



Kyiv, 21 August 2022

## The European Union invites you to the opening of “Together We are Europe” exhibition

On August 21, at 1 pm, a mobile exhibition “Together We are Europe” has kicked off near the Arch of Freedom of the Ukrainian People in Kyiv. The opening ceremony was attended by the officials of the EU Delegation in Ukraine, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, and ambassadors of the EU Member States. Nine Ukrainian female illustrators presented a series of drawings reflecting their view of many manifestations of the war, and also assistance and empathy, the actions of the European Union being the embodiment of them for many Ukrainians.

This exhibition essentially testifies to the breadth of the assistance provided by our European neighbors, who promptly shifted the decision making mechanism regarding financial, humanitarian and military aid to work in the time of war. Even the EU projects operating in Ukraine have directed their financing to the wartime needs. At the same time, the important area of culture was not overlooked, particularly art that communicates emotions and events in real-time mode. Therefore, it is no surprise that this exhibition marks the launch of the “Together We are Europe” communication campaign.

The theme choice is not accidental, although a difficult one: war through assistance, assistance through war – all through the lens of women’s vision. Alyona Shylova’s vision: *“Hands, a touch – they communicate assistance the best. My works are about support and solidarity.”*

The attitude of Ukrainian women towards the war, the one that is common for them, the one that formed through the centuries, when men joined the army and the women stayed to keep their families safe, was also revealed in the works of modern artists, who together with their families also found themselves in the hellish whirlwind of the armed conflict.

As it turned out, nobody was prepared for such a tragic development of events, but it is also then, when you are faced with a choice between the simple (just observe) and the right (to stand side by side), that the true partnership and solidarity shows.

Although working in different styles, Yaroslava Matsuba, Lesya Mazanik and Tetian Yakusheva experience the same feelings: *“Women’s experience of the war... is the experience of refugees saving children. Assistance to people fleeing from the war is what’s most important. We are grateful to everybody who surrounded Ukrainians with care and helped them survive these terrible times.”*

They say that support and care of the Europeans are incredible, and they simply and convincingly and so impressively communicate it in their works that the viewers involuntarily feel the power of compassion and humanity that overcome language and mental barriers. *“The EU is prepared to support us until the end of the war, so I hope that we will continue to move towards the victory together and then rebuild our country together. My illustrations are about the bright future,”* explains Vladyslava Teplo.

Confidence in victory is an essential trait of Ukrainian women, because it is important to stay optimistic in such a dramatic time. As it turns out, friendly support they received from the EU strengthened their confidence even further: *“Only together we will win, and that’s what my works are about. I wanted to inspire people to work together so that my Ukraine lives under a peaceful sky once again!”*

**Due to the security situation, the exhibition will be closed to visitors from August, 22 to August, 25. But already from**



ПРОЄКТ ФІНАНСУЄТЬСЯ ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКИМ СОЮЗОМ

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Європейський Союз складається з 27 держав-членів та їхніх народів. Це унікальне політичне та економічне партнерство, засноване на цінностях поваги до людської гідності, свободи, рівності, верховенства права і прав людини. Понад п’ятдесят років знадобилось для створення зони миру, демократії, стабільності і процвітання на нашому континенті. Водночас нам вдалось зберегти культурне розмаїття, толерантність і свободу особистості. ЄС налаштований поділитись своїми цінностями та досягненнями з країнами-сусідами ЄС, їхніми народами, та з народами з-поза їхніх меж.



**August, 26 its work will be resumed, and it will remain open until 21 September, 2022.**

The exhibition is a part of the EU-funded “Together We are Europe” national communication campaign. Its goal is to inform the widest possible audience of Ukrainians about the all-around support, solidarity and assistance of the EU that has already been provided to Ukraine at the time of the war and that will continue further.

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**IMPORTANT!** Please note the importance of complying with the safety requirements effective during martial law. Under the applicable rules effective in Kyiv and Ukraine, in the event of an air raid alert, everyone must move to a temporary shelter located at 2 Khreshchatyk St. (underground passage).

**Background**

The EU is united in its steadfast support for Ukraine in the face of the Russian Federation's unprovoked and unjustified full-scale invasion. The European Union has increased its political, humanitarian, financial and military assistance to Ukraine and is introducing unprecedented sanctions against Russia and Belarus.

Since the start of the Russian full-scale invasion, the EU has mobilised almost EUR 7 billion in emergency assistance (grants and loans) for Ukraine. EUR 2,5 billion in military assistance under the European Peace Facility to support Ukrainian Armed Forces was mobilised.

The EU Civil Protection mechanism delivers aid to Ukraine within the largest and most complex operation of the structure in its entire history. Support comes from all 27 EU Member States, as well as from Norway, Turkey, North Macedonia and the European Commission's rescEU reserve stockpiles. It amounted to 66,000 tonnes worth EUR 425 million as of 11 August 2022. EUR 348 million has been allocated for the humanitarian needs of people affected by the full-scale invasion (including 13 mln. for Moldova to help Ukrainian refugees)

The EU cooperates with Member States agencies, international and civil society organisations to deliver dedicated support. Strong support is provided for Ukrainians who were forced to leave Ukraine escaping the war and now stay in the EU countries.



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