

AID AGENCIES CALL FOR UPHOLDING INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS AND CIVILIAN OBJECTS IN UKRAINE

Heavily populated areas in Ukraine—including in Dnipro, Kyiv, Lviv and Ternopil—came under attack on Monday from explosive weapons with wide-area effects, killing at least 11 civilians and injuring another 89.[1]

Several civilian objects were destroyed, including a playground, a pedestrian bridge and several homes. The damage done to critical civilian infrastructure also led to power outages and disruptions to water, electricity and communication supplies, at a time when civilians are preparing for winter.

The attacks come amid a pattern of escalation across the country, which forced several aid agencies to suspend operations over safety concerns for their staff and populations in need of support, until it is safe to resume.

Aid agencies in Ukraine call for respecting obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and for the protection of civilians and civilian objects from ongoing hostilities.

Reprisal attacks targeting civilians, civilian objects and buildings used for the protection of civilian populations are always prohibited under the laws of war.

SIGNATORIES:

1. Action contre la Faim
2. Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
3. CAFOD
4. Caritas Ukraine
5. Corus International
6. Christian Aid
7. Danish Refugee Council
8. Doctors of the World
9. FHI 360
10. Finn Church Aid
11. Handicap International – Humanity & Inclusion
12. HelpAge International
13. Institute of Psychosomatics and Trauma Healing
14. International Medical Corps
15. International Rescue Committee
16. INTERSOS
17. Medical Teams International
18. Mercy Corps
19. Network 100 percent life Rivne
20. PAX
21. People in Need
22. Plan International
23. Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)
24. Save the Children
25. Solidarités International
26. Stabilization Support Services
27. Terre des hommes
28. War Child
29. World Vision

[1] Figures from the State Service of Ukraine for Emergency Situations