



15 July 2025

His Excellency Friedrich Merz,
Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

CC:

- Her Excellency Reem Alabali-Radovan, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Her Excellency Nina Warken, Federal Minister of Health
- His Excellency Lars Klingbeil, Minister of Finance of Germany
- His Excellency Georg Kippels, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Health
- His Excellency Martin Jäger Ambassador of Germany to Ukraine

Subject: Recognising Germany's leadership in Global Health Security and urgent appeal for continued support to Ukraine through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Dear Chancellor Merz,

Germany's enduring leadership in supporting Ukraine through one of the most challenging times in our history has been nothing short of remarkable. Your government's unwavering commitment to international solidarity and development cooperation continues to inspire global confidence.

We would like to express our profound gratitude for Germany's steadfast support to Ukraine. Germany has been a steadfast ally, demonstrating extraordinary commitment to Ukraine through numerous channels, including your leadership in prioritizing global health initiatives such as the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund).

As we are in the midst of the fourth year since Russia's full-scale invasion, Ukraine continues to fight, not only for its sovereignty but also for the health and well-being of its people. Despite immense challenges, the country has sustained its HIV, TB, and harm reduction programs, pioneered innovative healthcare solutions, and demonstrated a model of resilience for the world.

In the face of the ongoing war and its devastating effects, the Global Fund civil society partners in Ukraine, have continued to deliver essential services to vulnerable communities. Through community-based and community-led organizations in all regions of Ukraine, brave staff ensure

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uninterrupted access to prevention, testing, and treatment for HIV and TB (including multi-drug-resistant TB), despite relentless challenges and resource fatigue.

The Global Fund's allocation to Ukraine is \$165.5 million for the current grant cycle 2024-2026. These funds, made possible by Germany and other donors, enable us to sustain and adapt life-saving programs. They provide essential health services, medications, generators, food, and care packages for those in need.

The national HIV program in Ukraine, as well as other HIV, TB, and malaria programs globally, is now at serious jeopardy due to uncertainty or reductions in US funding. This is especially critical in the current context of global financial instability.

The Global Fund remains a key lifeline for Ukraine – more important now than ever. But uncertainty around ongoing and future funding to the Global Fund poses a major threat to communities like ours.

Cuts would have a devastating effect, particularly in low-income and fragile or conflict-affected states, without a doubt increasing both transmission and the number of people dying from preventable causes, and undermining global efforts to detect, track, and contain new outbreaks worldwide. **Outbreaks are inevitable, but epidemics and pandemics are preventable.**

The Global Fund alone is the most significant funder of the fight against TB, HIV, and malaria, providing:

- 76% of international funding for TB, the world's deadliest infectious disease.
- 62% of international funding for malaria, protecting vulnerable populations worldwide.
- Support for millions of people on life-saving HIV treatment and comprehensive prevention initiatives.

The Global Fund's impact is undeniable, having saved millions of lives annually, even amidst conflicts like the one in Ukraine. By pooling resources and shaping global markets, the Fund has also ensured that essential medicines, diagnostics, and equipment are accessible and affordable. By investing in health systems and disease surveillance in more than 100 countries, the Global Fund partnership is making the world healthier and safer, reinforcing [global health security](#) and helping to break the chain of infection.

A call to for Germany to give an early pledge to the Global Fund

The Global Fund has launched its [Eighth Replenishment Investment Case](#), calling for sustained financial commitments to continue progress in global health. A fully funded Global Fund could save up to 23 million lives between 2027 and 2029, reduce mortality from these diseases by 64%, and strengthen health systems and global health security. For every dollar invested, the return is estimated at \$19 in health and economic benefits, an extraordinary impact of \$323 billion over the next three years.

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Germany has supported the Global Fund since its launch in 2002 and is the fourth largest public donor overall, with contributions totaling over EUR 5.3 billion to date. Germany's contributions not only uphold global health but also serve as a vital lifeline for communities like ours, ensuring resilience in the face of unprecedented challenges.

Germany's leadership has been instrumental in past replenishments, including the Seventh Replenishment, where your strong pledge helped catalyze support from other partners. As the world faces new health threats and instability, the importance of a fully funded Global Fund cannot be overstated.

Together with our German friends, we, representatives from more than 140 Ukrainian organizations, urge you to continue prioritizing support for the Global Fund and maintain Germany's strong leadership for the replenishment conference planned for the end of 2025. A pledge of at least €1.4 billion — on the path toward a fair share of €1.8 billion* — is essential to sustain life-saving programs. This is more important than ever, and it will demonstrate the urgency of funding the Global Fund, encouraging other donors to follow Germany's lead.

We are deeply grateful for your support. This is a fight we can and must win — together.

With sincere gratitude,

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Sylvia Urban,
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*(Action against AIDS Germany is a nationwide
network of 300 co-organizations including
individuals)*



On behalf of the Global Fund Civil Society Partners and supporters in Ukraine:

Please find more about Ukrainian doctors work with the support of the Global Fund:

- *A short film about how one of our mobile health teams work in frontline — “[Dmytro and Yulia Face the Frontlines of War to Deliver Lifesaving Care in Ukraine](#)”*
- *[No Break in the Struggle](#): Ukraine's Health Response Three Years into the War*

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List of signatories:

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8. Maksym Dotsenko, Director General of the National Committee, Ukrainian Red Cross Society (Ukraine)
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