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**Security Council
Eightieth year**

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

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Crimes against humanity

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

**The responsibility to protect and the prevention of
genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes
against humanity**

Eightieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

Letter dated 26 March 2025 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the ongoing efforts by the Russian Federation to instrumentalize the so-called “International Children’s Centre ‘Artek’” in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, as a tool of propaganda and geopolitical influence. These actions constitute a blatant violation of Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity and run contrary to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution [68/262](#) of 27 March 2014, entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”.

By Presidential Decree No. 806 of 9 November 2022, the Russian Federation initiated preparations for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of “Artek” in 2025. In this regard, a so-called organizing committee was established, tasked with developing a series of events aimed at promoting “Artek” as an instrument of “soft power” and ideological influence domestically, in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and internationally. These activities seek to engage foreign audiences, particularly children of Russian expatriates and Russian-speaking individuals abroad, through initiatives such as the “People of Artek” campaign, international visits by “Artek” delegations, exhibitions and other promotional activities coordinated by “Rossotrudnichestvo” and so-called “Russian Houses” in foreign countries.

Furthermore, international competitions and educational programmes are being organized to attract children aged 12–17 to “Artek” under the guise of cultural exchange



and historical education. These programmes are being actively promoted by Russian government agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education and the State corporation “Rosatom”. The involvement of these institutions underscores the political objectives behind these efforts, which aim to legitimize the illegal annexation of Crimea and normalize Russia’s temporary occupation through the use and indoctrination of children.

Additionally, the so-called “Artek” delegation has embarked on an international tour to promote its activities, with visits to occupied Georgian territories, Belarus and Cuba, among other locations. These visits serve to foster narratives that distort historical realities and undermine Ukraine’s sovereignty.

Ukraine unequivocally condemns these actions as part of Russia’s broader policy of militarization and ideological indoctrination of youth in the temporarily occupied Crimea. Such initiatives violate international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits an occupying Power from transferring parts of its own civilian population into the territory that it occupies and engaging in activities that alter the demographic or cultural character of an occupied territory.

In light of the above, Ukraine calls on the United Nations and its Member States to:

- Reaffirm their non-recognition of any actions undertaken by the Russian Federation in the temporarily occupied Crimea, including the so-called “Artek” celebrations
- Strongly condemn the use of “Artek” for propaganda purposes and the manipulation of children
- Take all necessary measures to prevent the participation of foreign citizens in these propaganda efforts and to discourage international cooperation with organizations involved in Russia’s unlawful activities in Crimea

Ukraine remains steadfast in its commitment to defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity and counts on the continued support of the international community in countering Russia’s illegal and aggressive actions.

The crime of aggression, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by the Russian Federation further underscore Russia’s non-compliance with the United Nations membership criteria set out in Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the inadmissibility of inaction regarding Russia’s illegitimate presence in the Security Council.

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 62, 67, 80, 110, 132 and 135, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khrystyna **Hayovyshyn**
Chargé d’affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative