



**SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
SWITZERLAND**

SI-CH | News from Ukraine No. 3



WE STAND UP!

Dear Soroptimists

For the third time, we are telling you about our relief efforts for people in need in Ukraine. It is important that we work closely together and that you are always well informed.

This war is a catastrophe, both from a human, architectural and ecological point of view, a catastrophe that will leave lasting traces that will give rise to feelings of hatred between people who once spoke the same language and shared the same cultural space, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

As always, women will pay the highest price, now and in the long run. They find little or no place in the strategic discussion, although they too are struggling. At the moment, they are mainly on the run.

For a hundred-year-old organization like ours, which has always been committed to the self-determination of girls and women around the world, this is extremely worrying. In this chaos, mutual help and solidarity play a particularly important role. Only in this way can we hope for peace soon.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our ad hoc Commission once again for its great commitment. I would also like to thank the clubs for the initiatives taken and all generous donors.

Brigitte Mantilleri, President 2020 – 22

The action group is active!

The action group, led by President-elect Catherine Schuppli, first met via Zoom on April 9. It is made up of experts from all areas of life and work. We collect knowledge for the help of refugees in our country. The members of the Action Committee contact the club presidents by telephone.

However, the clubs can also send their report to ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch right away. Soon we will open a database for projects of the clubs on our website in order to make the aid services transparent.

The aim is to have well-connected clubs in the Union. Together and well networked we are successful!

Please also address any questions to: ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch



Actions of Clubs – Examples

From the **Club Bellinzona e Valli**, President Emma Brugnoli reports on her help to the former Club Chernivci, with which there have been intensive friendly contacts for ten years. Food and medical supplies were brought to Chernivci for the first time in mid-March through various channels. There is also a (still) secure bank account for money transfers.

The clubs **Chur and Rapperswil** support refugee Soroptimists from Kiev. On April 13, Mariya and her family were already guests at the meeting at Club Chur. It should also be mentioned that Sina Stiffler, who is responsible for Ukraine from Club Chur, already teaches three women in German.

In the **Club Zurich**, the daughter of the Soroptimist Claudia Sigg accommodates a mother and two daughters. Daughter Eugenia, a lawyer, is available for translations into Ukrainian as well as for other work. A club visit has also already taken place.

The **Club Schaffhausen** has already developed various ideas for support campaigns. Among other things, how Ukrainian women here in Switzerland could also network physically and how women's self-esteem could be strengthened with simple means.



Transports are still planned!

The aid organized in Ticino by Governor Jolanta Jozefowski has so far been possible without our financial support thanks to generous donors in kind. Further aid transports are planned. It turns out that the procurement of medicines is becoming increasingly difficult. However, the next purchases will certainly be co-financed by Club Mendrisiotto and S.I. Union Switzerland. The next transports are already planned under the direction of Hilfswerk-Ukraine (Link). We support all these excellent and effective actions!



Finance – Donations are used efficiently

For more than six weeks, we have been committed to helping the war-affected people from Ukraine and have received a donation volume of more than 300,000 SFr. Our great concern is transparency. You should know how the money was used. In general, we pass on as much money as is currently needed to buy and transport goods. In this way, we ensure that we can

use money sustainably immediately where it is most urgent. As of 13.04.2022, we have spent more than SFr. 150,000.- in donations - especially to Ukraine, but also to Poland and Moldova.

| Summary of donations 13.4.2022 | SFr. |
|--|----------------|
| 1) SI Ukraine/Lviv: Purchase and distribution of relief supplies to refugees in Lviv | 45'000 |
| 2) Support for the Ukrainian Soroptimists and their families | 9'500 |
| 3) Donations to Hilfswerk Ukraine: Financing of transport services and purchase of medical supplies | 50'000 |
| 4) SI Polen: To support the refugees in Poland and to buy and transport relief supplies for the refugees in Lviv | 36'800 |
| 5) SI Moldawien: To support refugees in Moldova | 10'500 |
| Total | 151'800 |

Further Information

Union President Brigitte Mantilleri is actualizing continuously her **Blog**:
<https://swiss-soroptimist.ch/blog-der-praesidentin/>

Please report your actions to the Union! Please address any questions to the following e-mail address, which has been activated for the promotions.

E-Mail: ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch

Ursula Jutzi, Past President, koordiniert

www.swiss-soroptimist.ch/solidaritaet-ukraine

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Collaboration with Patricia Glauser Edreira, Club Gstaad-Saanenland, Martine Rossier, Club Jura-Région, Heinz Bonfadelli.

Account in CHF

Soroptimist International Union Schweiz

Aargauische Kantonalbank

Kt. Nr. 6412.5358.2002

IBAN CH 770076 1641 2535 82002

SWIFT/BIC: KBAGCH22

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