

Teach For Ukraine sustaining leadership of fellows through displacement caused by war

Snapshot

Since January 2022, Teach For Ukraine (TFU) has mobilized virtual learning and support to sustain the well-being and learning of both its teaching fellows, staff and students in the face of the casualties, destruction, and temporary displacement of people caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Through these efforts, Teach For Ukraine is continuing to grow the leadership of students and alumni to ensure that talented young people remain in Ukraine to strengthen the nation during and after the war.

Context

Teach For Ukraine placed its first cohort of participants in high-need schools and communities in the regions of Kyiv, Lviv, and Kharkiv in 2017. That year they placed 17 participants and impacted over 2,000 students. Over the following years, TFU increased its reach and placed 26 teachers in classrooms in 2021, impacting 7,000 students. TFU's 18 alumni work in roles in school leadership and public policy.

The war in Ukraine has had a devastating impact on children's education. More than 8.5 million Ukrainians have been temporarily displaced outside of Ukraine due to the fighting in their country. As of November 28, 2022, 2783 educational institutions have been damaged and 337 of them are completely destroyed. According to the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine at least 443 children have been killed and 855 wounded. Many TFU fellows were displaced or were stopped teaching to go fight on the frontlines.

Choice

Teach For Ukraine has made a series of choices designed to sustain student learning and support the purpose, development, and well-being of its teaching fellows. Through its emergency response activities, the organization was able to provide direct and indirect support to almost 10,000 Ukrainian children, including those displaced outside and inside Ukraine. One of them is the emergency academic support project providing Ukrainian children with free online classes by professional tutors. This is also the pilot of the first-ever learning catch-up program in Ukraine. TFU also launched an MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support) project to help educators in Ukraine overcome professional difficulties and challenges during the war. In addition, TFU organizes in-person summer camps with bunkers for students and online leadership



Community impact

The online teaching projects support thousands of children in the country and help students catch up on missed learning and receive social-emotional support and professional advice from experienced psychologists. Moreover, social-emotional support webinars, online courses, and other digital resources help teachers learn to manage different situations and emergencies that might happen while teaching in wartime.

Further resources

- [Keeping Children Learning While Living Through a War](#)
- [Teach For All's Response to the War in Ukraine](#)
- [The Race to Get Schools Ready](#)
- [Emergency Educational Support Projects](#)

camps for displaced children partnering with major Ukrainian celebrities.

Collective Leadership

Students, teachers, fellows, alumni, parents, and partners are all working together to keep kids learning through displacement and war and get children back into a routine by providing virtual learning and offering emotional and mental health support.

