

Larysa NALYVAIKO,

Doctor of Juridical Science, Professor, Honored Lawyer of Ukraine,
Chief researcher of the sector of theoretical and methodological
problems of the organization of state power, Department of problems
of the theory of the state and law of the Scientific Research Institute
of State Building and Local Government of National Academy of Law
Sciences of Ukraine

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-7696-4223

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY WAR

Abstract. The article is devoted to the analysis of the legal protection of the rights of children affected by the war in Ukraine in the context of international and national legal standards. The paper examines key international documents that regulate the rights of children during armed conflicts, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, as well as the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. Special attention is given to the role of international organizations such as the UN, UNICEF, and the International Committee of the Red Cross in protecting the rights of children in conflict zones. The national legislation of Ukraine, which regulates the rights of children affected by Russian aggression, is also examined in detail. Key legal acts such as the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons,» and the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Children» provide basic rights and protection for children. However, the article highlights numerous challenges and issues that arise in the implementation of these legal norms. The authors analyze the main problems of legal protection for children affected by the war, including legal gaps, inadequate implementation of international standards, difficulties in applying existing norms, unstable funding, and insufficient coordination between state and international organizations. Bureaucratic obstacles, complex procedures for obtaining state assistance, and a lack of awareness about available support programs significantly complicate the process of providing necessary aid to affected children. The article proposes specific directions for improving the

legal protection of children's rights in Ukraine. These include legislative reform, adaptation of existing norms to new realities, the creation and strengthening of specialized state bodies and institutions, improved coordination between state and international organizations, increased involvement of civil society, increased funding, and the development of educational programs for professionals. The importance of ensuring adequate funding for rehabilitation, educational, and social programs, as well as attracting international financial assistance, is emphasized. The article also considers the prospects for improving the legal protection of children's rights in Ukraine through increased involvement of civil society. Non-governmental organizations and volunteer groups can play a key role in ensuring children's rights by providing direct assistance, monitoring compliance with children's rights, and conducting advocacy campaigns. An important aspect is the development of educational programs for professionals working with children affected by the war to enhance their qualifications and ensure high-quality assistance. The conclusions of the study emphasize the necessity of a comprehensive approach to protecting the rights of children affected by the war in Ukraine. Only joint efforts of national and international organizations, state institutions, and the public can ensure effective protection of children's rights and create conditions for their safe and healthy development in wartime conditions. The article provides recommendations for improving legal protection and underscores the importance of international support in this process.

Keywords: legal protection of children's rights, war in Ukraine, international legal standards, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Geneva Conventions, internally displaced persons, psychological support for children, rehabilitation of children, state support programs, international organization cooperation.

Problem statement. The issue of protecting the rights of children affected by war is of paramount importance in the context of contemporary armed conflicts. Wars and military actions have a devastating impact on the most vulnerable segments of the population, particularly children. Children become victims of physical and psychological violence, losing access to education, medical care, and basic living conditions. Protecting the rights of children during wartime requires not only humanitarian efforts but also comprehensive legal support at both international and national levels.

International law provides a range of norms and standards aimed at protecting the rights of children in conflict zones. However, the real situation

often shows that these norms are not always effectively implemented. This is due to various factors, such as the instability of governments in war-torn countries, the lack of adequate infrastructure for implementing legal norms, and other challenges. National legislation also faces numerous challenges, particularly in the implementation of international standards into domestic practice.

Children affected by war require special protection and support from the state and the international community. It is crucial not only to ensure their basic rights, such as the right to life and health, but also to create conditions for their further development and rehabilitation. A systematic approach to solving these problems includes comprehensive legislative initiatives aimed at protecting children, improving coordination between state and international institutions, and actively involving civil society.

The purpose of this article is to analyze the international and national legal protection of the rights of children affected by war, identify existing problems, and develop recommendations for improving legal mechanisms for their protection. The study aims to provide a comprehensive view of the situation and propose ways to improve the legal status of children affected by armed conflicts.

An analysis of recent publications indicates significant interest among scholars in the issue of protecting the rights of children in conflict zones. Among the scholars who have studied this issue are A. Aronov, V. Buryak, H. Hrechko, D. Dubov, Ye. Yevdokimov, Zh. Zhukova, Z. Zaitseva, I. Ivanov, K. Karpova, L. Lavrova, M. Martynenko, N. Novak, O. Orlova, P. Petrov, R. Romanenko, S. Sydorenko, T. Tkachenko, U. Ustymenko, F. Fedorov, Kh. Kharchenko, Ts. Tsarenko, Ch. Chernov, Sh. Shevchenko, Shch. Shcherbak, Yu. Yurchenko, Ya. Yakovenko.

Therefore, the study of the legal protection of the rights of children affected by war is a relevant and important task for contemporary legal science and practice. Research in this direction will contribute to the creation of more effective legal mechanisms for the protection of children in armed conflicts, which, in turn, will improve their situation and promote the restoration of their rights and freedoms.

Presentation of the main material. The international legal standards for the protection of the rights of children affected by war are based on a series of key international conventions, treaties, and agreements that regulate the

rights of children in conflict zones. International organizations that monitor compliance with these standards and provide assistance to affected children also play an important role in this context. One of the main documents is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)¹, which is the primary international legal instrument that defines the rights of children and the obligations of states to protect them. The Convention obliges participating states to ensure all rights specified in the document for every child within their jurisdiction, regardless of the situation, including armed conflicts. The important provisions of the Convention concern the right to life, survival, and development, as well as the right to education, health care, and protection from all forms of violence.

The Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols (1977) regulate the protection of civilians during armed conflicts². Special emphasis is placed on protecting children who are part of the civilian population. The Conventions prohibit any violence against children, their forced displacement, use in military actions, and exploitation. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (2000) prohibits the compulsory recruitment of children under 18 years of age into military actions and calls on states to take all possible measures to prevent the recruitment and use of children in armed conflicts³.

The United Nations (UN) plays a central role in coordinating international efforts to protect children's rights in conflict zones. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other specialized agencies actively work on monitoring the situation, providing humanitarian assistance, and supporting rehabilitation programs for children affected by war. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) provides protection and assistance to victims of armed conflicts, including children. The organization provides direct assistance in conflict zones, conducts informational and educational work on compliance with interna-

1 Konventsiiia pro prava dytyny: Konventsiiia Orh. Obiedn. Natsii vid 20.11.1989 r.: stanom na 16 lystop. 2023 r. URL : https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_021#Text (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

2 Zhenevska konventsiiia pro povodzhennia z viiskovopolonenymy (ukr/ros): Konventsiiia Orh. Obiedn. Natsii vid 12.08.1949 r.: stanom na 23 liut. 2023 r. URL : https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_153#Text (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian]; Dodatkovyi protokol do Zhenevskykh konvensii vid 12 serpnia 1949 roku, shcho stosuietsia zakhystu zhertv mizhnarodnykh zbroinykh konfliktiv (Protokol I), vid 8 chervnia 1977 roku (ukr/ros): Protokol Orh. Obiedn. Natsii vid 08.06.1977 r.: stanom na 8 hrud. 2005 r. URL : https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_199#Text (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

3 Fakultativnyi protokol do Konvensii pro prava dytyny shchodo uchasti ditei u zbroinykh konfliktakh (ukr/ros): Protokol Orh. Obiedn. Natsii vid 01.01.2000 r.: stanom na 23 cherv. 2004 r. URL : https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_795#Text (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

tional humanitarian law, and facilitates the exchange of prisoners of war and the reunification of separated families⁴.

UNICEF plays an important role in providing assistance to children affected by armed conflicts. UNICEF implements programs aimed at ensuring access to education, health care, psychological support, and rehabilitation. The organization also actively works on preventing the involvement of children in military actions and promoting the reintegration of child soldiers into society. Other international documents and initiatives, such as the Paris Principles on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (2007), aim to prevent the recruitment of children into armed conflicts, protect children in conflict zones, and ensure their reintegration into society after participation in military actions⁵.

The Kampala Convention on the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (2009) aims to protect internally displaced persons, including children, in the context of armed conflicts and natural disasters. The document outlines the obligations of states to ensure the rights and basic needs of internally displaced children. The Global Action Plan to End the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers (2007) unites the efforts of governments, international organizations, and civil society to prevent the recruitment of children and facilitate their reintegration into peaceful life. International legal standards and mechanisms for the protection of the rights of children affected by war provide important tools for ensuring the safety, rehabilitation, and development of children in conflict zones. At the same time, effective implementation of these standards requires active cooperation between states, international organizations, and civil society, as well as continuous monitoring and adaptation to changing conditions in conflict zones⁶.

The legal protection of children's rights during the war in Ukraine is a complex and multifaceted issue that requires consideration of national legislation, state programs, and policies aimed at protecting children affected by Russian aggression. Since the beginning of the conflict, Ukraine has faced numerous challenges in the field of child protection, necessitating a swift response and adaptation of legislation to new conditions.

4 Stetsiuk, B. (2019). Vyklyk ta zahrozy dytynstva u suchasnomu suspilstvi (pravovyi analiz). Pravo.ua, 2, 5-10. URL : https://dspace.sfa.org.ua/bitstream/123456789/1028/1/Stetsiuk_dytnstva.pdf [in Ukrainian].

5 Vlasiuk, Ya. A. (2023). Tekhnolohii opiky ta pikliuvannia u roboti z ditmy-syrotamy pid chas voiennoho stanu. Kvalifikatsiina robota na zdobuttia osvithnoho stupenia bakalavra spetsialnosti «Sotsialna robota». Kyiv : Natsionalnyi aviatsiynyi universytet, 48 s. [in Ukrainian].

6 Mizhnarodne zakonodavstvo, shcho rehuluie pryusove peremishchennia. Physiopedia Multilingual. URL : <https://langs.physio-pedia.com/uk/international-legislation-governing-forced-displacement-uk/> (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

Ukraine's national legislation includes a number of regulatory acts that govern the protection of children during wartime. The main document ensuring children's rights is the Constitution of Ukraine, which guarantees the protection of every child's rights without any discrimination. In particular, Article 52 of the Constitution of Ukraine states that children are equal in their rights regardless of their origin and whether they were born in or out of wedlock⁷.

One of the key regulatory acts concerning the protection of children's rights is the Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons,» which regulates issues related to internally displaced persons (IDPs), including children⁸. The law provides for state assistance to IDPs, ensuring their rights to education, medical care, housing, and social support. Special attention is given to ensuring the rights of children who have been forced to leave their homes due to hostilities.

The Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Children» also plays an important role in the legal protection of children's rights during wartime⁹. This law defines the main principles of state policy regarding children, mechanisms for protecting their rights and interests, and provides for the establishment of specialized state bodies and institutions that deal with child protection. It also introduces programs of social support and rehabilitation for children affected by the war.

State programs and policies aimed at supporting children affected by the war are a vital element of the legal protection of their rights. One such program is the National Strategy for the Protection of Children's Rights, which includes measures for providing psychological support, medical care, access to education, and social services. The strategy also provides for the development of special rehabilitation programs for children who have suffered physical and psychological trauma as a result of the war¹⁰.

Moreover, a number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Ukraine actively work in the field of child protection, providing assistance and support to affected children and their families. These organizations collaborate with state

7 Konstytutsiia Ukrainy: (z ofits. tлумacheniam Konstytuts. Sudu Ukrainy). Kyiv : Lira, 2006. 96 s. [in Ukrainian].

8 Pro zabezpechennia prav i svobod vnutrishno peremishchenykh osib: Zakon Ukrainy vid 20.10.2014 r. № 1706-VII: stanom na 30 hrud. 2023 r. URL : <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1706-18#Text> (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

9 Pro okhoronu dytynstva: Zakon Ukrainy vid 26.04.2001 r. № 2402-III: stanom na 5 zhovt. 2023 r. URL : <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2402-14#Text> (accessed July 19, 2024) [in Ukrainian].

10 Natsionalna stratehiia z zakhystu ditei v tsyfrovomu seredovyshchi na period do 2025 roku: Nats. stratehiia. URL : https://thedigital.gov.ua/storage/uploads/files/normative_document/2020/7/НАЦІОНАЛЬНА_СТРАТЕГІЯ_3_ЗАХИСТУ_ДИТЕЙ_В_ЦИФРОВОМУ_СЕРЕДОВИЩІ_НА.pdf [in Ukrainian].

bodies and international organizations, such as UNICEF, to ensure comprehensive support for children affected by the war.

Despite significant efforts by the state and NGOs, protecting children's rights during wartime remains a challenging task. The main problems are related to unstable funding, bureaucratic obstacles, insufficient coordination between different government bodies, and the lack of effective mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of legislation. However, the ongoing improvement of the legislative framework, the development of state programs, and the active involvement of civil society contribute to the gradual improvement of the situation.

Thus, the legal protection of children's rights during the war in Ukraine is based on a complex of national legislative acts, state programs, and policies aimed at protecting children affected by Russian aggression. At the same time, the effective implementation of these measures requires further efforts from the state, international organizations, and civil society to ensure a comprehensive approach to addressing the problems faced by children during wartime.

The problems and challenges in the legal protection of the rights of children affected by war are multifaceted and encompass both legislative gaps and difficulties in the implementation of existing legal norms in practice. Analyzing these problems allows for a better understanding of the measures needed to improve the situation and ensure adequate protection for children.

One of the main problems is the legal gaps in national legislation. The absence of clear and specific norms regulating the protection of children's rights during war leads to the insufficient protection of this vulnerable group¹¹. For example, laws regulating the status of internally displaced persons (IDPs) often do not account for the specific needs of children, which may differ from those of adults. This includes access to education, healthcare, psychological support, and rehabilitation.

Another significant issue is the inadequate implementation of international standards into national legislation¹². Ukraine has ratified several international documents, such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Geneva Conventions, but in practice, the implementation of these standards

11 Ohanianian, Ts. (2023). Pravovi standarty u sferi zakhystu prav ditei v umovakh zbroinoho konfliktu v Ukraini. Naukovyi visnyk Dnipropetrovskoho derzhavnoho universytetu vnutrishnikh sprav, 3, 44-51. URL : https://visnik.dpuvs.in.ua/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/3/nv_3-2023-44-51.pdf [in Ukrainian].

12 Nalyvaiko, I. O. (2022). Teoretyko-pravovi problemy implementatsii v Ukraini st. 37 Stambulskoi konventsii. Analitichne-porivnialne pravo navstvo, 3, 25-29. URL : <http://journal-app.uzhnu.edu.ua/article/view/264340/260478> [in Ukrainian].

often remains incomplete. This is due to both insufficient funding and the lack of clear mechanisms for monitoring the fulfillment of international obligations at the national level.

Problems in the implementation of existing legal norms also significantly impact the protection of the rights of children affected by war. Bureaucratic obstacles and complex procedures for obtaining state assistance often become insurmountable barriers for families seeking support for their children. This may include long queues, complex document requirements, and insufficient awareness of available assistance programs.

Financial instability is another critical challenge. State programs and initiatives to support children affected by war often face a lack of financial resources. This limits the provision of necessary services such as psychological support, medical care, and educational programs. The lack of funding also affects the implementation of long-term rehabilitation programs, which are extremely important for children who have suffered trauma during the war.

Insufficient coordination between various government bodies and organizations involved in child protection also creates additional problems. The lack of effective cooperation and information exchange between state institutions, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations leads to duplicated efforts and inefficient use of resources. This can also mean that some children remain without adequate assistance due to gaps in coordination.

Problems with access to education are particularly acute for children affected by war. Destroyed schools, a lack of educational materials, and a shortage of qualified teachers in war-affected areas significantly complicate the provision of the right to education¹³. Internally displaced children often face additional difficulties when trying to integrate into new schools, which can lead to their social isolation and lagging behind in their studies.

Psychological trauma and the need for rehabilitation also require special attention. Children who have witnessed or been victims of violence during the war need specialized psychological assistance and long-term rehabilitation. However, Ukraine lacks a sufficient number of qualified specialists and centers capable of providing such services, which creates additional difficulties for affected children and their families.

13 Lebid, O., & Salamatska, O. (2023). Dystantsiine navchannia v Ukraini: problemy ta perevahy v umovakh viiny. *Naukovi innovatsii ta peredovi tekhnologii*, 13 (27), 720-730.

It is important to note that effectively addressing these problems requires not only a legal framework but also the active participation of the international community, non-governmental organizations, and local communities. Joint efforts in the direction of improving legislation, increasing funding, and enhancing coordination can significantly improve the situation concerning the protection of the rights of children affected by war.

A comparative analysis of international and domestic legal protection of the rights of children affected by war reveals key differences, similarities, and potential directions for improving legislation. The foundation for such an analysis includes international documents that set standards for the protection of children's rights, as well as national regulatory acts that govern these issues in Ukraine.

International law provides a wide range of norms and standards aimed at protecting the rights of children in conflict zones. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) is a key document that defines general principles and rights of children, including their protection during armed conflicts. The Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols (1977) regulate the protection of the civilian population, including children, during wartime. The Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (2000) prohibits the participation of children in hostilities and the recruitment of children into armed forces.

In Ukraine, the main provisions of international documents have been implemented into national legislation. The Constitution of Ukraine guarantees the protection of children's rights without any discrimination. The Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons» and the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Children» define specific measures to support children affected by war. However, the practical implementation of these provisions faces several challenges.

One of the main differences between international standards and national legislation is the degree of detail and specificity of norms. International documents often contain general principles and recommendations that need to be adapted to the specific conditions of each country. Ukrainian legislation attempts to take these standards into account, but often encounters problems with specification and implementation. For example, the Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons» provides general guarantees but does not always specifically address the needs of children.

Another important difference is the mechanisms for monitoring compliance with legal norms. International organizations, such as the UN, UNICEF, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, monitor compliance with international standards and provide recommendations for their improvement. In Ukraine, responsible state bodies, such as the Ministry of Social Policy and the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Verkhovna Rada, also oversee the observance of children's rights, but their capabilities are often limited by resources and the political situation.

Comparing the effectiveness of implementing legal norms, it should be noted that international organizations have greater access to resources and can provide broader support to affected children. They provide humanitarian assistance, psychological support, and educational programs. In Ukraine, the implementation of such programs often depends on international aid and cooperation with non-governmental organizations, which creates additional challenges in coordination and effectiveness of measures.

A positive example of adapting international standards to national conditions is the National Strategy for the Protection of Children's Rights, which includes measures for providing psychological support, medical care, access to education, and social services. This strategy is based on the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and takes into account the specific needs of Ukrainian children affected by war.

At the same time, there are common problems that are characteristic of both the international and national levels. These include bureaucratic obstacles, insufficient coordination between various organizations, and unstable funding. These problems require a comprehensive approach and constant adaptation of legal norms to changing conditions.

Thus, a comparative analysis of international and domestic legal protection of the rights of children affected by war reveals both strengths and weaknesses in both systems. International standards provide important guidelines and support, but their implementation at the national level requires constant efforts in adaptation and improvement. It is important to ensure closer cooperation between state bodies, international organizations, and civil society to create an effective system for protecting children's rights during wartime.

Prospects for improving the legal protection of children's rights in Ukraine, who are affected by the war, encompass several key directions, including legislative reform, institutional changes, improved coordination between state

and international organizations, and increased involvement of civil society. Let's examine these directions in more detail.

One of the primary tasks is legislative reform. Existing laws need to be adapted to the new realities that have arisen as a result of the war in Ukraine. This includes clarifying and detailing norms that regulate the rights of children affected by war. For example, it is necessary to improve legislation regarding internally displaced persons to address the specific needs of children, including access to education, medical services, psychological support, and social integration. It is also important to introduce special legal mechanisms for the protection of children who have been left without parental care as a result of the war.

Institutional changes also play an important role in improving the legal protection of children's rights. In Ukraine, it is necessary to create and strengthen specialized state bodies and institutions responsible for implementing policies in the field of child protection. This may include establishing rehabilitation centers for children affected by the war, as well as strengthening the role of the Commissioner for Children's Rights of the Verkhovna Rada. Such institutions should have sufficient resources and authority to work effectively.

Improving coordination between state and international organizations is another important direction. Effective cooperation with international organizations such as UNICEF, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and others can provide additional resources and expertise to support children affected by war. Joint programs and initiatives aimed at providing humanitarian aid, psychological support, and educational services can significantly improve the situation. It is also important to develop effective mechanisms for information exchange and coordination of actions between various organizations.

The activation of civil society participation is another critical aspect. Non-governmental organizations, volunteer groups, and other civil society institutions can play a key role in ensuring the rights of children affected by war. They can provide direct assistance, monitor compliance with children's rights, and conduct advocacy campaigns to draw attention to the problems. Supporting and developing civil society is critically important for creating a sustainable system of child protection.

Increasing funding is another critical element. Without sufficient financial resources, the implementation of even the best legislative initiatives will remain

limited. The state budget should allocate significant funds for programs to support children affected by the war, including rehabilitation centers, psychological assistance, and educational programs. Additionally, it is important to attract international grants and other forms of financial support.

Another important step is the development of educational programs for professionals working with children affected by the war. This includes training teachers, social workers, psychologists, and healthcare professionals in modern methods of support and rehabilitation for children. Increasing the qualifications of these professionals will ensure the provision of high-quality services and effective assistance to children.

Thus, the prospects for improving the legal protection of children's rights in Ukraine, who have been affected by the war, require a comprehensive approach and coordinated efforts from the state, international organizations, and civil society. Legislative reform, institutional changes, improved coordination, increased participation of civil society, increased funding, and the development of educational programs for professionals are key directions that will contribute to improving the situation and ensuring adequate protection of children's rights.

Conclusions. The problem of protecting the rights of children affected by the war in Ukraine is extremely urgent and requires a comprehensive approach to ensure effective legal protection and support for this vulnerable group. An analysis of international and domestic legal frameworks shows that although there are a significant number of regulatory acts and international documents, their implementation and effective application in practice face numerous challenges.

International documents such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Geneva Conventions, and their Additional Protocols provide important guidelines for protecting children's rights in conflict zones. They establish general principles and standards that must be adapted to the national legislation of each country. In Ukraine, national legislation includes key regulatory acts such as the Law of Ukraine «On the Protection of the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons» and the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring the Rights and Freedoms of Children,» but the practical implementation of these norms requires further efforts.

The main problems include legal gaps, inadequate implementation of international standards, difficulties in applying existing norms, unstable

funding, and insufficient coordination between state and international organizations. Bureaucratic obstacles, complex procedures for obtaining state assistance, insufficient awareness of available support programs, and limited resources significantly complicate the process of providing necessary assistance to children affected by the war.

Prospects for improving the legal protection of children's rights in Ukraine include legislative reform, institutional changes, improved coordination between state and international organizations, increased participation of civil society, increased funding, and the development of educational programs for professionals. Existing laws need to be adapted to new realities, specialized state bodies and institutions need to be created and strengthened, close cooperation with international organizations must be ensured, and civil society must be actively involved in the process of protecting children's rights.

Special attention should be paid to increasing funding for programs to support children affected by the war. The state budget should allocate sufficient funds for implementing rehabilitation, educational, and social programs. It is also important to attract international financial assistance and grants to support these initiatives. Developing educational programs for professionals working with children is critically important for ensuring high-quality assistance and support.

The conclusions of our study show that protecting the rights of children affected by the war requires a comprehensive approach, including legislative reform, strengthening the institutional framework, improving coordination between different organizations, and active participation of civil society. Only joint efforts of national and international organizations, state institutions, and the public can ensure effective protection of children's rights and create conditions for their safe and healthy development during wartime.

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