



## **Hope and Homes for Children**

### **Second supplement to - Alternative report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**

**91st session (29 Aug 2022-23 Sep 2022)**

Hope and Homes for Children already sent specific information to the Committee both in February 2020 and July 2020 about the rights of children, families and alternative care and the prevention of family separation. As an organisation that has worked in Ukraine since 1998, we understand the circumstances of Ukraine at the moment are highly complex and dynamic. However, we remain concerned about the situation of children in and associated with the childcare system.

To ensure a comprehensive response to the conflict, and ensuring that no child is left behind, we ask the Committee to consider putting forward the following questions to the representatives of the Government of Ukraine during the session:

1. Given the scale and complexity of the system of child institutionalisation in Ukraine, what are the latest figures available on the number, location and characteristics of children who resided and/or received services within Ukrainian institutions prior to the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2022? Please include data on:
  - a. Children who still remain in institutions in all regions and oblasts of Ukraine;
  - b. Children who have been returned to their families of origin;
  - c. Children who have been moved from institutions in at-risk zones to other facilities across the country;
  - d. Children who have been evacuated abroad.
2. What measures has the Government of Ukraine taken
  - a. to ensure the safety, care and protection of the children still remaining in institutions, including the continuous provision of care by staff and practitioners?
  - b. to mitigate overcrowding of institutions and ensure that children are safe and appropriately cared for, where children have been evacuated to another institution?
3. In particular, what measures have been taken to support the immediate needs of children with disabilities and protect their right to life and adequate provision of care – whether within institutions or in the context of the evacuation procedures?
4. Since the beginning of the Russian invasion, has any private or public funding been used to refurbish, renovate or establish any type of institution for children?





5. Given the initial discussions on recovery and reconstruction, how will the Government of Ukraine, with the support of its international partners, ensure that all children (including children with disabilities) are not re-institutionalised and that sufficient human and financial resources are dedicated towards a comprehensive reform of the child protection system?
6. With the support of the international community, we invite the Government of Ukraine to regularly publish official and reliable data on the numbers and characteristics of children in need of care and protection – including children in/from institutions, within the country – including those who have left and those who have returned.

We would also like to highlight some background reading that may also be useful to the work of the Committee:

1. The Global Collaborative Platform on Transforming Children’s Care has prepared a set of: Key Recommendations and Considerations, Context of the Ukraine Crisis

[https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/ukraine\\_key\\_care\\_recommendations\\_final.pdf](https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/ukraine_key_care_recommendations_final.pdf)

2. Key recommendations to uphold the rights of Ukrainian children deprived of family care

<https://www.hopeandhomes.org/publications/key-recommendationsto-uphold-the-rights-of-ukrainian-children-deprived-of-family-care/>

3. Call for a Moratorium on Intercountry Adoption in Response to the Conflict in Ukraine

[https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/call\\_for\\_a\\_moratorium\\_on\\_intercountry\\_adoption\\_in\\_response\\_to\\_the\\_conflict\\_in\\_ukraine\\_final.pdf](https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/call_for_a_moratorium_on_intercountry_adoption_in_response_to_the_conflict_in_ukraine_final.pdf)





**Hope and Homes for Children** is a global expert in the field of deinstitutionalisation. Our mission is to be the catalyst for the eradication of institutional care across the world. We work to protect children from the harmful effects of institutional care and to ensure they have the opportunity to grow up in a secure and caring family environment and to fulfil their potential. Working in partnership with governments and civil society organisations, our model is creating the conditions for long-term reform.

Hope and Homes for Children has been working in Ukraine since 1998. Our activities are aimed at creating the necessary conditions for reforming the country's childcare system and protecting children's rights. This includes the development and implementation of family support services, the development of family-based forms of care for orphans and children deprived of parental care and the introduction of comprehensive models for the transformation/closure of residential facilities.

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Hope and Homes for Children is:

Registered on the Transparency Register of the European Union, Identification number: 035163533684-92  
Organization in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2019.

An NGO in participatory status with the Council of Europe as of 2021.

**HOPE  
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