



# The Holy See

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*Impromptu words of the Holy Father  
at the end of the screening of the documentary  
“Freedom on Fire: Ukraine’s Fight for Freedom”*

*New Synod Hall  
Friday, 24 February 2023*

**[Multimedia]**

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When God made man, he said to take the earth, make it grow, make it beautiful. The spirit of war is the opposite: to destroy, to destroy, not to let grow, to destroy everyone, men women, children, the elderly, everyone.

Today marks one year of this war. Let us look at Ukraine, let us pray for Ukraine and open our hearts to sorrow. Let us not be ashamed to suffer and weep, for a war is destruction, a war always diminishes us. May God make us understand this.

Let us pray.

