

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 6 December 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to reiterate our strong concerns about the transfer of unmanned aerial vehicles from Iran to Russia. As you are well aware, Russia has used these unmanned aerial vehicles in its war of aggression against Ukraine, producing tremendous harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure.

Furthermore, as highlighted in the joint German, French and British letter of 21 October 2022 ([S/2022/781](#)), the unauthorized transfer of these unmanned aerial vehicles violated Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), notably paragraph 4 of annex B. According to substantial and growing evidence, including many open-source reports, Russia deployed Mohajer-6- and Shahed-series unmanned aerial vehicles, which both meet the parameters mentioned in [S/2015/546](#) and have been manufactured and transferred after resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) entered into force.

In light of this evidence, Ukraine has formally invited United Nations experts to visit Ukraine in order to inspect recovered unmanned aerial vehicles determined to be of Iranian origin (see [S/2022/771](#)). On 28 November 2022, the Permanent Mission of Ukraine reiterated this open invitation to United Nations experts.

Similar visits to other countries by the Secretariat to examine evidence of potential violations of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) have taken place in multiple instances in the past and have greatly contributed to informing international understanding of the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).

In addition, during the Security Council meeting on 26 October 2022, the Legal Counsel, Miguel de Serpa Soares, confirmed that, absent further guidance from the Council, the Secretariat would continue to examine information brought to its attention by Member States. In this regard, I would greatly appreciate further information on the planning and possible time frame for a visit to Ukraine.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Antje Leendertse

