

# Maramureș County Council (Romania) – Inter-institutional Cooperation

4th Transnational Learning Meeting combined with  
the Study Visit

24-th September 2024, Baia Mare





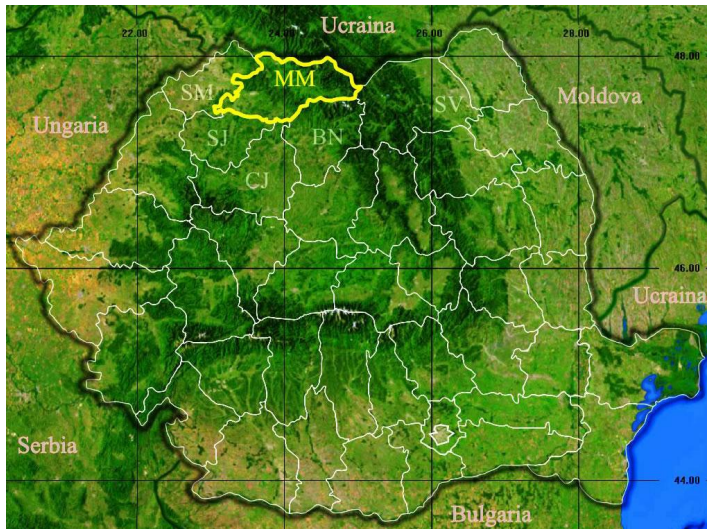
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Maramures County is situated in the North West of Romania and faced challenges of refugees' crisis since the beginning of the conflict that disturbs the normal life in our neighbouring country, Ukraine.



*"The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine has been going on for months, during which all key factors have been mobilized in Maramures to provide needed support to our neighbours across Tisa. In this supporting campaign we have been joined by partners from other European Union countries and, together with our local partners, NGOs, business representatives, civil society and local governments, we continue to support Ukraine everyday" said Mr. Ionel Bogdan, the president of Maramures County Council.*



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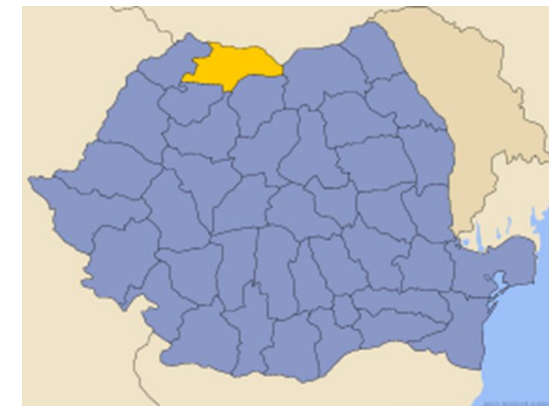


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- Maramureș County is part of the North-West Region of Romania which includes 6 counties: Bihor, Bistrița-Năsăud, Cluj, Maramureș, Satu Mare and Sălaj.
- Maramureș County borders Ukraine to the north; to the east with Suceava county; to the south with the counties of Bistrița-Năsăud, Cluj, Sălaj; and to the west with Satu Mare county.
- The area of the county is 6,304 km<sup>2</sup> (2.6% of the total area of the country), being located on the 15th place in terms of area, among the counties of the country.



- Maramureș County has the longest border with Ukraine of 163.1 kilometers and
- 1 border crossing point at Sighetu Marmăției – Solotvino on a single-lane wooden bridge.





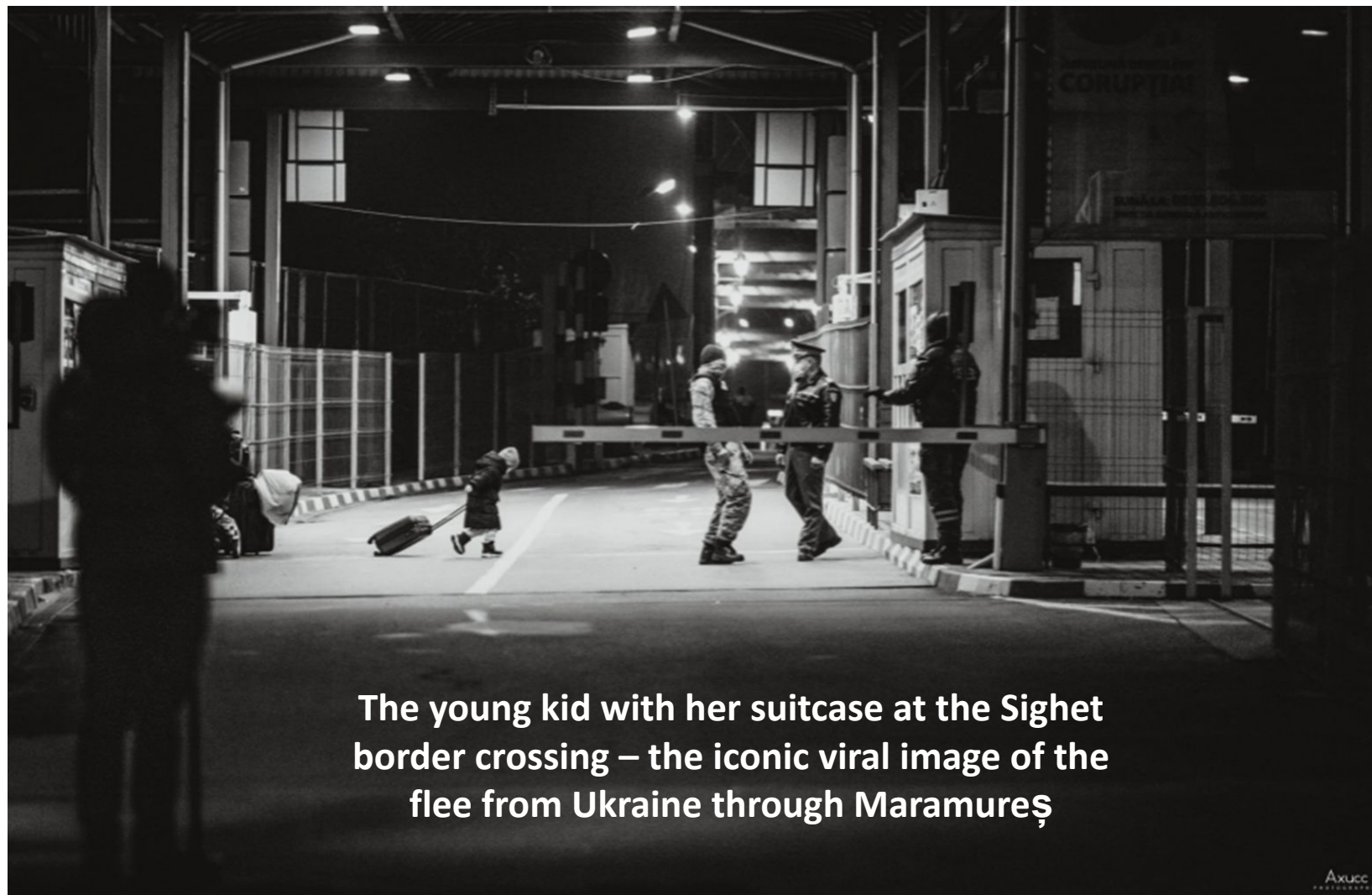
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The young kid with her suitcase at the Sighet  
border crossing – the iconic viral image of the  
flee from Ukraine through Maramureș



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*Ovidiu Opris*



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In the beginning of the conflict, thousands of people, especially women and children, fled Ukraine and entered daily in Maramureș through the border crossing point from Sighetu Marmăției, finding in our county support and humanitarian assistance. Maramureș County Council, as local authority at county level, is acting as catalyst factor for Maramureș community to help people who had to leave their country, their homes and families to flee from war and destruction.







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A working group for crisis management that was created, involving representatives of Maramures County Council, Prefecture and Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, coordinates at the county level all supporting actions for Ukraine and for refugees, making easier their stay or transit through Romania.

Since the beginning of the armed conflict, hundreds of people from Maramures have shown lots of empathy with the refugees, offering freely accommodation, food, transportation and hundreds of young volunteers were actively involved in these supporting actions.





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**The first measures covered the primary needs of refugees,** providing necessary food, clothes, and hygiene supplies and solving medical emergencies. In partnership with the Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and the Municipality of Sighetu Marmatiei, a **refugee camp** with tents and containers has been set up within the Municipal Stadium of Sighetu Marmatiei.

Complementing the national initiatives, the Maramures County Council demonstrated its commitment by allocating a substantial 1 million euros to manage the refugee crisis situation.

**Three logistic centres have been established in Baia Mare, Sighetu Marmatiei and Halmeu,** for managing donations received from local, national and international donors, including donors from twinned regions with Maramures and other EU partners. Many young volunteers worked there for receiving, selecting and distributing the donations.





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From the Humanitarian hubs located in Halmeu and Sighetu Marmăției, more than 100 trucks as humanitarian convoys transported tonnes of goods and first aid supplies to our twinned regions Transcarpathia and Ivano-Frankivsk, and other regions from Ukraine that have turned to Maramures for help.







In partnership with local and international NGOs, including UNICEF, Red Cros, and our Child Protection Institution, we set up the "Blue Do—Integrated Centre of Assistance and Support" for refugees and their children at the border point Sighetu Marmatiei. This was the **first Blue Dot facility** opened in Romania.





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- Maramures County Council has added a dedicated online platform to this Blue Dot facility, which enables refugees to access accommodation and transportation in real time.
- This platform's primary purpose was to connect the needs of those fleeing the war with the resources identified by our crisis management unit. It also ensures the traceability of the refugees within our territory.
- Safety and quick response to the crisis were our primary concerns when dealing with this unprecedented situation.





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Maramures County Council allocated 300.000 euros to finance local NGOs within the county project "Cooperation on increasing the operational capacity at the level of Maramures County in order to ensure efficient and unitary adequate humanitarian assistance for refugees/persons entering the territory of Romania and for citizens and public authorities on the territory of Ukraine."







**Under the coordination of the crisis-working group, over 30 NGOs have been involved in the project of Maramures County** dedicated to adequate humanitarian assistance for the Ukraine crisis, within all necessary operations at the logistic centres and at the Blue Dot, for:

- managing donations, receiving, registering and guiding the refugees;

**Ensuring/facilitating translation,** primary needs, medical care, meals, accommodation, transport, child protection, psychological assistance, legal advice and useful information.

**All 30 NGOs actively engage** young volunteers, who are crucial in supporting the refugees.





INTERNET ȘI CARTELE GRATUITE  
PENTRU REFUGIAȚII UCRAINENI

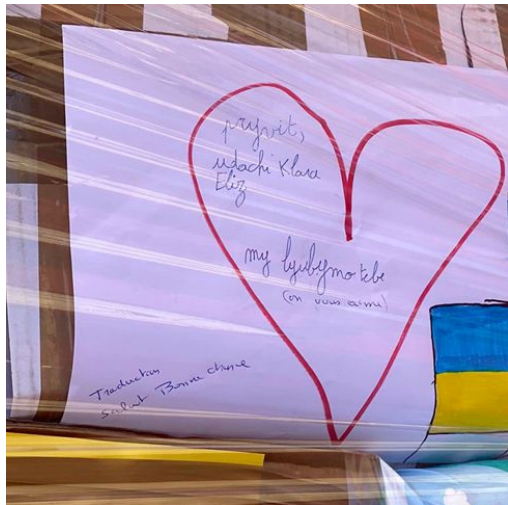


Foreign citizens coming in Maramures from the armed conflict areas of Ukraine, benefit from **free of charge railway transportation on the territory of our country**. Two free international rail transport corridors have been created, with departure from Sighetu Marmăției, on daily basis.

**The refugees also benefit from free internet through the Wi-Fi network provided by a national operator.** The company has also offered free mobile cards with internet benefits and national and international minutes valid in the EU and Ukraine in the first months.

**Maramures County Council offered free COVID-19 testing** for all the refugees and medical care in our hospitals through our local medical programs.





**For more than 500 Ukrainian children and their attendants, we have facilitated accommodation and meals in Maramures on their way to Turkey, with the support of our task force especially set up to deal with Ukrainian minors who arrive in Romania without parents or come from Ukrainian placement centers.**

**The Inclusion of Ukrainian children within our educational system represents another action to support refugees staying in Maramures for longer period of time.** Around 200 children have been included in the educational system of Maramures county, within classes with teaching program in Ukrainian language, taking into consideration that a strong minority of Ukrainians live in Maramures.





**AVOCAȚI PENTRU REFUGIAȚI**  
o campanie a Uniunii Naționale a Barourilor  
din România de asistență juridică și umanitară  
pentru refugiații din Ucraina

**ЮРИСТИ ДЛЯ БІЖЕНЦІВ**  
кампанія Національної спілки адвокатів  
Румунії для правової та гуманітарної  
допомоги українським біженцям

**LAWYERS FOR THE REFUGEES**  
a campaign of the National Association of the  
Romanian Bars of free legal and humanitarian  
assistance for the Ukrainian refugees



www.unbr.ro



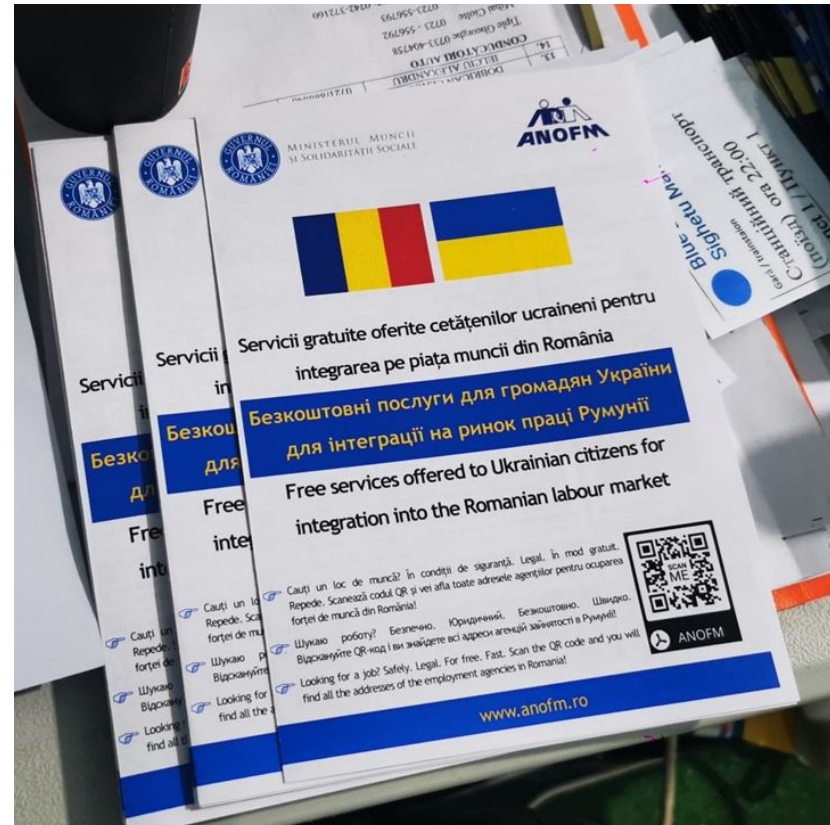
La codul QR afișat poți găsi datele de contact ale  
avocaților care oferă asistență juridică gratuită în  
domeniul dreptului refugiaților.

За QR-кодом ви можете знайти контактні дані  
адвокатів, які надають безкоштовну юридичну  
допомогу в галузі прав біженців.

At the listed QR code you can find the contact details of  
the lawyers who offer free legal assistance in the field of  
refugee law.

**TEVERDE**  
**0374025000**

dedicat exclusiv refugiaților ucraineni  
назначені для українських біженців



**Servicii gratuite oferite cetățenilor ucraineni pentru  
integrarea pe piața muncii din România**

**Безкоштовні послуги для громадян України  
для інтеграції на ринок праці Румунії**

**Free services offered to Ukrainian citizens for  
integration into the Romanian labour market**

Cauti un loc de muncă? În condiții de siguranță. Legal. În mod gratuit.  
Repede. Scanează codul QR și vei afla toate adresele agențiilor pentru ocuparea  
forței de muncă din România!

Шукаю роботу? Безпечно. Юридичний. Безкоштовно. Швидко.  
Визначтеся QR-код і ви знайдете всі адреси агенцій зайнятості в Румунії!

Looking for a job? Safely. Legal. For free. Fast. Scan the QR code and you will  
find all the addresses of the employment agencies in Romania!

www.anofm.ro

Managing the crisis of Ukrainian refugees in Maramures County means, in addition to accommodation, meals or transport, social and psychological counselling, dialogue and finding occupational solutions for people who choose to stay longer in our county.

In this respect, we have organised meetings with refugees and local companies, in partnership with NGOs, the Chamber of Commerce Maramures, and the Employment Agency Maramures, to present national and local employment conditions and identify job opportunities.



Maramureș County Council presented the campaign "Maramures stands with Ukraine" within the "Open Day 2022" event organised by European Committee of the Regions, in Brussels, on May 7, to mark Europe Day 2022 by bringing into focus the support of Ukrainian people affected by the war.

Hundreds of visitors, including Ukrainian refugees, have been impressed by the photos and video testimonials presented at our stand, "Maramures stands with Ukraine." These reflect our commitment to helping Ukrainian people and the involvement of local, national, and international partners in supporting all these humanitarian efforts.



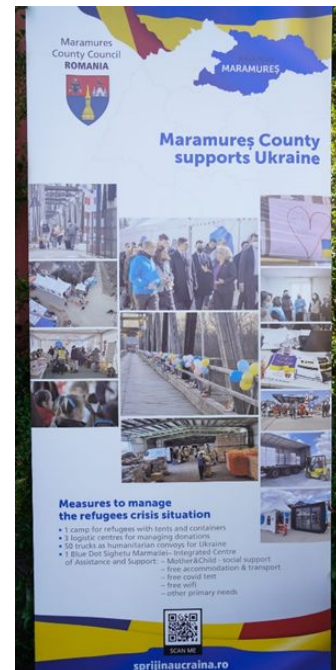


“Blue Dot Mobile” project is an extension of Blue Dot in the field, facilitating and improving the social inclusion of Ukrainians settled in Maramures.



“Maramures for Ukraine” project is aimed to develop support for the integration of Ukrainian refugees in Maramures region, for 60 adults and 40 children/month.

“ASSOC Sentinel – Solidarity between people” project. The team takes care of 30 Ukrainians hosted in our county, offering them weekly groceries, hygiene products, medical supplies.







A summer camp was held in Maramures for 12 children from the conflict area, settled in Tyachiv city from Transcarpathia Region, accompanied by 2 adults, for one week, in July 2022.

The camp was organised by Maramures County Council in partnership with YMCA Baia Mare, in the framework of the program initiated by the European Committee of the Regions and the Association of Ukrainian Cities.

Besides the visits at museums, planetarium and playgrounds, the Ukrainian children have been involved in fun and non-formal and educational activities by the young volunteers from YMCA.





A second summer camp took place in Maramureș in 7-13 July 2023, that was organized in collaboration with the County School Inspectorate of Maramureș county and it was attended by 30 children, aged 9-16 and 5 companions from the town of Brovari, near Kiev.

With the financial support of the Maramureș County Council, which allocated the sum of 50,000 lei, the Maramureș County School Inspectorate organized a camp with a diverse and attractive program, which included educational and recreational activities, while also encouraging the artistic creativity of the participants.







Consiliul Județean  
Maramureș

# LANȚUL SOLIDARITĂȚII Ланцюг солідарності

"Solidari cu regiunile ucrainene înfrățite"  
"Солідарність з українськими областями які є побратимами"  
24 august 2022 | Baia Mare - Sighetu Marmăției



Regiunea  
Transcarpatia



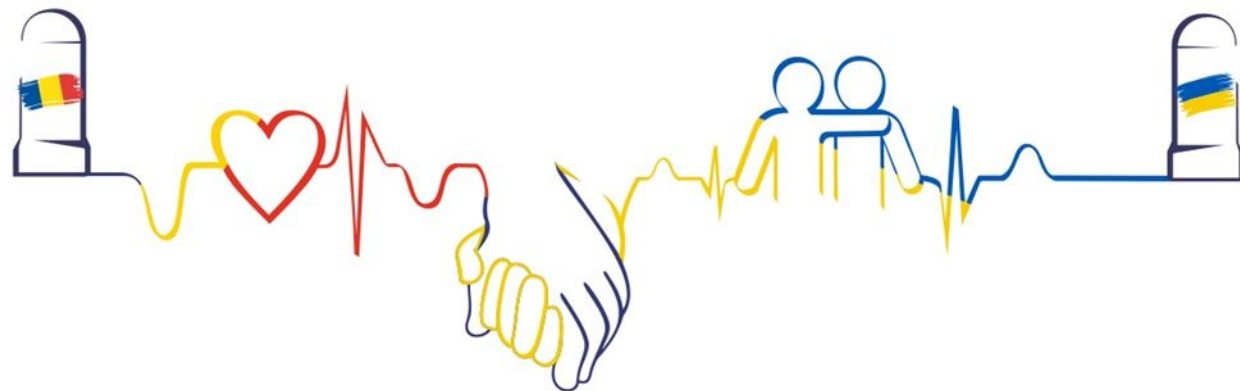
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In 2022 Maramures County marked the Independence Day of Ukraine on 24th of August with the event "Solidarity Chain with the twin regions Transcarpathia and IvanoFrankivsk"







# LANȚUL SOLIDARITĂȚII Ланцюг солідарності

"Solidari cu regiunile ucrainene înfrățite"  
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24 august 2022 | Bala Mare - Sighetu Marmatei



Regiunea  
Transcarpatia



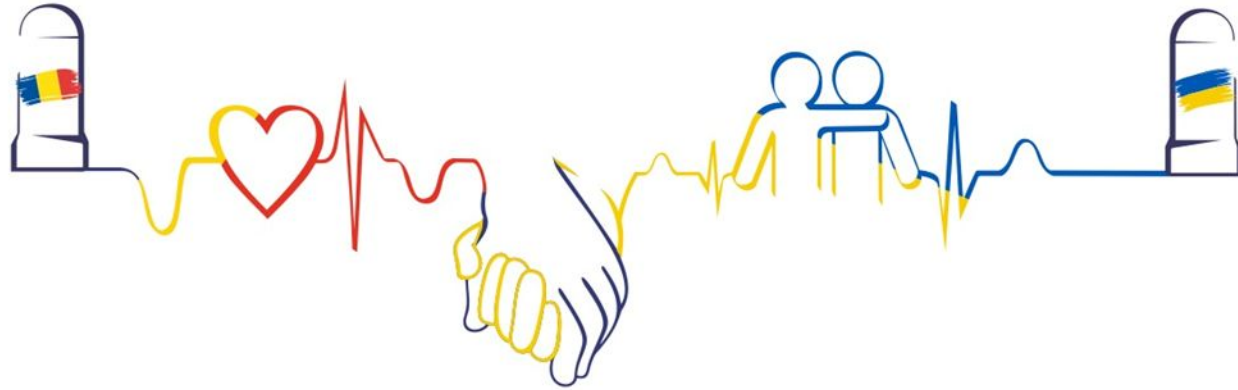
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***Solidarity Chain with the twin regions Transcarpathia and IvanoFrankivsk*** was inspired by the “Baltic Chain” the peaceful political demonstration that occurred on 23 August 1989 against the annexation by the USSR.







Consiliul Județean  
Maramureș

# LANȚUL SOLIDARITĂȚII Ланцюг солідарності

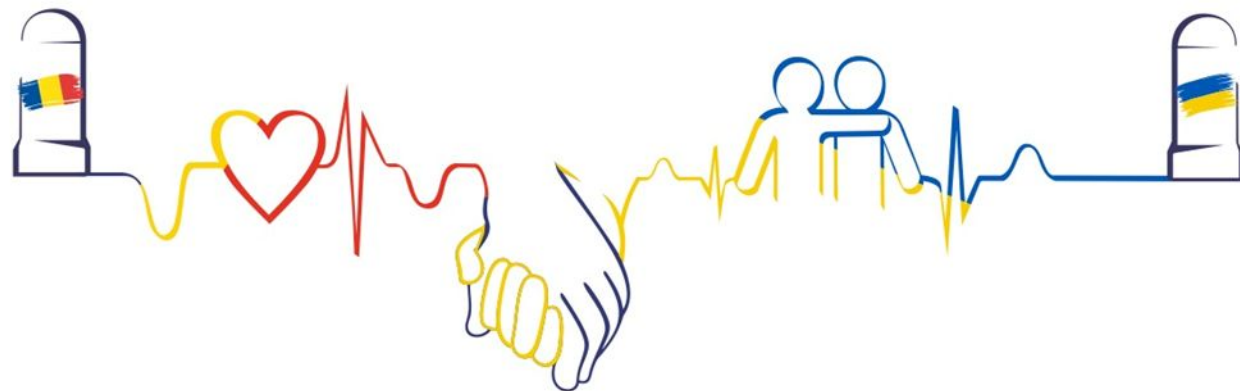
"Solidari cu regiunile ucrainene înfrățite"  
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Regiunea  
Transcarpatia



Regiunea  
Ivano-Frankivsk

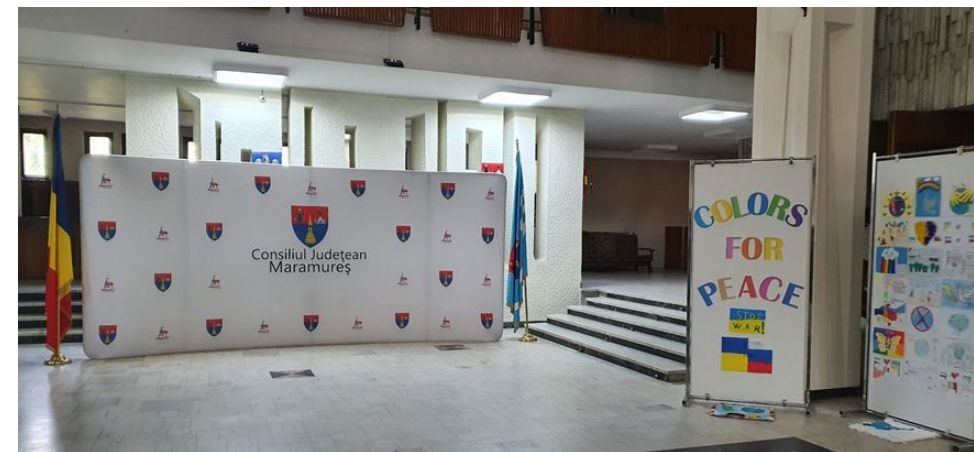


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Căutare ...

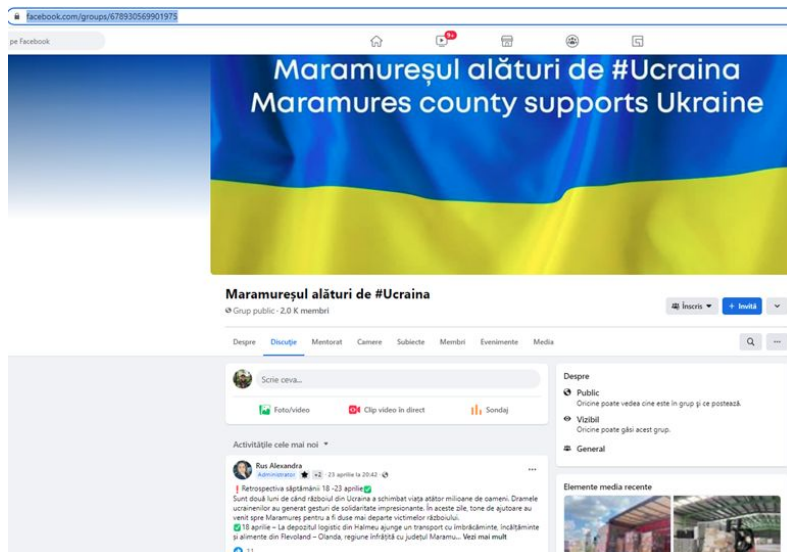
ACASĂ ACTUALITATE INFORMAȚII UTILE SPRIJIN PENTRU REFUGIAȚI INFORMAȚII CONTACT

## Maramureșul alături de #Ucraina Maramureș County supports #Ukraine

Celula de Criză Maramureș – inițiativă coordonată de Consiliul Județean Maramureș în parteneriat cu Instituția Prefecturală Maramureș, ONG-uri, societatea civilă și mediul de afaceri

Acest site se dorește o interfață a activităților derulate de instituțiile județene implicate în gestionarea crizei refugiaților din Ucraina.

Veți găsi aici informații utile atât pentru cetățenii români care doresc să vadă în timp real derularea activităților desfășurate pe acest paller, cât și pentru cei interesați să ajute refugiații și să participe activ la campaniile și activitățile demarate de autoritățile județene în acest scop.



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Communication activities for supporting refugees from Ukraine

Facebook Group "Maramures supports Ukraine":

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/678930569901975>

Website: <https://sprijinucraina.ro/>

(information will be soon available in UA and EN)

Leaflet produced by Maramures County Council:

"What do you do after crossing the border in Maramures? –  
The Refugee's Guide"

Website and social Media of Maramures County Council:

<https://www.cjmaramures.ro/activitate/comunicare/comunicate-de-presa>







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# Thank you!

## Q&A

*Gheorghe Paul Szaniszlo - project manager*  
*Margareta Căpîlnean – technical responsible*  
*Mihaela Lițe – implementation expert*

*Iulia Man – communication expert*  
*Claudia Breban – strategy responsible*  
*Florentina Cerneștean – financial responsible*

[www.interregeurope.eu/SIRM](http://www.interregeurope.eu/SIRM)