



We go where the children are

KIND's response to the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis

More than 6.4 million* people have fled Ukraine since Russia launched its unprovoked invasion of the country on February 24, 2022. Today, with more than a quarter of the country's pre-war population seeking safety and protection elsewhere, we are witnessing the fastest growing refugee crisis since World War II.

At KIND, we know that children are disproportionately affected by this kind of devastating conflict and large-scale displacement. As such, we are working to leverage our child protection expertise to support the more than 2 million children who have fled Ukraine, many of whom traveled unaccompanied.

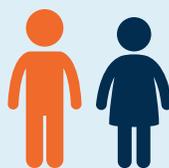
In the weeks that followed the start of the conflict, KIND worked to identify the best ways to apply our knowledge and resources. In March, we traveled to border crossings in Poland, Slovakia, and Romania — the countries that received the largest number of Ukrainian refugees. We conducted a needs assessment and developed a tailored approach to the ongoing crisis. We visited four reception centers and met with NGOs and state officials to discover where we could fill gaps in service.

**UNHCR estimate, May 2022*

Fleeing Ukraine in Search of Safety



More than 2 million children have left Ukraine since the start of the war



Approximately 30 to 40% of children arriving in neighboring countries are under the age of 14



More than 500 unaccompanied children were identified crossing from Ukraine into Romania in the first month of the conflict



KIND is uniquely suited to respond to the refugee crisis in Ukraine.

KIND's needs assessment enabled us to identify challenges that are sure to threaten the long-term safety and well-being of refugee children from Ukraine:

- Countries receiving child refugees have limited capacity to adequately and appropriately respond to the influx.
- There is no coordinated E.U. effort to monitor the well-being or respond to the needs of unaccompanied and separated children — many of whom face greater risks of trafficking, exploitation, and long-term family separation.
- Without a parent or legal guardian, refugee children have little to no means to navigate the legal processes necessary to safely relocate and seek protection in E.U. member countries.
- Legal safety nets meant to protect migrating Ukrainian children exclude non-Ukrainian and stateless children, leaving them especially vulnerable.

KIND needs to secure significant financial investments to address the rapidly accelerating Ukrainian refugee crisis.

With more than a decade of experience protecting unaccompanied and separated children, and by way of our strong presence and partnerships in Europe, KIND is uniquely suited to respond to these challenges.

In order to effectively address the rapidly accelerating Ukrainian refugee crisis, we need to secure substantial financial investments in the next few months. These resources will be used to hire and deploy staff on the ground, establish long-term positions for policy advocates, and fund the critical work of our partners throughout the E.U.



KIND in Europe

In 2014, at the request of peer organizations and local partners in the United Kingdom, we established KIND UK. We developed a pro bono network based on our U.S. model that was designed to better support immigrant children and youth in the UK. Since then, we've expanded our reach and strengthened our collaborations to support child protection programming in Ireland, Greece, Italy, and France. We work in partnership with — and provide funding and technical assistance to — 11 local NGOs.

With your support, we will maintain our strong presence in Europe and continue to build capacity to serve children throughout Europe and the UK.

KIND is devoted to Ukrainian Children

KIND Will Work to Address the Ukraine Child Refugee Crisis by:

Providing Child-Centered Rights Information and Assisting with National Registration

KIND proposes to help register unaccompanied and separated children in EU states so that they are tracked in national databases and have a better chance at receiving critical legal, social, and psychosocial support.

Preventing Family Separation and Promoting Family Reunification Through On-the-Ground Efforts

KIND will increase our presence in the region, deploying experienced child protection staff where to train volunteers, NGOs, and frontline government actors to address the factors that place children at risk of separation from their families. We will also help identify children traveling alone or with relatives who are not legally responsible for them, and direct vulnerable children to legal-assistance providers.

Providing Access to High-Quality Legal Information, Assistance, and Representation in Partnership with the E.U.'s Private Sector

KIND will replicate our proven model in the E.U., and provide free access to high-quality legal information, assistance, and representation in partnership with the E.U.'s private sector. We will also create and circulate child-friendly and accessible materials, conduct Know Your Rights presentations, and use digital tools to increase outreach.

Training and Building the Capacity of Local NGO Partners and Government Agencies

KIND will train and guide frontline actors in the E.U., who expressed a need for more child-centered training and technical assistance, so that they can readily identify vulnerable, migrating children, and then help those children access protection and exercise their rights.

Undertaking Advocacy Efforts to Promote Protection in the E.U.

KIND will leverage our advocacy experience and relationships with policymakers to promote more robust protection policies in the E.U. and its member states, while highlighting the unique needs of migrating non-Ukrainian and stateless children. Our advocacy will also stress the importance of child-safeguarding actions and raise awareness of the risks of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse.

As we continue to experience one of the largest refugee crises in modern history, KIND remains devoted to our mission and to the more than 2 million children from Ukraine who now require immediate protection. Your support will help us meet their needs swiftly, with thoughtfulness and compassion, and with a sustained commitment that will ensure a future of safety and security.

For more information and to make a donation to the Ukrainian Child Refugee Fund, click [here](#).



With your generous support, KIND will be able to help Ukrainian children.

Thank you for your investments in our efforts to reunite families!

KIND is the preeminent U.S.-based nongovernmental organization devoted to the protection of unaccompanied and separated children. KIND envisions a world in which every unaccompanied child on the move has access to legal counsel and has their rights and well-being protected as they migrate alone in search of safety.

For more information on KIND's work, and other programs to protect the rights of children, visit SupportKIND.org.