The European Association of Paediatricians calls for emergency donations to support Ukrainian children

Brussels, Date

The European Academy of Paediatricians (EAP) <u>www.eapaediatrics.eu</u>), is the leading advocate for the healthcare needs of children in Europe. As paediatricians, we know that a peaceful environment is critical for children's healthy development.

The EAP said today that it deplores this act of aggression by President Putin and urges him to cease all violence immediately. Children risk being injured or killed by guns, landmines, and explosive weapons, or being displaced from their homes. Families are desperately seeking shelter from the invading forces, often in brutal winter conditions.

Marina Mamenko, Chairperson of the Board of the <u>Ukrainian Academy of Paediatric Specialties</u> (<u>UAPs</u>) and Member of EAP, said: "The situation is really terrible. There is more and more shelling of residential areas, and villages and towns are destroyed. On Friday, a kindergarten was destroyed. We have witnessed the first deaths of children".

The EAP is standing in solidarity with the children of Ukraine and those who care for them. Earlier today, the <u>EAP created an emergency charity fundraiser</u> as signal of its commitment to ensuring that children can be protected from the consequences of war.

Speaking today, Adamos Hadjipanayis, President of EAP, said: "We know that this fundraiser is just a small contribution given the scale of the challenges ahead for children and our colleagues in Ukraine. Today, EAP wants to ensure Ukrainian children continue to benefit from the highest possible standards of healthcare".

The EAP urges all European paediatric doctors, nurses, and other child health services to make their own contributions. You can do so here: https://whydonate.nl/fundraising/charitable-help-for-health-care-workers-and-children/en.

Funds will be given to both Ukrainian societies of paediatrics: the Ukrainian Academy of Paediatrics – Union of Medical Specialists; and the Ukrainian Academy of Paediatric Specialities

Read the full EAP statement on Ukraine here: https://www.eapaediatrics.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/EAP-statement-on-Ukraine.pdf