



Statement from the NGO Committee on Children's Rights New York on the war in Ukraine
March 10, 2022

The NGO Committee on Children's Rights stands with the Ukrainian people and the humanitarian crisis they have been drawn into. Russia has incited an unwarranted brutal war in this region echoing the horrors of the second world war.

In accordance to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC Article 38) States parties must respect the rules of international humanitarian and human rights laws in armed conflicts. Their first priority must be to protect the civilian population.

During such upheaval and violence, the disruption to a child's life is immeasurable: Children are uprooted from their homes, their families, their communities, their friends, their schools, and may be permanently displaced, never to be reunited.

We, at the NGO Committee on Children's Rights, want negotiations for peace to be continued and protections for all children and their families of any race or ethnicity to have top priority and be permitted the same corridors of safety out of the violence in Ukraine.

Many of us on this committee have family and friends who lived through wars in different regions of the world and know this: The traumas of war can last for generations. Patriarchal Governments start wars; but women and children are disproportionately affected. Right now, men, women and children in Ukraine are under siege. "It is not too late to save this generation of children from the scourge of war, as children always pay the highest price," expressed by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Children in Armed Conflict in New York.

Resources for more information:

UNICEF <https://www.unicef.org>

International Red Cross <https://www.icrc.org/en>

Human Rights Watch <https://www.hrw.org>

UN Children and Armed Conflict <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org>

NGO Committee on Children's Rights <http://www.childrightsny.org>