

## Ukraine: Help for the victims of Civil Unrest

**Since the end of 2013, there have been civil disturbances in the Ukraine finally escalating in a conflict between government forces and pro-Russian supporters in the East of the Ukraine in February 2014. Despite a fragile ceasefire, the situation is still tense. To help the population, the GRC supports the work of its partner in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.**

As part of an EU relief flight to Dnipropetrovsk, the German Red Cross transported 1.000 hygienekits, five large tents, 14 radiators for tents and 5.400 10 l jerry cans to the Ukraine at the end of January 2015. Also ten so-called "bladder tanks" with a water storage capacity of 5.000 litres each were on board. They allow a mobile supply of people with water – from a lorry, for example.

In addition, a GRC delegate works with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in Kharkov to implement [a voucher programme for internally displaced persons](#). About 6.000 displaced people, who temporarily found shelter in Kharkov, have received one supermarket voucher worth 500 Ukrainian Hryvnia per month over a 7-month period. That equals to 22 Euro. The voucher allows to procure food items in a local supermarket.

## Humanitarian aid for volunteers, hospitals and medico social stations

Already in February 2014, the GRC supported the Ukrainian Red Cross with 100.000 € for helmets and duty gears. Further assistance focused on the support of Medico-Social Stations run by the Ukrainian Red Cross. These stations address the people in need – such as elderly or disabled. Activities also aimed at strengthening the Ukrainian Red Cross Society logistically to better distribute relief items and to improve the transportation of volunteers. The German Red Cross also supported several First Aid training centres operated by the Ukrainian Red Cross to meet the increased demand for First Aid trainings. With another relief flight in March 2014, the GRC brought

- First Aid backpacks for the Rescue Team of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, who are trained in First Aid to assist a total of 1.000 people,
- hygiene parcels for about 10.000 people,
- blankets,
- two ambulance vehicles,
- as well as a VW transporter to support logistics

... to the region of Donetsk in the East of the Ukraine. In addition, a GRC convoy with 6 VW transporters, another ambulance and two trucks set off from Berlin to the Ukrainian capital Kiev on 12 June 2014. The trucks and transporters were loaded with:

- stretchers,
- helmets,

- First Aid backpacks,
- blankets,
- tents,
- dummies for First Aid trainings
- as well as wheelchairs and crutches for elderly people.

## Relief supplies arrived in Ukraine

Driven by a total of 18 volunteers from Berlin, Hessen, Bavaria and Hamburg, the convoy arrived in Ukraine two days later and the Ukrainian Red Cross Society not only received the loading, but also the majority of the vehicles.

In October 2014, Gerd Müller (Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development) visited Ukraine, in particular Kiev and Kharkov and handed over more relief items from Germany. The GRC contributed 14.800 blankets, four VW transporters, 1.000 hygiene kits and three field kitchens to the overall compartment.

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