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**General Assembly**  
**Seventy-ninth session**  
Agenda items 62, 95 and 98

**Security Council**  
**Seventy-ninth year**

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

**Conclusion of effective international arrangements  
to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use  
or threat of use of nuclear weapons**

**General and complete disarmament**

**Letter dated 11 December 2024 from the Permanent Representative  
of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith the address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the parliaments and Governments of foreign States, the United Nations, the European Union, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its Parliamentary Assembly on the thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum), dated 5 December 2024 (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 62, 95 and 98, the eleventh emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

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



**Annex to the letter dated 11 December 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

*Unofficial translation from Ukrainian*

**Address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the parliaments and Governments of foreign States, the United Nations, the European Union, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its Parliamentary Assembly on the thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum)**

After restoring independence, Ukraine, based on universally recognized principles and norms of international law as the international legal foundations for ensuring the territorial integrity, inviolability of state borders, and political independence of any state, acting in the interests of peaceful coexistence of states for the well-being and prosperity of current and future generations, having one of the largest nuclear arsenals in the world, voluntarily renounced its nuclear weapons.

Ukraine joined the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a non-nuclear state and, in fulfilment of the provisions of the Memorandum on Security Guarantees in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (hereinafter - the Budapest Memorandum), transferred strategic and tactical nuclear weapons to the Russian Federation, and its carriers, transportation means, storage sites, and management system were destroyed.

In turn, the other signatories of the Budapest Memorandum: the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America confirmed their commitments to respect the independence and sovereignty and existing state border of Ukraine, to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine, and never to use any of their weapons against Ukraine.

The People's Republic of China and the French Republic, as nuclear-weapon states that subsequently joined the Budapest Memorandum, also confirmed their commitments to respect the independence, sovereignty, and existing state border of Ukraine.

The People's Republic of China, in the Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Ukraine and the People's Republic of China of January 4, 1992, the Joint Ukrainian-Chinese Communiqué of October 31, 1992, the Joint (Kyiv) Declaration of Ukraine and the People's Republic of China of September 6, 1994, and the Joint Ukrainian-Chinese Communiqué of June 24, 1995, committed to opposing separatism in all its manifestations and forms, hegemony and the policy of force in the international arena, and provided security guarantees to Ukraine.

Ukraine, having taken on the commitment under the Budapest Memorandum to voluntarily renounce nuclear weapons and unconditionally fulfilling them, made a huge step towards the security of the entire world and humanity. Accordingly, it expected other participating states to comply with their commitments under this international document. Instead, Ukraine became a victim of armed aggression by the Russian Federation, the consequences of which already include hundreds of thousands of human casualties, temporary occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol, parts of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia

regions, constant bombardments and missile strikes on Ukraine's energy, industrial, and civilian infrastructure, destruction of thousands of settlements, etc.

The Russian Federation became the first state in the world since World War II to commit an act of aggression against a sovereign state in the center of Europe, continues to commit massive war crimes, crimes against humanity, the crime of genocide, and acts of terrorism in Ukraine, including murders of civilians, mass torture and executions of prisoners of war, deportation of civilian population, including children, destruction of civilian infrastructure, cultural heritage, etc.

The blatant violation by the Russian Federation of its commitments under the Budapest Memorandum since 2014 has undermined the legal regime of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the principle of trust in security mechanisms for states that voluntarily renounced nuclear weapons.

The lack of an appropriate resolute response from the international community to the temporary occupation and attempts to annex the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in 2014, and the subsequent temporary occupation by the Russian Federation of parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, caused a series of subsequent events, culminating in the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in February 2022.

The aggressive behaviour of the Russian Federation threatens the security of every member of the international community, as it undermines the fundamental foundations of international legal order. Neglecting its obligations, the aggressor state not only demonstrates its disregard for international law but also threatens the entire architecture of international security.

From the very beginning of the unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the Russian Federation, by shelling and capturing the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant, which was under the occupation of Russian armed forces for over two months, and by occupying the largest nuclear power plant in Europe, the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, has put the world on the brink of a new nuclear catastrophe.

Through its irresponsible actions, the Russian Federation has violated and continues to violate numerous nuclear and radiation safety norms and rules, thereby creating risks of a nuclear accident with consequences that could be catastrophic not only for Ukraine but for other countries in the Black Sea basin.

By regularly conducting missile attacks on Ukrainian energy facilities, the Russian Federation creates additional risks to Ukraine's nuclear safety. The aggressor state considers the implementation of a criminal scenario of direct strikes on Ukraine's nuclear facilities and their infrastructure to disconnect them from the power grid during the winter period.

Moreover, the political leadership of the Russian Federation has repeatedly used and continues to use dangerous rhetoric regarding the possible use of nuclear weapons, having now announced a review of its nuclear doctrine.

The Russian Federation continues to ignore the UN General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/78/316](#) of July 11, 2024, "Safety and security of nuclear facilities of Ukraine, including the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant", the IAEA General Conference Resolutions GC(68)/RES/15 of September 20, 2024, and GC(67)/RES/16 of September 28, 2023, "Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards in Ukraine", the IAEA Board of Governors Resolutions GOV/2022/17 of March 3, 2022, GOV/2022/58 of September 15, 2022, and GOV/2022/71 of November 17, 2022, "Implications of the Situation in Ukraine for Safety, Security and Safeguards", as well as GOV/2024/18 of March 7, 2024, "Nuclear Safety, Security and Safeguards in Ukraine", which demand that the Russian Federation immediately withdraw its troops

and unauthorized personnel from the territory of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant and transfer it to the full control of the competent authorities of Ukraine.

The suspension by the Russian Federation of its participation in the Strategic Offensive Arms Reduction Treaty with the United States of America, the placement of non-strategic nuclear weapons on the territory of the Republic of Belarus, the withdrawal of ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, and the irresponsible nuclear rhetoric of the Russian Federation undermine the architecture of nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and international security as a whole.

The flagrant violation by the Russian Federation of the world legal order based on international law, including the Budapest Memorandum, of which it is one of the guarantors, necessitates an urgent need for a new reliable security guarantee system that could prevent future aggression not only against Ukraine but against any other state in the world. Such a system must restore the world's trust in international security treaties.

Taking into account the experience of 3,942 days of the Russian-Ukrainian war and, in particular, 1,016 days of full-scale war launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, new international security guarantees for Ukraine must be legally binding, long-term, and provide specific measures of response by the international community in case of violation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and security of a non-nuclear state by a nuclear-weapon state, similar to those provided by the North Atlantic Treaty.

In view of the above and referring to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution [A/RES/ES-11/6](#) of February 23, 2023, "Principles of the Charter of the United Nations underlying a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine",

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on behalf of the Ukrainian people calls upon:

1. The United Nations, Parliaments and Governments of Foreign States:

to consider the legal grounds for the Russian Federation's membership in the United Nations, as well as the effectiveness of guarantees provided under the Budapest Memorandum, at the level of the UN General Assembly, while drawing attention to the need to develop specific mechanisms for implementing international security guarantees;

to initiate a global dialogue aimed at developing a new system of universal, unconditional security guarantees that would build on existing mechanisms while increasing the responsibility of nuclear-weapon states, reducing the likelihood of states seeking nuclear weapons, and contributing to strengthening trust and the global nuclear non-proliferation regime;

to review their position regarding relations with the Russian Federation in favor of comprehensive support for Ukraine, along with expanding sanctions restrictions against the Russian Federation and providing military assistance to Ukraine;

to continue to exert pressure on the Russian Federation until the full restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity within its internationally recognized state border;

to consolidate efforts to hold the military-political leadership of the Russian Federation accountable for committing the crime of aggression;

to strengthen political and economic assistance to Ukraine, including by expanding its capabilities for implementing Ukraine's Internal Resilience Plan, restoring territorial integrity, and protecting sovereignty, which was criminally violated by the Russian Federation;

to increase military technical support for Ukraine, including by granting Ukraine consent for long-range strikes on all legitimate military targets on the territory of the Russian Federation and deploying a “deterrence package” that would compel the Russian Federation to participate in real peace negotiations;

to unite collective efforts around the implementation of the Ukrainian Peace Formula and Ukraine’s Victory Plan to preserve the world order based on international law and restore respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter;

2. Nuclear-weapon states:

to recognize the responsibility of the Russian Federation for violating security guarantees under the Budapest Memorandum;

to intensify efforts to stop the Russian Federation’s nuclear blackmail of the world and to withdraw Russian occupants from the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, demilitarize it, and subsequently transfer it to full Ukrainian control;

to create an international mechanism for monitoring and accountability for compliance with security guarantees provided to states that voluntarily renounced nuclear weapons, by adopting a separate international legal document to preserve global stability;

to consider providing Ukraine with special security guarantees, along with the possibility of defensive cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which would be a reliable contribution to strengthening peace and stability in the world, would increase trust in the nuclear non-proliferation regime, and would contribute to overall security;

3. Parliaments of European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organization member states to appeal to their national governments to make a decision on inviting Ukraine to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and supporting Ukraine’s accession to the European Union.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine expresses gratitude to all states and international organizations that support Ukraine in its struggle for independence and territorial integrity and provide necessary political, economic, military, and humanitarian assistance.

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