



ANNUAL REPORT



Photo: AWO International/Andrii Larin

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
RIGHT TO PROTECTION



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OPENING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF RIGHT TO PROTECTION

In 2023, in the face of constant challenges in Ukraine and globally, R2P persevered in its mission to help those in need. The year brought challenges, but our dedicated team remained steadfast in its commitment to making a difference.

We expanded our activities by opening a representative office to support displaced Ukrainians in Poland and resumed work in Donetsk oblast. Our team did not hesitate to respond promptly to shelling and tragedies, such as the explosion of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant.

We launched the Economic Resilience programme. In particular, Kharkivska oblast entrepreneurs could take a training course and receive grants to do business in the region, thereby contributing to its economic sustainability.

We were one of the initiators of the Alliance of Ukrainian Civil Society Organisations to promote Ukrainian leadership in the humanitarian response and reconstruction of Ukraine.

Unfortunately, this year, our team suffered a loss: in August, our colleague was killed in a rocket attack in Chernihiv. It has deeply affected our team. Thus, we continue our mission with even greater determination and resilience.

In summarising, we recall the collective strength of Ukrainian civil society, government institutions, and the international community. The support of our partners has helped us increase our impact, enabling us to help more than 1 million people.



Oleksandr Galkin
President of Right to Protection

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION RIGHT TO PROTECTION



MISSION

To protect people in conflict, disasters, and forced displacement and enable systemic changes that prevent such situations



VISION

To create favourable conditions in which IDPs, refugees, and stateless persons can resume a peaceful life, realise their abilities, and contribute to the well-being of local communities



Thanks to cooperation and solidarity, we continue to move forward, unwaveringly striving for a more just and equal world



RIGHT TO PROTECTION'S SUPERVISORY BOARD

The Supervisory Board is a governance body consisting of external experts who monitor the implementation of the strategy and budget, engage in discussions and provide recommendations on the Foundation's development directions.



Yevgen Poltenko
Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Project Manager at Watu Africa

In 2023, R2P responded quickly to its beneficiaries' ever-changing needs despite constant external shocks and challenges. While addressing urgent social needs, the Foundation also found opportunities to build internal capacity and create innovations. The Foundation's activities have gone beyond Ukraine, supporting Ukrainians living in Poland. This dynamic response is an example of attention to the problems of our compatriots who were forced to move abroad.

The unwavering dedication and resilience demonstrated by R2P's team confirms the Foundation's role as a model of professionalism and service to humanity.



Mark Hetfield
Deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Chairman of HIAS



Melinda Haring
Member of the Supervisory Board, Senior Advisor at Razom for Ukraine



Jock Mendoza-Wilson
Member of the Supervisory Board, Director of International Relations and Investor Relations at SCM





THE FOUNDATION'S TEAM



In 2023, our commitment to helping those in need has only grown stronger.

In particular, we created Emergency Response groups: our employees have been trained to work in hazardous locations. The first such group worked in the affected areas after the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant explosion. Despite the risks, an initiative group of 23 employees from Lviv, Kyiv, Chernivtsi, Mykolaiv, Sumy, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Poltava, and Vinnytsia went to help. Thanks to the concern of our employees who responded, we were able to support over 3,000 people in Khersonska oblast.

The Emergency Response groups were launched as a new format for assisting in dangerous locations to respond quickly to disasters. By the end of 2023, 90 Foundation employees had been fully trained to work in crises.

The dedication and bravery of our team in responding to today's challenges exemplify the spirit of compassion and resilience that defines our organisation. With every crisis response mission and every beneficiary we help, we reaffirm our enduring values and continue our work.



Nadiya Kovalchuk
Programme Director of Right to Protection

Helping Those in Need

The story of Maryna Kravchyna, a social worker



Maryna Kravchyna has been forced to leave her home twice. In 2014, she left Avdiivka for the town of Rodynske in Donetsk oblast, where she and her family lived for almost seven years. Maryna settled in a new place then, and her son entered university. Immediately after the move, she decided to help her fellow countrymen and set up a volunteer headquarters. That was how Maryna met R2P's staff. Soon, she was invited to work as a monitoring specialist.

In 2020, Maryna and her family decided to return home to their native Avdiivka. She resigned from the Foundation because no positions were available in the city. Upon returning home, they began to rebuild their lives from scratch.

After the beginning of the full-scale invasion, Maryna and her family had to leave their home for the second time. This time, they have moved to Kryvyi Rih. Looking for a job, she turned to R2P in the city. Now, she is a social worker at the Foundation.

«Every day, I work with people and listen to their stories. Often, they are about a tough path, but at the same time, they are about our people's resilience and spirit. It inspires and gives me the strength to keep working. I am glad I can help people and be with them during this difficult time. It is an honour for me to be part of such an important cause,» said Maryna Kravchyna.



1,156

Right to Protection's employees in Ukraine



724

women



432

men



90
people trained to work in Emergency Response groups

52
men

38
women



11

Right to Protection's employees in Poland



10
women



1
men

ACCORDING TO AN INTERNAL SURVEY,* ~31% OF EMPLOYEES ARE IDPs, ~40% CAME TO THE FOUNDATION FROM THE BUSINESS SECTOR

* 700 employees of the Foundation took part in the survey, which is about 60% of the total number of employees.

RIGHT TO PROTECTION'S PROGRAMME DIRECTIONS



ASSISTANCE TO IDPS AND THE WAR-AFFECTED POPULATION



LEGAL AID

The lawyers and advocates of Right to Protection (R2P) are a powerful team of professionals. Every year, they provide tens of thousands of free legal consultations on issues related to forced displacement, offline, online, and on-site consultations as part of mobile groups.



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

The team of psychologists at R2P helps people understand the experience of war and eliminate post-traumatic symptoms, as well as teaches them to find the motivation to move on with their lives. The programme provides individual counselling, support groups, educational training sessions, and events and develops the capacity of public social services in hromadas.



SOCIAL PROTECTION

R2P's experts advise the war-affected population on receiving humanitarian and social assistance, inform them about opportunities, and help them obtain social/medical/educational services. In addition, the Foundation helps

with transportation and escorting people with limited mobility to government agencies and health-care facilities. It also contributes to building hromadas' capacity.



PROTECTION MONITORING

R2P monitors the observance of the rights of IDPs and the war-affected populations, as well as access to social, medical, and other services; it identifies positive practices and violations and inconsistencies for further advocacy at the local and national levels. The Foundation's specialists monitor the observance of human rights at international checkpoints and in places of temporary residence of IDPs — collective centres (CC) and provide advice, support, and referrals to other types of assistance.



ADVOCACY

The programme direction implements measures to protect beneficiaries' rights through systemic changes. In particular, it develops and advocates for changes in the current legislation on the rights of internally and externally displaced persons, the war-affected populations, refugees, and stateless persons, as well as on reducing

the risk of environmental disasters. The team works at the local, national, and international levels.



CASH ASSISTANCE

The Cash Assistance programme is designed to meet the beneficiaries' needs, including their priority needs for housing and overcoming the crisis caused by the war. The Foundation's team executes both models of providing cash assistance: as an implementing partner for collecting data and informing beneficiaries about receiving cash assistance and as part of a whole project cycle, where R2P carries out all stages of the process of providing cash assistance to beneficiaries, including disbursement of funds.



ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

The programme aims to increase the economic capacity of Ukraine's population, particularly vulnerable groups, and to develop and restore hromadas affected by the war or hosting large numbers of internally displaced persons. Activities include training, legal and career counselling, psychological and coaching support, and business development grants.



HUMANITARIAN AID (IN-KIND)

The programme direction distributes charitable assistance on an individual and institutional basis. Individual aid is intended to support IDPs, the war-affected population, and people in difficult life circumstances. Institutional assistance is aimed at improving the capacity of social institutions to provide quality services and conditions in the CC.



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

The programme aims to ensure the effective organisation and coordination of temporary accommodation facilities, including appropriate living conditions for IDPs. The programme's primary objectives include managing the facilities available for temporary accommodation, keeping records of people who have used these services, and providing the necessary resources and support for the safety and comfort of CC residents. In addition, the programme aims to integrate individuals into host hromadas further.



SOCIAL COHESION

The mission of the programme direction is to build a peaceful and inclusive environment by combining research, training, analysis, communication, and action. The team organises platforms for dialogue within the hromada (at the local level), coordination between experts, and cooperation with public authorities. Communication and the creation of unifying narratives play a significant role.



LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

The Foundation provides free legal aid to refugees and asylum seekers in Ukraine and abroad. Specialists support cases in court, provide social counselling and support the development of refugee communities, monitor temporary accommodation centres for foreigners, and advocate for changes to the state's migration policy and strategic litigation.



LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO STATELESS POPULATION

R2P provides stateless persons, persons at risk of statelessness, and undocumented persons with free legal support. The ultimate goal is to confirm their citizenship of Ukraine or another country or acquire citizenship and obtain a passport. Specialists organise training sessions and roundtables to increase the capacity and awareness of public authorities and free legal aid lawyers and advocate for changes to Ukrainian legislation to address the issue of statelessness systematically.

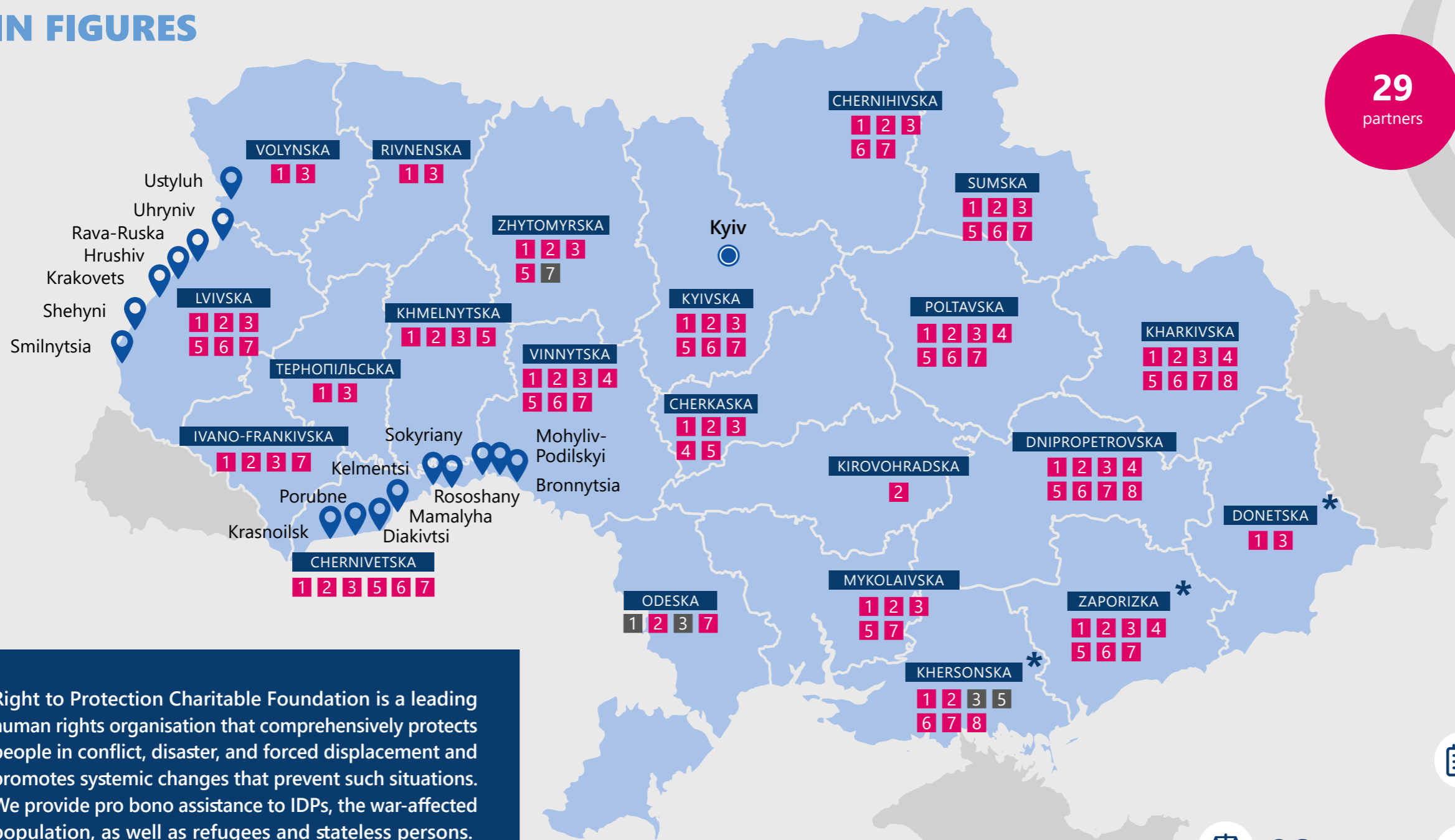


DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The programme direction works to prevent natural and artificial disasters in Ukraine and/or mitigate their consequences. Within this framework, the Foundation conducts research and prepares analytical materials, develops expert recommendations, engages in advocacy, holds information events and training sessions, provides advisory and legal support on protecting environmental rights and interests, and delivers material support.



RIGHT TO PROTECTION IN FIGURES



29
partners

1,100,000
beneficiaries

68
projects

Right to Protection Charitable Foundation is a leading human rights organisation that comprehensively protects people in conflict, disaster, and forced displacement and promotes systemic changes that prevent such situations. We provide pro bono assistance to IDPs, the war-affected population, as well as refugees and stateless persons.

- International checkpoints
- The oblast in which R2P operates
- In some locations, for security reasons
- Working
- Planned

- 1** Legal Aid
- 2** Registration for the Multi-purpose Cash Assistance
- 3** Protection Monitoring
- 4** Camp Coordination and Camp Management
- 5** Humanitarian aid (in-kind)

- 6** Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
- 7** Social Protection
- 8** Economic resilience of IDPs and affected population

86
advocacy events

533
Ukrainians received assistance in Poland

250,000+
consultations

4,500
group events for beneficiaries

550+
training sessions and integration events



SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF RIGHT TO PROTECTION IN 2023

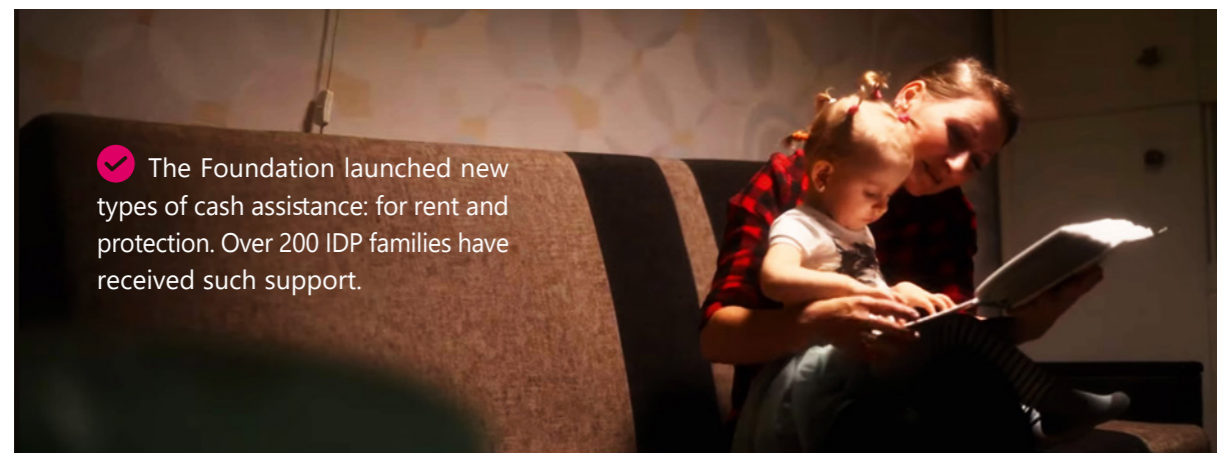


The Foundation has resumed providing assistance in Donetsk oblast



✔ R2P started providing assistance to Ukrainian refugees in Poland, an essential step in supporting Ukrainians who were forced to move and found refuge there.

✔ The Foundation launched Emergency Response groups. For the first time, this work format was used to provide urgent assistance to the population affected by the consequences of the explosion at the Kakhovka Hydropower Plant. The groups operated in the affected areas of Khersonska and Mykolaivska oblasts for five weeks. Based on this experience, the Foundation launched eleven such groups in other regions.



✔ The Foundation launched new types of cash assistance: for rent and protection. Over 200 IDP families have received such support.



✔ For the first time in Ukraine, the Foundation organised a basic social, legal, and digital literacy course for stateless persons.



✔ The Economic Resilience programme was launched, which supported 49 entrepreneurs and employed 31 people.



✔ For the first time in Ukraine, the Foundation conducted a mapping of refugee and migrant communities that provide assistance to their compatriots and others under martial law.



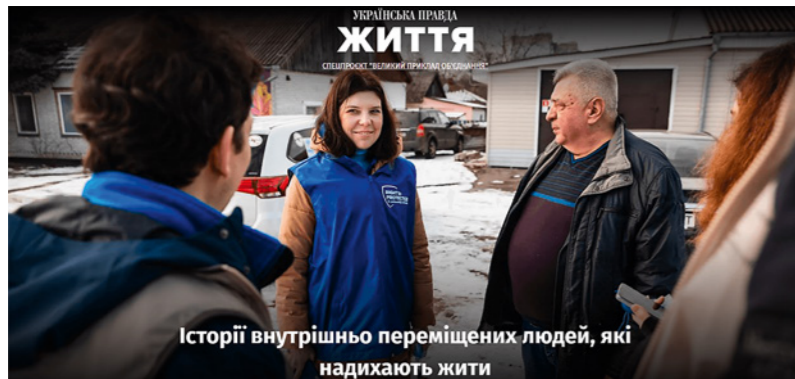
The Disaster Risk Reduction programme direction provided in-kind support to 36 institutions and 21 hromadas to strengthen civil protection.



New types of in-kind assistance have been introduced, such as the distribution of kits for quick house insulation and non-capital repairs in social institutions.



Representatives of the Foundation conducted a nationwide campaign for pupils to raise awareness of gender-based violence. It reached over 1,500 students in nearly 70 schools. Combating GBV was singled out as a separate direction of the Foundation's activities.



✓ The Social Cohesion programme direction's team implemented two waves of a media campaign aimed at overcoming the stigma against IDPs in Ukrainian society. The media campaign received over 8.9 million contacts.



✓ The Advocacy team's contribution to the protection of human rights and freedoms was recognised with a medal and a letter of gratitude from the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights.

✓ In 2023, 29 partners and donors trusted the Foundation. In particular, R2P became the first national organisation in Ukraine to be audited and receive direct funding from the USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance.



✓ R2P's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support programme has become part of the All-Ukrainian mental health programme «How Are You?» launched by First Lady Olena Zelenska.



R2P was included in the Register of Providers and Recipients of Social Services.

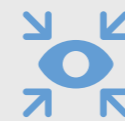
...
In September, the Alliance of Ukrainian Civil Society Organisations was founded together with the Ukrainian Red Cross and Caritas Ukraine. It aimed to strengthen local organisations' capacity to respond to crises and support long-term sustainability.

...
Over ten times, the Foundation joined international events to mobilise support from the global community and deepen understanding of the problems and needs of IDPs, the war-affected population, as well as refugees and stateless persons.

...
R2P was recognised as one of the most mentioned organisations in the media. According to the results of a comprehensive study, Civil Society in Ukraine in the Context of War, conducted by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology at the request of ISAR Ednannia, the Foundation moved up 18 positions in the ranking compared to 2022.

COORDINATION AND LEADERSHIP

The Foundation has always made efforts to build the leadership of Ukrainian civil society organisations in responding to crises.



The Foundation co-coordinated the Protection Cluster within the humanitarian coordination system at the national and regional levels in Vinnytsia and Dnipro hubs. One of the main tasks was to expand the Cluster's cooperation and partnerships. As part of these activities, NGOs, charities, and local authorities were actively involved in cooperation. In addition, ongoing collaboration was established with the national government authorities, in particular, to provide ways to disseminate advocacy messages. As of today, this is the only case in the world where a local organisation co-coordinated the Protection Cluster not only at the regional but also at the national level.



R2P continued its activities as a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) member of the Global Protection Cluster. This allowed the Foundation to expand its understanding of global challenges in the humanitarian sector and how they affect the situation in Ukraine. Involvement in the advisory group also allowed R2P to draw the international community's attention to the state of affairs in Ukraine. It is the first time a Ukrainian organisation has become a member of the Strategic Advisory Group.



The Foundation actively participated in meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and was involved in strategic decision-making at the national level in the humanitarian sphere in Ukraine. Representatives of R2P highlighted the most pressing problems faced by Ukrainian civil society and the Foundation's beneficiaries and contributed to improving the efficiency and coordination of humanitarian activities.



In mid-2023, R2P, together with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and Caritas Ukraine, initiated the creation of the Alliance of Ukrainian Civil Society Organisations. In September 2023, 13 civil society organisations signed a memorandum establishing the Alliance. This platform was created to promote Ukrainian leadership in Ukraine's humanitarian response and recovery. As of the end of 2023, the Alliance began working on a 5-year Ukrainian leadership strategy. The strategy includes representatives of the Ukrainian government, the UN, international donors and organisations, and Ukrainian businesses.



ASSISTANCE TO IDPS AND THE WAR-AFFECTED POPULATION



In 2023, activities aimed at assisting IDPs and the war-affected population covered almost the entire territory controlled by Ukraine and provided comprehensive support to beneficiaries: in-kind assistance, legal aid, protection monitoring, cash assistance, CCCM (camp coordination and camp management), social protection, psychological assistance, economic empowerment and inclusion, and advocacy for the rights of these groups.



The programme direction provided both a crisis response to immediate needs and facilitated the integration of IDPs into host hromadas, as well as strengthening the capacities of the affected population. In 2023, the Foundation's team applied a comprehensive approach to providing assistance, trying to resolve as many beneficiaries' issues as possible, using a referral system and working through humanitarian hubs based on cash assistance offices.





LEGAL AID

In 2023, Right to Protection’s lawyers provided legal assistance to internally displaced persons and the war-affected population in Ukraine.



DIRECT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LEGAL AID

Direct primary legal aid consisted of legal advice the Foundation’s lawyers provided on how and when to restore beneficiaries’ rights, personal documents, etc., violated due to the war.

Secondary legal aid allowed the Foundation’s lawyers to represent the beneficiary’s interests and resolve legal issues that could not be resolved otherwise.

Field lawyers were working in offices and in the format of mobile groups, travelling to remote hromadas in the oblasts of Ukraine.

~103,000
people received individual legal aid in total

68,405
consultations provided by field lawyers

3,200+
of them received secondary legal aid

TOOLS FOR ASSISTING BENEFICIARIES



Primary and secondary legal advice



Representing the interests of beneficiaries in courts of all instances within the framework of secondary legal aid



R2P’s legal helpline — legal support by phone and online



The Legal Adviser for IDPs chatbot

THE LEGAL ADVISER FOR IDPS CHATBOT

The chatbot has enabled people to find answers to their legal questions (including those related to social benefits and pensions, personal documents, etc.) free of charge and 24/7 without registration or subscription.

63,491

unique users used the chatbot at the end of 2023

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



~ 103,000
beneficiaries were assisted by R2P’s lawyers



165,804
legal consultations the Foundation’s team provided



55 and **12**
lawyers advocates in R2P’s team at the end of the year

LEGAL HELPLINE

On business days, from 8:00 to 21:00, beneficiaries were able to receive legal advice by telephone. Thus, residents of remote settlements and people with limited mobility had access to legal aid remotely.

Since the hotline did not work on weekends, an online form was introduced to allow people to make an appointment for legal advice outside of working hours.

~47,000

beneficiaries used the services of the Helpline

55,701

consultations were provided by the Helpline operators

STRATEGIC LITIGATION DEPARTMENT

The department handled cases of strategic importance in national and international courts concerning violations of the rights of IDPs and the war-affected population. It aimed to set a precedent in judicial practice for positive changes in legislation or its application.

In 2023, strategic cases were supported both in national courts and at the international level, namely in the European Court of Human Rights, regarding:

- compensation for non-pecuniary damage caused by the injury of a person and the death of a family member,
- obtaining the status of a person with a disability as a result of war,
- receiving the total amount of arrears of IDP pensions, including inherited pensions,
- appealing against unlawful refusals of the Department of Social Protection to pay benefits for IDPs’ accommodation,
- restoration of lost documents of ownership of destroyed/damaged housing, as well as other issues related to compensation for damaged/destroyed housing.



51

strategic cases were supported by the Foundation’s lawyers in total

21

cases at the national level have been decided in favour of beneficiaries

2

appeals were filed with the ECHR



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

The Mental Health and Psychological Support programme worked to increase the resilience of people living through the war in Ukraine.

Throughout 2023, the Foundation's experts provided direct services to beneficiaries and helped build community capacity. «If you restore a person, they will restore the country,» says First Lady Olena Zelenska. Right to Protection is committed to these values, and thanks to this and the high appreciation of the professionalism of the Mental Health Care Service team, the Foundation became part of the All-Ukrainian Mental Health Programme «How Are You?».



TOPICS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS' WORK

Around these topics, the programme's specialists conducted individual and group work with beneficiaries, developed educational materials and improved work protocols.

In their work with hromadas, psychologists most often dealt with the following topics:

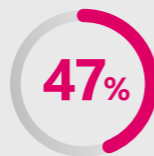
- effective communication in the hromada with vulnerable groups;
- distinguishing the most common mental disorders in the work of first-line support providers;
- counteracting burnout for hromadas' workers;
- instruments for working with cases of gender-based violence.



36,000+
beneficiaries
of psychological services



21,513
individual consultations
were conducted



of individual counselling sessions were to deal with the grief of loss



to adapt to new living conditions



to support the ability to respond to high levels of stress around

FORMS OF WORK

The programme covered a wide range of work tools, which made it possible to respond to the beneficiaries' different needs. After all, flexibility and the search for a unique solution remained effective in a situation of chronic stress. The programme's job was to help the beneficiaries see their resources and find the best solutions.

Specialists worked as part of mobile groups and in the regional offices.

FORMS OF WORK USED IN 2023:

- individual consultation (classic duration: 50 min);
- crisis consultation within Emergency Response teams (15–60 min);
- information session with a psychologist (30 min);
- family consultation;
- child/adolescent consultation;
- educational group (about stress and resilience);
- support group (group for living with trauma or difficult experiences);
- relief group (art therapy, mindfulness*);
- training on hromada's capacity building;
- external supervision for first-line care providers;
- integration activities in hromadas with the participation of psychologists;
- the Psychologist in Touch telegram channel;
- the Psychologist in Touch book;
- educational booklets;
- coaching under the Economic Resilience programme.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

3,316
group events
were held

97
psychological
support specialists

10,000+
copies of
the Psychologist
in Touch book
were distributed
in printed and
electronic formats

10,238+
subscribers of
the Psychologist
in Touch Telegram
channel



To strengthen horizontal cooperation in the psychological health and psychosocial support sector, the Foundation organised the Power of Communities Forum of Psychological Services, which brought together 62 specialists from 36 NGOs providing psychological support to Ukrainians.

* Mindfulness is a technique from cognitive behavioural psychotherapy: structured breathing, relaxation exercises, mindful conscious thinking or training in the state of no thoughts.



PROTECTION MONITORING

The monitoring team worked to identify trends, urgent problems and needs of IDPs and the war-affected population for further response at the individual and systemic levels.



21
oblasts of Ukraine covered by the programme

MAIN ACTIVITIES IN 2023

- Monitoring the observance of rights and assessing the needs of IDPs and the war-affected population.
- Assessment of the needs of social service institutions to improve their capacity and ensure the delivery of assistance.
- Assistance with resettlement.
- Assistance in the preparation and implementation of requests for non-food items.
- Protection activities including counselling, accompaniment, local interventions, and referrals within the Foundation and to other organisations and institutions.
- Engaging other humanitarian organisations to improve living conditions in CCs.
- Participation in coordination meetings to discuss urgent issues related to IDPs and the war-affected population.

The monitoring teams advised IDP initiative groups and local authorities on subventions, IDP registration procedures, government and non-governmental programmes of financial support to hromadas, and financial and non-financial support to IDPs. A total of consultations was provided:

13,098
for local authorities

7,637
for IDP initiative groups

Since June 2023, the Kyiv and Khmelnytskyi monitoring teams met evacuation trains from Kherson even at six in the morning, providing beneficiaries with the necessary information, referring them for further assistance, and accompanying them to hospitals, government or banking institutions.



HOUSING SOLUTIONS

The team facilitated the development and sharing of information on housing solutions and advised hromadas on establishing temporary housing funds for IDPs and the waiting list for such accommodation. As a result, 13 hromadas approved the Regulation on the formation of the Temporary Housing Fund for IDPs under the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 495 Some Measures for the Formation of Housing Funds Intended for Temporary Residence of Internally Displaced Persons.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

- 55,000+** beneficiaries
- 55,909** consultations
- 14,883** monitoring visits
- 270** group sessions
- 151** experts in the programme's team

THEMATIC MONITORING

In 2023, the monitoring team carried out three thematic monitoring researches to analyse the needs and problems of IDPs and the war-affected population:

- Monitoring the Impact of the Kakhovka HPP Explosion and the Needs of the Local Population.** During an emergency response mission in June-July 2023, the affected population was interviewed about their immediate needs for response planning.
- Assessment of the Needs and Preparation of the Population for the Heating Season.** As part of the Winterisation and Resilience: CARE Ukraine project, households and key informants were interviewed in seven oblasts to determine winter preparedness, needs, and gaps in assistance.
- Employment Needs and Opportunities.** Conducted at the request of the Economic Resilience programme to assess the employment situation among IDPs.

MONITORING OF INTERNATIONAL/INTERSTATE BORDER CROSSING POINTS (BCPS)

Monitoring was carried out in five oblasts on the border with Poland, Romania, Moldova and Russia, including the humanitarian corridor in Sumska oblast.

The teams conducted protection monitoring and interviewed people crossing the border about

their needs, concerns, and intentions. Specialists identified the need to improve waiting conditions at BCPs and interacted with local authorities, representatives of the State Border Guard Service and the State Customs Service to install the necessary equipment provided or funded by UNHCR.



SOCIAL PROTECTION

Nina's
story

Running a Household Alone is Hard

In 2023, Right to Protection started providing the Home Care service. Our social workers help people with disabilities and older people who, due to their condition, are partially or completely unable to care for themselves.

Alona Pliushch, a social worker at the Foundation, met 74-year-old Nina from the village of Sedniv in December 2023. The woman has four daughters, but they all live in different cities, and one of them went abroad during the full-scale invasion. They do not visit the woman often, as each has their own family, jobs, and children. Due to her age and health conditions, it is becoming increasingly difficult for Nina to manage her household and travel long distances, so a social worker helped her with everyday issues.

For three months, R2P's specialist helped the woman with household chores: washing windows and dishes, cleaning the house, carrying firewood, and buying medicines and groceries. The social worker also accompanied Nina to the hospital, where she resolved the issue of further observation and treatment for the woman.

The social worker helped me a lot with housework and cooking. I am satisfied with the help I received from the Foundation





SOCIAL PROTECTION



In April 2023, Right to Protection was included in the Register of Providers and Recipients of Social Services. It means that the Foundation has undertaken to meet state standards, and the state officially recognises its social workers as providers of such services.

SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE FOUNDATION

- Informing the population about social services in hromadas.
- Advising on humanitarian and financial assistance from the state and non-governmental organisations.
- Representing people's interests in government agencies, assisting in filling out applications, forms, and blanks for issuing or restoring documents.
- Social preventive measures to avoid negative social phenomena.
- Physical support for people with limited mobility who are unable to get to institutions to receive services on their own.
- Transport services for people with limited mobility using a specially equipped minibus.
- Case management as a comprehensive approach to solving difficult life circumstances.
- Home care for older people and people with disabilities.
- Home care for children with disabilities, speech therapist and rehabilitation services at the child's residence.
- Emergency (crisis) intervention to eliminate or reduce risks to human life and health.



Coverage area: Kyivska, Sumska, Chernihivska, Poltavska, Kharkivska, Dnipropetrovska, Zaporizka, Mykolaivska, Khersonska, Odeska, Lvivska, Vinnytska, Ivano-Frankivska, Chernivetska oblasts.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

- 6,500+** people received social assistance
- 411** group sessions were held
- ~5,000** sessions' participants
- 145** specialists of social institutions attended training sessions
- 53** specialists in the programme team at the end of the year



WORKSHOP FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

The programme team started implementing the Workshop. It aimed to develop the social sector in Ukraine by improving the skills of social service providers from governmental and non-governmental organisations and local authorities. The first training sessions started at the end of September.

Seven training sessions on the following topics: Identifying the Needs of the Hromada's Population for Social Services and Gender-Based Violence: Causes and Ways of Overcoming It were held in Chernihivska, Chernivetska, Lvivska, and Vinnytska oblasts.



145 participants reached

SOCIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Foundation's specialists paid particular attention to children. The main form of work with them was group classes:

- sports and game events;
- creative workshops;
- webinars and lectures.

Group work was conducted according to the children's interests, considering the preliminary survey, gender, and age characteristics.

2,834 children participated in group classes

APPROBATION OF THE DRAFT STATE STANDARD

At the initiative of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the programme specialists took part in piloting the draft State Standard of Social Support Services for Families/Persons in Difficult Life Circumstances to optimise the social services sector at the national level. Based on the pilot's results, they provided recommendations.

GROUP COUNSELLING

The main topics of group sessions conducted by the Foundation's social workers to prevent negative social phenomena:

- changes in payments to IDPs;
- improving parental capacity;
- safeguarding as a basis for children's safety in the educational environment;
- Affordable Medicine and obtaining free medical services;
- establishing links with the hromada;
- digitalisation;
- A Life Filled with Meaning for older people;
- child protection issues, social benefits;
- how to protect oneself from fraud.

411 group sessions were conducted

~5,000 people were reached, including IDPs and locals



ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

The programme was established in May 2023 to respond to the need to restore the population's economic self-sufficiency. It aimed to contribute to the economic empowerment of the people of Ukraine, in particular vulnerable groups, as well as to the economic development and recovery of the war-affected hromadas and those that have hosted large numbers of IDPs.

THE RIGHT TO BUSINESS TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR BEGINNER ENTREPRENEURS

The programme covered beneficiaries from Kharkiv and Kharkivska oblast and consisted of a series of offline trainings. It included pitching participants' business projects. An essential element of the course was exchanging experience with local successful entrepreneurs, networking, and creating a community of mutual support and cross-partnerships between project participants.

52

beneficiaries were trained under the Right to Business programme

SOFT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SESSIONS

The programme team conducted such training sessions in Dnipro and Pavlohrad to strengthen the competitiveness of IDP youth in the labour market.

93

participants attended training sessions

ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING SESSIONS

Participants who successfully completed the soft skills training course had the opportunity to learn more about entrepreneurship on the following topics:

- Search for an idea.
- Creating a business concept.
- Practical methodology for developing a business plan.
- Goal setting — SMART approach.
- Project approach to business creation and development: key functions of an entrepreneur.
- Action plan — successful steps to achieve results.

28

participants completed the training



BUSINESS GRANTS

Participants who successfully completed the Right to Business training programme had the opportunity to present their projects and receive \$3,000 to implement them.

49

beneficiaries received the grants




CONSULTATIONS

The programme team provided consultations to beneficiaries in Kharkiv, Dnipro, and Pavlohrad:

- legal advice on labour, commercial and anti-discrimination law, private enterprise and taxation to those who were restarting their business activities;
- support from business mentors to strengthen business plans;
- career counselling to help internally displaced youth find employment.

Coaching support was also provided to start-up entrepreneurs, including individual consultations online and offline, group meetings, and forming a mutual support community.

RESEARCH

The **Employment Needs and Opportunities** research  was conducted in 14 oblasts of Ukraine and Kyiv to better plan support for the population's economic empowerment. The protection monitoring specialists developed the methodology and survey.

The obtained data helped clarify the employment situation among IDPs and learn about obstacles to employment, the need for retraining, and the ability of businesses to meet this need.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



~500 people received legal advice



391 individual coaching sessions, career and business consultations were held



150+ people completed the training



31 people were employed



46 private entrepreneurs opened or reopened after the training



HUMANITARIAN AID (IN-KIND)

In 2023, the programme assisted IDPs and the war-affected population in Ukraine or people in difficult life circumstances (DLC). The projects were supported in planning the types of assistance, procurement, logistics coordination and aid delivery to beneficiaries.

The programme beneficiaries who received in-kind assistance in 2023 were individuals and legal entities.

Individuals: IDPs, the war-affected population, and families in DLC of the following categories of vulnerability: persons with disabilities, older people, people whose property was damaged as a result of active hostilities, families with minor children, large families, single parents, people with reduced mobility.

The legal entities were non-profit institutions that provide social services, such as collective centres (CCs), social service centres, lyceums, orphanages, social care units, and medical and rehabilitation institutions.

The programme strengthened the capacity of social service providers, in particular through the renovation of the premises. Charitable assistance in the form of material and technical equipment was also provided to these institutions. It helped to increase their overall efficiency and ability to meet the needs of vulnerable groups.



CATEGORIES AND AMOUNTS OF IN-KIND ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOUNDATION

1,000,000+	goods for household improvement for individual households, social institutions and CCs
406,000+	kilograms of food
~3,500	tonnes of fuel briquettes
~73,000	items of clothing and footwear
100,000+	hygiene and dignity kits
16,495	non-medical kits
2,110	training kits
537	units of aid for medical examination and treatment

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



520,000
beneficiaries received in-kind assistance



52
specialists worked in the team in December 2023



IN-KIND ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES PROVIDED

- Food sets.
- Hygiene kits.
- Non-food items.
- Kits for quick home insulation.
- Heating supplies.
- Household appliances.
- Furniture.
- Construction materials.
- Material and technical equipment for free secondary legal aid centres.
- Arrangement of CCs and shelters.
- Non-capital repairs.

The non-food items were distributed individually to beneficiaries, and some were transferred to the CC or hromadas based on contracts and acceptance certificates.

Also, in 2023, the team introduced a new activity — the distribution of kits for quick insulation of houses with high levels of heat loss (with wooden windows, old heating systems, or without facade insulation).

1,400 households received quick insulation kits

In 2023, the programme launched a new type of assistance — non-capital repairs in IDP households and social service providers. Eight facilities were covered on a pilot basis. For example, the bomb shelter was repaired for the Prylucky Special School, where 82 children with intellectual disabilities are educated and raised. Previously, the school's basement was used as a warehouse, and now it is a comfortable and safe shelter for children and staff. Windows, front doors, and roofs were replaced in the IDPs' homes.



CASH ASSISTANCE

In 2023, the programme continued to work with IDPs and the war-affected population but expanded the forms of assistance and worked in three directions:



Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance



Cash Assistance for Rent



Cash for Protection

New teams were created in Donetsk and Ivano-Frankivka oblasts. Overall, the programme operated in 22 oblasts in the following formats: regular offices and mobile groups (working in remote hromadas, CCs and with people with limited mobility).

All cash assistance centres are operated as one-stop shops. Beneficiaries could receive legal and psychological support, advice on public services, information about local centres for IDPs and the war-affected population, etc.

MULTI-PURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

Throughout the year, Right to Protection collected the data of people who were applying for cash assistance from UNHCR and in cooperation with other partners.

The Humanitarian Country Team decided to increase the payments from UAH 6,660 to UAH 10,800 per person from 1 October 2023. In addition, in cooperation with UNHCR, winterisation payments of UAH 17,460 were made to around 200,000 people.



481,713

beneficiaries registered for cash assistance



Several communication channels were used to provide explanations of the programme's terms and conditions, additional consultations, and registration in the queue: Telegram channels, a hotline for full-cycle projects, and an email for feedback. Thanks to beneficiaries' feedback on the work of the registrars via QR codes, the high quality of service provision was ensured in accordance with the organisation's standards.



ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Cash Assistance programme became a transparent and accountable humanitarian response tool. Beneficiaries had access to registration information, eligibility conditions, and payments.



100,713

followers of the Cash Assistance for IDPs from the UNHCR Telegram channel



52,878

consultations handled by four operators on a separate full-service hotline



8,337

requests received by the programme email

CASH ASSISTANCE FOR RENT

In mid-2023, a project was launched to provide cash assistance for rent in three oblasts: Kyivska, Kirovohradska, and Cherkaska. The target audience was families living in CCs, those threatened with eviction from rented housing and those in difficult life circumstances.

Before starting operation, the programme team assessed the real estate market by determining the average market rental price in the country for different types of flats. This data formed the basis for calculating payments to programme participants.

CASH FOR PROTECTION

In November 2023, the Cash for Protection emergency charity programme was launched to prevent, eliminate, and overcome the negative effects of existing or potential protection risks caused by the war.

The programme operated in Kharkivska, Donetsk, Zaporizka, Dnipropetrovska, Mykolaivska, and Khersonska oblasts.

Assistance was provided individually as part of case management to respond to clearly identified risks in beneficiary protection when no other solution was available.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



209

households received assistance and a six-month rental compensation



27

beneficiaries received cash assistance for protection



3,953

visits by mobile groups



18

registration points



294

team members worked during the period of the highest activity



CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT (CCCM)

To implement the programme’s objectives, all specialists coordinated with the CCCM Cluster partners, as well as other international and non-governmental organisations, foundations, volunteer associations and other relevant legal entities.



In 2023, the programme covered six oblasts: Zaporizka, Dnipropetrovska, Kharkivska, Poltavska, Cherkaska, and Vinnytska.

MAIN PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

- Training and workshops for IDPs and CCs managers.
- Information sessions.
- Integration events.
- Partner involvement in the implementation of activities.
- Creation and support of IDP initiative groups.
- Supplying goods for repairs and carrying out internal repairs.
- Support of community-led initiatives.
- Engaging partners to provide humanitarian assistance.
- Legal advice and development of documents to formalise IDPs’ residence, coordination meetings, etc.
- Coordination meetings with other organisations to plan joint activities and attract assistance in fields not covered by the programme.
- Involvement of hromadas and local authorities.

PROJECTS OF INITIATIVE GROUPS

Community-led projects are a form of humanitarian assistance that empowers affected hromadas by giving them decision-making power and responsibility for the humanitarian process. They are based on solutions that hromadas identify, propose, and implement using their capacities and resources. Such projects promote social cohesion, resilience, and dignity and unite and engage displaced persons and the residents of host hromadas.

25

projects from initiative communities were implemented over the year: coworking spaces, children’s rooms, sports rooms, art rooms, sewing studios, a sports ground, a bicycle parking, a social wardrobe, a playground, etc.

28

projects are scheduled for completion in 2024



TRAINING AND INTEGRATION ACTIVITIES FOR IDPS AND HROMADA RESIDENTS

Alongside acquiring new skills, the training sessions aimed to socialise IDPs, integrate them into communities, and encourage active participation in decision-making. They covered various topics: fire and mine safety, employment, resilience, legal and media literacy.

Integration activities encouraged IDPs to share exciting ideas on improving their everyday lives, express their creativity, and distract themselves from anxious thoughts. Such events included excursions, fairs, bike races, tennis, children’s parties, master classes, and holiday workshops (garnishing Easter cakes, making New Year’s decorations, etc.).

TRAINING FOR CCS MANAGERS AND MEMBERS OF INITIATIVE GROUPS

Individual consultations, workshops and training sessions for CCs managers were used to comprehensively address the current requests from stakeholders, providing an opportunity to learn and share experiences.

THE MOST IN-DEMAND TOPICS:

- Accounting and taxation of humanitarian and charitable aid.
- Functioning of CCs.
- Project management.
- Conflict management, emotional climate management.
- Time management.
- Managerial literacy.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

110
CCs supported with repair materials or tools

515
training sessions were conducted

660
information sessions were held

53
community-led projects

48
specialists worked in the programme team in December 2023

127
CCs covered by programme activities

10,000+
people reached by the programme



CRISIS RESPONSE AFTER THE KAKHOVKA HPP EXPLOSION

In June 2023, the explosion of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant affected the population of Khersonska oblast and adjacent raions of Mykolaivska oblast: settlements were flooded, buildings, water supply networks, and other infrastructure were destroyed, property was lost, and people had difficulty accessing vital services.



To urgently respond to and help the population affected by the explosion's consequences, the Foundation launched Emergency Response groups that operated in the affected territories of Khersonska and Mykolaivska oblasts. These groups consisted of employees who volunteered to help and underwent proper training.



 **~3,000** beneficiaries were reached within the mission

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

Beneficiaries received:

-  **503** legal aid
-  **293** crisis interventions (including transportation services)
-  **392** other social services
-  **153** psychological assistance
-  **1,107** registered for cash assistance
-  **1,685** in-kind assistance

The mission lasted from 24 June to 28 July. During this time, the Emergency Response groups did their best to provide comprehensive assistance (legal, social, psychological and financial) to as many people as possible and assessed the needs of the affected population to provide in-kind assistance. In particular, the Foundation used three vehicles equipped for people with reduced mobility, providing transport services for older people and people with disabilities and flexible delivery of humanitarian aid in the most remote hromadas.



In addition, Right to Protection held a roundtable discussion, Coordination of Humanitarian Response in Emergencies: Overcoming the Consequences of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Station Explosion, on 22 August in Kyiv. The event aimed to discuss the experience of organisations involved in the direct response to this emergency and develop common crisis response mechanisms.

ADVOCACY FOR THE RIGHTS OF IDPS AND AFFECTED POPULATION

In 2023, the Foundation advocated for the rights of IDPs and the war-affected population in the following fields: social protection, freedom of movement, protection of property, housing and land rights, access to healthcare, protection of children's rights; digitalisation in the sphere of social protection.



As a result of providing expert support to state authorities at the national level:

- legal mechanisms for video identification of internally displaced pensioners for payment of pensions were developed;
- the living allowance for vulnerable categories of IDPs was preserved;
- the process of implementing legislation on social services has been improved;
- regulation of the functioning of collective centres for IDPs has been developed;
- decent conditions for crossing the state border were ensured, including the elimination of violations at international checkpoints in Lvivska oblast;
- consultations were held on the procedure for establishing a child's disability;
- proposals to the legislation on rehabilitation for civilians were developed;
- comprehensive strategies for the protection of war-affected children were developed, and legal

mechanisms for supporting children deprived of parental care and evacuated abroad were strengthened;

- proposals for creating an integrated digital system to protect property rights in times of war and introducing innovative digital solutions in the field of social protection were developed.

The Foundation participated in the work of three coordination headquarters, nine working groups and four expert councils established under the Ministry of Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and its representatives.

Through advocacy interventions, changes were made to local IDP support programmes, and the capacity of hromadas to create temporary housing funds and IDP councils was strengthened.

In 2023, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights recognised the Advocacy team's contribution to protecting human and civil rights and freedoms in Ukraine with a medal and a letter of gratitude.



ORGANISED EVENTS

Six national expert discussions became platforms for debates on the protection of the rights of IDPs and the war-affected population among representatives of state and local authorities and the public:

- Restoration of Title Documents in the Absence of Evidence;
- Crossing the Border of Ukraine: Challenges and Prospects;
- Development of Social Services during the War: Challenges and Opportunities;
- Porcelain Childhood: Paths to Happiness for Young Ukrainians;
- Children Evacuated Abroad: The Way Home;
- Ownership of Real Estate: From Threat to Protection.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The Foundation's advocacy messages were shared on the following international platforms:

- The OECD Development Assistance Committee Civil Society Days (Paris, France);
- Safeguarding the Rights of Ukrainian Children Affected by War, Forced Displacement, and Emigration (Brussels, Belgium)
- The World for Ukraine Summit (Rzeszów, Poland);
- The Second and the Third Humanitarian Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) on Ukraine (Brussels, Belgium and Oslo, Norway);
- OSCE Warsaw Human Dimension Conference (Warsaw, Poland);
- The Sixth Annual IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultation on the Topics of Localization and Accountability to Affected People (AAP) (Geneva, Switzerland);
- Ukraine Recovery Conference (London, The United Kingdom).



KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



48

commented draft legal acts



86

events



16

legal and advocacy experts worked on the team



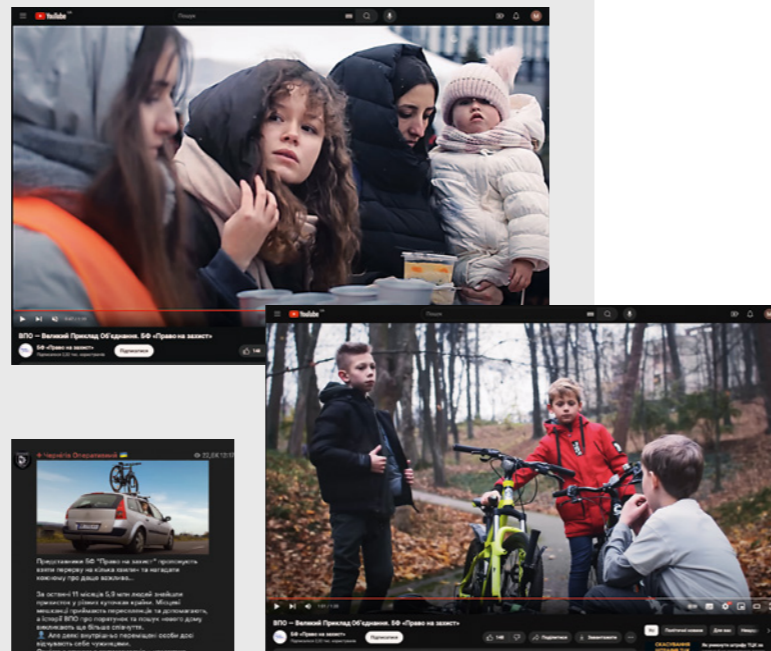
SOCIAL COHESION

In 2023, the Foundation continued to work on strengthening cohesion, establishing dialogue and cooperation between different social groups in Ukraine (IDPs, hromada's residents, returnees, authorities at all levels, and others). The programme direction placed great emphasis on communication and the creation of unifying narratives, including through the use of artistic tools. In 2023, the team worked more actively on hromada development through local democracy tools. Strengthening and developing Ukraine's expert community of dialogue practitioners also remained essential.

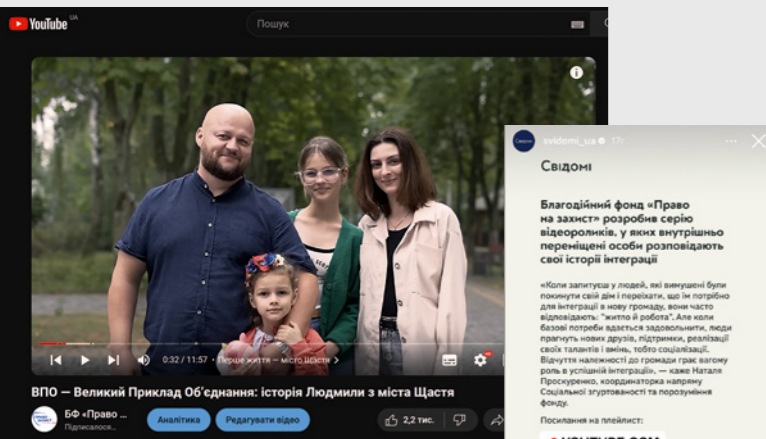
THE COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT IDPS' INTEGRATION

The team implemented two waves of a media campaign to overcome the stigma against IDPs in Ukrainian society.

STAGE 1 February-May. The mission of the campaign was to evoke empathy for IDPs among people who may have certain stigmas and prejudices. A social video was created to show that only by realising and understanding the experience and pain of every Ukrainian during this war can we overcome everything together. The video was promoted on YouTube, Instagram, and Telegram channels and supported by national media articles and TV appearances.



STAGE 2 End of 2023. The goal was to showcase successful stories of IDP integration that could inspire host hromadas and displaced people to work together to move forward and develop. Five YouTube videos were created as part of the campaign. They were also promoted and supported by articles in national media.



EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation and the Ukrainian Community of Dialogue Practitioners organised the Ukrainian Approaches to a Just and Lasting Peace conference. The event brought together representatives of Ukrainian civil society and international organisations working in peacebuilding and social cohesion. Participants presented the results of implemented peacebuilding projects and initiatives and explored opportunities for cooperation to improve joint results.



KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

-  **5** national events
-  **2** international events
-  **5** hromadas involved in social cohesion and development projects
-  **2** media campaigns



WORK WITH HROMADAS

In December, two projects were launched to facilitate the integration of IDPs into host hromadas through local democracy instruments (three communities in Chernivetska, Vinnytska, and Odeska oblasts) and the participation of hromada residents in the reconstruction of Ukraine (hromadas in Kharkivska oblast).

PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

The Global Protection Cluster organised an international webinar on Proactive Protection concepts and approaches. The event examined and analysed the risks of conflict and methods of supporting citizens suffering from problems caused by war.

The Ukraine Civil Society Forum, organised by Salzburg Global Seminar. At the event, several working groups, one of which was facilitated by the Foundation, identified priorities for the country, including specific recommendations for stakeholders to support the rights, return, and integration of displaced persons and refugees. The issue of reconstruction and social integration of the liberated territories as part of the all-Ukrainian national identity project was also discussed (Salzburg, Austria).

Civil Society Forum, Outlines of the Future: Victory, Restoration, and Modernisation of Ukraine (Kyiv).

The forum, Practices of Conflict Transformation and Social Cohesion in Times of War (Kyiv).



LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN UKRAINE

Azat's
story

The Way to Obtain Documents

Azat left Tajikistan* in 2000. He had to leave his homeland because, as a member of a religious party, he was persecuted by the authorities of his state and the Russian Federation for his spiritual and political views. He lived in several countries but eventually came to Ukraine to seek protection, so he stayed here.

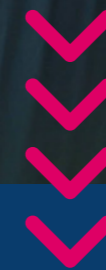
Azat has a wife from Kazakhstan* who belongs to the same party and is an asylum seeker in Ukraine. They are in a religious Islamic marriage and have four children together.

In June 2016, with the support of lawyers from Right to Protection's Assistance to Refugees and Asylum Seekers programme direction, Azat applied for recognition as a refugee or a person in need of complementary protection. It took him seven years to receive the long-awaited document — a certificate of a person in need of complementary protection.

«Unlike me, my wife and our children have not yet received protection from Ukraine. This procedure is quite difficult and multi-level. My wife's application is being considered separately. Unfortunately, she has a preliminary refusal from the migration service, and the Foundation's lawyer is already challenging it in court. So the fate of our family now also depends on this decision,» Azat explains.

The man has a degree and experience in construction and dreams of starting his own business, which is the construction of modular houses. To do this, Azat and other community members attended a business course organised by R2P with the support of UNHCR. There, he learned how to prepare financial, production and organisational plans and prepared a business plan to implement his idea.

* The names and countries of origin of the individuals of this story have been changed



At a time when millions of Ukrainians have lost their homes due to the war and need a roof over their heads, technologies such as modular construction are very relevant. I want to believe that my experience and efforts will help people who, like me, need a new home



LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN UKRAINE

In 2023, the Foundation provided legal and social assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in Ukraine and advocated for the rights of those who were forced to move abroad. The efforts were focused on empowering communities and creating conditions for self-sufficiency.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF REFUGEES IN UKRAINE

On World Refugee Day, the Foundation and eight other human rights organisations published a video statement and position on the observance of refugee rights during martial law in Ukraine.

In October, at the OSCE Human Dimension Conference in Warsaw, a representative of the Foundation called on the Ukrainian authorities to fulfil their international protection obligations and prevent discrimination.

ADVOCACY FOR THE RIGHTS OF THOSE DISPLACED IN THE EU

The Foundation made efforts to ensure that the issue of unimpeded access to temporary protection for beneficiaries remained in the focus of the EU and host country authorities. For this purpose, the team:

- published articles in the media on the difficulties faced by such refugees (EU Observer, European Law Blog);
- joined expert discussions in Turin, Brussels, Warsaw, and Barcelona;
- presented the Protection Risks Facing Non-Ukrainian Asylum Seekers and Refugees Fleeing Ukraine to the EU research.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

With the support of UNHCR, the Foundation organised an online course and launched a grant programme to support refugees' and asylum seekers' business ideas with a total of UAH 740,000. In Kharkivska and Lvivska oblasts, beneficiaries received

funding for a coffee shop, a cheburek restaurant, a tea shop, and an interior decoration service.

With the support of the Foundation, women of the refugee community in Drohobych attended sessions with a paediatrician and an endocrinologist.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



433
people received legal and/or social assistance



1,921
consultations were conducted



116
court cases were filed



11
specialists worked in the team in December 2023



EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE FOUNDATION

The round table, **The Role of Judges in Harmonization of International Protection in Ukraine to the EU Standards**, in cooperation with the National School of Judges and the UNHCR. Speakers: experts and judges from the EU, participants: judges of the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

The training session, **Ensuring the Rights of Stateless Persons, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers**, was for representatives of the central and regional offices of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights.

RESEARCH

The Migration Policy of Ukraine Concerning Foreigners in the Context of Post-War Reconstruction. The research proposed steps for the state to rebuild with the involvement of labour resources from other countries, which should be carried out in parallel with efforts to return Ukrainians from abroad and to increase the efficiency of using the potential of workers in Ukraine.

Community Organizations: Resources for Protecting Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Ukraine. The first mapping of refugee communities in Ukraine, which collected data on NGOs and associations of foreigners in the country. The experts developed recommendations for the authorities, non-governmental and international organisations, and refugee communities to strengthen the communities and facilitate the process of refugees' integration into Ukrainian society.

REMOTE CONSULTING AND INFORMING BENEFICIARIES

Experts provided direct consultations to beneficiaries offline in Lviv, Kyiv, and Kharkiv, as well as online in the Refugee Helper Telegram channel.

743 subscribers had the Refugee Helper Telegram channel





LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO STATELESS POPULATION

Asal's
story

*Finding Out That You
Do Not Exist*

When Asal was one and a half years old, she moved to Crimea from Uzbekistan with her parents. The girl lived there until she turned 19. Then, she decided to leave the occupied Crimea for mainland Ukraine. Asal planned to go to university, get an education, live and work here, and, of course, get a passport. When she reached mainland Ukraine, she had no documents. She had only her birth certificate, which was issued in Uzbekistan. After moving, it turned out that getting documents here was not easy for her. Although her mother and grandmother were Ukrainian citizens, this was the first time she heard that she was stateless.

«When I was undocumented at all, I had no way of proving that I was me because I did not exist at all. You do not have any documents, although you have lived most of your life in Ukraine, know the Ukrainian language, and are a carrier of this culture. You do not exist in the legal space of Ukraine,» said Asal.

Without documents, she faced many difficulties: she could not enter university, find an official job or even buy a train ticket. She tried to obtain documents independently but encountered many obstacles and bureaucratic hurdles.

That was when she got acquainted with the Right to Protection. Viktoriia Volynska, a senior lawyer in the Foundation's Legal Assistance to Stateless Population programme direction, first helped Asal obtain a temporary residence permit as a stateless person. With it, the girl could get married and find an official job. Later, this document also helped Asal obtain a passport and become a citizen of Ukraine. In total, her legal support from R2P lasted over three years.



The biggest problem I faced was the loss of time because I could not get an education or go to Crimea to visit my parents



LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO STATELESS POPULATION

In 2023, Right to Protection provided legal and social assistance to the stateless population, as well as advocated for access to the procedure for recognising statelessness, the rights of such persons, and those undocumented people who were forcibly displaced.



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF R2P'S REPRESENTATIVES



Addressing Statelessness in Europe (Spain), organised by the European Network on Statelessness (ENS).



The opening lecture of the seventh and ninth online Courses on Statelessness from the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (Italy). The courses were attended by over 120 representatives of state authorities and local and international organisations from more than 30 countries.

ADVOCACY IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION OF STATELESS PERSONS

- The programme direction's experts made proposals to the draft Law of Ukraine on the right of a child to acquire Ukrainian citizenship regardless of the status of their parents if the child was born in Ukraine and can become a stateless person.
- The Foundation held the Birth Registration for Every Child in Ukraine: Achievements, Problems and Solutions conference jointly with UNHCR and with the support of the Ministry of Justice, where they discussed the problems of birth registration.
- The Foundation and the European Network on Statelessness prepared a submission to the European Commission on the prevention of statelessness in connection with the EU candidate status.
- Sofiia Kordonets, Head of the Legal Assistance to Stateless Population programme direction, co-authored the article, **The Forgotten Victims of War: Ukraine's Stateless**, published in Forced Migration Review.



KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

- ~1,000 beneficiaries
- 141 persons received a passport of a citizen of Ukraine
- 7 294 consultations were provided
- 180 court cases on statelessness, in which the Foundation's lawyers participated
- 212 participants in training sessions and webinars
- 17 lawyers and advocates worked in the team in December 2023

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Foundation carried out a number of activities to increase the capacity of public authorities and lawyers of the free legal aid system:

- two training sessions, Stateless Persons: Legal Status and Key Challenges, for representatives of the Civil Registry Office and the State Migration Service of Ukraine (Lviv);
- four training sessions, Submitting Applications for Statelessness Status. Practical Aspects of the Procedure and Peculiarities of Legal Aid Provision, for regional representatives of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and the free secondary legal aid system (Dnipro and online);
- the Ensuring the Rights of Stateless Persons, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers training session, together with the Assistance to Refugees and Asylum Seekers programme direction;
- participation as experts in two UNHCR training sessions, Documentation of Stateless Persons and Persons with Undetermined Citizenship, for free secondary legal aid system staff (Uzhhorod and Kyiv);
- two webinars for lawyers and advocates of the free legal aid system on the procedure for recognising a stateless person and establishing their identity;
- working meeting with representatives of employment centres in Kyiv and the oblast on employment opportunities for IDPs, refugees, and asylum seekers (online).



TRAINING FOR STATELESS PERSONS

In November, the Foundation launched a social, legal, and digital literacy course for stateless people in Kyivska oblast. Through it, participants learned more about their social and economic rights and how to exercise them, as well as acquired new skills and abilities.

15

people attended the course



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

In 2023, Right to Protection implemented a number of projects and activities to reduce the risks of natural and technogenic disasters in Ukraine, as well as emergencies related to the consequences of a full-scale invasion.

ANALYTICS

The Foundation has developed a number of analytical materials with expert recommendations on restoring amalgamated hromadas, following the principle of «build back better».



Methodological recommendations, Development of a Programme for the Comprehensive Restoration of Hromadas' Territory.



Roadmap for Hromadas and Social Protection Institutions in the Emergency Situation.



The analytical report, Full-Scale Invasion and War Crimes Against the Environment. Environmental Consequences of the War: Chernihivska Oblast.

In 2023, the Foundation began work on analytical research on civil protection in the context of reforming the institutional care system in Ukraine. The main focus is on analysing the adequacy of shelters in educational institutions for children with special educational needs and in the perspective of post-war recovery.

STRENGTHENING CIVIL DEFENCE CAPABILITIES

In 2023, the Disaster Risk Reduction programme direction strengthened the capabilities of hromadas, authorities, and social institutions in civil protection, as well as the application of humanitarian principles in an emergency.

WORK PERFORMANCE RESULTS

- 315** participants in civil protection training sessions for social institutions
- 191** participants in psychological first aid training for representatives of the State Emergency Service and civil defence workers
- 452** participants in training sessions on humanitarian standards for hromadas
- 13** comprehensive consultations for social institutions and hromadas on the development and/or adaptation of civil protection documentation to the realities of martial law
- 6** oblasts received in-kind support for hromadas and social institutions, including equipment, personal protective and hygiene kits, information materials, etc.

RAISING AWARENESS

ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF WAR AND THEIR DOCUMENTATION

In 2023, the Foundation deepened its expertise by implementing a pilot project to provide legal support to hromadas to protect the right to environmental safety and other environmental rights and interests. The focus was on strengthening the capacity to record and assess the ecological damage caused by the full-scale invasion, using Chernihivska oblast as an example.

AMONG THE ACTIVITIES

- 3** information sessions for over 60 representatives of local state administrations, local self-government bodies, the public sector, and other organisations
- 15** legal consultations on assessing and recording environmental damage caused by the war by hromadas
- 1** video explainer, How to Bring the Russian Federation to Justice for War Crimes Against the Environment?
- 1** survey on current environmental issues, needs, and prospects for restoration, which covered representatives of 42 hromadas in Chernihivska oblast



ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNOGENIC DISASTERS IN TIMES OF WAR

The Foundation, in partnership with Hromadske Radio, has created a 4-part podcast, Disasters: Predict, Prevent, Prepare, to raise public awareness of the risks of environmental and technogenic disasters in Ukraine, as well as algorithms for emergency response, especially during war. The topics covered environmental migration, the state of water resources in Ukraine, environmental protection legislation, and civil protection during martial law.



KEY FIGURES FOR 2023

- 1,000+** participants in offline events
- 3** analytical documents
- 8** oblasts where the programme direction actively cooperated with hromadas



ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINIANS IN POLAND



In 2023, realising how many Ukrainians found themselves abroad due to the war, an important step to support citizens who were forced to move and found refuge there was the opening of the Foundation's representative office in Poland — Right to Protection Poland.

With the support of HIAS, an office was opened in Warsaw, where experts provided psychological and legal assistance and protected the rights of Ukrainians temporarily residing in Poland.



TIMELINE

- 17 April** Registration of a representative office
- 1 August** Opening of the office
- 31 August** Launch of psychological assistance
- 28 September** Launch of legal assistance

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE

Psychologists of Right to Protection Poland provided:

- individual consultations online (from one to six meetings per person, duration: 50 minutes);
- offline consultations in Warsaw;
- group sessions to relieve stress and deal with difficult emotions, psychological workshops for parents and children;
- systematic work with locations where Ukrainians come together (shelter, cultural centre, other NGOs that do not have a psychologist, etc.).

LEGAL AID

Specialists of Right to Protection Poland provided free consultations on the following issues:

- Legalisation of stay.
- Obtaining a temporary protection status (UKR).
- Child benefit (ZUS) and other social benefits.
- Legal aspects of employment.
- Non-payment of wages.
- Starting a business.
- Renting a house and returning the deposit.



70
beneficiaries received legal aid



196
legal consultations were provided

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

In addition to counselling, the representative office organised a number of events to strengthen the capacity of Ukrainians seeking protection in Poland.

October

- The webinar, Returning Home: Adapting to Life in the Context of Prolonged Armed Aggression.
- The webinar, Starting a Business in Poland: Legal Advice and Psychological Readiness.

November

- The practical workshop, Doing Business in Poland: Accounting for Private Entrepreneurs.
- The practical workshop, Doing Business in Poland: Additional Financing.

December

- The discussion panel, Employment: The Career Path in a New Country.

KEY FIGURES FOR 2023



149
beneficiaries received psychological assistance



50
group counselling sessions were held for 314 participants



413
individual psychological counselling sessions were conducted



5
public events were held



11
employees in the representative office team in December 2023



ADVOCACY

The team carried out advocacy activities aimed at ensuring:

- protection and observance of the rights of persons under temporary protection in Poland in the field of freedom of movement;
- access to the procedure for granting international protection in Poland;
- the legalisation of stay in Poland;
- access of asylum seekers to fundamental rights and services.

Right to Protection Poland is a unique organisation, as the legal and advocacy teams are familiar with the Polish and Ukrainian systems. In addition, due to close cooperation with the Ukrainian office, they could solve legal and advocacy issues other organisations did not take up.

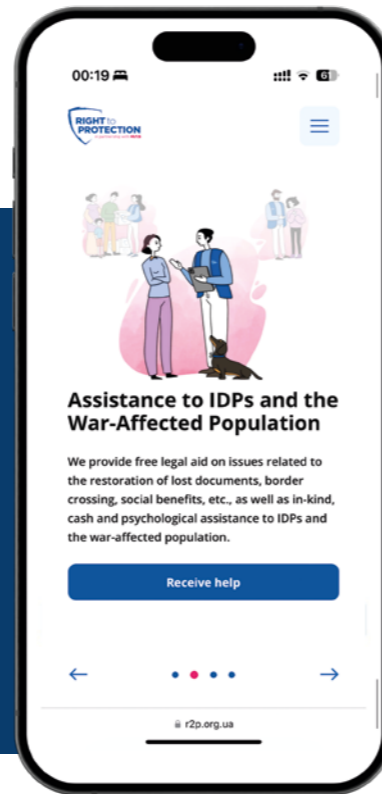
The Foundation's office in Poland constantly communicated with state authorities, such as the Ministry of the Internal Affairs and Administration, the State Social Protection Authorities, the State Migration Service, the State Border Guard Service and other institutions in charge of observing the rights of asylum seekers, as well as NGOs that assisted Ukrainians.

COMMUNICATION RESULTS

The Foundation's new website was launched in August 2023, with a revised and updated structure to make it more user-friendly.

1,730 000
number of users who visited the website

↑ 32%
increase in user engagement through Google search thanks to the website update



RIGHT TO PROTECTION IN THE MEDIA

5,000+ times, R2P was mentioned in the media



TOP MEDIA MENTIONING FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES

- 1 «Ukrainska Pravda»
- 2 «Ukrainian Pravda. Life»
- 3 «Ekonomichna Pravda»
- 4 «Inter»
- 5 «Suspilne»
- 6 «Hromadske»
- 7 «RBC-Ukraine»
- 8 «Radio Liberty»
- 9 «Espresso»
- 10 Other TV channels of the «Ednyi Novyny» national telethon

THE BIGGEST COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS OF 2023

COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST STIGMATISATION OF IDPs

In 2023, the Foundation's communications team conducted two phases of a promotional campaign against IDP stigma.

During the first phase, a video appeal that communicated messages of unification to reduce conflict and tension between IDPs and host hromadas achieved the following results:

3,300,000+ contacts per campaign
1,800,000+ views of the video on YouTube

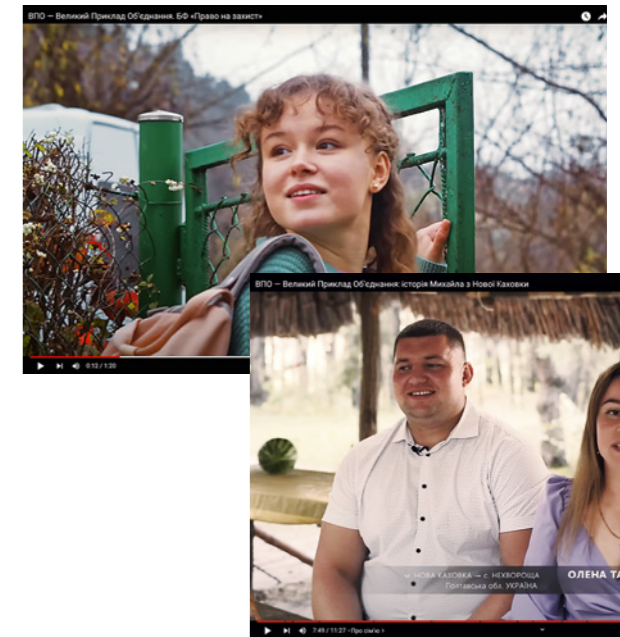
An extensive list of paid tools (YouTube, Meta, Digital TV) and free placements (articles in the media, cooperation with YouTube bloggers, placement in Telegram channels and on TV as social advertising) was used for promotion.

The second phase of this campaign was creating a series of videos about stories of the successful integration of IDPs into new hromadas.

The five video stories achieved the following results:

5,600,000+ contacts during the campaign
2,300,000+ views of the video series on YouTube

To promote the stories of IDPs, paid tools (YouTube, Meta, a special project with the national media outlet Ukrainska Pravda. Life), as well as free publications in the media and on the communication channels of local authorities, were also involved.

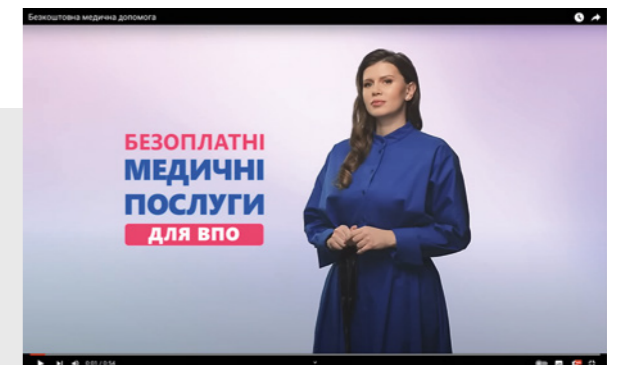


INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE SERVICES FROM THE STATE

To inform the population, in particular internally displaced persons, about the right to access free healthcare from the state, the Foundation created a series of three videos, which resulted in the following:

2,000,000+ contacts with the audience
1,800,000+ views of the video series on YouTube

To promote a series of videos on access to healthcare services, both paid tools (YouTube, Digital TV) and free tools were used (participation in broadcasts on leading Ukrainian TV channels, articles in the media, and posting in Telegram channels).



THE FOUNDATION'S OWN CHANNELS

Number of subscribers

Facebook
30,601
+7,657

Instagram
4,781
+2,466

Twitter
1,271
+127

LinkedIn
946
+493

YouTube
1,875 170
+1,127 video



2023 BUDGET

Partner	Budget, UAH			
	2020	2021	2022	2023
ACTED	6,919,135	10,509,993	62,668,483	121,676,907
Action Against Hunger				650,697
Agro-Industrial Holding «Astarta-Kyiv»			110,973	
AWO International				15,172,188
BHA				8,773,173
CARE				26,834,849
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation				18,231,034
DCA			2,391,711	16,290,059
ECRE			585,426	289,532
ENS		141,600	23,923	
European Commission			5 185 263	6 290 279
FOSI	1,751,963			
GIZ		1,949,218	2,689,979	4,097,867
GOAL			13,010,752	11,358,334
HELPAGE			10,662,644	27,230,056
HIAS	989,540	946,014	46,916,272	125,239,400
HRHF		244,911		
International Renaissance Foundation	243,879			558,807
IOM			47,646	1,903,974
IRC			12,596,174	35,328,499
ISAR Ednannia				553,163
Julia Taft				566,277
Mercy Corps				5,164,217
NED	210,466			
NRC	3,012,123	4,700,827	6,645,162	10,292,559
PEACE WINDS JAPAN			1,479,247	85,059,743
PIN	4,205,927	4,595,219	31,529,891	44,844,158
Save the Children International in Ukraine (SCI)			15,035,712	204,842,003
Schöck-Familien-Stiftung gGmbH				446,616
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs			7,528,350	42,980,809
UCBI	1,006,576	2,200,118		
UHF			12,481,224	3,483,296
UNHCR	51,738,916	53,036,411	279,457,030	463,128,345
USIP	1,084,306	4,665,929	1,565,640	2,420,048
USIF	312,953	1,109,338		
Others			65,625	2,771,532
Total	71,475,784	84,099,578	512,611,502	1,286,478,420



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RIGHT TO PROTECTION



r2p.org.ua



right2protection



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R2Protection

