

Dear friends and fellows,

less than a month ago, we launched our fundraising campaign for the purchase of material aid to Ukraine. You know the circumstances – instead of sending money to anonymous accounts, through our friends in Uzhhorod we found out what they needed, and thanks to your help, we started raising money for it.

Until now, more than CZK 483,000 has been transferred to my private account (this is around 20,000 € at the current exchange rate). The money came from all corners of Europe, from organizations and clubs, as well as individual practitioners, their friends and family members. My friends and people who don't even practise contributed, and we also added money from the events we organized. So far, we have bought material support for CZK 499,000, another CZK 20,000 will be paid for the last ordered first aid kits, which will arrive on Monday 28<sup>th</sup>. The first part of the material aid was sent on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and a day later friends in Ukraine confirmed receiving the material.

I would like to write a few words about the meaning of this activity as a reaction to what has happened in the last four weeks and also in response to some of the *reactions* I have received.

I have not declared war on Russia, I am not threatening it, I am not raising money against this beautiful country and against its citizens. Anyone who knows me knows how much I liked going to Russia, and knows how much I like Russian culture – Lermontov, Gogol or Dostoevsky... In the situation that has occurred, I do not want to just sit back and watch the consequences of militant aggression and destroyed lives of so many people. This humanitarian collection is a collection for Ukraine, which was attacked on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022!

In our practice, moral aspects are emphasized – *humanity, justice, respect or correct behaviour, knowledge and trust*. I don't know if I understand and apply everything correctly in the dojo, but I'm sure they are not empty concepts. It is a way of acting and doing. I'm trying to apply them in my life now. I am grateful for the way you have behaved, for the manifestation of your humanity, for the trust you have given me, I believe in justice in this matter and, moreover, I am learning how to deal with your trust in the best way.

The fundraising continues!

To sum it up:

Contents of the first shipment dispatched on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022:

- medical material – decompression needles, haemostatic bandages, compression bandages, gauze, bandages, isothermal blankets of various types, resuscitation bags, pocket masks, Guedel airways of various sizes, quality splints, disinfection, sets of first aid kits and refills
- sleeping bags, sleeping mats
- electronics – power banks, charging cables and adapters, flashlights and spare batteries
- disposable dishes – cups, cutlery, plates
- hygiene items – toothpastes, soap, toilet paper, wet wipes
- non-perishable food – canned meat and vegetables, pasta, rice, sugar, salt, chocolate, cereal bars, energy drinks...

The second shipment is being prepared for next week:

- medical supplies – a larger number of previously unavailable supplies, i.e. professional tourniquets (turnstiles), professional haemostatic bandages and decompression needles (multiple amounts), dressings and topical agents for burns and other pocket masks, Guedel airways and sets of first aid kits including refills

- sorted food rations with a long shelf life
- sleeping mats (not delivered on time)
- purchase of food and hygiene products will take place next week...

Many suppliers supported us and reduced the price, provided free shipping and advice. We were lucky, because for some products the price was more advantageous.

I am not sure whether it was possible to spend your money better, but I believe that we have done our best and it will help. It will help more than we anticipated. I'm sure.

Thank you all.

Please forward this message to those groups and individuals who have contributed so far. Many donations came anonymously; I do not have contacts of all donors. (Below are some photos)

Patrik Orth

26<sup>th</sup> March 2022













