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# THE STOP THE TRAFFIK GROUP

## UKRAINE BRIEFING

13 APRIL 2022

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# WHAT WE ARE SEEING ON THE GROUND

## RELEVANT BACKGROUND

The STOP THE TRAFFIK Group has a strong history of delivering activity with vulnerable communities that reduces their risk of being trafficked into exploitation.

We know from observing timelines with large unpredictable groups of people on the move (e.g: Rohingya and Syria) that initially they are subject to high levels of short-term assistance. Then as they settle, the trafficking operations begin to create structures to encourage higher value individuals to go on a journey by promising them hope of a good opportunity that is actually exploitation.

Timelines are difficult to predict, but at this point in time, it is not clear whether trafficking groups are organised in those refugee communities yet.

## THE STOP THE TRAFFIK GROUP AIMS:

- 1 To **Predict** where those fleeing Ukraine might go and when and where trafficking will intersect.
- 2 To **Identify** those most at risk of trafficking using an established data fed, intelligence-led, approach.
- 3 To **Inform** and equip those most at risk with increased knowledge, perception of risk and preventative behaviour, alongside options for holistic support including local referral pathways that will reduce their vulnerability to trafficking.
- 4 To **Warn** all levels of society (governments, NGOs, businesses) about how this conflict links to trafficking and how it may impact them, so they can take appropriate action.

## BUSINESS IMPACTS

Putin's invasion of Ukraine has wide-reaching and long-lasting impacts on global supply chains in the energy, agriculture, and raw materials sectors. These are the sectors that are most immediately affected:



Natural gas that is **crucial** to the production of fertilisers for agriculture and CO2 for food packaging is threatened by war- and sanctions- related disruptions



Petrol is also at-risk, as prices of petrol have **soared** due to fears of reduced Russian supply. This will have severe knock-on effects on the price and availability of transport.



With **almost 30%** of global wheat exports coming from Russia and Ukraine, closure of production facilities in Ukraine and the closure of ports in the **Black** and **Azov Sea** heavily disrupt this supply, which countries in **North Africa and the Middle East** are dependent on.



Manufacturing is at-risk, as Russia is a **key source** for critical metals, such as palladium used for catalytic converters.

Electronics may also be at-risk due to Russia being a main source of neon, used to etch silicon wafers.

# OUR RESPONSE

As of 29th March, the [UN says](#), more than 4 million people have already fled Ukraine since Russia invaded. Refugees are crossing into neighbouring countries to the west, such as Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, and Moldova; with women & children making up the largest proportion of Ukrainian refugees on the move. It is thought that approximately 6.5 million people are displaced inside Ukraine.

## TRAVEL SAFE, STAY SAFE

STOP THE TRAFFIK and Traffik Analysis Hub have launched a Europe-wide digital prevention campaign that will provide vital safety information to those who are on the move as a result of the conflict in Ukraine.

'TRAVEL SAFE, STAY SAFE', the first of a series of prevention campaigns, brings immediate preventative information into the hands of those at high risk of exploitation.

The campaign targets countries across Europe including Romania, Latvia, Poland, Moldova, Hungary, and Austria in three languages: English, Ukrainian, and Russian.

Please click on the different flags for our language-specific landing pages:



*Our campaign is still in the early stages, so its impact statistics will be more representative in the coming weeks.*

Following "TRAVEL SAFE, STAY SAFE", we are going to target the same countries alongside places we believe people will move to settle, such as Germany. The focus of this campaign will be equipping people with crucial safety information as they seek work, financial means, or community integration. This is another stage when traffickers will try to exploit people and so our presence at this time is essential.

## OUR CAMPAIGN REACH SO FAR:



567k+ individuals  
reached



8600+ unique  
clicks



330+  
shares

# RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Become a business that The STOP THE TRAFFIK Group can **collaborate with and signpost to** for legitimate employment opportunities for those who have had to flee because of the conflict.

2

**Have all employees download The STOP APP on their phones** to report all cases of suspected trafficking to The STOP THE TRAFFIK Group to enhance prevention efforts.

3

Provide language classes for those displaced to help them find work.

4

Provide CV and job application support and equipment for remote working.

5

Offer funding for The STOP THE TRAFFIK Group digital programs.

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**Use business to support refugees through a variety of methods:**

- Choose a charity to collaborate with and begin a fundraising campaign.
- Offer support to fund crucial services that refugees are in need of such as housing, transport, and food.