

Ukraine Crisis Appeal

Countless lives in Ukraine are being torn apart by violence and insecurity



Olga Lacey

Migration Services Resettlement Caseworker

17th May 2022



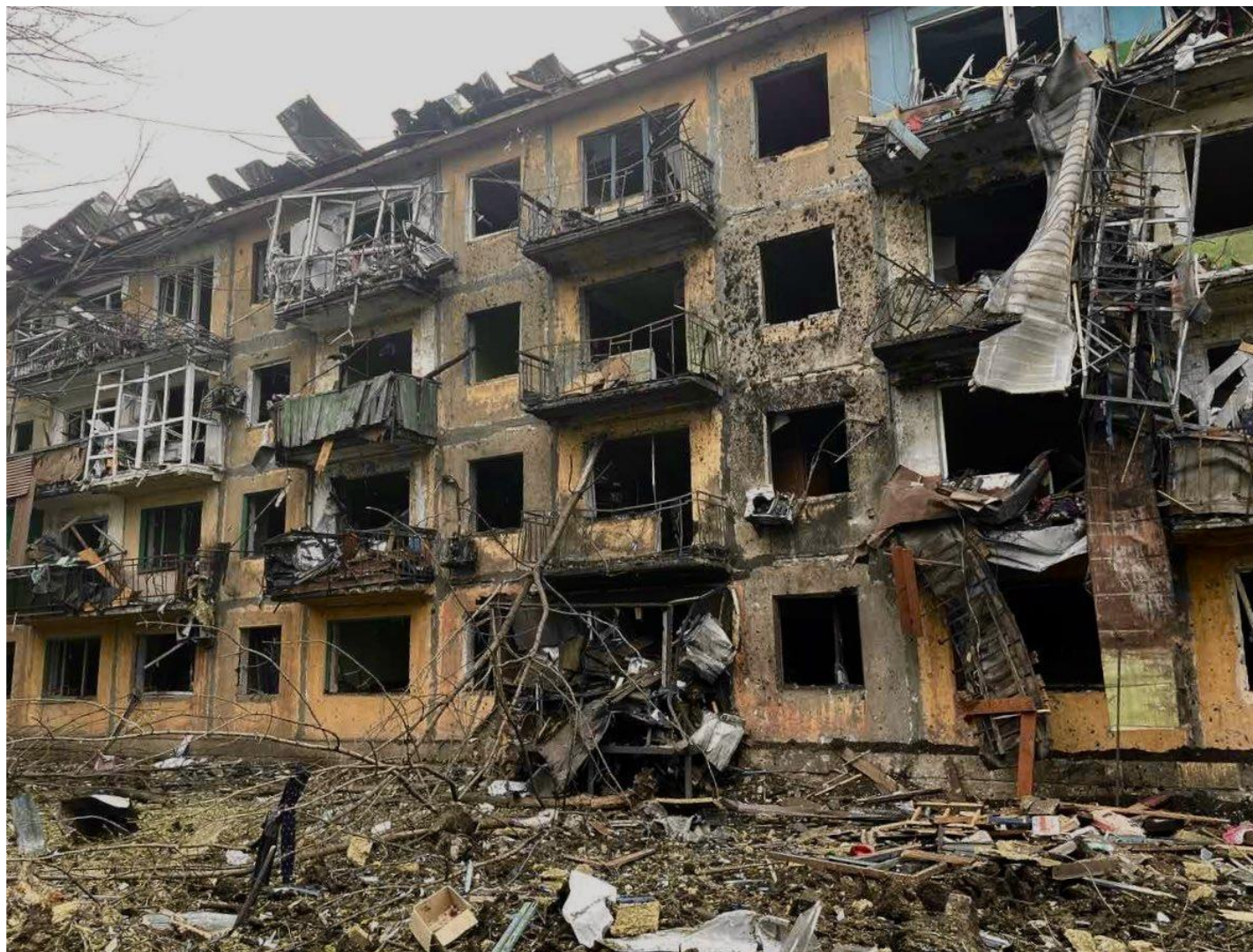
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Irish Red Cross

War in Ukraine

(up to May 2022)

On 24 February, a new phase in the armed conflict in Ukraine with the intensification and spread of the hostilities that are now affecting most parts of the country and causing major concern for the protection of civilians and essential civilian infrastructure.

Heavy fighting and shelling continues across several towns and cities in Ukraine, with increasing human cost and humanitarian consequences. This comes after months of rising political and military tensions and eight years of conflict in and around Eastern Ukraine where an estimated 2.9 million people are already in need of humanitarian assistance and 1.4 million were internally displaced.



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Since the onset of hostilities, more than **6 million people have fled Ukraine** into neighbouring countries. Most of those fleeing Ukraine have entered immediate neighbouring countries, primarily Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and Moldova. The number of people moving into neighbouring countries continues to be much lower than at the start of the conflict. At the same time, tens of thousands are reported to be returning to Ukraine every day, although UNHCR reports the situation is too fluid to draw any definitive conclusions about the number of people returning to Ukraine and staying. The Red Cross is closely monitoring the flow of people to anticipate needs and situations, which change daily.

As of early May, more than 27,300 refugees had arrived into Ireland.

The Irish Red Cross has been supporting authorities in welcoming and supporting Ukrainian refugees into Ireland. Through our branches, Irish Red Cross volunteers are meeting with refugees as they arrive in airports and ferry ports across Ireland. Volunteers are offering them basic items of food, clothing, and personal hygiene items. They are also focused on information provision and are providing psychosocial first aid and transport to those who need it to their accommodation.



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Pledged Accommodation



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<https://registerofpledges.redcross.ie/#/>

Register of Pledges (ROP)

Fronts, promotes and manages public goodwill in the form of offers of accommodation goods and services.

We deliver direct assistance to families and single people through the provision of professional casework services offering wraparound supports to refugees promoting engagement with education, employment, social protection and health services.

Enables refugees in Ireland to integrate into Irish society and achieve their potential.

The Irish Red Cross has been providing support in this regard to the Irish Government since 2015 to assist the fulfilment of its EU commitment to promoting the resettlement and integration of Refugees under the Irish Refugee Protection Programme.



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SPARE ROOM SELECTION CRITERIA



Shared properties are those with at least one single spare room



For pledges of property, we request a minimum of 6-12 months commitment



Shared properties must include direct access to cooking facilities, shared or private bathrooms, and private bedrooms of a reasonable size



Where possible, it is preferable that properties should be close to public transport and within a short commute to villages, towns or cities



VACANT PROPERTY SELECTION CRITERIA



Vacant properties can be apartments, houses and converted accommodation in which no one else is living



Vacant properties should have at least one bedroom



Vacant properties can be offered by the following: private landlords, people with second homes, businesses and letting agents, charities, community groups



For accommodation pledges we request a minimum of 6–12 months commitment



Where possible, it is preferable that properties should be close to public transport and within a short commute to villages, towns or cities



Where possible it is preferable that properties are accessible to banks, post office, shops, English language courses, schools, crèches and employment opportunities.



All properties must be in a reasonable condition



PLEDGE A SPARE ROOM

- 1 You will receive an acknowledgement call to check the details of your offer over the phone.
- 2 As soon as is feasible following that, you will receive a call to arrange a visit to meet you at your property for a brief assessment, at your convenience.
- 3 Following that we will work to match your offer to suitable person(s) newly arrived in Ireland.
- 4 If a match is made, with your permission, we will arrange a meeting with you, a caseworker and the matched person(s).
- 5 If all parties are happy to proceed, we will arrange a move date.
- 6 We support with the move, both practically and socially, and your Red Cross caseworker will be in regular contact to support you, your community and the people using our service.



PLEDGE A VACANT PROPERTY

- 1 You will receive an acknowledgement call to check the details of your offer over the phone.
- 2 As soon as is feasible following that, you will receive a call to arrange a visit to meet you at your property for an assessment, at your convenience.
- 3 Following that we will work to match your offer with suitable persons or a family newly arrived in Ireland.
- 4 If a match is made, with your permission, we will arrange a meeting with you, a caseworker and the matched person(s).
- 5 If all parties are happy to proceed, we will arrange a move date.
- 6 We support with the move, both practically and socially, and your Red Cross caseworker will be in regular contact to support you, your community and the people using our service.

*“The response from the Irish Public to the Ukraine crisis has been so very **generous** (...) We have a big team effort providing assistance to finding accommodation for refugees and we are very grateful to the **Defence Forces with their contact centres as well as Engineers Ireland and the Irish Institute of Professional Auctioneers and Valuers** for checking out the various accommodations being offered by the Irish Public of which **there are close to 23,000.**”*

*“With regard to those who have generously pledged accommodation we are asking them to **be patient when awaiting contact**, this process is now underway. We **are initially focusing on the vacant properties** to move refugees into, this will take a few weeks and from there we will move onto the offers of shared accommodation. **Garda vetting is also required for many of the persons offering shared accommodation** where minors or vulnerable people will go to with a guardian.”*

Liam O'Dwyer
(Secretary General of the Irish Red Cross)



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Pledged SHARED Property

1. Temporary Accommodation Licence Agreement (6 months – 1 year from date of agreement)

The owner(s) of the pledged shared property gives permission to provide accommodation in their property for a limited period of time to refugee families on a charitable basis (the “Licence Period”).



Pledged VACANT Property

1. Temporary Accommodation Licence Agreement (ideally we ask for 12 months – 12 months from date of agreement)

The owner(s) of the pledged shared property gives permission to provide accommodation in their property for a limited period of time to refugee families on a charitable basis (the “Licence Period”).

2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

An Understanding between The Irish Red Cross and the owner of the Pledged property for the period of time outlined in the Licence Agreement.

What support does the Irish Red Cross provide while I am hosting?



Casework Support

It is important to be aware that the guest in your accommodation has a number of trained professionals addressing their needs and helping them integrate into Irish society. Is it important to understand that caseworkers cannot share some information due to the confidential nature of their work. Some areas that required specialist support include:

- Trauma
- Educational options for children and adults
- English language lessons
- Health services (mental and physical)
- Family reunification
- Potential issues identified and discussed

Other supports the Irish Red Cross will provide:

- Interpreter (where necessary)
- Advice and support for you as the host
- Support in drawing up house rules
- Assistance in Government supported schemes and applications
- Our primary concern is the safety and well-being of all our clients and our hosts. Caseworkers can be contacted on 01 6424600 should support and assistance be needed.

Please feel free to contact the Irish Red Cross should you wish to discuss anything in more detail.

Pre-move Checklist



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House furnished

Gas/electricity uncapped and water ready to use

Heating can be turned on and used upon arrival

Approximate price/providers for utilities

Kitchen appliances checked and working

Draft tenancy agreement

Potential household risks identified

Basic Initial Move-in Household Kit

Below is a list of useful items to request, for distribution to individuals and families accessing Irish Red Cross Migration services.

VOUCHERS:

- Three and Vodafone (and others) are supplying connectivity packs, which would be very useful.
- Top Up vouchers
- Leap card with credit
- Supermarket vouchers
- One4All vouchers
- eBay online vouchers (?)

ITEMS FOR CHILDREN:

- Bubbles
- Playing cards
- Colouring books
- Colouring pencils/crayons

| | ITEM | DESCRIPTION |
|----|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| | KITCHENWARE | |
| 1 | Dining Set | 16 piece 4 x cup, 4 x dinner plate 4 x small plate, 4 x bowl |
| 2 | Cutlery Set | 12 piece 4 x knife, 4 x fork, 4 x teaspoon, 4 x dessert spoon |
| 3 | Saucepan Set | Set of 3 |
| 4 | Frying Pan Set | Set of 2 |
| 5 | Kitchen Utensil Set | Variety of Utensils |
| | BEDDING | |
| 6 | Duvet Double | |
| 7 | Sheet & Pillow Case Double | |
| 8 | Duvet Cover Double | |
| 9 | Duvet Single | |
| 10 | Sheet & Pillow Case Single | |
| 11 | Duvet Cover Single | |
| 12 | Sheet & Pillow Case Single | |
| 13 | Pillows | |
| 14 | | |
| | CLEANING PRODUCTS | |
| 15 | Washing Up Liquid | |
| 16 | Bleach/Disinfectant | |
| 17 | Washing Powder / Tabs | |
| 18 | All-purpose household cleaner | |
| 19 | Hand Soap | |
| 20 | Toilet roll | |
| 21 | Refuse Sacks (black) | |
| 22 | Kitchen Paper Towels | |
| 23 | Cleaning Sponges | |
| 24 | Cleaning Cloths | |
| 25 | Tea Towels | |
| 26 | Bath Towels | |
| 27 | Hand Towels | |
| 28 | Bucket & Mop | |
| 29 | Sweeping Brush | |
| 30 | Dust Pan & Brush | |
| | MISC. | |
| | | |
| 31 | Bath non slip matting | |
| 32 | Front & Back door mats | |

Move in Checklist



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Introductions

Discussion/overview of documents (shared/vacant)

Exchange phone numbers/WhatsApp groups/emails

Provide Address and Eircode, Emergency information

Overview of the workings of the house/utilities

Encourage family to go through the house/area/local routes

Q/A

Allow to relax, rest and settle in

Useful information

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Hospital/medical centres/GP</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Garda Station</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Local County Council</u> Name: Address: Number: |
| <u>Post Office/INTREO office</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Primary School</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Secondary School</u> Name: Address: Number: |
| <u>Taxi service</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Bus (route/timetable)</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Childcare Services</u> Name: Address: Number: |
| <u>Local Banks</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Sport Centre</u> Name: Address: Number: | <u>Local Shops</u> Name & location: Name & location: Name & location: |

Sincere thanks and gratitude for the support you have offered to migrants and wish all parties luck and success!

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the process in more detail, call the Irish Red Cross Migration Team or send us an email:

1800 753343
registerofpledges@redcross.ie

