

War in Ukraine

The German Buddhist Union is shocked and deeply concerned about the war in Ukraine. Wars of all kinds cause severe suffering for all those affected and involved around the world and cause suffering across future generations and borders.

We sincerely wish for an end of hostilities and a peaceful solution to the political and humanitarian crisis as soon as possible. The need for peace and the rejection of violence is powerful and strong; this is proven by the manifold peace demonstrations around the world, the protests within Russia and cross-national solidarity.

We want to encourage global efforts to work against all violent actions and the fundamental hatred. As Buddhists, we feel especially committed to the practice of wisdom (awareness) and empathy, in these times. It is important not to contribute to aggression ourselves, but to give our care non-discriminately of origin, to offer our active help and to nourish connectedness with all.

We thank all the individual members and (member) communities who have organized peace meditations, demonstrations, donations of money and goods, and refuge assistance in the past weeks.

We ask you to spread the word about your peace efforts, aid projects and solidarity offers and to contribute to a network of active (awareness/empathy). Simply send your information / links to info@dbu-brg.org; these will then be published on the DBU homepage and via the DBU newsletter.

For all those who still want to support or get involved, here is a first selection of Buddhist and nationwide support opportunities:

From Buddhist Friends:

- Mitgefühl in Aktion e.V.: Donations for direct emergency aid in the crisis area <https://www.mia.eu.com/>
- Karma Dechen Chöling - Warsaw Buddhist Center: Reception and care for Buddhists from Ukraine and Belarus <https://karmadechencholing.eu/>
- Mahakaruna: help for war-wounded, refugee children and young people from Ukraine <https://www.aktion-mahakaruna.de/>
- Feel free to send us your actions and offers

Coordination for help in accommodation

- <https://www.unterkunft-ukraine.de/> (offering accommodation) as well as
 - <https://www.host4ukraine.com/>
- <https://warmes-bett.de/>: also a platform to offer and search for accommodation, apparently Germany-wide

Help for Queer People

- <http://www.quarteera.de/>
- <https://www.lsvd.de/de/ct/6666-Queere-Nothilfe-Ukraine-Jetzt-LSBTIQ-Menschen-Schutz-gewaehren-und-spenden>

Help for People of Color

- <https://mission-lifeline.de/ukraine>

Collection of possibilities for (monetary) donations

ion medeor	Medication relief organization, "emergency pharmacy of the world": supporting supplies for medical facilities
German Red Cross	Supports its sister organization, the Ukrainian Red Cross (URC).
Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe	Distributes food and hygiene items to refugees within Ukraine, with its partner organization Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HiA).
IsraAID Germany e.V.	Together with the Central Welfare Office of Jews in Germany (ZWST), IsraAID Germany e.V. provides much-needed psychosocial support in Ukraine for communities affected by the armed conflict. Many survivors of the Shoa live in Ukraine. IsraAID supports the affected communities in eastern Ukraine as well as the Jewish community of internally displaced persons in Kiev, in coping with the conflict.
Razom for Ukraine	This Ukrainian-U.S. organization was founded in 2014 to help build Ukraine as a young democracy. It has compiled diverse ways to help.
United Help Ukraine	The Ukrainian-US organization supports people on the ground, such as internally displaced persons, for example with medicine.
Vostok SOS	The Ukrainian organization collects donations for the civilian population of eastern Ukraine and for internally displaced persons.

“Our world has become so interdependent that violent conflict between two countries inevitably impacts the rest of the world. War is out-dated – non-violence is the only way. We need to develop a sense of the oneness of humanity by considering other human beings as brothers and sisters. This is how we will build a more peaceful world. “

Dalai Lama; On February 28, 2022