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Letter dated 14 September 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the unlawful organization and holding by the Russian Federation of so-called "elections" to illegal bodies established by the Russian occupation administration in the temporarily occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, on 13 September 2020.

Ukraine considers these actions of the Kremlin as just another grave violation of the State sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine by the Russian Federation.

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine; their legal regime is governed by the relevant norms of international humanitarian law. The holding of sham "elections" in the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol is not legitimate, and the results are legally null and void.

The so-called "election of the governor of Sevastopol" and "by-election of deputies" to the so-called "state council of the Republic of Crimea" and "Simferopol city council" represent a grave violation of the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, as well as fundamental norms and principles of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the obligations of the Russian Federation under bilateral international treaties and other norms of international law; General Assembly resolutions 68/262 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, 71/205, 72/190, 73/263 and 74/168 on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, and 73/194 and 74/17 on the 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.

All those involved in the preparations for and the holding of the unlawful "voting" in the temporarily occupied Crimea will be held responsible in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine.

Ukraine calls on foreign countries and international organizations, including the United Nations, to condemn the illegal actions of the Russian Federation and state unequivocally their non-recognition of the results of the so-called "elections" in the temporarily occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as strengthen the political and diplomatic pressure on the Russian Federation, including by expanding the sanctions.

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I would appreciate your kind assistance in having this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

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