



Hadassah Outreach Program Europe (HOPE)

The impact of war on children is devastating, and its effects can last for decades after hostilities have ceased. Millions of children have borne witness to unrelenting violence from the brutal conflict in Syria that began more than four years ago and many are now living as refugees in neighbouring countries or on the run in search of safety, creating a global migrant crisis.



This is especially the case in the Balkans where the recent influx of refugees is putting an immense strain on local resources, outstripping the ability of any local health care system to provide the required care.

Sally Becker, whose humanitarian work in the region has been well documented, is working with Professor Eitan Kerem, Head of Paediatrics at Hadassah, to provide help for those children arriving in need of medical treatment. Balkan winters are harsh and the President of the European Commission; Mr Jean-Claude Juncker has warned that a solution is urgently needed or thousands of refugees facing winter temperatures on the hill-sides and freezing river-banks will die.



The initial cost of deploying the team to a suitably designated location will be £25,000. This initiative will also be transferable to other locations and situations and can support the work of international aid agencies working throughout region.

This innovative approach to emergency response in paediatrics has enormous potential that goes well beyond the current crisis, helping to bridge the gap that clearly exists in paediatric emergency care.



Links: www.roadtopeace.org.uk

www.sallybecker.co.uk