

ICRC'S CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY BUREAU FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND UKRAINE

* FIGURES AS OF THE END OF JULY 2026



266,000 missing people,
military and civilians, searched for by
families who have contacted the ICRC



18,000 families
informed on the fate or whereabouts of
their missing loved ones



34,300 personal messages
exchanged directly between prisoners
of war and their families (Red Cross and
Red Crescent messages and oral
messages)



**133 countries covered by
53 Red Cross and Red
Crescent Societies and 46
ICRC delegations**
working together to bring news
to families looking for their loved ones

The Central Tracing Agency (CTA) Bureau for the International Armed Conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine was activated in March 2022 to help prevent disappearances and alleviate the suffering of families who remain without news of their loved ones, either because they have fallen in the hands of the enemy, have been killed or because they fled their homes and have lost contact.

Acting as a neutral intermediary between the parties to the armed conflict, the bureau collects, analyzes, centralizes and transmits information on the fate and whereabouts of military personnel and civilians who have gone missing or have been separated from their families. It strives to ensure they are accounted for and retain family links.

Based in Geneva, the CTA Bureau works closely with Red Cross and Red Crescent partners around the world to address the international impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Together they support families in their search for loved ones by collecting tracing requests, and distributing family news messages across borders, ensuring that families in affected and third countries remain connected and informed.

The ICRC remains committed to do all it can to provide them with information about their loved ones.