



**THREE YEARS OF  
SUPPORT AND  
SOLIDARITY FOR  
ZAPORIZHZHIA:**

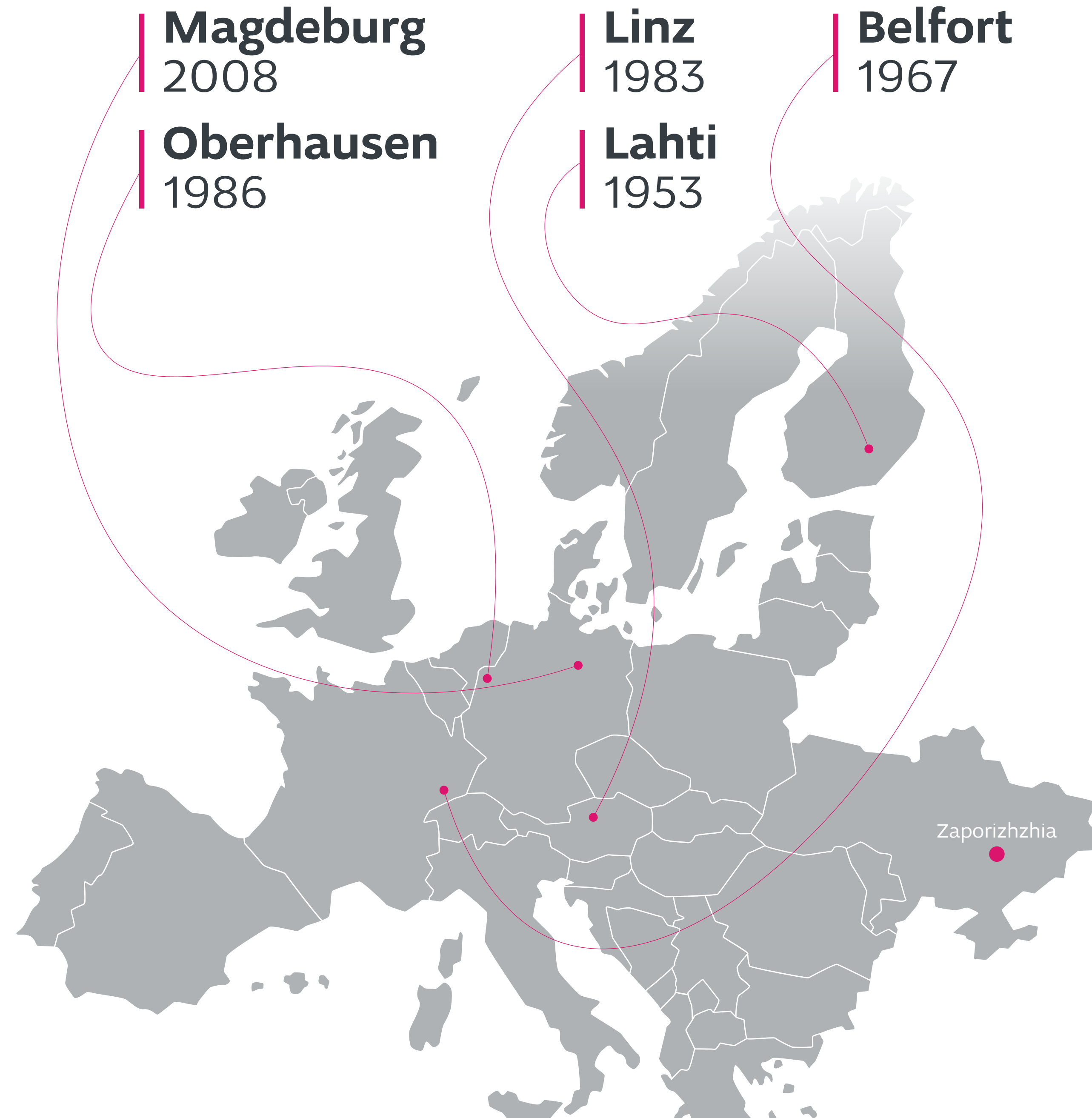
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international municipal partnership projects

Zaporizhzhia has a long-standing tradition of town twinning, **starting in 1953**. Over the past three years, these partnerships have proven their critical importance. In 2022, following the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, our sister cities were among the first to offer support.

Since then, our cooperation has grown beyond humanitarian aid to include **collaborative projects** that strengthen civil infrastructure, foster cultural exchange, and exchange good practices in healthcare and education.

This presentation highlights key examples of our impactful partnerships with sister cities in 2022–2024.



# COMMUNITY VEHICLES FOR ZAPORIZHZHIA (2023–2024)

**Partners:** Magdeburg, Oberhausen  
**Funding:** GIZ GmbH assistance programme for Ukrainian cities

**RESULTS:**  
Zaporizhzhia received **seven new vehicles** for social workers and public utilities.

These include specialized vehicles for road maintenance and rubble clearance after rocket attacks, humanitarian aid transport vehicles, and a wheelchair-accessible minibus.





## DEVELOPMENT OF THE REHABILITATION CENTRE IN ZAPORIZHZHIA (2024–)

**Partners:** Oberhausen

**Funding:** Engagement Global (Nakopa programme)

### **RESULTS:**

Zaporizhzhia hospital will receive **modern rehabilitation equipment** in order to introduce new rehabilitation services and improve their quality.

Also, doctors will participate in a study visit to **Oberhausen** to exchange expertise.

# AMBULANCES FOR ZAPORIZHZHIA (2022–)

**Partners:** Oberhausen, Magdeburg, Gdańsk, Tyrol  
**Benefactors** Malteser Hilfsdienst Magdeburg, Fundacja Via Stella, Oberhausen Hilft, and others

## RESULTS:

Modern, fully-equipped ambulances are critically important for frontline communities that frequently suffer from shelling.

Thanks to the Ambulances for Zaporizhzhia initiative, over **15 vehicles** were provided to city hospitals, enabling faster transportation of patients for examinations and treatment.





## HOLIDAYS FROM WAR (2023–)

**Partners:** Magdeburg, Lahti

**Funding:** Charitable contributions, NGO funding

### **RESULTS:**

Approximately **100 children** from Zaporizhzhia spent summer holidays at the **Pajulahti Sports Centre in Finland** and the **Barleber See Summer Camp in Magdeburg**.

Partner cities and philanthropists covered accommodation, meals, and leisure activities for the children and their accompanying adults.

# INTER-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS (2022–)

**Partners:** Belfort, Oberhausen

**Activities:** Online student meetings, correspondence and book exchanges, and joint cultural projects.

## **EXAMPLES:**

Students of Zaporizhzhia Gymnasium No. 50, who study French, actively communicate with their peers from **Collège Vauban in Belfort**.

Academic Lyceum No. 46 in Zaporizhzhia maintains a long-standing partnership with the **Bertha-von-Suttner Gymnasium in Oberhausen**. Together, the schools collaborate on creative projects, including photo exhibitions and film productions. In 2024, students from the lyceum participated in the **international youth meeting MULTI in Oberhausen**.





# CULTURAL COOPERATION (2022–)

**Partners:** Lahti, Oberhausen, Magdeburg  
**Activities:** Charity concerts, joint music events, theater visits, and exhibitions.

## KEY INITIATIVES:

### Anti-War Posters from Zaporizhzhia (Magdeburg, 2022)

An exhibition by Zaporizhzhia artist Natalia Lobach, featuring 25 powerful graphic stories that highlight the Ukrainian resistance to Russian military aggression.

### RECORDS OF RESISTANCE (Oberhausen, 2023)

An exhibition showcasing selected works created by BIRUCHIY 2022 art residency participants.

**Charity Symphony Concert Featuring Finnish Conductor Dalia Stasevska (Lahti, 2022)**

This concert, led by Finnish conductor of Ukrainian origin Dalia Stasevska, raised funds for Finnish charities supporting Ukrainian refugees and children affected by the war.

**Photo Exhibition “War in Our Home: Zaporizhzhia” (Lahti, 2023)**

Organized in partnership with Finnish collaborators, this exhibition depicted the impact of war on Zaporizhzhia. The opening ceremony was attended by representatives from NGOs, businesses, and the Zaporizhzhia City Council.





## Concert “Two Years of War in Ukraine” (Zaporizhzhia–Oberhausen, 2024)

A unique joint concert of classical Ukrainian and German music, performed simultaneously in both cities via video broadcast.

### Performers included:

- Zaporizhzhia Municipal Chamber Choir
- Zaporizhzhia Children’s Symphony Orchestra
- Zaporizhzhia art schools
- Oberhausen Singing Union
- Harmonie Universelle ensemble.

# SUPPORT FOR YOUTH AND SPORTS (2023–)

**Partners:** Oberhausen, Büro für Interkultur, Oberhausener Kanu-Verein von 1928 e.V., Oberhausen Hilft e.V.

## RESULTS:

- Training camps for young rowers from Zaporizhzhia's Sports School in a safe environment.
- Exchange of experience with German athletes and coaches.
- Cultural and tourism program for youth.





# HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION (2022–)

**Partners:** Belfort, Linz, Magdeburg, Oberhausen

## RESULTS:

**Equipped emergency points (Points of Unbreakability):** Wood stoves, thermal blankets, and other essentials were donated by **Oberhausen** with support from GIZ GmbH.

**Enhanced rescue services:** 100 Dräger protective helmets from **Oberhausen** and various equipment from **Magdeburg** improved the capabilities of local rescue teams.

**Improved conditions in IDP shelters:** Furniture and equipment provided by **Linz** to support internally displaced persons living in municipal shelters.

**Humanitarian aid for Zaporizhzhia:** Essential supplies (baby food, toys, medical supplies, and food for animals) were donated by the people of **Belfort** to those in need.

# POSSIBLE AREAS FOR COOPERATION

## HEALTHCARE AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT

- Supply of advanced medical equipment, particularly for children's hospitals
- Psychological support centres
- Training for medical staff

**What we offer:** Unique expertise in providing medical care under the most crisis conditions.

**What we need:** Best practices for addressing trauma and PTSD, psychological support for children; joint initiatives to strengthen local hospitals.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- Educational exchanges and joint programmes with Charles Sturt University
- School partnerships
- Specialized training for emergency response services

**What we offer:** Top five universities in the region, including Medical, Polytechnic, and Engineering institutions.

**What we need:** New educational approaches and opportunities for students to connect with peers from other countries.

## CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Joint cultural events to promote links and explore cultures
- Promotion of youth exchanges and volunteer programmes
- Sharing practices of social activities and engagement opportunities.

**What we offer:** The city's Youth Centre, Youth Council, active NGOs.

**What we need:** Opportunities for experience exchange, peer-to-peer learning, and connections for new projects.

## URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Environmental solutions and improved waste management systems
- Sustainable urban transport solutions

**What we offer:** Strategic Vision “Zaporizhzhia 2030,” Recovery Plan, municipal transport network.

**What we need:** Expertise and best practices, along with partnerships for international cooperation projects.

## SECURITY AND CRISIS INFRASTRUCTURE

- Development of modular shelters and autonomous power supply systems
- Equipment for first responders
- Crisis response plans

**What we offer:** Connections with professionals from the City Council and Regional Administration.

**What we need:** Expertise, humanitarian (technical) aid, and partners for cooperation projects.

## SUPPORT FOR MILITARY AND CIVIL DEFENCE

- Humanitarian aid and technical assistance
- Training programmes for civil protection personnel

**What we offer:** Full assistance in humanitarian efforts, transparency in aid distribution, and media visibility.

**What we need:** New humanitarian partners; expertise and training in civil protection.

# OUR CONTACTS

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## ZAPORIZHZHIA CITY COUNCIL

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We welcome opportunities for cooperation.

