Russia’s army is attempting to starve the people of Ukraine, in an act of barbarity that almost always makes the world look away. This time, it will not.

The Kremlin has carved up the world for decades, as if the rules of the universe were subject to its whim. But the war in Ukraine defies its plans. It has seen autocratic regimes toppled by uprisings, with the Arab uprising, that can follow rising food prices. Ethiopia and South Sudan — are teetering on the brink.

The trick is to continue this pattern of flooding the market with so-called humanitarian aid, which is now 30% more than last year. Syria and Yemen are caught in a cycle of dependency where they can’t break free, and the US and its allies are supplying weapons to fuel the conflict. The Kremlin is using this to its advantage, while the West is falling into its trap.

The world must wake up to the reality of the war in Ukraine, where millions are starving and the future is bleak. We must not look away, but look at the images of refugees and the suffering of the people. We must stand with Ukraine, and support the push for peace.

Critics of the West say that we are “sanctioning” Russia, but the reality is that we are supplying Ukraine with the weapons it needs to defend itself. The real “sanction” is the failure of the West to act.

You can help support Ukraine by donating to humanitarian organizations and by spreading awareness of the situation. Together, we can make a difference.