

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY APPEAL 2025



ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

Every year, Emmaus Europe launches a call for projects for the European groups who need a helping hand to develop or maintain their initiatives. The projects approved by the Regional Council of Emmaus Europe (RCEE) are then funded by international solidarity or put forward to the Movement's groups, who choose one of them to support.

Read all about the projects and programmes needing support in 2025, and those already being supported by European and international solidarity.

2025-A YEAR FULL OF SOLIDARITY

Emmaus Europe is offering you the chance to help fund the project submitted by Emmaus GEO (Georgia): purchase a refrigerated truck to hand out fresh food to people displaced by the war being waged by Russia since 2008. Funding requirement: €13,500.

Furthermore, once again funding is needed in Ukraine, in connection with the international news, and the major difficulties being faced by the people of Ukraine. Your contribution to the Ukraine Fund will enable Emmaus Oselya (Lviv, Ukraine) to continue its work with the most vulnerable people.

We also wish to remind you about Emmaus Europe's GTF (Green Transition Fund) that you can support at any time.

Six solidarity projects have been approved by Emmaus Europe for funding by the Emmaus Movement.

- Four of them have already been funded by Emmaus Europe via the Green Transition Fund (GTF), totalling €66,980.
- Two projects have been funded by Emmaus International using the takings from your 2024 annual solidarity sales, making for a total amount of €39,941.

European and international solidarity relies on your voluntary donations. Thank you for your continuing support!

Enjoy reading the document!

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES NEEDING SUPPORT IN 2025

1	EMMAUS GEO GEORGIA	Purchase of a refrigerated truck to hand out food to 1,200 people on a weekly basis	€ 13,500
2	EMMAUS EUROPE EUROPE	The Green Transition Fund	Voluntary contributions
3	EMMAUS EUROPE EUROPE	The Ukraine Fund	Voluntary contributions
4	EMMAUS EUROPE EUROPE	The Container programme	Voluntary contributions

PROJECTS ALREADY SUPPORTED BY EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL USING TAKINGS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY SALES

1	BRIGHTON & HOVE UK	Fit solar panels	€ 14,941
2	TOMS CROATIA	Buy a people carrier to transport people with disabilities	€ 25,000
Total financed			€ 39,941



In Georgia - Emmaus Geo**A REFRIGERATED TRUCK**

Emmaus Geo wants to distribute fresh food to over 1,200 people every week.

**Funding requirement:
€ 13,500
Needing support!**



Emmaus Geo manages two second-hand stores, located in Tbilisi (the country's capital) and Kvareli (140km from Tbilisi), and welcome four companions who run a self-catering holiday property in Kvareli. The group collects clothing via containers placed in supermarkets. Bolstered by a very active network of volunteers, the group is in touch with a large number of public stakeholders (French embassy, French school in Tbilisi) and third sector organisations (Caritas and the Red Cross).

The initiative

The group has been working with displaced people from Abkhazia and South Ossetia for over seven years. These two regions were annexed by Russia in 2008. In total, over 1,200 people benefit each

week from the distribution of clothes and non-perishable foodstuffs by Emmaus Geo volunteers. The purchase of a refrigerated truck would enable the group to hand out better quality and perishable food (fruit, vegetables etc).

Rollout

Emmaus GEO has a long-standing agreement with a major supermarket. The supermarket will supply the group with fresh produce. Furthermore, Emmaus GEO has forged strong links with contact people at the four locations to benefit from the distributions. Finally, the beneficiaries have fridges in which they will be able to store these products for a few days.

For Eastern Europe**THE GREEN TRANSITION FUND**

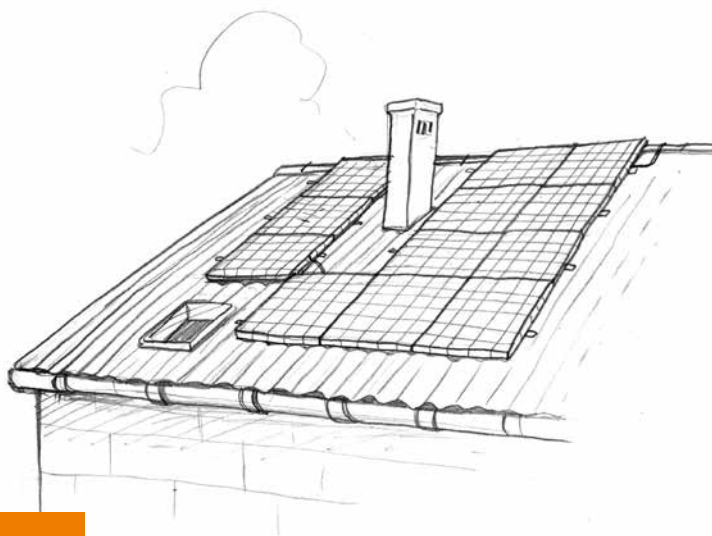
The Eastern European groups are contending with excessively increasing energy bills, which only green investment can offset.

Funding requirement = ❤️ €
Needing support!

In April 2022, EE created a GTF (Green Transition Fund) to support the Eastern European groups' green revolution. Since the fund was created, 10 building renovation (insulation) and energy generation (solar panels) projects have been funded, making for a total of € 186,779.30. Eight groups have already benefited from GTF funding. However, there are still significant unmet needs. With your help, we can continue to fund, phase by phase, this green revolution, and help the groups in their quest to become energy self-sufficient.

Why support these projects?

The impact of this type of project is immense for our groups in Eastern Europe: energy costs are cut, they become more financially self-sufficient, the companions' living and working conditions are improved... these investments provide better living and working conditions for beneficiaries, and have a long-term impact on the running of the groups.



You can opt to make a donation to this fund, which currently contains around € 45,000. Please refer to Emmaus Europe's previous solidarity booklet 2024 *European Solidarity Program* for information about the six projects supported over the 2022-2023 period.

■ Please contact Emmanuel for more information:
emmanuel.rabourdin@emmaus-europe.org

PROJECTS ALREADY FINANCED AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE GREEN TRANSITION FUND IN 2025

GROUP	INITIATIVE	IMPACT	FUNDING AMOUNT
SATU MARE ROMANIA	Insulate the community house and fit solar panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the community's gas and electricity usage and costs • Make the group more energy and financially independent 	€ 20,000
IASI ROMANIA	Insulate the house at Popesti and fit solar panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the community's gas and electricity usage and costs • Make the group more energy and financially independent 	€ 11,980
TOMS CROATIA	Fit solar panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the restaurant's electricity usage and costs • Improve employee working conditions • Better support for people on the employment access scheme 	€ 20,000
EMMAUS-ISF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	Fit solar panels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 80% of the boarding school's electricity • Better educational support for the children 	€ 15,000

In Ukraine**THE UKRAINE FUND**

Emmaus Oselya (Lviv) needs your support to continue its work with conflict victims.

Funding requirement
= ❤️ €
Needing support!

**AS A REMINDER**

Emmaus Europe provides detailed updates about the initiatives funded by the Ukraine Fund in the EE newsletter and in its annual activity reports.

The EE
newsletter
2024



Annual
activity reports
2022-2024



Emmaus Europe has been running the Ukraine Fund for over three years. The fund was launched in the days after Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine.

The European Emmaus groups rallied round to help the civil population conflict victims. In all, over €1.1 million has been donated by the groups to the fund. The fund still contained €170,000 in March 2025.

The Ukraine Fund enabled us to help all the Eastern European groups that hosted and supported conflict victims. The groups are located in Ukraine itself, Poland, Romania, Georgia and Croatia.

Current situation

Since mid-2024, the Ukraine Fund has mainly been used to fund the monthly initiatives run by Emmaus Oselya (roughly €4,000 per month), and the medium and long-term projects to provide better conditions for companions, and support families (parents and children) traumatised by the conflict. Full renovation of the social housing flats accommodating 11 people, extension of the community house to enable an extra nine male and female companions to be housed (project co-funded with the *Fondation pour le Logement*, formerly FAP), renovation of the furniture workshop, enabling more income to be generated...

There are still significant unmet needs

Improve the support and services delivered to conflict victims, continue initiatives at the social support centre opened in 2023, which welcomes around 100 people per day, help the group to become energy independent, at a time when Russia is relentlessly bombing Ukraine's strategic facilities.

There are many development projects

These projects have a direct impact on the conflict victims and vulnerable communities in the city of Lviv.

■ **Please contact Emmanuel for more information:**

emmanuel.rabourdin@emmaus-europe.org



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In the new furniture renovation workshop of Emmaüs Oselya (Lviv)

In Europe**THE CONTAINER PROGRAMME**

Emmaus Europe is making a general solidarity appeal to help the groups in Eastern Europe to cope and continue their work with vulnerable people.

Several factors could explain this trend

- The drop in the quality and quantity of donations received by all the groups, including those who send solidarity container loads to Eastern Europe. This trend is also impacting European and international solidarity;
- **Economic difficulties** and the increase in shipping costs;
- **Needs going down in Eastern Europe:** over the past few years, some groups in Romania and Poland have been developing new income-generating activities

that are less dependent on container loads. However, significant needs still need to be met if we are to maintain a balance during this transition phase.

Solutions to address these difficulties

- Several groups could get together to coordinate the shipment of a load, in this way cutting the costs (goods and financial costs) of this form of solidarity. We are stronger together.
- **Increase the events and means by which groups meet**, to gain a better understanding of needs, and put faces to this practical form of solidarity: video calls, group visits, hosting companions... these connections enable us to build the movement.

The number of solidarity container loads shipped in Europe dropped to 72 in 2024, a historically low level.

Funding requirement
= 
Needing support!

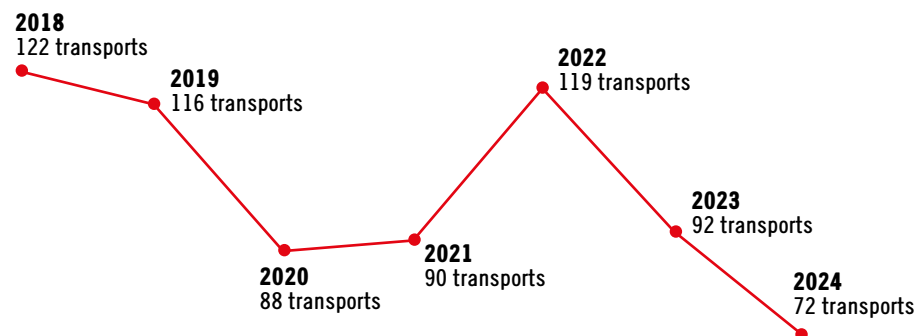


© Emmaüs

An updated list of the Eastern European groups' requirements is available from Emmaus Europe.



Emmanuel is here to help groups and regions wishing to coordinate the sending of container loads.
emmanuel.rabourdin@emmaus-europe.org



NUMBER OF SOLIDARITY CONTAINER LOADS SENT TO EASTERN EUROPE OVER THE 2018-2024 PERIOD

1

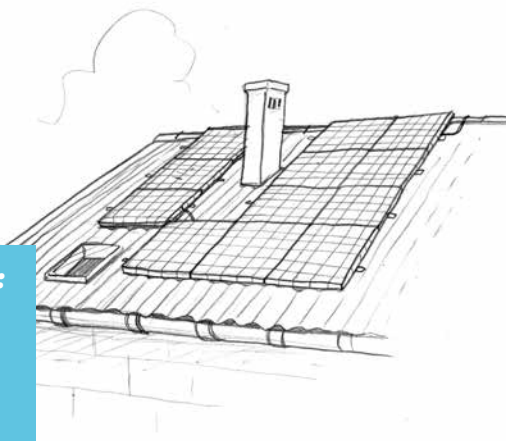
PROJECT ALREADY SUPPORTED BY EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL IN 2025

In the UK Emmaüs Brighton & Hove

FIT SOLAR PANELS

These panels provide 42% of electricity consumption.

Funding requested:
€29,941
Budget allocated:
€14,941
Already supported



Emmaus Brighton & Hove provides 58 companions with a welcoming and safe living environment in the community, in which individual and collective endeavours such as market gardening, cooking and sewing are encouraged, in addition to collecting and selling second-hand goods. The companions receive counselling, administrative and social support, and can undertake diploma-based training. The group manages seven second-hand shops.

The initiative

For several years, the group has been undertaking a wide-ranging green refurbishment of its built environment (the shops and community houses) with the overarching aim of providing better support and living conditions for the com-

panions, and offering them a healthier working environment. Thanks to the savings generated by fitting solar panels (calculated at roughly €15,000 (£13,000) per year) the community will be able to fund the next phases of this work.

Rollout

Combined with a loan from the Emmaus Ethical Fund, funding this initiative will enable the group to fit solar panels, supplying 42% of the whole community's electricity. The savings made will provide the funding needed to renovate the companions' bedrooms. The windows need replacing to prevent heat loss.

2

PROJECT ALREADY SUPPORTED BY EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL IN 2025

In Croatia - TOMS

A PEOPLE CARRIER TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Budget allocated:
€25,000
Already supported



The funding has enabled the group to buy a specialised people carrier and start a new taxi business.

TOMS joined the movement in 2022, and the organisation is a major player in disability inclusion and getting the rights of people with physical disabilities and learning difficulties recognised in the Split and Trogir area of Croatia. The organisation has over 240 beneficiaries (children and adults) and manages several key services for target group inclusion: a day centre, personal support services, home help services, and counselling. In 2020, the organisation opened the Buffet Leptir restaurant. The restaurant employs four people with disabilities.

The initiative

The group wants to buy a specialised disability people carrier to provide transport for people with disabilities and facilitate access for them to all public services (transport to a medical or administrative appointment, for instance) at a symbolic and accessible price; and to develop a market-rate taxi service when the people carrier is not being used to meet the needs of the organisation's beneficiaries.

Rollout

The group already provide a school transport service for children with disabilities. Bolstered by this expertise, TOMS will be able to quickly roll out the new initiative using EI's funding.

SOLIDARITY IN ALL OF ITS FORMS

Our solidarity is also and primarily intangible!

Meetings and exchanges of practices between our members are cornerstones of the movement.

The geographical collectives

The three geographical collectives (Poland-Ukraine, Romania, and South-East Europe) enable participants to gain a better grasp of the issues faced by our groups in these regions of Europe, create spaces for meeting others and solidarity, support new members, and support the structuring and recognition of Emmaus in the areas in question. All movement members interested in the issues experienced by the Eastern European groups are invited to take part. Each geographical collective meets once a year.

Exchanges of practices

The meetings are designed to offer forums for exchanging practices, sharing experiences, and mutual training on topics linked to the everyday work of the groups and their shared goals. Several exchanges of practices are arranged every year on topics such as textiles, shop layout, and recruiting volunteers to work in the Emmaus groups.

Special events

Emmaus Europe regularly arranges important events for our advocacy work and our profile as activists for peace and change: a conference on migration, EE Football Cup for Peace and Human Rights, meetings with MEPs at the European Parliament. These events enable us to be trained, forge links between the groups or with elected representatives, and work for a more solidarity-based society.

You are invited to take part in these meetings and exchanges of practices to learn from others and take action together!

Please register for our newsletter in the website members' area (no log-in details required) to receive information about these meetings.



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A person accompanied by Emmaüs Geo during a clothing distribution in Tbilisi.



How to support a project: You can donate by cheque or bank transfer using the bank details found below. *Please always indicate the name of your group and the initiative to which you are donating.*

Contact person: emmanuel.rabourdin@emmaus-europe.org

Recipient	<i>Emmaus Europe</i>
Bank	<i>CCM de la Dhuys - 47, bd Rouget de Lisle - 93100 Montreuil</i>
IBAN	<i>FR76 1027 8061 3700 0218 9490 174</i>
BIC/SWIFT	<i>CMCIFR2A</i>

EMMAÛS EUROPE
47, av. de la Résistance
93100 Montreuil France
33 (0)1 41 58 25 73
emmaus-europe.org

Emmaus Europe is the decentralised Emmaus International organisation in Europe.