

Committee: Environmental Commission (EC)

Topic: Alleviating the effects of post-warfare on the environment

Student Officer: Katerina Livaniou

Position: Deputy President

---

## Personal Introduction

Dear Delegates,

My name is Katerina Livaniou, I am an IB1 student in Pierce-ACG, and it is my utmost honour to be serving as one of the Deputy Presidents of the Environmental Commission. This conference will be my third time serving as a Student Officer and my ninth conference overall. Having been involved in many conferences, I consider MUN to be an excellent opportunity for teenagers to learn about what is happening around the globe and also meet like-minded people. During my MUN career, I have met students from all over the world, gained knowledge about international issues and became familiar with diplomacy. In the last 2 years, I have had fruitful debates with people that I am now able to call friends.

This year's agenda includes two very interesting and contemporary issues that this world must address. The topic that concerns this study guide is "Alleviating the effects of post-warfare on the environment", which is a rather crucial one. The purpose of this study guide is to help you with your research, by explaining the conflict, defining key terms and providing you with some important information and possible solutions for the issue.

I look forward to meeting you all and working with you!

Yours truly,

Katerina Livaniou

[a.livaniou@acg.edu](mailto:a.livaniou@acg.edu)



## Topic Introduction

The climate has been slowly impaired as a result of war. Bomb attacks and other new forms of conflict adversely destroy nature and ecosystems. Militaries waste vast quantities of fossil resources which add to global warming since they spread toxic emissions when burned. Moreover, more than 90 per cent of the total animals in a region might suffer as a result of conflict<sup>1</sup>. Warfare pollution affects the air, land and water, making it dangerous for people to inhabit the area. Furthermore, in the status quo, the devastating ecological impact of war is significantly more urgent than greenhouse gas emissions warming the climate. Many populations have been subjected to toxic fumes that were used by the military, adding to the constant contamination brought on by bombings. In addition, soldiers' and locals' incidences of cancer, such as acute myeloid leukaemia which is a very prominent type of cancer caused by toxic fumes, have increased exponentially as a result of the gases produced by these mines. In times of war, waste disposal generally breaks down, and it's not unusual for homes to burn domestic waste. This issue needs to be addressed as the effects of post-warfare on the environment are hazardous leading to serious health issues. Moreover, it is slowly destroying the planet along with its biodiversity, including species that go extinct and forests that get destroyed, while also being a source that assists the worsening of climate change.

---

<sup>1</sup> "How War Impacts Climate Change and the Environment." *Global Citizen*, 6 Apr. 2022, [www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/how-war-impacts-the-environment-and-climate-change/](http://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/how-war-impacts-the-environment-and-climate-change/).



## Definition of key terms

### Warfare

“The activity of fighting a war, often including the weapons and methods that are used.”<sup>1</sup>

### Contamination

“The process of making something dirty or poisonous, or the state of containing unwanted or dangerous substances”.<sup>2</sup>

### Combat zone

“An area where military forces operate, extending typically from the front line to the communications zone. (an area where fighting takes place)”

### Biodiversity

Biological diversity in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals<sup>3</sup>

## Background Information

### Historical Background

#### Second World War

Mission Husky in Sicily, which involved an army of about 3,000 ships, was the greatest seaborne invasion in history before D-day in Normandy. World War II involved

---

1 "Warfare." Cambridge Dictionary | English Dictionary, Translations & Thesaurus, [dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/warfare](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/warfare).

2 "Contamination." Cambridge Dictionary | English Dictionary, Translations & Thesaurus, [dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/contamination](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/contamination).

3 "Definition of BIODIVERSITY." Dictionary by Merriam-Webster: America's Most-trusted Online Dictionary, [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/biodiversity](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/biodiversity).



tens of thousands of weapons, vehicles, and aircraft<sup>1</sup>. It was a conflict that required the deployment of almost all natural resources for troops to create armour and produce bombs. Consequently, the above technological advances polluted the country's land and water in new ways and on a new basis especially combined with greatly increased output. Using new technology, air attacks were carried out throughout World War II using aircraft. Those aircraft were then deployed during the conflict to deliver bombs on both friendly and enemy targets as well as ferry supplies to and from various military facilities, while millions of habitats were harmed by these practices.

Generally, ecosystems endure noise pollution caused by military aircraft, just like animals do. Aerial landing strips, which served as refuelling and staging areas for aircraft throughout the operations in the Pacific war, served as a pathway for the introduction of exotics during World War II, bringing species to marine island ecosystems. Many indigenous species lived on the remote islands around Europe before the conflict.

### Vietnam War

Due to the use of chemical weapons, the Vietnam War caused severe environmental effects. The ability to blend in with civilian populations, hide in thick foliage, and use opposing forces that attacked natural ecosystems gave enemies the benefit of remaining undetectable. For this reason, millions of gallons of herbicides were employed by the US military to destroy enemy agriculture, defoliate forests, and remove a growth from around military installations. In comparison to the 145–170 bird species and 30-55 types<sup>2</sup> of animals found in forest areas, just 24 species of birds and 5 species of mammals were found in sprayed forests and converted regions, according to research conducted by Vietnamese ecologists. Such herbicides' hazy long-term

---

<sup>1</sup> "World War II and the Environment." *Origins*, 1 Dec. 1970, origins.osu.edu/connecting-history/nature-world-war-ii-operation-husky-environmentalism-defense-industry?language\_content\_entity=en.

<sup>2</sup> King, Jessie. "Vietnamese Wildlife Still Paying a High Price for Chemical Warfare." *The Independent*, 7 July 2006, [www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/vietnamese-wildlife-still-paying-a-high-price-for-chemical-warfare-5329662.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/vietnamese-wildlife-still-paying-a-high-price-for-chemical-warfare-5329662.html).



effects are now being found by examining changed animal distribution patterns caused by habitat loss and degradation in aquatic habitats.

### Conflict in Ukraine

The conflict in Ukraine is the most recent, and most impactful in regards to damage to the environment. Environmental-health specialists claim that the ongoing conflict in Ukraine is contaminating the country's air, water, and land, increasing the likelihood of cancer and breathing problems as well as developmental disabilities in children. As a result, it may take years to clean up the toxins that have been discharged. Extremely worrying are the health impacts of exposure to toxic substances, as well as too poisonous fumes and particles from bombs, fires, and catastrophic events, on top of the toll of thousands of lives lost in the fighting. As the contaminants are transported downstream and downwind, it is believed that the possible health effects may extend beyond Ukraine's borders. Thirty-five per cent of Europe's species, comprising 70,000 flora and fauna<sup>1</sup>, several of them endangered, extinct, and unique, may be found within Ukrainian land, including the sturgeon (the most endangered animal in the world), but also European bison, brown bears, leopards, and wolves. These ecological gems are threatened by military interference. Furthermore, both inside and outside of natural areas, ecosystems are being harmed by the movement of massive military vehicles and explosives. Thus, according to data from the European Forest Fire Information System, attacks-related fires have already destroyed almost 100,000 areas of natural habitats.

### Causes

There is a growing worry about the role that fossil fuels play in causing climate change and global warming since large volumes of coal and oil are consumed in the military due to their high level of automation. At the same time, a percentage of the destructive weaponry used in military operations usually will not operate correctly and leave unexploded weapons. Due to the danger of explosion after the fight and the

---

<sup>1</sup> "Assessing the Environmental Impacts of the War in Ukraine." *WWF*, [www.wwf.org/news/assessing-the-environmental-impacts-of-the-war-in-ukraine](http://www.wwf.org/news/assessing-the-environmental-impacts-of-the-war-in-ukraine).



toxins' leakage into the groundwater, this poses a major physical and chemical risk to the local populations living in places that were formerly combat zones. Numerous research <sup>1</sup>has discovered a direct link between rising greenhouse gas emissions and military spending. Additionally, environmental emissions from military actions are considerable. The US army is regarded as one of the worst polluters in the world. Only a quarter of the poisons generated are manufactured by the five largest US chemical corporations collectively. In addition, the Ministry of National Defence of Canada freely acknowledges that it consumes "huge quantities of hazardous chemicals" and is the State of Canada's greatest energy consumer. <sup>2</sup>

## Effects

When it comes to the effects, it is known that when a large number of people are forced to flee a conflict zone, the environmental effects that follow can be severe. When thousands of people are forced to relocate, widespread deforestation, unrestricted hunting, land degradation, and pollution of waterways by human waste take place.

## Facilities

The opponent's streets, buildings, electricity, as well as other facilities are some of the first and perhaps the most susceptible objects of attack in a military operation. Even though these are not a part of the ecosystem, the collapse of wastewater treatment facilities, for instance, drastically reduces the quality of the local water supply. Chemical production facilities were bombed during many different wars and as a result, pollutants continued to flow downstream. Countries that are now facing the environmental impacts of war, rarely have access to healthy water points. For this reason, research conducted in countries of the Middle East and Europe explains many ways in which the war can have an influence on water resources in its analysis of the

---

<sup>1</sup> "World's Militaries Avoiding Scrutiny over Emissions, Scientists Say." *The Guardian*, 12 Nov. 2021, [www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/nov/11/worlds-militaries-avoiding-scrutiny-over-emissions](http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/nov/11/worlds-militaries-avoiding-scrutiny-over-emissions).

<sup>2</sup> "U.S. Energy Facts Explained - Consumption and Production - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)." *U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)*, 10 June 2022, [www.eia.gov/energyexplained/us-energy-facts/](http://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/us-energy-facts/).



effects of contemporary warfare on aquatic habitats since 1914. <sup>1</sup>Furthermore, due to the greater potential for environmental destruction posed by contemporary weaponry, combat in the modern era, beginning with the First World War, is considered to have more broad impacts on ecosystems than previous wars. Lastly, the consequences of conflict can manifest both directly by causing harm to water resources and pollution from weaponry and indirectly by intensifying harmful processes. These processes can be caused by nature, like erosion, or by humans, such as industrial pollution.

### Deforestation

Another very harmful impact that follows war is the issue of deforestation which finds itself creating even more issues. Forests are essential to the sustainability of our world. They support a wide variety of life on Earth, from leopards and lions to mushrooms and bugs. Multiple birds and much more than half of all ground species reside in or close to trees. Weather conditions, the quality of the water and soil, and flood protection are all significantly influenced by forests. Forests directly support the homes and livelihoods of thousands of individuals. The dangers of deforestation, however, are far worse. Carbon dioxide is absorbed and stored by trees. When trees are cut down or even just disturbed, carbon dioxide as well as other gas emissions are released. Approximately 10 per cent of climate change is due to tree loss and destruction. If an end is not put to deforestation, there is no chance that we can combat the climate change issue.

### Nuclear fallout

Nuclear fallout is the remaining radioactive material that a nuclear explosion propels into the upper atmosphere. It gets its name because it "falls out of the sky" after the explosion and shock wave have subsided. It frequently describes the radioactive ash and particles that are produced when a nuclear bomb detonates.<sup>2</sup> The radioactive fallout keeps growing and harms the ecosystem for several months after the nuclear exchange. Several miles downstream of the explosion location, dirt, smoke, and

---

<sup>1</sup> "Water in war: Understanding the impacts of armed conflict on water resources and their management." [wires.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/wat2.1480](https://wires.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/wat2.1480).

<sup>2</sup> "Radioactive fallout." [www.atomicarchive.com/science/effects/radioactive-fallout.html](http://www.atomicarchive.com/science/effects/radioactive-fallout.html).



nuclear materials spread and contaminate surface water resources, while other toxic substances would take over in the next months. These nuclear particles continue to be present in the fallout dust, causing streams, ponds, land, and air to become polluted. The water may eventually get polluted with scattering particles, and contamination persists for more than 10 years following a nuclear exchange.<sup>1</sup> A groundwater would need hundreds of years or even centuries to become entirely clean. In addition, these nuclear products entering human organs from nutrition is another concern posed by nuclear fallout in addition to higher cancer and radiation disease hazards. Nuclear fusion material from a fallout event would end up in the environment, where it would be consumed first by animals and then by people. The fallout would then make radioactively tainted milk, meat, fish, veggies, cereals, and other foods unsafe.



Figure 1: Bomb attacks that are continuously harming Ukraine's environment by polluting the air and earth and therefore being a serious threat to the health of Ukrainians.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Solomon, Fred, et al. *The Medical Implications of Nuclear War*. National Academies P, 1986.

<sup>2</sup> "Health in Peril As War Takes a Heavy Toll on Ukraine's Environment." *Health in Peril As War Takes a Heavy Toll on Ukraine's Environment* | IOM Storyteller, [storyteller.iom.int/stories/health-peril-war-takes-heavy-toll-Ukraine-s-environment](https://storyteller.iom.int/stories/health-peril-war-takes-heavy-toll-Ukraine-s-environment).



## Biodiversity

One of the causes of biodiversity loss nowadays is war. Despite the growing awareness of the issue of the loss of biodiversity, there is no particular legal security for species under the protection of an organisation, which controls the conduct of armed conflict and establishes safeguards to lessen its effects. The majority of conservation programs for biodiversity have therefore focused on peaceful periods. Important ecological areas, including access points, wildlife areas, and indigenous regions, have little legal protection all through military conflict as significant global biodiversity agreements, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention, only apply in times of peace. Protection of biodiversity from the devastation of military confrontation is becoming increasingly important as the global biodiversity issue develops. However, not much is known about how to achieve this since the majority of related study has only looked at effects on animals. 12 of 14 large-sized vertebrates found in a region where war takes place, including cheetahs, Addax, and Dama Gazelle, <sup>1</sup> are now identified as extinct or worldwide endangered with extinction, for instance, the increase of military conflicts over the past decade has pushed dramatic declines in extinct native wildlife.

## Major countries and organizations involved

### United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has pledged and donated millions of pounds to countries that are now facing the negative effects that war had on the environment, such as Asian and Pacific nations. The UK has also provided these countries with volunteers and participated in seminars organised by UNEP for the assistance of countries that are facing the environmental impact of war.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> "War, Law and Biodiversity: a Race Against Time." *JusticeInfo.net*, 6 Nov. 2020, [www.justiceinfo.net/en/45896-war-law-and-biodiversity-a-race-against-time.html](http://www.justiceinfo.net/en/45896-war-law-and-biodiversity-a-race-against-time.html).

<sup>2</sup> UNEP. "UNEP and UK Government Launch Major Climate Programme in Sudan." UNEP, 7 Aug. 2017, [www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/unep-and-uk-government-launch-major-climate-programme-sudan](http://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/unep-and-uk-government-launch-major-climate-programme-sudan).



## Iraq

Since 2018, Iraq and UNEP have worked together to establish a cross-ministry team that can handle pollution brought on by armed conflict. Iraq has actively supported that team, by assisting countries in conflict, raising public awareness on the importance of donating during times of and after conflict and funded countries for the installation of centres.<sup>1</sup>

## United States of America

The USA has and is helping countries that are facing the consequences of war on the environment, one of which is Yemen, by organizing campaigns and cooperating with other nations for the provision of help for all countries affected by the impact of conflict on the environment.<sup>2</sup>

## Ukraine

Ukraine is one of the countries that are currently facing the effects of war on the environment. Severe ecological impacts have resulted from Russia's attack on Ukraine in 2022. The invasion brought on wildfires, air pollution, land pollution, water contamination, flooding, and harm to wilderness areas.<sup>3</sup>

## International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Founded in 1863, the ICRC works for prohibitions against damaging civilian populations by destroying land and water supply infrastructure. The ICRC also works to ensure that military personnel understand their duty to uphold human rights. The ICRC has successfully organised campaigns for the protection of land and water, built infrastructure for the growth of land and provided people with the necessary needs to cultivate the land.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Environment, U. N. "Iraq." UNEP - UN Environment Programme, 4 Aug. 2017, [www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/iraq](http://www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/iraq).

<sup>2</sup> "North America." UNEP - UN Environment Programme, [www.unep.org/regions/north-america](http://www.unep.org/regions/north-america).

<sup>3</sup> ---. "Ukraine." UNEP - UN Environment Programme, 4 Aug. 2017, [www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/ukraine](http://www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/ukraine). Accessed 3 Aug. 2022.

<sup>4</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross. "International Committee of the Red Cross." International Committee of the Red Cross, 31 Aug. 2016, [www.icrc.org/en](http://www.icrc.org/en).



## PAX for Peace

In order to effectively respond to hazards to human health and public dangers for people, PAX aims to chronicle the environmental effects of new and existing conflicts. Founded in 1949, PAX focuses more on the effects that the post-warfare environment has on humans' health. They assist countries that are facing the environmental consequences of war during a conflict like Ukraine and countries like Syria that are facing the same consequences after the war.<sup>1</sup>

## Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOBS)

CEOBS was established in 2018 with the main objective of raising public knowledge and comprehension of the ecological and related humanitarian effects of armed conflict and military operations. CEOBS focuses on raising awareness, as a means of having knowledge about the environmental and humanitarian effects of post-warfare on the environment.<sup>2</sup>

## Timeline of events

<u>September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1945</u>	Second world war ended, leaving serious environmental consequences behind it <sup>3</sup>
<u>April 30<sup>th</sup> 1975</u>	Vietnam war ended having environmental effects on both animals and the atmosphere. <sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> "Home - Peace Organization PAX." Paxforpeace.nl, paxforpeace.nl. Accessed 3 Aug. 2022.

<sup>2</sup> "The Conflict and Environment Observatory." CEOBS, ceobs.org. Accessed 3 Aug. 2022.

<sup>3</sup> "Environment and Health: 5. Impact of War." *PubMed Central (PMC)*, Oct. 31, [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC80251/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC80251/).

<sup>4</sup> "Vietnam War Soldiers." *Vietnam War*, 5 Mar. 2020, [alphahistory.com/vietnamwar/vietnam-war-soldiers/](http://alphahistory.com/vietnamwar/vietnam-war-soldiers/).



<u>July 15<sup>th</sup> 1994</u>	Conflict in Rwanda ended and forests were destroyed for new facilities to be built <sup>1</sup>
<u>March 15<sup>th</sup> 2011</u>	Syrian Civil War starts with consequences such as the deterioration of streams, the clearing of forests, and the waste of natural resources <sup>2</sup>
<u>July 12<sup>th</sup> 2013</u>	Military conflict in northern Syria (Rojava-Islamist) conflict starts and still goes on in our days with over fifty thousand deaths
<u>December 30<sup>th</sup> 2013</u>	The Iraq war starts and one year later the war turns into a civil war with over two hundred thousand deaths. <sup>3</sup>
<u>16<sup>th</sup> September 2014</u>	Yemeni Civil War starts leading to land drought and many disease outbreaks <sup>4</sup>
<u>24<sup>th</sup> February 2022</u>	Russia invades in Ukraine and the conflict starts with huge plant and marine ecosystems damages

<sup>1</sup> "Environmental causes and impacts of the genocide in Rwanda." <https://www.accord.org.za/ajcr-issues/environmental-causes-and-impacts-of-the-genocide-in-rwanda/>, [www.accord.org.za/ajcr-issues/environmental-causes-and-impacts-of-the-genocide-in-rwanda/](https://www.accord.org.za/ajcr-issues/environmental-causes-and-impacts-of-the-genocide-in-rwanda/).

<sup>2</sup> "The Environmental Impact of Syria's Conflict: A Preliminary Survey of Issues." *Arab Reform Initiative*, 20 Apr. 2021, [www.arab-reform.net/publication/the-environmental-impact-of-syrias-conflict-a-preliminary-survey-of-issues/](http://www.arab-reform.net/publication/the-environmental-impact-of-syrias-conflict-a-preliminary-survey-of-issues/).

<sup>3</sup> "Iraq." *UNEP - UN Environment Programme*, 16 Aug. 2021, [www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/iraq](http://www.unep.org/explore-topics/disasters-conflicts/where-we-work/iraq).

<sup>4</sup> "Yemen's Climate Crisis is Threatening Lives, Livelihoods and Culture." *ReliefWeb*, [reliefweb.int/report/yemen/yemen-s-climate-crisis-threatening-lives-livelihoods-and-culture](http://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/yemen-s-climate-crisis-threatening-lives-livelihoods-and-culture).



## Previous attempts to solve the issue

### Biological and chemical weapons

The employment of chemical and biological weapons was outlawed after World War I, and this ban was strengthened in 1972 and 1993 by outlawing their development, storage, and transfer.<sup>1</sup> The law about the complete ban of chemical and biological weapons was successful and had positive results for the environment. However, the military discovered new ways of creating weapons that haven't been banned yet, but are as toxic as chemical weapons and pose an equally harmful threat to the environment.

### Guidelines on the protection of the natural environment in armed conflict

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held a conference in 2009 when it was decided that the 1994 Principles need to be revised and that promotion efforts needed to be increased. In addition, it takes into account changes in treaty and customary law since 1994.<sup>2</sup> The 2020 Principles go further than the initial goal of the 1994 Guidelines and are a purposeful extension of the ICRC's efforts to increase knowledge of the need to protect and preserve the environment from the consequences of armed conflict. These guidelines, consist of thirty-two rules concerning the protection of the earth during the conflict. When it comes to practice, these laws were not successful. They were neglected by countries in conflict.

---

<sup>1</sup> "International Committee of the Red Cross." *International Committee of the Red Cross*, [www.icrc.org/en/document/chemical-biological-weapons](http://www.icrc.org/en/document/chemical-biological-weapons).

<sup>2</sup> "The Environment and International Humanitarian Law." *How Does Law Protect in War? - Online Casebook*, [casebook.icrc.org/case-study/environment-and-international-humanitarian-law](http://casebook.icrc.org/case-study/environment-and-international-humanitarian-law).



## Relevant UN Resolutions, Events, Treaties and Legislation

Resolution 3/1. Pollution Mitigation and Control in Areas affected by Armed Conflict or Terrorism - [UNEP Resolution UNEP/EA.3/Res.1

This resolution suggests the reconsideration of the rules established by the UN Security Council and UNEP concerning the protection of the environment during and after conflict. It also emphasizes the importance of raising awareness for all member states to be sensible about the effects of post-warfare on the environment.

## Possible solutions

Sustainable development for all countries including those affected.

Renewable resources can be proven to be useful when it comes to avoiding possible damage. Bioenergy (like ethanol), hydroelectric power, geothermal energy, renewable power, and solar energy are examples of renewable energy sources, that can be used. However, when it comes to renewable energy, natural resources are a challenge, since humans uncontrollably use them and therefore the effectiveness of such a transition depends on whether there are resources available or not. Utilizing renewable energy has both economic and environmental advantages, such as producing electricity with no greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels and reducing some forms of air pollution as well as increasing energy supply diversity and decreasing reliance on foreign fuels.

## Installation of infrastructure in countries where conflict is taking place

Especially Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) require the necessary infrastructure that will make their pathway clear to face the environmental impact of war. Most countries affected by the environmental impacts of warfare are unable to grow fruits and seeds, as the land is polluted and therefore can't provide the country with basic nutritional needs. The installation of proper infrastructure will therefore be proven to be useful when it comes to the growth of a country's land.



## Seminars and action

When it comes to the impact of war on the environment, organizing seminars and inviting people to act and assist the environment are of major importance. This could be implemented by informing not only adults but also the youth, about the effects that war has on the planet while highlighting the significance of the issue in human lives. Finally, acting in these situations can also be extremely helpful. This could be done by, visiting areas affected, planting trees in areas that are facing the issue of deforestation and finally reducing the usage of chemicals and switching to organic or ecologically friendly insecticides and fertilizers.

## Bibliography

"Assessing the Environmental Impacts of the War in Ukraine." *WWF*, [wwfcee.org/news/assessing-the-environmental-impacts-of-the-war-in-Ukraine](http://wwfcee.org/news/assessing-the-environmental-impacts-of-the-war-in-Ukraine).

"Environment and Health: 5. Impact of War." *PubMed Central (PMC)*, Oct. 31, [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC80251/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC80251/).

"Environmental Consequences of War and Aftermath." *SpringerLink*, [link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-540-87963-3](http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-540-87963-3).

"Environmental Costs." *The Costs of War*, [watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/social/environment](http://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/social/environment).

"Environmental Effects of War." *Water Treatment and Purification - Lenntech*, [www.lenntech.com/environmental-effects-war.htm](http://www.lenntech.com/environmental-effects-war.htm).

"Green Insecurity: The Environmental Costs of War in Ukraine." *Royal United Services Institute*, [rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/green-insecurity-environmental-costs-war-Ukraine](http://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/green-insecurity-environmental-costs-war-Ukraine).

"How Does War Affect the Environment?" *Treehugger*, [www.treehugger.com/the-effects-of-war-on-environment-1708787](http://www.treehugger.com/the-effects-of-war-on-environment-1708787).



"How Does War Damage the Environment?" *CEOBS*, 10 Nov. 2020, [ceobs.org/how-does-war-damage-the-environment/](https://ceobs.org/how-does-war-damage-the-environment/).

"How War Impacts Climate Change and the Environment." *Global Citizen*, 6 Apr. 2022, [www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/how-war-impacts-the-environment-and-climate-change/](https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/how-war-impacts-the-environment-and-climate-change/).

"Nature-based Solutions Vital to Mitigating Conflict-linked Environmental Damage." *ReliefWeb*, [reliefweb.int/report/world/nature-based-solutions-vital-mitigating-conflict-linked-environmental-damage](https://reliefweb.int/report/world/nature-based-solutions-vital-mitigating-conflict-linked-environmental-damage).

"Ongoing Wars and Conflicts in the World Today." *ReviseSociology*, 23 Feb. 2021, [revisesociology.com/2021/03/03/ongoing-wars-and-conflicts-in-the-world-today/](https://revisesociology.com/2021/03/03/ongoing-wars-and-conflicts-in-the-world-today/).

"The Environmental Consequences of Trade Wars." *Envision - College of Agriculture Magazine at Purdue University*, [ag.purdue.edu/envision/environmental-consequences-of-trade-wars/](https://ag.purdue.edu/envision/environmental-consequences-of-trade-wars/).

"The Environmental Impact of Syria's Conflict: A Preliminary Survey of Issues." *Arab Reform Initiative*, 20 Apr. 2021, [www.arab-reform.net/publication/the-environmental-impact-of-syria-s-conflict-a-preliminary-survey-of-issues/](https://www.arab-reform.net/publication/the-environmental-impact-of-syria-s-conflict-a-preliminary-survey-of-issues/).

"United States Announces Additional Humanitarian Assistance for the People of Yemen." *United States Department of State*, 16 Mar. 2022, [www.state.gov/united-states-announces-additional-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-people-of-yemen-3/](https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-additional-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-people-of-yemen-3/).

"War and Environmental Degradation: A Shared History." *Earth Day*, 21 Dec. 2019, [www.earthday.org/war-and-environmental-degradation/](https://www.earthday.org/war-and-environmental-degradation/).

"What's the Environmental Impact of Modern War?" *The Guardian*, 29 Oct. 2021, [www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/nov/06/whats-the-environmental-impact-of-modern-war](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/nov/06/whats-the-environmental-impact-of-modern-war).

"Witnessing the Environmental Impacts of War - Environmental Case Studies from Conflict Zones Around the World." *ReliefWeb*, [reliefweb.int/report/world/witnessing-environmental-impacts-war-environmental-case-studies-conflict-zones-around](https://reliefweb.int/report/world/witnessing-environmental-impacts-war-environmental-case-studies-conflict-zones-around).





Subbaraman, Nidhi. "Russia's War in Ukraine Could Have Environmental Impact That Lasts Decades." *WSJ*, 24 Apr. 2022, [www.wsj.com/articles/russias-war-in-Ukraine-could-have-environmental-impact-that-lasts-decades-11650801603](https://www.wsj.com/articles/russias-war-in-Ukraine-could-have-environmental-impact-that-lasts-decades-11650801603).

