



TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of Ukrainian Women's Association in Australia, branch "Mallows"

draws to the attention of the House: to the lack of intercountry adoption program with Ukraine. Currently Australia has no intercountry agreement nor bilateral arrangements with Ukraine in the field of adoption.

According to the Ukrainian adoption law foreign citizens can adopt children in a good health aged 5 y.o. and up, or adopt children with special needs under 5 y.o. and their healthy siblings (disability list is available to the prospective parents). Statistically Ukraine has over hundred thousands orphans living in orphanages, close to 10 000 of them are available for immediate international adoption.

We therefore ask the House to: establish of Australia's intercountry adoption program with Ukraine by 2015-2017