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

Security Council
Seventy-fourth year

Letter dated 27 March 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, five years ago the General Assembly adopted a resolution entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”.

Recalling the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of 1 August 1975 as well as the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine’s Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum) of 5 December 1994, the General Assembly affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. The Assembly also called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on the basis of the so-called “referendum” held on 16 March 2014, which had no validity.

Due to continuous blatant violations of basic human rights in Crimea and the militarization of the peninsula, the General Assembly subsequently adopted three resolutions entitled “Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine” (resolutions [71/205](#), [72/190](#) and [73/263](#)) and a resolution entitled “Problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov” (resolution [73/194](#)). In those resolutions the Assembly condemned the temporary occupation of Crimea by the Russia Federation and urged the Russian Federation to uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law as the occupying power.

Ukraine time and again urged the Russian Federation to end its occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and to fully comply with the demands of the General Assembly in the above-mentioned resolutions.

Against this background, I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the General Assembly resolution entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine” (see annex).



I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 67, “The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine”, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 27 March 2019 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 fifth anniversary of the adoption of the General Assembly resolution entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”

Five years ago, on 27 March 2014, the General Assembly adopted resolution [68/262](#), entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”.

By way of the resolution, the international community, in response to the naked Russian aggression, affirmed its full commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

The General Assembly underscored that the so-called “referendum” held on 16 March 2014, having no validity, cannot form the basis for any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or of the city of Sevastopol. The General Assembly called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on the basis of the above-mentioned “referendum”.

Despite the sanctions imposed in response to Russian actions and the clear demands of the international community, the Russian Federation has not abandoned its occupation of Crimea. On the contrary, continuing blatant violations of basic human rights in Crimea and the militarization of the peninsula have become the tip of the iceberg of Russia’s ongoing massive campaign of breaches of norms and principles of international law enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in international humanitarian, maritime and human rights law.

These brazen actions of the Russian Federation prompted the General Assembly to adopt resolutions [71/205](#), [72/190](#), [73/263](#), entitled “Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine”, and resolution [73/194](#), entitled “Problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov”.

In these resolutions, the General Assembly condemned the temporary occupation of Crimea and urged the Russian Federation, as the occupying power, to uphold all its obligations under applicable international law.

Yet again, Ukraine urges the Russian Federation to end its occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and to fully comply with the provisions of the above-mentioned General Assembly resolutions.

Ukraine will continue to take all necessary steps under international law to counter Russian aggression, protect the rights of Ukrainian citizens, restore its territorial integrity and ensure that Russia makes full reparation for the injury caused by its internationally wrongful acts.