

# Uzhhorod opens first centre to help people affected by war in Ukraine's Zakarpattia Oblast

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On 17 January, the first Zakarpattia Oblast psychosocial support centre for people affected by the war was officially opened in Uzhhorod. Supported by the EU and UNDP, the centre will provide services to 64 communities in Zakarpattia Oblast.

The centre is dedicated to providing professional social and psychological support to internally displaced persons (IDPs) — who exceed 145,000 in the oblast — and other groups affected by the war, including families of the deceased, veterans, and volunteers.

The centre delivers a wide array of services for both community residents and displaced people, including individual and group counselling sessions with psychologists who focus on improving emotional well-being, managing stress,

and restoring inner balance.

The centre also provides legal assistance and conducts social work helping IDPs to integrate into new communities.

The initiative was implemented by the Zakarpattia Oblast charity fund 'Edelweiss' in partnership with the Department of Social Protection of the Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration, with grant support from the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Ukraine. The total project cost amounted to US\$72,000.

The centre operates within the framework of the Regional Programme for Sustainable Psychosocial Support 'How Are You?' for 2023–2025, initiated by First Lady Olena Zelenska and implemented as part of the flagship EU-UNDP partnership 'EU4Recovery — Empowering Communities in Ukraine'.