

ANNUAL
ACTIVITY
REPORT

2022

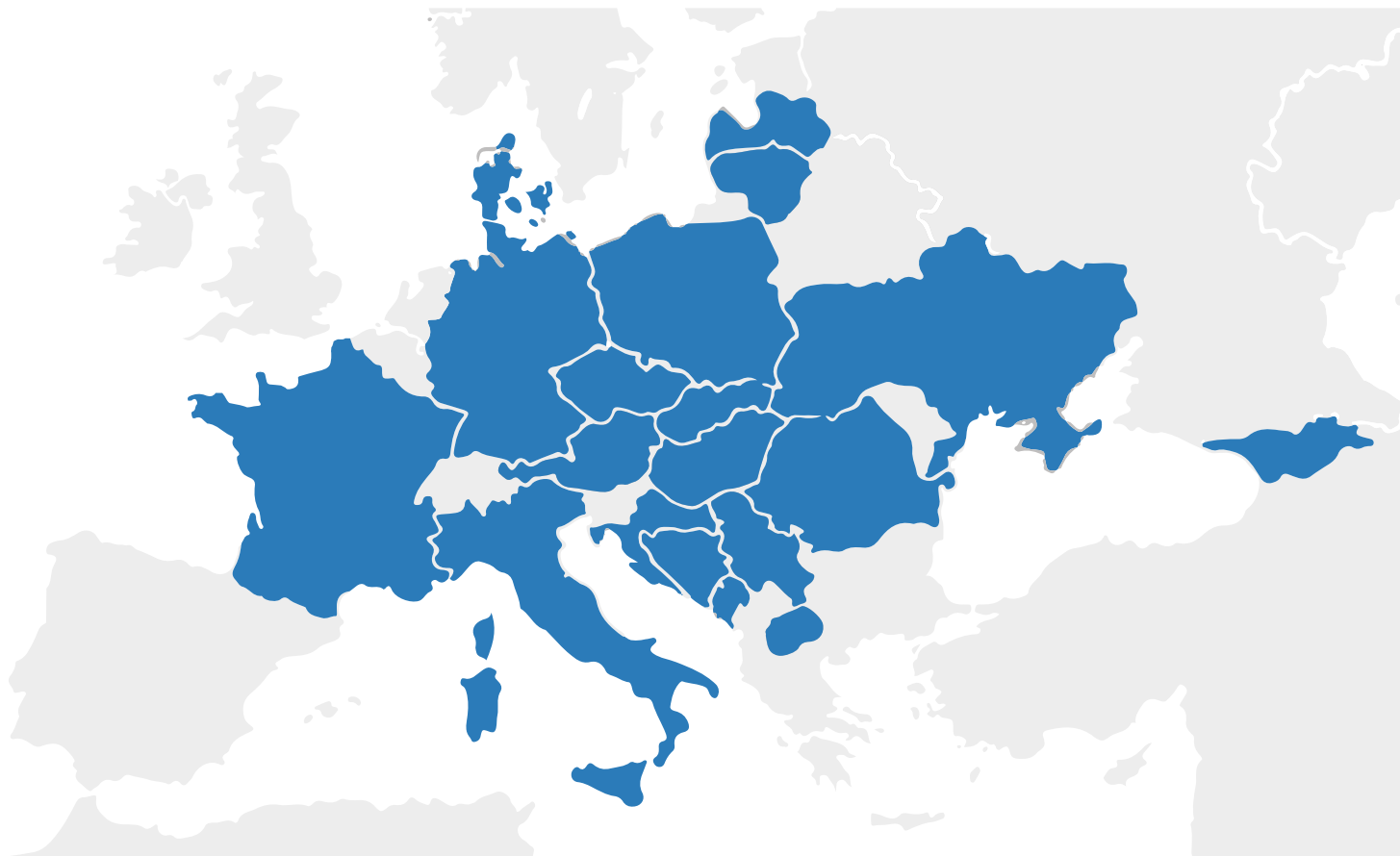
1 MEMBERS AND NETWORK.....	4
Members	5
Networks	5
Presidium	6
2 PROJECTS	7
Training and further Education in Care and Social Services	8
Integrated Training in Emergency Management	8
Digitalisation of First Aid Education	9
Assistance to Ukraine	10
3 ADVOCACY	11
EU Social Policy	12
Revision of the driving license directive.....	12
7th European Civil Protection Forum 2022	13
Focus on social policy and advocacy	13
3 EVENTS	14
Samaritan Contest in Bruneck.....	15
4 FACTS AND FIGURES 2022	16

Dear Readers,

for Samaritan International, as for many other organisations and people, the year 2022 was marked, of course, by the Russian attack on Ukraine. This led the Samaritan organisations to work together to help in a coordinated effort unprecedented in scale: From hundreds of tonnes of aid deliveries that are ongoing until today, to support for refugees along the European Union's border with Ukraine in a first-ever joint international operation of Samaritan response teams, to support for the Samaritan Association of Ukraine, who have been helping the local populace and alleviating hardship wherever they could.

In stark contrast to this exceptional emergency, 2022 was also the year many activities returned to normalcy after the Covid-19 pandemic, including numerous projects that had begun before or during those years. In the summer of 2022, we could finally conduct our international youth competition in first aid, the Samaritan Contest, again.

In the following pages, you can find an overview of this eventful and active year of the Samaritan International Network.



1 MEMBERS AND NETWORKS



Members

The members of Samaritan International as of 31/12/2022 are:



Alfa Centar
(AC, Montenegro)



Associazione Nazionale
Pubbliche Assistenze
(ANPAS, Italy)



Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
Deutschland e.V.
(ASB, Germany)

SAMARITERBUND



Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
Österreichs
(ASBÖ, Austria)



Asociácia Samaritánov
Slovenskej Republiky
ASSR, Slovakia)



Fédération des Secouristes
Français – Croix Blanche
(CB, France)



Asociace Samaritánů
České Republiky
(ASCR, Czech Republic)



Federatia Samaritenilor
Romani (FSR, Romania)



Институт за развој на
заедницата
(CDI, North Macedonia)



Dansk Folkehjælp
(DPA, Denmark)



Inicijativa za razvoj
i saradnju
(IDC, Serbia)



Latvijas Samariesu
apvieniba
(LSA, Latvia)



Lietuvos Samarieciu
Bendrija
(LSB, Lithuania)



Samarytańska Federacja
Organizacji Pozarządowych
(SFOP, Poland)



Спілки Самаритян України
(SSU, Ukraine)



Srce

“Srce” – Udruga djece s teškoćama u razvoju,
osoba s invaliditetom i njihovih obitelji
(SRCE, Croatia)



Landesrettungsverein Weißes
Kreuz – Associazione Provinciale
di Soccorso Croce Bianca
(WK, Italy)



საქართველოს სამარიტელთა
კავშირი (SSK, Georgia)



Žene sa Une
(ZSU, Bosnia and Herzegovina)



Országos Szamaritánus
Társaság Szövetsége
(USB, Hungary)

Networks

Samaritan International is a member of the following networks, as of 31/12/2022:



European
Movement
International

solidar



Presidium

The current presidium of Samaritan International as of 31 December 2022



Knut FLECKENSTEIN
(President)



Andris BERZINS
(Vice-President)



Dr. Ivo BONAMICO
(Vice-President,
Secretary General)



Reinhard HUNDSMÜLLER
(Vice-President)



Klaus NØRLEM
(Vice-President)



Renata PENAZZI
(Vice-President)



Dr. Fabrizio PREGLIASCO
(Vice-President)



Edith WALLMEIER
(Vice-President)



Barbara ZYCHOWSKA
(Vice-President)

2 PROJECTS

Training and further Education in Care and Social Services (TECS, completed)

TECS was an Erasmus+ Key Action 2 “Strategic Partnership” project in vocational education.



From October 2019 to August 2022, TECS conducted a best practice exchange among the partner organisations. The main focus is on training and further education, so thus not primary degrees or diplomas, of professionals in social services such as care and associated auxiliary services, e.g. home emergency call dispatch. By having partner organisations from Western and Eastern Europe, TECS unites a wide set of views on the issue of care and social services. To make use of this unique opportunity of diverse perspectives around the table, TECS combined the best practice exchange meetings with brief sessions to debate European social policy, which resulted in a contributing event to the Conference on the Future of Europe at the end of 2021.

The project has been concluded, with results remaining available on the project website at:



Integrated Training in Emergency Management (I_TEM, ongoing)

I_TEM is an Erasmus+ KA2 project in adult education.

The aim of the project is to explore the benefits of digital training elements or blended learning in an area that conventionally is very focused on hands-on training: volunteer training for emergency situations. I_TEM does not only focus civil protection volunteers, but bridges the gap between civil protection and the sphere of social services by involving a number of social service providers in the project. This is important because, in emergencies, the continued provision of social services to vulnerable groups is crucial and, at the moment, often overlooked or beyond the competences of civil protection aid workers and volunteers. An anecdote from the project group that illustrates this issue and the necessity to address it is from the Central Italy earthquakes, when care workers were evacuated with the general populace, leaving people in need of care, such as the Elderly, in temporary shelter situations without the services they are used to and rely on.

Parts of the project group have already conducted first steps toward addressing this problem in a previous project: SAMETS. SAMETS developed a civil protection volunteer training guideline that helped to better accommodate four different vulnerable groups in emergency temporary

shelters: The Elderly, People with Disabilities, Children and Multicultural groups.

I_TEM builds on this work, but will update the guidelines and, contrary to SAMETS, not rely on external expertise to consult during the project but has member organisations of Samaritan International from both civil protection and social services as direct part of the consortium.

The project is set to conclude in 2023. More information at:



Scene during a pilot training activity of the I_TEM project in Rome, Italy



Participants discuss during a workshop of the DIGIFIRSTAID project

DIGITALISATION OF FIRST AID EDUCATION (DIGIFIRSTAID, ongoing)

Digitalisation of First Aid Education (DIGIFIRSTAID) is a best-practice exchange project on how to introduce e-learning or blended learning in an area of training that is, by its very nature, hands-on: First Aid training. The project is supported by the EU's Erasmus+ program.

Digitalisation of First Aid Education (DIGIFIRSTAID) is a best-practice exchange project on how to introduce e-learning or blended learning in an area of training that is, by its very nature, hands-on: First Aid training. The project is supported by the EU's Erasmus+ program.

While practical exercise will never be entirely replaceable in first aid training, digital educational elements can still be beneficial to improve the quality of the training and the learning experience for the trainees. Also, exceptional situations prohibiting or severely restricting on-site training, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, have proven that certain fall-back options could be very useful in such contexts.

In DIGIFIRSTAID, project partners active in first aid training get together to exchange their experience so far. Some of the partners have already introduced digital elements into their training systems, others have tried to do so prompted by the pandemic with mixed

results. Some project partners have not yet had any specific attempts at digitalizing their first aid education, but see the benefits of doing so, and therefore wish to learn from the others.

A continuation of exchange on the topic after the project timeframe is planned in the form of a knowledge network on digitalization of first aid education.

The project will run from 2022-2023.
More information at:



ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE (ongoing)

AID DELIVERIES

Ever since the Russian attack on Ukraine in February 2022, the SAM.I. member organisations have been coordinating their aid and support. With the Samaritan Association of Ukraine, we have a strong and committed partner organisation on-site in Kyiv, through which SAM.I. and its member organisations organised numerous deliveries and distribution of aid goods. On top of these deliveries to SSU, SAM.I. members fulfilled direct requests for aid materials from other NGOs and institutions on-site.



Aid goods for Ukraine are being unloaded

KYIV CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AIR RAID SHELTER

Together with SSU and supported in particular by our four member organisations from Austria, Germany, South Tyrol/Italy and Latvia, we also implemented a project in which they repaired and refurbished the air raid shelter of a local children's hospital, including basic medical infrastructure such as oxygen supply for patients who have to seek shelter while still requiring such medical support. The shelter, originally dating back to World War 2, was in a deplorable state of disrepair, without proper sanitation or even ventilation. Yet, the Kyiv children's hospital, as all public buildings in Ukraine, is obligated to evacuate everyone, staff and patients, in case of an air raid alarm. This left hospital workers, sick children, and their parents to abide the conditions in the shelter for hours on end. The newly renovated facilities will not make the situation with the threat of air raids any easier, but it does make the waiting time in the shelter physically more comfortable, as well as more hygienic and with better conditions to continue providing at least basic medical assistance to those who need it.



The air raid shelter in use after renovation

TRANSIT CAMP EVO: JOINT INTERNATIONAL OPERATION TO SUPPORT REFUGEES

Furthermore, the Samaritan organisations have been supporting refugees from Ukraine – settled refugees in different countries but most of all people who just crossed the EU border, for example in Poland and Slovakia. In Vojany, Slovakia, an entire transit centre was run in a joint operation of five SAM.I. organisations, led by local SAM.I. member ASSR upon request from the Slovak authorities. There, people would find safe shelter, food and all necessary facilities, including child care. The purpose of the transit camp was for families who had just made it out of Ukraine to find a stable and safe situation from which to plan their next steps, such as contacting relatives elsewhere in Europe or otherwise weighing their options, before moving on to their next destinations. Camp Evo in Vojany was maintained for several months before the number of refugees in need of its services decreased.



Group of deployed volunteers from different SAM.I. organisations together with a delegation from the General Secretariat at Camp Evo, Slovakia

3 ADVOCACY

EU SOCIAL POLICY

Samaritan International expressly welcomed the proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights and all its 20 principles. These, together with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, serve as the cornerstone for guiding our work, especially at the European level.

SAM.I. observed ongoing EU policy as laid out by our social policy strategy 2021 and following up on our event for the Conference on the Future of Europe the year before, titled “The future of Social Europe – Social service NGOs after the pandemic”.

The SAM.I. Competence Centre Social Services and Social Affairs is preparing a new project for the year 2023 that is focusing particularly on the issue of how to make social professions, and particularly care, more attractive, in order to address the common problem of labour shortage in social service professions.

[Social policy strategy 2021](#)



REVISION OF THE DRIVING LICENSE DIRECTIVE

An additional topic to be observed was the upcoming revision of the driving license directive. Organisations in civil protection and rescue have the challenge that, with advances in vehicle safety as well as mobile medical equipment, a modern ambulance vehicle may exceed the 3,5 ton threshold of the regular B license.

Particularly for volunteers, who drive such vehicles in many member organisations, obtaining a C license can be an obstacle to their civic engagement. This is why SAM.I. will advocate for defined weight limit exemptions for emergency vehicles once the legislative process has officially started.



SAM.I. will advocate for defined weight limit exemptions for emergency vehicles

7TH EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION FORUM 2022



SAM.I. also participated in the 7th European Civil Protection Forum 2022. SAM.I. representatives had been regular participants at the Forum for years, but this time we were, for the first time, present with our own info booth. SAM.I. Vice-President Renata Penazzi (ASSR) and Civil Protection Coordinator Markus Leimegger (WK) informed about the network's projects and activities in this area, connected with other stakeholders and advocated for the benefit and role of strong volunteering NGOs in European emergency management.



Discussions at the SAM.I. booth at the Civil Protection Forum 2022



Handover of the office keys on 1 December

FOCUS ON SOCIAL POLICY AND ADVOCACY

In an important step to advance and increase our advocacy work going forward, SAM.I. expanded the general secretariat by one additional staffer with a primary focus on social policy and advocacy. Starting the 1st of December 2022, Anne Stuhlmann will be responsible for this area of our work going forward.

3 EVENTS

SAMARITAN CONTEST IN BRUNECK

The 8th SAMARITAN Contest took place from 28-31 July 2022 in Bruneck, South Tyrol, Italy, hosted by White Cross. About a hundred youths from nine different Samaritan organisations tested their skills and knowledge in first aid. Set against a scenic mountain background, the young volunteers also had plenty of opportunity to get to know their counterparts from other countries, find differences and similarities and, of course, to live the idea that helping others knows no national borders.

The next Samaritan Contest will take place in Montenegro/Serbia in 2024.



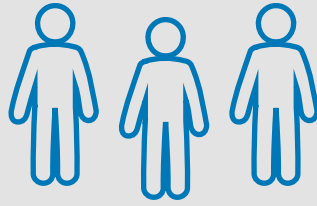
Youths during the first aid competition at the Samaritan Contest in Bruneck



3 **FACTS** **AND** **FIGURES** **2022**

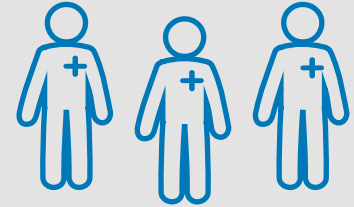
ALMOST

3 MILLION



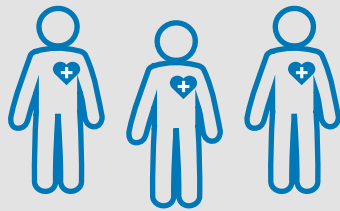
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

50.000



EMPLOYEES

150.000



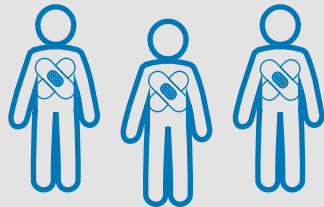
VOLUNTEERS

1 MILLION



MEDICAL TRANSPORTS

400.000



BENEFICIARIES OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

OVER

100.000



PEOPLE TRAINED IN FIRST AID

30.000



PEOPLE IN INTERNAL STAFF AND
VOLUNTEER TRAININGS

Published by

Samaritan International e.V.
Sülzburgstr. 140
50937 Köln
Germany

Brussels Office
Rue de Pascale 4
1040 Bruxelles
Belgium

mail@samaritan-international.eu
<https://www.samaritan-international.eu/>