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S-34/... The deteriorating human rights situation in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions ES-11/1 of 2 March 2022 on aggression against Ukraine and ES-11/2 of 24 March 2022 on the humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine, and Human Rights Council resolution 49/1 of 4 March 2022 on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and unity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, and reiterating the urgent need for the Russian Federation to immediately cease its aggression against Ukraine,

Expressing deep concern at the alarming number of civilian casualties caused by the aggression against Ukraine and strongly condemning attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including those involving attacks on residential areas, schools, kindergartens and medical facilities, and those carried out through the use of cluster munitions, air strikes and artillery, as well as the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, forced transfers of population, or violations and abuses committed against children,

Taking note of the recent relevant statements by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, in particular the statement made by the High Commissioner on 22 April 2022 in which she referred to the “horror story of violations perpetrated against civilians” in Ukraine, and taking note also of the report of the mission of experts established under the Moscow Mechanism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe of 13 April 2022,

Welcoming the swift appointment of the members of the independent international commission of inquiry on Ukraine established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 49/1, and emphasizing the important role played by the Office of the United Nations High

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.



Commissioner for Human Rights in contributing to an objective appraisal of the situation of human rights in Ukraine,

Strongly condemning the violations and abuses of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law, confirmed by the High Commissioner, that were committed in the areas of Kyiv, Chernihiv, Kharkiv and Sumy regions under the control of Russian armed forces in late February and in March 2022, including the very large number of reported cases of summary executions of men, women and children, of sexual and gender-based violence, of the use of torture and other ill-treatment, and of other violations that may amount to war crimes and related crimes,

Deeply concerned at the grave human rights and humanitarian situation in the city of Mariupol, the near total destruction of its residential and civilian infrastructure caused by Russian bombing and shelling, reports of tens of thousands of civilian casualties and of mass graves near the city, and the limited progress in ensuring the safe and unhindered evacuation of civilians to safe areas under the control of the Government of Ukraine,

Reiterating the need for prompt, independent and impartial national and international investigations into alleged violations and abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law and related crimes with a view to hold those responsible to account, including for those violations that may amount to war crimes and other crimes, and encouraging efficient and effective coordination among all relevant parties engaged in the collection, consolidation and analysis of evidence,

Stressing that disinformation spread by States and State-sponsored actors can accompany serious violations of international law and can have a far-reaching negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular in times of emergency, crisis and armed conflict,

Expressing its concern at the impact of the conflict on food security globally, in particular in the least developed countries, at a time when millions of people are facing famine or food insecurity in several regions of the world, especially in the light of the impediments to the agricultural exports of Ukraine as a result of the blockade of its seaports and the destruction of relevant critical infrastructure, as well as the reported theft of grain from the territories of Ukraine under the control of the Russian armed forces in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions,

1. *Reiterates* its demand for the immediate cessation of military hostilities against Ukraine, any attacks against civilians and civilian objects, and other violations of international humanitarian law and of any human rights violations and abuses in Ukraine, as well as of any disinformation, propaganda for war and national hatred related to the aggression against Ukraine;

2. *Urges* the Russian Federation to provide representatives and staff of international human rights and humanitarian institutions, including United Nations specialized agencies, with unhindered, timely, immediate, unrestricted and safe access to persons who have been transferred from conflict-affected areas of Ukraine and are held on the territory of the Russian Federation or areas controlled or occupied by the Russian Federation, and to share with relevant parties a comprehensive list of such transferred persons;

3. *Requests* the independent international commission of inquiry on Ukraine to conduct a comprehensive and independent special inquiry, consistent with its mandate and international standards, and in coordination with other national and international mechanisms, into the events in the areas of the Kyiv, Chernihiv, Kharkiv and Sumy regions in late February and in March 2022, including the gender dimension, with a view to holding those responsible to account, and also requests the commission to brief the Human Rights Council on the findings of the special inquiry as part of its oral update to the Council at its fifty-first session, and to submit a report after the completion of the special inquiry to the Council, but no later than at its fifty-second session;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to present an oral update on the grave human rights and humanitarian situation in Mariupol, including an assessment of the nature and causes of violations or abuses of human rights and of

violations of international humanitarian law committed there, to the Human Rights Council at its fiftieth session under item 2, to be followed by an interactive dialogue;

5. *Encourages* relevant thematic special procedure mandate holders, within their respective mandates, to continue to pay particular attention to the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression, and urges all relevant parties to cooperate with those mandate holders;

6. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.
