements and had welcomed more than 35,000 refugees from Ukraine. At the time of reporting, this figure has surpassed 85,000.

The State responded mainly by delivering Humanitarian Aid Programmes, unprecedented Responsibility-sharing measures and contribution to the EU Military Package via the provision of 'non-lethal' weapons. Moreover, the State has provided support for refugees from Ukraine to access to jobseeker's and childcare allowances, accommodation, health services, schooling and other services. NGOs, community groups, and other organisations have also contributed to providing varied types of assistance.

However, in parallel with this context, Ireland was also experiencing one of its longest and most severe housing crisis and International Protection application trends were approaching a 20-year high. At the time of reporting, over 20,000 persons seeking asylum are being accommodated by the State (50% in emergency locations), with 500+ international protection applicants temporarily experiencing street-homelessness due to a lack of capacity within the State reception and accommodation systems.

As a result, huge pressures on accommodation emerged nationwide with significant downstream impacts on community development services; translation and integration supports; education and employment services; and other local supports previously available to refugees and the forcibly displaced.

This context has given rise to an emerging anti-immigrant sentiment with public demonstrations espousing far-right rhetoric and violent altercations both at locations housing Ukrainian refugees and International Protection applicants and at the homes and offices of individuals and groups supporting newly arrived displaced persons.

JRS Ireland, to respond to this situation launch the project "Communities

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of Hospitality – Ukrainian Integration”. The project aimed at providing comprehensive integration (education, employment, psychosocial, links to the community) supports to Ukrainian families through a partnership model pursued with key local stakeholders to respond to the emerging needs of Ukrainian beneficiaries of temporary protection and other forcibly displaced cohorts in the Mid-West and Western regions of Ireland. Another aim of the project was to challenge the anti-immigration sentiment that arisen in the last months in the Country.

Among the main activities, an awareness campaign – “Diversity Is Strength” was launched that reached more than 40.000 people. Education and MHPSS have been two main sectors where JRS Ireland intervened. In the field of education, a cross-cutting outreach programme targeting Ukrainians in 5 counties reached 500 beneficiaries and around 2.500 people were supported in MHPSS through information desks, counselling, summer camps and leisure activities especially addressed toward kids.

During the implementation of this project JRS Ireland developed many and valuable partnerships engaging regularly with policy officials, local community stakeholders and NGOs. Among them the main cooperation was with the Limerick Community Response Forum, the NGO Stakeholder Engagement Forum on Ukraine and the Ukraine Society Response Forum.

8. Spain

According to data provided by the Center for Protection of Asylum Seekers, a total of 36,500 Ukrainian refugees entered Serbia during the initial six months of 2023. Among these, 7,437 individuals have officially registered their presence within Serbia. From this number, over 1,250 of the applied for material assistance in different Municipal Offices of the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migrations in Serbia. A considerable portion of these refugees subsequently on to Central and Western European countries, while others temporarily exit Serbia in pursuit of settling within an EU nation or resolving familial separation challenges. Ukrainian citizens, in accordance with the visa-free policy in Serbia, are granted a 90-day period to stay. Many are using this time span to consider their forthcoming steps, contemplating whether to seek temporary protection within Serbia, or to return home, or to seek refuge in some other country. Several families express interest in extending their stay without formally applying for temporary protection, all with the aspiration of an eventual return to their native Ukraine.

In alignment with directives from the European Union, Serbia took the

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initiative in 2022 to establish a system of temporary protection tailored for refugees originating from Ukraine. This innovation expedites and streamlines the process of registering and safeguarding these refugees within Serbia. Moreover, in a recent decision, temporary protection for asylum seekers will not be limited to only six months, but it can be issued for duration of 36 months. These decisions are further improving opportunities for refugees and asylum seekers in Serbia. However, other types of integration support still need many improvements, and JRS is involved in such improvements by implementing, presenting, exchange of experience and coordination with stakeholders in our projects in Serbia.

In this scenario, JRS Serbia contributed to wellbeing of the Ukrainian refugees with strengthening of the atmosphere of welcoming in the local communities and in the school communities of Serbia by organizing 2 seminars for schoolteachers and improving their work with schoolchildren on the topics of tolerance, refugees, and integration. There was high interest among schoolteachers in central Serbia for the seminars, and we had more participants than expected. Reactions of the community and public were good. Especially interest among schoolteachers to participate on seminars that we organized in two regional centers of Serbia. This shows the need for future engagement in work with schoolteachers and school communities.

The project distributed Cash Cards to refugees from Ukraine and they were mostly used as urgent assistance, and for livelihood needs, medicaments, and for paying heating bills during winter.

We have coordinated our work with the Serbian government body - Commissariat for Refugees and Migration and covered Ukrainian refugees in the worst material situation in different municipalities of Serbia. Reactions of the community and public are good. Especially interest among schoolteachers to participate on seminars that we organized in two regional centers of Serbia.

Moreover, in July 2023 we contributed funding of the summer camp for Ukrainian children in the Serbian mountain resort Stara Planina. These camps were part of our support to activities for children refugees initiated by Ukrainian Embassy in Serbia and Association of Ukrainians.

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9. People Served

SECTOR	BIH	N. MACEDONIA	CROATIA	IRELAND	SPAIN	PORTUGAL
Short term shelter	480					
Emergency Aid	465	580	1145			
Long term Shelter	5				460	369
Non-Food Items	4000	370	335			
Mental Health & Psychosocial	550		399	1160		
Health	475	265	303	1358		
Legal assistance	260	325	290		549	
Education	485		241	500		
Livelihood	440		64			
Awareness raising	2000		199	41062	560	
Advocacy	910					
Integration & Peacebuilding	2620	370	690		620	
Capacity building	120				40	
Unique beneficiaries	252	610	1574	3018	1328	80

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10. Financial Overview

All sums are indicated in Euros

AXIS	CODE	SECTORS	BIH	Portugal	Kosovo	Croatia	Serbia	N.Macedonia	Ireland	Spain	Total
WELCOME	1A	Short-term shelter	0,00	0,00	0,00	3,450.00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	1B	Emergency aid, relief and basic need assistance	0,00	0,00	€ 928.07	4,490.50	57,513.15	46,488.67	0,00	0,00	0,00
PROTECT	2A	Long-term shelter	5,159.23	154,892.00	0,00	0,00	12,746.06	0,00	0,00	32,755.58	
	2B	Non-Food Items	16,232.42	0,00	0,00	2,103.59	17,208.29	701.04	0,00	0,00	0,00
	2C	Mental Health and psychosocial support	1,000.00	0,00	0,00	23,962.10	0,00	0,00	24,543.88	0,00	330,636.03
	2D	Health	8,802.73	0,00	0,00	39.80	0,00	5,563.22	0,00	0,00	0,00
	2E	Legal Assistance	0,00	0,00	0,00	14,274.07	0,00	447.44	2,341.76	7,862.82	
	3A	Education	4,112.52	0,00	0,00	24,614.85	13,701.99	181.08	10,000.00	0,00	
	3B	Livelihood	3,039.28	0,00	0,00	8,412.55	12,114.39	0,00	0,00	0,00	
PROMOTE & INTEGRATE	3C	Awareness raising	7,379.71	0,00	0,00	22,945.86	0,00	0,00	8,406.17	0,00	226,257.95
	3D	Advocacy	1,500.00	0,00	0,00	6,300.23	2,455.82	0,00	0,00	27,666.04	
	3E	Integration and Peacebuilding	25,071.30	0,00	0,00	48,356.17	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	
CAPACITY BUILDING	4A	Capacity building	1,500.00	0,00	650.00	11,636.03	388.92	0,00	0,00	0,00	14,174.95
TOTAL			73,797.18	154,892.00	1,578.07	170,585.75	116,128.62	53,381.45	45,291.81	68,284.44	683,939.31

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Your support helps the Ukraine emergency response of JRS and Xavier Network become a reality and provide support for forcibly displaced people and refugees from Ukraine.

We are grateful to our donors, staff, volunteers and all the people who make this possible.

Thank you!

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