



A Voluntary Charity working in Ukraine and Moldova

with roots going back to 1990



Voices from Ukraine – from Joy to Sorrow

From the joyful energy of the school celebration, we continued our day with a visit to a young mother, 30-year-old Iulia, and her two children—Iuri, aged 9, and little Mikola, just 18 months old. Iuri, who lives with diabetes, was unwell with a cold when we arrived and was resting at home, unable to attend school.



Iulia's strength is quiet but unmistakable. She shared with us, through tears, the devastating moment she learned of her husband Mikola's death. The school director was the one to call—there were no direct contact details for the family. At first, she couldn't believe it. It wasn't until three days later, when the army finally confirmed the news, that the reality sank in.

With tears in her eyes, she spoke gently about his final days. He had been severely burned by a landmine and suffered extensive shrapnel injuries. He died just a few days later, on the 5th of October. As she spoke, her grief overwhelmed her, but she insisted on continuing—on honouring his memory by telling his story.

No formal support was offered by the army, but the military chaplains stepped in to provide comfort and emotional support, just as they have for so many others. Their presence and compassion meant a great deal to Iulia. Aside from the chaplains, she receives no financial assistance from the government—only the humanitarian aid they provide helps sustain her and her children.

Now staying with her mother, Sveta, Iulia is doing her best to carry on. Her home, which her husband had planned to repair their house. The paperwork for the house was never properly completed, and with his passing, everything has become painfully complicated. The sorrow runs even deeper—Sveta lost her son, Andriy, to the war as well. Iulia has lost both her husband and brother. Andriy's wife and their six-year-old daughter have since fled to Estonia for safety.



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One of Iulia's most treasured possessions is a photo from the last time she saw her husband—Mikola was just a baby in his arms. It's one of the few memories she has left of him.



Through her pain, Iulia remains committed to helping others. She now volunteers her time preparing food and packing small, portable meals for soldiers on the front lines. When she speaks about the war, her voice trembles with emotion.

“Stop the war,” she pleads. “Let the politicians fight. Let the death stop—STOP, STOP NOW. Stop killing. Stop killing. Stop killing. Stop killing.”

Her words echo the heartbreak of so many—and the desperate longing for peace

CHRISTIAN RESPONSE IS A VOLUNTARY CHARITY AND RELIES ON DONATIONS

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