

The police are making maximum efforts to ensure communication with the population, and in places where the 102 line does not work, new telephone lines are being opened. Alternative means of communication are also active. Wartime looting incidents can be reported to the Cyber Police email. Law enforcement agencies are engaged in organizing the logistics of volunteer groups, defense processes, and maintaining the morale of the military and the civilian population [4]. Psychological preparation of personnel, special physical and special toughness is necessary. Psychologists, as bearers of knowledge and skills to cope with stress, continue to assist our colleagues and cultivate in themselves and those around them maximum resilience and the ability to react in extreme conditions. Law enforcement officers, who are engaged in the protection of public order under martial law, are obliged to know the organization and tactics of practice of internal affairs bodies, tasks, functions, methods of activity, current legislation regulating their activities. The actions of the police during martial law must be legally competent, fair and lawful. Improper actions of law enforcement officers can cause serious harm. Therefore, we can draw the conclusion that the work of law enforcement officers in martial law plays a very important role, both for the population and the state. Their work can be called very effective and incredibly necessary in our time. Police officers try to do everything possible to protect citizens, even in very difficult situations, and in our case, in the conditions of hostilities.

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## **CURRENT ISSUES OF PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UNDER MARTIAL LAW**

Children are regarded as the most vulnerable and dependent category in the adult world. For this reason, they have special rights compared to adults, which is enshrined in the Convention on the

Rights of the Child. And these rights require special protection and a special mechanism for its implementation not only in peacetime, but also under a special legal regime – martial law.

As of April 10, UNICEF has confirmed that more than 350 children have been killed or injured in crossfire or by the use of explosive weapons since the war started, but the numbers are undoubtedly much higher. Field reports have raised awareness of the illegal deportation of children to Russia, and Russian soldiers taking children hostage to use them as human shields. Schools and hospitals are also being targeted by Russian forces [1].

Unfortunately, in Ukraine there is no legislation that regulates exclusively the rights of children under the legal regime of martial law. The Law of Ukraine "On Protection of Childhood" contains the norm that concerns the prohibition of children's participation in hostilities and armed conflicts. Article 30 states that the participation of children in hostilities and armed conflicts, creating children's paramilitary organizations and formations, propaganda among children of war and violence are prohibited. The state takes all possible measures to ensure the protection of the rights of children in the zone of hostilities and armed conflicts, and care for them. Children are provided with material, medical and other assistance [2].

For this reason for today Ukraine needs rapid implementation of international humanitarian law to the current legislation. The greatest value for the protection of children's rights in armed conflict is of the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian population during the war, because the Convention not only provides for the universal protection of children as civilians who are not a part of the conflict, but also provides special protection to children living in unoccupied and occupied territories.

Even greater protection of children from exposure armed conflicts is provided by two additional protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. Under Article 77 children enjoy special respect, and they are protected from any kind of indecent assault. Parties of conflict provide the protection and assistance they need due to their age or any other reason [3, p. 395].

On July 22, 2023, 496 children were killed in Ukraine due to the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, as the Office of the Prosecutor General reports. Totally, 1,564 children were affected. According to juvenile prosecutors, 1,068 children were injured of varying severity. It also found that 19,592 children had been deported or forcibly displaced. These figures are not final. Work on

their installation continues in places of warfare, in the temporarily occupied and liberated territories [4].

One of the main roles in the process of protecting the rights of children under martial law belongs to the National Police of Ukraine. Since the beginning of a full-scale war with Russia, the police evacuated from areas of active fighting hundreds of children. In particular, in Bakhmut, where 179 children remain, police evacuation teams are working to convey information about the importance of evacuating children and are doing everything possible to ensure that every child is safe [5].

The police systematically carry out explanatory work with parents and guardians of children regarding the danger of remaining in these territories, because there are problems with these persons leaving there with their consent.

Also, the bodies of the National Police are authorized to investigate crimes committed by occupants against children. Since the investigation of such crimes has a certain specificity, the police is developing methods for establishing psychological contact, recommendations for the tactics of interrogation of minors, the formulation of questions taking into account the peculiarities of the minor's psyche. The task of such methods is to minimize the negative impact on a minor, minor witness or victim during the pre-trial investigation and trial [6, p. 53].

The aspect of international cooperation is extremely important in this case. In particular, in April 2022, the European Commission proposed to expand the mandate of European justice to investigate war crimes in Ukraine. It is envisaged that the agency will have the right to process databases, including video and audio recordings, satellite images, and exchange these data with national and international authorities, as well as Ukrainian authorities in order to accumulate evidence for the work of the international tribunal [6, p. 58]

On March 17, 2023 the Chamber of Pre-Trial Proceedings of the II International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Volodymyr Putin and Maria Lvova-Belova. President of Russia, suspected of committing a war crime – illegal deportation of the population (children) and illegal movement of the population (children) from the occupied territories of Ukraine to Russia since at least 24 February, 2022.

Commissioner for the Rights of the Child in the Presidential Administration of the Russian Federation, suspected of committing a war crime – illegal deportation at least since February 24, 2022, the population (children) and illegal resettlement of the population

(children) from the occupied territories of Ukraine to the Russian Federation.

Based on the petitions of the Prosecutor's Office of February 22, 2023, the Chamber of Pre-Trial Proceedings recognized that there were reasonable grounds to believe that each suspect is responsible for a war crime in the form of illegal deportation of the population and illegal movement of the population from the occupied territories of Ukraine to the Russian Federation to the detriment of Ukrainian children [7, p. 7–8].

Today it is impossible to determine exactly how many children were deported to Russia or to the territories controlled by it, however, the Russian side claims that during the first year of the war the Russian Federation received about 5.3 million people, among them 738 thousand were children.

Thus, under the conditions of martial law in Ukraine, children who are one of the most vulnerable categories of the population, especially suffer from the consequences of hostilities, become victims of the criminal actions of the invaders. To investigate aggression, it is urgent to launch the International Tribunal on projects, the creation of which is already working and involving both Ukraine and foreign partners.

Creating a comprehensive systems responsibility for violation of international law will make it possible to punish war crimes and other crimes in Ukraine, including crimes committed against children. The Ukrainian legislation in the field of children's rights protection requires significant optimization and implementation of international humanitarian law. In the complex, these measures can improve the process of legal and actual protection of children in conditions of armed conflict and bring those responsible to justice.

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## **COUNTERING BULLYING IN FRANCE**

France supports law on imprisonment for school bullying. The lower house of the French parliament is backing a bill that would criminalise bullying in schools. The deputies said that in terms of the seriousness of children attacking and insulting each other, society needs a "wake-up call".

This was reported by the British newspaper The Guardian. The new law applies to both children and adults in schools and universities. The offender can be punished with a fine of €45,000 and a prison sentence of up to 3 years. If a victim of bullying commits suicide or attempts to do so, the penalty can be up to 10 years in prison and a fine of €15 million.

The bill would also increase resources for prevention and awareness-raising, as well as improve conditions for children to participate in state education programmes on bullying. Some MPs argue that the risk of imprisonment and criminal record will be a major deterrent.

MP Ervan Balanant, who drafted the bill, said the new legislation and high fines were "a way of engaging with society as a whole". He said it sent a strong message and a "shockwave" to society to raise awareness of the devastating effects of bullying. He