

**To:** Deutsche Ophthalmologische Gesellschaft (DOG) Retinologische Gesellschaft (RG) Bundesverband der Augenärzte Deutschlands e. V. (BVA) German Ophthalmologists

Dear Prof. Geerling,
Dear Prof. Feltgen,
Dear Prof. Bechrakis,
Dear Prof. Cursiefen,
Dear Prof. Rehak,
Dear Dr. Lytvynchuk,
Dear German Colleagues,

In this extremely difficult time of war initiated by Russian Federation against Ukraine we would like to express our deep gratitude to German ophthalmologists and companies for their solidarity and prompt help to Ukrainian ophthalmologists.

German Ophthalmologic Society together with German Retinologic Society, industry companies and German ophthalmologist were the first who provided a highly specialized humanitarian aid to Ukraine with valuable materials, which are essential for operations on patients with eye injuries.

The amount of your donation was so large that we, members of Ukrainian Vitreoretinal Society, were ought to found two storages in Lviv and Kyiv. From these storages UVRS continuously delivers the materials to many eye hospitals and clinics in regard to their needs, including these in the most dangerous Ukrainian cities such as Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Kherson, where the civilians and Ukrainian army suffer every day from the brutal violence of the Russian army and Russian politics.

Our major principles are: 1. to support foremost the eye units of military hospitals and these dealing with war eye injury; 2. to provide non-profit medical eye care to civilians; 3. transparent distribution of the humanitarian help with prisonization according to the conditions of war.

The donations of DOG, RG and German ophthamologists were delivered already to major eye hospitals and clinics. You can follow the geography of the distribution network on the map, which is attached. We will remain in contact with Prof. Matus Rehak and Dr. Lyubomyr Lytvynchuk (UKGM, Gießen) in order to update you about the situation in Ukraine.

Slava Ukraini! With kind regards. Sincerely yours,

## President of the Ukrainian Vitreoretinal Society (UVRS)

Andrii Ruban MD, PhD

Kyiv, 20.04.2022