

Press Kit

Under Occupation: The Reality of Russification

Broadcast Date: March 15, 2026

Produced by: NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation)

Short Synopsis

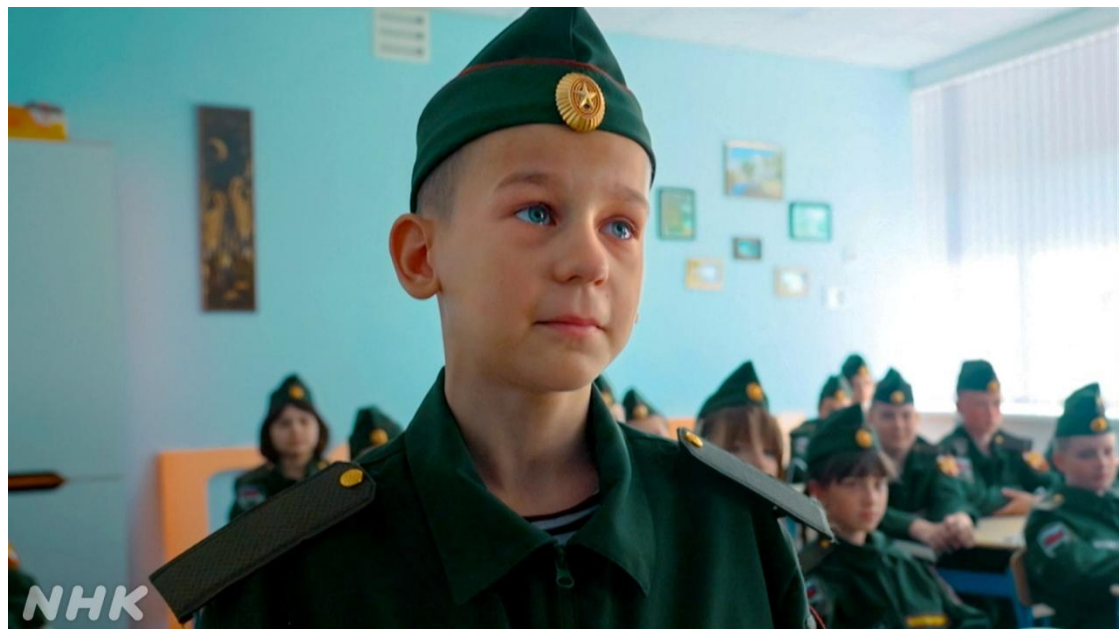
Exclusive footage takes you inside Russian-occupied areas of Ukraine. As residents are compelled to change citizenship, and even identity, they face stark choices: to adapt, remain silent, or resist.

Long Synopsis

Near the front lines where Russian and Ukrainian forces face each other in a tense standoff lies occupied territory — Ukrainian land seized by Russia through military force. This territory accounts for roughly 20% of Ukraine and is home to an estimated six million Ukrainians. Here, Russification is advancing at a rapid pace; the Ukrainian language, currency, and nationality are all being replaced with Russian equivalents. For this documentary, we conducted exclusive interviews with students enrolled in a newly established officer cadet training class at a school in occupied territory, with a civilian who was arrested on charges of state treason after being reported by a neighbor, and with a Ukrainian man who was conscripted as a Russian soldier and sent to the front lines. We also contacted 60 organizations operating under Russian control — including media outlets and occupied-territory government authorities — to break the story on the true nature of Russification. Reporting from occupied territory is severely restricted by the authorities, making it extraordinarily difficult to learn what is really happening there. Some journalists have even been arrested by authorities and lost their lives after being subjected to torture. Four years into our coverage of the war in Ukraine, we have drawn on every available reporting method — including OSINT and online investigations — to become the first in the world to shed light on the untold reality inside occupied territory. This program, in television journalism's spirit of challenging taboos, depicts how vital freedom, democracy, and above all human dignity truly are. It won Encouragement Award in the 2025 Galaxy Awards and a Galaxy Award for Press Activities.

Staff Credit

Journalist	Olga Guzhva, Gleb Golod
Cameraman	Dmytro Mulyenko, Maksym Zubchenko
Sound Design	Masaharu Sadamoto
Editor	Hiromi Hayashi
Director	Kazuho Kimura, Mayumi Yoda
Executive Producer	Kenichi Matsumiya



About NHK

NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) is Japan's sole public service media organization. Funded by receiving fees from Japanese households, NHK is widely recognized for its impartial, reliable, high-quality news and programming. Operating across all major platforms, NHK is also a creative content powerhouse, producing a wide range of genres, including news, documentaries, children's and educational programs, music, entertainment, culture, animation, and drama. A pioneer of HD broadcasting, NHK is known for integrating cutting-edge technology into its creative output and is now actively producing content in 4K and 8K.

[About NHK](#)