



Delegation of Canada  
to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada  
auprès de l'OSCE

**STATEMENT BY CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES DANIEL BARBARIE  
IN RESPONSE TO RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
1385<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
9 August 2022**

Mr. Chair,

As a firm defender of the rules-based international order, Canada believes that all participating States must abide by international law, and fulfill their UN obligations and OSCE commitments. In Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, the overwhelming majority of violations of international humanitarian law and of Geneva Conventions have been committed by Russian forces. The 1st Moscow Mechanism Report stated that: "Violations occurred on the Ukrainian as well as on the Russian side. The violations committed by the Russian Federation, however, are by far larger in nature and scale." While the 2nd Moscow Mechanism Report stated: "Most, albeit not all, violations have been committed in the territories under the effective control of the Russian Federation, including the territories of the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, and are largely attributable to the Russian Federation."

Ukraine did respond to the Moscow Mechanism reports and the concerns raised by the experts; unlike Russia who brazenly denies all censure, offering only fabrications and lies, and is now only citing this Amnesty International report in a blatantly propagandistic manner. This is intended to deflect from the fact that it is Russia that is solely responsible for the death and destruction in Ukraine originating from their February 24th invasion, and that Russia has been found to be overwhelmingly responsible for violations of international humanitarian law during this period in Ukraine. As the Russian Federation is citing the recent report, perhaps it would be appropriate to reference the additional commentary from Amnesty International on Sunday, in which they stated: "We must be very clear: Nothing we documented Ukrainian forces doing in any way justifies Russian violations."

The rules of war and of international humanitarian law were established to limit, to the extent possible, the suffering of civilians during war. Yet war breeds chaos and excessive reactions. What is important is that illegal actions are recognized, investigated, and perpetrators brought to account. In this regard, Russia is failing to meet the most basic requirements.

Thank you.