MISSION REPORT · OCTOBER 2026

Humanitarian Mission to Ovruch, Ukraine



In October 2026, Swiss-Group Solidaire travelled to Ukraine on a humanitarian mission alongside its partner, Cholidéro Chin Frontêre. Our destination was Ovruch, in northern Ukraine, where we delivered essential supplies and support to a community still living with the devastating effects of the war.

A convoy carrying essential supplies

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and the generosity of our donors, we were able to transport a large quantity of essential supplies for local hospitals, emergency services and residents.

- **Medical supplies**
  Hospital beds, crutches, wheelchairs, a gynaecological examination table, adult incontinence products and medicines for the local hospital and soldiers serving on the front line.
- **Emergency services equipment**
  Oxygen cylinders and protective clothing for firefighters.
- **Essential supplies for local families**
  Ovens, generators, clothing and toys for children.

Every item we delivered was intended to meet a genuine need in a region where the ongoing war continues to disrupt everyday life.

The war remains an everyday reality

Our arrival in Ovruch came just after a particularly distressing event. During the night of 19–20 October, a Russian drone attack damaged the city's railway station. The following day, we saw the damage for ourselves.



Several air raid alerts were also sounded during our stay, serving as a strong reminder of the reality local people face every day.

We also visited several schools and saw the underground shelters where children have to take refuge whenever an air raid alert is issued. On some days, they are forced to go down to these shelters several times. It is hard to imagine what this must be like for children who are simply trying to go to school and carry on with their education.

Yet, despite these difficult circumstances, teachers continue to teach and children keep learning, as far as circumstances allow.

Encounters and moving moments

We were warmly welcomed by Ovruch's mayor, Ivan Koroud, and representatives of the local authorities.



During our stay, we also attended several memorial ceremonies honouring Ukrainian soldiers who lost their lives in the war. These were deeply moving moments, reminding us of the many families affected by the conflict and the profound impact of these losses on local communities.

We had the opportunity to meet local residents, healthcare professionals, teachers and representatives of the community. These conversations gave us a better understanding of the challenges they face, the help they need and their concerns for the future.

> *These personal encounters are an important part of every humanitarian mission. For us, delivering supplies is only part of the work. Taking the time to listen and connect with the people we are there to support matters just as much.*

Our mission in the press

Our humanitarian convoy was also featured in an article in the Swiss newspaper La Liberté. The article looks back on our journey, the people we met and the realities of carrying out this mission.

Read the article

« L'aide suisse à l'Ukraine, entre pompiers, drones et buffet à volonté » – La Liberté

Help us make our next convoys possible

The war is far from over, and the needs remain enormous. Hospitals continue to need medicines and medical equipment, emergency services are short of essential supplies, and many families are struggling to access even the most basic necessities.

Your donations help us purchase medical equipment, medicines, emergency response supplies and generators. They also help cover the cost of transporting these essential items to Ukraine.



Donations of equipment and other supplies are equally valuable, allowing us to respond directly to the needs identified by our partners on the ground. Every contribution makes a difference, no matter how big or small. Your support helps us organise future convoys and ensure that help reaches the people who need it most.

A huge thank you to our partner Cholidéro Chin Frontêre, the volunteers who took part in the convoy, our donors, and everyone who helped make this mission possible. We would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to the local authorities and people of Ovruch for their warm welcome, their trust and the many moments we shared. We return home with some difficult images, but also with wonderful memories of the people we met and the connections we made along the way.

Thank you all for your support!