

# Conflict in Ukraine

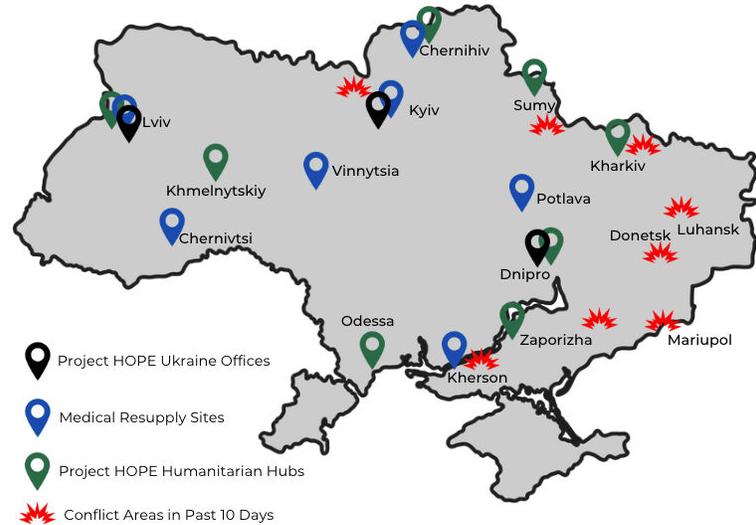
## Situation Report #16

5 May 2022



### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Project HOPE continues to support life-saving interventions in Ukraine as well as provide essential services and supplies to refugee populations in Moldova, Poland, and Romania.
- Over 200 pallets of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies have been delivered to 15 medical facilities across Ukraine.
- Over 5.7 million Ukrainians have fled fighting in their country to date.
- Project HOPE is providing training to physicians in Lviv to manage orthopedic trauma caused by ballistics.



*Project HOPE has expanded operations across Ukraine.*

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

In the final hours of the reporting period, an evacuation resumed for hundreds of civilians taking shelter in a bombed steel plant in Mariupol. A previous attempt made over the weekend had been stalled for “security reasons,” according to the city council.<sup>i</sup>

The evacuation underway, led by the United Nations and Red Cross, is seen by many as “the best and possibly last hope” for those trapped inside the facility and surrounding areas.<sup>ii</sup> Thousands are believed to be in need of safe passage from Mariupol.<sup>iii</sup>

Early reports from evacuees paint a desperate picture. Survivors reported standing in line for hours to receive rations from Russian forces, which they had to cook in open fires due to lack of electricity and gas. Many described the atmosphere as one of “despair” and “hopelessness”. Talk of suicide attempts reportedly grew among residents as the situation deteriorated.<sup>iv</sup>

The southeast port city has been surrounded since the early days of the Russian incursion. Cut off from food, water, electricity, and other essentials, Mariupol has become an international emblem of the humanitarian toll of the ongoing conflict.<sup>v</sup>

As in the previous week, Russian attacks in Ukraine concentrated in the east during the reporting period. However, U.S. intelligence now indicates that Russia intends to annex large swaths of the region, possibly including Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and the city of Kherson. Russia already appears to be making efforts in Kherson, the first major city it seized in February, that indicate

long-term intentions—including announcing a transition to Russian currency and allegedly installing a puppet local government.<sup>vi</sup>

Meanwhile, Ukrainian forces claimed to have sunk two Russian patrol ships in the Black Sea.<sup>vii</sup> Along the coast, the city of Odessa imposed a curfew in response to fears that Russian saboteurs intended to stir up discontent on the anniversary of a deadly clash between pro-Russian and pro-European activists. The city has high strategic value for Moscow.<sup>viii</sup>

While fighting has decreased in the country's west, major urban areas continue to struggle to meet the needs of residents. Lviv, for instance, has become a hub for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Some 200,000 people have flooded the city in the past three months. Shelter has become the most pressing need, and the influx is expected to strain local infrastructure. The mayor estimates some 50,000 people may become permanent residents.<sup>ix</sup>

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

As of 5 May, 7.7 million Ukrainians have been internally displaced by fighting and another 5.7 million have been forced to flee their country entirely—the two figures comprise almost a third of the entire population.<sup>x</sup> While internally displaced persons (IDPs) have fled to western and northern cities in Ukraine, the vast number of refugees are in Poland (over 3 million).

These large and sudden influxes of people—the vast majority of which are women, children, older persons, and other highly vulnerable groups—have overwhelmed local infrastructure. In the health sector, facilities struggle to keep up with the high number of chronic conditions, from hypertension to diabetes to cancer. Meanwhile, there are not enough mental health professionals, particularly with Ukrainian language skills, to provide support for people struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and other prevalent conditions.

Moreover, as the conflict extends into its third month, funds and temporary support available to IDPs and refugees are now needing to be supplemented with longer-term support. Needs include shelter and cash as well as safe spaces for women and children who are often forced into cramped living spaces.

Lastly, highly vulnerable groups—including separated children—face significant protection and gender-based violence (GBV) risks on both sides of the border. Already, UN agencies are receiving reports of alleged human trafficking abuses targeting Ukrainians on both sides of their country's border.

## PROJECT HOPE RESPONSE

Project HOPE continues to respond to the ongoing humanitarian crisis through teams deployed within in Ukraine as well as the bordering countries of Moldova, Poland, and Romania.

Within Ukraine, programming has focused on supporting health care facilities treating conflict-induced injuries and other acute conditions through provision of essential medical equipment and supplies. The refugee response, meanwhile, is tailored to the specific needs of the recipient country and can include provision of primary health services, distribution of medical and nonmedical supplies, mental health and psychosocial support, and protection services.



*Several hospitals in Chernihiv were significantly damaged by Russian forces. Project HOPE is working with the Ministry of Health and hospital administrators to support health efforts as the offensive has retreated.*

In all locations, Project HOPE continues to work closely with government officials, local partners, and coordination clusters to ensure efforts address most pressing needs.

#### In Ukraine, Project HOPE's activities include:

- Importing over 200 pallets of medicine and medical supplies, including insulin, needles, hygiene kits, and more, into Lviv for onward distribution westward to hospitals in need.
- **Training for Orthopedic Management of Ballistic Fractures in Lviv Hospital; expansion of additional trauma injury training across Ukraine**
- **Beginning rehabilitation of a hospital in Irpin and a kindergarten in Zagalci.**
- Expanding our offices from Lviv to include Kyiv and Dnipro.

#### In Moldova, Project HOPE's activities include:

- Supporting SAMU's mobile medical team to serve refugees crossing the Ukraine/Moldova border as per the request of the WHO and Moldovan Ministry of Health. SAMU is the only EMT providing services to refugees in Chisinau.
- **Working with two local NGOs to launch a mental health response in central Moldova and in border towns and villages.**
- **Support to the Ministry of Health through procurement of supplies and pharmaceuticals, including insulin.**
- NFI kits have been procured for distribution to shelters, women and child centers, and other facilities services mothers and children.

#### In Poland, Project HOPE's activities include:

- Provision of a grant to University Children's Hospital – Krakow to support their Ukrainian children's ward.
- **A \$250,000 grant to Podkarpackie Stowarzyszenie dla Aktywnych Rodzin (PSAR) for provision of mental health support to Ukrainian refugees in Poland.**
- Assessing needs and contingency planning for health facilities in Poland as refugee numbers increase demand on the Polish health system.

#### In Romania, Project HOPE's activities include:

- Continued support to four local NGOs providing key health and mental health care to refugees.
- Distribution of hygiene kits – including toothpaste, toothbrushes, diapers, and more – for refugees in Romania.
- Delivery of medical vacuum pumps into Romania for onward distribution to Odessa hospitals.

Project HOPE will continue to closely monitor the situation as it unfolds in order to respond to the most pressing health and humanitarian needs among affected populations.



*Project HOPE has delivered over 200 pallets of pharmaceuticals and supplies across Ukraine.*

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2022/05/01/europe/mariupol-azovstal-steel-plant-evacuation-ukraine-intl/index.html>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/05/02/world/ukraine-russia-war-news>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2022/05/02/ukraine-russia-invasion-live-updates/9611697002/>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/live/2022/05/02/world/ukraine-russia-war-news>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/live-blog/russia-ukraine-war-live-updates-civilians-evacuated-mariupol-azovstal-rcna26863>

<sup>vi</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2022/05/02/russian-annex-territory-invasion/>

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.newsweek.com/ukraine-drone-destroyed-russian-ships-black-sea-snake-island-video-1702557>

<sup>viii</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/odesa-fears-russian-saboteurs-may-2-euomaidan-protests-anniversary-rcna26865>

<sup>ix</sup> <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/lviv-works-build-new-future-thousands-find-permanent-refuge-rcna25906>

<sup>x</sup> <https://www.unhcr.org/ua/en/internally-displaced-persons>

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