

Children minorities under the effects of war
by lee hok lam

Background:

Two million refugee children flee war in Ukraine in search of safety across borders. With an additional 2.5 million children displaced within the country, 60 percent of children are now forced from their homes as attacks on urban areas continue as of late March of 2022.

Children make up half of all refugees from the war in Ukraine, according to UNICEF and UNHCR. More than 1.1 million children have arrived in Poland, with hundreds of thousands also arriving in Romania, Moldova, Hungary Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

“War in Ukraine Presenting ‘Child Protection, Child Rights Crisis’” - Senior United Nations Official

Detailed case:

With the devastating toll of war on Ukraine’s children becoming clearer each day, humanitarian efforts — punctuated by several “monumental” recent evacuations of trapped civilians — must continue to scale up, officials told the Security Council today, as the representatives of Kyiv and Moscow traded accusations of attacks on schools and educational indoctrination.

“The situation inside Ukraine is spiralling,” said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell. “As the number of children fleeing their homes continues to climb, we must remember that every single one of them needs protection, education, safety and support.”

UNICEF has already observed a reduction in vaccination coverage for routine and childhood immunizations, including measles and polio. This could quickly lead to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, especially in overcrowded areas where people are sheltering from the violence.

The war has also had devastating consequences on civilian infrastructure and access to basic services, including schools and shelters for orphans.

“In just a few weeks, the war has been devastating for Ukraine’s children,” said Russell. “Children urgently need peace and protection. They need their rights upheld. UNICEF continues to appeal for an immediate cease-fire and for the protection of children from harm. Essential infrastructure on which children depend, including hospitals, schools and buildings sheltering civilians, must never come under attack.”

UNICEF and its partners are working to reach children in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries with humanitarian assistance.

Support:

<https://orphanshope.org/ukraine/>

"OH Ukraine Update – Changes Due to War

Because of the situation in Ukraine with the war, Orphans Hope has for the first time temporarily expanded our scope beyond just helping orphans to also include relief efforts to care for the people suffering and fleeing from the fighting. We have helped with evacuating a few orphanages to other countries or out of eastern Ukraine. Most orphanages have been evacuated so now we are helping others. In the Kyiv area our staff are providing food and assistance in evacuating. In western Ukraine two of our staff have been helping people fleeing the bombings and fighting in hard hit cities. Many have fled with almost nothing and we are helping as able. Please pray for our staff, the children, and people of Ukraine in these dangerous and terrible days. Donations are needed and can be made here on the Orphan's Hope website."