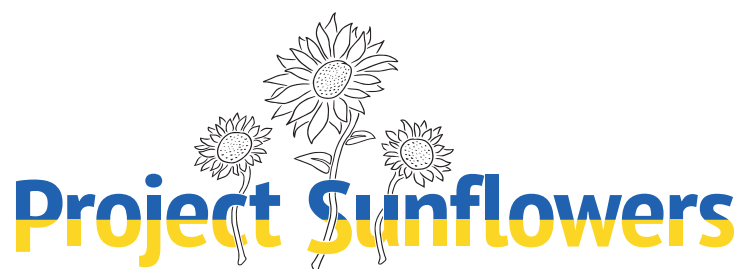


ENABLING INFORMATION, ENABLING JUSTICE
Foundation Sunflowers Annual Report
for the year 2024



Written by Ewa Hofmańska
Graphics by Maciej Trojanowski

Warsaw 2025

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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 joy that I present to you the second annual report on the activities of the Foundation Sunflowers, which I have the honor and privilege to lead as the President of its Executive Board.

The annual report on the activities of the Foundation contains a concise overview of the hard work of our team in the past year. It is the 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 conflict. This comprehensive report stands as undeniable proof that when one is determined to help, they do so even in the absence of financial resources. The creators of the Project Sunflowers, who are also the benefactors of the Foundation Sunflowers, alongside a vast network of volunteers and supporters, dedicate themselves selflessly to the mission of the Project, firmly believing that together, we are building a better world!

Thanks to the information-gathering app we launched in December 2023, we have collected dozens of records!

The process of gathering such data is painstaking, spanning many years and requiring extraordinary patience. However, it is a necessity—ensuring that the perpetrators of atrocities happened in Ukraine do not escape justice and that the damages inflicted by war are duly compensated. Over the past year, the Foundation organized seven webinars and one international conference featuring distinguished experts in international criminal law, human rights, including the rights of victims of armed conflict, and humanitarian law. A post-conference report was produced, offering recommendations to the Polish government regarding the framework of a new regulation on universal jurisdiction and a holistic program to ensure proper care for potential witnesses of international crimes committed in Ukraine and victims of the war who are currently residing in Poland. The Foundation has been officially recognized on the list of organizations collaborating with the (Polish) Ministry of Justice. For the first time, we hosted workshops on universal jurisdiction for Polish lawyers and civil society organizations. Additionally, we established formal cooperation with the Polish National Prosecutor's Office and the Register of Damages for Ukraine—entities deeply interested in the information we collect on international crimes committed in Ukraine and the destruction wrought by war. We trained new volunteers to equip them with the skills necessary to communicate with and support individuals suffering from war-related trauma, helping them recognize symptoms and encouraging those affected to seek professional assistance. We also expanded the reach of the Project Sunflowers to three additional countries. Our efforts continued with the distribution of informational leaflets outlining the process of depositing evidence in our database regarding international crimes committed in Ukraine, their victims, and the scope of inflicted damages. Since last year, the Foundation has been an active member of the Victims' Rights Working Group, established by the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), which we formally joined in October 2023. Furthermore, the Foundation is a founding member of the Polish Coalition for Victims, Survivors, and Witnesses (KOOS), created to advocate for the rights of those who have endured the consequences of the war in Ukraine, as well as witnesses to international crimes committed there. We have undertaken extensive advocacy efforts to draw the international community's attention to the urgent need for collective action in the pursuit of justice, as well as the pressing necessity of providing comprehensive support to war victims in Ukraine. In 2024, for the first time in our history, we introduced the distinguished status of Ambassador of the Foundation and Partner of the Foundation. Our first Ambassador is Professor Piotr Hofmański, an eminent Polish jurist, Judge of the Supreme Court (1995- 2015), Judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC) from 2015 to 2024, and its President from 2021 to 2024. The esteemed Partners of the Foundation now include the National Bar of Legal Advisors (KIRP), Wolters Kluwer Poland, and the Kraków Center for International Criminal Justice at the Jagiellonian University. Also in 2024, we launched our first-ever 1.5% tax donation campaign in support of the Project Sunflowers. Although we have yet to obtain public benefit organization status (which requires two years of prior activity), we conducted the campaign in partnership with the Association for Legal Intervention, one of the Foundation's benefactors.

Over the past year, the Foundation received a total of 50,396.22 PLN. This sum was composed of donations from our Partners and the Wardynski & Partners law firm, as well as funds raised through our crowdfunding campaign, which continued into early 2024, and individual contributions made via the Project Sunflowers website.

The Foundation's expenditures amounted to 57,647.11 PLN, of which over two-thirds were allocated to maintaining a secure database. The remainder of our annual expenditures covered the next installment payment for the development of our information-gathering app, as well as bank fees, new website hosting, and the preparation of our 2023 financial report. It is essential to emphasize that the entire team of the Foundation Sunflowers—including the Executive Board, benefactors, and volunteers—worked entirely on a *pro bono* basis. For their tireless dedication, I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of them!

I now invite you to explore the full report.

Ewa Hofmańska

President of the Foundation Sunflowers Executive Board



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 2024 comprised:

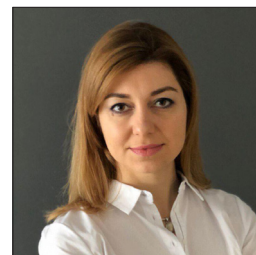
Executive Board Members in 2024:



Dr Ewa Hofmańska
(President)



Prof Hanna Kuczyńska
(until December)



Dr Yevheniia Bondarenko
(from December)



Dr Andriy Kosylo



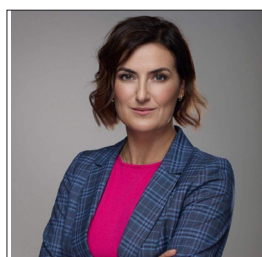
Dr Mykhaylo Shepitko
(until February)

About the Foundation

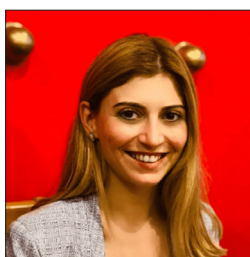
The controlling and reviewing body is the Foundation Sunflowers Council, which - in 2024 - was headed by Professor Paweł Wiliński.



Prof Paweł Wiliński



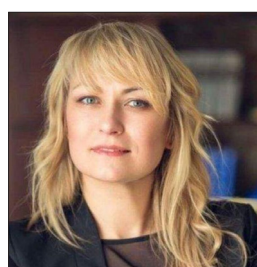
Dr Anna Adamska-Gallant



Dr Marina Lostal



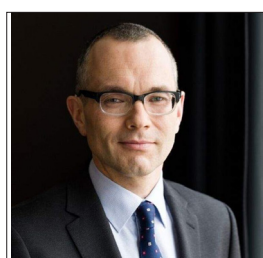
Natalia Klima-Piotrowska



Dr Oksana Senatorova



Dr Matthew Gillet



Mikołaj Pietrzak



Professor Witold Klaus

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

- **Collection of information on evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine and on victims of the war based on the app**
 - **Maintenance of a secure database**
- **Raising awareness of the legal and social consequences of the war in Ukraine by systematically organising webinars and training for professionals**
- **Organising a conference to launch a discussion in Poland on the activation of universal jurisdiction in the context of the war in Ukraine and the development by the Polish authorities of a holistic programme to take care of potential witnesses and victims of the war in Ukraine**
 - **Strengthening the network with research centres**

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 these actors 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 victims of armed conflict.



How we implemented the Project Sunflowers mission in 2024

Thanks to the specialized app launched in December 2023, we have been gathering information on evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine, as well as on the victims and damages suffered as a result of the war. However, the process of collecting such information has its own dynamics. We make every effort to ensure that those who wish to contribute to the Sunflower Database do so voluntarily and with full awareness. To encourage potential witnesses and survivors to deposit their testimonies, last year we conducted an information campaign aimed at encouraging affected individuals to share their knowledge. As part of this initiative, several thousand leaflets were distributed, primarily in countries hosting Ukrainian war refugees. Additionally, through media outreach, we provided instructions on how to use our app.

We also trained new Sunflower volunteers to develop the skills necessary to listen and engage with individuals affected by war trauma in a way that does not deepen their distress. As a result, dozens of records have been registered in the database, and a significantly larger number of users have logged into the app. We continue to await the deposition of their information, in line with our established principle that each user who logs in has as much time as they need to respond to the questions in the form.



Project Sunflowers Promotional Video

● ЯК ЗАПОВНИТИ ФОРМУ?

Щоб успішно повідомити про події і/або шкоду:

1. Перейдіть на сторінку www.projectsunflowers.org
2. Натисніть на червону кнопку:
3. Заповніть заявку, щоб зв'язатися з волонтером Проекту Sunflowers
4. Протягом 3-х днів з Вами зв'яжеться волонтер. Він надасть Вам посилання для активації формуляру. Активаційне посилання буде дійсне 3 дні, тобто протягом цього часу Ви повинні увійти в формуляр. Можете заповнити формуляр самотужки або ж звернутися до волонтера Проекту для отримання безкоштовної допомоги в заповненні формуляру.

Поки формуляр не буде надіслано, Ви можете редагувати його скільки завгодно разів.

5. Висилаючи формуляр Ви отримуете підтвердження щодо його отримання.

ПАРТНЕРИ

ENABLING INFORMATION

ENABLING JUSTICE

www.projectsunflowers.org

● ПРО ПРОЄКТ

Проєкт Sunflowers - це міжнародний проєкт, створений видатними юристами, в тому числі й українськими, у відповідь на потребу збору інформації про злочини, скоєні на території України та їх жертв.

Зібрана інформація створить базу даних, яка згодом буде надана прокурорам, які розслідують злочини, скоєні в Україні, в тому числі Прокурору Міжнародного кримінального суду (а також іншим міжнародним трибуналам, в тому числі трибуналу з питань агресії або гібридному трибуналу, якщо вони будуть створені), національним судам країн, які розглядатимуть справи щодо цих злочинів, в тому числі українським судам. Інформація про постраждалих осіб також буде передана міжнародним та національним інституціям, які будуть реалізувати програми відшкодування шкоди жертвам війни в Україні.

Пам'ятайте...

безпека Ваших даних є нашим пріоритетом! Відтак ніхто, окрім компетентних органів, не матиме доступ до ваших даних та інформації, яку Ви нам передали.

● АПЛІКАЦІЙНА ФОРМА

Чим більше інформації про докази злочинів, тим більше шансів покарати винних!

Якщо Ви володієте інформацією про події та докази злочинів, скоєних в Україні після 24 лютого 2022 р. або Вам завдано шкоди внаслідок таких злочинів, просимо поділитися нею з нами. Формуляр, за допомогою якого Проєкт Sunflowers збирає таку інформацію:

- заповнюється добровільно та в будь-який час (Ви самі вирішуєте чи та коли це робити)
- його можна заповнити в будь-який час та навіть відкликати згоду на передачу даних до компетентних органів (Ви самі вирішуєте яку інформацію та в якому обсязі Ви бажаєте передати)
- формуляр можна заповнити лише онлайн (це зменшує ризики фізичного знищення чи пошкодження формуляру)
- формуляр можна заповнити самостійно (для цього ми подбали про інтерактивні інструкції) або Ви можете зв'язатися з нашими волонтерами, які нададуть Вам безкоштовну допомогу з заповненням даного формуляру (наші волонтери навчені цьому, Ваші дані нікому не будуть передані)
- Ви можете доповнити інформацію фотографіями або відео (звільнивши місце в телефоні або комп'ютері)

Пам'ятайте, що надсилання заповненого формуляру не означає, що у майбутньому Ви будете свідком у провадженні. Про те, хто виступатиме в якості свідка перед судом вирішує орган, якому буде передана ця інформація.

Інформація про збитки пришвидшить підготовку програм відшкодування жертвам війни в Україні. Чим більше інформації про тип та розмір шкоди, тим більший шанс оптимізації програм відшкодування!

● КОНТАКТ

Якщо у Вас є запитання, які стосуються Проєкту Sunflowers, задайте його нам на електронну адресу:

 contact@projectsunflowers.org

Ви також можете задати нам питання на наших сторінках у соцмережах:

 [projectsunflowers](https://www.linkedin.com/company/projectsunflowers)

 [theprojectsunflowers](https://www.facebook.com/theprojectsunflowers)

Проєкт Sunflowers створений фондом Sunflowers, який зареєстрований у Варшаві, Польща, 24 лютого 2023 р., номер KRS 0001019393.

Thanks to our efforts, in 2024, three more countries joined us in implementing the Project Sunflowers. We signed additional declarations of cooperation with civil society organizations and leading academic institutions. Through these endeavors, we have strengthened the network of entities committed to advancing the mission of the Project Sunflowers.



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. On Sunflower social media, we conducted a campaign promoting volunteering as a form of civic engagement in a socially significant project. Additionally, we organized meetings with law students from various universities around the world, encouraging them to join us as volunteers. Similar meetings were held with social initiatives from different countries involved in humanitarian aid for Ukrainian refugees.

As a result of these efforts, we have expanded the Sunflower volunteer community! 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.



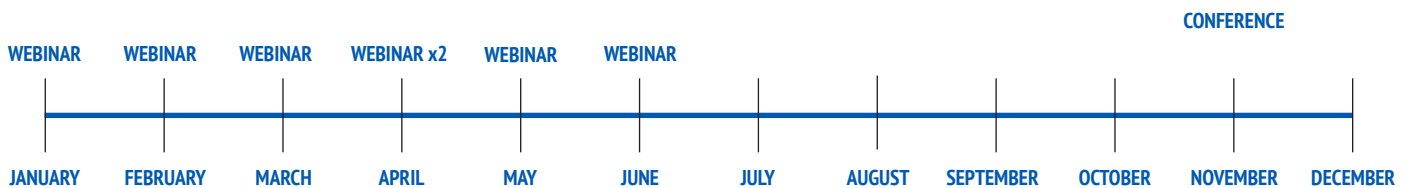
Increasing Public Legal Awareness of Human Rights Protection, Responsibility for International Crimes and Victims' Rights

Webinars

In the Sunflowers Project, we place great emphasis on raising international awareness of the legal and social consequences of the war in Ukraine. We also provide a platform for discussion among experts in international criminal law, humanitarian law, human rights—including the rights of victims of armed conflicts—and migration law.

In 2024, we organized seven webinars and one international conference.

Webinars Timeline



Each webinar addressed 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 Sunflowers 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.

The webinars were translated into Ukrainian thanks to the generosity of the [EU Project Pravo-Justice](#) and the [International Center for MultiGenerational Legacies of Trauma](#), for which we thank them from the bottom of our hearts!



[8 January: Reparative Justice II: Challenges of Listening when Interviewing Traumatized Witnesses](#)

[12 February: Reparative Justice III: Difficulties in Listening to and Hearing Traumatized Witnesses / Victims / Survivors](#)

Project Sunflowers
WEBINAR
 The role and powers of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute of the ICC as the 'Executive' and 'Legislative' organ of the ICC as 'International Organization'
 Monday, 25 March 2024
 6:00 PM CET
SIGN UP

Dr. David Donat Cattin
 Adjunct Associate Professor, Center for Global Affairs, New York University (NYU)

Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi
 Former President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP)



[25 March: The role and powers of the Assembly of States Parties \(ASP\) to the Rome Statute of the ICC as the 'executive' and 'legislative' organ of the ICC as](#)

Project Sunflowers
WEBINAR
 Reparative Justice IV: Challenges of Engaging, Interviewing and Supporting Child victims/survivors/witnesses of War and Terror
 Wednesday, 3 April 2024
 7:00 PM CET
SIGN UP

Mykko Kulka
 Co-founder of Ushahidi Without Orphan Alliance
 Co-founder Head of Secret Ushahidi

Orna Dahan
 Founder of Resilience Unit at the Families Forum of the Apartheid and History

Michelle Stone, PhD
 Professor at the Baruch College School of Psychology
 Yeshiva University, Israel

Oleksia Senotrova, PhD
 Legal and Policy Advisor to Geneva Call Ukraine
 Expert of Council of Europe



[3 April: Reparative Justice IV: Challenges of Engaging, Interviewing and Supporting Child victims / survivors / witnesses of War and Terror](#)

Project Sunflowers
WEBINAR
 War Crimes Prosecution: Lessons from the former Yugoslavia for Ukraine
 Monday, 22 April 2024
 6:00 PM CET
SIGN UP

Ivo Vukusic, PhD
 Assistant Professor in International History at Utrecht University

Andriy Kosylo, PhD
 Adjunct Professor at Institute of Social Prevention and Resocialization and at the Warsaw University

Anna Adamczyk-Gallant, PhD
 Head of the Judiciary Component of EU Prose Justice in Ukraine



[22 April: War Crimes Prosecution: Lessons from the former Yugoslavia for Ukraine](#)

Project Sunflowers
WEBINAR
 In Defence of an Internationalised Tribunal
 Tuesday, 21 May 2024
 6:00 PM CET
SIGN UP

Professor Kevin Jon Heller
 Professor of International Law and Security at the University of Copenhagen's Center for Military Studies

Professor Hanna Kuczyńska
 Member of the Executive Board of Sunflowers Foundation



[21 May: In Defence of an Internationalised Tribunal](#)

Project Sunflowers
WEBINAR
 State immunity and immunities of State officials in times of transformation
 Monday, 24 June 2024
 6:00 PM CET
SIGN UP

Professor Aleksandra Mężykowska
 Associate Professor at the Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Professor Magdalena Matusiak-Fręczak
 Assistant Professor at the University of Lodz, Poland

Professor Anna Wyrzyomska
 President of the Legal Advisory Committee in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland



[24 June: State immunity and immunities of State officials in times of transformation](#)



Conference

Together with the [Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights](#), under the honorary patronage of the Minister of Justice, we organized a conference on accountability for international crimes committed in Ukraine and joint efforts to restore justice.

The conference was supported by the [National Chamber of Legal Advisers](#), [Wolters Kluwer Poland](#), [the Supreme Bar Council](#), [the Coalition for the ICC](#), [the EU Project Pravo-Justice](#), [the Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences](#), [the Opora Foundation](#), [the Polish Center for Torture Survivors](#), and the [Rafał Lemkin Center for Documenting Russian Crimes in Ukraine](#).

The aim of the conference was to initiate discussions on the implementation of universal jurisdiction in Poland in the context of crimes committed in Ukraine and to debate the development of a comprehensive support program for Ukrainian refugees residing in Poland who require immediate medical, psychological, social, and legal assistance.

Shortly after the conference, a [report](#) prepared for the Minister of Justice was published with recommendations on the shape of a new regulation on universal jurisdiction and a programme for the Polish authorities to take care of resident (potential) witnesses in cases of crimes committed in Ukraine.

<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>ORGANISERS: HELSINKI FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, Project Sunflowers PATRONAT HONOROWY: Ministerstwo Sprawiedliwości</p> </div> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMES COMMITTED IN UKRAINE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JOINT EFFORTS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">13 NOVEMBER 2024, WARSAW, POLAND</p> <p>The conference, hosted by Poland, is an opportunity to bring together Polish, Ukrainian and international policymakers, legal experts, academics, and civil society organisations (CSOs) to take stock and discuss the importance of domesticating international criminal law to fight impunity for international crimes committed by the Russian Federation armed forces in Ukraine. The aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance coordination of accountability initiatives in Poland and with other European actors. • Reflect on necessary policy change and capacity building in Poland to increase the effectiveness of these initiatives, comparing experiences from other countries where international crimes are prosecuted before domestic courts. • Promote a holistic approach to ensuring the rights of the victims and survivors. <p>Poland, as a country bordering Ukraine and hosting nearly one million refugees, has taken action to fight the impunity of the perpetrators of international crimes committed in Ukraine. In 2022, the Office of the Polish Prosecutor General initiated criminal proceedings concerning Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and war crimes committed in the context of the war. The purpose is to support investigations conducted by the International Criminal Court (ICC), the Ukrainian justice system, and European countries that exercise universal jurisdiction. Civil society organisations in Poland have also documented violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL) to support access to justice and reparations for the survivors.</p> <p>At the same time, Poland faces challenges that must be addressed to ensure more effective investigation and prosecution of international crimes. The challenges are legal (e.g., related to exercising universal jurisdiction, developing a methodology of investigating international crimes) and practical (e.g., implementing standards to prevent re-victimization in collecting evidence and developing guidelines to ensure victims and survivors can access medical and psycho-social assistance).</p> <p>The conference participants will be asked to share their knowledge and expertise to inform solutions to both challenges. Two panels will focus on the legal aspects, and two panels will examine the needs and rights of the survivors.</p> <p>The conference's language is English, and simultaneous translation (Ukrainian, Polish) will be provided. The participants will represent the legal profession from Poland, Ukraine, and other European countries, as well as international institutions, academia, and civil society organisations. The number of participants is 70.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The venue is the National Prosecutor's Office at ul. Postępu 3 in Warsaw.</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  <p>CO-ORGANISERS: INP PAN, onopc, Centrum Dokumentacji Zbrodni Represji w Ukrainie, Pravo-Justice, COALITION PERMANENT COURT, ADRIANOWICZ KULTURA POLSKA, PATRONAT MEDIALNY, Wolters Kluwer</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <p>AGENDA - 13 November</p> <p>REGISTRATION: 08.30 – 09.00</p> <p>OPENING 09.00 – 09.30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister of Justice of Poland, Adam Bodnar - Office of the Prosecutor's General of Ukraine (tbc) - President of the Board, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Maciej Nowicki - President of the Foundation Sunflowers Executive Board, Ewa Hofmańska PhD <p>PANEL 1: TAKING STOCK - INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMES COMMITTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AGGRESSION BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AGAINST UKRAINE 09.30 – 11.00</p> <p><i>The panel will provide an overview of the criminal investigations ongoing at the ICC, in Ukraine, and other States exercising universal jurisdiction. The panellists will discuss the success stories and persistent challenges to ensuring the effective administration of justice in these cases. Furthermore, they will exchange experience in designing strategies to conduct such complex investigations. The involvement of CSOs to support documentation of violations and outreach to survivors will also be discussed.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Professor Patrycja Grzebyk (University of Warsaw)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andriy Leshchenko, General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine - Ryszard Rafalski, National Prosecutor's Office in Poland - Jacek Baranowski, Analytical Project on Core International Crimes (AP CIC), Europol - European Counter Terrorism Centre - Tinna Goletiani, Senior International Expert, Fight against International Crimes Sub-Component Lead, Pravo-Justice Ukraine <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px;">COFFEE BREAK 15 minutes</p> <p>PANEL 2: EXERCISE OF UNIVERSAL JURISDICTION 11.15 – 12.45</p> <p><i>This panel will focus on the obligation (and opportunity) of States to prosecute the most serious international crimes within their domestic legal systems to help fight impunity. The panellists will present various models of exercising universal jurisdiction, examining their effectiveness and relevance. They will also discuss the scope and limitations of applying the principle of universal jurisdiction, including in the context of the ongoing investigations carried out by the Ukrainian justice system and the ICC.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Professor Paweł Wiliński (Sunflowers Foundation, Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań, Member of the Codification Commission of Criminal Law)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professor Piotr Hofmański, The Jurisdiction of the ICC and Universal Jurisdiction: A Theoretical Introduction - Judge Tomas Zander, Stockholm District Court, Sweden - Dominik Zajac, PhD, Criminal Law Codification Commission - Professor Hanna Kuczyńska, Polish Academy of Science, Foundation Sunflowers - Anya Neystat, Legal Director, Clooney Foundation <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px;">LUNCH BREAK 13.00 – 14.00</p> </div>
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PANEL 3: SUPPORT FOR WITNESSES AND SURVIVORS IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

14.00 – 15.30

This panel will focus on developing an adequate support system for witnesses and survivors in criminal proceedings. This includes hiring trained social workers and psychologists to assist these individuals, guiding them through the criminal justice process and providing them with necessary psychological and social assistance before, during, and after criminal proceedings. Panelists will reflect on best practices based on the experience of international tribunals, courts, and domestic legal systems.

Moderator: - Anna Adamska-Gallant, PhD (Pravo-Justice UE Project)

Panelists:

- Veronika Plotnikova, Coordination Center for Witness and Victim Support, PG of Ukraine
- Dr Wiola Rebecka, Polish Center for Torture Survivors
- Agata Bzdyn, Feminoteka
- Charu Lata Hogg, All Survivors Project
- Ajna Mahmić, TRIAL International, Bosnia and Herzegovina

COFFEE BREAK 15 minutes

PANEL 4: JUSTICE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SURVIVORS OF CRIMES

15.45 – 17.15

This panel will focus on survivor-centred justice, which is broader than seeking accountability for the perpetrators in criminal proceedings. The instruments and guidelines of international law define the rights of people subjected to the most serious violations to reparations mechanisms designed to address the destructive impacts of these violations. Developing effective reparation mechanisms is a complicated and lengthy process, while survivors often require urgent support, such as medical care or psycho-social support. This panel answers what host countries such as Poland can do to ensure these urgent needs are met and whether adopting such a survivor-centred approach in the Polish legal system is a broader benefit.

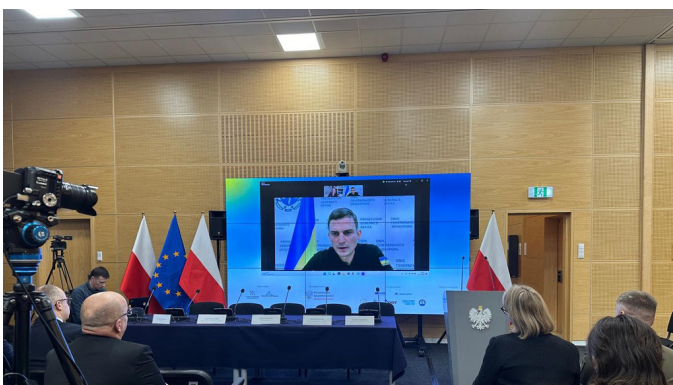
Moderator: Professor Aleksandra Mężykowska (Polish Academy of Sciences, Polish Representative to the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine)

Panelists:

- Franziska Eckelmans, ICC Trust Fund
- Marlene Yahya Haage, Register of Damages
- Sasha Romantsova, Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine
- Natalia Melnyk, Bluebird, Ukraine
- Lyra Nightingale, REDRESS

CLOSING 17.15

We are pleased to inform you that following the conference, on 14th November, representatives from civil society organizations and the legal profession will have the chance to participate in a workshop on universal jurisdiction at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. The workshop, conducted in English, will be led by experienced international human rights organizations knowledgeable in collecting evidence and initiating investigations and prosecutions in international and national courts. For further details, please contact: iga.czyz@hffr.pl.



Workshop

For the first time in its history, the Project Sunflowers organised a workshop for Polish lawyers and civil society organisations on universal jurisdiction. The aim of the workshop was not only to share knowledge, but also to initiate a discussion on the obstacles and possibilities of exercising universal jurisdiction in Poland, with a view to enabling perpetrators of international crimes to be held accountable in Polish courts. We are extremely grateful to [European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights \(ECCHR\)](#), [Clooney Foundation for Justice](#) and [REDRESS](#) for sharing your knowledge and experience



Foundation Sunflowers News

In 2024, the Foundation was included in the list of organisations cooperating with the (Polish) Ministry of Justice. In addition, it became a member of the Cooperation Platform between R4D and NGOs collecting information on the extent of damage caused by the war in Ukraine, established by the [Registry of Damages of Ukraine](#). Since last year, we have been actively participating in the Victims Rights Working Group set up by the [Coalition for the International Criminal Court](#) (CICC).

The Foundation Sunflowers is a constitutive organisation (together with the [Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights](#), the [OPORA Foundation](#) and the [Polish Center for Torture Survivors](#)) of the [Coalition for Victims, Survivors and Witnesses](#) (KOOS), established to represent the rights of survivors and victims of the war in Ukraine, as well as witnesses of crimes committed in Ukraine.

The Foundation Sunflowers honoured Professor Piotr Hofmański, President of the International Criminal Court (2021 to 2024) and Judge of this Court (2015 to 2024), with the status of Foundation Ambassador. The Foundation honoured exceptional entities with the status of Foundation Partner:

- National Chamber of Legal Advisers,
- Wolters Kluwer Polska,
- Kraków Center for International Criminal Justice at the Jagiellonian University.

As part of its advocacy work, in 2024, members of the Foundation's team took part in more than a dozen international conferences, meetings with institutions and organisations involved in collecting information on evidence of international crimes committed in Ukraine and preparing reparation programmes for war victims, including:

US Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice Beth V. Schaack Meets with Civil Society in Warsaw to Discuss Justice for Ukraine



Ewa Hofmańska participation in a symposium on Ukraine at War: Life in a Time of Fear and Hope organised by The Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University

We are thrilled to announce that Dr Ewa Hofmańska, President of the Foundation Sunflowers, will participate in a symposium on Ukraine at War: Life in a Time of Fear and Hope, organised by The Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University from Wednesday, March 27 through Friday, March 29, 2024.

The symposium seeks to raise public awareness about the struggle of Ukrainians to defend their democracy and culture in the face of the Russian invasion. Dr Hofmańska will be a featured speaker along with other Ukrainian activists.

More about the program, please, see: <https://kenan.ethics.duke.edu/event/ukraine-at-war-life-in-a-time-of-fear-of-hope/>

Hanna Kuczyńska joins UNHCR meeting on mental health support for Ukrainian refugees

[Read More](#)

Foundation Sunflowers joins NGO-ICC Roundtable in The Hague to promote ICC awareness

Ewa Hofmańska, President of the Foundation Sunflowers participates in the week-long NGO-ICC Roundtable in The Hague. Civil society organizations - affiliated with the Coalition for the ICC, play a key role in promoting the International Criminal Court, are important intermediaries of the Court, helping to raise awareness of the ICC worldwide, advocating for universal acceptance of the Rome Statute.

Foundation Sunflowers was granted membership to the Coalition for the ICC in October 2023.

Prof. Hanna Kuczyńska's Speech at 2024 Warsaw Human Dimension Conference




On the 1st of October 2024 Prof. Hanna Kuczyńska, member of the Project Sunflowers Executive Human Dimension Conference entitled: "Universal Jurisdiction: the path to justice and solidarity". Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group/Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights and Public Interest.

This side-event explored how exercise of universal jurisdiction by participating States in cases aimed conflict in Ukraine can contribute to combating impunity for perpetrators in the video.

Foundation Sunflowers takes part in Europol Training on Collecting Evidence of War Crimes in Ukraine



On July 2, 2024, a training was held in Warsaw conducted by Europol officers for Polish organizations collecting evidence of war crimes in Ukraine.

The training was attended by representatives of the foundations Opora in Poland, the Helsinki Foundation of Human Rights. General information about Europol, organizational structure, basic principles of work and how Europol works.

Hanna Kuczyńska joins UNHCR meeting on mental health support for Ukrainian refugees

On the 8th March 2024 Hanna Kuczyńska, Board Member of the Project Sunflowers, took part in the meeting on mental health and psychosocial support for Ukrainian refugees. The meeting was organized by the UNHCR, the Polish Psychological Support Network, and the Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group. The meeting focused on sharing knowledge related to mental health and psychosocial support both in emergency settings and in long-term recovery, allocating appropriate resources and considering mental health and psychosocial training. Key concepts and best practices in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in response to the needs of refugees and host communities were discussed.



In the meeting active participation took: Przemysław Marzec from UNHCR, Katarzyna Nowakowska from UNHCR, Olika Kosińska from Fundacja Opora, Hanna Kuczyńska from Project Sunflowers and other representatives of civil society organizations.

During the meeting supporting efforts for justice for victims were discussed, such as providing information as to the ICC, giving voice to refugees who wish to testify about the injustices they have experienced, historical consequences of crimes and their impact on the lives of victims and entire communities (Physical health, and disorienting lead to ensure access to the justice system and the identification and rehabilitation of victims. Foundation for Human Rights, Opora, Project Sunflowers.

Professor Wiliński represented Foundation Sunflowers at the III Legal Forum

We are truly pleased to announce that Professor Paweł Wiliński, Chairman of the Board of the Sunflowers Foundation, represented the Foundation at the III Legal Forum, which started today, 23 May 2024, in Warsaw, Poland. Professor Wiliński took part in a panel on Confiscation of the Russian assets abroad as a fair mechanism of compensation for the damage to business and citizens of Ukraine.

The Legal Forum EU-Eastern Partnership is a modern communication platform created in 2022 as a new platform for constructive dialogue between law firm partners, heads of legal departments of companies and specialists in business development, marketing and promotion of legal services from Europe, the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia and the Caucasus.

Hanna Kuczynska speaking at the Ukrainian International Criminal Justice Week Conference in Kyiv




Professor Hanna Kuczynska, a member of the Board of Directors of Project Sunflowers, was a speaker at the Ukrainian International Criminal Justice Week organised by The Center for Civil Liberties in Kyiv.

More information about the conference: <https://justiceweek.ccl.org.ua/>

Media Outreach

At the 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 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 on the Project website: <https://www.projectsunflowers.org/press-office>

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

The collage features several key media outreach elements:

- PolskieRadio.pl:** An article titled "Projekt z dokumentowania wojennych zbrodni «Sunflowers» realizujemy u 23 krajach świata" (Project of documenting war crimes «Sunflowers» we are implementing in 23 countries around the world). The article discusses the project's goal to document war crimes and mentions the involvement of Ewa Hofmańska.
- Prawo.pl:** Multiple articles including "Zbrodnie wojenne - jak słuchać i usłyszeć świadków, ofiary i ocalałych" (War crimes - how to listen and be heard by witnesses, victims and survivors), "Ewa Hofmańska z nagrodą Epiq Woman Award for Justice and Advocacy", and "Wolters Kluwer Polska oficjalnym partnerem Fundacji Sunflowers".
- Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR):** Articles such as "Ukraine: Calls for Changes to Criminal Code" and "Project Sunflowers", which highlights the project's support for Ukrainian and international investigations into war crimes.
- Social Media & Newsletters:** Screenshots of social media posts and newsletters from Prawo.pl, including a newsletter titled "Newsletter - Prawo.pl" with a "Dołącz swój adres e-mail" (Join your email address) button.

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 collecting 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.

Now, it is even easier than ever before:

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. Via the Project Sunflowers website: <https://reportwarcrime.org/funding/>
3. Until 30 April 2025 tax residents in Poland can indicate their 1,5% annual income tax for the Project Sunflowers.

Przekaż 1,5% na sprawiedliwość
- dla ofiar wojny w Ukrainie



Stowarzyszenie Interwencji Prawnej
KRS: 0000240024
CEL: PROJEKT SUNFLOWERS

