

The article is related to
General Studies-Paper-II
(Polity Governance & IR)

The Hindu

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Russia offers humanitarian corridors.

Russia announced humanitarian corridors would open in several Ukrainian cities on Monday, after terrified civilians came under fire in two previous attempts and with Moscow's forces pummeling cities across the country.

As international pressure mounted over horrifying scenes of civilians cut down while fleeing, Moscow's Defence Ministry announced plans for humanitarian corridors from several bombarded cities and said a "regime of silence" had started at 0700 GMT.

Russia proposed safe passage for people from Kharkiv, Kyiv, Mariupol and Sumy, after French President Emmanuel Macron held talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Ukraine dismissed Moscow's offer to create humanitarian corridors on Monday after it emerged that exit routes would lead refugees into Russia or its ally Belarus, raising questions over the safety of those who might use them.

"This is not an acceptable option," Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said.

Russia's negotiator at the peace talks, Vladimir Medinsky, in return accused Ukraine of the "war crime" of blocking the corridors.

Violence raged 12 days into the war, even as a third round of peace negotiations was starting on Monday and the Russian and Ukrainian Foreign Ministers eyed talks in Turkey later this week.

The Russian invasion has pushed more than 1.5 million people across Ukraine's borders in what the UN calls Europe's fastest growing refugee crisis since Second World War, and sparked fears of a wider conflict.

International sanctions intended to punish Moscow have done little to slow the invasion, and Washington said it was now discussing a ban on Russian oil imports with Europe.



Political Cynicism

Mr. Macron, who spoke with Russian President on Sunday, accused Mr. Putin of hypocrisy and cynicism over the offer. “All this is not serious, it is moral and political cynicism, which I find intolerable,” he told LCI television in an interview.

AFP journalists saw thousands of civilians early Monday fleeing the fighting via an unofficial humanitarian corridor in Irpin, a strategic suburb west of Kyiv.

“I am so happy to have managed to get out,” said Olga, a 48-year-old woman leaving with her two dogs.

Expected Question (Prelims Exams)

Q. What is a humanitarian corridor?

1. It is a demilitarized zone to provide relief for civilians
2. It is established in a specific area for a specific time period.

which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None

Expected Question (Mains Exams)

Q. What are humanitarian corridors? Discuss the need and significance of these corridors.

(250 Words)

Note: - The question of the main examination given for practice is designed keeping in mind the upcoming UPSC main examination. Therefore, to get an answer to this question, you can take the help of this source as well as other sources related to this topic.