



## SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL SWITZERLAND

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### Dear Sorooptimists – dear interested friends!

The war in Ukraine has been raging for a year. I used to think Ukraine was far away. With the daily reports in the media and especially the reports from our Sorooptimist sisters from Lviv, the country felt very close now. I am deeply saddened by these reports.

Thanks to my commitment to the Ad-hoc Commission for Ukraine aid of SI Switzerland, I can hold my powerlessness. The confidence and the will to keep up of the Sorooptimists in Ukraine are energizing. They don't give up and neither do we.

Read in these news how the sometimes generous donations can alleviate the plight of children and disadvantaged people on the scene. On behalf of the Union, I thank you all for your unbroken support.

Catherine Schuppli, President SI Union Switzerland 2023 – 2024

## 16 Generators, 50 Sleeping Bags and 150 Solar Flashlights Reached Lviv!

Already in January we had prepared the transport, made bulk purchases, planned the financing and the steps on Wednesday morning in the Ad-Hoc Commission. But again and again difficult conditions got in our way, such as the snowstorms in Poland at the beginning of February. Then our transport goods should start together with the Ukraine aid of Dr. Jürg Streuli. Heussi Transporte in Bilten appointed a chauffeur. And what luck: The choice fell on Gregor, whose knowledge of Polish and Russian would later make many things easier at the border.

On Thursday morning in mid-February the time had come! Three Soroptimists from Club Glarnerland were present in Bilten. Walter Heussi junior, whose family has maintained relations with Ukraine for 25 years, explained the transport process to us.

Our organizer Jörg Stocker from Ukraine-Hilfe also explained the next steps. An interesting undertaking! The women from Glarus then campaigned for press distribution in the region. A report was even printed on 23 February in the weekly newspaper "Fridolin"; all Glarus households learned about our transport as well as about our Ukraine aid now for a year!



f.l.t.r. Walter Heussi, Jörg Stocker, Annelies Debrunner, Sue Spiess, Ruth Scherrer, Marie-Theres Dürst

Back to our transport: The 16 electricity generators, 50 sleeping bags and 150 solar flashlights left Bilten in Glarus on 16 February.



Already in the evening, chauffeur Gregor had driven several hundred kilometers and reached the Polish-Ukrainian border on Friday evening. On Monday morning, all customs formalities could be completed, and at noon the Soroptimists in Lviv were allowed to receive the goods. They immediately set about distributing the goods!



Among other things, four generators have now reached the orphanage Lychvchiky. They already provide heat in the various buildings. What a relief!

### **Finances & Support**

In the meantime, we have collected more than half a million Swiss francs in donations. Our reports in the news from Ukraine are intended to provide transparency for the usage of the donated money. We are happy about small and large amounts for our support for one year! On Wednesday, March 8, at 8 o'clock in the morning, the Ad-hoc Commission will hold its 37th meeting!

*On our website*

[www.swiss-soroptimist.ch/solidaritaet-ukraine](http://www.swiss-soroptimist.ch/solidaritaet-ukraine) you will find the blog about the Ukraine war and short news!

*Contacts to the Ad-hoc Commission:* [ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch](mailto:ukraine@swiss-soroptimist.ch)

*We are looking forward to echoes of the news from Ukraine 12!*

The News 13 will be published in April. We will inform about further transports from different clubs! Please also send us your information. Thank you.

**Konto CHF**

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