

Ursula von Der Leyen, President of the European Commission
Charles Michel, President of the European Council

Brussels, February 2022

Subject: Urgently supporting the refugee children from Ukraine and creating a humanitarian corridor for families with children

Dear President of the European Commission,
Dear President of the European Council,

The military intervention of the Russian Federation in Ukraine has generated **a wave of migrants and refugees composed mostly of women, children and elderly.**

The neighboring countries have put into place, with the support of the European Civil Protection Mechanism and of several committed NGOs, everything they could to offer protection and safety to Ukrainian refugees.

Unfortunately, this is not enough. **Children and their families arriving from the conflict zone are in urgent need of help, from basic needs to psychological support. Particularly orphan children and unaccompanied children are in a desperate situation.**

That is why, we request from the European Commission and from all Member States to **provide a more enhanced support for Ukrainian children arriving in neighboring countries, particularly in Romania, Poland, Slovakia and Republic of Moldova, and to deploy an integrated European support mechanism to help them and their families on short, but also on a longer term.**

The European Union should also try to **create an emergency humanitarian corridor for families with children and orphaned and unaccompanied children so that they will cross the border safely** and allow them to run away from the conflict zone. The Union should also study the possibility of creating a green-corridor to channel in Ukraine basic needs and humanitarian goods and give support for related transportation.

Every minute counts.

We hope our message will be heard and that **no more children will be hurt in the process of escaping the war in Ukraine.**

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