

08

JULY

2025

IN-PERSON EVENT

13:45-15:30

📍 Martens Centre, Rue du Commerce 20, Brussels 1000

The Demography of War:

Russian Ideology and Forced
Deportations of Ukrainian Children

ABOUT THE EVENT

The forced deportation of children has become one of the most egregious crimes perpetrated by Russian troops in Ukraine. Since February 2022, Ukrainian authorities have documented the deportation or forcible transfer of at least 19,546 children to Russia or Russian-occupied territories.

This figure represents only verified cases and Ukrainian officials have estimated that the actual number of deported and forcibly removed children could be much higher.

Who are deported children? What are the motivations behind this behaviour that is clearly directed and planned from Moscow? Is it an attempt to alleviate Russia's demography by force? Or is it an expression of Russian colonialism? What place do the forced deportations of children play in Russian war efforts?

To answer these and other questions, the Martens Centre has assembled a panel of leading experts and human rights advocates.

PROGRAMME

13:45 Registration and Lunch

14:30 Opening Remarks

14:35 Panel Discussion

15:05 Q&A

15:30 End of Discussion

SPEAKERS

Opening Remarks:

Tomi Huhtanen

Executive Director, Martens Centre

Discussants:

Tamila Tasheva

Member of the UA Parliament and former Permanent Representative of the President of Ukraine in Crimea

Mark Laity

PR Army Advisor, former Head of NATO StratCom, BBC War Correspondent and Founder of the StratCom Academy

Moderator:

Vít Novotný

Senior Research Officer, Martens Centre



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