



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Supporting the people of Ukraine in their continued quest for democracy, justice, and human rights.

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IUMANITARIAN **AID**

Razom provides critical assistance to victims of the ongoing conflict and economic crisis in Ukraine. Initially, Razom efforts focused on the purchase and delivery of fuel, medicine, portable medical devices, toiletries, and protective gear for the personal use of the peaceful civilian protesters. As the Maidan protest activities evolved into civic organizations and the protests abated, Razom refocused its efforts on delivering humanitarian aid to eastern Ukraine and other areas of the country affected by the subsequent armed conflict.

Support \square

As Maidan evolved, and the need for supplies and aid subsided, the conflict in the east grew. And so a large portion of Razom have since focused its humanitarian aid on supporting hospitals treating victims wounded at Maidan and in the ongoing armed conflicts in Ukraine. Razom has supported Maidan Hospital, 17th Hospital, Zaporizhya Hospital, and Dnipropetrovsk Hospital #2. Some fundraisers in support of these hospitals have taken on a musical note. In Washington D.C., young pianists, between the ages of 6 and 16, performed at the Music of Hope concert, where Razom raised \$2,358 for the 17th Hospital in Kyiv. Meanwhile in New York City, hundreds gathered to enjoy the melodic poetry of Taras Chubai, raising \$6,589 for the Support Hospitals in Ukraine project, which aims to ship \$1.2 million worth of medical supplies in three 40-foot containers to meet the specific requests for equipment made by Ukrainian hospitals in Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, and Kharkiv. The first container was shipped in December 2014.



Volunteers in Kviv purchase supplies for Maidan, Feb '14

Water Filters

LifeStraw is an internationally recognized brand of portable water filtration systems crucial for areas with limited or no availability of drinking water. Razom has worked with the manufacturer to arrange for the purchase and distribution of LifeStraw water filters in the eastern regions of Ukraine. After the first shipment of filters were delivered, our partners in Ukraine informed us that the filters were so popular, some people were willing to trade clothing and other basic needs for the filters. 1,152 LifeStraws have been **distributed** to people without access to potable water.



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The war has brought tragedy to too many Ukrainian families. As a sign of our respect and gratitude, the least we can do is to help care for the families of the fallen and the injured. Through the Toy Drive, Razom volunteers assemble and ship care packages with toys, clothing, and supplies that help meet their needs.

Razom maintains an end-to-end network directing the efforts of the Toy Drive. First, volunteers in Ukraine meet with the families seeking aid to determine their specific needs. This information is compiled and shared with the Razom volunteer network in the United States. Volunteers from all over the U.S. prepare packages for specific to the needs of the families asking for help. Over 250 boxes, each weighing 30-50 lbs, have been received by families seeking aid. In addition, donations of toys, clothing, and supplies resulted in a 4 ton container shipment of aid bound for Ukrainian refugee centers, orphanages, and other vetted charities and Razom partners.

Donation drop-off locations can now be found in at least 10 states, including New Jersey, New York, Michigan, Washington DC, Illinois, Ohio, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Washington.

ADVOCACY: UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT

Many organizations and individuals came together to conduct a successful education campaignabout the Ukraine Freedom Support Act. Razom joined several groups to advocate for Ukraine on Capitol Hill and collectively waged a massive social media campaign, encouraging U.S. citizens to contact their elected representative.

Activists local to Washington DC walked the halls of Congress to attest personally to the importance of helping Ukraine. Razom is extremely proud to have been a part of helping turn this extremely significant bill supporting Ukraine into law.

Razom was able to contribute to this massive outreach by **lever-aging its substantial Facebook community**, and by **producing informative graphics** that were share widely across the internet. In short, Razom's network and efforts helped reach **tens of thousands of supporters**.

PUBLIC EDUCATION



Razom at the UN presentation of the legal report., May '14

Through events and publications, Razom works to educate the public about the political, economic, and security crisis in Ukraine. Razom volunteers have participated in **panel discussions at the United Nations** and in **con-ferences in New York City and Washington D.C.** to help make sure the facts of the Ukrainian crisis are clearly understood. Razom members have also met with **U.S. State Department and other U.S. Government officials** to discuss the situation in Ukraine. Throughout all their varied outreach efforts - whether with high school students or Government officials - Razom volunteers strive to assure that Ukraine's story is told, and heard.

Legal Report

In the spring of 2014 Razom released a white paper entitled "The Crisis in Ukraine: Its Legal Dimensions." Over **80** pages long, this compilation was the first of its kind, outlining the legal issues in eastern Ukraine surrounding Russia's annexation of Crimea, the Budapest Memorandum on international security guarantees, and the human rights and humanitarian laws at issue. Widely distributed, the paper has been cited by policymakers, analysts, and academic professionals as an excellent resource. The report, written by legal professionals pro bono for Razom, made waves not only in the US, it had broader global impact: presented at one of the most prestigious law schools in Brazil, the Rio de Janeiro Federal University a full house of attendees engaged in a lengthy discussion on Ukraine and the global impact of the conflict. The report is now included in the reading list of courses at top law schools.

> Other Fact Sheets and References Experts on Ukraine and FAQs on Ukraine Crisis (Apr '14) joint effort of multuple organizations to provide information about experts on Ukraine Ukraine of 2014 and Europe of 1938-1939: Similarities and differences (Sep '14) published by EuroMaidan Press A User's Guide to Kremlin Propaganda (Mar '14) cited and re-published by several US outlets Euromaidan: 10 Key Questions and Answers (Feb '14)

> > distributed to legislative offices and congressional

representatives and staffers.



Legal report presentation at the UN, May '14

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Flashmobs

Film Screenings

Fundraisings

Discussions

Investigations

New Yord

Round tables

Cultural Events

Protests

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COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: **09** EVENTS **Rallies**

Razom's events have included a memorial for the victims of the Malaysian Airlines jet shot down during the conflict, educational presentations and panel discussions about the situation in Ukraine, performances featuring popular Ukrainian artists and filmmakers, and public demonstrations against Russia's incursion into Ukraine. With its efforts, Razom has drawn both local and national coverage in US media, further raising awareness about Ukraine's plight, challenges and potential.

Global Flash Mobs

By engaging teams in multiple cities, Razom was delighted to get to take part in coordinated worldwide flashmobs, such as "Fan the Spark of Unity," "March of Unity," "With Ukraine in our hearts, no matter where we are." From spelling out letters to complete a sentence to marching across cities, the events sent a message to Ukraine and the world.



n, D.C., Aug '14. Photo by Vady





"Open Hearts" Fundraiser Feb '14

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Voter Outreach

worked closely with the Ukrainian Mission to the United Nations and the Ukrainian Embassy in the United States. Razom team members helped streamline the registration and voting processes by helping automate the registration process, and then volunteering at polling places to help manage the process. Razom's voter awareness and "get out the vote" campaigns helped assure the votes of Ukrainians in the USA were cast and counted in the two historic elections of 2014: the presidential voting in May, and parliamentary in September.

Public Media

In the run-up to Ukrainian elections, Razom A free and diverse media is a critical component of a functioning democracy. To this end, Razom helps sponsor independent public broadcasting in Ukraine. For example, Razom has helped support Hromadske "Public" Radio, a non-profit organization whose broadcasts are heard worldwide as well as throughout Ukraine. Razom also provided a grant to a filmmaker for equipment needed to produce a documentary about the Maidan demonstrations. This filmmaker has since also received a grant from the prestigious Sundance Film Festival for this same project.

Anti-Corruption

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During the Maidan protests, Razom team members worked with civil society organizations such as the Ukrainian Anti-Corruption Action Center, and several Ukrainian investigative journalists to assist in their anti-corruption efforts. Their efforts included developing and mapping out global business relationships of corrupt Ukrainian politicians, and ties to money laundering schemes. Some of the research also found its way into articles in US press, further raising awareness internationally of the struggle that the people of Ukraine had undertaken.

The biggest strength in our organization is the activist army that turns ideas into reality. We are extremely fortunate and proud to be surrounded by such dedicated, inspiring people.

RAZOMERS ON WHY THEY VOLUNTEER



"I wanted to find like-minded people, who desired to help Ukraine, since the very beginning of the Maidan protests. When I attended one of the Razom gatherings for the first time, listened to what was being discussed, heard how these people thought - I was pleasantly impressed, became excited and easily found common language with them. I can firmly say that I have found a group of goal-oriented, determined, and dedicated people, and that every interaction with these people brings me immense joy"

"Why am I with Razom? First and foremost because we share love. Love for Ukraine. I can say that my love for Ukraine is unconditional and endless. Then there's passion, or motive, or whatever that thing is that keeps you working well into the night. At this time when Ukraine is facing grave danger - we all come together and things start happening. ... I've never seen so many professional and positive people working together towards one goal - better life for Ukraine."





"I have family in Donetsk and Ivano-Frankivsk, and as you know Russian aggression has changed the lives of many Ukrainian citizens, and believe Ukraine has the right to defend its borders. Living in the United States, we are far from the war in Ukraine, but still feel an obligation to help our soldiers win this war."

"Because all my family is in Ukraine: Odessa, Kyiv, Poltava, Vinnytsia, Simferopol. My days start and end from reading Ukrainian news." -Tatyana



It has been a tough year. We have seen the citizens of Ukraine face many hardships in their quest to live with dignity in a free, equal, diverse and secure society. But it has also been a year where we united like never before. Just over 12 months ago, most of us did not even know each other. In January 2014, we were a group of activists who met over Facebook, Skype and at protests to support Maidan. We realized that by working together we can achieve amazing things. Now the concept of being together - being Razom - is not just an idea, but a reality with measurable results. Together we have raised over \$180,000 dollars, held over 100 events and developed over 10 programs. We have worked on building an organizational infrastructure: developed by-laws, created a governance structure and we wrote and submitted a 117-page application to the IRS requesting 501(c)3 tax-exempt status. And all of this is just the beginning. We are looking forward to doing even more in 2015 to help strengthen democracy in a united Ukraine. Thank you for being together with us!

Razom Board of Directors Lyuba Shipovich | Anastasiia Rybytska | Olya Yarychkivska Ivanna Bilych | Dora Chomiak | Bohdan Pechenkyak | Natalia Shyrba | Mariya Soroka



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