

MULTI-YEAR APPEAL UKRAINE

DEPARTMENT OF
POLITICAL AND
PEACEBUILDING AFFAIRS
2026



A UN worker in Ukraine inspects a building damaged in the ongoing war with Russia. © UNOCHA

Supporting United Nations political efforts on Ukraine

Total requirements: \$800,000

Introduction and Objectives

Global peace and security have seen a marked deterioration in recent years. Violent conflict has intensified, spreading throughout multiple regions of the world destroying lives, eroding social cohesion and undermining development gains. At the same time, heightened tensions between major powers have complicated responses to crises, weakening confidence in multilateralism and diplomacy. The world now faces an increasingly complicated mix of protracted wars and emerging crises which require principled responses, sustained political engagement, and effective mediation to resolve.

Against this difficult backdrop, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) plays a vital role leading United Nations efforts to prevent conflict and advance sustainable peace. As the United Nations political arm, we monitor political developments and provide critical analysis and guidance to Member States, regional partners and United Nations entities. By engaging in mediation and peacemaking efforts, the Department helps to lead timely and coherent responses to the world's most complex crises, including the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Despite this increasingly critical role, DPPA faces a severe funding crisis with voluntary contributions from partners faltering in recent years. As demands rise, investments in the Multi-Year Appeal (MYA) – the Department's primary funding mechanism for sustaining field engagement, deploying surge capacity, and providing political analysis and guidance – remain among the most cost-effective measures for preventing conflict, far outpacing the immense human, financial and political costs of humanitarian aid and post-conflict reconstruction. Without sustained donor support, these critical functions and the United Nations ability to facilitate dialogue, reduce risks, and bolster peace would be significantly constrained.

Context

Now entering its fourth year, the war in Ukraine continues to exact a devastating human toll and generate a profound impact on international peace and security, global political stability, and economic development. Despite intensified diplomatic engagements and increasing calls for a ceasefire and peace negotiations, the situation on the ground remains highly volatile with a persistent risk of escalation and regional spillover. In this complex context, sustained engagement remains crucial to advancing prospects for de-escalation and peace.

In support of the Secretary-General's good offices on Ukraine, DPPA plays a central role in creating and protecting space for meaningful dialogue. Through in-depth analysis, strategic planning and mediation support, the Department assists Member States, regional partners and entities across the United Nations system in navigating an exceptionally complex and fluid conflict environment. A core element of this engagement is the provision of timely reporting to the Security Council, General Assembly and United Nations leadership identifying emerging risks, as well as potential opportunities for productive peacemaking efforts.

DPPA's Liaison Office in Kyiv is a critical enabler of these efforts. Operating in an unpredictable and high-risk environment, the Office provides indispensable on-the-ground engagement with national and local authorities, international partners and civil society actors to stay abreast of the constantly shifting context. This presence allows DPPA to maintain a real-time understanding of political, security and societal dynamics ensuring that Headquarters-level analysis and guidance are grounded in current realities.

Funded entirely through Multi-Year Appeal (MYA) resources, the Liaison Office represents a modest but cost-effective and high-impact investment. It enables DPPA to support the broader United Nations response in Ukraine by delivering continuous political monitoring, analysis and reporting, while also advancing cross-cutting priorities such as the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas. The Office advises the Resident Coordinator (RC) and UN Country Team (UNCT) on conflict-sensitive approaches to strengthen social cohesion, reconstruction and recovery programming.

Together, these efforts enhance the UN's ability to anticipate and respond to developments, align Headquarters and field efforts, and position the Secretary-General to respond effectively to emerging diplomatic opportunities, including potential ceasefire initiatives.

Progress in 2025

Against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving conflict in Ukraine, 2025 marked a year of steadfast engagement by DPPA. A strengthened field presence enabled sustained political engagement, timely and forward-looking reporting and targeted mediation support strengthening the United Nations ability to respond effectively to developments on the ground and to support principled efforts towards de-escalation and a lasting peace.

In November, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Rosemary A. DiCarlo, visited Ukraine to express solidarity with the Ukrainian people and reaffirm the call for a just and lasting peace. The visit underscored DPPA's high-level commitment to inclusive dialogue and to the Secretary-General's good offices in support of peace efforts.



Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary A. DiCarlo pays tribute at the Martyrology of Children memorial in Kyiv, Ukraine, 18 November 2025.

Informing Efforts at Headquarters



Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary DiCarlo briefs the Security Council meeting on maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine.

Throughout the year, DPPA leveraged the Liaison Office's presence in Kyiv to strengthen strategic coordination and decision-making at Headquarters. The Department continued to co-chair monthly meetings of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on Ukraine, providing strategic advice and coordination to more than 20 United Nations entities based on real-time field analysis. DPPA also coordinated the preparation of the Secretary-General's biannual report to the General Assembly on the human rights situation across the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, enabling an informed and principled global response to the ongoing conflict.

Our expert analysis and reporting also continued to inform decision-making and feed directly into Security Council briefings by the Secretary-General and other senior leaders across the United Nations. Throughout 2025, DPPA produced 55 analytical reports and prepared 15 substantive briefings for Security Council meetings on the constantly evolving context in Ukraine, further underscoring the Department's critical role as a trusted source of analysis and guidance.

Bolstering Impact in Ukraine

In Kyiv, the Liaison Office continued to provide conflict-sensitive political guidance to inform United Nations programming, particularly in relation to reconstruction and early recovery. Regular participation in UNCT coordination mechanisms ensured a coordinated and effective response to the changing situation on the ground and coherence across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts.

Engagement with civil society actors remained central to advancing WPS and YPS priorities. A flagship accomplishment was the “Voices of Ukrainian Women and Youth for Sustainable Peace in Ukraine” dialogue held in Kyiv in May 2025, which convened more than 80 participants from 13 regions. The initiative created a rare, structured platform for dialogue between women and youth leaders and national decision-makers, fostering mutual understanding and amplifying diverse perspectives on peace processes, recovery, social cohesion, and the Sustainable Development Goals. By bringing women and youth together, DPPA enabled cross-generational exchanges, identified knowledge gaps among civil society regarding formal peace processes, and strengthened bonds between local and national actors.

Targeted Mediation Support

Responding to requests from civil society partners, DPPA mobilized its Standby Team of Senior Mediation Advisors (SBT) to provide specialized expertise on women’s participation in mediation and ceasefire processes. In line with the Secretary-General’s ‘Common Pledge’ on women’s participation in peace processes, this targeted support worked to further develop the capacity of Ukrainian women leaders to engage meaningfully in future ceasefire-related negotiations.



Ukrainian women and youth participate in a UN-supported dialogue held in Kyiv in May 2025, funded by MYA.

Key Activities and Impact

In 2026, DPPA will build on these foundations to ensure the United Nations remains agile, informed and prepared to support de-escalation and inclusive peace efforts in a highly dynamic and sensitive context. MYA funding will underpin the following priorities:

- **Sustain on-the-ground engagement:** A robust presence in Kyiv will continue to serve as the hub for DPPA's diplomatic engagement, maintaining close relationships with national authorities, Member States, regional organizations, and policy institutions to continually deepen understanding of the conflict and its global implications. Critical MYA funding will ensure uninterrupted operations and the provision of high-quality reporting and briefings to inform United Nations deliberations and decision-making.
- **Enhance programmatic impact:** MYA funding will enable DPPA to continue providing conflict-sensitive guidance to the Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team, strengthening the effectiveness of humanitarian aid and early recovery programming throughout the country, and ensuring alignment with peacemaking and peacebuilding objectives.
- **Respond to escalating tensions:** As political and security conditions evolve and require intensified engagement, DPPA will deploy surge capacity to assess sudden developments, identify emerging risks and respond to potential openings for diplomatic engagement. This enhanced capacity will support internal coordination across the Secretariat in preparation for any potential negotiations, ceasefires, or peace arrangements, as they emerge.
- **Advance inclusive peace processes:** DPPA will deepen our work on the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security initiatives, building upon successful engagements with civil society actors in 2025. Funding will support follow-up workshops, dialogue platforms, and capacity-building initiatives to empower local actors to continue contributing meaningfully to the peace process and strengthen social cohesion at national and local levels.
- **Enable electoral support:** Ukraine has indicated that elections may be held across the country if political and security conditions allow. Following a 2025 request from the Central Elections Commission of Ukraine, DPPA stands ready to discuss electoral support with the Ukrainian authorities. MYA funding would enable the rapid deployment of a needs assessment mission as well as targeted surge capacity to support the RC and UNCT, given the unpredictability of electoral timelines.

Together, these activities will ensure that DPPA remains at the forefront of United Nations efforts to prevent escalation, support inclusive peace processes, and position the Organization to respond effectively to emerging opportunities for peace in Ukraine.

Funding needs

The complexity of the conflict in Ukraine calls for principled action and sustained investment.

Continued donor support will be essential to consolidate the gains DPPA achieved in 2025 and translate them into meaningful opportunities for de-escalation and peace. A fully funded MYA helps facilitate follow-up to the Pact for the Future, which urges the Secretary-General to actively use his good offices and ensure that the United Nations is adequately equipped to lead and support good offices, mediation and peacemaking.

The MYA requests \$44 million for 2026. At this juncture, the Department is seeking earmarked funding for DPPA's engagement on Ukraine in the amount of \$800,000 for 2026. Funding this capacity is crucial to meet increasing crisis response requests, political analysis and reporting, and strategic planning. Without sustained funding, the progress made by DPPA in laying the foundations for lasting peace in Ukraine could be significantly undermined, increasing the risk of escalation, regional spillover and worsening global peace and security.

BUDGET REQUIREMENTS IN US\$

Surge Capacity (staffing/consultants)	\$390,000
Travel	\$88,000
Operational Costs (for workshops, meetings, etc.)	\$230,000
13 % Programme Support Costs (PSC)	\$92,000
Total	\$800,000

**This project may be funded in part or in full*



Activities under this proposal contribute to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goals 5, 16, and 17.

Official Development Assistance

Contributions to DPPA are ODA-eligible in recognition of the link between peace and security and development work. Donors can meet their voluntary ODA targets when pledging funds to DPPA (channel code: 41148 UN DPA Trust Fund in Support of Political Affairs).

PEACE IS PRICELESS and possible

For further information on the
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