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## Editorial

### Russian aggression against Ukraine and its consequences for humanity

Written by:

**Getman Anatolii P.**<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1987-2760>

Doctor of Legal Sciences, Professor, Rector of Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, Ukraine.

**Danilyan Oleg G.**<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5308-4664>

Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, Professor, Head of the Department of Philosophy of Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, Ukraine.

Early in the morning of February 24, 2022, the Russian aggression against Ukraine began. Thus, the so-called "postponed war" of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which began in a local version in 2014 with the annexation of Crimea and the creation of unrecognized quasi-states in eastern Ukraine, entered a new, large-scale phase. This threat was announced in advance at the highest level, and warnings based on Western intelligence services were expressed by senior leaders of NATO countries. But this was not believed, because all the arguments and the level of training of the Armed Forces of Ukraine indicated that taking the capital of Ukraine, Kyiv, in 72 hours, as planned by the military strategists of the Russian Federation, was simply impossible (Polishchuk, 2022, p.134). As a result of the heroism of Ukrainian servicemen, Putin's blitzkrieg in Ukraine failed and the war entered a protracted phase.

This second phase of aggression showed the entire anti-human nature of Putin's regime. Military seizure of the territory of Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporozhye, Kharkiv, Kherson regions, genocide of the Ukrainian people in Mariupol, Bucha, Irpen, etc. is a crime that has no statute of limitations.

According to documented UN data on June 27, since the beginning of the invasion of the Russian aggressors into Ukraine, at least 4,731 civilians have been killed and about 5,900 civilians have been injured, including 968 children. As the Ukrainian side assumes, the real losses of civilians are tens of times greater. But it is impossible to calculate these losses, as the dead are mostly located in the territory of Ukraine occupied by Russian troops. Tens of thousands of houses were also destroyed or damaged; the

cities of Mariupol, Volnovakha, Izyum and others were almost completely destroyed (United Nations, 2022).

According to the United Nations and international humanitarian organizations Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, Russian troops are indiscriminately firing missiles at residential areas, hospitals, schools, shopping centers and other social infrastructure in Ukraine. The Russian military has committed many other war crimes in the territory of Ukraine, including mass cases of rape, paedophilia, abuse of the civilian population and widespread looting. These are war crimes, for which the leadership of the Russian Federation and direct perpetrators must be brought to justice, because these wild cases have put the Russian Federation beyond humanism and modern human civilization. If these crimes remain unpunished, a fatal precedent will be set for the modern world order, which will serve as a time-bomb for it. The principle of inevitability of punishment should serve as an insurance mechanism for preserving the modern world order. Otherwise, the world will be left without rules and any insane dictator will be able to destroy it (Panfilov, 2019).

The invasion of the Russian aggressors caused the largest migration crisis since World War II: according to the United Nations, more than 6.8 million refugees left Ukraine as of May 29, and another 8 million people became internally displaced persons (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2022).

Russia's aggression against Ukraine has been strongly condemned by the absolute majority of the world community and international

organizations. United Nations General Assembly resolution ES-11/1, supported by the overwhelming majority of countries in the world, condemned Russia's actions, recognizing it as an aggressor country, and called on it to withdraw its troops from Ukraine. 141 countries voted for the specified resolution, 35 countries abstained, and only 5 countries voted against it. The International Criminal Court in The Hague has started an investigation into Russia's war crimes in Ukraine. After the discovery of evidence of mass murders in Bucha, in which servicemen of the Russian Armed Forces are accused, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky accused Russia of genocide of Ukrainians.

The consequences of the war in Ukraine are felt far beyond its borders. As UN Secretary General António Guterres rightly noted, this war has led to a sharp rise in food prices, since Russia and Ukraine are the main suppliers of these products to world markets, as well as energy sources and fertilizers; the logistics of food supplies has been disrupted, and the cost of the transportation has increased. All this has led to even greater shocks for developing countries.

"As the Secretary General of the United Nations, it is my duty to call the attention of the Council to the serious damage being done to the global economy, and particularly to vulnerable people and developing countries," António Guterres said. He added that 74 developing countries with a total population of 1.2 billion people suffered due to price jumps for food, energy and fertilizers (United Nation, 2022a).

The invasion of Russian troops into Ukraine led to anti-war protests in the world, new international sanctions against Russia aimed at partially isolating the country from the world economy, restrictions on Russia's participation in sports and other international events. The war with Ukraine started by Putin has already had significant economic consequences for Russia and unleashed the largest economic crisis in Russia since 1998. Hundreds of well-known international companies, such as Ikea, McDonald's, Visa and MasterCard, have left the country.

In turn, in Ukraine, the invasion led to the collapse of the economy, the suspension of air and sea transport, and a number of other negative consequences. On a global scale, the Russian invasion and related sanctions led to a reduction in international trade and a sharp rise in food and energy prices.

Thus, Russia's aggression against Ukraine must be considered as one of the greatest challenges to the international order based on the United Nations Charter. Today, everyone must clearly understand that there is no alternative to restoring the territorial integrity of Ukraine within the borders of 1991, and all the progressive countries of the world must help the Ukrainian people in the fight against the Russian aggressor.

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