

UKRAINE



Sumy. The ICRC meets with families of missing people and of people detained/interned in connection with the international armed conflict to hear their concerns, provide information on services available to them and get their feedback on how it can further help alleviate their plight.

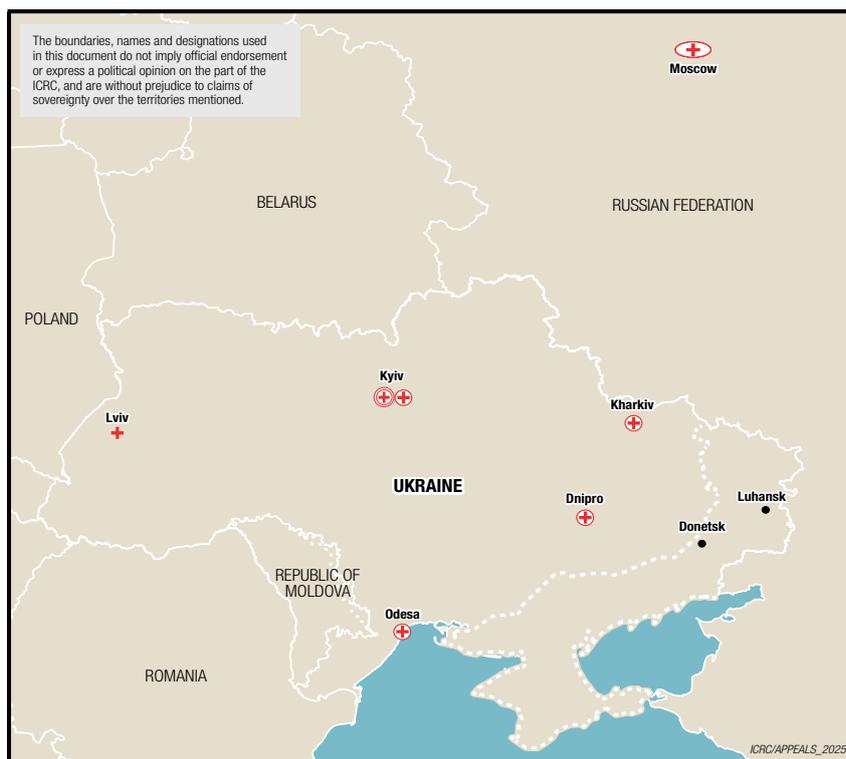
Having worked in the country since 1993, the ICRC expanded its presence in Ukraine in 2014 and again in 2022. It delivers humanitarian assistance to people affected by armed conflict; promotes the protection of civilians, POWs and other people protected under IHL; urges compliance with IHL; and acts as a neutral intermediary. Its multidisciplinary response addresses emergency and longer-term needs, providing relief, supporting livelihoods, and improving access to essential services. It helps restore family links and clarify the fate of missing people and supports their families. It works in cooperation with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and other Movement components.

BUDGET IN KCHF

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Protection | 24,213 |
| Essential services | 140,153 |
| Prevention | 9,542 |
| Cooperation with National Societies | 19,215 |
| General | 417 |
| TOTAL | 193,540 |
| <i>Of which: Overheads</i> | <i>11,812</i> |

PERSONNEL

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Mobile staff | 187 |
| Resident staff | 756 |



ICRC regional delegation
 ICRC delegation
 ICRC sub-delegation
 ICRC office/presence

• The ICRC has activities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES TARGETS

CIVILIANS

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Food consumption
67,000 people

Food production
14,688 people

Income support
12,838 people

Living conditions
194,901 people

WATER AND HABITAT

Water and habitat activities
2,520,310 people

HEALTH

Health centres supported
24 structures

WOUNDED AND SICK

MEDICAL CARE

Hospitals supported
71 structures

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

Projects supported
16 projects

WATER AND HABITAT

Water and habitat activities
13 structures

SITUATION

- ▶ The international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine continues, characterized by intensified attacks and increased shelling in several regions. Both sides have captured soldiers and detained/interned civilians.
- ▶ People fleeing violence have been displaced within Ukraine or have crossed into neighbouring countries. According to UN estimates, roughly 3.5 million people are displaced within Ukraine, and around 6.2 million Ukrainian refugees have been registered throughout Europe (see *Moscow* and *Warsaw*, for example).

HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS

- ▶ The consequences of the international armed conflict have been devastating, characterized by injuries and deaths among civilians; massive displacement; destruction of homes and cities; and people going missing or being captured and detained/interned. Critical infrastructure and public utilities have been heavily damaged. Millions of people lack reliable access to water, heating and electricity and have had to face the winter under these circumstances. The disruption of essential services has also affected the proper functioning of hospitals, educational facilities and other critical institutions. Frequent attacks on energy facilities have caused extended power cuts throughout the country. People's livelihoods have been disrupted, and food and other basic goods are unavailable or difficult to obtain. Having left all their belongings behind, IDPs often have poor living conditions or cannot afford to buy essentials or seek medical treatment. Obtaining necessities and basic services is particularly difficult for older people, people with physical disabilities, and others with specific vulnerabilities. Moving across front lines – for instance, to reunite with relatives – is extremely dangerous and nearly impossible.
- ▶ Mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) are widely scattered, posing an ongoing threat to people's lives. They also make it difficult for people to return to their homes safely or access agricultural land. These hazards are likely to extend long into the future.
- ▶ The hostilities have severely impaired the health system in Ukraine. Staffing shortages – due to the precarious security situation and massive population displacement – combined with a lack of medical supplies and specialized equipment further cripple the system. The limited availability of health services puts the wounded, the chronically ill and others in need of timely medical attention at heightened risk. The influx of weapon-wounded people has overwhelmed health services and driven up the demand for immediate and long-term care, particularly in physical rehabilitation.
- ▶ The number of people reported missing continues to increase: the ICRC is searching for over 40,000 people who are still considered missing in connection with the international armed conflict. Thousands of family members have been separated and lost contact with one another because of the international armed conflict, particularly owing to displacement, disappearances, loss of life on the battlefield or detention/internment. The unstable security situation hampers efforts to properly recover and identify human remains, while forensic services are stretched thin owing to limited resources and increased fatalities.

ICRC OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

In 2025, the ICRC's main priorities in this context will be to:

- ▶ intensify efforts to increase respect for IHL and other applicable law among the parties to the international armed conflict, urging them to ensure protection for civilians, POWs, medical workers and others; seek to expand opportunities for the ICRC to carry out its role as a neutral intermediary and to increase support for its humanitarian action;
- ▶ streamline efforts to prevent the disruption of water, power, education and other basic services, while seeking to implement resilience-building projects; help people meet their urgent needs, become more self-sufficient and mitigate their exposure to mines/ERW; focus on helping people in front-line areas and whose needs are not met by other actors;
- ▶ sustain support for all stages of emergency care to ensure people's access to timely and life-saving health services
- ▶ strengthen engagement with the pertinent authorities – and support for bolstering their forensic capacities – missing people's families and other stakeholders, and coordination with other ICRC delegations and pertinent National Societies to ensure that people protected under IHL are accounted for and families receive news of their loved ones;
- ▶ bolster efforts to gain unimpeded and repeated access to POWs, civilian internees and others held in connection with the international armed conflict, and to help them restore contact with their families and obtain health services; help the authorities to treat people in their custody in line with IHL and other applicable norms; and
- ▶ co-convene the Movement's response to the international armed conflict; continue to support the Ukrainian Red Cross Society in further strengthening its capacities; strengthen coordination with all Movement components in Ukraine.

ICRC ACTION

CIVILIANS

Objective: Civilians are protected; their basic needs are met, and their resilience to the effects of the hostilities, strengthened. Members of families dispersed by conflict can communicate with one another. Missing people's families receive information on the fate and/or whereabouts of their relatives, and their various concerns are addressed.

The ICRC will continue to provide a multidisciplinary response to the humanitarian needs created by the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. As the only international actor physically present in some places, the ICRC will prioritize helping communities in front-line areas, on both sides, and meeting needs not covered by other actors. It will streamline its efforts to increase the effectiveness of its economic-security and water-and-habitat projects, focusing on building resilience while also being prepared to address emergency needs. It will maintain activities to strengthen health services for the wounded, the sick and other particularly vulnerable people. The ICRC will co-convene the Movement's response, working closely together with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society, the International Federation and other Movement components present in Ukraine, with a view to maximizing the impact of their collective effort. Given its limited access to Donetsk and Luhansk, the ICRC will work with local red cross entities, when appropriate, to assist communities there. It will seek to expand its operations to other front-line communities, if and where possible.

Reminding the parties to respect IHL and ensuring protection for civilians

The ICRC will continue its bilateral and confidential dialogue with both parties to the international armed conflict and urge them to fulfil their obligations under IHL and other applicable norms, particularly to ensure protection for people who are not or are no longer participating in hostilities; refrain from using explosive weapons in densely populated areas and impacting water, energy, educational and other civilian infrastructure; prevent people from going missing, notably by reinforcing their process for accounting for people protected under IHL (e.g. POWs and civilian internees); facilitate access to basic services and humanitarian aid; and safeguard the provision of health services. The ICRC will closely monitor the situation of people affected by hostilities – including those who have fled to other countries (see *Moscow* and *Warsaw*) – and will raise their needs and concerns confidentially with the pertinent parties, who will be urged to address these issues. It will offer the authorities its support in addressing all the matters mentioned above.

In its interactions with the parties, the ICRC will explain the nature of its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action, and seek their support for such action, with a view to ensuring its proximity to the people whom it seeks to assist and the safety of its own staff.

The ICRC will continue to include safer access to education for children in its programming, which may include, for example, the renovation of schools damaged by the fighting, provision of school kits and mine-risk education for children.

The ICRC will continue to operate a community contact centre – managing enquiries from a hotline, mobile messaging applications and other platforms – to connect with people affected by hostilities and to listen, and thus more fully understand and address, their needs and concerns. It will also answer questions on its activities and the services available to them, and communicate potentially useful information (e.g. how to preserve family links or minimize exposure to mines/ERW).

Helping people to receive news of loved ones

The ICRC delegation in Ukraine will continue to work closely with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society; ICRC delegations and National Societies in surrounding countries; the Central Tracing Agency (CTA) bureau for the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine (see *Central Tracing Agency bureau for the international armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine*); and the national information bureau (NIB) and other pertinent agencies in Ukraine. Through those efforts, the ICRC will help the authorities account for people protected under IHL (see also below); clarify the fate and/or whereabouts of missing persons; restore contact among members of dispersed families; and thus enable people to get news of their loved ones, including POWs and civilian internees (see *People deprived of their liberty*). It will carry out these activities in accordance with applicable data-protection standards and will urge the authorities, whenever possible, to ensure that domestic law recognizes the exclusively humanitarian purpose of handling personal data to provide people news of their relatives.

The ICRC will continue to raise awareness of the issue of missing people and the plight of their families among the parties, and will continue to strengthen capacities among those involved in the search for missing people. It will also help the relevant national mechanisms – the NIB, the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War and the Commissioner for Missing Persons – and other authorities to coordinate their efforts to resolve missing-persons cases. In order to help account for people protected under IHL and to prevent disappearances, it will continue working with the NIB and other pertinent authorities so that they share relevant information on POWs, civilian internees and others with the CTA bureau. The ICRC will stay in touch with missing people's families, inform them of the services available to them, and continue to engage with them on potential avenues to search for their relatives. It will also continue to help missing people's families to meet their psychosocial, financial and other needs.

The ICRC will continue to help build forensic capacities in managing and identifying human remains, to help ascertain the fate and/or whereabouts of missing people and bring news to their families. It will continue to offer to act as a neutral observer in searching for and recovering human remains of dead soldiers and in repatriating the remains to their countries of origin. It will promote the importance of upholding obligations, under IHL, towards the dead and the missing, and their families, and will offer the pertinent authorities material or technical assistance to these ends. It will also encourage the authorities to strengthen medico-legal frameworks, with a view to resolving more missing-persons cases and preventing disappearances. It will coordinate with other relevant actors to avoid duplication of effort.

With the agreement of both parties, and on strictly humanitarian grounds, the ICRC will act as a neutral intermediary in facilitating safe passage for particularly vulnerable civilians and in transferring official documents across borders. Its aim is to help these people to return to their countries of origin. It will pay particular attention to separated and unaccompanied children, older people and people with physical disabilities or other medical conditions, and – circumstances permitting – help them rejoin their families.

Responding to the urgent needs of people affected by the international armed conflict

The ICRC will continue to help people meet their immediate needs and build their resilience to the effects of the hostilities. It will streamline most of its activities and focus on maximizing their impact, particularly by strengthening the delivery of cash assistance. It will give families the support necessary to get through the winter. It will support food production and initiatives to help particularly vulnerable households – including those from which people have gone missing – preserve or increase their income and meet the various demands on their financial resources (e.g. household expenses, school fees, funeral costs, medical bills). It will continue to support schools and other public institutions serving people and communities affected by hostilities. Whenever possible, it will carry out these activities with the National Society and local red cross entities.

Health facilities near front lines will receive comprehensive support from the ICRC, enabling people affected by hostilities to obtain suitable medical attention, from primary health care to referrals for secondary care. The ICRC will endeavour to address the mental-health and psychosocial needs of people affected by hostilities, such as missing people's families and people formerly deprived of their liberty. It will help community workers, National Society volunteers and health personnel to develop their capacities in providing mental-health and psychosocial care, instructing others in doing so or practising self-care themselves.

The ICRC will continue to provide support for public utilities and local service providers, in order to limit disruptions of access to clean water, electricity and other critical services; whenever possible, it will implement projects to build the resilience of such services to the effects of conflict and will help service providers develop climate-resilient initiatives. It will also continue to assist in repairing houses damaged by the fighting to help people protect themselves from the elements and have dignified living conditions. It will repair or renovate public infrastructure, including forensic and medico-legal facilities, to ensure that they are functioning and properly maintained.

Risk education conducted by the National Society, local red cross entities or others – with ICRC support – will seek to enable people living in or passing through weapon-contaminated areas to protect themselves more effectively against mines/ERW. The ICRC will continue to help expand capacities among those involved in surveying, marking and clearing areas contaminated by mines/ERW, and among those involved in dealing with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazards. It will conduct safety briefings for its staff

and National Society volunteers to ensure that humanitarian activities are conducted safely for aid workers as well as for people affected by hostilities. The ICRC will also seek to support the authorities in implementing different IHL treaties on the use of weapons (see *Actors of influence*).

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND RESPECT FOR THE LAW

- P** monitor the humanitarian consequences of the conduct of hostilities, particularly for civilians and others protected under IHL; document their needs, protection-related concerns and allegations of IHL violations
 - discuss these matters with the parties concerned – through bilateral and confidential dialogue, oral and written representations and other avenues – and support their efforts to address issues and end or prevent their occurrence
 - emphasize to the parties, and their respective armed forces, the necessity of upholding their IHL obligations, such as ensuring protection for civilians – including displaced people, returnees, children and older people – and civilian infrastructure, and facilitating access to water, health care, power, education and other basic services
- P** serve as a neutral intermediary in facilitating safe passage across borders for civilians, in agreement with the parties and other stakeholders and on strictly humanitarian grounds
- P** maintain a community contact centre to communicate with people affected by hostilities; document their concerns and needs, and what they think of the ICRC's activities; and convey information on humanitarian services

PROTECTION OF FAMILY LINKS

- P** provide family-links services – RCMs, phone calls and tracing – to people separated from their relatives; make these services known to authorities, associations of missing people's families, and people separated from their families; help pass letters, oral messages or parcels between POWs and their families (see *People deprived of their liberty*)
- P** collect requests from families to locate missing relatives, answer their questions and engage with them on the search process and inform them of news in their cases, including via the community contact centre
- P** serve as a neutral intermediary to pass information on missing-persons cases, and the plight of the families concerned, between the NIB in Ukraine and its Russian counterpart, including via the CTA bureau
- P** help authorities coordinate efforts to uphold their obligation to account for people protected under IHL; to those ends, organize regular exchanges, meetings, round tables and other events for the NIB and others involved in handling missing-person and POW cases, and in managing human remains

- P** help address the psychosocial, financial and other needs of missing people's families (see *Economic security* and *Health* below); refer these families to other organizations for further assistance; reinforce similar efforts by the authorities and associations of missing people's families, through training, financial support and/or provision of materials
- P** at their request and circumstances permitting, help people separated from their families – including unaccompanied or separated minors, older people and people with disabilities – to reunite, in coordination with the relevant authorities
 - relay, across borders, official documents – such as identity papers and consular documents – to enable people to travel
 - issue emergency travel documents or attestations of arrest/detention when possible

PROTECTION FOR THE DECEASED

- P** provide technical support and organize capacity-building activities for authorities, first responders, staff of DNA laboratories and others involved in managing and identifying human remains or in developing medico-legal frameworks
- P** provide first responders, forensic actors and others with the supplies and equipment necessary to recover, manage and identify human remains; refurbish forensic facilities in front-line areas (see *Water and habitat* below)
- P** assist families in covering expenses for burying their relatives' remains
- P** emphasize to pertinent authorities from both parties the importance of managing human remains properly, preventing disappearances, and upholding obligations under IHL towards the dead and their families
- P** with the consent of both parties, act as a neutral observer in searching for and recovering the human remains of dead soldiers and in repatriating the remains to their countries of origin; offer material or technical assistance to these ends

ECONOMIC SECURITY



Food consumption
67,000 people



Food production
14,688 people



Income support
12,838 people



Living conditions
194,901 people

With the National Society:

- E** ease living conditions for up to 194,901 people (77,800 households), through distributions of hygiene kits, blankets, fuel and other essential items, or cash for buying them; provision of vouchers for implementing minor repairs to their houses; and donations of school supplies to children
- E** provide food parcels and/or ready-to-eat meals to up to 67,000 people (26,800 households)
- E** where markets are functioning, enable up to 5,135 households (12,838 people) to preserve or supplement

their income, through multipurpose or conditional cash grants, vocational training and material assistance

- E** donate greenhouses, seed, poultry kits and other supplies to up to 5,875 households (14,688 people), to help them produce more food
- E** provide around 300 different institutions (e.g. IDP centres, schools, veterinary clinics) with the materials they need to serve communities affected by hostilities

HEALTH



Health centres supported
24 structures

- E** provide up to 24 health centres, in front-line areas – which have a network of over 100 smaller health units – with drugs, consumables, equipment and staff training; refer patients needing secondary or outpatient care to suitable service providers; brief health staff on key aspects of the Health Care in Danger initiative
- E** stand ready to provide additional support to some of the health centres during disease outbreaks, sudden displacement and other emergencies, or for vaccination campaigns
- E** enable particularly vulnerable people (e.g. members of missing people's families, POWs, wounded people, people with physical disabilities) to obtain mental-health and psychosocial support
 - train health staff (including personnel in ICRC-supported facilities – see *Wounded and sick*), National Society volunteers and others to provide such support, instruct others in doing so or practise self-care themselves
 - organize up to 1,756 individual and group counselling sessions for civilians, and up to 800 such sessions for the wounded and the sick; provide support for events to advocate social assistance for these people

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities
2,520,310 people

- E** for the benefit of approximately 2,520,000 people, particularly those in or near front-line areas:
 - provide utility companies with comprehensive support to sustain their provision of water, energy, heating and other essential services; supply potable water in areas experiencing shortages and seek to develop sustainable solutions
 - with the National Society and local red cross entities, give people financial and material assistance to renovate homes damaged by the fighting
 - restore or renovate medico-legal, health, educational, cultural and other facilities
 - help local partners to incorporate climate-resilient practices in their activities

WEAPON CONTAMINATION

- E** strengthen capacities at the National Society and at local red cross entities in promoting safe practices among people in weapon-contaminated areas, through training and provision of materials; convey, as widely as possible, key messages to the public via communication campaigns that make use of social and print media, radio spots and other means
- E** provide safety briefings, specialized training, materials and technical guidance for relevant national authorities, humanitarian workers and others, to enable them to mitigate the threat of weapon contamination to the general population and limit the risks to their own safety
- E** help survey and monitor areas contaminated by mines/ERW and document risks for the population; feed this information into the ICRC's protection dialogue (see above) and into efforts to promote IHL (see *Actors of influence*)

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- P** provide the National Society with material, financial and/or technical support and training to develop its capacities in delivering relief aid, implementing water-and-habitat projects, restoring family links and promoting safe practices around mines/ERW

PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

Objective: People deprived of their liberty are afforded treatment and living conditions that comply with IHL and other applicable norms. They can communicate with their relatives and receive the medical care they need.

Visiting POWs and others deprived of their liberty

The ICRC has been able to visit some POWs and others deprived of their liberty on both sides, but many others have yet to be visited. It will continue to intensify its dialogue with the parties on securing unimpeded and repeated access to all POWs, civilian internees and others deprived of their liberty. It will strive to visit places of detention/internment in accordance with its standard procedures and based on its mandate under IHL. During these visits, it will monitor, to the extent feasible, the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their liberty, including their access to health care. Afterwards, it will discuss its findings and recommendations confidentially with the authorities, with a view to ensuring that the treatment and living conditions of people deprived of their liberty are in accordance with IHL and other applicable norms; when possible, it will provide them with technical guidance in implementing its recommendations.

The ICRC will continue to call on both parties to ensure protection for POWs, civilian internees and others deprived of their liberty and respect their judicial guarantees and the principle of *non-refoulement*, particularly when they are being repatriated. It will maintain its efforts to help the authorities and their staff to develop their capacities in managing detention/internment facilities and providing health care for people deprived of their liberty.

The ICRC will seek to ensure that POWs and others deprived of their liberty can stay in touch with their families. It will continue to act as a neutral intermediary in facilitating correspondence between these people and their families, in cooperation with the relevant parties. It will also urge the authorities to provide people deprived of their liberty with more options to contact their families. It will seek to ensure that families are informed of the fate and/or whereabouts of their detained/interned relatives, with a view to preventing disappearances and alleviating the distress of families waiting for news. It will continue working with authorities to relay information to the CTA bureau on POWs, civilian internees and others protected under IHL. It will stand ready to act as a neutral intermediary when the parties repatriate POWs and civilian internees.

The ICRC will seek to provide the families of people deprived of their liberty – especially those headed by older people or people with disabilities – with support to increase their income and/or become more financially resilient. Similar support will be made available to those recently released. The ICRC will refer these people and their families for psychosocial support and other health-related services, as necessary.

Improving access to basic services for POWs and others deprived of their liberty

The ICRC will help the authorities ensure that POWs and others deprived of their liberty have sufficient access to basic necessities and to health services of good quality. It will donate medical equipment and consumables to places of detention/internment, and organize capacity-building events for the relevant authorities to improve the health services provided in these places. Hygiene kits and other essentials will be distributed to detainees/internees, and the authorities given the support necessary to undertake infrastructural work to improve their living conditions.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

PROTECTION OF PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

- P** through bilateral and confidential dialogue, written representations and other means, urge the pertinent authorities to ensure unimpeded and repeated access for the ICRC to POWs, civilian internees and others deprived of their liberty
- P** seek information from the parties on the fate and/or whereabouts of people alleged to have been captured and interned/detained, and information on anyone who has died in captivity
- P** visit people deprived of their liberty in places which the ICRC has been granted access; register these people and notify their families of their detention/internment; conduct individual interviews to better understand and address the medical and other needs of POWs and civilian internees and to monitor their treatment and living conditions; communicate findings and recommendations for addressing systemic and other issues confidentially to the authorities
- P** guide the authorities in implementing, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the ICRC's

recommendations; offer them training or instruction on the management of such places in line with IHL and other applicable law

- P** provide RCMs, oral messages and other family-links services for people deprived of their liberty; support the provision of phone calls for newly captured POWs and civilian internees and propose other means of contacting their families
- P** with the consent of both parties, serve as a neutral intermediary in repatriating POWs and civilian internees to their countries of origin; offer to debrief them and support the authorities in meeting these people's needs post release

ECONOMIC SECURITY

- E** donate hygiene kits and other essential items for people deprived of their liberty
- E** provide cash to people deprived of their liberty who have been released recently, or to financially vulnerable families of others deprived of their liberty

HEALTH

- E** donate drugs, supplies and equipment to help authorities and prison health staff ensure access to health care for people deprived of their liberty; train them in such areas as primary and emergency care; mental-health and psychosocial support; and the basic principles of medical ethics, confidentiality and informed consent
- E** through individual interviews and monitoring visits, follow up the health of POWs and civilian internees and their access to systematic medical screening upon arrival, the treatment they need, and referrals for secondary care; help facilitate access to specialized care for those who need it (e.g. those with severe mental disorders)
- E** conduct medical assessments for POWs and civilian internees about to be released or repatriated, and refer those needing secondary care to appropriate facilities; check on the recovery and reintegration into society of people formerly deprived of their liberty

WATER AND HABITAT

- E** carry out repairs or upgrades to key facilities (e.g. water, heating) at places of detention/internment; organize workshops for the authorities on managing these places and bringing living conditions in line with international standards

WOUNDED AND SICK

Objective: Wounded and sick people receive appropriate medical and surgical care.

Ensuring the availability of timely medical care

The ICRC will continue to pursue various efforts to provide a continuum of care for the wounded and the sick. It will work towards making life-saving care and physical rehabilitation accessible to communities affected by the fighting, particularly those in front-line areas. It will support first responders, local emergency services and other providers of pre-hospital

care, with a view to increasing the numbers of those who can stabilize the condition of critically ill or wounded people and transfer them to hospitals in a timely manner. Hospitals – especially those in front-line areas or those that are unable to secure the necessary supplies – will receive material and other support to help them prepare for and respond to sudden mass-casualty events. It will carry out infrastructural improvements at facilities damaged or otherwise affected by the fighting. It will focus on helping them in such areas as operational continuity, emergency preparedness, infection control and burn care. It will also help hospital staff develop their capacities. The ICRC will monitor incidents of violence against health services and will remind the parties of their obligation under IHL to safeguard the provision of health services. To complement this engagement, the ICRC will support hospitals in reinforcing their measures to protect health workers and patients from hostilities.

The ICRC will seek to help people with physical disabilities to obtain rehabilitative care and seek also to advance their social inclusion. It will also pursue efforts to help authorities strengthen the sustainability of the physical rehabilitation sector and raise the quality of services. To those ends, it will support physical rehabilitation centres and other facilities providing physiotherapy and prosthetics/orthotics. It will also work with the health ministry and others concerned, for instance in developing educational opportunities for physical rehabilitation professionals. It will help wounded people and people with disabilities to receive mental-health and psychosocial support (see *Civilians*). It will engage with authorities and other local actors to further the psychological recovery and rehabilitation of people enduring the consequences of the fighting.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

MEDICAL CARE



Hospitals supported

71 structures

- E** track incidents of violence against medical workers and patients; when necessary, help hospitals to reinforce measures to mitigate the consequences of hostilities; remind both parties to the international armed conflict to protect those seeking or providing health services from attacks, in accordance with IHL
- E** give providers of pre-hospital care and ambulance services the supplies and equipment necessary to stabilize wounded and sick people and transfer them to hospitals in a timely manner; give them additional support during mass-casualty incidents and other emergencies; train first responders in administering first aid or instructing others in it
- E** help up to 24 hospitals to develop their capacities in war surgery, treatment of burns, and infection prevention and control; to that end, donate the necessary supplies and equipment on a regular basis, organize training for their staff, arrange visits and provision of technical guidance by ICRC health teams, and provide infrastructural support

- E stand ready to donate medical supplies and equipment to up to 47 other hospitals during emergencies
- E provide health staff, first responders, community members and others with the technical, material and/or financial support necessary to make them more capable of providing mental-health and psychosocial support; refer people in psychological distress to ICRC-trained counsellors or other suitable service providers (see also *Civilians*)

PHYSICAL REHABILITATION



Projects supported
16 projects

- E donate wheelchairs and other mobility aids, or equipment and raw materials for making them, to up to seven providers of physical rehabilitation services, to benefit about 780 people¹ with physical disabilities; provide patients who are destitute or from remote areas with financial assistance to cover their transport, accommodation and/or treatment costs
- E organize workshops and other capacity-building activities – for example on managing lower-limb amputees, facilitating early rehabilitation or improving access to assistive devices – for staff from some of the ICRC-supported facilities mentioned above, three other hospitals and three National Society branches
- E help an association for physical therapists to organize a seminar for physical rehabilitation professionals nationwide
- E provide scholarships for prosthetists/orthotists attending training courses organized by an international NGO
- E give the health ministry technical support for strengthening national policies and strategies for physical rehabilitation, such as helping it to set up multi-stakeholder working groups on education and service provision; give the health ministry advice for developing a bachelor's degree programme in prosthetics and orthotics
- E together with three of the ICRC-supported structures above, organize sports events and other activities to advance the social inclusion of people with disabilities; enable some patients to increase their income (see *Civilians*)

WATER AND HABITAT



Water and habitat activities
13 structures

- E make improvements to water, sanitation, electrical and other infrastructure at up to 13 hospitals, physical rehabilitation centres and other health facilities that have been damaged or otherwise affected by hostilities

ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

Objective: Political decision makers and all weapon bearers understand and respect IHL and other fundamental rules protecting people during armed conflict and other situations of violence, and incorporate them in their decision-making. The media, NGOs and community leaders help foster awareness of humanitarian issues and IHL, thus securing greater respect for human dignity. All actors understand the ICRC's mandate and support its work and that of the Movement as a whole.

Fostering respect for IHL and other applicable norms

The ICRC will strive to broaden knowledge and acceptance of its work, and of IHL and other applicable norms, among government officials, weapon bearers, community leaders and other key actors in Ukraine. It will seek to cultivate dialogue with these actors on issues of common interest, such as the protection-related concerns of civilians, the use of explosive weapons in densely populated areas and protection for health services (see also *Civilians*); it will also help clarify their interpretation of various provisions of IHL. It will give the Ukrainian military and law-enforcement agencies support for integrating IHL and other pertinent norms, and international policing standards, as applicable, into their training and operations.

Efforts will be kept up to advance implementation of IHL instruments, and incorporation of key provisions of these instruments in domestic law; these instruments include treaties that regulate or prohibit the use of certain weapons. The national IHL committee, legislators, and members of the judiciary and other government officials will be given guidance in this regard. The ICRC will also raise awareness among the authorities of contemporary IHL issues, such as the increasing use of new technologies in warfare; it will develop, with the Ukrainian Cyber Security Academy, a course on the human cost of using digital technologies in armed conflict, and the legal limits of such use. It will seek to develop local interest and expertise in IHL through various forms of interaction with academics and students. It will continue to help the National Society to develop its ability to promote respect for IHL.

Broadening public awareness of humanitarian issues

The ICRC will continue to stay abreast of the needs of the communities it serves; tell them about its activities; and collect their views and suggestions, and then adapt its activities accordingly (see *Civilians*). The ICRC's public communication – through both traditional and social media, and other means – will aim to broaden public awareness of humanitarian issues in Ukraine and the ICRC's response to such issues. The ICRC will also continue to counter harmful narratives against the ICRC's principled humanitarian action, through harmonized humanitarian diplomacy, operational activities and public communication. The National Society will be given support to reinforce its public and operational communication.

1. Based on aggregated monthly data, which include repeat users of physical rehabilitation services.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

- Pr ► organize meetings and other events with key Ukrainian ministries, military officials and others to advance their understanding and broaden their acceptance of the mission, activities and principled action of the ICRC and the Movement; organize round tables, briefings and other events for these actors on humanitarian issues of common concern
- Pr ► provide technical guidance and organize training for military and law-enforcement agencies, on integrating IHL and international policing standards into their operations and training, and for government officials and members of the national IHL committee, on implementing IHL or incorporating key provisions of it in domestic law; enable government officials to attend advanced seminars, meetings and other events on IHL held elsewhere than Ukraine
- Pr ► produce and disseminate reference materials, in Ukrainian, on IHL; organize briefings, workshops, competitions and other events on IHL for political and community leaders, prosecutors, journalists, academics, students and others
- Pr ► produce content for traditional and social media on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine and the ICRC's response to it; coordinate public communication with the National Society and other Movement partners

SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

- Pr ► give the National Society training, and material and other support, for promoting IHL and the respect due to the emblems protected under it, and for strengthening its public communication

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

Objective: The Ukrainian Red Cross Society has a strong legal basis for independent action and carries out its core activities effectively. Movement components in Ukraine coordinate their activities and implement them in a neutral, impartial and independent manner.

In line with Seville Agreement 2.0, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society convenes, and the ICRC co-convenes, the Movement's response to the needs of people affected by the international armed conflict (see *Civilians*). As the ICRC's main partner in Ukraine, the National Society will continue to receive the ICRC's comprehensive support to carry out its humanitarian activities – in line with the Safer Access Framework – and strengthen its

capacities in key areas, such as emergency preparedness and response, risk management and strategic development. The ICRC will continue supporting the National Society's efforts to further strengthen its capacities in providing essential services to communities and in serving as an auxiliary to the authorities in emergencies. The National Society, the ICRC, the International Federation and other members of the Movement present in Ukraine will continue to work closely together to mount an effective response to humanitarian needs; increase the impact of the Movement's collective response and its advocacy efforts; and follow up resolutions and pledges made at the Council of Delegates and the International Conference.

PLAN OF ACTION AND INDICATORS

- C ► co-convene – with the Ukrainian Red Cross Society – the Movement's activities, by working closely with the International Federation and other Movement components present in Ukraine; meet with them regularly and develop partnership or cooperation agreements to ensure strategic, coherent and complementary responses to humanitarian needs
- C ► provide the National Society with financial, material, technical and staffing support to develop its capacities in various areas, such as emergency preparedness and response, public communication, risk management and strategic development