

## **Yuliia PAIEVSKA**

Paramedic, psychologist, volunteer, and the ambassador of the Strichka project

Yuliia PAIEVSKA was included in the BBC's "100 Women" list, awarded the title of "People's Hero of Ukraine," and received international honors such as "The World's Bravest Woman" and "Woman of Action," among many other accolades. Part of her story is told in the documentary *The Invisible Battalion* and the documentary series dedicated to the *Invictus Games*.

Yulia was a medic during the Maidan protests of the Revolution of Dignity and later became the commander and paramedic of the volunteer medical evacuation unit "Taira's Angels." Since 2014, she has served as a paramedic, and in 2018, she led the evacuation department of the 61st Mobile Military Hospital in Mariupol.

During the siege of Mariupol in 2022, Yulia provided aid to thousands of wounded soldiers and civilians in the city hospital. Thanks to her, Ukraine has documented the atrocities committed by Russian forces during that period. On March 16, 2022, while evacuating women and children from the city, Taira was captured by Russian troops. She spent three months in Russian captivity. The day before Yulia was taken prisoner, she managed to transmit video footage from her body camera. In the video, Taira is seen helping civilians and soldiers, documenting the aftermath of Russian attacks on Mariupol. The flash drive was smuggled through 15 Russian checkpoints, hidden in a tampon.

Today, Yulia continues her work as a paramedic and actively represents Ukraine on international platforms, speaking at conferences and forums to expose the truth about the torture and lawlessness of the occupiers.

Taira is also an ambassador of Strichka, a community of Ukrainians working abroad. Yulia uses her advocacy experience to share stories about Ukraine and initiatives organized by Ukrainians, drawing the world's attention to our soldiers and prisoners of war.