

# February

## STAR: Students Together Assisting Refugees

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### RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

#### Brief Overview:

On Thursday, February 24, Russia invaded Ukraine. The invasion occurred following months of Russian troop build-up near the Ukrainian border per Vladimir Putin's orders. Dawn of February 24, Putin announced his "special military operation" [1] to seek "demilitarization and denazification" of Ukraine. Russian attacks on multiple Ukrainian cities such as Kharkiv and Kyiv followed. Ukraine's resistance continues against the heavy airstrikes. As of March 1, Russia had launched 400 missiles. President Biden declared the attack "unprovoked and unjustified", joining European allies to issue economic sanctions against Russia [2].

For live updates: [CNN Updates](#)

#### Brief History:

Ukraine and Russia were both parts of the USSR or the Soviet Union. After the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991, Ukraine became an independent nation on August 24, 1991. In the past 30 years, Ukraine has been a democratic nation, led by seven presidents. Putin claims that Ukraine is a country on Russian land, stating "Ukraine actually never had stable traditions of real statehood." Previously in 2014, Russia invaded and annexed the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine [3]. NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a defensive alliance of 30 countries across Europe and North America, also has a role. At the end of 2021, US and NATO rejected Putin's demands of NATO stopping eastward expansion, denying Ukraine membership, and decreasing troop deployment in countries that joined post-1997 [4].

#### Click to Learn More:

1. [Vox Explained](#)
2. [NY Times-Russia-Ukraine](#)



# Ukrainian People

According to the UN:  
as of March 7, 2022



EU believes that the number of refugees can increase to 7 million



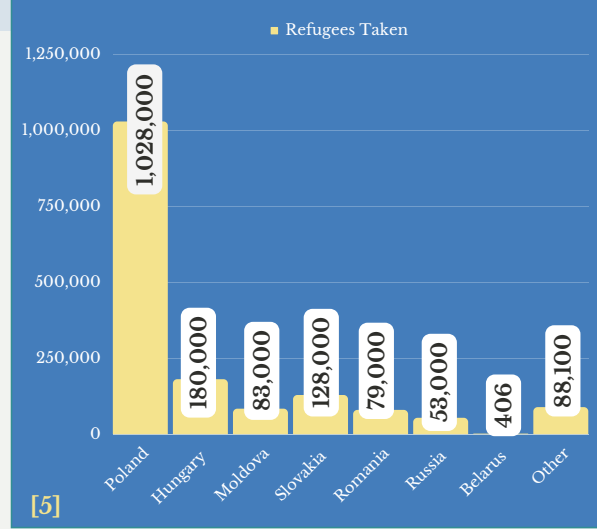
\*The number is believed to be much higher



Refugees living in an athletic center in Moldova [5]



Women and children line at the Lviv train station to Poland [5]



Ukrainians walking to Moldova at the Mayaky-Udobne border [5]



Ukrainian refugees beneath a destroyed bridge in Kyiv [10]

**"FASTEST-GROWING REFUGEE CRISIS IN EUROPE SINCE WORLD WAR TWO" [7]**  
-UN High Commissioner for Refugees

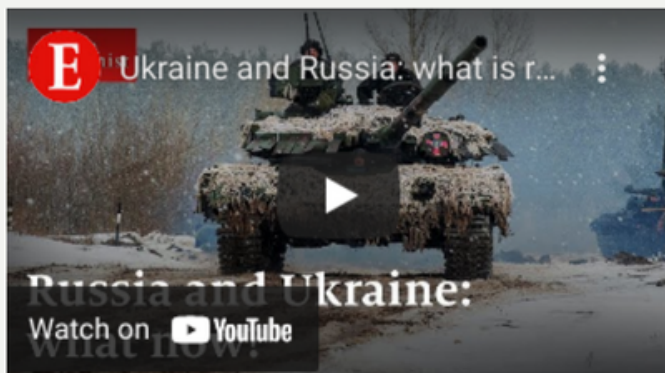
## How To Help\*:

Click name to learn more

1. **Americares:** Providing medicine, medical supplies, emergency funding, and medical professionals to families in need
2. **Global Giving:** Providing clean water, food, and shelter to refugees in Ukraine and countries that have accepted refugees
3. **Hope for Ukraine:** Helping Ukraine citizens obtain basic necessities
4. **Project Hope:** Providing medicine, supplies, and aid to Ukrainian refugees in need
5. **Save the Children:** Providing essential humanitarian aid such as food, blankets, and masks
6. **UNICEF USA:** Providing on-ground assistance to Ukrainian children and providing water, health care, nutrition, and protection
7. **World Help:** Providing food, water, and other necessities. It notes that \$35 is needed for a week of food and water per refugee

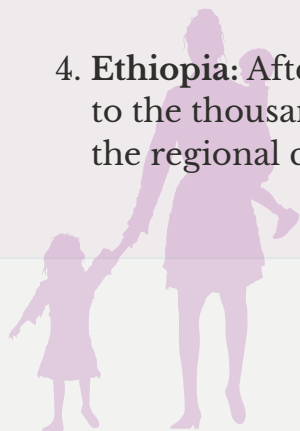
\*These are only a few organizations not all.

## VIDEO & AUDIO



## FEBRUARY UPDATE

1. **Ukraine:** Read above or on the [website](#)
2. **IDPs within Mynamar:** Since a military takeover in February of 2021, the number of internally displaced people within Myanmar has increased by 440,000 and has reached 800,000. People from Kayah, Kayin, and the Chin States make up a majority of the 440,000 displaced people due to armed conflict. UNHCR is increasing its emergency response [8].
3. **Horn of Africa Drought:** 13 million people spread across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia are impacted by the drought in the Horn of Africa. Thousands of people are leaving their homes to search for food and water. The UN is stepping in with \$4.4 billion to aid 29 million affected [9].
4. **Ethiopia:** After an attack on the Barahle refugee camp, the UN is working to deliver aid to the thousands of Eritrean refugees who fled. 4,000 of these refugees have made it to the regional capital of Semera and another 10,000 have fled to the Afdera town [8].





## SOURCES

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