



PONTIFICIA COMMISSIO  
PRO TUTELA MINORUM

From the Vatican, 1 march 2022

**Prot. N.: 65/2022**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you all today, remembering how barely six months ago we gathered together in a communion of intent in Warsaw to redouble our efforts for the churches of central and eastern Europe to safeguard the most vulnerable people in our care.

Over the course of the three days we prayed, shared and listened to each other, laying the relational foundations upon which to build over time a network of people dedicated to the protection of children and to accompanying those men and women who have experienced abuse.

Little did we know then that your efforts, important in good times, will be called upon to reach out to those made even more vulnerable by what Pope Francis has called the diabolic logic of war. Our work of safeguarding begins with safeguarding the dignity of the human being.

In the words of our Holy Father this past Sunday: “Those who wage war forget humanity. They do not start from the people, they do not look at the real life of people, but place partisan interests and power before all else. They trust in the diabolical and perverse logic of weapons, which is the furthest from the logic of God. And they distance themselves from ordinary people, who want peace”.

I unite my voice to his to plea for an end to this war. I also ensure you all of the Pontifical Commission’s prayerful solidarity with our brothers and sisters of the churches of Ukraine, and those of the surrounding nations, as over the next weeks more and more vulnerable people cross the borders to flee this war in search, indeed in need, of a visible expression of God’s love. May you find the strength to be this sign of hope and charity in trying times.

Rest assured of my constant prayers,

Yours in Christ

**Seán Card. O'Malley, OFM Cap.**  
*Presidente*