



News from the Network

Start of the TeamUP project involving JOIN and Johanniter Austria

January marked the start of the Horizon Europe project called TeamUP. The project aims to improve preparedness against security risks stemming from chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRN-E) materials. For the coming three years the multidisciplinary consortium of 24 European partners, led by the Greek Institute of Communication and Computer Systems, will work to empower First Responders operating on the scene with training procedures and innovative technologies. Johanniter Austria will be involved in the technology and capability evaluation as an end-user organisation, and Johanniter International will lead the communication and dissemination of the project's content and results. [Continue reading](#)



JOIN First Aid Manual promoted by the European Civil Protection Knowledge Network

In December, JOIN published a European-wide First Aid [Manual](#) intended for young people (age range 13 to 17 years inclusive). This month, the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network promoted this new reference tool developed by the JOIN Clinical Working Group on its [website](#). The Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network aims to strengthen civil protection training and exercises across Europe, and cooperation between Member States' national civil protection authorities. It is a hub that connects first responders, disaster risk managers, scientists, and decision-makers and matches their needs for expertise and good practices with methodologies, tools, solutions, and resources.

European First Aid

A guide for Young People

developed by Johanniter International

Update on humanitarian aid for Ukraine

The members of our network provide immediate emergency relief to Ukraine, transport services, as well as accommodation and support to refugees. In preparation for the winter. In 72 villages along the front lines in the south and southeast of Ukraine, Johanniter Germany and its partner organisation NEW DAWN are providing emergency aid in the form



of food, hygiene products and generators for electricity. Our Austrian, Hungarian and Dutch members, as well as Johanniter Luxembourg, joined forces to provide heating material to Ukrainians. In the last week of January, Johanniter Hungary transported more than 21 tons of drinks and food to Ukraine, with support from Johanniter in Brussels. Read more about our network's activities for Ukraine [here](#).

Johanniter Christmas Trucker distribute record number of parcels

For the 30th Johanniter Weihnachtstrucker (Christmas Trucker) action, our Austrian and German members collected a record number of parcels: 59,720 parcels, of which 599 were collected in Austria, were delivered to people in need. 10,521 further parcels were 'packed virtually' (via donations that



were used to buy the contents), amounting to a total of 70,241 parcels. The parcels have been distributed in the target countries Albania, Bosnia, Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. "The encounters on site were very special for the volunteers. The gratitude and joy of the people deeply moved the helpers," reports Ulrich Kraus, project manager of the Johanniter Christmas Trucker. In the countries that could not be reached directly by the volunteers for security reasons, Johanniter was supported by forwarding companies, and parcels were distributed by local partners. Parcels were also distributed in Germany, with a large proportion going to the food banks.

New employee at the JOIN Office

In January, the JOIN team in Brussels welcomed a new member: Ms Franziska Wolandt. She will mainly be involved in implementing the [TeamUP](#) project in the coming six months. As a law graduate and student of International Relations, she specialised in questions of international security and humanitarian aid. Moreover, Franziska Wolandt has been volunteering for Johanniter Germany since 2011 in the fields of first aid and disaster relief, and became part of the Emergency Medical Team in 2019. You can write to her at Franziska.Wolandt@johanniter.org



News from the Members

Looking back on the Volunteer Swap programme 2023

In 2023, our Volunteer Swap programme offered a record number of 48 opportunities for volunteers to join their colleagues abroad and participate in events and social activities. 9 JOIN members welcomed 113 volunteers to provide first aid at major events such as the Berlin Marathon, but also to join local teams in social care activities like assisting in Day Care Centres, Summer Camps or homeless kitchens and shelters. Our Dutch member joined the programme and offered 2 opportunities for volunteers to join their holidays for groups of older people in the



Netherlands. Another first was the [Swap for young people](#) organised between our English and German members. [Continue reading](#)

First Volunteer Swap opportunities for 2024 available

After having wrapped up the biggest Volunteer Swap programme so far, five of our members already offer you 14 new opportunities for 2024. You can join [our Austrian member](#) for continuous activities throughout the entire year. These range from Acute Care Service over Patient Transport and Ambulance service to helping in their homeless shelter (until April). [Johanniter Germany](#) also invites volunteers to participate in their homeless shelter in Berlin (until April) and to assist senior citizens throughout the year. In February, you can participate in first aid and ambulance services at the FIS Ski Flying World Cup in Bavaria and in June the Southside Festival is part of the programme. The annual [Sweden Rock Festival](#) in June also remains part of the programme with our Swedish member. Between June and August, [our Latvian member](#) invites you to participate in their Day Care Centres. [Our Hungarian member](#) welcomes two volunteers to join the Centenary of the Commandery of the Johanniterorden in Budapest on the second weekend in May. Find all information at <https://johanniter.org/volunteer-swap/>



An Austrian volunteer at the first Volunteer Swap in the Netherlands

In the last week of December, Johanniter Nederland organised holidays for lonely elderly people who cannot afford to go on holiday and celebrate the festivities. Patrick Stegmann from Johanniter Austria travelled to De Rijp (province of North-Holland) for the very first Volunteer Swap taking place in the Netherlands. Together with the Dutch volunteers, he contributed to the organisation of activities and ensured that the guests had a carefree and happy holiday. Read Patrick's report about his experience with Johanniter Nederland [here](#).



News from Europe

Register for the MED1stMR Final Conference

With the [MED1stMR project](#) nearing the end of its three-year runtime, we will soon present our findings at the project's Final Conference on 17th and 18th April 2024 in Ranst, Belgium. Join us to receive comprehensive insights into mixed reality medical first responder training and explore the promising horizons that lie ahead. Participants can virtualise mass casualty incident training and triage simulation for medical



first responders and experience the future of virtual and haptic training. Registration, agenda and detailed information are available [here](#).

TeamUP Kick-Off Meeting held in Athens

The TeamUP consortium met from 24th to 26th in Athens for the project's Kick-Off Meeting. During the three-day-meeting hosted by the project coordinator, the Institute of Communication and Computer Systems, the consortium met in person for the first time and discussed the details of each Work Package. With the goal to carry out a holistic capability and technology evaluation and co-create a framework to ultimately upskill First Responders and enhance their CBRN-E response, the partners discussed the details and next steps of their collaboration going forward. [Continue reading](#).



Johanniter Germany in Brussels for European civil protection projects

From 11th to 13th December, the Competence Center EU Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance ([EUCC](#)) of Johanniter located in Frankfurt came to the premises of the JOIN Office in Brussels. The EUCC has been leading the organisation of European civil protection exercises ([MODEX](#)) since 2015 and will now coordinate a new cycle lasting until 2026 and involving 17 partners in six different exercises. Furthermore, our German member met representatives from DG ECHO and the Italian Civil Protection Department to include capacities for chronic dialysis in the rescEU EMT project. RescEU EMT is a large European medical response capacity composed of a consortium of eight participating states and led by the EUCC.



Johanniter International

Rue Joseph II, 166,

1000 Brussels, Belgium

join.office@johanniter.org

