

**World For Ukraine Summit 2023:
The Unprecedented Humanitarian Event in Europe
Returns for the Second Edition**

Rzeszów-Jasionka/Warsaw, July 27th, 2023 – Anatolii Fedoruk, Mayor of Bucha

As Kherson is recovering from the shock flooding following the destruction of the Kakhovka dam earlier this June, the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine has returned to the spotlight of the global media once again. The huge human toll of over 500 days of the war and the immense needs for psychological support (PTSD) and material assistance (apart from aid also for reconstruction efforts, the symbol of which has become Bucha, a town in the suburbs of Kyiv) will once again bring together representatives of the civic society from all around the world to Rzeszów-Jasionka, where the organizers of the World For Ukraine Summit (W4UA) are to hold a second edition of this hugely successful humanitarian event.

W4UA Summit is set to return for the second consecutive year on September 28th – 29th, 2023, at the G2A Arena in Rzeszów-Jasionka. Building upon the resounding success of its inaugural event last December, which saw over 1,500 participants from various countries around the world, W4UA continues to unite the efforts of hundreds of government, local-government, NGO and business entities and institutions from Poland, Ukraine and all around the world in humanitarian actions for Ukraine.

W4UA has established itself as a beacon of hope and solidarity, fostering global collaboration to address the pressing challenges faced by Ukraine. The summit aims to provide a platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collective action, with a primary focus on “The Roadmap to Freedom and Recovery”, bringing together smaller and bigger actors from all across the spectrum – central and local government institutions, medical and engineering associations, and humanitarian organizations.

So far, the confirmed partners of the event include, among others:

- The Council of Europe,
- the city of Rzeszów
- the Polish-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce
- Global Empowerment Mission (GEM).

Last year’s event exceeded all expectations, leaving an indelible mark on the global humanitarian landscape.

Bartosz Staniszewski, Spokesman for World for Ukraine, says:

"The success of the inaugural summit showcased the unwavering dedication of our participants and partners. We were overwhelmed by the response we received worldwide. It truly demonstrated the global solidarity.

However, we regret to observe that the interest in Ukraine is waning as even the worst of wars becomes yet another one of the bad news we get to see every day. That's why we are bringing new ideas and new issues this year, that are pressing for debate in order to search for new answers and inspire new actions.

These include mental health as millions of Ukrainians, including children, as well as those helping them suffer from PTSD and other mental health issues; fake news that spreads like a virus through social media; and, last but not least, the reconstruction of Ukraine and its economy that is becoming a reality as the example of Bucha has shown."

The W4UA 2023 will feature thematic areas that tackle critical issues affecting Ukraine's progress:

- **Humanitarian Aid and Refugee Assistance:** Addressing the immediate needs of affected populations and fostering initiatives for sustainable humanitarian assistance.
- **Justice and human rights:** Focus on victims of war, including children, accountability for the crimes and strengthening international and Ukrainian legal infrastructure.
- **Healthcare and Mental Health:** Exploring strategies to enhance healthcare infrastructure and prioritize mental health support for the Ukrainian population.
- **Media in the Age of Propaganda and Fake News:** Analyzing the impact of propaganda and fake news on public opinion and promoting responsible journalism.
- **Infrastructure Reconstruction and Investment Horizons:** Identifying opportunities for infrastructure development and attracting investments to facilitate Ukraine's recovery.

Highlighting the significance of initiatives like W4UA, **Oleh Kuts, Consul General of Ukraine in Lublin**, stressed the importance of rapid recovery for Ukraine, stating:

"It is essential to provide sustained support and concerted efforts to help Ukraine. W4UA plays a pivotal role in catalyzing these much-needed initiatives. The summit provides a unique platform for collective action and support, gathering so may

different stakeholders within the society. It is through events like these that we can help Ukraine recover as soon as possible."

The summit will foster collaboration among international organizations, government bodies, NGOs, and private entities to explore innovative solutions in key thematic areas.

Michael Capponi, Founder and CEO of Global Empowerment Mission, emphasized the urgent need for support, stating:

"The Ukrainian people require our unwavering commitment. In times of crisis, it is crucial for the international community to extend a helping hand. By coming together at W4UA, we can make a profound difference in their lives and contribute to their well-being, resilience, and empowerment.

As our reconstruction efforts in Bucha continue, where we have restored houses, hospitals and schools, we are also committed to continuing our large scale aid delivery to front line communities. This program, in partnership with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation delivers aid assistance to over 150,000 families per month, such as those living in the flooded Kherson region, and in the de-occupied territories in Avdivka, Velika Novosilka and Zolota Niva. We have the necessary capacity and infrastructure in place ready to react for the long-term tragedies in Ukraine.

In the first 11 days following the collapse of the Kakhovka dam, my team and I personally – in partnership with HGBF – has delivered 65 full-size trucks of aid, including over 572,000 litres of drinking water, to the flooded towns and villages – more than all other organizations combined. To keep going, we need the world to see these efforts and realize the huge needs that are still there. W4UA presents a perfect opportunity to do just that."

Registration for the summit is now open at <https://w4ua-2023.konfeo.com/en/groups>, allowing participants to secure their place at the event. The accreditation process for media professionals will commence **on August 15th**.

Join us at the World For Ukraine Summit 2023 and be part of the global movement working towards a brighter future for Ukraine.

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About World For Ukraine

The World For Ukraine Summit (W4UA) is a prominent international humanitarian event that brings together organizations, institutions, and individuals from across the globe to address the challenges faced by Ukraine. With a focus on collaborative solutions and collective action, W4UA aims to empower Ukraine towards freedom, recovery, and sustainable development. The first edition of the W4UA Summit was held on December 7th – 9th 2022, followed by a publication of the W4UA 2022 Report, released on April 19th, 2023.

More information about W4UA: <https://w4ua.com/>

The W4UA 2022 Report: <https://w4ua.com/report-2022/>



About Global Empowerment Mission

Global Empowerment Mission (GEM) was founded in 2011 to provide hope via a new model for disaster response, one that meets modern crises head-on with an innovative, adaptable, and scalable approach that harnesses strategic partnerships and empowers local populations in the rebuilding effort. To date, GEM has supported missions in all 50 U.S. states and over 46 countries around the world, providing assistance to millions of people.

Currently, GEM delivers aid to the people affected by natural and man-made disasters i.a. in Turkey and Syria, Sudan and Ethiopia, and Haiti. It has been present in Ukraine since the second day of the Russian aggression, where, apart from ongoing aid delivery to towns and villages all around the country, it has also been involved in rebuilding Bucha near Kyiv ("Hope for Bucha" project) and delivering drinking water and essentials to the victims of the flooding caused by the destruction of the Kakhovka dam.

More information about GEM: <https://www.globalempowermentmission.org/>

More information about "Hope for Bucha": <https://www.globalempowermentmission.org/bucha/>

