

UKRAINE CRISIS: FAMILIES ON THE RUN

According to the United Nations, there are more than 1.5 million Ukrainians displaced and refugees due to the war. Despite a ceasefire, daily violence remains high and more families are fleeing to save their lives.

DARIYA'S STORY

The dark rings around Dariya Bilichenko's eyes betray fatigue. After enduring two weeks of constant artillery shelling, she took her 3-year-old child and joined a convoy of passenger vehicles on 28 January to flee the railroad town of Vuhlehirsk.

After traversing five cities, Dariya finally joined a dozen distant relatives in government-controlled Sviatohirsk, not far from a monastery situated where the eastern Luhansk, Donetsk and Kharkiv regions meet.

For people such as Dariya Bilichenko, the church is providing more than just financial help. It is also providing them with a more elusive gift: hope.

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

- Around 1.5 million Ukrainians in the east of the country have been uprooted;
- Over 5 million living in Donetsk and Luhansk regions are directly affected by the war;
- More than 6,200 civilians and soldiers have been killed;
- Most of the 44 million Ukrainians are affected by deepened economic crisis.

RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Nov 2013 Pro European Union demonstrations begin;
- Feb 2014 President Yanukovych flees the country and takes refuge in Russia;
- Mar 2014 Russia takes Ukrainian Crimea and pro-Russian forces start military operation in Luhansk and Donetsk;
- May 2014 Petro Poroshenko is elected as the new president of Ukraine;
- Feb 2015 Ceasefire agreement between Ukrainian government and pro-Russian faction, but fighting persists.

YOU CAN ASSIST THE DISPLACED THROUGH CNEWA BY:

- Providing food, shelter, water, medical care for internally displaced;
- Supporting inter-religious and inter-regional dialogue among Ukrainian youth leaders;
- Providing spiritual and psychological support for victims of war;
- Assisting the most vulnerable social groups with basic necessities.

YOU CAN ALSO SUPPORT OTHER CNEWA PROGRAMS IN UKRAINE TO:

Renew the church: Training new priests. Educating the faithful. Teaching Christian values to future business, political and community leaders.

Lift up the poor: We care for the orphans, women, elderly and special needs people via several social program initiatives.

Foster unity: We help to build understanding by strengthening bridges between Christians, Jews, Muslims and non-believers for the benefit of all Ukrainian people.



ABOUT CNEWA

CNEWA, founded by Pope Pius XI in 1926, works on behalf of the Eastern churches. CNEWA has been helping the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church to re-establish itself since 1991, through the renovation of churches, providing aid to seminarians, supporting the Ukrainian Catholic University and helping the many social service initiatives aiding the poor and marginalized.

In 2015, CNEWA marks its 10th year in Canada, running programs in the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India and Eastern Europe.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:



www.cnewa.ca

Write

Make a cheque out to CNEWA Canada and mail to CNEWA Canada 1247 Kilborn Place, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 6K9





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