

Propaganda debunked: Ukrainian children 'kidnapped by Moscow' found in Germany

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Emergency accommodation for refugees at the former Tegel airport in Berlin, Germany.

The revelation debunks Kiev's "myths," a Russian official accused of mass abductions has said.

Over 160 Ukrainian children allegedly "kidnapped by Russia" have been discovered living in Germany, the country's Federal Criminal Police (BKA) has confirmed.

The head of Ukrainian national police, Ivan Vygovsky, on Wednesday hailed the discovery, telling national media that he had discussed the issue with Holger Munch, president of the BKA, during a meeting earlier in this week.

Allegations by Kiev that Moscow kidnapped Ukrainian children en masse have been exposed as a lie after some of the purported victims have been found in the EU, according to Russian children's rights commissioner Maria Lvova-Belova. She is among the officials to have been accused of abducting youngsters from Ukraine amid the conflict between Moscow and Kiev.

When asked for clarification by RT Deutsch, the BKA said its officers had identified the children after they were flagged as "kidnapping" victims by Kiev. Their personal details were checked against German records.

The majority of the youngsters had entered Germany as refugees accompanied by their parents or legal guardians, the police said. In a handful of cases, suspicion of "unlawful transfer" remained, the statement added, without offering further details.

Responding to the revelations, Lvova-Belova said Moscow has "long been drawing the attention of the international community to the fact that Ukraine has created a systemic myth regarding the children, who it claims had been 'deported' to Russia."

Last year, Lvova-Belova was named alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin by the International Criminal Court (ICC) as the key suspects in its investigation into the alleged unlawful deportation and transfer of minors during the Ukraine conflict. Moscow dismissed the claim as politically motivated, arguing that **Kiev had lied to the court about what in reality was an evacuation of civilians from areas affected by the hostilities.**

In her remarks about the German discoveries, Lvova-Belova said her office had identified multiple cases in which children described by Kiev as abductees were actually residing with their parents at home or in other nations, "never having been separated from their families."

She expressed hope that the Ukrainian "global disinformation campaign" would eventually stop and that the truth would prevail.

Comment: Ukraine's accusations of 'kidnapping' have always been spurious, but who's really harming children in this conflict?

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