



**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE**  
**INTERNATIONAL**

NEWS

# BULLETIN

Reaching out to a hurting world...

March 2022

**W**e would like to start this newsletter by writing about the ongoing war in Ukraine. The fast-escalating violent spiral we see is very frightening. Thinking about the work PTPI does in Moldova, there is a direct concern for the pastor family there and the Moldovan people that they would be drawn into the war. A thought that is both concerning and frightening.

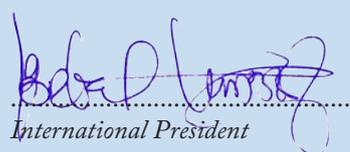
Even if there are no direct indications at the moment that the dictator Vladimir Putin will invade Moldova, the country is in the immediate danger zone and is an easy target. If this would happen, the Moldovan people themselves will be part of the refugee wave we now see.

Because of the situation, I am in constant contact with Pastor Igor, who has been thrown into a situation no one had seen coming. An almost inhuman situation that is hard to handle. He is now fully involved in the work transporting refugees fleeing Ukraine, but in the northern part of the country.

Right now, Moldova is among the countries that receives part of the large wave of refugees who flee the war. Currently the number of refugees is increasing in Moldova. A request has come from the Mayor in Glodeni, the city where we work, about the possibility to receive refugees into the Church premises. Since the question was asked, this is now a reality.

In this newsletter Pastor Igor also writes about his regular work and about the increasing need in the aftermath of the pandemic.

A lot is happening in a short time, and it is almost impossible to know what will happen next. Our prayers are very important, and we pray for the Ukrainian people. But also, for the situation in Moldova that the violence will not spread into Moldova. Thank you for your prayers and your continued support!

  
International President



**L**arge streams of refugees have reached both Poland and Moldova since the invasion of Ukraine started. Since we, as an organization, have contacts in both countries, there is now an opportunity to help on site.

The situation in both countries is changing and because of this, it can be hard to make the right decisions. But we feel safe with the contacts we have in both Poland and Moldova. In Moldova the work to help people who have fled is already in place.

## Moldova

The situation in Moldova with a great number of refugees is not getting easier, the longer the crisis is going on. At the moment there are approx. 101, 000 Ukrainians in Moldova and approx. 250, 000 have passed through the country on their way to Poland and Germany, but also to other countries in Europe and Scandinavia.

Pastor Igor has been at the border of Ukraine, close to the city of Odessa, a trip of 311 miles round trip in order to pick up refugees. This time he was able to help two mothers with a total of six children. They are now in Glodeni, in the premises of the Church. Now the same work is carried out closer to his home.

Recently the cost of living has increased drastically in Moldova that imports most of their groceries and other necessities from Russia and Ukraine. The price of groceries has increased by 30% and the price of electricity and, above all, gas has increased even more. A fact that also goes for the rest of Europe. In total the prices have

increased by 50%. Because of this, we do a fundraising in this newsletter in order to help the situation in Moldova, the country we have worked in for the past 12 years. A few days ago we sent a small amount of money to cover some of the already high overheads linked to the refugee crisis. But more needs to be done, in order to handle the situation that might be prolonged. Since this newsletter was produced we have started the rescue work. On a five day routine we transport 60 refugees per day to the Moldovan-Romanian border. Those that choose to stay we accommodate in the Church premises, offering food, medicine and other necessities. The cost for the efforts in Moldova alone costs approx \$3 000 USD per month. About two third of that. More and more people are finding their way to the Church is fuel costs.

## Poland

For many years we have had very good relations with Poland. Over the years we have had the privilege to assist in several different disasters. The Polish people are now doing a fantastic effort, but also, they need our help. Through our contacts in Poland we have opportunity to help with food and housing for the refugees, mostly mothers with children that comes to Olesnica, where also the pastor couple Pawel and Lidia Nowakowski live. Your financial gift will go in full toward the overheads for this refugee crisis. We will be back with more information as soon as it is available. Thank you!

## More and more people are finding their way to the Church



*This is Sasha. He lives with his mother and is filled with joy everytime someone brings him a food package.*

**D**istribution of both food packages and bread continue. The needs and the amount of people who find their way to the Church is increasing. This so important work has come to mean more and more in Moldova. The pandemic is still a problem in Moldova, even if it is slowly going in the right direction. Even if we have put the majority of the pandemic behind us, the need for help will still be very large. Families who recently were able to manage on the income they had, have during the pandemic lost the only income they had.

Now the Moldovan people are facing yet another hardship. The war in Ukraine has led to a large wave of refugees and people are passing or chose to stay in Moldova. Pastor Igor has left this greeting.

When everything gets more expensive, poor people are looking for the truth. We live in a world full of chaos and disappointments. People are no longer trusting anyone or anything. Everything that they trusted became illusions. Now when everything in Moldova gets more expensive...gas, electricity, food and oil products...

the only hope for people in socially vulnerable situations is God. This means that more and more people come to the Church in hope of help and to benefit from the social projects with food and bread.

After a long winter many people lack the most necessary products. Low pensions and high prices make the people insecure. Many of them come in their despair to the Church hoping to hear words of encouragement and get some bread and food.

We thank God that bread and food help people not to starve and that the word of God helps them to reconcile with the Lord. May God have mercy on all the poor, orphaned children and widows in Glodeni.

*With love  
Pastor Igor Lazar*

With the now very real crisis in Ukraine the Moldovan people who have opened their hearts and homes need our help even more. Please keep the people from both these countries in your continued prayers.



*A woman has just received a food package.*

**Help us save a few dollars or Euros**

You can help us lower our costs for postage by signing up to the e-letter instead. Scan the QR-code below or point your browser to our website and sign up there. Thank you!

Contact info

**International Office**  
People to People International  
P.O. Box 311  
S-573 24 Tranas  
Sweden

**Email** [ptpi@ftm-mission.org](mailto:ptpi@ftm-mission.org)  
**Internet** [www.ptpint.org](http://www.ptpint.org)  
**Phone** +46 140 31 13 21

**US ADDRESS**  
Worship Center  
2384 New Holland Pike  
Lancaster PA 17601  
USA

Newsletters



**Bank Transf.** **Bank name:** SWEDBANK  
**SWIFT/BIC:** SWEDSESS  
**Account nr:** 81505544310444  
**IBAN:** SE4780000815050544310444  
**US CHEQUES** should be written in the WC's name and sent to the US adress. Beneficiary PTFI.

Paypal



Website

