



A Czech designer created a **novel** way to raise money for Ukrainians who suffer from the war in their country.

Tomas Brinek said his idea was originally a joke to make a pillow of the Ukrainian president. He realized many people saw the man as some kind of a sex symbol. Then, it attracted more than 2,000 orders.

The image is of President Zelenskiy, tired, unshaven but **defiant** in his **trademark** green T-shirt. The image has become the symbol of Ukraine's resistance to the Russian invasion. The limited edition of hand-made pillows has already raised almost 19,000 dollars to a charity which helps Ukrainians affected by the war.

The Czech Republic has sent tens of millions of dollars worth of aid to Ukraine, and so far it's taken 270,000 refugees from the total of more than 3 million, mostly women and children, who fled the war.

Difficult words: **novel** (new or unusual), **defiant** (resistant and willing to fight), **trademark** (a thing that's typical or characteristic for someone or something).

Discussion Questions**Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *novel*, *defiant* and *trademark*
2. What did Tomas Brinek do to raise money for Ukrainians who suffer from the war?
3. Why did the Czech designer originally make a pillow of the Ukrainian president?
4. How did the image of President Zelenskiy look like?
5. How much was Tomas Brinek able to raise from his hand-made pillows to a charity that helps Ukrainians affected by war?
6. What aid has the Czech Republic given to Ukraine during this difficult moment?

Express Your Thoughts

1. What can you say about Tomas Brinek's idea to help Ukrainians affected by the war?
2. Can you think of another novel idea to raise money for the people in Ukraine?
3. Has your country helped Ukraine and the people affected by the war? How?
4. Does your country stand with Ukraine against Russian invasion?