

Hello,

My name is Wendy Betts, and I am the Director of eyeWitness to Atrocities. We are a charity, based in London, formed in 2013 by the International Bar Association. Our organisation is seeking to support individuals in Ukraine recording photo and video evidence of the tragic events that are occurring. I am writing to introduce you to our services.

Because digital information can be easily manipulated, it cannot be accepted at face value. As we have all seen, the internet is rife with mis- and disinformation. While there have been many photos and videos of the situation in Ukraine recorded and circulated online, this footage will have to be verified before it can be relied upon as evidence in investigations. The verification process can be resource intensive and time consuming. If the footage cannot be verified, it may be of little use in justice proceedings. The goal of eyeWitness is to equip individuals with the ability to record photos and videos that can be quickly and easily verified by investigators, including from the International Criminal Court, the Prosecutor General, and the United Nations.

eyeWitness provides a free mobile camera app for journalists, human rights defenders, and civilians, which makes it easier to verify the footage for media, advocacy and courts of justice. The app permanently stamps the footage with the geolocation, date and time in a way that cannot be altered. You can then upload your footage encrypted to a secure server, which guarantees it has not – and will not – be tampered with. This traceable chain of custody makes it possible for your footage to be inserted as evidence in a trial. eyeWitness' legal team will then forward your footage directly to the relevant investigative bodies. When investigators receive footage taken with the eyeWitness to Atrocities app, they know it is verifiable for potential use in court.

As well as storing the information encrypted, the app also has security features designed with input from individuals working in high-risk environments. Most importantly, we do not collect any identifiable information about you that you do not wish to provide, and your footage remains strictly confidential.

eyeWitness is dedicated to bringing perpetrators of the worst international crimes to justice. Since the eyeWitness to Atrocities app was launched in 2015, we have worked with hundreds of human rights defenders in more than 20 countries around the world toward this goal, including civil society organisations in Ukraine. In 2018, footage captured with the app helped lead to the conviction of two militia leaders in the Democratic Republic of Congo of crimes against humanity. We hope the app can similarly help bring the perpetrators of international crimes in Ukraine to account.

More information about eyeWitness, including how footage taken with the eyeWitness to Atrocities app has been used in investigations and trials, is available on our website at www.eyewitness.global. Our Ukraine Resources Hub, available here https://www.eyewitness.global/Ukraine-resources-hub, includes guides on how to use eyeWitness and what to film. Finally, the eyeWitness to Atrocities app, which is available in Ukrainian, can be downloaded from the Google Play Store here

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.camera.easy&hl=en.

Thank you for your time.

Wendy & Bells

With best wishes for your safety,

Wendy Betts

Director, eyeWitness to Atrocities