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

**Promotion and protection of human rights: human
rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs
and representatives**

**Letter dated 20 June 2019 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 a recent wave of persecution of Crimean Tatars in the temporarily occupied Crimea (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 items 67 and 74 (c), and of the Security Council.

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



Annex to the letter dated 20 June 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 a recent wave of persecution of Crimean Tatars in the temporarily occupied Crimea

The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs expresses its resolute protest in relation to a recent wave of illegal searches and detentions of the Crimean Tatars that took place yesterday in Alushta, Bilogorsk and Simferopol districts in the temporarily occupied Crimea by Russia. As like in previous cases, the Russian occupation administration continues the repressions against residents of the Crimea under the pretext of “fight against terrorism”.

Thus, eight additional Crimean Tatars – Ruslan Nagayev, Eldar Kantimirov, Ruslan Mesutov, Lenur Khalilov, Riza Omerov, Enver Omerov, Aider Dzheparov and Eskender Suleymanov – were detained by the occupation administration in the fabricated case of “Hizb ut-Tahrir”.

By conducting punitive actions on the occupied peninsula, Russia in fact reacts to hearings, which take place at the moment in the UN International Court of Justice on Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Arbitral Tribunal in the matter of a dispute concerning the coastal state rights in the Black Sea, Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait. The demonstration of such confidence in impunity and the disrespect to international jurisdictional bodies should receive an appropriate response.

We call on strengthening of political, economic and sanctions pressure on the aggressor state in order for Russia to stop violation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Crimea, to release all the illegally detained citizens of Ukraine and to speed-up the deoccupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

The Russian Federation must implement to their full the resolutions of the UN General Assembly “Territorial integrity of Ukraine” of 27 March 2014, “Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine” of 19 December 2016, 19 December 2017 and 22 December 2018, and as well as the order of the International Court of Justice regarding provisional measures in the case of Ukraine vs Russia regarding the application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

Kyiv, 11 June 2019
