



Ukraine: Largest relief operation in DB history

Special trains, buses and free tickets • Rail bridge to war-torn country • Hundreds of employees helping at stations and elsewhere

(Berlin, March 2022) As hundreds of thousands of people flee the war in their homeland, DB is helping to ensure that people reach Germany safely and that urgently needed goods are transported to Ukraine. Since the outbreak of war, Deutsche Bahn has launched the largest relief operation in its history and is taking action in multiple areas:

Free tickets and special trains: The #helpukraine ticket has so far enabled almost 200,000 people from Ukraine to travel free of charge on trains and buses. Refugees can use eight EC trains to travel between Polish stations and Berlin. DB Regio is running special trains to Germany from the Ukrainian border in Poland. To relieve the pressure on Berlin, special trains are also running directly to Hanover in Lower Saxony. Another hub where passengers can transfer to buses and trains is Cottbus main station. Information is being provided in Ukrainian, English and German – in information leaflets on trains, station announcements, press releases and on a telephone hotline.

Rail bridge to Ukraine: For a good two weeks now, DB has been bringing aid supplies directly into the areas affected by the war. Container trains – loaded with food, blankets, first aid kits, power banks and warm clothing – are transporting urgently needed goods via Krakow directly to terminals near Kyiv. Ten thousand tons of relief supplies have already been transported via the rail bridge. DB Schenker has set up collection points at various locations in Germany where companies and many private individuals have donated items to be sent.

Flexible bus fleet: DB is ensuring fast transport on flexible routes with its bus fleet in Poland as well as within Germany. DB Regio Bus is coordinating activities with its mid-sized business partners to provide up to 300 buses that can be used flexibly to transport approximately 13,000 people at short notice every day. The buses will run between Warsaw and Germany, within Germany and to destinations in neighboring European countries.

Helping hands: Hundreds of DB employees are supporting the relief efforts, even outside their working hours: from drawing up timetables to looking after the arrivals and coordinating the countless volunteers and aid organizations at stations. Psychological support is also being provided. The work is being managed by a Group-wide crisis team. In an unbureaucratic process, DB employees with Ukrainian relatives are being offered time off to care for their families. Companies and employees are also helping through DB's employee welfare partner, the BSW & EWH foundation family, who are assisting with social integration, among other things, and welcoming refugees in their hotels and resorts.