

Information by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine

What?

Ratification of The Hague CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND CO-OPERATION IN RESPECT OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION (concluded 29 May 1993).

Why?

To establish safeguards to ensure that intercountry adoptions take place in the best interests of the child and with respect for his or her fundamental rights as recognized in international law.

How?

To date the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine has prepared Draft Laws of Ukraine on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (The Hague Convention). After our legislative branch (the Verkhovna Rada) votes in favor of the adoption of these laws, Ukraine will become a part of the Hague Convention.

In accordance with the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On some issues of ensuring the rights and legitimate interests of orphans, children deprived of parental care, development and support of family forms of child-rearing" No. 721 of 30.09.2019, the Ministry of Social Policy drafted the Law of Ukraine "On Ukraine's Accession to the Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation on Interstate Adoption" and the Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine in connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation". Currently, the above-mentioned draft laws have been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine by letter dated 19.11.2019 No. 19933/0/2-19/37. According to the minutes of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine meeting as of November 20, 2019, the above-mentioned bills were approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and submitted to the President of Ukraine.

Who?

Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine will take a lead in implementing and monitoring this action.

**Information from the Secretariat of
the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights**

On November 26-27, 2019 the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for human rights arranged an international conference «Ensuring the rights of the child in armed conflict» on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the rights of the child.

Representatives from the offices of ombudspersons of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Serbia participated in the Conference.

In the view of the ongoing armed aggression by Russia in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, the rights of the child should be high on the agenda.

In order to develop objective and comprehensive approaches to address this situation, representatives of the offices of ombudspersons of countries affected by international armed conflicts, international experts in the area of the rights of the child, international human rights organizations, representatives of the Government of Ukraine were invited to participate in the conference.

Beyond that, children living in the East of Ukraine took part in the event.

Following the Conference, participants have developed recommendations for the countries being affected by international armed conflicts with regard to address the most urgent issues in order to protect the rights of children affected by armed conflict.

The recommendations developed will be shared by the Commissioner among the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC), the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Parliament and Government of Ukraine.
