

October 15, 2025

First Lady Melania Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear First Lady Trump,

We are writing to express our profound gratitude for your tireless advocacy to ensure the safe return of Ukrainian children. We are deeply encouraged by your announcement that, through the open channel you secured with President Putin, you have secured safety for the first wave of children.

First Lady Trump, you have changed the lives of many children by your committed work and dedication to their well-being. As you correctly stated, “a child’s soul knows no borders - no flags”. During times of war and conflict, the vulnerable pay the heaviest price, and children are always the most vulnerable.

Innocent children should not have to pay the price for the wars of adults. As faith leaders, we believe that every child is made in God's image (Genesis 1:27). Scripture calls us to defend the vulnerable, specifically the poor, the widow, the orphan and the foreigner (Zechariah 7:10). Christ commanded us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:39) and seek justice for the oppressed (Isaiah 1:17).

As you know, since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, an estimated 35,000 children have been taken to Russia. Each child bears God's image and deserves protection and the best way to protect these children is to ensure these children are returned home. Scripture rightly prioritizes the importance of family, and it is the bedrock of society. Throughout the world, millions of children are displaced by conflict and violence, and we appreciate your care for their plight.

We are praying for this Administration that you would not grow weary in doing good and will work to ensure that every single child is safely returned home.

We continue to urge the Trump Administration to ensure that this remains a central issue and that all estimated 35,000 children are returned as a precondition to any peace talks. In ensuring all children are returned, it's essential that work identifying and tracing the current locations of these stolen children continues.

As a leader, a mother, and an advocate for the protection of children, you have the power to ensure no child is left behind. We urge you to use every resource at your disposal to continue your monumental work in ensuring Ukraine's children are returned home.

We are grateful for your partnership and continued efforts to secure safety for these children and for children around the world who are victims of conflicts outside of their control.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Myal Greene
President / CEO
World Relief

Dr. Walter Kim
President
National Association of Evangelicals

Global Alliance for Ukraine

Christian Alliance for Orphans

Southern Baptist
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Herbert M. Newell IV
President/Executive Director
Lifeline Children's Services

Travis Weber
Vice President for Policy and Government Affairs
Family Research Council

Tim Chapman
President
Advancing American Freedom

Daniel Darling
Director, Land Center for Cultural Engagement
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Gary Marx
Host
Peace & Power Ukraine

Chris Johnson
Sr. Director of Church Partnerships
Lifeline Children's Services

Maureen Flatley
President
Stop Child Predators

Jacqui Jackson
CEO
Ignite Hope, Inc.

Kelley E. Currie
Former Ambassador at Large
Global Women's Issues (2019-2021)

Mark Tooley
President
Institute on Religion and Democracy

Katie Fruge
Director
Christian Life Commission
Baptist General Convention of Texas

Chelsea Sobolik
Director of Government Relations
World Relief

Bri Stensrud
Director
Women of Welcome

CC: President Trump and Secretary Rubio