

## Lingoda offers free German classes for refugees

*The Peer-to-Peer initiative in collaboration with Kiron Higher Education aims to help those in need integrate into German-speaking society*

**Berlin, April 20, 2022** - With thousands of people fleeing the war in Ukraine and arriving in Germany or German-speaking countries, Lingoda is offering free German classes to help those in need. As a top online language school, Lingoda knows how vital language learning is to refugees to be able to integrate faster into a new society and to establish oneself in a new country, culture and life. Lingoda has been offering [free volunteer-led German classes for refugees](#) since the end of March. To cover the high demand for the courses, the online language school has now partnered with [Kiron Higher Education](#), the Berlin-based NGO providing online higher education for refugees worldwide, to be able to offer even more classes via the peer-to-peer initiative.

With free German classes available Monday - Friday (weekends coming soon too) with an average of four classes per day, the peer-to-peer initiative was first introduced on March 28, 2022 when the first free German class took place. "Having been able to introduce this initiative and being the one to give the first free German class - it was pretty overwhelming," says Alistair Starling, Senior Business Development Leader at Lingoda. "Everyone was very eager to learn. We really communicated with our hands and knees to understand each other and to make some progress with our German skills to make life at least a tiny bit easier for those arriving in a new place," he adds.

[The peer-to-peer initiative](#) is open to refugees not just from Ukraine but from all over the world who are now living in a German-speaking country. Beyond offering free German classes, the initiative is also building a true community at Lingoda itself as its employees teach language classes as volunteers due to the high demand for the free courses.

"Helping refugees is a topic that touches my heart," explains Mike Shangkuan, CEO of Lingoda. "All four of my grandparents fled Mainland China to Hong Kong and then Taiwan. "My grandmother used to tell me stories about carrying my mother on her back for a thousand miles, crossing the border to Hong Kong. And when my parents came to the United States from Taiwan for a new life, they struggled even with a basic conversation in English, despite having studied it for over ten years," he says. It's what a new land does to welcome and integrate refugees in their first year that gives them the chance at a new life. That is why Lingoda stands for helping refugees," Shangkuan continues.

"At Lingoda, our mission is to build bridges around the world through language learning. And we really stand by that. We want to help people in need with our free German classes to make sure that they can establish a life in a German-speaking country in the best way possible for them. It is our hope that through language learning, we can foster a more inclusive and understanding world. This is our contribution to taking the first step towards those goals and to provide immediate help to those who need it most," Shangkuan says.

If you are in need and looking for free German classes, please reach out to [helpukraine@lingoda.com](mailto:helpukraine@lingoda.com) to book your slot free of charge. Free online materials are also provided.

As a key partner to the German government, Lingoda has already helped thousands of foreign nurses start new lives in a German-speaking country. Now the company looks forward to helping refugees seeking free German lessons to help with resettlement.

Заброніруйте місце здесь: [helpukraine@lingoda.com](mailto:helpukraine@lingoda.com)

## **ABOUT LINGODA**

Lingoda is one of the top online language schools. Founded in Berlin, Germany in 2013, we provide convenient and accessible online language courses in German, English, Business English, Spanish and French to over 100,000 students worldwide. Our private and small group classes are taught by over 1,500 qualified, native-speaking teachers. With almost 550,000 classes available per year and accessible 24/7, our mission is to empower even the busiest people to master a language and unlock their potential — at any time, from anywhere.

We believe in a communicative approach to language learning: mastering a language means being able to speak it with confidence. Our CEFR-focused learning materials are designed by linguistic experts and focus on meaningful topics that are applicable to our students' interests, careers and everyday lives. Thanks to our extensive rotating roster of teachers and our small group classes, students are exposed to a variety of regional accents and expressions within the same language and have the opportunity to practise speaking in every lesson.

Our diverse team includes over 200 international professionals from 30 countries speaking 40 languages. In 2021, Crunchbase listed Lingoda among the top 3 language learning companies globally. We have a score of 4.5 on Trustpilot and 75% of our reviews are rated as 'excellent' because we offer a high-quality and authentic learning experience that helps students achieve their learning goals and transform their lives. Visit [www.lingoda.com](http://www.lingoda.com) for additional information.

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