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# Building bridges: the summer camps

## LESSONS LEARNED FROM SUMMER CAMPS FOR LOCAL AND UKRAINIAN CHILDREN

During the summer holidays, young volunteers throughout Europe stepped up their support of local and Ukrainian children through summer camps. Camps aimed to build skills through activities, games, and bridges between participants and were so popular among participants that they are now calling for such events all year round.

This issue of the Youth in Europe Bulletin looks back on the young volunteers who, as camp counsellors and leaders, created safe spaces for children to connect, learn, and play away from the realities of war this summer.



## SCOUTS SUMMER CAMPS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND PLAY

National Scout Organisations (NSO), with the support of UNICEF, organised 443 summer camps and activities, with almost 7,000 Ukrainian children who were able to join. Various camps were offered (e.g. day camps, weekend camps, 7-days+ camps) to cater to the interests and availability of all children and to make it as inclusive as possible.

# Leaders at camp & in their communities



## BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN UKRAINIAN AND POLISH YOUTH AT SUMMER CAMP

**“We cannot run away and hide; we need to step up and help when people need us.”**

Karolina, 22, a Scout from Poland, worked tirelessly over the summer organising summer camps for children from Poland and Ukraine. She was responsible for caring for a group of 27 children, with 19 refugees from Ukraine.

Read [more](#) about Karolina's story and [meet](#) other young Scouts supporting refugees from Ukraine

## SCOUT'S DIARY - KIRA

Kira, 12, a Scout from Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, was just about to give her Scouts promise – a spoken oath taken when you join the Scouts movement – when she was forced to flee because of the war. She was able to reconnect with the Scouts, meet other young people, and feel a sense of home at the Scouts Baltic Jamboree in Lithuania.

Read [more](#) about Kira's story

## WHEREVER YOU GO...

## ...YOUR RIGHTS GO WITH YOU: U-REPORT BOOTH AT SUMMER CAMPS

U-Report is a critical tool that allows UNICEF to support young people on the move.

National Scout Organisations have connected approximately 5,904 Ukrainians with the tool when they arrive at entry points, relocate, and at special U-Report booths set up at summer camps and jamborees.

[Check out](#) the U-Report Europe tool

