



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 168

### Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

#### **Letter dated 3 May 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to draw your attention to the below.

The American authorities, which assumed the full scope of obligations under the 1947 Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of the United States regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, keep neglecting those obligations in a gross and systematic manner.

In particular, unfounded delays in the issuance of United States entry permits thwarted the participation of the Russian delegation, represented by two officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, at the forty-fifth session of the Committee on Information of the General Assembly, held from 24 April to 4 May 2023. In this context, it is also noteworthy that, previously, the participation of the Russian delegation, headed by the Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Ms. Maria Zakharova, at the forty-fourth session of this Committee, in 2022, was undermined in the same manner.

We view these steps by the American authorities as a violation of the international legal obligations of the United States, in particular section 13 (A) of the Headquarters Agreement. In this regard, we call upon the Secretary-General to take exhaustive measures as provided for in the Agreement, in particular its section 21, in order to ensure the faithful implementation by the United States authorities of their international legal obligations and preclude the recurrence of such violations in the future.

The complete disregard by the United States for its responsibilities stemming from its status as the host country of the United Nations is further confirmed by the belated issuance of United States travel visas for the group of 10 Russian journalists, due to which they were not able to ensure media coverage of the events convened in the framework of the Russian Presidency of the Security Council with the participation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. In all mentioned cases, visa applicants provided all the required documents on time and met all mandatory requirements for a timely and unimpeded issuance of entry visas by the American authorities.



I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 168 of its current session, and of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

(*Signed*) Vassily **Nebenzia**

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