

House of Helping Refugees

House of HR actively supporting Ukraine

March 22nd, 2022

By Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the unthinkable is happening: a war at our European doorstep. As a leading European group dealing with human capital, House of HR is worried about the current situation and the future of so many people escaping their home country. Many of its PowerHouses are taking concrete steps to help. Together, they make House of HR a real 'House of Helping Refugees'.

As a European group, House of HR is severely shocked by the Russian military offense against European country Ukraine. Having human capital at the heart of all its operations, the group, with all its PowerHouses, is actively supporting Ukraine and its people to survive the criminal Russian acts. The PowerHouses show respect and support by both financially helping humanitarian actions and offering services to people escaping their homeland. Here is a short overview of the different actions taken so far.

Donating money

Several of the PowerHouses and their employees are supporting international humanitarian organizations by donating money. For example, Schollmeyer & Steidl has donated 1 % of its January sales (3.500 euros) to various organizations. Abylsen is asking its employees to donate to 'SOS Children Villages'. For every euro donated, Abylsen will pay an extra euro up to 15.000 euros, and 50 cents up to 30.000 euros. ITDS Poland (a Redmore brand) is taking similar actions, encouraging its employee to donate to 'SOS Dla dzieci Ukrainy'. Together with Redmore, ITDS Poland will double the amount collected, up to a total of 20.000 PLN (approx. 4.300 euros).

Other PowerHouses organize similar initiatives to collect money. For instance, Talent & Pro organized a quiz, resulting in 2.500 euros going to ITDS Poland.

Collecting goods

Both the war and the large amounts of Ukrainian refugees generate a huge demand for goods. Think of food, blankets and medical equipment. Many of the House of HR PowerHouses have taken initiatives to collect goods. Take Covebo: it collected clothing, electrical items and food, and shipped everything to Ukraine. TIMEPARTNER took similar initiatives, collecting a.o. nappies, first aid kits and sleeping bags. The transport was organized by the 'Verein Ukrainische Landsleute'.

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Also, people from Abylsen collected goods, based on a list of needs. Accent collected food and medicines in all of its Belgian offices, to transport all this to Poland and Romania.

Finding jobs

Of course, many PowerHouses have decided to help by doing what they are best at: helping people find jobs. German TIMEPARTNER has opened a Ukrainian Facebook-group where German job offerings are published in Ukrainian. It will also assist job seekers with temporary housing accommodation.

Offering people and technology

Accent is actively supporting Ukrainian people, as it has 26 employees speaking Russian and Ukrainian. These people assist organizations such as 'Rode Kruis' helping Ukrainian refugees, and do so during their (paid) office hours. People at Accent are encouraged to spend one day per week as a volunteer, performing tasks such as translating, welcoming and assisting refugees. On top of that, Accent offered its services to cities and communalities to help them in several ways when dealing with refugees.

Apart from people, House of HR has the right technology in place to support refugees. Romanian Dora has put its chatbot technology at the service of refugees. It collects information from people crossing the Ukrainian border and shares it with NGO's and official authorities. Dora both helped refugees by collecting information about their concrete needs, and also found some 100 volunteers from several countries to help NGO's.

Needless to say, both House of HR and its PowerHouses will continue their efforts to support the Ukrainian people as long as the needs are there. Together, they will remain a House of Helping Refugees.

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