

Refugee support

ESTA International



*Dear Presidents,
Dear Secretaries,
Dear members of ESTA,*

Due to the terrible situation in Ukraine, millions are displaced all around Europe. Many of these refugees are music students and teachers with no access to a musical instrument or tuition.

We wish to act as a Europe-wide organisation and urge all ESTA members to contact their branches if they know refugee students or teachers whom ESTA may be able to help.

We urge all branches to work with their members to connect them with local teachers, musical instruments and local musical organisations.

Maybe you have an instrument yourself you could lend to a refugee child or teacher, or are able to offer lessons yourself. If you are able to offer any kind of support please contact your ESTA branch and help us connect our fellow music teachers and students to our own musical worlds.

The ESTA Central Board is keen to help individual branches as needed and we wish to help everyone find working solutions and make something good come of this terrible situation. Music is the international language - let's use it to help create unity and peace in the world.

In support of Ukraine the Central Board would also like to invite all regional branches of ESTA to offer members of ESTA Ukraine temporary, free membership of their branches while the war lasts. We hope this will support them musically and give them a sense of belonging and normality. We believe that events (online and on location) might be a good way for them to engage with music making and make friends in their adoptive country.

Please consider if this is something your branch can offer. If you are willing, we will put you in touch with members of ESTA Ukraine who are refugees in your country.

The Central Board of ESTA International

Helsinki, 01.06.2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Géza Szilvay', is written over a horizontal line.

Géza Szilvay, President of ESTA International