



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND

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GOOD DAY, GUTEN TAG, BONJOUR, BUONGIORNO Доброго дня!

A hectic year came to an end. Thanks to your donations, we were able to financially support the Soroptimists in Ukraine. The hope for an early end to the war has not yet been fulfilled. However, we do not want to let hope for a better future and peace die. The direct assistance to our brave club sisters therefore continues. With your donations, we can alleviate a lot of suffering and currently send emergency power generators, for example. Just as the club sisters in Ukraine work tirelessly, we continue to work with your support. Thanks for further donations.

Catherine Schuppli, President SI Union Switzerland 2023 - 2024



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We didn't think this incredible news was possible at first: **Ukraine celebrated Christmas with us!** The head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church aligned Christmas with the West for 2022, and Ukrainians celebrated Christmas with us!

On the chronology of the events in the SI Club Lviv/Lviv: On November 29, the Lviv Soroptimists celebrated their first club meeting in a long time – on the 1st Advent, as we noted afterwards.



Nataliya opening the Christmas mail from Switzerland

The transport arrives in Lviv on December 24

And on December 24, just in time for Christmas, the 40-ton truck of Dr. Jürg Streuli's Ukraine Aid arrived in Lviv. Urgently needed generators for the orphanage Lychvchicy could be delivered and made available on loan. The next transport with fixed generators will take place in the second half of January. The financing and organization of the supply chain of ten devices with accessories by us, the SI Union Switzerland, is underway!

What joy; we forget the trouble and the procurement worries! **We would like to take this opportunity to thank you here in Switzerland for your great willingness to help and Jürg Streuli and his Ukraine aid team in Switzerland and Ukraine for their cooperation;** often possibilities for help are carried out completely quickly – in accordance with the war.

Despite all the joy of Christmas together in Ukraine and in Europe, we must not forget: There is still a cruel war! Nataliya wrote on 23 December 2022 on Whatsapp "and only my homeland Ukraine is fighting for life." – It is true that we can only show solidarity from a distance and from the warm room.



Director of the orphanage Lychvchiky in conversation with Soroptimists of the Club SI Lviv

Back to the **four priority aid projects** of the Soroptimists in Lviv. In addition to the generators/emergency generators, which are already urgently needed, the director of the Lychvchiky orphanage wants to further expand the center for trauma management. The continuation of dental treatment for women and children and the improvement of the living conditions of visually impaired women and children remain at the top of a long list of priorities.

Cooperation and opportunities for help in Kiev

There is also a lot of good news to report from Kiev! The **star-shaped solar lamps**, organized by us, have been delivered to the children's home in the center and thus delight many children's hearts! In addition, the Kiev SI President Maria guarantees the **support we provide for a center for trauma management for women and children!**

Help with SI clubs throughout the Ukraine

Commissioner Sina Stiffler has been maintaining contacts with the other SI clubs with great care for 13 years. As already mentioned in the news from Ukraine 8, in addition to Lviv and Kiev, SI clubs were also founded in the cities of Dnepro, later in Simferopol, Tyachev, Chernovitz, Chernigov and Ushgorod, whereby Tyachev existed only briefly and the club Simferopol was dissolved shortly after the annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2014.

Due to the turmoil of war and other everyday worries, such as in Chernovizi, only the clubs in Lviv, Kiev, Dnepro, Chernigov and Ushgorod are active. Fortunately, Sina Stiffler is able to maintain contact with most Soroptimists. SIE commissions and supports SI Union Switzerland to continue to accompany the Ukrainian clubs.

Finances

As of December 31, 2022, we received CHF 476,000 and CHF 463,000 used for Ukraine. The Christmas campaign was also a great success!



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And last but not least, some references to Ukrainian cultural creation:

«Born in Ukraine» - Die Kyjiwer Gemäldegalerie zu Gast im Kunstmuseum Basel bis 30.4.23
«Ukraine. Culture of care.» Markt, Märchen, Workshops. Kulturhaus Helferei in Zürich, 2. - 4.2.2023
Volodymyr Zelenskyi: **A Message from Ukraine**. Published by Crown 2022, 144 pages.
Taras Kuzio: **Putin's War Against Ukraine: Revolution, Nationalism, and Crime**. 2017, 490 pages.
Serhy Yekelchyk: Ukraine: **What Everyone Needs to Know**. Oxford: University Press, 2020, 199 pages.
Ali Kinsella, Zenia Tompkins et al.: Love in Defiance of Pain: **Ukrainian Stories**. Deep Vellum Publishing 2022. 300 pages.
Katja Petrowskaja: **Maybe Esther**. HaperCollins 2018, 224 pages.
Serhij Zhadan: **Skye above Kharkiv**. Yale University Press.

On our website www.swiss-soroptimist.ch/solidaritaet-ukraine you will find short news about the Ukraine war!

Contacts with our Ad-hoc Commission: ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch

We are looking forward to echoes of the news from Ukraine 10!

In February, we will report on further activities in the News from Ukraine 11.

Konto in CHF

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