

UNICEF

Supporting Ukrainian children affected by the Russian transgression.

Topic Background

The constant violence caused by the eight-month armed conflict in Ukraine had induced severe damages on children, many have been murdered, wounded or deeply traumatized.

During the crisis, more than 5.5 million children are in need of humanitarian assistance as they continue to suffer the deadly consequences of a brutal war not of their making. The ongoing conflict has created one of the fastest large-scale displacements of children since World War II, UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell said in a statement.

The large-scale displacements being seen could have lasting consequences for generations to come. Children fleeing war in Ukraine are at heightened risk of human trafficking and exploitation. Meanwhile, attacks using explosive weapons in populated urban areas have inflicted civilian casualties, including children, and considerable damage to essential infrastructure and services.

The U.N. Human Rights Office confirms that at least 78 children have been killed and 105 injured in Ukraine, but says those figures are likely a significant undercount.

At the beginning of the conflict, in Mariupol, humanitarians warned that the situation in the port city has deteriorated further, after further heavy Russian bombardment. Hundreds of thousands of people are being “suffocated” by a lack of supplies and are unable to flee the city, besieged by Russian forces.

Even though several humanitarian corridors have been established during the conflict, many have been failed, and have not been respected, causing even more damages to citizens and innocent people.

In order to find a viable solution to the issue, several aspects need to be treated and solved. Giving support to children with mental health caused by the war, ensuring living areas for children refugees and safe water, distributing life-saving health and medical supplies for children affected by the war, and learning supplies for formal and non-formal education.

Alarmed by the elevated number of issues that the conflict has been affecting children, a fast and effective solution is more than needed, ensuring a safe place to every Ukraine child, providing health, water, and a peaceful life for each one affected by the situation.

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