



Born in 1945, ELLE has proudly and continuously brought to society fiercely positive values, infused with empathy and humanity. Its closeness to women, and more generally to people, has always been part of its DNA. Today, ELLE is a family with deep and unbreakable ties.

All ELLE sisters around the world stand with the ELLE Ukraine team and all the Ukrainian people who are affected by this tragic situation.

Our thoughts are with them as we come together to call for peace.





On February 24, 2022, the lives of Ukrainians were split by explosions of russian missiles and air bombs in the night sky. Could anyone have imagined that the words about the fighting, which we remember from history textbooks about World War II, would enter the lives of Ukrainians as a harsh reality? Could anyone have imagined that 77 years after the end of World War II, civilians in Ukraine would spend the night in bomb shelters, cities would be shelled by missiles, and tanks would drive through the streets where Ukrainians were in a hurry until recently? Could anyone have imagined that today we, like the generation of World War II, would follow the rules of survival in military conditions? Tape the windows of houses to protect them from the shock waves, turn off the lights so as not to draw attention to the house at night, respond instantly to the sounds of sirens announcing air strikes, rushing to the nearest bomb shelter. To see horrible photos of our cities and villages after the bombing, to learn the news of the deaths. Mariupol, Volnovakha, Bucha, Irpin, Gostomel, Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Okhtyrka, Borodyanka, Kramatorsk... Dozens of Ukrainian towns and cities are currently experiencing the horrors of war, which were impossible to imagine in the XXI century. The worst thing is that we don't know where the horizon will stop. How did it happen that the lives of Ukrainian babies today do not begin in maternity hospitals, but in basements and bomb shelters? Horrified eyes, broken destinies, abandoned homes, canceled plans, painful losses and the inability to find an answer to the question of how and why all this is happening to us?

Between despair and hope - this issue is dedicated to how the lives of Ukrainians have changed since February 24. We are publishing it in two languages — Ukrainian and English — to tell the world. We are grateful to all those who supported us, and in particular to the Elle International network. Shock and pain today are mixed with an incredible sense of patriotism and unity that united the Ukrainian nation. We are more than ever ready to defend our right to peace and self-determination. That is why the issue is called HOPE.

Made #WithConfidence in Victory.

SONYA ZABOUGA ELLE UKRAINE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Instagram @sonickelle Facebook @sonya.zabouga

"I WILL NOT GIVE UP WITHOUT A FIGHT

TEXT SVITLANA KRAVCHENKO

PHOTO SERGEI SARAKHANOV

ur interview with the frontman of the «Ocean Elzy» band could be dedicated to the release of a new album, a concert at the NSC «Olympiyskiy» and the beginning of the world tour. How-

ever, for a month now, Sviatoslav Vakarchuk has been on a military mission to Ukraine, during which he holds meetings of support and performs certain tasks that it is not THE time to talk about. And, of course, he sings: «Chervona Ruta» («Red ruta») in the Kharkiv metro, «Ne tvoya viyna» («Not your war») at the Lviv railway station, «Choven» («Boat») on the Potemkin Stairs of Odessa. In a short Zoom-conversation, which the musician agreed to during the trip to the next city, he told ELLE about the fighting spirit of Ukrainians, why he stopped addressing ordinary Russians and what scenarios we should prepare for in the upcoming weeks.

ABOUT READINESS FOR THE RUSSIAN INVASION

Of course, no one could say for sure that such a crime as the invasion of Ukraine would be carried out by Putin. But if we talk about the global vision, after Russia's attack on Georgia in 2008, I assumed that we could be next. I have never had any illusions about the peace-loving nature of the Russian Federation. But when the United States began deporting its diplomats from Kyiv, I realized that everything was very serious. So I was morally ready, it didn't come as a shock to me.

ABOUT THE FIRST THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS ON FEBRUARY 24

For some reason I did not sleep that night, I woke up around three in the morning from some anxiety. I turned on the UN Security

Council, which was soon interrupted by Putin's emergency speech. And just five minutes after the end of this so-called speech, a powerful explosion took place to the right of my house (I live near Vasylkiv Airport, where the first rockets exploded). It was obvious what was happening. During the first two days of the war, I took relatives, friends and even strangers to the West of Ukraine. And then immediately began to travel to the regions.

ABOUT JOINING THE ARMED FORCES

It didn't happen on the first day, because I simply did not have time to arrive at the conscription station in Lviv, where I am registered. Given that I am a reserve officer of the military department, I signed up for the disposal of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Now I am a lieutenant of the Armed Forces. Realizing how and where I could be more effective during the war, I was given a business trip, which means I travel all over Ukraine. I've been to some cities, such as Zaporizhia or Kharkiv, several times. Today I returned from the Mykolaiv hospital to which people were taken after rocket fire. We visited the wounded, there are many of them, unfortunately.

ABOUT THE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF UKRAINIANS IN DIFFERENT CITIES

The Ukrainians are as determined and positive as possible. Even women and children fleeing destruction and war are also determined to win. Yesterday morning I met people who barely escaped from Mariupol near the gas station. One of the women told me: «We are worried not only about ourselves, but also about the guys from the Azov Battalion who have bravely defended us. We are so proud of them, they must be released». Like all of the Ukraine, these people want the war to end on our terms. Nobody wants Russia to come. I've noticed that the closer to the front line, the larger the fighting spirit is. If you have witnessed half of your city bombed, you will have the healthy

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anger and healthy hatred you need against the enemy in times of war. Perhaps the breath of war in Lviv is not as strong now as in Mariupol or Chernihiv. But I am convinced that it is not necessary to measure who is having harder times now. Lviv has more than 200,000 internally displaced persons now, its population increased by 20%. There are another 200,000 migrants in the region. Plus, permanent migrants heading across the Polish border to Europe. This is a difficult blow that the region is facing with honor.

VICTORY OR PEACE AT ANY COST?

Philosophical question: do we need victory at any cost? No Ukrainian has any doubt that we are not ready to stop the war at the cost of defeat. But we must decide: what should happen to the country, what is it ready to do to stand on its own? The number of casualties and devastation we have now has forced Ukrainians to cross a certain rubicon. Most of us do not want to waste everything and get a ghostly peace that would make us humiliated and force us to retreat. The army is determined, it has stopped the invader, sometimes it goes on the counterattack, in some places squeezes the occupier. There are places where the enemy digs, and from there it will be harder to knock him out. At some point, we will become the attackers, and they will become those who defend in these places. But this still needs to be reached. Now our task is to stop them completely and to push them away from such strategic cities as Kyiv and Kharkiv, and break the blockade of Mariupol.

ABOUT THE NEAR FUTURE

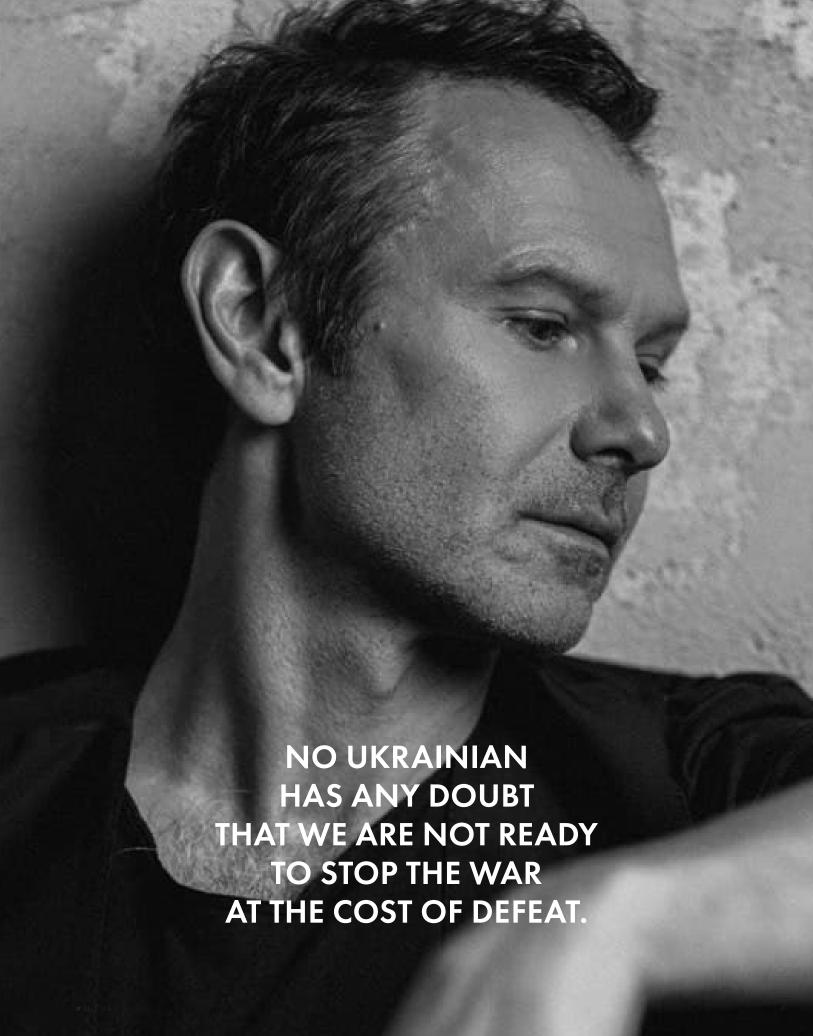
In the coming weeks we need to prepare for a positional struggle. I think there are two scenarios. The first is that Putin and his generals will finally go mad (though far away!) and begin to destroy Ukrainian cities en masse with bombs and missiles, as it is already happening in Mar-

iupol and Volnovakha. In this case, without a quality air defense system and without aircraft, it will be very difficult for us. The second scenario — when it becomes clear that Russia does not have the strength to get what it wants quickly, the process will be delayed: the enemy will dig in and defend the occupied territories. But we must prepare for the fact that until the last Russian soldier leaves Ukrainian land, we will fight. This could take months or end quickly enough. It depends on many related factors: the success of the Ukrainian army, the work of diplomats, sanctions against Russia, the position of China, Turkey and other countries. That is a task with many unknowns, which is incalculable. But we need to be patient.

ABOUT APPEALS TO ORDINARY RUSSIANS

I stopped talking to them because I realized it was pointless. Their reports from the so-called concert in Luzhniki in Moscow, dedicated to the anniversary of the conquest of Crimea, reminded me very much of Leni Riefenstahl's «Triumph of Freedom». It reminds the world of a darker time of 1930-1940 when the German people was supporting their dictatorial leader either because they were afraid to speak up or because they were blinded by his propaganda.

If the Russians were morally affected, they would have already taken to the streets and done something to their government. I think that at this stage they can only be affected by fear. Fear of losing their standard of living, fear of not getting a normal amount of food, fear for the future of their children. If they do not have a conscience, then they definitely have a stomach. They may continue to hate us, but at some point, they will realize that their lives are getting worse and worse, that no one has taken anything from them, and that they have envaded other country, and all they need to do is to stop their government. Only then may they have a different point of view. If this option does not work, the military will work.





NO ONE BUT US WILL DECIDE OUR FATE, WILL RAISE OUR CHILDREN, WILL SAVE THEIR LIVES. WE ARE ON OUR LAND; GOD AND THE TRUTH ARE WITH US.

ADDRESS TO UKRAINIANS

Dear Ukrainians, I am proud of all of us: everything that is the best within each of us has come out today and helps to overcome the enemy. Ukrainians are preparing, Ukrainians are fighting, Ukrainians are creating unprecedented feats and setting an example. Ukrainians are now the bravest nation in the world, admired by all. And this fact should give us motivation and strength to fight on. And the struggle will be long. Even if we stop the fire now, we will not stop the aggressor, because our neighbor does not accept the very idea of the existence of the independent state of Ukraine. There is only one way out: to become strong, to work well and efficiently, to study, to cultivate virtues, to reject weaknesses, to help each other, to forget the word "corruption" once and for all. While maintaining a warm heart and love, we should stoically accept unpleasant things, defeats and losses. We have no right to drop our hands, stick together, lie on the couch and cry. We must proudly move forward. No one but us will decide our fate, will raise our children, will save their lives. We are on our land; God and the truth are with us. That's why we will win!

APPEAL TO THE WORLD

If you think that it is the Russian war against Ukraine going on, you are wrong. This is Russia's war against the entire modern democratic world. It chose Ukraine as the first victim, but if it suddenly manages to get what IT wants, IT will move on. That is why, dear friends, it is not the time to stand aside and see if Ukraine can cope. Ukraine will cope! But help us not only with words, but also with concrete deeds: air defense, planes, powerful economic sanctions that will not allow Russia to spend money on deadly weapons, public condemnation of those large Western companies that do not leave the aggressor, citing concern for their employees or shareholders. With all due respect to corporate ethics: now it is not the time to think about business, because your billions, which you fill the Russian budget with, pay for tanks, missiles, guns and kill our children. If you do not want to sponsor it, please stop working in Russia. At the same time, we very much appreciate the unprecedented support of Ukraine and the unification of the world against Russian aggression. Believe me, we are very grateful. It inspires us every day.

BEFORE THE WAR, THEY PHOTOGRAPHED A PEACEFUL LIFE.

HOWEVER, TODAY THE SCENES IN THE LENSES OF THEIR

CAMERAS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

4 UKRAINIAN FASHION PHOTOGRAPHERS TELL

ABOUT THIER SENSE OF THE PRESENT.

The WAR TIME







Alexandra SERAFIMOVYCH

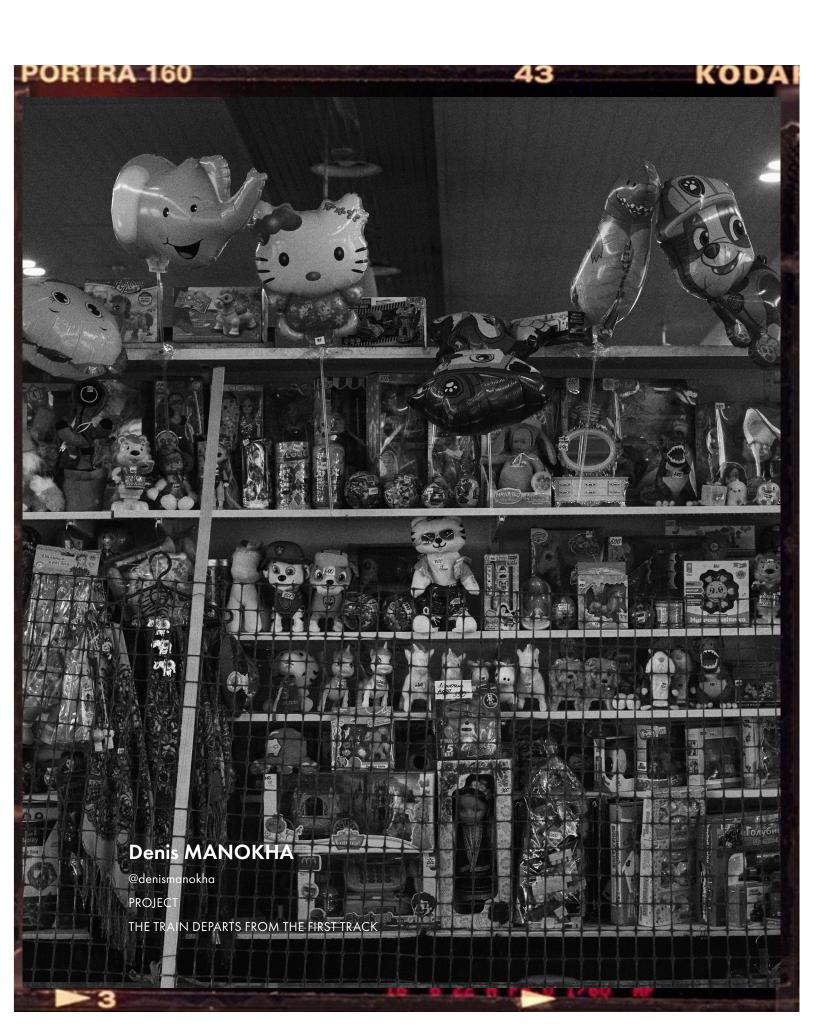
@serafimovych

PROJECT

THIS IS NOT THE LAST

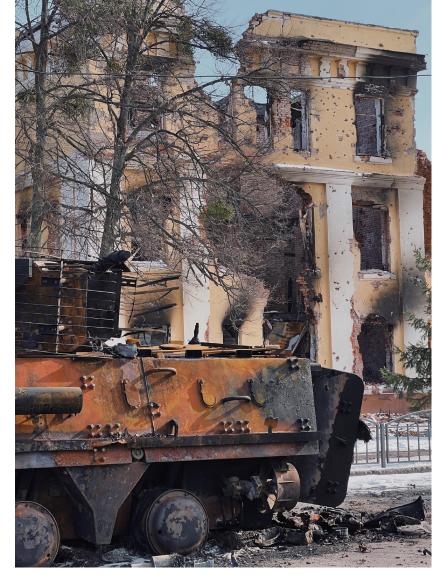
SUNRISE AT HOME





PHOTOPROJECT | ELLEHOPE ISSUE





















PHOTOPROJECT | ELLEHOPE ISSUE

Oleg BATRAKOV

@oleg_batrakov KHARKIV CITY, MARCH 2022







ELLEHOPE ISSUE | PHOTOPROJECT





Roman PASHKOVSKIY

@pashkovich
KYIV CITY, MARCH 2022







JHIJEIDO

Shiseido Group stands alongside all people affected by the situation in Ukraine.

Our thoughts and our hearts go out to the refugees of Ukraine as well as to their families and relatives, who are suffering too.

In keeping with our values, we have committed to contribute to humanitarian and support actions while we still continue to hope for peace.







WE ARE TOGETHER!

TODAY WE DO NOT PAY ATTENTION TO THE PROFESSION, BECAUSE EVERYONE IS NOW ACTING AS A UNITED FRONT AND DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE FOR THE COMMON GOAL — VICTORY OF UKRAINE.

WE TALKED TO UKRAINIAN CELEBRITIES ABOUT THEIR SOCIAL INITIATIVES.

OLEKSANDR PEDAN

Ukrainian TV host, public figure. Together with the team of his own communication agency Pedan Buro entered the information war



UKRAINIANS DO NOT GIVE UP!
UKRAINIANS ARE FREE PEOPLE.
UKRAINIANS ARE ABLE TO
MOBILIZE VERY QUICKLY WHEN
SOMEONE TRIES TO TAKE AWAY
THEIR FREEDOM. UKRAINIANS
CANNOT BE DEFEATED.
THE WORLD NEEDS TO
UNDERSTAND THIS.
AND WE ARE UKRAINIANS! LET'S
HOLD ON, FIGHT AND WIN!

where represent the Pedan Buro agency, co-owned by me and Olena Levandovska. In everyday life, we provide communication services: PR, SMM, video production, create social projects for clients. From the very first days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, we joined the information war. I try to cover events in my own sources. As an agency, we started cooperating with international media, with which we already had relations. We write materials about Ukraine for them, collect unique stories, start editing videos about Ukraine, spread this information among influencers," says Oleksandr.

Today, Pedan Buro is focusing on the international arena, as there is a big problem with Russian propaganda. The team also supports the two largest Ukrainian charitable foundations - "Your support" and "Zaporuka". Pedan Buro spreads the information about their activities.

In peacetime, the agency's team was preparing an educational project that is currently being reformatted. "We plan to help young Ukrainians to understand further education in higher education institutions, we will talk about the rules of admission. In addition, we are now starting to do a social video about compatriots who have moved and survived the occupation. It will show real stories of Ukrainians who did not give up and do everything necessary to help Ukraine and contribute to our victory. We are currently starting filming in the West and in Kyiv, we plan to expand," says the agency's co-founder Olena Levandovska.

The difficulty is that the whole team is scattered across the country, but fortunately, everyone is now relatively safe. "Of course, morale also sometimes goes down, but we rise again and again, because we understand that even such a drop in the ocean - our work - brings the country closer to victory. Even before the war, we were a very patriotic team, always focused on social projects," Oleksandr shares.

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MASHA EFROSININA

In the pre-war period, the MASHA Foundation, set up by TV host, philanthropist and UN Honorary Ambassador of Ukraine Maria Efrosinina, focused on combating domestic and gender-based violence and sought to create a zero tolerance for any kind of aggression. However, the war made its adjustments.



ACCOUNT ADDRESS FOR TRANSFER OF HELP

EURO

Company Name

MASHA FUND

IBAN Code

UA 2730 5299 0000 0260 0300 6814 836

Name of the bank JSC CB «PRIVATBANK», 1D HRUSHEVSKOHO STR., KYIV, 01001, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code PBANUA2X

Company address Ukraine, 01033, Kyiv, Saksaganskogo str., 27B, office 43

USD

Company Name

MASHA FUND

IBAN Code

UA 3130 5299 0000 0260 0203 6802 057

Name of the bank JSC CB "PRIVATBANK", 1D HRUSHEVSKOHO STR., KYIV, 01001, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code **PBANUA2X**

Company address Ukraine, 01033, Kyiv, Saksaganskogo str., 27B, office 43

VOLUNTEERS | ELLEHOPE ISSUE

urrently, all activities of the fund are aimed at humanitarian assistance to low-income and vulnerable groups. In particular, assistance is provided in Kyiv, Chernihiv, Sumy and Poltava regions. The fund's target audience has expanded significantly, covering the most vulnerable - women, children, the elderly and those with special needs. Among the priorities today are to meet the urgent problems with food, medicine, hygiene products, clothes for those who remain in these areas or, conversely, are forced to move to them. From the first days of the war, the foundation made contacts with the assets of local communities, to which it helps (Mother and Child Centers, The Red Cross, hospitals, shelters, places where displaced persons with children are accommodated).

The results of the fund's work are already very impressive: 60 tons of humanitarian aid were received and distributed — in particular, in ten settlements of Chernihiv region, in nine - in Kyiv and Kyiv region (among them - those where active hostilities are taking place). In Kyiv, the foundation works with both self-organized volunteers and community institutions that care for children with disabilities and support single elderly people. Assistance is provided on a permanent basis to 450 low-mobility families and 300 families with children with disabilities. Four hospitals also receive help, including psychoneurological ones. În Poltava region, support is directed to the cities of Luben and Poltava. There are many migrants in this region today, so the most important things are long-term food and hygiene products. The Chuhuiv Regional Hospital (Kharkiv Region) and the city of Pokrovsk (Donetsk Region) also received assistance.

The list is growing daily. The urgent needs are huge, and unfortunately, they are not decreasing. First of all, we are talking about medicines that need to be taken constantly—they are now in short supply. For example, L-thyroxine to support the thyroid gland. Every day we need baby and adult diapers, nappies, baby food for all ages. Karemats, sleeping bags, generators and flashlights are needed for the centers where the resettlement is located. And of course, food: canned food, cereals, vegetables, jams, condensed milk and more.

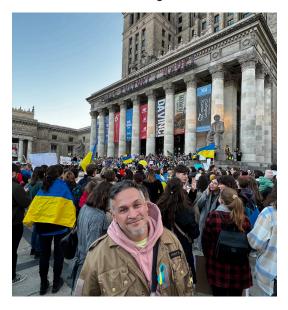
We are now open to help and cooperation. Companies, firms, associations of people who are able to finance the purchase of the necessary, collect humanitarian aid and send to the fund, or are ready to become volunteers of the fund directly on the ground can join.

"WHAT IS THE MOST DIFFICULT THING ABOUT
THE FOUNDATION'S WORK?
THE HARDEST PART IS LIVING IN A COUNTRY AT WAR!
IN THREE WEEKS WE LEARNED HOW TO DO WHAT WE'VE
BEEN LEARNING FOR YEARS, AND THAT'S NO EXAGGERATION.
IS IT DIFFICULT FOR US? YES. BUT NO MORE DIFFICULT
THAN OUR WARRIORS WHO GUARD OUR SLEEP.»

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HECTOR JIMENEZ-BRAVO

Ukrainian restaurateur and TV host.
Together with his team, Hector
provides lunches to Ukrainian
servicemen and medics and helps
refugees to settle abroad.



ACCOUNT ADDRESS FOR TRANSFER OF HELP

Beneficiary
HECTOR BRAVO

EUR

IBAN Code

UA 8830 5299 0000 0262 0590 1864 864

Account NO **5363 5423 2043 7404**

Name of the bank
JSC CB «PRIVATBANK»,
1D HRUSHEVSKOHO STR.,
KYIV, 01001, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code **PBANUA2X**

Beneficiary JIMENEZ

USD

IBAN Code

UA 8332 2001 0000 0262 0951 4022 978

Account NO

2620 9314 0229 78

Name of the bank

JSC UNIVERSAL BANK KYIV, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code UNJSUAUKXXX

Today, Hector Jimenez-Bravo's restaurants and partner establishments in Kyiv prepare up to 2,500 meals a day and deliver them to our defenders from the ranks of the Territorial Defense, the Armed Forces, the police, as well as to the doctors and the elderly. According to the restaurateur, lunches are delivered by the transport service and with the help of volunteers. Hector's team has opened a fundraiser for the purchase of products - funds come to them from all over the world.

Personally, Hector is back in Kiyv after his stay in Warsaw, where he was involved in several areas. "We are cooperating with the Ukrainian House, which is a non-profit organization. It takes care of the settlement of Ukrainians, takes care of children - helps to find a suitable school, draw up documents. We met refugees from Ukraine, mostly mothers with children. Personally, I have the opportunity to advise on paperwork for Canada, because as a Canadian I know all the nuances. Together with the Ukrainian House, we plan to hold several events in Warsaw - we will involve Ukrainian women in cooking for the festival: all the money from the sale will go to their and their children's needs, "- says Hector.

In addition, the restaurateur team worked in Warsaw with several large restaurant chains that raise money for humanitarian and medical care for Ukraine.

Another area of the team's work is employment. This promotes the interaction of potential employers in Poland with Ukrainian refugees. Employment is very important not only from a financial point of view. This is a way to somehow distract from the constant flow of news. However, there is also a catch: few Ukrainians know foreign languages, so there is often a language barrier. "The biggest challenge is morale. People need support. I communicate with refugees, talk to children - some of them have been orphaned. They really need serious psychological help", - Hector shares.





OLGA RUDNEVA Director of the

Director of the Olena Pinchuk Foundation; volunteer at HelpUkraine.center







n February 23, I left home with an empty suitcase and a plan to return with my mother in three days. I felt an incredible guilt that I was going through a period of insane information tension. All around was talk of the possibility of war. My fundamentally empty suitcase dragged me up the stairs, I could barely hold back my tears and most of all I dreamed that on Sunday I would be in Kyiv again discussing with the girls how we are being intimidated by the war again. On February 24, when I woke up thousands of kilometers from Kyiv, my world changed forever. Three days of trying to return home, daily conversations with the team, constant correspondence with people who wrote to me on all social networks about their pain, their anger and their words of support. A week in Madeira in an attempt to do something meaningful for Ukraine while safe. Evacuation of my nephew from the shelling in Kyiv, deportation of native girls from the city, attempts to buy all necessary tactical medicine for the guys at the front and an incredibly heavy and depressing feeling of guilt that I would not wake up from the explosions, that I do not hold the hand of those, whom I love, that I do not help my team to survive all this horror — this is my reality of the first week of the war.

Exactly seven days later I was standing at Warsaw airport, a stranger took me to a small Polish town on the border with Ukraine, I stayed at a hotel with a girl I saw for the first time in my life, on sheets from which a family of Ukrainian refugees rose 5 minutes ago. Thus began my story as a volunteer for HelpUkraine center, Europe's largest logistics hub, which receives humanitarian aid and delivers it to Ukraine. Here we get everything that ordinary Europeans collect, pass on to large foreign companies and communities. A team of volunteers, numbering more than 100 people, sorts everything received by category, and on the same day sorted and marked goes to the warehouses of "Nova Poshta". There, all this is distributed by the commission with the Armed Forces, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Reintegration where it is most needed.

Every morning I think about the fact that I have never dreamed of working in a warehouse. Every morning I think that one pair of jeans a month is the new norm. Every morning I think that the next day is ahead, when everything is rushing, breaking down and becoming very strange. Every morning I think about doing everything I can and a little more, but it's still not enough to calm down with the thought that I'm doing my best. I haven't discovered any superpowers in these days. I just made sure once again that I was the person I always thought I was. During these days, I experienced the strongest emotions of my life: I learned to hate, to wait, to hope, to live with guilt. During these days, I divided my life into "past", before the war, and "next", after the victory. During these days I learned to live in the transit zone "war" and wait. Wait for the world to end when all this is over and we can rebuild our lives...





RYNAKRI

ANDRE TAN

Andre Tan, who before the

war produced women's collections for 53 stores

The team of designer

across the country, is

now focusing all its efforts on making warm

clothes for the army.

ebruary 24, 2022 divided my life into BEFORE and AFTER. I used to think about how to make a woman beautiful and happy. Today my morning begins with the question: what can I do for my homeland?"

The team of designer Andre Tan, who before the war produced women's collections for 53 stores across the country, is now focusing all its efforts on making warm clothes for the army. So far, more than 13,000 items have been sewn

and shipped to recipients - in particular, fleece jackets, warm underwear, sleeping bags, balaclavas, etc. Kyiv, Cherkasy, Vyshhorod, Vinnytsia, Mykolayiv, Uzhhorod, Mukachevo, Lviv - the factories of these cities are involved in the production process. There were even exclusive fabrics from Italy for 55 euros per meter, from which before the war they planned to sew a capsule collection. But now they were needed for other things. "Our army and its full equipment are a priority today," Andre said. He is immensely grateful to all those who have responded to his call, and he never tires

of expressing his respect and admiration for all the staff involved in the process, including the women seamstresses who work tirelessly in the areas where the fighting is ongoing.

"Without them, without their heroic efforts, nothing would have happened. The way Ukrainians support each other today is incredibly inspiring. When we posted a request to respond on social networks, our phones were literally overwelmed from calls. People offer their help absolutely free of charge. I am proud to live in Ukraine!

Perhaps the most important thing that Andre Tan's team plans to focus on now is the production of bulletproof vests. This requires funds for the purchase of a special fabric "cordura" with a density of 1000 GSM.

However, the designer also cherishes post-war plans. Before the war, he completed the development for the American market of a special collection RDNT, designed for generations "who live in a plane of completely different dimensions and values - peace, harmony and love." This message today sounds more symbolic than ever. "That's why I plan to start selling the collection soon, and direct the funds to humanitarian aid to Ukrainians who need it most."





ACCOUNT ADDRESS FOR TRANSFER OF HELP

Beneficiary **ALEKSENKO OLEKSANDRA**

EURO

IBAN Code

UA 4032 2001 0000 0262 0332 6578 375

Account NO **26203326578375**

Name of the bank

JSC UNIVERSAL BANK KYIV, UKRAINE

Bank SWIFT Code UNJSUAUKXXX

Company address

41100, Ukraine, reg. Sumska, district. Shostkynskyi, c. Shostka, st. Svobodi, build. 27, fl. 11

Details of payment PRIVATE TRANSFER

Recipient

ALEKSENKO ALEXANDRA VLADIMIROVNA UAH

IBAN Code

UA 7132 2001 0000 0262 0630 8059 251

Recipient code **2929015966**

Bank namey

JSC "UNIVERSAL BANK"

Purpose of payment
ACCOUNT REPLENISHMENT

Together with a team of volunteers, Ukrainian TV host set up a Telegram channel to search for missing compatriots.

The Search for the Missing channel has been running since the third day of the war.



I WANT THE WORLD NOT TO FORGET ABOUT US. I WISH THAT WORLD LEADERS DO NOT LEAVE UKRAINE AND HELP US TO STOP THIS BLOODSHED. The idea for its creation arose when the TV presenter began to receive an incredible number of direct messages on Instagram with requests to search for the missing. At first, Kateryna and the volunteers decided to focus on finding children - even the channel was named accordingly. However, within an hour the girls realized that there are many more applications and they apply to all citizens. So, they created a channel that helps to search for all of the civilian population of Ukraine.

Within a month, the team has managed to find a lot of people and reunite a lot of families. During these weeks, the girls have done a great job - both with IT specialists and volunteers they have already searched for about a thousand people. "In total, there are seventeen of us girls who process applications almost around the clock. There are more and more of us, volunteers join us every day. We also compile lists of people who have been evacuated. Now we are trying to find out Ukraininans who got into Belarus and Russia - unfortunately, there are such cases as well. Every day we face new tasks, because we create a unified database in which the search will be made by the last name or a hashtag. All this time we are trying to unify this database so it is convenient to use." Kateryna says.

According to her, the most difficult thing is to find information about the evacuees: "We get a handwritten list." The process is further complicated by the fact that thousands of people are out of reach, intimidated, in bomb shelters, in the occupied territories or hotspots where the shelling continues. "I also want to emphasize that, unfortunately, there are many fraudsters who try to blackmail people. These are isolated cases, but we can state that such a phenomenon as war fraud already exists in Ukraine. However, we are struggling with this as well. Difficulties only make us stronger," says the TV host.

Mutual support and constant communication help the girls to stay and work for a common goal. "We are always in touch with our team. We have a joint chat where we are constantly discussing how to make our channel even more effective. We are always strengthened by the belief in victory and the message that someone's family has found or got in touch! The girls and I are always covered with goosebumps from each message with the text: "Thank you, my mother was found!" — shares Emma Shymanovych, one of the volunteers.

FOUNDATION TEAM: Svitlana Gordiienko, Yulia Virts, Oksana Krasilova, Emma Shymanovych, Olha Khrobust.











The WAR DIARY



SVITLANA KRAVCHENKO COLLECTED STORIES OF UKRAINIANS,
WHO FOUND THEMSELVES IN THE HOTTEST
MILITARY POINTS OF THE COUNTRY. STORIES OF THOSE, WHOSE
LIVES ARE FOREVER DIVIDED INTO BEFORE AND AFTER.

Miroslava MAKAREVICH, Kyiv

eople stay. And people go. Each of us makes his or her fateful choice. And few people have time to think... Already more than three million Ukrainians have chosen the path to temporarily stay outside the country, a country on fire (data

as of March 20).

It is clear that the inhabitants of the capital have special preferences, because Kyiv citizens have defended and are defending all, without exception, large and small Ukrainian cities and towns. Photographer Ihor Haidai spoke lucidly about people's choice to stay in their favourite city in the world: "The first is the unwillingness to obey someone else's will... This is such a" strange "feeling of resistance. The second reason is very virtual in form, but strong in depth for us. I imagined that the city will be abandoned by everyone who is scared (and scared by almost everyone). Only defenders will remain. Who will they protect?! Houses? Asphalt? ... If the city is empty, his body will be left without a soul. It will be a dead body. Another reason to be there is metaphysical, because Kyiv is an ancient powerful place of power."

I can subscribe to every word of Gaidai. However, ten days of living under sirens and bombing in the very heart of Kyiv, the rhythm of which I have felt since childhood, the hours of my stay with an old, infirm mother and teenage daughter in a cold bomb shelter, my conversations with my husband and student son. Kyiv,

prepared the ground for an emotionally difficult and physically exhausting decision about the need to

evacuate the women in my family.

My husband drove us to the border with Poland in Krakow to the sound of sirens through numerous checkpoints of defense. And I want to emphasize my gratitude to our men of all generations who stand around the clock to protect their families, their homeland, all of us. These guardian angels genuinely

wished us a happy journey and advised us how to drive safer.

The situation on the border with endless queues of cars and a confused crowd of people, with fires, tents of the Maltese Cross - is a terrible materialization of the famous painting by Picasso "Guernica". It has already been said that in some places people waited to cross the border for 60 hours or more. A queue of cars lined up 10-15 km to the border. Many people lost their patience from fatigue. Several thieves and the arrogant few tried to jump the queue.

Against the background of daily news about the deaths of children in peaceful cities of Ukraine until February 24, I have no right to write about my problems while crossing the border. I will only write that during a long tiring wait between the two border crossings of Ukraine and Poland, I almost lost my 81-year-old mother, who 80 years ago, in 1941, three months after birth, was already experiencing

an evacuation... Well, fate smiled weakly at the generation of "children of war"

I pay tribute to the highly organized Poland, which accepted the first waves and sheltered the largest number of our refugees. The Poles attracted the military, a large number of volunteers. And this neighboring state has become not only a temporary refuge for many Ukrainians, but also a convenient

transit point. Ukrainian cities passed through Polish cities to other European countries, mainly to Germany, which today has more opportunities to provide adequate socially protected temporary asylum than any other European country, including Austria, where I purposefully traveled with part of my family, because my sister lives here.

For many Ukrainians who have no close relatives abroad, evacuation has become a lottery: one of my colleagues, who went to Romania after breaking through the burning Irpen, ended up in Ireland, and a family of friends who decided to go to Hungary

eventually found shelter in Italy.

So many more people around me are women and children who are refugees, but not in legal terms, because everyone is ready to return as soon as possible. Almost every one of us has husbands and sons left in Ukraine and our souls are at home with them.

We went to the border by roads of Vinnytsia, Khmelnytsky, Rivne and Lviv regions. And everywhere the land was green in winter or was carefully plowed. We even stopped for a moment in front of a young apple orchard. Because in the "cherry orchard near the house"* with whitewashed tree trunks, marigolds and mallows of all colors of the rainbow – is our genetic code. That's how it was, is and will be!

*Taras Shevchenko's poem «Sadok vyshnevyi kolo khaty» («A cherry orchard by the house»)

Oleksiy ROZBYTSKYI, Gostomel

It all started on the morning of February 24. I arrived at work, already standing in front of the door, and suddenly the management sent me a message that we were all staying at home. In twenty minutes, I arrived at the train station in Irpin to get on a shuttle bus, and stood for another twenty minutes, I realized – there is nothing to wait for, people are in a panic, crazy traffic jams. I went on foot home to Gostomel. It took an hour. I just crossed the threshold of the apartment when helicopters started flying over the house, remember as now: 34 pieces! From the balcony I saw the airport being bombed, and two fighters were flying nearby.

On February 25, I went to the «Fora» store, which is literally three minutes away from my house. There, in front of the entrance, I saw a Russian column—tanks, armored personnel carriers, infantry fighting vehicles, KAMAZ trucks. I've probably never run so fast. And just then the battle began on the turn to Irpin. The supermarket and two gas stations were destroyed, shells flew into the houses. But our military still defeated the enemy column. At the same time, the shelling at the Antonov airport, where the Russian landing party had already landed, did not subside.

The Kadyrovtsy (military from Chechnya) broke into our yard. Under the houses stood Russian tanks, cars and armored personnel carriers. They smashed all our phones, laptops, tablets, drove men in one direction, women in the other. And then I thought it was the end. They searched us, and the chief told us to get food, water, warm clothes and go down to the basement, where we finally stayed for five days. One day my father and I went out for water. I

looked across the fence, and there were two men with machine guns. I said to my father, «Maybe we'll wait? » To which my father replied: «Go calmly, do not rush, we need water». When we approached, my father asked, «Is there still water? » «Yes», - we heard. They closed the bottles and left, and we took water and lit a cigarette. Explosions are behind us, shells are flying overhead, and we are busy with our own. While there was gas, we cooked at home, two families with small children sat in another basement, we brought them hot food. We baked bread at home and distributed it to children. Twice we wanted to escape, but we decided only on the fifth day. Understood: why sit? it is they who came to us, not us to them. And it was not scary anymore. We started to take everyone out of the basement. I walked in front forty meters from the column, checked the streamers, and my father led the children, women and elderly women. Everything passed: forests, fields, ruined houses. When we reached the bridge on the turn to Irpin, we heard a voice: «Go along the road up to the green building, quickly! » When we saw the chevrons of the Armed Forces and the flag of Ukraine, it was a little easier for us. But suddenly shells from mortars arrived, one fell 10-15 meters from me. If it weren't for the fence, I wouldn't be writing this diary right now. We approached the «green building» (it was «Fora»), our guys drove up there, and we quickly took people on the bus. I also hopped on to take them to a safe place and to go back for the others. Our defenders gave everyone canned food, bread and a bottle of water. Do you understand? Not us to them, but them to us. They passed information on their whereabouts and went to the train station in Kyiv.

During the first days of the war, I learned to distinguish which equipment is firing. If the explosions were far away,

I stayed near the house and smoked. If the whistle was very close, I had three or four seconds to hide. Now I am relatively safe, far from Gostomel. I work to support the country's economy and help defenders as much as I can. I would have gone to the Armed Forces myself, but I was denied because I did not serve. The Territorial defense also said that everything was completed there. So I have to believe in them, which I do. And also believe in the best. If only everyone were alive, and everything else will be rebuilt.

Julia SULATSKA, Mariupol

woke up at 5.00 from the explosions and the alarm. For a moment it seemed to me that something had exploded in the apartment. I read the news, contacted my family and tried to fall asleep. At 7:16 a.m. (I clearly remember this time) my boyfriend Tymofiy woke me up saying that the explosions were getting louder. He, as a mechanic in a providing company, was called to repair the optical highway. At the scene of the call, he saw a projectile hit the house directly: firefighters were working, the bodies of locals mutilated

by shrapnel lay near the fence. Not in packages.

I tried to work remotely, but the explosions didn't stop all over the city, so I began to pack an alarming suitcase. My friend offered me to go to her home. We stayed there from February 24 to March 17. Probably, if it weren't for her, we would hardly have survived. There were 10 of us hiding in her basement, including a pregnant woman and two children. We also had two cats, a dog and a hamster. We took some medicine and food from home, bought some more at the wholesale market until it was bombed: three bags of potatoes, beets, cabbage, carrots and onions. Eventually the products began to run out. In the first days we still had time to order water from the delivery service. Then we went to the stream (60 cm wide), which came out of the reeds, there were many people. The water was very bitter, but we were grateful for that as well. One week before we left, good people allowed us to collect water in their well. Already less bitter.

On March 8 we got home to pick up things. A shell flew at the neighbors, so our whole apartment was in construction dust. There was a swaying hole in the floor of the neighbor's apartment. As we tried to assemble things, the wall was ready to fold in half at any moment. The door to one of the rooms almost flew off its hinges, and in the other room a large crack was visible in the wall. Tymofiy had to punch the door into the pantry, and I cut my hands with the remnants of glass from the door. And although the apartment was rented, it hurts no less. We lived there for a happy five years, and we would have lived there just as long. But...

For more than a week we knew nothing about the evacuation, the city was covered with air strikes, artillery was working, there was no communication, thousands of bodies lay on the streets. I flipped through the photo gallery on my phone until I discharged it. It was

the only reminder of another life.

On March 16, the hospital and the "Neptune" swimming pool, which had not yet been opened, were hit. Tymofiy and I decided that it couldn't go on like this, we needed to do something, our lives were just beginning, and we couldn't let the occupiers take them away. The night was very loud, we hardly slept: basement-house-basement-house. In the morning, the two of us decided to

reconnoiter: we did not go, but almost ran. The city was shrouded in smoke, the center was on fire. We walked through glass and shards, saw a column of cars with white rags; people collecting water from the lined pool; looted shops; a lot of garbage; houses without windows. If you imagine the worst dream of my life, that was it.

We approached a bunch of men who showed us a text message on the phone, which we tried to remember. It was said there that at 9.00 a column was leaving the Drama Theater in the direction of Berdyansk - Zaporizhzhya. Those who did not have time before 18.00, take refuge in the nearby villages. We ran home, told everyone about the green corridor and started packing. All day the guys were looking for gasoline. It is impossible to describe how I was waiting for March 18th. How I was afraid that a bomb would fall on our house, that we would be covered with "hail", how I prayed that we would be able to leave.

On the morning of March 18, a friend's husband found out that all the bridges to the city had been blown up. That is, our district was cut off from leaving through the "green corridor" (which in fact was not supervised by anyone). But we decided to give it a try, and one bridge turned out to be intact. I looked out the car window and did not recognize the city, only ruins remained. Only the walls reminded of the Drama Theater—a direct hit from the plane. There were civilians hiding there... We drove houses and cars on fire, abandoned carriages on the roads, people walking to the checkpoint. What I saw tore

On the way we got stuck at the checkpoint — not ours. We were checked as carefully as if we were not on our own land. Kilometer after kilometer we went with one question «When will Ukraine be? » We arrived in Zaporizhzhya with almost zero car tank. And for the first time in a long period, we fell

asleep in silence.

me away from reality.

While the war is going on, I can't feel even 5% safe. I am afraid of every rustle, phone calls, screams of children. When I hear the sound of a car near the house, I want to fall to the floor: «What If it's not our men? What If they shoot me? » I don't know how long I will have to recover. Fear of war is with

me forever.

Peaceful Mariupol had everything: good doctors, extensive infrastructure, new fountains, beautiful squares and good people. We had work, housing, dreams. There is nothing more left. We are in a foreign city; we need to start from scratch. And my current Mariupol, where thousands of hungry people are still afraid to come out of the basements, needs evacuation and humanitarian aid. I'm even afraid to think about how I will see the city when I dare to return. Given that the bombing continues to this day.

Yulia GLICHENKO, Chernigiv

were queuing at the central store "ATB", some came at five in the morning just to get inside. We made do with what we had. My husband went to the base to buy flour, so he was given five broilers on the way, so we cooked stews. And a few days before the war I bought two kilograms of red fish for sandwiches and frozen vegetables, and that's what we eat now. We were also helped by volunteers; we received humanitarian aid. Yesterday I received a package of candies and cream soup, a large pack of

muesli, yogurt, a few packets of semi-finished goods. All bridges to Chernihiv have been destroyed, it was becoming increasingly difficult to deliver anything to us. Cars could have jumped over

the footbridge, but today it was also smashed.

To wash, we collected water in the Stryzhen river. We called it a stench because everyone dumps garbage, tires and rags there. We also collected rainwater on the street. There were no wells in the private sector, and you had to stand in line for two hours for the central columns to collect two buckets for cooking. So, we had to save a lot: we washed, poured water into a bowl so my son could flush the toilet at night.

For the first four days we hid in the cellar until everyone fell ill. Now we run into a small corridor. When not shooting, the son played on the street, sculpted send figures. After the shelling of the towers, some mobile operators simply did not exist. And I, to catch any connection, climbed on a summer shower. There were guys sitting in a trench nearby, we brought them coffee and sweets, thanked them and asked them to hold on. The war united us all.

A shell flew into our apartment building, but the room seemed to have survived, and our private house also came under fire. There was no light or water in the house where we live now. But we had a gas boiler, so we could cook. There were no rushists in Chernigiv now, they were on the verge. Ten days ago, they bombed a cemetery on the outskirts of the city and a chapel where the dead are buried. People were hiding there, then rescuers could not pull them out for a long time due to continuous shelling. From there we could see and hear the mobile crematorium, which russian troops deployed in Sednev (30 km from Chernigiv).

My family and I believed in the best and we didn't even think of running away. My mother drew a calendar until April 7 (I heard somewhere that the war would end then) and together with her grandson crossed out the days. Recently, my son ran up to me: «Mom, I drew a picture. These are Putin and Lukashenko, and birds are defecating on top of them». It was funny, but children experience war in their own way.

We were holding on, because the situation was even worse in other cities. If Chernigiv was a humanitarian catastrophe, then Mariupol is was completely wiped off the face of the earth. But the two worst nights of March 17 and 23 were etched in my memory forever, with the most shots fired. Yesterday, bombs fell for three

hours in a row. I completely discharged the phone when I looked only at the clock - I prayed that this was the last time. We already knew who was shooting and with what. We knew that at eleven o'clock at night, at two and three o'clock in the morning, an enemy plane would appear. As I climbed onto the roof of the summer shower, I saw the whole city burning. We always have something burning now...

n February 24, I went for a walk with my five-year-old son and saw a large convoy of military equipment, and at noon a siren sounded in the city, followed by explosions. We lived in a high-rise building, so together with the neighbors we decided to move to our private house on the outskirts. The night seemed calm, but at six in the morning the house began to shake. My brother, who was taking his wife to a nearby village, advised us to flee: "This is not good place you chose, there are many tanks nearby." We returned to the apartment, but found no peace there, the explosions became louder. I decided to go to my parents, who lived in a private house in the center of Chernigiv. So, me, my husband, son, my mother, father, grandfather and grandmother found ourselves under one roof. From time to time my husband and I visited our apartment: to take a shower, take the child's toys and check if the looters had broken in, because we live on the ground floor. It was the same on February 28. As soon as I came out of the bathroom, something flew to the district hospital — right in front of our house. I was blown away by a shock wave, the glass on the balcony was broken ...

Subsequently, the apartments were without heating and water. The situation with the sewerage system was as follows — you could go down only on a small need and wash off the river with water, for a large dug street toilets. People have set up field kitchens near the entrances — women cook porridge and borscht, and men with children warm themselves by the fire, because the apartments are only five degrees warm. Everyone was very united,

asking who needs what.

Our family was lucky because my mother and I were thrifty housewives. Seven hundred people

OLGA KLYMENKO, Volnovakha

The war knocked on our door in 2014, when Russia began to brazenly hold pseudo-referendums and put its puppeteers at the regional administration. However, thanks to the Armed Forces, the Security Service and Ukrainian volunteers, Volnovakha defended, and the front line stopped 10-15 km from us. Who would have thought that in eight years the war would come to us again...

On February 24, we were woken up at 4.30 from the explosions and heard on TV about the Russian invasion. For a day and a half, it seemed that nothing terrible was happening: almost all grocery stores and pharmacies were open, and people were withdrawing cash from ATMs. However, at 3 pm on February 25, the city was shelled. My mother called me and said that something had flew into their

house. We ran there — our relatives miraculously survived! I took my 75-year-old mother (she is diabetic, suffered two strokes) and my 81-year-old father to my apartment on the second floor. They did not have the strength to go down to the basement, so their shelter was a bedroom with two walls and a side window — the only one that survived. We hid in the basement of the house, where there were twenty other people with us, and ran upstairs to my parents.

My husband's father died on February 26. There were no more policemen in the city, so we were told at the hospital to have our neighbors witness the death. When we were buying a coffin, a missile flew into the city center and struck a blow I had never heard in my life. We were not allowed into the cemetery, and it was scary: the shelling did not subside. So we decided to keep the coffin with my father in the car in the garage. As soon as we closed the garage, a shell flew into our house. We had no hope that our parents survived. But

God saved their lives again.

February 27 was my 44th birthday. Night and morning passed without explosions, we came out of the shelter and removed the glass in the apartment—the effects of the shell. Fortunately, there was still a connection, we charged our phones from the neighbors' battery. They were about to leave, but I persuaded them not to hurry. The arguments were the stocks of food and water (we learned this in 2015), as well as the danger of driving without a green corridor. We decided to wait and the city was shelled again. Thank God, the children wrote to us that the corridor is still planned. And we started

preparing to leave.

On February 28 we buried my father in the yard, deep only on the blade of the shovel. We were bitten by guilt that this was not right. But we had no choice. We packed things in cars (it's good they were on the move). Someone called a neighbor and advised them to write the word "Children" on white sheets of paper, hang white sheets and wait for the call. At about 10 o'clock we were "given a go" on the way out (there was still a telephone connection in the city, but the gas pipeline had already been smashed). As we learned later, no corridor actually existed. Our military simply did not respond to the shelling, and in those 15 minutes we managed to jump out of the

city. It looked like after the apocalypse, I didn't even see it in the movies. But the fact, that Ukrainian soldiers remained there and showed the direction to leave, gave hope, that Volnovakha would survive. We drove without looking back, to nowhere, to get away from that nonsense. The nine of us stopped at

our friend's house, thanked him for the shelter. But my old parents refused to believe that their homes have been destroyed, and dream about going home every day.

Today there is a stench all over Volnovakha: improvised cemeteries grow in every yard; the bodies of murdered people lie on the streets of the city. Amidst this horror, my guilt for burying my

father is gradually subsiding.

It is a catastrophe in Volnovakha! And as long as the city remains occupied, there will be no light, no gas, no water, no heat, no communication. There are no more shops, pharmacies, one of the seven schools more or less survived, two hospitals were destroyed. The occupiers are bringing a "humanitarian aid" to get which you have to stand queue for several hours. The curfew starts at 2 pm which gives them possibility to rob homes during daylight hours. Non-humans do not even plan to improve the lives of locals, they have other tasks: renaming streets, concerts in the rushist spirit. It is very dangerous for those who could not leave and had an open civil, pro-Ukrainian position for all eight years. Everyone fears that the occupying power will start mobilizing men to fight against Ukraine.

For more than a month we have not been home, but with heart, mind and soul — with Volnovakha. And although such a city now almost does not exist, there are still thousands of people in need of a decent life. And we stubbornly believe that we will definitely return and rebuild our hometown —

the hero city of Volnovakha!

UNBROKEN

in everyday life,

ALYONA BUSHYNSKA

IS A CELEBRITY MAKE-UP ARTIST, SHE WORKS WITH UKRAINIAN ARTISTS AND HAS DEVELOPED HER OWN COSMETICS BRAND. TODAY, INSTEAD OF LIPSTICK AND HIGHLIGHTER WITH SEQUINS. ALONA IS HOLDING A MACHINE GUN. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WAR, SHE JOINED THE TERRITORIAL DEFENSE OF KYIV ON HER OWN INITIATIVE. ALENA TOLD ELLE WHAT HER LIFE WAS LIKE AND WHAT THE WAR TAUGHT HER.





At what point did you realize that the war had begun?

Альона Бушинська On the morning of February 24, my mother and sister had to come to Kyiv from Odessa - they planned to stay here for a week to study. I was going to meet them at the station, but when I saw heavy traffic jams, I realized that panic had begun. The traffic jams lasted from 6 am to 2 pm. I did not feel any strong emotions during this period, but I was clearly aware of the state of people around me. At that moment, I ran my soothing ten kilometers and just waited for my family at home - they got to me on the subway.

When did you decide to join the Territorial Defense Unit (TDU)?

A. 5. On the first day I watched several videos on the Internet about self-defense, read articles about the National Guard - I wanted to understand how women can participate and be useful in general. Then I called the nearest military registration and enlistment office. I was there in an hour, then returned home, and an hour later I was called and called to the military registration and enlistment office. It was probably the worst two minutes, because I allowed myself to waver. I imagined what would happen if I refused and stayed at home. I was displeased with my own thoughts, so I packed up and left.

TDU go?

A. 5. If the day is peaceful and does not begin with the first missiles, then we usually learn tactical medicine, communicate with volunteers, help on the information front. If the

day still starts with missile attacks, we immediately put on the beret, grab a machine gun and act on intuition: either run to the shelter, or line up and wait for the command.

Have you ever held a weapon in your hand before?

A. b. I only shot once in the shooting range. And here my dad, by the way, KMS on sports shooting, the grandmother - the master of sports. In addition, I really like the aesthetics of military equipment.

Are you scared?

A. 5. Of course, it's scary when something happens for the first time and someone's life may depend on it.

Describe the people who hold the defense with you today.

A. b. Today, seventy-nine combat medics are with me. During the war I found friends here. These are the people with whom my core values coincide. These people are brave, courageous, agile and have a great sense of humor.

LLL What did the war teach you?

A. 5. The war reveals people and greatly exacerbates the adequacy of the worldview. War destroys, takes away, but also cleanses. War unites people and opens the most beautiful corners of the soul.

What would you like to say to the whole world?

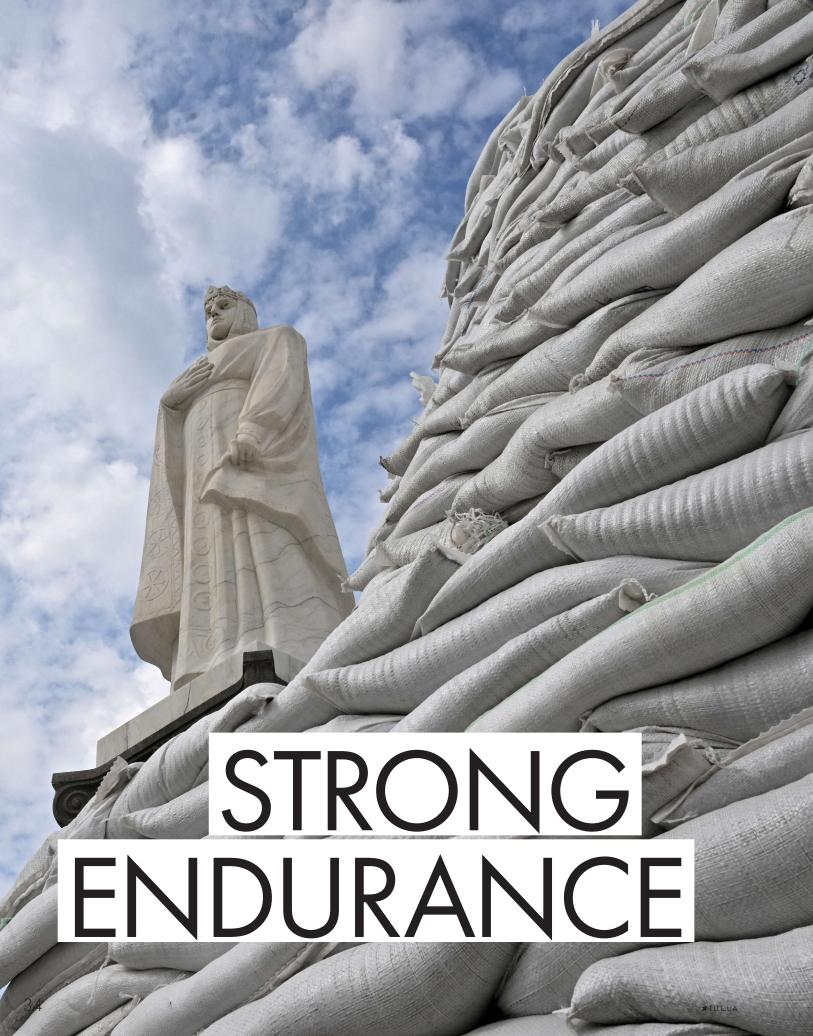
A. b. Create the future of our country in your mind. Don't waste your time! Enjoy every minute while you and your loved ones are





Diesel stands for peace in Ukraine and with its parent company
OTB and OTB Foundation, it has immediately supported UNHCR to help
thousands of people and families forced to flee from their country.
We are deeply concerned about the tragic developments in Ukraine and we
stand in solidarity with all people who are imperatively calling for peace.







FROM THE MOMENT RUSSIA INVADED UKRAINE, WE NOT ONLY DEFEND OUR TERRITORIES, SAVE PEOPLE, CIVILIANS, BUT ALSO DEFEND OUR CULTURAL VALUES. KATERYNA POPOVA FOUND OUT WHICH TEMPLES AND MUSEUMS WERE IN THE WAR ZONE AND HOW LARGE-SCALE THE DESTRUCTION OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS WAS.

he Ukrainians are a freedom-loving nation. We have been fighting for independence for centuries — from the days of the Cossacks to the present day. Serhiy Plokhiy in his work "Gate of Europe" dedicated to the history of Ukraine, noted that in December 1991, Ukrainian citizens voted en masse for independence and thus put the Soviet Union in the dustbin of history. The events in Ukraine at the time had far-reaching consequences for the international community and in fact changed the course of history: a week after the Ukrainian referendum, the Soviet Union collapsed and President George W. Bush declared the end to a long, grueling Cold War. Today, in 2022, Ukraine is once again fight-

ing for its independence and defending the whole of Europe. The whole world recognizes Putin's aggression against the Ukrainian people, as well as against civilized relations

between the states.

So, of course, every Ukrainian should know his history: the course of events in the struggle for independence, the course of thought of political leaders (because everything is repeated, as we see) and finally, the cultural heritage of his native land. This awareness contributes to our self-knowledge and identity, our desire to discover the unknown pages of Ukrainian history, to study ancient traditions and spiritual roots.

Objects of cultural heritage — silent witnesses of our centuries-old history, custodians of spiritual and material values — play an important social role, which in the context of building an independent Ukrainian state and awakening national identity is the basis of knowledge of the past, comprehensive understanding of people's lives.

According to the number of monuments, Ukraine is one of the countries with rich historical and cultural heritage. There are more than 147,000 monuments of history, architecture, archeology, urban planning, and monumental art on the state register. Many of them are of national importance, such as the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra and St. Sophia of Cathedral, which are included in the UNE-

SCO World Heritage Register.

Today, not only the people of Ukraine but also architectural monuments are suffering from the Russian invasion. My heart is breaking with the news of how a violent enemy is destroying our cultural heritage every day. Tragic events have caused irreparable disaster for the whole world. The General Secretary of the German Commission for UNE-SCO Roman Lukscheiter in his interview to DW mentioned that his colleagues from other National Commissions are extremely concerned about the fate of the seven World Heritage sites in Ukraine and strongly condemn the Russian attack on Ukraine. "When cultural heritage is under threat," says Lukshaiter, "it is a threat to the country's cultural identity, as well as a threat to the cultural heritage of all mankind.»

nemy shelling and bombing almost completely destroyed a number of Ukrainian cities: Volnovakha, Okhtyrka, Izyum, Mariupol, and Kharkiv, Sumy, and Chernihiv suffered catastrophic damage. Currently, Kyiv, Mykolayiv, Zaporizhia and other cities are suffering from missile attacks. The Ministry of Culture and Information Policy has only a rough idea of the extent of the destruction of cultural and religious monuments. The Deputy Minister of Culture Kateryna Chuyeva noted that the bombing not only kills the world's population, but also destroys cultural heritage sites throughout Ukraine. A number of historic cities as of March 17th are under

siege, some are occupied.



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Donetsk Academic Regional Drama Theater in Mariupol.



Above: the ruined Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin in Zhytomyr Region; right: theater in Mariupol after the bombing March 18, 2022; left: Museum of Ukrainian Antiquities in Chernihiv after and before the bombing.





ince the beginning of the war, the invaders have damaged at least 28 religious buildings in Ukraine, the blast destroyed the History Museum in Okhtyrka, the Vasyl Tarnovsky Museum of Ukrainian Antiquities in Chernihiv (which had survived World War II but did not survive the Russian aggression) the XX century monument - the former cinema named after Shchors. The occupiers smashed the Popov Estate in the Vasyliv district of the Zaporizhia region/ The museum director Hanna Holovko said that the Russians had broken down doors, smashed windows and destroyed everything in their path. The air strike damaged the Svyatogorsk Lavra in Donetsk region, the enemy damaged the building of Kharkiv University, the bombing destroyed the wooden Church of the Nativity of the Virgin in 1862 in Zhytomyr region, Russian invaders dropped a bomb on the Mariupol Drama Theater, where hundreds of children hid. Enemies also wiped out the Okhtyrka railway station building, which survived 1943 but did not survive 2022. The



The project of the artist Pavel Makov, who will present Ukraine at the Venice Biennale this year, was exported. "The work we will present at the Venice Biennale is The Fountain of Exhaustion. Acqua Alta" by Pavel Makov — consists of two parts: 78 bronze funnels and the platform to which they are attached. Even before the war, we realized that one of the curators, Maria Lanko, who kept them in her home, would be responsible for the evacuation of the funnels. Our goal was to represent Ukraine on the international art arena, despite all obstacles, including war. On the second day after the start of the Russian invasion, Maria loaded the funnels into the car and, like most Ukrainians, drove west. After more than a week of moving between various cities in western Ukraine.

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Above: the building of Kharkiv National University after the shelling left: Kharkiv National University before the war; Below: Destroyed Holocaust Monument near Kharkiv, March 2022

she crossed the border with Romania and traveled to Europe. She recently arrived to Venice for the Biennale. In Italy, the pavilion team plans to recreate the original design of the fountain, despite the fact that the platform for it, unfortunately, could not be removed from Kyiv" — said the curators Elizabeth Herman, Maria Lanko and Boris Filonenko.

Public figure, gallery owner, founder of Spivakovska ART:EGO gallery, managing partner of Mandarin Maison art gallery Lika Spivakovska shared her thoughts on the barbaric destruction of our country's historical heritage and the future of its culture: "It is already clear that the main goal is the destruction of the Ukrainian nation, its values, its free spirit. As a result, art objects are becoming the first on the enemies list. Already in the first days they have attacked the building with the works by an outstanding artist Maria Primachenko, that are the symbols of prosperity and fertility of our land, of its freedom and will. Fortunately, the locals managed to move and keep these works.









But Ukrainians have received support from UNESCO, an international organization that cares for cultural sites around the world. The buildings will be restored. Italy was the first to offer help, proposing to rebuild the theater in Mariupol, which was crushed by the occupiers.

Currently, the issue of cultural heritage is considered in two areas: the preservation of what is a centuries-old heritage, and the formation of a new cultural history of Ukraine. More and more art residencies are being set up for contemporary artists in Europe, where they can live and work, and financial support programs are being introduced for them. It will be a powerful new cultural wave. The works of this period will be included in the museum collections all over the world. I am sure that future generations will study art history on them.»

istorians and museum workers all over Ukraine are trying to save historical monuments: sculptures which cannot be dismantled, restorers wrap them in glass and fireproof fabric, install protective screens, and cover them with sandbags.

Preserving historical heritage is one of the most important tasks in Lviv. The ensemble of the historic center of the city is protected by UNESCO and inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1998. I have watched with my own eyes how the stained glass windows of buildings are equipped with shock wave screens (in case the fighting is transferred here), and some monuments are dismantled or wrapped in film, wrapped in refractory





and protective materials. To save them from bombings and possible street battles with the Russian occupiers, sandbags were placed on the 200-year-old sculpture of Duke de Richelieu on Primorsky Boulevard in Odessa, as well as Europe's largest collection of Polovtsian statues of the Steppe Guard on the Dnieper. Most of the collection, which contains nearly a hundred stone women, is located in the open air next to the Historical Museum. Dmytro Yavornytsky. At present, all museum expositions are in storage.

ladislav Berkovsky, PhD in History and Executive Director of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation, said that during the month of the war, the invaders destroyed and damaged nearly 100 cultural heritage sites in Ukraine and looted museums in



A volunteer wraps a monument to Bohdan Khmelnytsky in Kyiv.

Russian-occupied settlements in Ukraine. In order to preserve cultural monuments, these institutions evacuate the exhibits as much as possible and move them to shelters. Of course, in such conditions we can't talk about the normal exhibition or research work of museums or archives, so these institutions are stepping up their activities in the organization of virtual exhibitions. It is important to create exhibitions that refute Russian disinformation about Ukraine and its history. The fighting and destruction led to the evacuation of many artists and cultural figures, including abroad.

ut today one of the most important tasks for Ukrainians is to preserve and rebuild attractions. According to Vladyslav, after the victory of Ukraine, we must clearly realize that

not all artists will return home and not all will be able to resume their creative activities in the near future. However, with proper financial support for three or four years, we will be able to return to the level we had before the war. Of course, this is not about the territories that were under Russian occupation: it will take at least five or even ten years to rebuild there.

Now we should do our best to protect Ukraine, our relatives, children, support the military, believe in ourselves and in our victory. Our current actions will go down in history one way or another. Future generations will judge each of us — every politician, every leader, every nation. We will live, we will revive a new life, new meanings and a new country!

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The Pantone Color Institute named the shades of the Ukrainian flag "freedom blue" and "energizing yellow".

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Our flag is a source of inspiration for the whole world. Leoni Hanne, whose boyfriend is from Ukraine, became the record holder of yellow and blue outfits.







MODE SKØNHED KULTUR INTERIØR AGENDA

How to Support the People of Ukraine Right Now

ELLE FAMILY

Our editor-in-chief Sonya Zabouga has yet to estimate whether she has taken more interviews during her career or given ones to ELLE publications around the globe. Covers devoted to Ukraine have been released by ELLE France, Korea and Czech Republic, the online support keeps growing worldwide. That's what we call sisterhood!

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Det här händer i Ukraina – och så kan du hjälpa de drabbade







ANY PLANS FOR THE VICTORY? FOR SURE, THE FIRST
THING WE WILL ALL DO AFTER THIS WAR ENDS IS HUGGING
OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY
SAY: VISUALIZATION CAN TURN A DREAM TO REALITY.
THEREFORE, THE ELLE UKRAINE EDITORS HAVE DECIDED TO
BE MORE SPECIFIC IN THEIR PLANS FOR THE VICTORY DAY.



Sonya Zabouga, Editor-in-Chief



The first thing I will do after the war is take a long walk around my hometown and meet my friends for a cup of coffee... And I will publish this THE HOPE ISSUE. We will release it as an exclusive edition. Holding a printed copy of the magazine will also mean coming back to life in its usual format.

Svitlana Kravchenko, Senior Editor



Immediately after the victory I want to start cleaning my Kyiv apartment: open the windows wide, replant the flowers and rummage in the kitchen. I will invite friends over for borscht and casserole. And then put on my best dress and together with my boyfriend enjoy the view of our dearest Khreshchatyk from the Milk Bar terrace on the rooftop of TSUM.

Yuliya Portareskul, Art Director



At once, without waiting for "better times", I will go on a trip: Budapest — Paris — Hamburg — Malmö. As a tourist, not a refugee. With a clear understanding that I have a place to return to and someone to tell about my trip while sitting in my favorite cafe under the chestnut trees.

Marianna Partevyan, Beauty Editor



When Ukraine wins, I will kiss my cat's face so many times that he won't be able to wash away my smell forever. Then I'll take a walk along my favorite route — from Podil to the Kashtan coffee house. And I will definitely go to Kharkiv. For so long I've been promising my friend Roman to visit his hometown and constantly kept postponing the trip. Now it's time to take part in rebuilding the city as a volunteer.

Daria Voznyuk, SMM Editor



For me the war will end only when my fiancée's message wakes me up: "Darling, I'm coming home". First of all, I'll do what I've probably forgotten about — smiling! Then we will plant a tree, and then everything will be according to a happy scenario...

Anastasia Bilous, Fashion Editor



After the war I will finally buy an embroidered vyshyvanka from the Ukrainian brand Vita Kin and, all dressed-up, walk my favorite streets of Kyiv.

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Kateryna Popova, ELLE.ua Editor-in-Chief



After Ukraine wins in this terrible war, I will definitely hug all my loved ones, walk through my native Kyiv and spend the sunset on my favorite embankment or Dnipro river. I will arrange flowers (many flowers) at home and smell the spring every day. My trip to Odesa will come true and not only to Odesa, I will discover so many more places in my beautiful country and I will love Kyiv more and more every day. And, of course, I really want to hear the long-awaited "Katya, Ukraine has won! Pack your clothes, we're going home!"

Natalia Osadcha, Fashion Director



After our victory, I will definitely adopt a cat from a shelter. Now in Lviv I see a huge number of animals, which the owners sometimes abandoned them right at the station. It hurts a lot. But so far I do not dare to take some of them, because I am afraid that one day I might be facing a similar choice.

Oleksandra Vykhrest, Photo Editor



When the war is over, the first thing we will do is return home and finish building the giant dollhouse, a belated Birthday present to my daughter. We began arranging it on the evening of February 23 and left it partly unfinished. For some reason I keep thinking about this dollhouse all the time.

Olena Melnyk, Managing Editor



After the victory, I will wash the tape from the windows to see my garden and the sky without the smoke of fires. And I really want to take my family to Odessa and show my daughter the Black Sea. I will thank the Armed Forces, the territorial defense and all the Ukrainians who survived. And maybe I will finally be able to cry, because so far, I haven't been able to do so...

Iryna Koval, Text Chief



After our victory, I will immediately join the reconstruction of my Kyiv region — we first need to dismantle the ruins in order to rebuild new housing for people as soon as possible. Then I will plant a sea of flowers and trees. But before that, I would like to hug my grandchildren and children, we were separated by this damned war for so long.

Ivanka Petrovych, ELLE.ua Editor



The first thing I will do after the war is meet and hugg my friends and family. The first thing I will do after the war is walk the streets of my dearest Kyiv. The first thing I do after the war is celebrate our victory in my favorite vyshyvanka. The first thing I will do after the war is finally spend a night in my bed and enjoy sleeping with no sirens.

Lena Lisun, ELLE.ua Beauty Editor



Tears well up as I close my eyes and imagine the day that will bring the news of the end of this war. The first thing I will do that day is take the tickets home. Now I miss my Mother the most every single day. I really want to hug and feel: I'm finally home. I would give away anything for this to come true now ...



THE ELLE-UKRAINE TEAM EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE TO THE TEAMS AND ALL THE PARTNERS WHO MADE THIS ISSUE POSSIBLE INCLUDING

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