

#NIEWIEDERKRIEG!

Solidarity with Ukraine

Women in the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB) stand for a peaceful coexistence in a world that respects international law, adheres to human rights, and furthers the rights of women. The behaviour of the Russian state leadership, which disregards the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and engulfs her citizens in fear, suffering and mourning, stands in blatant contrast with our values.

Since the beginning of warlike operations in East Ukraine in 2014, more than 1,5 million people were displaced – two thirds of which are women and children, and the number increases daily. Those who stay, offer resistance and oppose the aggressor at the hazard of their lives.

In the last year, the Belarus women's movement bore witness of the strong resistance of women. It was violently dispersed by the autocratically governing Belarussian dictator. In Russia too, people resist to the way their government takes under highest individual risk. Then and now, we stand alongside those women and men, with the utmost respect for their courage.

War has a different effect on women than it has on men: women and girls are greatly at risk to suffer gendered and sexual violence. Women feel the consequences for the supply of civilians first, and strongest. Summoning all their strength, they fight for their children's and their own survival. Therefore, help and support during wartime must consider that women are especially affected, as well as react to gender-specific forms of violence.

On International Women's Day, we stand alongside and in solidarity with the people of Ukraine:

- We demand that the Russian state president immediately stops the war of aggression against Ukraine and withdraws all troops.
- We urge the German Federal Government and the European Union to safeguard humanitarian help in the warzone and the neighbouring countries, thereby considering and catering to the specific needs of women and girls, as well as guaranteeing the safety of children, teenagers and women in communal accommodations.
- We urge the European Institutions as well as the governments of the EU Member States to immediately ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention as well as the ILO Convention 190!
- We demand that the German Federal Government implements its feminist foreign policy as announced in the coalition agreement, as well as emphasising the importance of abiding by UN resolution 1325 "Women, Peace and Security", which was made to ensure the involvement of women in international peace and security processes. Women must play a vital role in conflict resolution, to ensure a lasting peace.
- We urge the Federation, the federal states, and local authorities to prepare for the accommodation and support of refugees in such a manner that they can cater to the special demands of women and girls, f. ex. through gender-sensitive information, medical and psychological counselling and support.