



**General Assembly
Security Council**

Distr.: General
22 February 2022

Original: English

**General Assembly
Seventy-sixth session
Agenda items 35 (a) and 67**

**Security Council
Seventy-seventh year**

Prevention of armed conflict: prevention of armed conflict

**The situation in the temporarily occupied territories
of Ukraine**

**Letter dated 22 February 2022 from the Permanent Representative
of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the Russian Federation's decision to recognize the "independence" of the so-called "DPR" and "LPR" of 22 February 2022 (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its enclosure distributed as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 35 (a) and 67, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Sergiy Kyslytsya**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 22 February 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the Russian Federation's decision to recognize the "independence" of the so-called "DPR" and "LPR"

[22 February 2022]

Ukraine condemns the Russian Federation's decision to recognize the "independence" of the quasi-entities it had created in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, the so-called "Luhansk People's Republic" and "Donetsk People's Republic".

With this action the Russian side has blatantly defied the fundamental norms and principles of international law, the UN Charter, violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

The Russian Federation's decision to recognize the so-called "Luhansk People's Republic" and "Donetsk People's Republic" have no legal implications. This decision sharply escalates the situation and can mean the Russian Federation's unilateral withdrawal from the Minsk agreements.

The Ukrainian side understands Russia's intentions and its objective to provoke Ukraine. We are taking into account all the risks and do not succumb to provocations as we remain committed to politico-diplomatic settlement of the Russian-Ukrainian armed conflict.

At the instruction by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, the Ukrainian diplomatic service is currently making use of the entire arsenal of instruments of diplomacy to avert the expansion of the armed conflict.

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Dmytro Kuleba is staying in continuous communication with his colleagues to coordinate the diplomatic efforts and take action to conduct meeting of international agencies and summits as well as attract defence assistance and ensure application of harsh sanctions against the Russian Federation.

The Russian Federation's next decisions and moves depend greatly on global reactions to today's developments. We therefore insist on application against Russia of harsh sanctions to send a clear signal of inadmissibility of further escalation. The time has come to act in order to stop Russian aggression and restore peace and stability in Europe.