



Омбудсман України  
Ombudsman of Ukraine



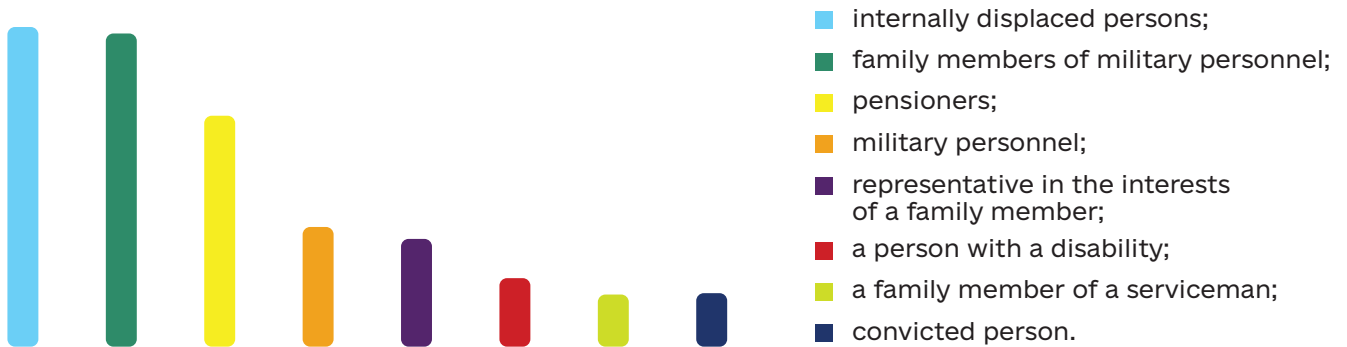
**WE HAVE BEEN STANDING ON OUR  
FRONT FOR A YEAR: PROTECTING  
THE RIGHTS OF UKRAINIANS**

**#StandWithUkraine**

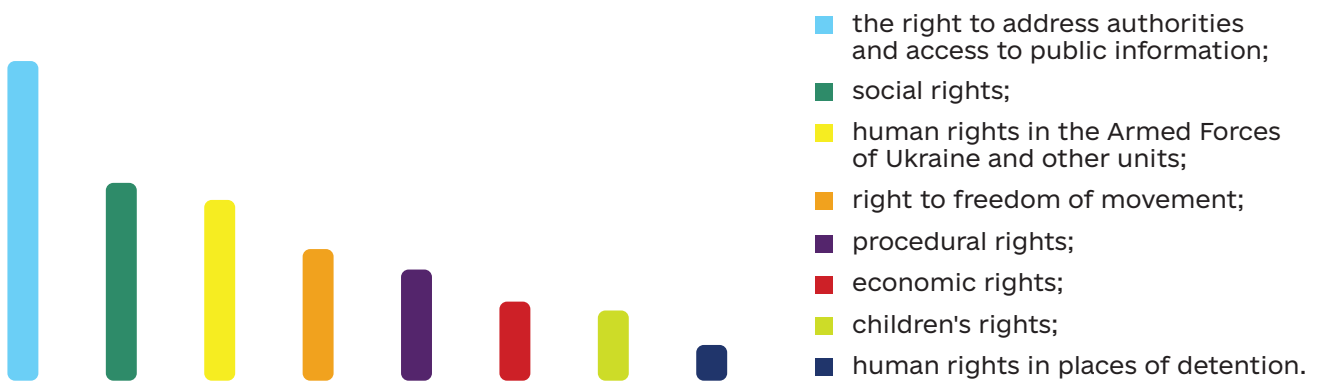
# Citizens' appeals

As of February 24, 2022, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights received 48,762 appeals, including 566 collective appeals and 48,196 individual appeals on violations of citizens' rights.

The most common groups of applicants:



The most common appeals by category of violated right:



"Hotline" for appeals:



0800-50-17-20  
(free of charge)

044-299-74-08



[hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua](mailto:hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua)

# Human rights in Ukraine

a year after the beginning of Russia's full-scale armed aggression against Ukraine

**461**

killed children

**923**

injured children

**345**

missing children

**16,207**

children forcibly taken to Russia

**7,199**

killed civilians

**11,756**

wounded civilians

**3,126**

destroyed educational institutions

**338**

educational institutions that cannot be restored

**865**

destroyed kindergartens

**1,124**

destroyed healthcare facilities

**205**

destroyed religious buildings (churches, temples, mosques)

**907**

destroyed cultural objects

**149,354**

destroyed houses

**117**

railway stations and stations

**14**

heat and power facilities

**572**

boiler rooms

**1.4 million**

people without access to water due to infrastructure destruction

**4.6 million**

have limited access to water

**14.03 million**

people who left their homes

**4.8 million**

citizens became IDPs

**8.1 million**

people became refugees or received temporary protection outside of Ukraine



# A year of fighting for life

Since February 24, 2022, the lives of Ukrainians have been divided into "before" and "after". Ukrainians are losing their families, their homes, their children, their property, their lives. This grief was brought by the Russian Federation. It committed atrocities and killed civilians in Bucha, Irpin, Hostomel, Borodyanka, Kherson, Lyman, Kremenchuk and hundreds of other settlements. Russia has destroyed the famous An-225 Mriya, the world's largest and most powerful transport aircraft. Russia destroyed Mariupol. Every Ukrainian remembers how, on March 16, Russian aircraft dropped a powerful bomb on a drama theater in the center of Mariupol, where children and civilians were staying in the almost destroyed city. Ukrainians remember when Russia launched a missile attack on a shopping center in Kremenchuk on June 27. Ukrainians remember January 14, when a Russian missile destroyed a residential building in Dnipro. Ukrainians also remember October 10, the day when the first massive missile strike on Ukraine's energy infrastructure was launched.

Russia has been launching missiles at maternity hospitals, schools, kindergartens, residential buildings, and hospitals. It destroys communications and disables energy facilities. It leaves behind ruins, tortured people and new graves.

Occupation and genocide are the true face of Russia!

Ukrainians will never be able to forgive all the losses and destroyed lives.

Russia's "appetites" have become obvious to the whole world. It sees no borders. And it will not stop unless it is stopped!

To protect the borders of our country, the world should help protect the borders of Ukraine.

**Stay close to Ukraine, help and support it. Do not let Russia destroy what each of us has been building for a very long time!**





## Russian missile attacks kill babies

During the first year of the war, 461 children were reported killed. Another 923 children have been injured or traumatized, 345 children are reported missing as a result of the armed conflict, and 16,207 children have been taken to the Russian Federation.

During the 1 year of the full-scale invasion, the Russian Federation destroyed **3,126 educational institutions**:  
**338** educational institutions that cannot be restored,  
**865** destroyed kindergartens.

On the night of November 23, Russian troops shelled the town of Vilniansk in Zaporizhzhia Region. The rockets hit the **maternity ward** of the local hospital. The rocket attack destroyed the two-story building of the maternity ward. **The victim was a newborn baby.** Rescuers managed to get the baby's mother and doctor out of the rubble.



The life of the newborn boy, who was **only 2 days old**, was taken by the Russian Federation. The number of children killed is growing every day. Every day the number of injured children and those who have their limbs amputated increases.



### **A child who lived in a foster home in Russia was returned to Ukraine**

16-year-old Serhii, who was taken to Russia 8 months ago, has returned to Ukraine. The boy lived near Mariupol (Ukraine), lost his parents shortly before the war, but has a sister and now has compatriots who are ready to help him. After the Russian occupiers captured his hometown, he and many other children were taken to Donetsk and later to Russia.

The Children's Ombudsman of the Russian Federation, Maria Lvova-Belova, who came to "have a nice chat" with the children on the camera of the propaganda media, decided the fate of Serhii and other Ukrainian children who had been taken away – adoption into a Russian family.

The family in which the boy was placed had three children of their own and one adopted child. Serhii did not speak to his new "family".

"I was just studying at college, talking to friends I met there," said the young man, who was studying automotive mechanics.

Fortunately, the attitude of that family was not cruel, but all the time he was thinking that he should return to his homeland. He found help on the Internet.

"I want to return from the Russian Federation to Ukraine," was the message Serhii sent to one of the chatbots and received a reply that he would be helped.

He was met at the border with Ukraine and is happy to finally be home.

When asked how he felt when he crossed the border into Ukraine, Serhii said with a sincere smile that he was very happy.

At the train station where we were waiting for him, near the St. Nicholas Train from Ukrzaliznytsia, the boy received a gift he needed for his studies – a laptop from Murat Sahin, UNICEF Representative in Ukraine.

The Commissioner's Office, in turn, will make sure that our patriot first of all receives proper psychological assistance and an official guardian in the person of his sister, and, if necessary, medical care, and resumes his studies.

We are impressed by the young Ukrainian's determination and his overwhelming desire to return home. This is an example of what Ukrainians have in common – our unbreakable spirit and perseverance. His story is the story of the struggle to be free, to live freely and next to free people! Ukraine continues to fight for such purposeful children who will grow up to be worthy citizens!



In 2022, the Commissioner's Office processed **1,130 appeals** raising 1,905 issues related to children's rights.

The Office processed 392 draft legal acts.

**2,292 appeals** received by the Hotline on children's rights violations.

**41 meetings** were held, including 9 with international partners. 570 publications and explanations on childhood were prepared, of which 288 were published on the website of the Commissioner's website and 282 in other media.



### Olena Vykhor

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## Release of prisoners of war and civilian hostages

The Commissioner's Office received **11,217 appeals** in the defense sector during the year, including:

**6,656** – oral appeals to the hotline,

**4,561** – written appeals (51% of which concerned the release of prisoners of war and the search for missing military personnel; 16% – the search for missing and illegally detained civilians (civilian hostages); 21% – protection of the rights of military personnel and their families; 12% – protection of the rights of persons with the status of veterans of military service and service in the security and defense sector),

**5,760** letters were sent to state bodies as a result of consideration of appeals from Ukrainian citizens, of which 3,322 were replies to applicants,



41 – monitoring visits,  
70 response acts based on the results of monitoring visits, including 66 on the observance of the rights of military personnel, police officers, veterans and other persons, and 4 on former Ukrainian prisoners of war,  
400 draft legal acts were processed.

**We managed to free 1,863 Ukrainians from Russian captivity.**

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets and his Representative in the security sector joined the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War. They are involved in organizing the process of releasing prisoners of war and civilian hostages and are directly present during such releases.

Furthermore, an additional channel of negotiations with the Russian side, the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation Tatiana Moskalkova, was established to discuss the return of Ukrainian prisoners and civilian hostages home:

- 5 meetings were held, including with the mediation of the Turkish Ombudsman;
- Dialogue continues on the creation of a humanitarian corridor, repatriation of seriously wounded and seriously ill prisoners of war, and the return of civilians deprived of their liberty as a result of Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine.





## Ukraine's goal is to return every Ukrainian to his or her native land.

All those released receive medical care, undergo rehabilitation, and have their bank cards and documents restored.

Ukraine is interested in engaging reputable international institutions to establish intermediary functions to visit places of illegal detention of Ukrainian citizens and to conduct impartial and objective monitoring of their rights.



This is **Maksym Kolesnikov**, a mobilized Kyiv businessman who was captured in March 2022 near Kyiv.

His photo after his release did not immediately recognize him - the burly man born in 1977 had lost almost half his weight and turned gray in captivity.

A Ukrainian man who has just been released from captivity sees a fruit for the first time in almost a year. After tasting the apple, he said: "It's great. It's just great!".

This is **Mykhailo Dianov**. He was taken prisoner by Russia after leaving the Azovstal plant in Mariupol on May 20, 2022. In captivity, he survived abuse and torture and lost 40 kg. He was released from captivity on September 21 along with 214 other soldiers.

Dianov received bullet wounds to both legs and his right arm. He was missing 4 cm of bone in his upper limb. People raised money for his surgery and recovery. On December 13, Dianov underwent surgery on his right shoulder in St. Louis. The operation was successful. Mykhailo gave the money he did not need for the rehabilitation of his comrades. This is 23 million 430 thousand hryvnias.



Mykhailo Dianov "after" and "before" Russian captivity



The Commissioner's Office holds **meetings with relatives** of missing, captured and killed Ukrainian servicemen. Relatives of prisoners of war are interested in ways to find missing defenders, return the bodies of the dead, conditions of detention and assistance to those who are currently in Russian captivity.

Such meetings help the authorities to develop new ways to provide clear answers and help those who need it.



### Oleksandr Kononenko

Representative of the Commissioner in the System of Bodies in Security and Defense Sector

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## People without a home inside the country

Due to Russia's armed invasion of Ukraine,  
~ 4.9 million Ukrainians have been internally displaced.  
~ About 14 million people were forced to leave Ukraine,  
~ 46 thousand people have been forcibly displaced (deported),  
~ 13 million people currently live in the areas of hostilities or in the temporarily occupied territories.

On 15.08.2022, the Commissioner's Office established a new Department for the Protection of the Rights of Citizens Affected by the Armed Aggression Against Ukraine.

Between September 2022 and January 2023, the rights of at least 836 people were restored in the area of protection of the rights of citizens affected by the armed aggression against Ukraine. That is, the **rights of approximately 8 people are restored per day in the relevant area.**



In December 2022, **the first Special Report** of the Commissioner for the observance of the rights of persons affected by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine in 9 years of war was presented.



The Special Report provided 54 recommendations to state authorities, law enforcement agencies and local governments, the implementation of which is being monitored.

The document has been reviewed by the relevant committee and is awaiting a hearing in the Parliament (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine).

Since the beginning of 2022, the Commissioner has received appeals about 2,087 violations of IDPs' rights. The most common violations are those in the field of social protection (40%); 30% were violations in the promotion of IDPs' rights, the rest were housing issues, freedom of movement, the right to education, pensions, etc.

## Filtration camps

According to the Center for Civil Liberties, the Russian authorities have put between 1 and 2 million Ukrainian citizens through the so-called filtration process.

If people do not pass this filtration, they end up in the **so-called filtration camps**, which can only be compared to **concentration camps**. As of the end of September 2022, there were at least 19 known filtration camps in the occupied territories of Ukraine.

According to human rights activists, numerous cases of torture have been reported in filtration camps. Detainees are held in inhumane conditions and do not have access to information. They do not have proper medical and legal assistance, and are not allowed to communicate with their families.

**On November 11, the Ukrainian military liberated the city of Kherson** from Russian occupation, which they had seized since the beginning of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

**Nine torture chambers** were found on the territory of the liberated Kherson region. They also found **432 bodies of civilians who had been killed**.

The liberation of the Kherson Region from the Russian military revealed new facts of ill-treatment – residents of the region were subjected to more brutal methods of torture than in the regions that were previously under temporary occupation – Kharkiv, Kyiv, Chernihiv.

In these Regions, we recorded torture chambers, but in Kherson Region, for the first time, we established the facts (from the testimony of people who were in these torture chambers) that **men and women were kept together for weeks at a time in torture chambers around the clock**. Torture, beatings, sexual violence, but men and women were not kept together. Moreover, they were not released for weeks. Even women had to go to the toilet in front of men, and men had to go to the toilet in front of women.

**Each cell had video cameras for surveillance. This round-the-clock video surveillance was recorded with sound.** Our citizens who were tortured emphasize this point and explain that they clearly understood it. Because as soon as Kherson residents began to talk about the occupation, masked people immediately ran into the cameras and severely beat everyone.

**There was also a separate cell where teenagers were kept.** We managed to identify the children who were there and talk to them.



### **Olga Altunina**

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## **Working in the international arena**

Since the beginning of the war, the democratic world has united around Ukraine. Dozens of countries have expressed their support not only in words, but also by imposing sanctions and providing humanitarian and military aid.

The countries that have supported Ukraine the most are Poland, Estonia, Latvia, the United States, Lithuania, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, France, Canada, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Romania, and Slovenia.

Delegations of the Commissioner's Office regularly meet with international partners, including representatives of the EU, UN, OSCE, Council of Europe, International Committee of the Red Cross, USAID, Heads of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), leadership of NHRI networks and Ombudsman of foreign countries.

In order to ensure proper protection of the rights of Ukrainian citizens abroad, the Commissioner opened 2 Temporary Representative Offices abroad, in particular in the **UK and the Republic of Ireland**.

**For the first time** in the history of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), the Chairperson of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), Sirpa Rautio, and the Secretary General, Debbie Conner, visited Ukraine.



**For the first time** in the history of the Commissioner's office, the process of assessing the institutional capacity of the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) for compliance with the global principles of functioning was initiated by international partners.

Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets met with the President of the Republic of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

**During the meeting, the following issues were discussed:**



- the freedom of political prisoners "prisoners of the Kremlin" who were arbitrarily detained and imprisoned by Russia and who, in their opinion, committed criminal offenses in Crimea;
- return home of Ukrainian severely wounded servicemen who are currently in the territory of the Russian Federation;
- return of Ukrainian civilians serving long prison terms since 2014 in Russia and the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions;
- return of Ukrainian civilians illegally detained and held in Russia since February 24, 2022.

Particular attention was paid to the importance of finding a legal mechanism to help bring home all civilian hostages, citizens of Ukraine, who are held in prisons of the Russian Federation.



## **Olga Strepochenko**

Head of the Department of International Cooperation and European Integration

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# Protection of information during wartime

Before the start of the war, Ukrainian information systems were subjected to powerful attacks by Russian hackers. Since the beginning of the large-scale aggression of the Russian Federation, the **intensity of cyber attacks** has not decreased. Russian hackers are trying to gain access to personal data of Ukrainians, as well as to harm Ukrainian information systems. These attacks are coordinated with attacks on critical infrastructure and are part of the military aggression of the Russian Federation.

The leak of personal data of Ukrainians threatens that the military of the Russian Federation and the special services of the enemy will use them against our population. The leakage of sensitive data **threatens the work of authorities and critical infrastructure**. Therefore, during the war and resistance to Russian aggression, the issue of data protection in information systems becomes more acute.

During the year, the Department received **13,326** reports of violations of human rights to information. **605 proceedings** were opened to implement response measures and restore citizens' rights.



Yuliia Derkachenko, Representative of the Commissioner for Information Rights, took part in the 43rd plenary session of the Committee of the Council of Europe Convention "On the Protection of Individuals in Connection with Automated Processing of Personal Data". At this session, a decision was made **to limit the participation of the Russian Federation in the Committee without the right to participate in decision-making by this body and the right to vote**.

This happened due to an amendment to the Rules of the T-PD procedure and the conditions for the participation of the Russian Federation in the T-PD, which came into force immediately.

Since 24 February 2022, Russia has been at war with Ukraine. As a result, on March 16, 2022, it was expelled from the Council of Europe. Thus, Russia is no longer a party to those conventions and protocols concluded within the framework of the Council of Europe, which are open only to its member states. It also ceased to be a High Contracting Party to the European Convention on Human Rights as of September 16, 2022.



## Yuliia Derkachenko

Representative of the Commissioner  
for Information Rights

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## Protection of equal human rights and freedoms

During the year, the Commissioner's Office processed **870 appeals** in the direction of equal rights and freedoms, rights of national minorities, political and religious views.

**26 monitoring visits** were carried out to monitor the state of compliance with the rights of persons affected by domestic violence, as a result of which the state and local self-government bodies received recommendations on the elimination of the identified problematic issues.

## Human trafficking

In the de-occupied territories of Ukraine, the number of victims of human trafficking is increasing.

Forced labor, various types of exploitation, as well as use in armed conflict, according to current legislation, are human trafficking.

The vast majority of appeals to the Commissioner for Preventing Human Trafficking concern the observance of the rights of persons who were exploited while in captivity.

Thus, a man appealed to the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, who reported that he suffered from psychological and physical violence, as well as labor exploitation during his stay in captivity.

As a result of the Commissioner's response, the National Social Service of Ukraine established the status of a victim of human trafficking to the applicant, which enables him to receive free medical, psychological, social, legal and other types of necessary assistance, as well as to use the asylum service.

During the war, the **Russians already destroyed 205 religious buildings** (churches, temples, mosques) in Ukraine.





# Meeting with Representatives of the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and religious organizations



"I broke the institution's 25-year silence in communication with Representatives of various faiths. In my welcoming speech, I first of all thanked the Representatives of churches and religious organizations for their active participation in helping the civilian population during more than 8 years of the Russian Federation's military aggression against Ukraine. In recent months full-scale invasion, we saw the heroism of Representatives of various religions and denominations in matters of evacuation and the organization of "green corridors" for the rescue of the civilian population, their resettlement and organization of life in the places of resettlement"

**Dmytro Lubinets,**  
Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights  
(Ombudsman of Ukraine)

# Meeting with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

During the audience with His Holiness, the Archbishop of Constantinople - the New Rome and the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the issue of peace was discussed. The Commissioner of Ukraine thanked for the prayers and all-round support of the Ukrainian people who are fighting for life, for the right to build their independent state, in which the norms of law and morality prevail. In addition, he spoke about humanitarian problems and issues related to the repatriation of the seriously wounded, the exchange of prisoners of war, and the return of civilian hostages.



In his turn, Bartholomew noted that they have already sent a letter to the Metropolitans who are in Europe so that they take care of the Ukrainians who are currently there. That is, every metropolitan that is under the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Europe will take care of Ukrainians.

# Law "On National Communities of Ukraine"

In December 2022, the Parliament (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine), based on the interests of the Ukrainian people – citizens of Ukraine of all nationalities regarding the development of a sovereign, independent, democratic, social, legal state, adopted the Law "On National Minorities (Communities) of Ukraine".



Employees of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights actively participated in the development of the draft law as part of a working group and also conducted legal consultations on its compliance with national and international legal norms.

The European Commission, in its evaluation of Ukraine's application for membership in the European Union, identified the legal regulation of the issue of national minorities as one of the seven key and priority criteria that Ukraine must fulfill.

Therefore, for Ukraine, the adoption of the Law "On National Minorities (Communities) of Ukraine" is an important step towards building a sovereign, independent, democratic, social, legal state and joining the EU.



### **Mikhailo Spasov**

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## **National preventive mechanism**

In order to properly fulfill Ukraine's obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment, the Department for the Implementation of the National Preventive Mechanism and the Secretariat's employees in the Regions during the year carried out:

**345 visits to places of detention**, including:

- **134** central apparatus;
- **211** regional employees.

**35 projects** of regulatory and legal acts were processed.

**533 citizens' appeals** were considered.

NPM is a nationally created system of visits to any place under the jurisdiction and control of the state of Ukraine, where persons deprived of liberty are held or may be held, by order of a state body or at its direction, or with its knowledge or tacit consent, for the purpose of preventing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Since the beginning of the military aggression against Ukraine, visits to places of detention have been almost completely suspended in connection with the real threat to the lives of NPM employees, logistical obstacles, and for other reasons.

**From October 2022, the full functioning of the national preventive mechanism has been restored.**

Under the leadership of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Dmytro Lubinets, an Advisory Council on NPM was created, the members of which were representatives of the public, experts and scientists. At the first meeting of the Advisory Council, a list of Representatives of Public Organizations was approved to participate in visits to places of detention under the "Ombudsman+" formula.



Despite all the difficulties, the Ukrainian Parliament Commission for Human Rights continued to perform the functions of the NPM **on the territory of Ukraine**, international obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment will continue to be fulfilled.



### Vitalii Nikulin

Representative of the Commissioner for Human Rights in Places of Detention

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## Protection of socio-economic human rights in Ukraine in the conditions of war

Department for Monitoring the **Observance of Social and Economic Rights**, which **protects human and citizen rights to social protection; health care; property; education and culture; work and business activity; safe environment; as consumers.**

During the year, the Department **received 14,874 (35%) reports** out of **42,485 received by the Commissioner's Office**. The largest number of reports from citizens were received regarding the violation of their rights in the field of social **protection of the population (9,767); as consumer rights (1,744); rights to work (1,467).**

**294 proceedings were opened**, within the framework of which measures were taken to respond and restore the rights of citizens.

**Prepared 1,135 positions** of the Commissioner for projects of normative legal acts, which are considered at meetings of the Government and the Parliament.

**34 monitoring visits** were carried out, which covered 323 objects of state authorities, local self-government, communal institutions.

**The Russian invasion became an activator of rights violations:**

- in the field of social protection: pensioners and persons with disabilities; family members of the deceased breadwinner; persons who found themselves in difficult life circumstances; internally displaced persons and persons affected by the armed conflict; recipients of various types of state social benefits, benefits and compensations, rehabilitated persons;
- in the field of labor and entrepreneurial activity: insured persons; medical workers and their family members in case of death; individual entrepreneurs; employees in various fields of work;
- in the field of health care: patients with oncological diseases; persons with disabilities; recipients of medical assistance;
- in the field of property: recipients of alimony;
- in the field of ecology: residents of different regions for a safe environment;
- in the field of education: students of higher education;
- consumer rights: in the field of banking services; housing and communal services; retail trade via the Internet.



A resident of the city of Mariupol, Donetsk Region, who since February 2022 has been a person with a disability since childhood of group I of subgroup A, reported to the Commissioner's Office that she received state social assistance in the amount of UAH 3,868, as for persons with disabilities of group I of subgroup B, instead of 6,586. UAH 80, which does not correspond to her status.

As a result of the war, the applicant went abroad and could not defend her right on her own. Employees of the Commissioner's Office found out that the Department of Social Protection of the Population of the Mariupol City Council did not transfer to the Information and Education Center of the Ministry of Social Policy the registers of state benefits registered in February 2022 to residents of the Mariupol city.

According to the results of the response measures, the information and computing center of the Ministry of Social Policy received the necessary documents, so this allowed the application in December 2022 to be paid assistance in the appropriate amount of UAH 6,589.80, as well as additional funds for the period from February to November 2022.



**Olena Kolobrodova**

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# The right to fair justice in Ukraine in conditions of war

During the year, the Department **received 2,975 appeals** in which 5,105 violations of procedural rights were reported, including:

- **3,628** on violations during criminal proceedings;
- **790** on violations in civil and administrative proceedings;
- **687** on violation of procedural rights in places of detention.

According to the results of the consideration of reports on violations of procedural rights, the following were found:

- **13 submissions** of the Commissioner were made;
- **3,205 letters were sent** regarding the verification of facts of violation of rights;
- according to the results of checks initiated by the Commissioner and the measures taken, information was entered into the Single Register of Pre-trial Investigation (SRPTI) by law enforcement agencies on **36 facts**;
- **67 court hearings were monitored**, 38 of which were carried out by Regional Representatives of the Commissioner.



## 435 projects of regulatory and legal acts were developed.

The impossibility of transferring court cases after changing their territorial jurisdiction from courts located in the area of hostilities or temporarily occupied territory became a challenge for ensuring justice in criminal proceedings. The problem was revealed that the rules of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine do not define the mechanism for restoring the materials of a criminal proceeding that was in court proceedings, but did not end with the adoption of a verdict.

The Commissioner sent a letter to the Committee of the VRU on Law Enforcement Activities to the Draft Law Register. No. 7494 with proposals to be taken into account during the preparation of the draft law for the second reading. The proposals were taken into account by the Parliament in full. The law entered into force on 11.12.2022. The Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine provided an opportunity to restore lost materials of criminal proceedings.



### Olena Frolova

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# Protection of human rights in every corner of Ukraine

In the conditions of a large-scale Russian invasion, an increase in the number of human rights violations and requests from citizens for their protection and restoration, and complicated logistics, the need to represent the Commissioner in each region became evident. This is necessary for prompt response to violations, as well as for highlighting specific human rights challenges related to international armed conflict.

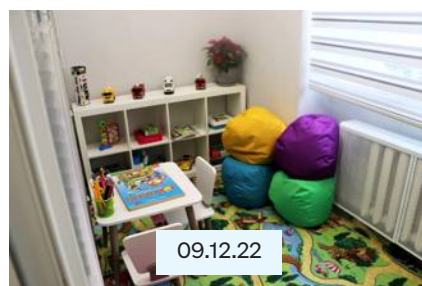
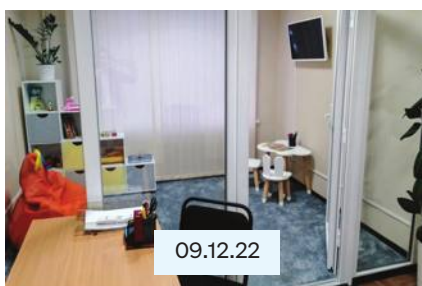
**Priority:** expansion of the network of Representatives of the Commissioner in the regional centers of Ukraine, representatives in the currently temporarily occupied territories, as well as their regional teams.

Constructive cooperation with the UNDP project and the UMDPL Association regarding the involvement of regional coordinators of relations with the public, which is an effective mechanism of interaction between the institution and communities throughout Ukraine, has been resumed.

Consultation centers of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights were also opened in Kyiv, Lviv and Khmelnytskyi.

The consultation center provides online and offline support to citizens of Ukraine regarding:

- clarification of possible ways of returning the child or families with children to the territory under the control of the Government of Ukraine;
- obtaining a child's birth certificate under martial law or its legalization, if the document was obtained in an uncontrolled territory;
- establishing contact with a child who was taken abroad by one of the parents;
- filling out a form for searching for a child or an application for receiving assistance for children who were/were injured as a result of the war;
- other issues related to human rights violations.



## Kyiv

🏠 Instytutska St, 21/8, Kyiv



0800-50-17-20  
(free of charge in Ukraine)

044-253-75-89  
(for calls from abroad)

## Khmelnytskyi

🏠 Svobody St, 70, office 104,  
Khmelnytskyi, 29001



0800-50-17-20  
(free of charge in Ukraine)

+38 (0382) 704 500

## Lviv

🏠 Vynnychenka St, 18, office 107



+38 0322 550 950

# Air raid alert

**WARNING! Warning of an air alarm! Go to the nearest bomb shelter.** The sounds of air raid alerts have become painfully familiar to all Ukrainians. But still, every time your heart sinks when the alarm goes off, it means you need to go to a bomb shelter or find another relatively safe place. Ukrainians spent hundreds of hours in their corridors behind at least two walls, in cold basements and underground parking lots, in metro stations.

When the alarm goes off, it also means that a Russian missile, plane or drone has been sent to destroy and kill. And even if you're safe now, someone else, someone you care about, might not be. The same word is used in the Ukrainian language to denote vigilance – anxiety.

**P.S.** We invite you to visit Ukraine! Be sure to install the application before the trip.

**Air Alert:** an application that notifies you of danger in a certain region on your smartphone. Set up the app in Google Play or AppStore.



The Russian Federation and all the war criminals it sent to Ukraine will bear the most serious responsibility for the evil they have committed.

Ukraine carefully documents every crime and every brutality. All those responsible will undoubtedly be held accountable.

We will never forget and never forgive. Like the world.

**#StandWithUkraine**



## Dmytro LUBINETS

**Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights**  
(from July 1, 2022)

✉ [lubinets@ombudsman.gov.ua](mailto:lubinets@ombudsman.gov.ua)



Hotline of the Ukrainian Parliament  
Commissioner for Human Rights **0 800 50 17 20**  
or by e-mail [hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua](mailto:hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua)



#StandWithUkraine

**Human rights in Ukraine**



Омбудсман України  
Ombudsman of Ukraine