

# Australian support for Ukraine

On 27 March 2024, the Senate referred the following matter to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by **4 August 2024**.

Australia (not in order of priority, capacity, availability):

- donates de-commissioned, surplus, no longer required military equipment to Ukraine by mutual agreement - <https://www.australianfrontlinemachinery.com.au>;
- requests from Ukraine military and civilian equipment "shopping list" and mixes and matches this shopping list with exact, similar, almost like surplus, mothballed, or new equipment where possible and desirable, subject to state of equipment, transport requirements and licensing or usage caveats;
- provides riot, other materials shields (centurion design) for use by civilians, emergency services personnel and even military, that are reasonably light weight but shrapnel or even bullet proof and can be carried by individuals and when caught during bombardments from air or ground can provide a modicum of protection crouching behind such shields, before entering bunkers;
- provides gaffer tape, glass shatter proof film that can be placed on window glass to prevent shattering for use on school, hospital, key government and residential buildings - <https://www.amazon.com.au/Security-Shatterproof-Protective-Explosion-Proof-Transparent/dp/B0863GHBLM?th=1>  
[https://www.3m.com.au/3M/en\\_AU/building-window-solutions-au/solutions/security/](https://www.3m.com.au/3M/en_AU/building-window-solutions-au/solutions/security/)
- provide portable electricity generators to schools, hospitals, key food suppliers and utilities suppliers;
- provide first aid kits and used decommissioned ambulances, for civilian and military use;
- provide debris clearance machinery new or used i.e. bulldozers, portable cranes, tractors, etc for speedy clearance of bombed areas;
- combine storage warehouses on government property for any materials e.g. from office desks, to military equipment to beds for re-use in Ukraine;

- government vehicles automobiles, trucks, other that have reached Australian Government end of life use to be donated to Ukraine in stead of sold to public for continued use;
- ammunition, weapons, held by military that is due to reach use-by date in 12 months to be donated to Ukrainians to use in battle if unlikely to be used up in training;
- provide surplus civilian and military clothing and footwear to Ukraine for use rather than going to the tip via a sort of second hand shops or charities shopfronts in Ukraine;
- investigate use of very high pressure compressed layers of Australian wool sown, chemically bonded to produce reasonably shrapnel proof garments;
- develop "fly in fly out" short intense training courses say two - three months duration for Ukrainian University students e.g. Kyiv Polytechnical Students and other Ukrainian University students from other Universities to undertake basic and more advanced training at ADF training centres and at ADFA and RMC for greater interoperability between Australian and Ukrainian military;
- create small one man packs of non perishable container and contents borsch (Ukrainian beetroot soup) to Australian Government - Dept of innovation, Energy, Resources, published 2000 recipe, if memory serves me correctly) heat and eat as a ration pack, military or civilian;
- establish what Ukrainian civilians and military lack that is in relative abundance in Australia and excess to local needs e.g. clothing, footwear, foodstuffs, canned food, medicines, camouflage netting and apparel, camp stoves, bedding etc. and what instead of being disposed of to tips as past use-by dates can instead be allocated to Ukraine say 12 months before use-by dates reached to reduce waste in Australia and increase availability and use in Ukraine;
- surplus civilian or military binoculars for Ukrainian military use, the smaller e.g. 8x20 magnification with some non reflective lens surface coating (to reduce reflectivity in sunlight and obvious location of user) the more binoculars the better so the Ukrainian can see the Russian sooner and further away than the Russian can see the Ukrainian;
- if there are demountable, tents, albeit after Australian housing conditions met that can be sent to devastated regions towns, cities villages as make shift temporary housing, that would be great;
- surplus Australian agricultural produce especially any produce previous embargoed by PRC China e.g. wines (due to China embargoes) goes to Ukrainian military and civilian markets to develop a quality taste among Ukrainians that can later be translated into Australian export sales to Ukraine or pre cooked Australian Kangaroo, goat, crocodile meats, seafood

embargoed by China, crayfish, fish etc. packaged in small amounts as protein ration packs for Ukrainian troops and civilians;

- collaborate Australian cartoonists and satirists, art schools, comedians with Ukrainian equivalent ones and produce comics, caricatures, short plays for TV that can capture the poignancy, paradoxes, insanities of an imposed war and going back to 20 th century propaganda and use for moral raising and powerful propaganda tool, for Ukrainian military and civilian use, with an inexhaustible supply of inspirations e.g. capitalising on the Great Escape Movie theme where Ukrainians are escaping from the Russian Gulag Camp or a cartoon of a Ukrainian railway station with everybody bar one person standing on one platform and only one person standing on the other platform. One person a tourist to Ukraine on the crowded platform turns to a local Ukrainian and asks, Why is there only one person on the other platform and nearly everybody else is on our side of station? The local Ukrainian says, well that person is waiting to catch the Putin Express headed eastwards and in the distance is an approaching steam engine with hammer and sickle on that lone person's platform, while simultaneously the local Ukrainian points to an approach bullet express and says well here's our Brussel's Express headed westwards.

Thank you