



Омбудсман України  
Ombudsman of Ukraine

# TARGETS WITHOUT WEAPONS:

civilian objects in the aggressor's focus







# RUSSIA TARGETS LIVES: DAILY WAR AGAINST CIVILIANS

**Kharkiv.** On July 24, Russia launched an air attack on the city using guided aerial bombs. **42 people were injured, including two infants, a one-and-a-half-year-old child, a 10-year-old girl, and two 17-year-old teenagers.** Dozens of apartment buildings, cars, private households, and energy infrastructure facilities were destroyed.



**Odesa.** On July 25, as a result of a massive missile strike, the Russians damaged and **destroyed seven cultural heritage sites in the historic center of the city**, which is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Among them are the Vorontsov Palace, the London Hotel, the City Council building, and the Odessa Port station building. **Ombudsman of Ukraine Dmytro Lubinets sent an official letter to UNESCO** demanding that the shelling be properly assessed and appropriate measures be taken.



**Bilenkivka, Zaporizhzhia region.** On the night of July 29, Russia shelled Penal Colony No. 99, **killing 16 people and injuring more than 50 others.** The strike destroyed the dining hall, two dormitories, and other buildings. The colony is located only 20 km from the front line. This is yet another war crime against civilians.





**Kyiv.** On July 31, Russia launched a nighttime attack on the capital with missiles and drones. **31 people were killed and more than 150 were wounded.** The entrance to a high-rise building was destroyed, and a school, a kindergarten, dozens of apartments, and cars were damaged. This is one of the most brutal attacks on Kyiv since the start of the full-scale war.



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As a result of this latest missile strike, the Russians **damaged the main mosque of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims of Ukraine.** The building, where prayers and community gatherings took place, was damaged.

**This is not the first case of shelling of religious buildings** – mosques in Bakhmut, Sievierodonetsk, and Kostyantynivka were previously destroyed. Russia is deliberately attacking places of worship, thereby attempting to eradicate not only life but also faith – the very thing that sustains people in dark times.







# RETURNING UKRAINIANS FROM RUSSIAN CAPTIVITY

**On July 4,** exchange of prisoners of war took place following the agreements reached in Istanbul. Ukrainian servicemen from the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, the National Guard of Ukraine, and the State Special Transport Service returned to their homeland. Among those released are representatives of the Territorial Defence Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, motorized infantry, mechanized, airborne assault troops, marines, and civilians.



**The Defenders, whom Russia had sentenced to long prison terms, were successfully released from Russian captivity.**



*The First Steps  
of Servicemen  
on Their Native Land  
After Years of Captivity*





**On July 23,** another stage of the return of defenders took place within the framework of the Istanbul agreements – **seriously wounded and seriously ill defenders returned home.**



Among those returned are servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, including the Territorial Defence Forces of Ukraine, the Marine Corps, motorized infantry and mechanized brigades, the National Guard of Ukraine, and the State Border Guard Service. Defenders of Donetsk region, including Mariupol, Sumy region, and Kharkiv region, were also returned. There are also those who were captured in the first months of the full-scale invasion.



**These exchanges are the result of extensive work by state bodies** that are part of the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War. The process is ongoing on the instruction of the President of Ukraine.

**A team from the Ombudsman's Office was present at all exchanges** to monitor compliance with the Geneva Convention on the treatment of prisoners of war and to participate in a number of other processes.





**On August 14,** with the assistance of the United Arab Emirates, another returning took place: **84 Ukrainians returned home – 51 civilians and 33 military personnel.** Among the military – Defenders from the Mariupol garrison, servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Navy, and the State Border Guard Service. From Russian captivity, 10 officers were successfully returned.



**Among the civilians – political prisoners, medics, men and women** whom Russia illegally detained or sentenced to long terms – from 10 to 18 years.

**Some Ukrainians had been held in captivity since 2014 and after 2022 in the temporarily occupied territories.** The oldest released person is 74 years old. In general, all citizens have aggravated illnesses, diseases, and need medical assistance.

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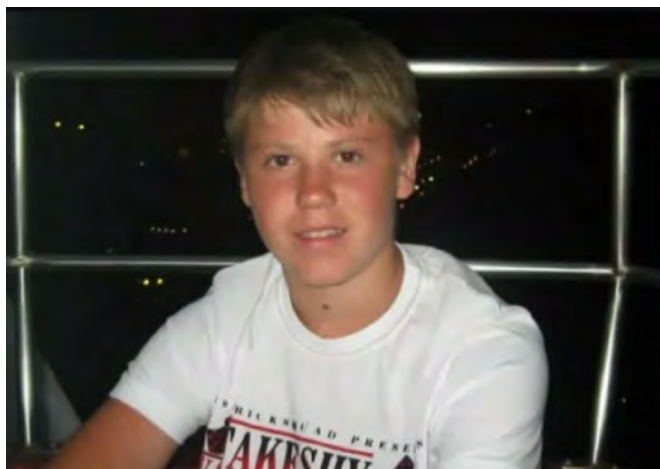
*Regarding the significant number of released citizens, the Office of the Ombudsman carried out response measures and received appeals from their relatives. Some family members, on the very day of return, were present at the personal reception of the Ombudsman and met with the staff of the Office.*



**Bohdan Kovalchuk** – a Ukrainian, imprisoned by the “DPR” occupiers at the age of 17. The young man spent nine years in a colony – half of his life.

In 2016, he and other minors were accused of alleged “subversive activities,” and **in 2018 he was sentenced to 10 years in prison**. Bohdan’s only “fault” was his support for Ukraine. In 2019, the occupiers offered him a pardon in exchange for renouncing an exchange and return home. Bohdan chose resistance, choosing the path of waiting for Ukraine, even at the cost of many years of imprisonment. **On August 14, 2025, during this exchange, he was released from captivity.**

Bohdan is the only son and grandson in his family. He was raised by his mother, grandmother, and great-grandfather, who was severely beaten by the occupiers and later died without seeing his great-grandson return from captivity.



**Ihor Nazarenko, Ihor Kirianenko and Yurii Shapovalov** – Ukrainian doctors sentenced by the occupiers to long prison terms. **They spent over 7 years in Russian captivity.**

**Ihor Nazarenko**, a Ukrainian surgeon from Donetsk, was held since 2017, and in 2019 he was sentenced to 11 years in a colony on charges of “espionage.” From the very first day of his unlawful detention, he was subjected to psychological and physical torture. **Ihor Kirianenko**, a doctor and private entrepreneur, was detained by militants in 2017 and in 2020 was “sentenced” to 12 years on fabricated charges of “terrorism.” **Yurii Shapovalov**, a neurologist, was arrested in 2018, and the so-called “DPR court” sentenced him to 13 years in prison on fabricated charges of “espionage.”



Ihor Nazarenko



Ihor Kirianenko



Yurii Shapovalov



**On August 24, Ukraine's Independence Day**, thanks to the persistent efforts of state bodies that are part of the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War, Ukrainian defenders returned home under the Istanbul agreements.

Among the released soldiers were members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the National Guard of Ukraine, the Territorial Defense Forces, and the State Border Guard Service. Most of them were captured in 2022. The youngest released soldier is 26 years old, and the oldest is 62.



Also, as part of the planned work to return Ukrainian citizens home with the assistance of the UAE, **8 civilians who were illegally deprived of their liberty in the Russian Federation are returning home.**

Among them are those whose return has been long fought for: journalists **Dmytro Khyliuk** and **Mark Kaliush**, former mayor of Kherson **Volodymyr Mykolaenko**. Among those returned are a paramedic-hospital worker, a volunteer, and those who were illegally deprived of their liberty before the full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation. Ukrainians have chronic illnesses and diseases. The youngest released civilian is 28 years old, the oldest is 65 years old.







The Russians illegally detained **the former mayor of Kherson, Volodymyr Mykolaïenko**, in April 2022. Volodymyr served as the head of the city of Kherson from 2014 to 2020. The 65-year-old man has been illegally detained by the enemy for over three years!

He is a civilian who, according to the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in War, should not have been detained. But the Russians are violating the norms of international humanitarian law. That is why all civilians must be returned home.



*"The main thing is  
that we're free,  
that Kherson is standing,  
that Ukraine is standing strong!  
We are proud!"*

**Dmytro Khyliuk** is a **journalist** who was illegally detained by the occupiers in March 2022 in the Kyiv region together with his father. Dmytro's father was later released, but the journalist remained in Russian captivity for over three years.

Dmytro lost a lot of weight. His health deteriorated significantly due to heart pain and an abscess. The Ukrainian now faces rehabilitation.

**Thousands of Ukrainians were concerned about the journalist's fate. The state worked on his release for a long time. Now Dmytro is back in his homeland!**



*The First Moments  
of Freedom: What the  
Journalist Will Discover*





## EVERY RETURNED CHILD – IS A SAVED DESTINY!

On July 8, as part of the implementation of the approved action plan of the President of Ukraine Bring Kids Back UA, the Ombudsman's Office managed to return another **7 Ukrainian children from the temporarily occupied territories**. The children are aged between 6 and 17.



On July 19, with the mediation of the State of Qatar, Ukraine managed to return **11 children as part of the implementation of the approved action plan of the President of Ukraine Bring Kids Back UA**.



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*Moments of  
Reunion Between  
Children and  
Their Families*

**Return after captivity and separation: reunion of a military mother with her daughter.** The mother of a 13-year-old girl was returned from enemy captivity in April 2023. Her child was staying with her grandmother in the temporarily occupied territory of Donetsk region. Thanks to painstaking work, the mother and child were able to see each other for the first time since the start of the full-scale invasion.

**Five children from one family were successfully returned.** The children's parents had been deprived of their parental rights, and during active hostilities in their region, the guardian took the minors to Russia. Later, the children contacted their sister in Ukraine and said they wanted to return home. As a result, the family was reunited.



## MEETINGS WITH THE FAMILIES DEFENDERS

The Ombudsman's Office **regularly holds meetings with the families of servicemen** who have gone missing or been taken prisoner.



**Relatives can obtain answers to key questions:** measures taken to search for missing servicemen; cooperation with international organizations, in particular the ICRC; issues of identification; compilation of lists for exchange and prioritization of certain categories; state actions in cases of missing persons – protection of the rights of military personnel and their families; coordination between authorities.

**The Ombudsman of Ukraine, Dmytro Lubinets, actively holds meetings with the families of prisoners of war and missing persons in the regions of Ukraine. This time – in Novoyavorivsk, Lviv region.**



## THE RIGHTS OF UNLAWFULLY DETAINED CIVILIANS MUST BE PROTECTED!

During the extraordinary meeting of the Working Group, regulatory measures were discussed regarding **the implementation of the rights of unlawfully detained civilians** and mechanisms for informing released persons about access to legal, social, medical, psychological, and other assistance.

All relevant authorities participated in the meeting. The Ombudsman's Office continues to coordinate interagency efforts to ensure that released civilians have full access to their guaranteed rights and state support.



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# MEETING WITH GENERAL KELLOGG: FOCUS ON THE RETURN OF CHILDREN

A meeting was held at the Child Rights Protection Center with an American delegation led by General Keith Kellogg, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Ukraine.



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The meeting was attended by Dmytro Lubinets, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights; Andriy Yermak, Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine; Daria Herasymchuk, Advisor and Commissioner of the President of Ukraine for Children's Rights and Rehabilitation Coordinator; and Baroness Helena Kennedy, Co-Chair of the international expert group Bring Kids Back UA.

**During the conversation, evidence was presented of large-scale violations of the rights of children and civilians as a result of Russia's aggression,** in particular, the forced deportation of Ukrainian citizens and their unlawful detention by Russia. Among them are journalists, human rights defenders, religious leaders, police officers, and even representatives of international organizations.

**Ukraine called on the US to facilitate the release of civilian hostages and the return of deported children.** The parties confirmed the importance of continuing cooperation on these issues.



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## SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS to the International Register of Damages for Ukraine – a Step for Justice

The Office of the Ombudsman of Ukraine, together with the Register of Damages for Ukraine (RD4U), held a **dialogue event** to raise awareness about submission of applications and strengthening cooperation to inform affected citizens.

**About 300 participants** joined the event, including representatives of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, public and international organizations. Participants discussed ways to ensure that as many victims as possible have access to information about the procedure for submission of applications to RD4U.

### RUSSIA IS DEPRIVING PEOPLE in the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine of Basic Necessities!

**As an occupying state, Russia is obliged to provide the civilian population with the means of subsistence under the Fourth Geneva Convention.** Instead, it creates conditions in the temporarily occupied territories that threaten people's lives and health.

In occupied Donetsk, since 2022, water has been supplied on a schedule: initially once every two days, and since July 2025, once every three days. It is often dirty but is classified as drinkable, while clean water is directed to industry. The situation is similar in all occupied territories!

**Dmytro Lubinets, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, emphasizes that using basic necessities as a means of pressure is inhumane treatment prohibited by international law.** All recorded violations are reported to the UN, the OSCE, and the International Criminal Court.

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## UKRAINIANS ABROAD ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR NATION

The Ombudsman's Office hosted an international meeting entitled "Ukrainians around the world: challenges and opportunities for cooperation with the state," attended by representatives of the authorities, the diaspora from more than 30 countries, and public and international organizations.

The Ombudsman's Office has already proposed specific steps for returning its citizens from abroad in **the Report "Forced Displacement Abroad,"** prepared jointly with the Council of Europe. The document contains recommendations to the Government on the reintegration of citizens.



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## PROTECTING THE RIGHTS of Victims of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant Accident

On July 18, an off-site meeting of the Verkhovna Rada's (Parliament of Ukraine) Temporary Special Commission on the Protection of the Rights of Citizens Affected by the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant Accident was held. **The main topic of discussion was medical care for affected citizens.**



**! The Commissioner reported numerous complaints from citizens about violations of their right to receive free medicines and certain medical services.**



*The Constitution of Ukraine states that overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and preserving the gene pool of the Ukrainian people is the duty of the state. Therefore, the authorities must pay consistent attention to this issue," emphasized **Ukrainian Ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets.***

**He conveyed his recommendations to the meeting participants and called for a meeting to be initiated with the participation of the Prime Minister and relevant ministries.**

## RESTORED CITIZENS' RIGHTS to a Safe Environment and Clean Air

The Ombudsman's Office ensured **the restoration of the rights of residents of two regions to an environment and air that are safe for life and health.**

In the village of Loska, Chernihiv region, following a complaint from a citizen, an inspection was carried out at a local charcoal production enterprise. With the assistance of the Ombudsman, excessive emissions and other violations of environmental legislation were detected. After failure to comply with the requirements, the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Chernihiv Regional State Administration suspended the permit for emissions of pollutants.

**In the Teterivka Territorial Community of Zhytomyr region,** on the initiative of the Commissioner, information about a large-scale illegal landfill near the village of Denyshi was verified. After responding to and implementing the recommendations of the Ombudsman's Office, the landfill was liquidated.



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# INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE

**The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights actively supports international activities** — establishing cooperation with foreign partners and international organizations, participating in initiatives aimed at protecting human rights. **A series of important meetings and events took place:**



■ The Ombudsman addressed **the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025 in Rome** during a panel discussion on “Engagement, Return, and Reintegration of Ukrainians.” **The return of citizens requires international coordination, security solutions, and political will.** The Ombudsman also held a series of bilateral meetings.



■ The Commissioner participated in a high-level meeting dedicated to **the presentation of the OSCE Support Program for Ukraine.** He called for continued cooperation, the implementation of joint projects, and the consolidation of efforts for the reintegration of children, civilians, and military personnel.



■ **Dmytro Lubinets had a meeting with Piero Fassino**, Vice-President of the Defence Committee of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and Rapporteur of the PACE Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy. He called for increased sanctions and diplomatic pressure on Russia.

## HUMAN RIGHTS are the Foundation of Ukraine's International Dialogue!

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, joined **the Annual Meeting of Heads of Ukrainian Diplomatic Missions Abroad** and spoke at a separate plenary session attended by about 80 Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

The Commissioner called on diplomats to strengthen cooperation with the Ombudsman's Office in order to protect the rights of Ukrainian citizens, reduce the influence of the Russian Federation in the international arena, and promote human rights values as a priority on the global agenda.



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## PROTECTING THE RIGHTS of National Minorities as the Basis for Inclusive Reconstruction in Ukraine



In Rome, Dmytro Lubinets, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, took part in a discussion on **the role of the Roma community and national minorities in Ukraine's post-war recovery.**

The discussion focuses on **a fair and inclusive reconstruction that leaves no community behind.** Particular attention is given to the Roma community as one of the most vulnerable groups in the context of the war.

In the Special Report “On the Observance of the Rights of National Minorities (Communities) and Indigenous Peoples in the Context of the Armed Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine”, a separate section is devoted to the Roma community. The document contains 75 recommendations, nine of which relate specifically to the Roma.



## THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING Requires the Consolidation of All Efforts

The Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, together with the International Charitable Foundation “Caritas Ukraine”, held a meeting of the dialogue platform “**Human Trafficking: Life is Fragile but We are Here**”. The event brought together over 500 participants and speakers.

- In Ukraine, during the first half of 2025, **112 of our citizens were recognised as victims of human trafficking**, including 88 men, 17 women and 7 children.
- Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, The Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights **has received nearly 100 appeals concerning violations of the rights of victims.**



*Information Brochure on the Concept of Human Trafficking, Its Manifestations and the Assistance Available to Victims*



*A Book of Stories of Ukrainians Who Became Victims of Human Trafficking “Fragile Life”*

**Human trafficking remains a complex and hidden crime.** Only systematic cooperation can ensure assistance to victims and the accountability of those responsible.



**Oleksandr Osipov**

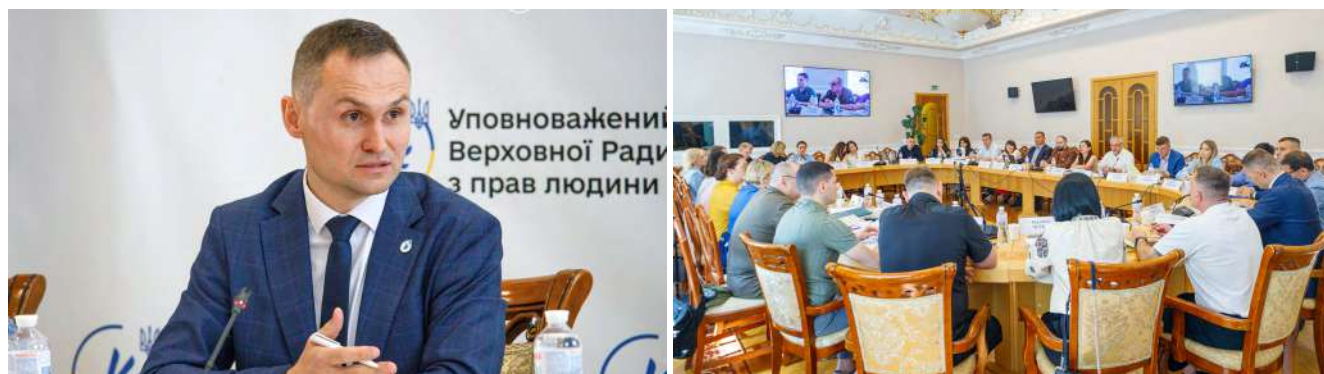
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## PILOT PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING IN PLACES OF DETENTION

The project “Systematic Monitoring of Human Rights Observance in the Kyiv Pre-Trial Detention Center” allowed the testing of new monitoring tools, the identification of systemic violations, and the provision of recommendations for their elimination. The approach is planned to be extended to other pre-trial detention centers.



Within the framework of the second pilot project “Regional Teams of the National Preventive Mechanism”, which included follow-up visits by such NPM teams to social care institutions, **positive changes were recorded**. Administrations responded to recommendations, addressed shortcomings, and improved both the conditions of detention and the quality of social services.

## OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE EXPOSED CONCEALMENT OF DEATH IN KYIV PRE-TRIAL DETENTION CENTER

Employees of the Ombudsman's Office, while examining the circumstances of a person's death in the Kyiv pre-trial detention center and the related documents, **discovered facts indicating concealment of the true causes of death**. The prisoner sustained fatal bodily injuries, but in the initial documents of the detention center it **was recorded as “injury by negligence.”** The Ombudsman's team found that at the time of the incident, detention center staff likely knew the actual circumstances of the death but did not inform the relevant authorities. In addition, employees of the Shevchenkivskyi District Police Department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Kyiv, who arrived at the scene, **likely provided false information, which hindered proper investigation**.

**Dmytro Lubinets emphasized that such actions can be regarded as an attempt to destroy evidence and discredit justice.** According to the Representative of the Ombudsman for Human Rights in places of detention, Vitalii Nikulin, the State Bureau of Investigations has opened criminal proceedings on the possible concealment of a grave or especially grave crime.



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# PROTECTION OF INFORMATION RIGHTS: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Yuliia Derkachenko, Representative (Deputy) of the Commissioner for Information Rights, with the support of the EU4DigitalUA project, participated in two key international events **dedicated to the right of access to information and personal data protection**.



■ **The 16th International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC)** was held in Berlin, bringing together more than 50 delegations from different countries. Participants discussed the legal aspects of freedom of information. As a result, **the Berlin Declaration was adopted and the European Transparency Network (ENTRI) was established**.

■ **The 23rd Meeting of Central and Eastern European Data Protection Authorities (CEEDPA)** was held in Krakow. Yuliia Derkachenko presented the status of reforms in the field of personal data protection in Ukraine and key recommendations of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights.



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## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: Opportunities and Risks for Human Rights

**Artificial intelligence is being actively implemented in Ukraine, particularly within the framework of European integration.** Dmytro Lubinets, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, emphasises that, in addition to new opportunities, this area also poses serious risks to human rights.

**The Commissioner's Secretariat is working on the safe use of AI:** since 2023, the team has been explaining the challenges and opportunities of technology in the public sector, promoting its ethical and transparent use, and implementing international standards for the protection of rights in the digital environment.

Key steps include a handbook entitled **“Human Rights in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”**, conferences and training sessions involving authorities, human rights defenders and experts, as well as participation in international discussions within the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) and cooperation with the Council of Europe.



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## COMMISSIONER WELCOMES NEW JUDGE TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF UKRAINE

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, congratulated Oleksandr Vodiannikov on taking the oath of office as a judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

The Commissioner noted that this event is of great importance for the state, as it ensures **the necessary quorum in the Constitutional Court for constitutional proceedings**. This will contribute to the stability of the legal system, the strengthening of democratic institutions and the protection of the constitutional rights of citizens.



The Constitutional Court plays an important role in ensuring the supremacy of the Constitution and balancing the system of state power. In the context of martial law and European integration processes, the Commissioner calls on the advisory group of experts and all entities involved in the appointment of judges **to make every effort to fill the remaining vacant positions as soon as possible**.

## THE ECTHR RECOGNISED RUSSIA'S SYSTEMATIC CRIMES AGAINST UKRAINE AND UKRAINIAN CHILDREN

The Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights has ruled in the interstate case **“Ukraine and the Netherlands against Russia”**, upholding almost all of Ukraine's complaints. **The document records systematic and massive human rights violations by the Russian Federation in the temporarily occupied territories since 2014 and during the full-scale aggression**, including crimes against children, civilians and prisoners of war.

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, **contributed to the formation of the evidence base in the case**, in particular by submitting materials to the ECHR confirming Russia's violations of international humanitarian law. Some of the Commissioner's public statements were used in the text of the decision. A separate section of the document is devoted to the illegal removal and indoctrination of Ukrainian children, the imposition of Russian citizenship on them and the destruction of the Ukrainian language.



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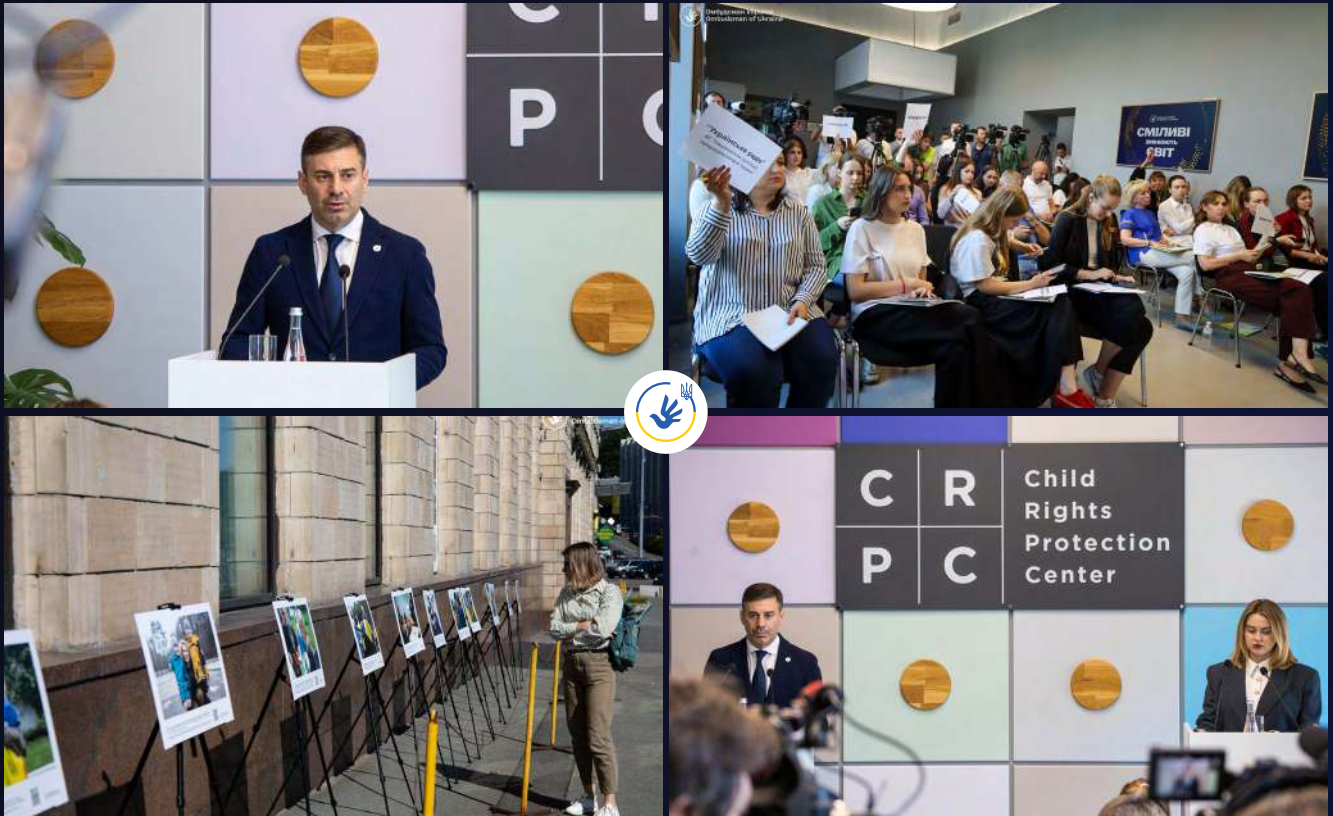




# PRESS CONFERENCE MARKING THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER'S ACTIVITIES

On the third anniversary of his tenure as the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets held a press conference entitled **"The Brave Change the World"**.

About **40 representatives of Ukrainian media**, including those from border communities, took part in the event.



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During the conference, Dmytro Lubinets, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, raised issues concerning all nine areas of the Office's work. Among the key points were:

- **Regarding the return of deported and forcibly displaced children:** children from temporarily occupied territories are more likely to return. As a rule, they return immediately with their parents or relatives.
- **Regarding the return of children from Russian territory:** this is an extremely difficult and complicated procedure. The Russian side often blocks this process, as it understands that every child who is returned can testify about what happened to them and what methods of influence were used. This, in turn, can be used in court or during investigations into crimes committed by representatives of the Russian Federation.
- **Regarding the return of unlawfully detained civilians:** the main difficulty lies in the position of the Russian Federation, which ignores the fact that Ukraine does not exchange civilians, as this is not provided for by the norms of international humanitarian law. There are approximately 16,000 unlawfully detained Ukrainian civilians in Russia. Ukraine has only been able to verify the whereabouts of about 1,800 people, while the whereabouts of the rest remain unknown.



■ **Regarding the return of prisoners of war:**

there is a category of prisoners of war whose return the Russian Federation is trying to block as much as possible. They are convicted, tortured and attempts are made to take them as far away from Ukraine as possible. In addition, Russia has launched a special information campaign to discredit the leadership of Ukraine and the state as a whole. Allegedly, Ukraine refuses to return its heroes – not only through exchanges, but also by refusing to receive bodies and verify the identities of those missing in action. This is all part of a large-scale campaign aimed at discrediting our state.

■ **Regarding the execution of prisoners of war:** this is completely independent of military rank. Currently, there are 268 known cases of Ukrainian prisoners of war being executed.

■ **Regarding the work of the Commissioner's Secretariat in the regions:** the first office to be damaged was in Vinnytsia. Then the office in Kherson was damaged, and in Sumy our representative office was completely destroyed by a Russian missile. We are currently planning to open a new office in Sumy.



In general, during the conference, the Commissioner covered a number of areas of work. You can read more about the results of three years of activity of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in the information brochure **"The Brave Change the World"**



Омбудсман України  
Ombudsman of Ukraine





## OMBUDSMAN OF UKRAINE IS STRENGTHENING ITS PRESENCE IN THE REGIONS!

On 14 July, Ukraine's third regional Child Rights Protection Center was opened in Volyn. This was made possible thanks to the help of our reliable partners – UNICEF, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The opening ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to Ukraine, **Helene Sand Andresen**, the Representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Ukraine **Munir Mammadzade**, city and regional authorities, representatives of state bodies, law enforcement agencies and the public.



The Center was established to protect the rights of children who have survived war, deportation, loss of parents or found themselves in difficult life circumstances. It is equipped to conduct interviews with children using the “Barnahus” model.

## PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF VETERANS IS THE DUTY OF THE STATE

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets, paid working visits to the Lviv and Volyn regions to **monitor the observance of the rights of military personnel and civilians undergoing rehabilitation.**

In Lviv region, the Commissioner visited the **Lviv Regional Hospital for War Veterans and Repressed Persons named after Yuriia Lypa** and the **Superhumans Center for Prosthetics and Rehabilitation**. In Volyn region, he visited the Veterans' Space “Your Way Home” and “The Advance Center”, a medical rehabilitation center for combatants. At each facility, the Ombudsman spoke with patients, inspected the conditions of their stay, and reminded them of their rights guaranteed by the state. He expressed his gratitude to the staff for their dedicated work and support of the defenders of Ukraine.







# PEOPLE ARE THE GREATEST VALUE!

Russia systematically violates human rights in Ukraine!

**6,030**

people released  
from Russian  
captivity

including  
→

**364**

civilians

**≈ 70,000**

people missing under  
special circumstances

\*Data from the Register of Persons Missing in Special Circumstances

**13,883**

civilians  
killed

**35,548**

civilians  
wounded

\*According to the UN Human Rights  
Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

**648**

children killed

**2,133**

children wounded

**2,195**

missing children

\*According to the Children of War information portal

**1,581**

children returned by Ukraine  
(including from TOT)

**4.6  
million**

people  
became IDPs

**6.5  
million**

people sought  
refuge abroad

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## SHELLING OF CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE

Russia is destroying residential buildings, educational and medical facilities!

**4,139**

destroyed  
and damaged  
educational facilities

including  
→

**1,313**

destroyed  
and damaged  
kindergartens

\*According to saveschools.in.ua

**2,384**

destroyed  
and damaged  
destroyed  
healthcare facilities

including  
→

**428**

hospitals

**352**

ambulatories

**645**

destroyed  
religious  
buildings

**2,359**

destroyed  
cultural  
objects

**≈ 250,000**

destroyed or  
damaged houses

**≈ 139 thousand  
square kilometers**

of Ukraine's territory are  
considered potentially mined

\*Data as of the late  
August 2025





## Омбудсман України Ombudsman of Ukraine

2025 shall be the year of justice for Ukraine and the entire free world,  
the year of bringing the Russian Federation to justice for war crimes.  
We are thoroughly documenting every violation  
so that the perpetrators are punished.

**Peace for Ukraine must be just.**

**#StandWithUkraine**



## Dmytro LUBINETS

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