Thank you to Plast USA for enabling 686 Plast scouts from Ukraine to safely attend camps throughout Europe.



We are so thankful! Your support has enabled Plast scouts from Ukraine to further their development. Even under conditions of war, children were camping, and acquiring knowledge and skills to be able to be of value to our country in the future.

Thanks to your donation of

\$40,970

Plast scouts from Ukraine, along with their counselors, were able to attend summer camps in **Poland**, **Italy, Lithuania, and Slovakia**.





Thanks to you, Plast scouts were able to attend:

- 10 camps in Poland [466 scouts]
- 6 camps in Italy [119 scouts]
- 2 camps in Lithuania [57 scouts]
- 1 international camp in Slovakia [44 scouts]

The average cost per scout was \$60

Your financial assistance allowed for transportation of scouts to and from camp.



The biggest challenges for Plast scouts in Ukraine

A major concern throughout the country is the lack of safe places to organize camps. This safety concern has forced Plast leadership in Ukraine to seek assistance from scouts in other countries.

Scouts from host countries often provided food and camping facilities for free to Ukrainian scouts. However, the biggest challenge for participants from Ukraine was the high cost of travel.

Therefore, we thank the Plast scouts in America for their financial support that enabled their fellow scouts in Ukraine to immerse themselves in the magic of summer camp.



Camping in Poland

The camp program in Poland adhered to Plast scouting methodology. In addition, counselors tried as much as possible to distract the children from the war, provide them with useful knowledge and skills, and create a favorable psycho-emotional atmosphere. "At the camp, we emphasized balance. So, we added elements to the program to support the psycho-emotional state of the participants and conducted camp-wide reflections. This helped us to establish a friendly and trusting atmosphere, since the participants were from different cities and towns, with different scouting experiences.

Also, during first aid courses, the instructor added several discussions about psychological first aid and self-help."

Sasha Polianchykova – camp leader [stanycia Dniepro]

As expected, there were many interactions with the Polish scouts at the Polish camps.

"The most interesting interaction with the Polish scouts was the international camp soccer tournament. The Ukrainian Plast scouts kept winning all the matches and gained an admiration from their Polish compatriots."

Liuba Brynska – Ukrainian camper





Plast USA donated **\$27,970**

for travel and other organizational costs to send Ukrainian scouts to Polish camps.

Thank you, Plast scouts in the USA, for providing an opportunity for scouts from Ukraine to develop their potential.

Camping in Italy

Cub scouts were the primary participants in camps in Italy.

The children learned to do many things for the first time, including traveling to another country without their parents, trying to understand others without knowing the language, learning new traditions, and eating unfamiliar food.

The cub scouts from Ukraine showed true courage and openness to the new and different experiences. We are very proud of them!



"Italian scouts were pleasantly surprised by our cub scouts, especially by their discipline and kindness. They also really liked our sung prayer before meals. In turn, our group learned Italian traditions and ceremonies."

"On the last evening, the Italian scouts solemnly gave us their neckerchiefs and accepted us into their scout family. Among the souvenirs we brought were badges with the Ukrainian flag, which the Italian scouts immediately attached to their neckerchiefs."

Olesia - camp counselor in Italy

Plast USA donated \$4,900

for travel to send Ukrainian scouts to camp in Italy.

We are very grateful to you, friends, for allowing our cub scouts to gain this invaluable life experience and feel the support from being a member of the scouting community.





Camping in Lithuania

The joint program at the Lithuanian camps required Ukrainian scouts to take the lead on certain program elements.

The children were outside of their comfort zone, but at the same time they were developing new skills. Communication with the Lithuanian scouts was primarily in English.



"Almost every evening we had our own campfire, which the Lithuanian scouts gladly attended. We talked, shared our experiences and sang songs. The Lithuanians appreciated our knowledge and survival skills, camping, and expertise in tying knots and building shelters. They also noted that we have a nice uniform and sing very well."

Plast USA donated \$3,830

for travel to send Ukrainian scouts to camp in Latvia.

Thank you, friends, for peaceful days of development for these children and their opportunity to be part of the great scouting community.





Camping in Slovakia

Over 40 Plast scouts, from all over Ukraine, took part in the international camp in Slovakia, along with scouts from Slovakia, Czech republic, and other countries.

The camp had an aquatic theme. Scouts learned about proper behavior on the water, safety, and many other practical skills.



"We were distinguished from other scouts by our greater discipline, orderliness, and thoroughness in meetings."

"Other scouts were pleasantly surprised by the openness of the Ukrainian scouts and their high proficiency in English."

"We best remember the quest to Bratislava, because there we had the most interactions with other scout groups."

Various Ukrainian scout campers





Plast USA donated \$4,270 for travel to send Ukrainian scouts to camp in Slovakia.

Thank you, friends, for enabling Ukrainian Plast scouts to have an opportunity to be safe and gain useful experiences and knowledge for their own development and for Ukraine.

