

### OUR RESPONSE

Airlink has activated its Europe Regional Response Plan following the recent invasion and escalation of conflict in Ukraine. We are now supporting passenger and cargo movements for organizations that have been requested by local partners. Please reach out to [ops@airlinkflight.org](mailto:ops@airlinkflight.org) if your organization is planning to respond and/or has a request for transportation assistance.

### THE SITUATION

- At least 376 civilian casualties have been confirmed in Ukraine, including 94 deaths, by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- At least 500,000 people fled from Ukraine to Poland, Hungary, Romania, Moldova, and other countries (UNHCR).
- Some estimates project that at least one million, and up to 5 million people might be displaced as a result of the crisis.

**Humanitarian Needs:** Identified priority needs are medical supplies, including trauma-related equipment and wound care; and protection of populations in Ukraine and displaced persons in nearby countries. Additional needs include water, sanitation and hygiene supplies; social protection, elder care, and psychosocial services. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers published a needs list which can be found [here](#).

#### **Personnel Movement:**

**Hungary:** Airline passengers traveling from outside of the European Union or the Schengen Area can enter Hungary with a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of arrival.

**Poland:** The Polish government requires all people traveling from outside of the European Union to present a negative COVID-19 test upon arrival. The test must not be older than 24 hours and can be done at some Polish airports before border check or 3 hours after arrival.

#### **Cargo Movement (Customs Clearance):**

**Hungary:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade confirmed that humanitarian cargo can be moved into Ukraine, but there must be a bilingual donation letter and admission statement for the cargo to move tax and/or duty free. The documents must be provided to Hungarian customs alongside a Commercial Invoice (with cargo's free market value), a Letter of Donation, copy of the Airway Bill, and the official plan for use and distribution.

**Poland:** Logistics partners have advised that warehousing capacity in the Katowice area of Poland should be utilized. Humanitarian aid must be registered through the Polish government's coordination site [here](#). Shipments of medicines, food items, medical supplies and other health-related commodities are tax and duties exempt for humanitarian organizations registered in Poland. Items being accepted for humanitarian aid include: thermal blankets, shelter items, water, sanitation and hygiene products, first aid kits, and solar lights.

- Challenges include identifying available warehouse space due to the sheer number of organizations trying to provide cargo support. Land transportation via trucking is currently limited due to a shortage of drivers willing to take cargo into Ukraine.

**Air Transportation:** The closest airports are Bucharest (OTP), Krakow (KRK), and Warsaw (WAW).

### SERVICE DELIVERY

#### **Personnel Flights**

Round-trip passenger flights to Warsaw (WAW), Krakow (KRK), and Bucharest (OTP).

#### **Cargo Support**

Airlink is supporting the humanitarian community through identifying flight options into the region. Due to Ukraine's closed airspace, options will include destinations in neighboring countries. We will continue to monitor other destinations supported by our network.

**Overland Access:** The situation remains unstable due to continuing hostilities but it is likely that a “green corridor” into Western Ukraine will need to be implemented for humanitarian aid access. The biggest challenge for aid organizations will be moving supplies in Ukraine, but there are reports that Ukrainian authorities have suspended usual import procedures. Access from Moldova is pending additional information from partners. With borders being temporarily shut, overland access will likely need to be in the form of agreement with Ukraine or include delivery to borders for further passage into the country.

## RESPONDING PARTNER AGENCIES

### Active NGOs:

- ADRA International
- Afya Foundation
- Americares
- Assist International
- Convoy of Hope
- CORE
- Empact Northwest
- Global Empowerment Mission
- International Medical Corps
- International Health Partners
- IsraAID
- MedWish International
- Operation USA
- Project C.U.R.E.
- Project HOPE
- Save the Children
- World Central Kitchen