

ADVOCACY DIGEST

MAY – JULY 2024

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **2024's second edition of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society's (URCS) digest!** This publication is designed to **keep our partners and stakeholders informed about our activities and plans** in the fields of humanitarian operations and diplomacy.

URCS' timely investments in early recovery activities, along with its development-principled approach to Recovery&Reconstruction of Ukraine, are meant to fill the perceived gap between humanitarian relief and the longer-term rehabilitation of crisis-prone communities. URCS ensures that its efforts go beyond inclusively and comprehensively addressing the humanitarian needs of war affected populations; it also strives to foster conditions for positive peace development and to lay resilience-oriented foundations conducive to long term development.

OPERATION IN UKRAINE



KEY ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS FROM 24.02.2022

AS OF DECEMBER 2023



- 5 000** EMPLOYEES
- 8 000** VOLUNTEERS
- 200** LOCAL BRANCHES OF THE URCS
23 offices are damaged or destroyed



More than 12 500 000 people received assistance from the URCS

SOCIAL HELPERS

- Operate on **676** locations in **23** regions
- 1 083** employees support **6 011** lonely people



22

AREAS IN WHICH MOBILE HEALTH UNITS WORK

- 126** mobile health units
- 622 263** consultations provided

310 931 people were evacuated

94 546 people were informed on mine danger

541 397 people received psychosocial support

185 524 people were trained in first aid

The information center received

852 121 calls

MODULAR HOUSES

Construction of modular houses with an area of **12 170 m²** for more than **910** IDPs in:

- Kyiv region
- Chernihiv region
- Zhytomyr region
- Zakarpattia region

SHELTER

With a total area of **1 300 m²** for more than **100** pregnant IDPs women in Lviv.

HEATING STOVES

More than **29 000** of heating stoves were given to people.

HYGIENE CENTERS

6 hygiene centers for IDPs were opened: in Kamianets-Podilskyi, Pottava, Chernivtsi, Volyn, Cherkasy and Zhytomyr region.

HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY SPOTLIGHT

UKRAINE RECOVERY CONFERENCE IN BERLIN

The URCS delegation joined the German Red Cross in Berlin for the URCS leadership participation in the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2024 (URC2024), which took place from June 11th to 12th. More than 3,400 participants from government, civil society, businesses, financial institutions, regions, municipalities, and international organizations joined the conference, united by a shared commitment to strengthen Ukraine's resilience for as long as needed. The URC2024 was instrumental in mobilising continued support for Ukraine's resilience, recovery, reconstruction, reform, and modernization across business, human, local, and EU dimensions. The conference results and co-chair statements are available via the [link](#).

Compared to the URC in London 2023, the representation of civil society actors was significantly higher, yet high-level engagement from the German and Ukrainian governments was notable across all formats and panels of the conference. Priority was given to the over 110 signed agreements, including a dozen business-to-business agreements. Together with announcements made during the URC2024, these agreements total over EUR 16 billion, supporting energy resilience, the defense industry, social infrastructure, reconstruction of critical infrastructure, private sector development, agriculture, and processing. Parts of this funding come from new commitments under the EU's Ukraine Facility.

During the URC2024, the Ukrainian Red Cross signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lviv City Council, the Central Project Management Agency (CPVA) — a Lithuanian government organization — and the Municipal Non-Profit Enterprise "First Territorial Medical Union of Lviv" to restore the rehabilitation centre in the village of Briukhovychi, Lviv region.



Representatives of the URCS, Lviv City Council, the Central Project Management Agency at the signing ceremony during the Ukraine Recovery Conference. June 2024, Berlin.

Credits: Ukrainian Red Cross.

UKRAINE'S SOCIAL RECOVERY – A LOCAL APPROACH

To shed specific light on the role of URCS in Ukraine's (social) recovery, the URCS together with Caritas Ukraine and supported by German Red Cross and Caritas international, organized a parliamentary evening with the title "Ukraine's Social Recovery – a local approach" in the German Bundestag on 12th of June. The conference was chaired by Robin Wagener, German MP and Chair of the German-Ukrainian parliamentary group, and was attended by 100 participants from Ukrainian and German governments, civil society, non-governmental sectors, and corporate partners. Maksym Dotsenko, Director General of the URCS, emphasized that the support of the Ukrainian government and the international community is crucial in recognizing the significant contributions of mandated organizations such as the URCS as well as Ukrainian civil society in Ukraine's recovery efforts. It is essential for civil society actors to play a key role in formulating relevant policies and reforms. The full statement "The Human Dimension – Social Recovery and Human Capital for the Future of Ukraine" by URCS and Caritas Ukraine with endorsement of the Ukrainian NGO alliance can be read [here](#). In particular, the three asks from mandated organisations and civil society actors to the Ukrainian government and international community are to be highlighted as following:

The support of the Ukrainian Government and the international community is critical to the recognition of the significant contribution of Ukrainian Civil Society in the recovery efforts of Ukraine. It is crucial for civil society actors to play a key role in formulating relevant strategies and reforms. Ensuring their involvement in complementarity with international organisations, local, regional and national state actors as well as commercial entities and institutions would foster a comprehensive approach to reconstruction and other measures.

Legal frameworks should be established to ensure equal access to quality, client-oriented social services for all individuals in need, regardless of their place of residence. Developing this framework based on a digitized financing approach would facilitate efficient and fair distribution of resources and services.

The full implementation of existing and future central laws concerning the procurement of social service providers across all Ukrainian regions should be ensured. It is important that national laws are respected and adhered to by all official entities to promote consistency and fairness in the provision of social services.



Panel discussions at the conference "Ukraine's Social Recovery – a local approach". June 2024, Jakob-Kaiser-Haus, German Bundestag, Berlin.

Credits: Ukrainian Red Cross.

MOVEMENT PARTNERSHIP – BEST PRACTICES

JAPANESE RED CROSS SOCIETY

The URCS and JRCS collaboration dates back to 1986 during the Chernobyl disaster. The JRCS supported the URCS by deploying doctors to Ukraine and other affected countries, supplying medicines and medical equipment, and inviting Ukrainian doctors and children affected by the accident to Red Cross hospitals in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. From 2015 to 2017, the JRCS supported the URCS' MHPSS activities for the IDPs, veterans, and their families by deploying clinical psychologists to Ukraine.

Following the escalation of the international armed conflict in 2022, JRCS launched a fundraising campaign, receiving significant funds from Japanese citizens and private companies. The total JRCS contribution to the URCS, IFRC, and ICRC amounts to approximately JP¥ 7 billion, supporting the people affected by the crisis, healthcare sector, social services, emergency relief, and National Society Development in Ukraine. Regarding the areas in which the JRCS has strength and expertise in, such as health, medical rehabilitation and MHPSS, Japanese Red Cross Society deployed staff to the humanitarian assistance in Ukraine and surrounding countries. In early 2022, JRCS deployed an MHPSS delegate to Poland through the IFRC system, and since then, health-related delegates including radiologist and physical therapist have been deployed to Ukraine to provide technical support to the URCS. The JRCS supports vulnerable individuals throughout the emergency, recovery, and reconstruction phases through medium and long-term partnerships with the URCS.



20日、東京都港区の日本赤十字社本社で記者会見する
ウクライナ赤十字社のドツェンコ事務総長

Director General of the Ukrainian Red Cross in the Japanese national media. June 2024, Tokyo.

Credits: Jiji Press.

URCS DIPLOMATIC VISIT TO TOKYO

From June 19th to 25th, Director General Maksym Dotsenko and Deputy Director General Illya Kletskovsky paid an official visit to Japan to report on URCS' activities, appeal the continuous humanitarian needs in Ukraine, as well as to gain insights on the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) activities in Japan. They visited the JRCS HQs, the JRCS Hiroshima College of Nursing, Tokyo branch, Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital, Atomic-bomb Survivors Hospital, as well as Hiroshima Peace

Memorial Museum, where they learned about the severe impact of the atomic bombing, the relief efforts of the Red Cross, and ongoing treatment and support. During an open meeting dedicated to the current humanitarian situation in Ukraine, attended by over 200 participants, the Ukrainian Red Cross received the highest award from the Japanese Red Cross Society in recognition of the dedicated work of volunteers and staff during the ongoing full-scale war in Ukraine. The award was presented to Maksym Dotsenko, Director General of the Ukrainian Red Cross, by Atsushi Seike, President of the Japanese Red Cross, in Tokyo. JRCs staff also learned about the situation in Ukraine through direct discussions with the senior URCS management, reaffirming the solidarity and continuous relationship between the two Red Cross Societies.



The Ukrainian Red Cross received the highest award from the Japanese Red Cross in recognition of the dedicated work of volunteers and staff during the full-scale war in Ukraine. June 2024, Tokyo.

Credits: Ukrainian Red Cross.

URSC DIPLOMATIC VISIT TO SEOUL

The URCS delegation's visit to Korean Red Cross in Seoul from June 15-19 underscored the reliable mechanism of all-round cooperation between two National Societies. As a leading example among Movement National Societies in medical services provision, the Korean Red Cross shared its unique experience in post-war reconstruction, best practices, and lessons learned. The visit provided an opportunity for Ukrainian Red Cross leadership to voice the challenges and needs faced by Ukrainians and present URCS efforts in Ukraine's early Recovery&Reconstruction. The URCS management took part in both informative and stimulating visits to the Incheon Red Cross Hospital "Medical Center for All", the Gyeongin Regional Rehabilitation Center in Incheon, and the Yangji Red Cross Hospital in Seoul. They also participated in a joint event with the heads of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, and Ministry of Unification of the Republic of Korea fostering a good understanding of issues of common interest amid growing global challenges, with

particular attention to current humanitarian challenges that vary widely across the country. Meeting with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Republic of Korea was an opportunity to express gratitude for support and assistance in developing bilateral partnerships.



Representatives of the Ukrainian Red Cross in the Incheon Red Cross Hospital. June 2024, Seoul.
Credits: Korean Red Cross.

UPCOMING ADVOCACY-RELATED EVENTS



URCS' delegation visit to the Canadian Red Cross on 14-20 September, 2024.



Participation at the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva on 21 - 31 October, 2024.



Youth Diplomacy Forum of the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in November 2024.