

## MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT – EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

In 2022, Ukraine made minimal advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Despite the ongoing aggression and territorial incursions made by Russia against Ukraine, the Ukrainian government passed several pieces of legislation to address child welfare, including child labor. Ukraine established a coordination body to support the temporary domestic and international evacuation of Ukrainian children living in various government institutions in areas affected by Russia's full-scale invasion. In addition, the government shared counter-trafficking information with refugees and displaced persons at border crossings and on social media to prevent child trafficking. However, despite new initiatives to address child labor, Ukraine is assessed as having made only minimal advancement because it continued to uphold Law No. 877-V of 2007, which restricts inspectors' ability to conduct unannounced labor inspections and delays advancement to eliminate child labor. Children in Ukraine face increased social, economic, and political challenges, which can make them more vulnerable to exploitation because of the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine launched on February 24, 2022. The increased vulnerability is most pronounced in the country's Russia-occupied areas and areas of active conflict. Children in Ukraine are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including in the production of pornography. Children, especially in Russia-occupied areas, also perform dangerous tasks in mining. Furthermore, Russia continues to forcibly separate Ukrainian children from their parents and, in some cases, illegally transfer them out of Ukraine to camps in Russia. It is impossible to monitor these camps or ensure that the children in them are not exploited now or in the future if they are not returned to their families in Ukraine. The government has not published labor and criminal law enforcement information regarding its efforts to address child labor. In addition, Ukrainian laws do not meet international standards for the prohibition of commercialized sexual exploitation because they do not criminalize the users of prostitution involving children.



### I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Table I provides key indicators on children's work and education in Ukraine.

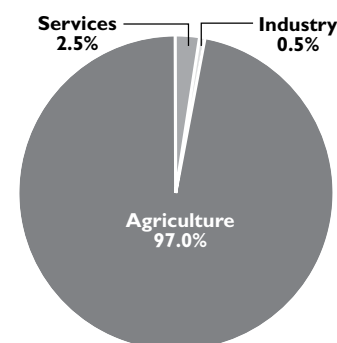
**Table I. Statistics on Children's Work and Education**

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	9.7 (385,204)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	97.2
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	12.0
Primary Completion Rate (%)		102.6

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2014, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2023. (1)

Source for all other data: International Labor Organization's analysis of statistics from National Child Labour Survey (NCLS), 2015. (2)

**Figure I. Working Children by Sector, Ages 5-14**



Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children's work by sector and activity.

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**Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity**

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Farming, activities unknown (3-7)
	Raising livestock, activities unknown (8)
Industry	Construction, activities unknown (3,4,9-11)
	Mining, <sup>†</sup> including loading, transporting, and sorting coal, and extracting amber (3,5,7,9,10,12)
Services	Street work, including distributing advertising leaflets, street trade, washing cars, and begging (3,4,6,9,13)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor <sup>‡</sup>	Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (3,4,11,14)
	Use in the production of pornography (3,5,9-11,15)
	Recruitment of children by non-state armed groups for use in armed conflict (9,10,14)
	Forced begging (3,9-11,14,16)

<sup>†</sup> Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

<sup>‡</sup> Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

Commercial sexual exploitation remained a serious problem in Ukraine, and a significant amount of online child pornography continued to originate in the country. (17) Prior to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, children from Ukraine were trafficked both internationally and domestically for commercial sexual exploitation and forced begging. (9,11,13,16) Some state-run orphanages have also used children for illegal labor in business, seasonal agricultural work, construction, and sexual exploitation. (3,8,11) There was limited information about the types of work that children performed and the sectors in which they worked in Russia-occupied territory in the Donbas region and Russia-occupied Crimea; however, available data suggested that some children in these areas, in particular boys between the ages of 11 and 16, engaged in illegal coal mining in the Donbas region. (3,9) Russian occupying authorities and proxy groups backed by Russia continued to recruit children, train them in weapons use, and organize them into reserve militia battalions at militant-run camps and at school programs located in territory occupied or controlled by Russia. (3,9,10,18,19) In addition, Russian armed forces used 90 Ukrainian children as human shields in active conflict in Sumy, Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Zaporizhzhya regions. (20,21) Reports indicate that, in some cases, parents were coerced into giving consent for their children to attend so-called "summer camps" in Russia or Russia-occupied Crimea, in which the children were forcibly engaged in systematic ideological re-education and military training, and in some cases not permitted to return to their homes. (17,19,22)

Since the start of Russia's war on Ukraine, out of Ukraine's 7.5 million children, 4.8 million have been forced to flee, with 2 million having fled abroad and 2.8 million displaced internally. (23) Refugee and internally displaced children (particularly those who are unaccompanied) are especially vulnerable to exploitation in the worst forms of child labor. (24,25) In particular, children with disabilities, stateless children, children from Roma or other minority groups, children forcibly transferred to Russia, and homeless, orphaned, and poor children, especially those living in state-run institutions, run a bigger risk of falling victim to human trafficking and sexual and labor exploitation. (19,26,27) Education was disrupted for more than 5.7 million Ukrainian children as schools shut down as a result of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. (19,20,23,27) National online education platforms were available to school-age children; however, access to these services was a challenge due to the lack of electricity and Internet as a result of Russia's deliberate targeting of civilian energy, electricity, and telecommunications infrastructure. (19,27,28) In addition, children had limited access to schooling due to security issues, non-functioning of in-person schooling, and damage to school infrastructure due to Russia's attacks on civilian infrastructure. (19,20,28,29) In Russia-occupied Crimea, education standards introduced by the Russian Federation have limited the rights of ethnic Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars to receive education in their native language. (17,19,30)

Birth registration of children born in Russia-occupied areas remains difficult, which can prevent them from receiving Ukrainian identity documents. (17,19,31,32) This, in turn, puts them at risk of statelessness. (31) Undocumented children, including those born since the start of Russia's war against Ukraine and who have not received their birth certificates, are especially vulnerable to being forcefully transferred to Russia and given




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Russian citizenship, and Russia's occupying authorities have forced Ukrainians in occupied territories to obtain Russian passports. (19,20) A law adopted in 2018 provides for any civil registry office to issue a Ukrainian birth registration on the basis of a birth certificate issued in Donetsk and Luhansk; however, fewer than half of the children born in these areas are estimated to have obtained a birth certificate issued by the Government of Ukraine. (32) Additionally, up to a third of children from some Roma communities also lack birth registration, impeding their access to education. (17,24)

**II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR**

Ukraine has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

**Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor**

Convention	Ratification
 ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
 UN CRC	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
 Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓

The government has established laws and regulations related to child labor (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Ukraine's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including a failure to prohibit the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

**Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor**

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	16	Article 150 of the Criminal Code; Article 188 of the Labor Code; Article 21 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood (33-35)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	No	18	Article 150 of the Criminal Code; Article 190 of the Labor Code; Article 21 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood (33-35)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Article 150-1 of the Criminal Code; Order of the Ministry of Health No. 46 on the approval of the list of heavy work and work with dangerous and harmful working conditions, in which the employment of minors is prohibited; Article 190 of the Labor Code (33,34,36)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Articles 149, 172, and 173 of the Criminal Code; Article 43 of the Constitution of Ukraine; Article 1 of the Law on Employment (33,37,38)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Article 149 of the Criminal Code; Article 32 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood (33,35)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		Articles 149 and 301–303 of the Criminal Code; Articles 10 and 21 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood; Articles 1, 6, and 7 of the Law on the Protection of Public Morality (33,35,39)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 304 and 307 of the Criminal Code; Articles 10 and 21 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood (33,35)
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	Yes	17	Articles 15 and 20 of the Law on Military Duty and Military Service (40)
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	Yes		Article 15 of the Law on Military Duty and Military Service; Decree No. 447 on Measures to Enhance the Defense Capacity of the State (40,41)

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**Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor (Cont.)**

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	Yes		Article 30 of the Law on the Protection of Childhood (35)
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	17‡	Articles 3, 12, and 20 of the Law on General Secondary Education; Article 53 of the Constitution (37,42)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 53 of the Constitution of Ukraine; Article 2 of the Law on General Secondary Education (37,42)

‡ Age calculated based on available information (42)

Because the minimum age for work is lower than the compulsory education age, children may be encouraged to leave school before the completion of compulsory education. (33,35,42) Furthermore, the Ministry of Health Order No. 46 does not prohibit children between the ages of 14 and 16 from engaging in hazardous work as part of a vocational training program, which is not in compliance with international standards. Although the law specifies that children in these training programs may be onsite for no more than 4 hours and must remain in strict compliance with applicable safety norms and rules and regulations on labor protection, this is not in compliance with international standards. (36,43) Ukraine does not sufficiently prohibit the commercial sexual exploitation of children because no law criminalizes the users (clients) of prostitution involving children. (33)

### III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor (Table 5). However, the absence of unannounced inspections conducted at the national level in Ukraine may impede the enforcement of child labor laws.

**Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement**

Organization/Agency	Role & Activities
State Labor Service (SLS) within the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture	Enforces labor laws, including laws on child labor, by conducting inspections. (3,9,10) Regional offices of SLS share information about child labor cases with regional offices of the National Police of Ukraine, regional employment centers, the Department of Child Affairs, trade union leaders, regional social services organizations, and centers dedicated to social protection. (3,9) All new labor inspectors receive ILO-approved training upon hiring. (9) In 2022, the State Labor Inspectorate, supported by ILO, started an information awareness campaign at the Ukrainian railways addressed to refugees leaving Ukraine on the risks of human trafficking and labor exploitation, including child labor exploitation. (44)
Ministry of Internal Affairs	Enforces criminal laws against the worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking, through the National Police and its Migration Police Department (MIPOL). (3,9,16) MIPOL identifies potential victims of human trafficking and conducts initial investigation before it transfers the cases to the National Police investigators. In April 2022, the National Police instructed the oblast and city leadership to discuss child trafficking prevention with the management of the new residential facilities for the evacuated children within Ukraine, and to ensure that all volunteers working with these children are vetted, as part of the government's efforts to combat child trafficking. (45) During the reporting period, the National Police created an information exchange platform on Ukrainian human trafficking cases with their European counterparts, and they also established an international Ukrainian Task Force to protect Ukrainians in Europe, including children, from human trafficking. In addition, MIPOL representatives attended several international training events on human trafficking prevention, to include prevention of the trafficking of Ukrainian refugee children. (45)
Office of the Prosecutor General	Investigates and prosecutes cases related to the worst forms of child labor. Oversees a department and regional offices for the Protection of Interests of Children and Combating Violence that focuses on the worst forms of child labor. (3) Ensures compliance with laws and regulations aimed at protecting minors by other government bodies investigating crimes against children. (3,9,46) The regional offices are responsible for conducting pre-trial investigations and investigations of criminal offenses, filing appeals of court decisions relating to children's issues, providing legal representation to children, and supporting the execution of court decisions in the sphere of child protection. (9,47) Established, with the assistance of UNICEF, specialized centers for child survivors and witnesses in Mykolayiv and Vinnytsya oblasts, with additional centers planned for Chernivtsi, Odesa, and Ternopil oblasts, as well as Kyiv. (16)

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**Labor Law Enforcement**

Research did not find information on whether labor law enforcement agencies in Ukraine took actions to address child labor.

**Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2021	2022
Labor Inspectorate Funding	\$16.9 million (9)	Unknown
Number of Labor Inspectors	772 (9)	Unknown
Mechanism to Assess Civil Penalties	Yes (48)	Yes (48)
Training for Labor Inspectors Provided	Yes (9)	Unknown
Number of Labor Inspections Conducted at Worksite	16,008 (9)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	127 (9)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	127 (9)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	13 (9)	Unknown
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (9)	No (49)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (9)	Unknown
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	No (48,50)	No (48,51)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Yes (9)	Unknown
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (9)	Unknown
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (9)	Unknown

Government Order No. 303 (On the termination of measures of state supervision (control) under martial law) prohibited all labor inspections, and Law No. 2136-IX (On organization of labor relations under martial law) only allowed limited unannounced labor inspections on three specific grounds: (1) observance of wartime labor regulations, (2) informal employment, and (3) legality of employment contracts termination. (51,52) Moreover, the limited unannounced inspections are regulated by Law No. 877 of 2007 (Fundamental Principles of State Supervision and Monitoring of Economic Activity), which continues to restrict inspectors' ability to undertake inspections without giving employers prior notice, in addition to effectively limiting the frequency of allowed inspections. (48,53)

Although local inspectors are certified by the State Labor Service (SLS), their training may be inadequate and inconsistent with the training given to inspectors employed directly by the SLS. (13,54) In addition, the SLS is not authorized to compel payment of delinquent fines without a court proceeding, which can delay the collection of penalties. (3,10) Russia-occupied areas, including Crimea and parts of Kherson, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Kharkiv, and Mykolayiv oblasts, are not under the control of Ukrainian authorities, who are prevented from carrying out inspections and law enforcement in these territories. (19,45)

**Criminal Law Enforcement**

Research did not find information on whether criminal law enforcement agencies in Ukraine took actions to address child labor.

**Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2021	2022
Training for Criminal Investigators Provided	Yes (9)	Unknown
Number of Investigations	1,265 (9)	1,639† (49)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	802 (9)	Unknown
Number of Convictions	Unknown	Unknown
Imposed Penalties for Violations Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	Unknown	Unknown
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (9)	Unknown

† Data are from January 2022 to November 2022.

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During the reporting period, research did not find updates on the criminal cases against 73 children for participation in Russia-led military formations in the so-called "Donetsk People's Republic" and "Luhansk People's Republic," as well as against 1 child in the Russia-led forces in Crimea. In 2021, the National Police transferred 47 of these cases to courts for prosecution. (3,9,55) The National Police acknowledged instances of involvement of minors in illegal amber or coal extraction in Ukraine, but they provided no information on efforts taken to address this issue. (9)

In 2022, law enforcement authorities opened criminal proceedings on the involvement of 53 children in military activities. The status of these cases is unknown. (45) The Office of the Prosecutor General reported that from January to November 2022, there were: 53 violations of Article 149 of the Criminal Code (Trafficking in persons/ children), out of which 32 cases were sent to court; 2 violations of Article 150 (exploitation of children) and 3 crimes under Article 150-1 (engaging minors in begging), which resulted in 3 cases sent to court; 79 crimes for violation of Article 304 (engaging minors in criminal activity) which resulted in 69 cases sent to court; and 1,120 crimes for violation of Article 301-1 of the Criminal Code (Importing, producing, sale, or distribution of child pornography), with 937 cases sent to court. (19) In addition, the Migration Police Department (MIPOL) identified one boy and two girls as victims of child trafficking, and one boy and one girl as victims of forced labor, while the Ministry of Social Policy (MSP) identified two boys as victims of forced labor. (45) During the reporting period, Ukrainian authorities were engaged to bring back children who were unlawfully transferred or deported to Russia by Russia's forces. As of late December 2022, 125 children had been returned. (56,57) In addition, National Police investigators worked with authorities in Latvia and Lithuania in separate cases of child trafficking related to children from evacuated Ukrainian orphanages. (47)

In 2022, the government increased its human trafficking prevention efforts at national and local levels, to include sharing child counter-trafficking information at the border crossing points. The Ministry of Justice's local centers for secondary legal aid provided a legal education event on "Protection of Child Victims of Sexual Exploitation." (45) In addition, the ministry published 50 educational media articles on the prevention of human trafficking, including "On the Safety of Women and Girls Abroad." The government continued to operate a hotline and a website for potential victims of human trafficking, and during the reporting period has added a new number to accommodate calls from abroad. (45) The MSP, with a local NGO partner, developed an anti-trafficking awareness-raising campaign aimed at girls and young women, including girls between the ages of 12 and 18. In May 2022, government representatives participated in an OSCE roundtable entitled, "Strengthening Protection of Children from Violence, including Child Trafficking, during the Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine." (45)

## IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established a key mechanism to coordinate its efforts to address child labor (Table 8). However, gaps exist that hinder the effective coordination of efforts to address child labor, including efforts to address all forms of child labor.

**Table 8. Key Mechanism to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor**

Coordinating Body	Role & Activities
Inter-Ministerial Counter-Trafficking Coordination Council	Led by the Ministry of Social Policy (MSP), which serves as the National Coordinator for Counter-Trafficking Policy and includes more than 20 government entities and representatives from regional governments, NGOs, and international organizations. (11) During the reporting period, the body held online meetings, drafted Ukraine's State Strategy on Preventing Human Trafficking until 2025, and, with IOM's support, held a strategic planning session in June 2022, to adapt the Strategy to the war-time reality in the country. The Counter-trafficking Strategy is to be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval. (45)

In January 2022, the Government of Ukraine established the State Service of Ukraine for Children's Affairs to form and implement state policy for the adoption and protection of children's rights. (19,58) In August 2022, the



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government adopted and sent for the President’s approval a draft law to amend Ukrainian legislation at both the state and local levels, to improve the regulation of the activities of the State Service of Ukraine for Children’s Affairs, to strengthen the role of the local executive committees in the field of protection of children’s rights, and to strengthen the participation of the prosecutor’s office in ensuring the rights and interests of the child. (19,59)

In March 2022, the government established the Coordination Headquarters for the Protection of the Rights of the Child in Conditions of Martial Law to coordinate the temporary domestic and international evacuation of Ukrainian children living in various government institutions in areas affected by Russia’s war on Ukraine. (17,60,61) This body, together with the MSP, issued recommendations to foreign host countries on the protection of unaccompanied Ukrainian refugee children’s rights and interests while abroad. (45) In addition, the Ministry of Reintegration of Occupied Territories created an information portal called “Children of War,” through which Ukrainian citizens can report forced transfer of a child from Ukraine, forced change of citizenship, and other crimes committed against children by Russia’s army, including forced labor. (19,62) In 2022, the Office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights established a procedure for obtaining the status of human trafficking victims for Ukrainians, including children, who reside in the temporarily occupied territories and who were subjected to forced labor or forced to participate in military activities by Russia’s proxies or Russia’s forces. (63) Despite these efforts and although Ukraine has established the Inter-Ministerial Counter-Trafficking Coordination Council to coordinate efforts to address child trafficking, it does not have coordinating mechanisms to address other forms of child labor, including in mining and agriculture.

### V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established policies related to child labor (Table 9). However, policy gaps exist that hinder efforts to address child labor, including coverage of all worst forms of child labor.

**Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor**

Policy	Description & Activities
Resolution on the Social Protection of Children and Urgent Measures to Protect the Rights of the Child	Directs the government to develop additional programs and social services to protect children against abuse, including the worst forms of child labor. Includes a provision on measures that specifically address the participation of children in armed conflict. (10,64) Research was unable to determine whether actions were undertaken to implement this policy during the reporting period.
Ukraine’s National Strategy on Human Rights (2021–2023)	Focuses on 27 areas related to human rights, including children’s rights. (65) Research was unable to determine whether actions were taken to implement this strategy during the reporting period.

During the reported period, numerous oblast- and community-level programs included measures to address human trafficking, including in Chernihiv, Ternopil, Odesa, and Vinnytsya oblasts. (45) In addition, the government and the ILO, through the Decent Work Country Program in Ukraine (2020–2024), carried out humanitarian aid and job preservation activities. (66,67) However, although the Government of Ukraine has adopted the Resolution on the Social Protection of Children, research found no evidence of a policy on other worst forms of child labor, including hazardous child labor in mining. (3,9,10)

### VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2022, the government funded and participated in programs that may contribute to eliminating or preventing child labor (Table 10). However, gaps exist in these social programs, including the inadequacy of programs to address the full scope of the problem.

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**Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor**

Program	Description & Activities
Directorate for the Development of Social Services and Protection of Children's Rights†	Established under MSP in March 2020 to address the needs of vulnerable children. (68) Research was unable to determine whether the Directorate was active during the reporting period.
Centers and Shelters for Socio-Psychological Rehabilitation of Children†	Serve children in need, including child survivors of trafficking, through 72 centers, including 4 children's shelters. (45) Children are provided with individual assistance programs that involve social, psychological, pedagogical, medical, legal, and other types of assistance. (11,24) Government officials report that there is a lack of resources and specialized personnel to assist child survivors of sexual exploitation through these centers. (24) Centers and shelters were active during the reporting period. (45)
Centers for Social Services for Family, Youth, and Children†	In coordination with municipal authorities, provide social services for vulnerable children and families, including survivors of human trafficking. (69) As of July 2022, there were 84 social support institutions for families, children, and youth, and 17 centers for social support for children and families. Centers were active during the reporting period. (45)

For information about USDOL's projects to address child labor around the world, visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/ilab-project-page-search>

† Program is funded by the Government of Ukraine.

In 2022, many social service providers shifted efforts from direct victim assistance to IDP, to include human trafficking prevention efforts. During the reporting period, the government also increased the one-time payment to human trafficking survivors from 200 USD (7,443 UAH) to 218 USD (8,052 UAH). (45) However, although the Government of Ukraine has implemented programs to assist child survivors of human trafficking, research found no evidence that it has carried out programs specifically designed to assist children in other forms of child labor, including hazardous work in mining.

## VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor in Ukraine (Table 11).

**Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor**

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Raise the minimum age for work from 16 to 17 to align with the compulsory education age.	2018 – 2022
	Prohibit all children under age 16 from working in hazardous occupations during vocational training.	2011 – 2022
	Criminally prohibit and penalize the use of a child for prostitution, and the use, procuring, or offering of children in pornographic performances.	2019 – 2022
Enforcement	Strengthen the labor inspection system by removing restrictions on labor inspectors' authority to conduct unannounced onsite inspections, both proactively and in response to complaints.	2019 – 2022
	Ensure that labor inspectors employed by regional governments receive adequate training that is consistent with that provided to labor inspectors employed by the State Labor Service.	2019 – 2022
	Authorize the State Labor Service to enforce the collection of delinquent penalties to ensure that all penalties imposed are collected.	2019 – 2022
	Publish labor and criminal law enforcement information.	2021 – 2022
	Hold perpetrators of the worst forms of child labor, including child soldiering, accountable. Ensure that former child soldiers are not penalized for crimes they were forced to commit.	2021 – 2022
Coordination	Establish coordinating mechanisms to address all worst forms of child labor in all sectors, including in mining and agriculture.	2019 – 2022
Government Policies	Implement all policies addressing child labor, including the Resolution on the Social Protection of Children and Urgent Measures to Protect the Rights of the Child, and the Ukraine's National Strategy on Human Rights.	2019 – 2022
	Adopt a policy that addresses all relevant worst forms of child labor, including hazardous child labor in mining.	2018 – 2022
Social Programs	Collect and publish data on the extent and nature of child labor, including the activities carried out by children working in mining, farming, raising animals, and construction, to inform policies and programs.	2019 – 2022
	Institute a rehabilitation and reintegration program for children engaged in armed conflict.	2021 – 2022
	Ensure that all Ukrainian children, including those with special needs and those living in conflict zones, have access to education, whether virtual or in person, that meets their educational needs.	2020 – 2022



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**Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor (Cont.)**

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Social Programs	Establish a procedure to implement the law empowering any civil registry office to issue a Ukrainian birth registration on the basis of a birth certificate issued in the areas of Donetsk and Luhansk.	2019 – 2022
	Develop programs to ensure that Roma children are registered at birth and are able to access education.	2010 – 2022
	Ensure that activities are undertaken to implement the mandates of the Directorate for the Development of Social Services and Protection of Children's Rights, and make information about implementation activities publicly available.	2022
	Allocate resources and trained personnel to assist with child survivors of commercial sexual exploitation in all state-run facilities that serve children in need.	2020 – 2022
	Ensure that there are sufficient resources for the Centers for Social Services for Family, Youth, and Children to assist child survivors of human trafficking.	2013 – 2022
	Institute programs to address all forms of child labor, including hazardous work in mining.	2020 – 2022

## REFERENCES ON FILE