

STATEMENT FROM THE EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IN UKRAINE

[adopted by the General Assembly, on 8 June 2025]

As the war in Ukraine continues into its third year, the humanitarian toll on civilians, especially women and girls, **remains severe**. As delegates of the European Women's Lobby, we express our deep concern at the ongoing war in Ukraine and its **devastating impact on civilians, particularly women and girls**. We stand in **unwavering solidarity with the women of Ukraine**, who continue to bear displacement, poverty, insecurity, and violence, and we call for **sustained and coordinated international efforts** to ensure that peace, human rights, humanitarian assistance, and gender equality are at the heart of all responses.

As of 2024, data¹ shows that approximately 14.6 million people are estimated to require humanitarian assistance, with 56% of those in need being women and girls. This gendered impact is further underscored by the displacement crisis, where 56% of the 3.7 million internally displaced persons are women and girls. The prolonged conflict has also led to widespread economic disruption: more than 20 million people have lost their livelihoods since the start of the war, and 72% of those currently registered as unemployed are women. In total, over 8 million women and girls in Ukraine required humanitarian assistance in 2024 alone.

The war has severely disrupted access to early childhood education. Recent data² from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) shows that one in five children aged 3-5 are not attending preschool, largely due to safety concerns and war-related closures. Nationally, 21% of preschool-aged children are not enrolled in kindergarten, with much higher rates among IDPs (30%) and children residing in frontline regions (37%). The primary barriers to attendance cited by parents include closed facilities (38%), the absence of adequate protective shelters (23%), and insufficient capacity in available institutions (16%).

In light of these realities, the European Women's Lobby calls on **EU leaders**, including European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, European Parliament President Roberta Metsola, European Council President António Costa, and EU High Representative Kaja Kallas, to maintain and **strengthen** their committed support for peace and humanitarian aid in Ukraine.

The EWL further urges the **international community**, particularly the United Nations General Assembly, the UN Security Council, and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, to fully uphold the principles enshrined in the UN Charter and to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)³ and the broader **Women, Peace and Security** agenda in all peacebuilding, humanitarian, and reconstruction

¹ [Women and girls after two years of war in Ukraine | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

² [Ukraine — Human Impact of the War in Ukraine — May 2025 | Displacement Tracking Matrix](#)

³ [UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security \(2000\) | UN Women – Headquarters](#)



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processes. **Women must be recognised** as essential actors in Ukraine's recovery - not as passive recipients of aid, but as equal **agents** of freedom, peace, justice, and societal rebuilding.



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