

HELP FOR REFUGEES, INC.

A tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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**We help orphans and elderly Christians (many in their eighties, even 90s) who had been imprisoned for their faith in present or former communist countries.**

**At this critical moment, we also help many Christian refugees from Ukraine!**



Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand with wife, Sabina

April 2025

**Announcement:**

Free copies of the paperback books written by Pastor Richard Wurmbrand: "Reaching Towards the Heights"; "Tortured For Christ"; "Was Karl Marx a Satanist?"; and "The Pastor's Wife" by Sabina Wurmbrand, may be requested using the order form at the <https://helpforrefugees.com> internet site. (See request form at top of the third column!)

" But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."  
**(Luke 10:42)**

Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand suffered 14 years in Romanian communist prisons. Mrs. Wurmbrand, Sabina, was imprisoned for nearly three years, also for her Christian faith, in some of the same communist prisons.

From an unpublished Bible meditation by late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand  
**OUR FUTURE**

Christians do not look at man as he is, but at what he will be tomorrow. Magdalene was a loose woman and Saul of Tars, a persecutor, but they had in themselves the seed of future saints. Judas Iscariot was a disciple of Jesus Christ who had forsaken everything for Him and even performed miracles, but he was to become a traitor in the end. You are a Christian, but what will you become? Some Christians remain faithful unto death. Others, when they hear the Word of God, receive it with joy, but they have no root and in time of temptation fall away. (Luke 8:13) What will you do in the time of testing? We have not received our faith only for good times; we are not allowed to forsake it under the worst ordeals. A pastor who escaped Cuba after spending 6 years in jails described how the Baptist ministers VALDES and AGUERRE and many others have been in prison for more than 10 years. The Communists offered pastor GONZALES PENO the possibility of being paroled. He refused, saying, "Prison is the field in which the Lord commanded me to work, I will stay." Brother PENO chooses suffering because he feels that in prison he can be more useful.

These men know that they are in spiritual jeopardy if their church is not persecuted under an atheistic regime. Every day they take a step nearer their Golgotha. The Bible promises, "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. " (Revelation 2:10)

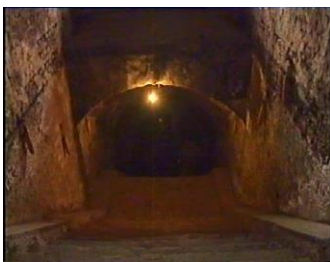
A lawyer in Cuba, George Carro, was jailed because he took the defense of Christians. He said, "Christians are doomed always to sit in prison because if they read aloud the first sentence of the Bible, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth', they have already committed a political crime by opposing the ideology of the Communist regime." Many Christians face imprisonment because they disseminate hand-written religious literature among young people. You, readers in the Free World, have printed literature. How much you disseminate in order to make Christ known and beloved?

What kind of faith do you possess? Life gives you ordeals in the free world, too. Will you face them bravely for Christ's sake, or will you fall away from the faith? Very soon, Christians of the Free World might be submitted to the same tests as our brethren in the Red Camp, because some Western countries, democratic for the moment, are sliding quickly toward a Communist takeover.

We have to free ourselves from the false notion that Communists are against Capitalists. Why should they? Capitalists help them fulfill their plans with billions of dollars' worth of business, of loans and goods and equipment. Communists are only anti-God, anti-Christ, anti-truth, and anti-love. Many capitalists are their allies. This is it what makes a Communist and atheist takeover so easy. Communists nibble away one piece of the Free World after another.

Prisons exist not only for small offenders, but for traitors as well. Strange that while the democratic rights of traitors, spies and terrorists have to be respected, the freedom of the world does not. Leftists in the educational system see to it that the new generation of scientists is oriented toward radicalism. There are hundreds of left-wing radical organizations in Germany. They possess a chain of bookshops in which one can find manuals on guerilla warfare with such advice "Never forget to take a pig's wallet if you have kicked him dead" or "Burn down what you do not like, police headquarters, barracks, warehouses, home for aged, and gas stations.". Lenin taught, "the peaceful coexistence of states with opposing social systems supposes a violent political, economical and ideological fight between socialism and Capitalism." Thus even democratic countries prepare unwittingly for themselves a disastrous future.

We are tested and have our trials every day. Do we remain faithful to them or do we renounce our faith? What will we do if we pass through the refining fires of Communist persecution?



The Communist Jilava Prison.  
Entrance to the underground cells.



Prison cell with bunkbeds with no mattress, prisoners were obliged to sleep on. Stove for show only, never heated in cold winters.



Mug-shot of Late Reverend Richard Wurmbrand when held in the Jilava prison, in communist Romania.

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father are this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (Apostle James Epistle 1:27)

## **Heroes of the Faith and their Families, Helped with your Gifts**

Some pictures of elderly Christians Imprisoned under Communism for the Faith.

Read their full testimonies in our past newsletters at <http://helpforrefugees.com> (third column!)



Baptist minister **Vadan Vasile**, conducted many underground Christian meetings and many secret baptisms by night, even of converted communist party members. For these activities he was imprisoned for two years in former communist Romania.

**(Read his testimony in our online August 2016 Newsletter.)**



Pastor Tudor **Miclea** was arrested and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in former communist Romania. Eighteen other Christians were imprisoned at the same time together with him. The communist government punished these Christians for underground Christian meetings, conducting even numerous baptisms at night in local rivers. Brother Miclea was held at a time in the the Peninsula Balta Alba, a large prison-city where Reverend Richard Wurmbrand was also held. **(Read his testimony in our online August 2016 Newsletter.)**



**Apartment house destroyed through Russian bombing in Mariupol, Ukraine, where 40% of whole town has been close to obliterated.**

**Over six million refugees have escaped so far from Ukraine into different European countries.**



Sister **Vita REBRYK** wrote: "I live abroad with refugee status with my two children, Mark and Emiliia. I received information about your (possible) offer of assistance from the pastor of the local church (for Ukrainians). Please consider our situation, we will be grateful for any of your answers.

In Ukraine we lived in Kyiv region, village of Soshnyvka. The war found us in the Kyiv regional hospital, oncohematology department, since in November 2021 my daughter was diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia. As of February 2022, the therapy did not give results, and she urgently needed a bone marrow transplant. Thanks to the efforts of our government and the "Tabletochki" charity foundation, we were evacuated first to Poland, and then to Italy, where my daughter received supportive therapy and a bone marrow transplant.

She is currently under constant supervision, and additional diagnostics are being conducted regarding an existing heart defect, as a result of which she has tracheal compression, so she may need surgery. My husband Vasyl is currently temporarily with us. He was allowed to leave Ukraine due to the current situation. In Ukraine, we were members of the "Skelya" church in the village of Soshnyvka.

Thank you for reading, have a good day and God's blessings in everything!  
Sincerely, Vita."



Ukrainian Christian Refugee family  
Dina and Dmytro LUKIANCHUK.  
Poster reads "Christ is Risen!"

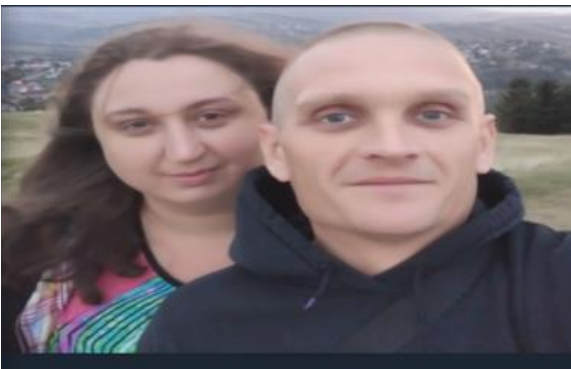
Sister **Dina LUKIANCHUK** wrote: "Left alone with a 1.5-year-old son, 8 months pregnant (husband went to Poland for a month to earn some money for childbirth), and then the war began. To say that I was terribly scared, I didn't know what to do, alone in the city with my son, these sirens, explosions, it's very scary for the children. "

Husband **Dmytro** wrote: "Since our family was expecting a second child, we decided that I would go to Poland to earn some money for the birth. She was left alone with her 1.5-year-old son in a city where there was absolutely no one from our family. ...

When the war started, I experienced great stress as to how was my wife and son, they are all alone, ...

I couldn't calm down. I told my wife to go to Poland as soon as possible. Until they crossed the border, I couldn't calm down.

Thank God, we are together now. With God's help we are coping. We sincerely thank you for your work and help. May the Lord bless you abundantly!"



Couple Kateryna and Ihor **Polianskyi** wrote:

“On the first day of the war, columns of military equipment drove past our house, which caused great fear. Then the shelling began, our military unit was bombed, the constant sounds of the air raid sirens did not stop for a moment, the children could not even sleep from these sounds.

The electricity and water supply were cut off. I constantly drank tranquilizers, constant fear and anxiety kept me awake from the beginning of the war until we arrived in Poland.

You could constantly hear helicopters flying and military equipment driving at night, flights over residential buildings. All this forced us to run away to save the lives of our little children”

Brother **Tabacari** Vitalie wrote:

“For the last 30 years, I (Vitalie) lived in Ukraine with my wife and children. I grew a garden in Ukraine. My wife, Tetiana, worked in a store.

Due to the war, we were forced to leave Ukraine for Italy, where we received refugee status. We were able to leave Ukraine safely because we are a family with many children.

Only I (Vitalie Tabacari) am employed as a Courier. We have five (5) underage children and one adult son.

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The youngest (2 years old) has a diagnosis of "lymphostasis", her feet are swollen. To correct this disease, she needs to change prescribed, expensive elastic socks every few months. At the moment, we visit the church "Slovo Viry" in Bergamo, Italy.”

## Ukrainian Christian Refugees Helped with your Gifts

April 16, 2022\*

Dear contributors:

My gratitude to all who donated generously toward helping so many refugees from Ukraine, a true flood of displaced individuals. More than four million have escaped the current war and another three million are expected to come out. If one reads the daily news, one will be convinced easily these are not exaggerated figures. These are persons who flee from extensive bombing and continuing total destructions of whole towns.

It happens that my birth country, Romania, and the Republic of Moldova (also a Romanian language country) have together the longest common border with Ukraine. At the same time, Romania is one of the poorest countries in the European Union and Moldova is economically worse. Between Romania and Moldova so far, one million Ukrainians have sought asylum already. **Refugees come at times at the rate of 10,000 every 24 hours.** \* Most of these refugees are women with 3 to 8 children. Fortunately, many other countries in Europe and North America are accepting to resettle these refugees if they can arrive there. Many churches outside Romania, have sent transportation means, like buses and even chartered flights. These refugees speak Ukrainian and Russian. Here and there, the communality of the Romanian language is of help, since some closer to the border localities like the university town of Czernowitz (name in German, Cernauti in Romanian) where my mother was born, used to be part of Romania before WWII. Some of the younger generation might have a little knowledge of English. Through many dependable contacts of many years in Romania, we concentrated on helping with local Romanian currency of US \$200 to \$2,000 per family of **Christian believers**-refugees. Many came out with hardly more than the shirt on their back. There were miles-long lines at the border. Through the local Christians who deserve all praise, we provide pocket money given in hand for food and believers' lodging for a few days, until there is a partial resolution as to near- future plans of settling some place somehow or moving-on further to other countries. \$2,000 seems to be a large sum for an elderly couple who could escape but most couples come out with larger groups of 10 to 15 children and grandchildren. Just as one example, we paid for a Victoria village home, \$6,000 for a one-month lodging and food for three adults and twelve children. Most of these refugees entertain the illusion of taking refuge out of their native country and their lodging and work, for a brief time but the way the news comes out on this prolonged war, I doubt this will be the case. I believe these refugees will remain refugees for many years to come. We publish in these newsletters a few testimonies and some receipts of scores more, documenting what I wrote above.

\*(Update February 2024: Refugees still pour-in most days at the rate of 8,000-10,000!) Michael Wurmbrand

409	Власенко	Валентин	Медфодьевич	1958	Украина
410	Вольф	Андрей	Корнеевич	1958	Казахстан
411	Куркин	АЛЕКСЕЙ	ЯКОВЛЕВИЧ	1958	Россия
412	Левен	НИКОЛАЙ	ВИКТОРОВИЧ	1958	Казахстан
413	Романюк	Владимир	Николаевич	1958	Украина
414	Тиссен	Давид	Давидович	1958	Россия
415	ТУРКЕВИЧ	Василий	Тарасович	1959	Украина
416	Бычков	Степан	Павлович	1959	Украина
417	ДРИСВЯНИКОВ	АЛЕКСАНДР	АЛЕКСАНДРОВИЧ	1959	Россия
418	СКВОРЦОВА	ЛЮБОВЬ	НИКОЛАЕВНА	1959	Россия
419	Варавин	Виталий	Федотович	1959	Россия
420	Дубицкий	СЕРГЕЙ	АДАМОВИЧ	1959	Россия
421	Ляшенко	Борис	Владимирович	1959	Украина
422	Ткаченко	ИВАН	ИВАНОВИЧ	1959	Казахстан
423	МАРЧЕНКО	Станислав	Павлович	1960	Украина
424	Донченко	Александр	Максимович	1960	Украина
425	Отмахов	Вениамин	Александрович (Валерианов)	1960	Узбекистан
426	Савченко	Михаил	Михайлович	1960	Эстония
427	Фадеева (ШВЕЦОВА)	ДИНА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1961	Алания
428	ШВЕЦОВА	АННА	ВЛАДИМИРОВНА	1962	Алания
429	Богодимов	Александр	Валерьевич	1962	Эстония

Above, a **sample only** of a lengthy list, our mission was able to compile beside other lists, of over 480 elderly Baptist Christians most of them still alive, who suffered for the Christian faith in the former Soviet Union. The prison sentences amounted from 2 years, to as many as 18 years of communist prison. If considered together, their years of prison-sentences shown in our **abbreviated** table, would add up to over 2,000 years of prison. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> column together, show year of birth and the most recent country they live in (like Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, etc.) We try obtaining exact addresses, so we may be able to send encouraging help to those still alive. We were able to send repeated help to about 120 such elderly Russian-speaking Christians and over 110 speaking other languages. Many of their testimonies you can read in the monthly newsletter. Testimonies available also on the internet. **Look up third column at: website: <https://helpforrefugees.com>**

### Help for Refugees, Inc.

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**Email: [hfr@helpforrefugees.com](mailto:hfr@helpforrefugees.com),**

Gifts are US tax-deductible. Help for Refugees is listed in Publication 78, Cumulative List of Nonprofit Organizations described in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Service. For IRS nonprofit status you may use this link:

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/allSearch>

and enter EIN: 953064521.