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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	Humanitarian situation in Ukraine - presentation by Hungarian Interchurch Aid

Following the meeting of the Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA) of 14-15 October 2024, delegations will find in Annex the presentation made by the Hungarian Interchurch Aid¹².

¹ Hungarian Interchurch Aid, identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 792363292741-49.

² This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.



HUNGARIAN
INTERCHURCH AID

actalliance

THE HUMANITARIAN IMPACT OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE

Addressing critical needs & challenges

Barnabás Szatmári



About Hungarian Interchurch Aid

- FBO founded in **1991**
- One of the **largest, internationally recognized aid organizations in Hungary**
- Humanitarian and development work in **over 50 countries**
- **Active presence in Ukraine since 1998**
- Meeting the **highest quality standards** (ECHO FPA, OCHA country pool funds, long-term partnership with GIZ)



Persisting needs & challenges

- Structural level challenges include **destruction of infrastructure & energy systems** but also the **disruption of social service networks**
- Personal & household level **protection** is of primary concern among **at-risk populations**:
 - **Women** are under immense physical and psychological pressure
 - **Elderly** population are lacking most forms of support
 - Mental health and development of **children and youth** are severely affected.
 - **Ex-combatants** and their rehabilitation and reintegration remains a pressing issue.
- *International humanitarian response and its broader implications*: to improve aid effectiveness, **collaboration with national and local authorities** is to be strengthened, ensuring that aid aligns with local needs and capacities.



HIA's recommendations

Address **challenges** based on the **humanitarian needs** to **enhance resilience** of affected populations. Besides **material support**, the recommendations focus on **protection**, support for displaced persons and **community** revitalization.





Material aid & infrastructure rehabilitation

The war has severely **damaged infrastructure** essential for daily life.

Rehabilitating water networks and basic infrastructure, supporting service providers will ensure access to clean water and other basic services, thereby **improving living conditions** for affected populations.



Strengthening protection & social services (I.)

- Reinforcement & expansion of **frontline protection services** adequate to cover emergency needs
- Addressing **gaps in social worker availability**
- Strengthening and **improving the existing Ukrainian social protection systems**, training professionals, and adopting a **regional and grassroots-level approach** are essential.
- Support the **socialization of children and youth**
- **Ex-combatants** face significant challenges when transitioning back into civilian life, requiring **specialized support to ensure a successful reintegration**. While there are existing rehabilitation initiatives, effective integration into society is equally crucial.



Strengthening protection & social services (II.)

- **Strengthening host communities** is essential for providing the necessary **support to IDPs**, enhancing their integration & promoting stability in affected regions.
- **Cross-border solutions** are needed as vulnerable groups of Ukrainian refugees face similar challenges abroad
- **Best practices from neighboring countries** can be adapted



Harmonizing best practices with the Ukrainian context
and integrating EU methodologies
– **including the capacity building of social service providers** –
will not only address the immediate humanitarian needs
but also contribute to
long-term societal resilience & positive social transformation.



**YOUR QUESTIONS
ARE MOST
WELCOME.**

Thank you for your attention!

