

Danish Refugee Council

Founded in 1956, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is Denmark's largest international NGO, with specific expertise in forced displacement. DRC is present in close to 40 countries and employs 9,000 staff globally.

DRC advocates for the rights of and solutions for displacement-affected communities and provides assistance during all stages of displacement: in an acute crisis, in exile, when settling and integrating into a new place, or upon return. DRC supports displaced persons in becoming self-reliant and included in hosting societies. DRC works with civil society and responsible authorities to promote the protection of rights and inclusion.

DRC in Ukraine

DRC Ukraine delivers and supports humanitarian aid initiatives across Ukraine, employing more than 900 primarily national staff. With a main office in Kyiv, DRC is present in 11 oblasts across the country, working to provide targeted, timely, relevant, and efficient aid to displacement and conflict-affected communities.

DRC began programming in Ukraine in 1998, carrying out reintegration projects in Crimea, developing later, in 2014, to a larger-scale presence in the Donbas region. DRC scaled up its operations in response to the conflict in February 2022. It is now one of the largest international NGO operations in Ukraine, responding to the needs of conflict and displacement-affected communities across the country.

Today, DRC Ukraine implements a broad range of integrated and holistic programmes both directly and through national partners, delivering emergency and longer-term support, helping to support people to rebuild and recover their lives and improve access to durable solutions to displacement.

DRC delivers programme activities in Protection, Economic Recovery, Humanitarian Disarmament & Peacebuilding, Shelter & Settlements, as well as support to improve access to safe Water, Sanitation & Hygiene services. DRC remains committed to continuing to support conflict and displacement-affected individuals and communities in Ukraine where vulnerabilities are deepening and where access to basic services and rights are at risk.

DRC in Ukraine: A decade of commitment

Tracing ten years of humanitarian support to communities across Ukraine



For complaints and appeals:

✉ UKR-feedback@drc.ngo

☎ 0 800 33 95 18

You can also fill out the online form by scanning the QR code:



! Important:

All humanitarian aid provided by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is **entirely free**.

At no stage of assistance does the DRC request or charge fees.

10 years

A Decade of Commitment

Expanding Operations: From an initial six offices in 2014 to a comprehensive network across Ukraine.

Building Capacity: Trained demining teams, strengthened local partnerships, and supported mine victims and their families.

Humanitarian Impact: Delivered legal aid, psychosocial support, and life-saving livelihoods, shelter, and mine action programs to millions.

Looking Forward: DRC remains committed to rebuilding lives, empowering communities, and fostering hope for a peaceful future in Ukraine.

Early Beginnings

Initial Operations:

Supported the resettlement of Crimean Tatars returning from Central Asia to Crimea.

1998 2000

Capacity Building

Focus Areas:

Strengthened the capacity of asylum authorities and civil society.

Child Protection:

Implemented a successful programme supporting asylum-seeking and refugee children.



2013

Expanding Mine Clearance Operations

Milestone: First two demining teams began operations near Myrna Dolyna, Luhansk Oblast.

2015

Sustaining Operations with a Robust Workforce

Priorities: Focused on Mykolaiv and other severely affected regions, delivering integrated protection, livelihoods, and demining programs.

Impact: Supported over 17,200 families with livelihoods assistance while maintaining a strong staff presence.

Staff Surge: Grew to 900 team members to meet the urgent needs of millions of people affected by the ongoing war.

2024

2007

2014



Responding to Crisis

Re-Opening of Operations: In response to the humanitarian crisis following the annexation of Crimea and the conflict in Donbas DRC resumed activities in Ukraine in November 2014.

Offices Opened: Donetsk, Mariupol, Sieverodonetsk, Kyiv, Dnipro, and Berdyansk.

Staffing: Launched operations with 40 national and 15 international colleagues.

Emergency Response: Delivered food and cash assistance to conflict-affected populations.

2017

Enhancing Mine Action through Partnerships

Collaboration: Partnered with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine to scale up nationwide mine clearance efforts.

2022

Strengthening Support in Conflict Zones

New Initiatives: Legal assistance, psychosocial support, and livelihoods programs.

Community Focus: Worked with populations along the contact line to help rebuild resilience.

Mine Action: Began to conduct Explosive Ordnance Risk Education sessions in eastern Ukraine

Rapid Expansion in response to full-scale Invasion

Offices Opened: Expanded presence to include Lviv, Chernivtsi, Chernihiv, Sumy, Kherson, Mykolaiv, and Kharkiv.

Support for Local NGOs: DRC bolstered the capacity of 20 civil society organisations, conducting over 500 individual training sessions to enhance their emergency response capabilities.