



Ukraine Crisis Update WHO - UNHCR - OCHA 18 March 2022

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Shotlist

STORY: Ukraine Crisis Update – WHO, UNHCR, OCHA

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SOURCE: UNTV CH

RESTRICTIONS: NONE

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

ASPECT RATIO: 16:9

DATELINE: 18 March 2022 GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

SHOTLIST

1. Exterior wide shot, UN flag alley UN Geneva.
2. Wide shot, Press room, UN Geneva, podium speakers and masked participants, seated.
3. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH), Dr Jarno Habicht, representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Ukraine, via Zoom from Lviv: “What happened in Lviv this morning, is nothing new, just as it was in other parts of the country, but it’s a strong reminder that this country is in war**

and the medical needs are increasing.”

4. Close-up, TV screen showing speakers in foreground, TV lighting and masked participant wearing headphones to rear.
5. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH), Dr Jarno Habicht, representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Ukraine, via Zoom from Lviv: “On deliveries, we have up to 100 metric tonnes made available for Ukraine. From there, at least one-third is already on their way to the health care facilities, as well as some of them in the facilities available as in Kyiv.”**
6. Medium shot, journalists following proceedings.
7. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Matthew Saltmarsh, spokesperson, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): “The humanitarian situation in cities such as Mariupol and Sumy is extremely dire, with residents facing critical and potentially fatal shortages of food, water and medicine.”**
8. Medium shot, TV screen showing Dr Habicht in foreground with podium speaker to rear.
9. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Matthew Saltmarsh, spokesperson, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): “The humanitarian needs within the country and particularly in the east are becoming even more urgent. More than 200,000 people are now without access to water across several localities in Donetsk oblast, while the constant shelling in Luhansk region has destroyed 80 per cent of some localities, leaving 97,800 families without power.”**
10. Wide shot, UN Geneva press room.
11. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Matthew Saltmarsh, spokesperson, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): “They don’t have a plan when they arrive, so many of those in the first phase might have had friends, diaspora networks, contacts, a relative to whom they could go and stay with initially and then make a plan from there. That’s been less the case recently.”**
12. Medium shot, masked participants following the press conference.
13. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jens Laerke, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA): “We need these two sides of the armed conflict to agree with each other a mechanism of the modalities, standard operating procedures into actually minute detail how such safe passages - either for movement of humanitarian supplies, or on the other hand, for evacuation of civilians - how that can be established.”**
14. Medium shot, photographer crouches to take a photo of podium speakers.
15. Medium shot, TV screen showing participants and TV lighting panel to rear.
16. Medium shot, masked participant with headphones.

Story

After a missile attack near the airport in Lviv in western Ukraine early on Friday, UN humanitarian warned that the situation across the country remains dire, following Russia's invasion of its neighbour on 24 February.

“What happened in Lviv this morning, is nothing new, just as it was in other parts of the country, but it's a strong reminder that this country is in war and the medical needs are increasing,” said Dr Jarno Habicht, representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Ukraine.

Now in its fourth week, the war in Ukraine has seen 44 attacks on health care throughout the country, including on buildings and a warehouse, patients, staff and supply chains, resulting in 12 confirmed deaths, according to WHO [data](#).

Despite the dangers, the UN and its partners have continued to push for humanitarian access.

“On deliveries, we have up to 100 metric tonnes made available for Ukraine,” Dr Habicht said, speaking from Lviv, adding that “at least one-third” had been dispatched to health care facilities, including in the capital Kyiv.

Underscoring the deadly danger to civilians unable to escape Russian bombardment, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) described the situation in cities such as Mariupol and Sumy as “extremely dire, with residents facing critical and potentially fatal shortages of food, water and medicine”.

That assessment followed the bombing of a theatre in Mariupol on Wednesday, targeted despite clearly visible lettering daubed on the ground outside the building, indicating that “Children” were sheltering inside.

In the country's eastern regions, or oblasts, needs “are becoming even more urgent”, said UNHCR spokesperson Matthew Saltmarsh. “More than 200,000 people are now without access to water across several localities in Donetsk oblast, while the constant shelling in Luhansk region has destroyed 80 per cent of some localities, leaving 97,800 families without power.”

In Odessa, UNHCR reported that the authorities have appealed for support for general food assistance to cover the needs of 450,000 people in the city, as well as medicine.

“As of 17 March, a permanent consultation point for protection, legal, and social matters is functioning at the Odessa railway station where 600 to 800 individuals transit daily on their way from Mykolaiv to the western oblasts of Ukraine,” the UN agency reported.

According to [UNHCR](#), more than 3.2 million people have now fled Ukraine, and millions more are internally displaced, some of the 13 million hardest-hit by the war.

Those who have left Ukraine have found shelter in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Moldova, Russia and to a much lesser extent, Belarus. Ninety per cent are women and children and 162,000 are third-country nationals.

“They don't have a plan when they arrive,” said Mr. Saltmarsh. “So many of those in the first phase might have had friends, diaspora networks, contacts, a relative to whom they could go and stay with initially and then make a plan from there. That's been less the case recently.”

To counter the risk of exploitation of these vulnerable new arrivals, UNHCR and UNICEF have set up safe spaces known as “Blue Dots” in six countries: Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

These facilities are “one-stop-shops, and safe spaces which provide a minimum set of protection services for children, families and others with specific needs, in support of existing services and government efforts,” UNHCR explained.

Also providing help to victims of the conflict, UN migration agency IOM said that last year it identified and assisted over 1,000 victims of trafficking.

IOM spokesperson Paul Dillon added that a telephone hotline that the agency set up in the last nine days has so far received more than 10,000 phone calls, more than half of which were related to trafficking concerns.

“We’re working with our many partners on the ground to ensure that these protective messages and these efforts that are being made at the border to inform people are then structured in a coherent manner, not just for the people who are coming across the borders, but for border guards and for volunteers working at these border points in reception centres and indeed for IOM staff on the ground.”

With a solid agreement on continued and safe humanitarian access still proving elusive, Jens Laerke from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) urged both sides to the armed conflict “to agree with each other a mechanism of the modalities, standard operating procedures into actually minute detail how such safe passages - either for movement of humanitarian supplies, or on the other hand, for evacuation of civilians - how that can be established”.

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