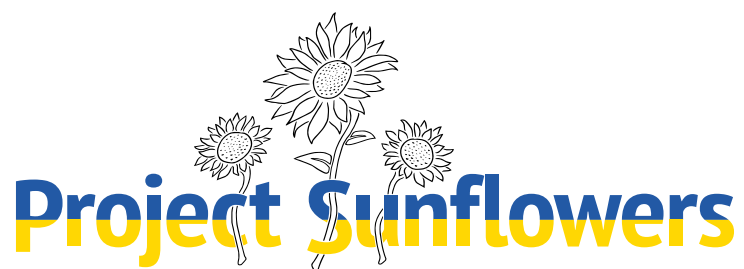


ENABLING INFORMATION, ENABLING JUSTICE
Foundation Sunflowers Annual Report
for the year 2023



Written by Kaja Kowalczevska
Graphics by Maciej Trojanowski

Warsaw 2024

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Foreword by the President of the Foundation Sunflowers

Dear Friends, Supporters and Followers of the Project Sunflowers,

It is with great pleasure and much pride we are presenting the 1st activity report of the Foundation Sunflowers. Last year was an absolutely momentous year for the Foundation! Mainly because we waited (as much as) several months (!) to get the Foundation registered. The Foundation, which was already established in July 2022 by the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, was finally registered *nomen omen* on 24 February 2023, exactly on the first anniversary of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine.

The annual report on the activities of the Foundation Sunflowers contains a concise overview of the hard work of our team in the past year. It is an overview of the key activities at the national and international level around which our work focused on collecting information on international crimes committed in Ukraine and on people affected by the war in Ukraine, as well as in popularizing issues related to international criminal law, humanitarian law, migration law, human rights and the rights of victims of armed conflicts.



In less than a year of existence, we have managed to launch a highly specialised app that meets the highest standards in terms of security of data transfer to collect information about evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine and about people affected by the ongoing war there. Launching it required months of really intensive work by fantastic developers! However, in order to get the app up and running, we first had to find a server provider that would provide secure storage for the data collected. Not only did we find one, but we were able to use this server for free until the end of 2023!

In order to safely and efficiently collect information based on the app, we have built a network of volunteers in Ukraine and 18 other countries over the past year! We systematically trained our 'sunflower' volunteers to prepare them in the best possible way to interact with people who have experienced war, so as not to deepen their trauma. While looking for volunteers in countries where refugees from Ukraine are staying, we have established a number of institutional contacts, including contacts with NGOs that organise humanitarian aid for refugees. Among our volunteers, there are many young people who have just found the right way of being involved in civic engagement in the Project Sunflowers.

In 2023, as part of the popularisation of international criminal law, humanitarian law, migration law, human rights and the rights of people affected by armed conflicts, we organised 8 webinars and 2 international conferences, inviting world-class experts, representatives of justice authorities from different countries, as well as institutions responsible for preparing reparation programmes for survivors of armed conflicts, academics, representatives of NGOs working with victims of war on a daily basis. As the first, we streamed the documentary 'Freedom on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom', directed by Evgeny Afineevsky, about the genesis of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, and then organised a Q&A session with the director and one of the protagonists of his film.

Our work to support the International Criminal Court in holding the perpetrators of atrocities accountable and repairing the damage caused by these crimes was recognised and just a few months after the Foundation's registration, it became a member of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, the world's largest platform of NGOs from over 150 countries supporting the work of the Court!

The Foundation and its Project Sunflowers have become a recognisable name in just a few months! In these few months of activity, we have raised a total of just over 89,000 PLN, which we have spent on our statutory mandate (operational activities). The entire team of the Foundation Sunflowers, including the Executive Board, founders and volunteers, worked *pro bono*. For their hard work, all of them together and each of them individually, at this point I would like to thank them very much! And you are most welcome to read on!

Eva Hofmanska

President of the Foundation Sunflower

About the Foundation

Foundation Sunflowers was established by the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, prominent lawyers from Poland, Ukraine, Spain and New Zealand. The Project, which sparked the concept of the Foundation Sunflowers, was created spontaneously in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

The Foundation was established by its founders by a notarial deed, Repertory A No. 2381/2022, on 25 July 2022 and registered in Poland, in the District Court of the City of Warsaw-Wola, XIII Economic Department, by a decision with the file number WA.XIII NS-REJ.KRS/55660/22/930 on 24 February 2023 to register the Foundation Sunflowers in the register of foundations.

Headquarters:

Foundation Sunflowers

5/51 Siedmiogrodzka Street

Warsaw (01-204) Poland

Registration:

Registered in the National Court Register (**KRS Number**): **0001019393**

Tax Identification Number (**NIP**): **5273044660**

Foundation Sunflowers performs its activities on the basis of the provisions of the Act of 6 April 1984 on foundations (Journal of Laws of 2023, item 166) and [the Statute of the Foundation](#), established by its founders on 25 July 2022, as amended on 2 February 2023. The founders of the Foundation Sunflowers were individuals and the Association for Legal Intervention.

The Foundation is represented externally and managed by its Executive Board, which in 2023 comprised: Dr Ewa Hofmańska (President), Professor Hanna Kuczyńska, Dr Andriy Kosylo and Dr Mykhaylo Shepitko. The controlling and reviewing body is the Foundation Sunflowers Council, which - in 2023 - was headed by Professor Paweł Wiliński.

Executive Board Members in 2023:

Ewa Hofmańska

Hanna Kuczyńska

Mykhaylo Shepitko

Andriy Kosylo

Foundation Sunflowers is a non-profit and non-governmental organization whose mission is to support efforts to gather information about evidence of international crimes, as well as to support victims of these crimes in their efforts to obtain remedies and repair the damage suffered. In addition, the Foundation aims to increase the legal awareness of the international society in the field of accountability for international crimes and the rights of victims of these crimes. Foundation Sunflowers is exclusively implementing the Project Sunflowers, which is about the war in Ukraine.

Key Achievements

- **Launching an app to collect information on evidence of international crimes and victims of the war in Ukraine**
 - **Obtaining a secure server to store the collected data**
 - **Joining the Coalition for the International Criminal Court**
 - **Expanding the network of volunteers and their training**
- **Dissemination of subjects in the field of international criminal law, humanitarian law, migration law, human rights and rights of persons affected by armed conflicts through systematically organized webinars and international conferences**

Our Mission

The mission of the Project Sunflowers is to support international and national authorities tasked with prosecuting and adjudicating international crimes, legal representatives of victims, and institutions involved in reparations projects for individuals harmed by armed conflicts. Fulfilling this mission is possible through providing mentioned authorities, legal representatives of victims, and institutions with information on evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine and other serious human rights violations, as well as on damages caused by the war in Ukraine.

The collected information is stored in a secure database, created specifically for this purpose, based on voluntarily provided information from potential witnesses of incidents that might be considered as international crimes and victims. By supporting competent international and national law enforcement agencies, international tribunals tasked with prosecuting perpetrators of these crimes, as well as domestic courts, and institutions involved in reparations programs for individuals harmed by war, the Project Sunflowers contributes to delivering justice to the victims of this war and reinforcing the belief that perpetrators of crimes committed in Ukraine will not escape accountability.

The Project also raises awareness of war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, the crimes of aggression, as well as international humanitarian law, migration law, human rights, and the rights of individuals harmed by armed conflicts.

We implement our mission within the Project by:

- collecting information on evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine since February 24, 2022 and people affected by the war in Ukraine
- expanding the network of volunteers who are the first contact persons with potential witnesses, victims and survivors of the Russian-Ukrainian war
- training of volunteers, preparing them for contact with people affected by war
- organizing open webinars and conferences where legal and social aspects of armed conflicts, including the war in Ukraine, are discussed
- promoting the idea of volunteering as a form of civic engagement in socially important matters
- active participation in national and international conferences, as well as in meetings of non-governmental organizations aimed at helping victims and survivors of the Russian-Ukrainian war.



How We Achieved Our Mission

- **Supporting Efforts to Collect Information on Evidence of International Crimes by Establishment of Secure Database Infrastructure**

In 2023, we completed work on our app (database), which is ready for use as intended. Through collaboration with a specialized IT company, we were able to develop a secure tool that collects information on evidence of crimes and individuals harmed according to the objectives of our Project. We use a secure server to store data from the app. With the assistance of a legal firm, we have adapted our procedures and implemented actions aimed not only at protecting the information processed by us technically but also with respect for the protection of personal data (in accordance with GDPR). In connection with the launch of the database, we conducted training sessions on its functionality for the Project team members and volunteers.

The Foundation launched the app on 12 of December 2023. As of 31 December 2023, the database contains 5 entries

In 2023, a [Compliance Report](#) was prepared on the Foundation Sunflowers' implementation of the Guidelines developed by the Joint Investigation Team for civil society organisations that collect information on international crimes and other human rights violations for accountability purposes.

- **Strategic Alliance with the Coalition for the ICC**

In October, we joined the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (ICC). The Foundation Sunflowers is the first and only Polish non-governmental organization affiliated with the Coalition for the ICC.

Joining the Coalition for the ICC was vital for us as this global network of NGOs and civil society organizations advocates for the effectiveness and universality of the ICC, in alignment with our core values of human rights, the rule of law, and justice. By partnering with the Coalition, we aim to achieve tangible results and drive systemic change in the pursuit of global justice for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

- **Strengthening Collaborative Networks: Partnerships with NGOs**

At the Foundation Sunflowers, we recognize the immense value of building alliances and working in partnership with other NGOs. We understand that collaboration is essential for coherence, effectiveness, and achieving a greater impact in our mission for global justice. By joining forces with like-minded organizations, we amplify our efforts, leverage expertise, and pool resources to tackle complex challenges in the realm of human rights and international justice. Through strategic partnerships, we strive for synergy, innovation, and collective action to bring about positive change on a global, regional and local scale.

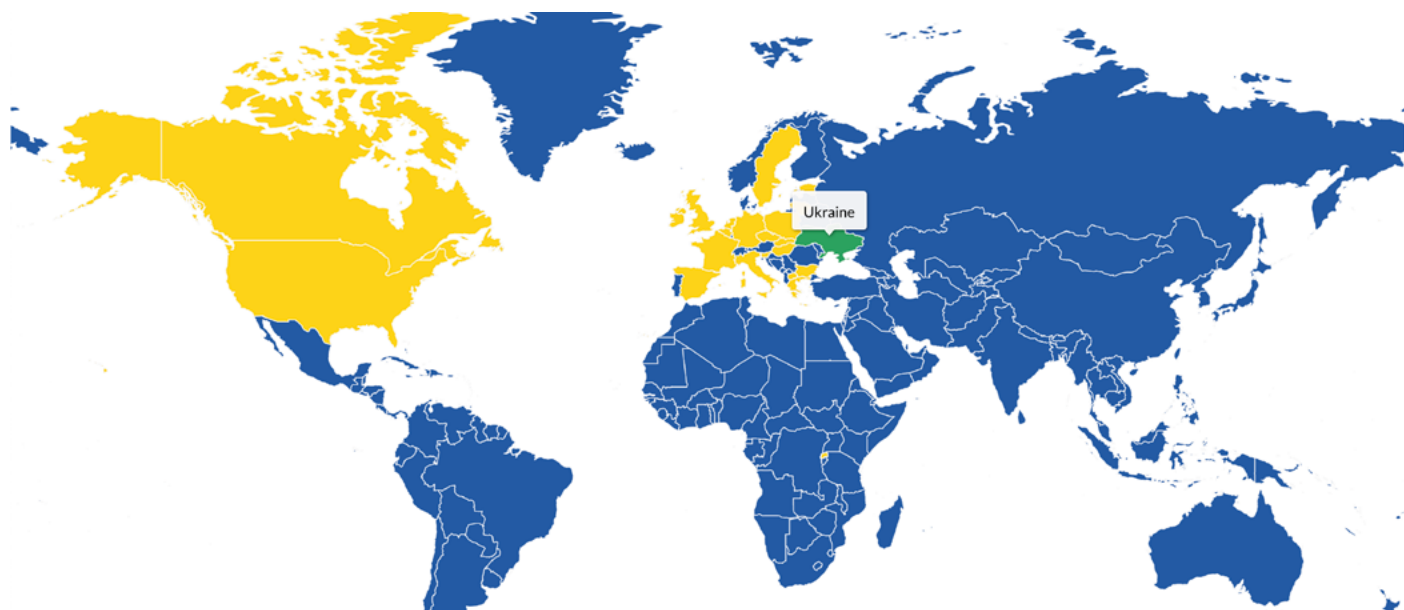


Supporting Victims of International Crimes in Obtaining Remedies and Reparation

Mapping of psychological support centers

With the kind assistance of cooperating NGOs, the Project team initiated the mapping of specialized psychological support centers in Poland, Ukraine and Hungary for individuals affected by the war in Ukraine.

The current map of such centers is available at the following link: <https://www.projectsunflowers.org/volunteers>



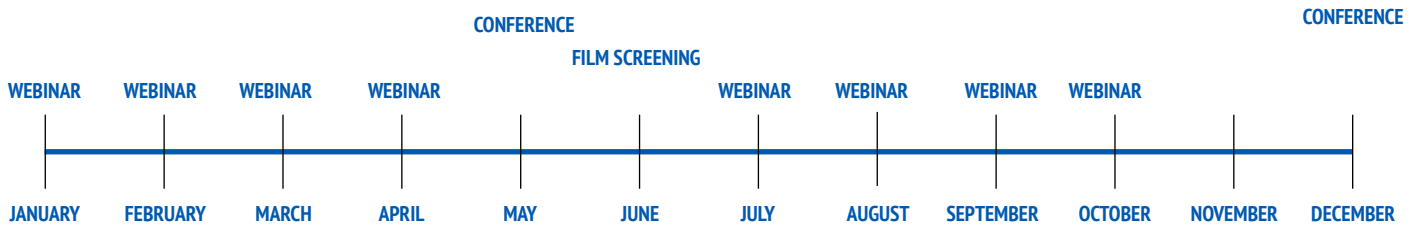
Increasing Public Legal Awareness of Human Rights Protection, Responsibility for International Crimes and Victims' Rights

Webinars

In 2023, the Project organized eight webinars, each addressing crucial topics in the realm of international law and justice. These webinars served as invaluable platforms for knowledge-sharing, discussion, and collaboration among experts, practitioners, and stakeholders. By convening these sessions, the Project aimed to deepen understanding, foster dialogue, and promote engagement on issues ranging from the admissibility of evidence in war crimes proceedings to the healing role of reparative justice. These webinars facilitated interdisciplinary exchange and contributed to the advancement of legal discourse and advocacy efforts in pursuit of global justice and accountability.

All webinars were simultaneously translated into Ukrainian. Recordings of the webinars are available at the following link: <https://www.projectsunflowers.org/webinars/>

Webinars Timeline



[Click on each graphic to watch the webinar](#)



January 30: Role of the Trust Fund for Victims of the International Criminal Court and Reparations for Victims of Armed Conflicts

Introduction: **Marina Lostal, Ph.D.** - the University of Essex, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers and a member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

Keynote speech: **Franziska Eckelmans**, Executive Director of the Trust Fund for Victims of the ICC

Speakers: **Adeline Bedoucha**, Cheikh Fall and Tars van Litsenbourg - legal officers at the TFV of the ICC

The webinar delved into the multifaceted aspects of reparations for victims of armed conflicts, emphasizing the role of the Trust Fund for Victims and practical considerations in working with victims. Various reparation cases, including those of Al Mahdi and Katanga, were explored, shedding light on the complexities of victim communication, managing expectations, and the importance of seeing victims as individuals. Flexibility emerged as a crucial factor in addressing the evolving needs of victims, with a focus on building trust through ongoing contact.



February 28: Admissibility of Exercising Jurisdiction by the International Criminal Court

Introduction: **Natalia Shuklina** - the National School for Judges of Ukraine

Moderator: **Prof. Paweł Wiliński**, judge of the Criminal Chamber of the Polish Supreme Court, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, Chairman of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

Speakers: **Prof. Karolina Wierczyńska** and **Prof. Hanna Kuczyńska** – both professors of the Polish Academy of Sciences, moreover, professor Hanna Kuczyńska is a member of the Executive Board of the Foundation Sunflowers

The session delved into the concept of complementarity and its implications for global justice, discussing criteria for assessing state action and the practical procedure by which the ICC Prosecutor determines whether complementarity should prohibit prosecution before the ICC. The speakers critically analyzed the criteria of complementarity and its assessment at different stages of ICC proceedings, addressing challenges to the admissibility of a case and the issue of national immunities.



March 28: Practical Aspects of Admissibility and Evaluation of Evidence in War Crimes Trials

Moderator: **Anna Adamska-Gallant, Ph.D.** - head of the Judiciary Component of the EU Pravo Justice Project in Ukraine, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

Speakers: **Prof. Bartłomiej Krzan** – the University in Wrocław, Dariusz Sielicki Ph.D. - former international judge in Kosovo and Klaus Hoffman. advisor to the Ukrainian General Prosecutor's Office on the prosecution of war crimes

The webinar discussed the history and development of rules of evidence before international criminal courts, practical problems of admitting evidence in cases of international crimes, and issues related to the admissibility of evidence in core crimes trials.



April 25: Deportation of Ukrainians during the Russian-Ukrainian War

Introduction: **Olha Sribniak** - the EU Pravo-Justice Project, and Iwan Bałakliczkij - the National School of Justice

Moderator: **Professor Mykhaylo Shepitko** - Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, member of the Executive Board of the Foundation Sunflowers

Speakers: **Professor Michael Bazylar** - the Fowler School of Law, Los Angeles, the United States, and **Oksana Senatorova, Ph.D.** - coordinator of the Working Group on the Protection of Victims of Armed Conflict of the Interdepartmental Commission on Implementation of IHL in Ukraine, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers and member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

An informative session was held on the deportation of Ukrainians during the Russian-Ukrainian War. The webinar discussed the forced transfer of children as an act of genocide and its prosecution at the Nuremberg trials. It also addressed the factual situation of the deportation and forcible transfer of Ukrainian citizens, legal regulations prohibiting deportation, Ukraine's response to these deportations, and recommendations.



July 20: Environmental Harm in Ukraine and the Crime of Ecocide

Moderator: **Professor Paweł Wiliński**, judge of the Criminal Chamber at the Polish Supreme Court, one of the initiators and the Chairman of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

Speaker: **Matthew Gillett, Ph.D.** - the University of Essex, one of the initiators and a member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

This webinar discussed definitions of ecocide found in literature, challenges in proving such crimes, and types of evidence required.



September 20: The Crime of Aggression before the ICC

Moderator: **Professor Hanna Kuczyńska** – the Polish Academy of Sciences, member of the Executive Board of the Foundation Sunflowers

Speaker: **Professor Patrycja Grzebyk** - the University of Warsaw, Poland

The session addressed several critical issues: the challenges in initiating ICC jurisdiction over the crime of aggression, the role of the UN Security Council, accountability for the crime of aggression, and its relationship with other international crimes under the Rome Statute.



October 30: Massive Trauma and the Healing Role of Restorative Justice

Moderator: **Marina Lostal, Ph.D.** - the University of Essex, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers and a member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

Speakers: **Yael Danieli, Ph.D.** - Senior Representative to the United Nations of the International Center for the study, prevention and treatment of Multi-Generational Legacies of Trauma; and **Philipp Ambach, Ph.D.** - Chief of the Victims Participation and Reparations Section of the International Criminal Court

This webinar emphasized the need for a multi-dimensional, multi-disciplinary, integrative framework for understanding and engaging with victims/survivors of massive trauma and its aftermath. It described how victims/survivors, their families, and communities are affected by mass atrocities, focusing on their reactions, concerns, and needs for reparative justice from a psychosocial perspective. Reparative justice was discussed as a necessary component of post-trauma healing processes, highlighting its ongoing relationship with victims/survivors and the importance of both outcome and process in their experience of justice. The webinar also examined victims/survivors' actual experiences within the international criminal justice system.



November 14: Join the ICC as an Independent Legal Counsel

Speaker: **Pieter Vanaverbeke** - Chief of the Counsel Support Section of the International Criminal Court

Moderator: **Mikołaj Pietrzak**, dean of the Varsovian Bar Association, one of the initiators of the Project Sunflowers, member of the Foundation Sunflowers Council

This webinar focused on encouraging lawyers to join the ICC as independent legal counsel. The session covered the comprehensive services provided by the Counsel Support Section (CSS), including the implementation of the ICC's Legal Aid Policy, logistical and administrative support to Counsel, and the management of legal aid programs for indigent defendants and victims. The webinar also highlighted CSS's role in interacting with universities and external stakeholders to raise awareness about the Court's work and its ongoing training initiatives for Counsel.

Conferences

Organizing two conferences served as a pivotal step in our commitment to fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange on critical issues surrounding international criminal justice and humanitarian law. These conferences provided a platform for experts, practitioners, and stakeholders to convene, share insights, and explore solutions to pressing challenges faced in addressing armed conflicts and atrocities. By facilitating these gatherings, we aimed to promote greater awareness, understanding, and collaboration in advancing justice, accountability, and support for victims of war crimes and human rights abuses. Such forums are indispensable in fostering a collective response to the complex and evolving landscape of international law, ensuring that our efforts are informed, coordinated, and impactful in pursuit of a more just and peaceful world.

19 May 2023
Friday

Zoom

AGENDA

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:
BRINGING JUSTICE FOR UKRAINE.
CRIME OF AGGRESSION, WAR CRIMES,
CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, GENOCIDE**

<p>09:00 – 09:30 Introductory words</p> <p>Prof. Piotr Hofmański, president of the International Criminal Court Dr. Michał Łaskowski, president of the Supreme Court Criminal Chamber (Poland) Dr. Stanislav Kravchenko, chairman of the Criminal Court of Cassation as part of the Supreme Court (Ukraine) Dr. Gabija Grigaliute-Draugirdė, Deputy Minister of Justice, Lithuania; Dr. Gabriele Jusdaitė-Grankšienė, President of the Supreme Court, Criminal Chamber, Lithuania Prof. Yuri Beulin, president of Ukrainian Section of AIDP Prof. Paweł Wiliński, president of Polish Section of AIDP</p> <p>09:30 – 11:00 Panel 1: Crimes Committed in Ukraine</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Serhiy Fomina, judge of the Criminal Court of Cassation as part of the Supreme Court (Ukraine)</p> <p>Crime of Aggression and Conflict in Ukraine Prof. Patrycja Graczyk, University of Warsaw</p> <p>War Crimes Committed in Ukraine Prof. Kostiantyn Zadoia, Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University (Ukraine) Prof. Mykhaylo Shepitko, Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Ukraine)</p> <p>Crimes against Humanity in Ukraine Prof. Hanna Kuczyńska, Institute of Legal Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences (Poland)</p> <p>Possibility of Prosecution for Genocide Prof. Viacheslav Tulikovsky, National University «Odesa Law Academy» (Ukraine)</p> <p>11:15 – 12:45 Panel 2: National Prosecution and Universal Jurisdiction</p> <p>Moderator: rof. Małgorzata Wiśnik Właderek, judge of the Supreme Court (Poland)</p>	<p>Regaining Justice for Ukraine: National and International Instruments Dr. Anna Adamska-Gallant, EU Project Pravo-Justice in Ukraine (Poland)</p> <p>Prosecuting Crimes Committed in Ukraine by Ukrainian Legal System. Case study of current trials Zera Kozhyeva, Truth Hounds, experienced prosecutor of General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine (Ukraine)</p> <p>Collecting Information of Evidence of Crimes Committed in Ukraine for Future Criminal Trials Dr. Ewa Hofmańska, Sunflowers Project (Poland)</p> <p>Universal Jurisdiction and prosecution of crimes committed in Ukraine. Mapping programme Anya Heystat, Clooney Foundation for Justice (USA)</p> <p>13:00 – 14:30 Panel 3: International Prosecution of Crimes</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Oksana Senatorova, Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Ukraine)</p> <p>Universality and effectiveness of the International Criminal Court Prof. David Donat Cattan, Parliamentarians for Global Action (USA)</p> <p>Prosecuting for crimes committed in Ukraine by International Criminal Court Prof. Matthew Gilbert, University of Essex (UK)</p> <p>Creation of International Criminal Tribunal for Ukraine (ICTU) Ambassador-at-large Anton Korymnych, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ukraine)</p> <p>International or Hybrid Criminal Court for Ukraine (ICCU). Legal Boundaries for establishing a special Court Prof. Paweł Wiliński, judge of the Supreme Court of Poland, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland)</p> <p>14:30 – 15:00 Closing remarks</p> <p>Resolution of the Members of the Conference</p>
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Bringing Justice for Ukraine: Crime of Aggression, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, Genocide

On May 19, 2023, the conference “Bringing Justice for Ukraine: Crime of Aggression, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, Genocide” was held virtually on the Zoom platform.

The conference aimed to foster discussions among Ukrainian and Polish lawyers, accompanied by international criminal law experts, regarding practical approaches to holding perpetrators of crimes committed in Ukraine accountable.

Organized by the Polish group of AIDP (International Association of Penal Law), the Ukrainian group of AIDP, the EU Pravo-Justice Project, and the Project Sunflowers, the conference was opened to the public and conducted in English, with simultaneous translation into Ukrainian provided.

<https://reportwarcrime.org/conference-bringing-justice-for-ukraine/>



**LEGAL AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES
OF CRIMES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN UKRAINE**
International Scientific Conference on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention
on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide

INVITATION

We cordially invite you to participate in the Conference, which will take place on
December 14, 2023 in Warsaw
at the Kazimierz Palace
in the Senate Hall of the University of Warsaw
Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28

Legal and Social Consequences of International Crimes Committed in Ukraine

On December 14, 2023, the conference on Legal and Social Consequences of International Crimes Committed in Ukraine was convened online by the Project Sunflowers, in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

The event provided a platform for participants to delve into discussions surrounding the legal and social ramifications of international crimes in Ukraine. Organized in collaboration with various partners, the conference aimed to foster dialogue, raise awareness, and explore pathways towards accountability and justice.

<https://reportwarcrime.org/legal-and-social-consequences-of-crimes-of-international-law-in-ukraine/>

Partners:

International Crimes Studies Center of the University of Warsaw
Centre for Criminological Analysis of the University of Warsaw
Department of Criminology and Criminal Policy of the University of Warsaw
Institute of Social Prevention and Resocialization of the University of Warsaw
Faculty of Applied Social Sciences and Resocialization of the University of Warsaw
International Association of Penal Law (AIDP) Polish Section,
EU Pravo-Justice Project
Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group

Film screening



On June 21, 2023, Project Sunflowers and the EU Pravo-Justice Project hosted the online streaming of the documentary "Freedom on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom," directed by **Evgeny Afineevsky**. The movie, which premiered at the 79th Venice Film Festival and received accolades at the Toronto International Film Festival and other prestigious events, provided a gripping portrayal of Ukraine's struggle for freedom and dignity.

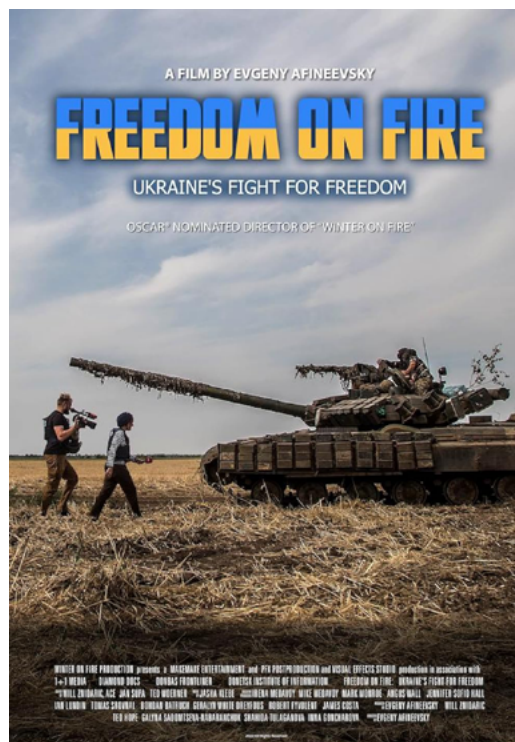
Directed by Evgeny Afineevsky, known for his previous Oscar and Emmy-nominated work "Winter on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom," the film offered a firsthand account of the conflicts unfolding in Ukraine. Shot in less than six months with additional editing completed in just three months, the production team worked tirelessly to capture the essence of Ukraine's fight for freedom.

The screening was a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by ordinary people amidst the chaos of war. Through the eyes of children, parents, soldiers, doctors, volunteers, journalists, and civilians, the film depicted the harrowing realities faced by those caught in the midst of conflict.

Following the screening, Evgeny Afineevsky participated in a Q&A session, providing insights into the making of the film, its characters, and its underlying message. The event provided a platform for viewers to engage with the director and gain a deeper understanding of the narrative portrayed on screen.

By shedding light on the untold stories of Ukraine's struggle for freedom, "Freedom on Fire" underscored the importance of preserving human dignity and striving for peace in the face of adversity.

<https://reportwarcrime.org/freedom-of-fire-ukraines-fight-for-freedom/>

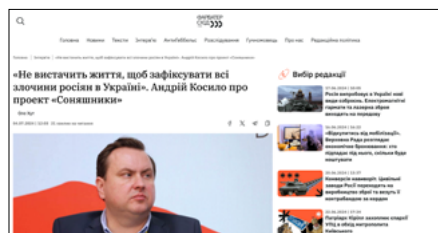


Media Outreach

At Project Sunflowers, we recognize the pivotal role of promotion and media outreach in advancing our mission of advocating for justice, humanitarian values, and peace. We are delighted to announce that throughout 2023, we engaged in a series of media articles and interviews aimed at raising awareness and fostering dialogue on critical issues within our sphere of influence. We are pleased to share the culmination of these endeavors, providing valuable insights and perspectives accessible to all through the collection of media articles and interviews available here: <https://www.projectsunflowers.org/press-office/>

What is more, in connection with the launch of our application, the Foundation's Executive Board organized two press conferences. These press conferences played a crucial role in advancing our mission by effectively disseminating information about our initiatives and fostering dialogue with journalists from both Poland and Ukraine, as well as English-speaking media outlets.

The partnership with the informational portal [Prawo.pl](https://prawo.pl) underscores the effectiveness of our media outreach efforts, demonstrating our ability to secure valuable media partnerships to disseminate news about the project.



Promotion and Organization of Voluntary Work

The work of our Project relies heavily on the dedication and contribution of volunteers from around the globe, whose tireless efforts form the backbone of our initiatives. We deeply appreciate the invaluable support and commitment of each volunteer and extend our heartfelt gratitude to them for their unwavering dedication. Their selfless contributions play a pivotal role in advancing our mission and making a meaningful impact in the communities we serve.

Volunteers network

In 2023, we successfully built a network of the Project Sunflowers volunteers (40 people) in 19 countries, where the largest groups of refugees from Ukraine reside. It is thanks to them that we can establish contact with individuals who have information about evidence of crimes and destruction in Ukraine. Additionally, the Foundation's Executive Board recruited nine administrative volunteers, whose work enables the daily functioning of the Project.

Volunteers trainings

Throughout the year, training sessions were organized for the Project volunteers. These trainings were comprehensive, aiming to prepare volunteers to assist individuals in depositing information using the app and to teach volunteers how to conduct conversations with traumatized individuals in a way that does not exacerbate their trauma. Psychological support training were conducted in collaboration with psychologists and psychotherapists from Poland and the United States.



Become a Supporter

Joining our cause is simple yet impactful. By becoming a supporter of the Foundation Sunflowers, you contribute directly to our mission of enabling justice through information. Your support empowers us to continue our efforts in advocating for victims of international crimes and promoting human rights. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those affected by armed conflicts. Learn more about how you can become involved below.

To support our mission, in 2023 you had three options:

1. Direct donation to our Foundation's BANKING ACCOUNT.

Santander Bank Polska S.A.
IBAN: PL52 1090 1056 0000 0001 5383 7520
SWIFT: WBKPPLPP

2. Contribution through the crowdsourcing platform [POMAGAM.PL](https://pomagam.pl)

pomagam.pl/en/sunflowers

(this option is discontinued in 2024)



3. Our partner, OMNIS, specializes in providing material support to families affected by the war in Ukraine, as well as aiding hospitals and orphanages. Utilizing OMNIS not only supports crucial humanitarian efforts directly but also offers an added benefit: for Americans, contributions made through OMNIS can be eligible for tax deductions.

www.projectsunflowers.org/partnership-with-omnis-foundation/

<https://omnisfoundation.org/>

omnisfoundation.org/project-sunflowers