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Impact of war and armed conflict on biodiversity and the environment: Russia's invasion of Ukraine

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Abstract

Armed conflicts affect lands and terrain, surface and ground waters, vegetation and wildlife in a number of ways. Especially hazardous for the environment are conflicts that take place in industrialized countries possessing a large concentration of environmentally hazardous facilities, as is the case in Ukraine. The monstrous, often irreversible destruction of nature that war brings with it is an ever-present force that has the potential to alter the biosphere.

Here is a review the consequences war and military aggression of the Russian Federation on ecosystem structure and function of Ukraine and neighboring countries of Europe. The Russia-Ukraine war is causing immense strain on the regional and the global environment.There is increment in the rate of forest fire from the war explosions which causes air pollution and habitat loss. In addition, the various weapons used during the conflict also increase the carbon footprint of the nations and causing more greenhouse gases emission in the atmosphere. There is also both short and long term risks due to the contamination caused by the war.Overall, it was found that wars and armed conflicts have a negative effect on the structure and functions of ecosystems, leads to the habitat stress, environmental pollution and disturbances, reduction in the number and loss of biodiversity, to the emissions of millions of units of toxic substances into the air or water. The effects of such emissions are well known as climate change and result in global warming, the melting of ice caps etc.

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Biography

Maryna Gorobei, PhD of Engineering. Has a great experience in environmental risk assessment, principles and theories concerning resource, waste management, climate change, digital technology in environmental protection, determining the impact on air pollution of places of extraction and storage of minerals, places of accumulation of waste and the development of measures of dust control. Her discoveries create new ways to improve the environmental safety system in air pollution issues, to use innovate digital tools for environmental protection. In 2019 Marina Gorobei for her overall research, industry impact and spirit of innovation have been selected for the “TOP 100 Leaders in education” award by Global Forum Education Leaders in Dubai, UAE. In October 2021 Maryna Gorobei became a Young Scientist of the Year of Ukraine. Member of the editorial board of two scientific journals. Author of more than 35 scientific papers, methodical recommendations, coursesforgraduatestudents

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