

UKRAINE
UNBROKEN
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Lviv (Ukraine). A young soldier who lost a leg fighting against the Russian army is seen during a rehabilitation session at the Unbroken center. The center, which opened in the summer of 2022, is still under construction and, when it's finished, it will be the largest in Europe.

THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL REHABILITATION OF THE CONFLICT'S WOUNDED SOLDIERS

From the very first moments after the Russian invasion, the flow of people fleeing the war headed to western Ukraine. They either wanted to reach Europe or settle in a less dangerous part of the country. The city of Lviv soon took on the role of logistical capital of the resistance, welcoming hundreds of thousands of displaced people and becoming the entry point for humanitarian aid from abroad and the main distribution center for goods directed to the places under siege. One year on, in addition to the consolidated role as a hub city, Lviv and the surrounding areas have become an essential point of reference for the rehabilitation of wounded soldiers. Although there are no official data, due to the precise wishes of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which does not want to demoralize citizens, it is clear to everyone that the number of seriously wounded in the armed forces is very high, even when compared with that of the first year of the war in Donbas. In all likelihood, tens of thousands of soldiers have lost a limb or have motor problems due to spinal injuries or neurological trauma. With the war showing

no sign of diminishing in its intensity and the Bakhmut front alone producing dozens of wounded every day, it is safe to assume that more and more soldiers will need to go to specialized rehabilitation facilities. In order to cope with this situation, the Lviv region is investing a lot of resources in upgrading existing structures and creating new ones. The Halychyna center has been around for years and is probably the most important of its kind in western Ukraine. This is because it follows all phases of the rehabilitation process, including the production of prostheses. Unbroken, on the other hand, is a new, modern and ambitious project: it's already operational but is still in the finalization phase. Once completed, it will be the largest rehabilitation facility in Europe. In addition to these major complexes, there are other excellent institutions. These include the Modrici rehabilitation center, which treats patients with particularly serious neurological traumas, and the DoloniDotyk association, which opened in May last year and is achieving positive results through hippotherapy, even for soldiers with severe disabilities.



Lviv region (Ukraine). Sergej was seriously wounded in Karkhiv a few days before the liberation of the region. Here he is seen riding a horse during a hippotherapy session. This type of rehabilitation helps participants improve balance and, in some cases, overcome phantom limb pain. Furthermore, contact with animals often can often produce beneficial psycho-emotional effects.

Lviv region (Ukraine). Soldiers from the Truskavets military hospital receive rehabilitation treatment in the swimming pool at the specialized Modrici center.





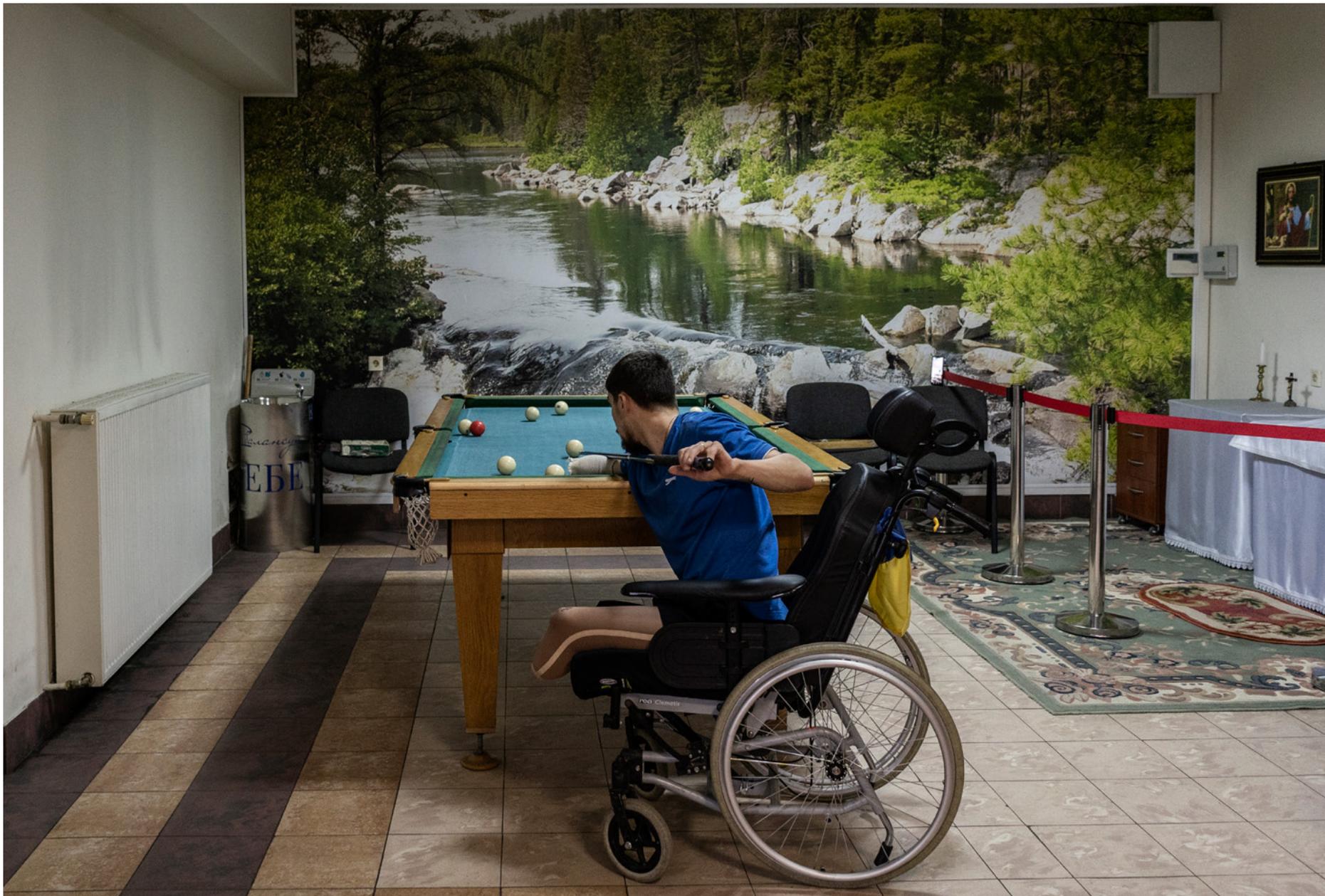
Lviv (Ukraine). The laboratory where the prostheses are produced at the Halychyna rehabilitation center. The delicate process of manufacturing the prostheses is carried out by experts from Kharkiv University.



Lviv region (Ukraine). Nazar with his wife and son in the courtyard at the Modrici rehabilitation center. Nazar was wounded in Bakhmut where he sustained a serious neurological trauma which confines him to a wheelchair

Lviv (Ukraine). At the end of a theater performance a soldier, who lost both legs, unexpectedly went on stage, garnering applause from the audience.





Lviv (Ukraine). Roman plays billiards at the Halychyna hospital. This 23-year-old soldier was wounded during the fighting in the Kherson region.



Lviv (Ukraine). 30-year-old Ilya in the surgery department at the Unbroken rehabilitation center. While he was driving his tank in the Kherson region several mines exploded causing a fire inside the cockpit. Here he is seen laughing with a physiotherapist who has become his friend.



Lviv region (Ukraine). A hippotherapy session for seriously injured soldiers. This type of rehabilitation helps participants improve balance and, in some cases, overcome phantom limb pain. Furthermore, contact with animals can often produce beneficial psycho-emotional effects.

Lviv region (Ukraine). A view of the town of Truskavets from a window at the local hospital. The city is a destination for wellness tourism but now it is mainly frequented by soldiers in need of rehabilitation.





Lviv (Ukraine). Soldiers from the Halychyna rehabilitation center waiting to attend a theater performance.



Lviv (Ukraine). Andrew and his girlfriend Tania are two 19-year-old university students who are both living at the Halychyna rehabilitation center as they wait for Andrew to finish his treatment and receive a prosthesis. Andrew was wounded on October 25 in the Bakhmut area and, when he finishes his rehabilitation, he wants to start university again.

Lviv region (Ukraine). The stables where the Dolonidotyk association organizes hippotherapy sessions with soldiers with serious war injuries.





Lviv (Ukraine). A soldier is about to put on the prosthesis while waiting to test it in the presence of experts from the University of Karkhiv at the Halychyna center.



Lviv (Ukraine). Seriously wounded soldiers face a long period of rehabilitation at the Halychyna center. Here they are seen during lunch.



Lviv region (Ukraine). The prayer area inside the Truskavets hospital.



Lviv (Ukraine). Young soldiers who were seriously wounded during the fighting against the Russian army, are seen at the end of a rehabilitation session at the Unbroken center. The center has been in operation since last summer and, when the facility is completed, it will be the largest in Europe.



Lviv (Ukraine). 30-year-old Ilya in the surgery department of the Unbroken rehabilitation center. While he was driving his tank in the Kherson region several mines exploded causing a fire inside the cockpit. Although the accident happened in September, his rehabilitation process is still long and complicated.

parallel zero

