23 January

Rinat Akhmetov Foundation Winter Camp for Children Affected by the War: Healing and Learning in 2026



The first session of the 2026 “Blogger Camp”, organised by the **Rinat Akhmetov Foundation**, has launched. This comprehensive activity allows children to rest, recover, master new skills, and receive essential psychological support from Foundation specialists.

Supporting the Most Vulnerable

The camp brings together children aged 10 to 16 from all over the country. The participants are primarily from vulnerable categories directly affected by the war. This winter, the project "Rinat Akhmetov – For Children. Peaceful Rest for Children of Ukraine" is hosting children returned from deportation in russia and occupied territories; children under guardianship or living in difficult circumstances; and those who lost parents during the war.

Significantly, the camp also welcomes children under the care of the NGO Heart of Azovstal. The Heart of Azovstal project is a comprehensive initiative dedicated to supporting the defenders of Mariupol—those who held the line at Azovstal from February to May 2022—and their families. The project acts as a centre of care and sustainable assistance, ensuring that the children of these defenders receive the support they need.

Learning and Development

The camp agenda is designed to be engaging and educational. On "Media Day," participants learn to create unique content, work with professional camera equipment, and express their thoughts through video. They also master the basics of editing and learn mechanisms for promoting content on platforms like TikTok.

Physical activity and leisure are also central to the schedule. Younger children participate in shared activities, while older participants enjoy painting tote bags and playing open-air games. Evenings feature art therapy sessions, cinema quests, and themed events to foster socialisation.

Systematic Psychological Rehabilitation

A core component of the camp is the professional psychological support provided by Foundation specialists who have completed the "War Trauma" training course. The "Peaceful Rest" programme was established in 2015 when it became clear that children living in combat zones required urgent psychological rehabilitation to prevent future issues.

Following the full-scale invasion in 2022, the project was scaled up to a nationwide level and moved to safer regions like Transcarpathia. The psychologists help children process complex emotions, reduce anxiety and fear, and restore a sense of safety and trust in the world. Through games with mentors and individual consultations, the programme aims to help children release the burden of their experiences.

A History of Support

Through the "Peaceful Rest for Children of Ukraine" programme, nearly 5,000 children from various corners of the country have already had the opportunity to regain their strength and find hope. Over 20 years of operation, the Rinat Akhmetov Foundation has provided support to more than 6 million Ukrainian children, maintaining a steadfast commitment to the nation's future.