Open Appeal

from the Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine, Oksana Zholnovych to the governments, diplomatic missions, embassies of all countries worldwide (except the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus)

regarding the provision of opportunities for recuperation and recreation for Ukrainian children due to the escalation of military invasion by the Russian Federation in Ukraine

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Ukrainian government and society, I express gratitude to all countries that are assisting Ukrainian children and families with children, ensuring their needs are met, and creating a safe environment for them. On behalf of every Ukrainian, I thank everyone for the comprehensive assistance which is invaluable!

For the third year in a row, amidst active hostilities caused by the full-scale military aggression of the Russian Federation, our children are experiencing physical and psychological trauma. They require restoration of their physical and psychosocial well-being, which is only possible in the absence of constant stress.

In peacetime, in Ukraine, health and recreation services were provided to over 2 million school-age children. Currently, the need for such services is much greater.

Today, the children of Ukraine, especially those from front-line communities, are experiencing violence, trauma, losses, forced displacement. Millions of children are deprived of celebrating birthdays, school memories, and communicating with friends and family. Children have lost homes, schools, and playgrounds. This is why they require our collective assistance, including organizing recuperation and recreation opportunities for them abroad.

Due to the escalation of military actions in the east and north of Ukraine in the spring of 2024, I appeal to you to assist in organizing recuperation, relaxation, and leisure activities for Ukrainian children in your countries.

Thanks to recuperation and full-fledged relaxation, our children will be able to regain strength and energy, recover psychologically, and most importantly, to some extent, distance themselves from what they have experienced and witnessed recently.

I hope for your understanding and count on our joint efforts to protect the future of Ukraine.

Our children are our future, and they deserve happiness!

Information regarding the possibility of hosting Ukrainian children, specifying conditions and opportunities for organizing their recuperation and recreation, can be sent to the email address yu.v.linichuk@mlsp.gov.ua.

Best regards,

Minister

Oksana ZHOLNOVYCH