



ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY CENTERS ON DISABILITIES

THE LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY & RESEARCH NETWORK

## **The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Calls for the Support, Protection and Safety of Ukrainians with Disabilities**

Millions of Ukrainians have left their homes due to the current war. People with disabilities are suffering more harm than people without disabilities. Many people with disabilities, especially those with significant needs, medical conditions, or living in institutions, are unable to safely leave Ukraine.

The United Nations was created after the second World War. The purpose of the United Nations is to help countries work together to keep peace around the world, make living conditions better for people living in different countries, and to protect people's rights.

According to the United Nations, persons with disabilities experience serious conditions in armed conflicts. They are unable to escape war or find enough shelter, they face higher death rates and experience discrimination, abuse and violence. There are 2.7 million people with disabilities in Ukraine. They also face significant barriers to being safe and getting help from human rights organizations. They are unable to get the services they need to leave Ukraine.

The needs of Ukrainians with disabilities cannot be ignored. Countries from around the world have come together to protect the rights of people with disabilities. Countries did this by passing a law called the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2010. Part of this law and other laws talks about how important it is to keep people with disabilities safe during war. These international human rights laws must be followed.

AUCD strongly supports the efforts by organizations that are trying to help people with disabilities in Ukraine. We want those interested in donating to learn more about the organizations before making a decision to donate. A few suggestions are:

- [Humanity & Inclusion](#)
- [Inclusion Europe](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Mercy Corps](#)

The United Nations is keeping a regularly updated [list of resources](#) on the Protection of Persons with Disabilities during war.

