Hurting of human rights of Crimean people by sanctions of European union and Ukraine. ODIHR Conference, Warsaw, September 2019 Speech of Mr. Jan Carnogursky, Chairman of the Slovak-Russian Society

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen

I will be speaking, how the sanctions of the Europen Union and of the Republic of Ukraine declared against Republic of Crimea hurt human rights of inhabitants of Crimea and break the International Covenant on Human Rights. But first I would start from another point. The Europen Union has sunk to a political unit of second degree. Just compare presentations of Mme Mogherini on one hand and of Mr. Lavrov, Mr.Pompeo and Mr. Wang Yi on the other. One of the reasons of the declain of the EU are the tensions between EU and Russian Federation. Russia has not declained as much as the EU by the sanctions. Sanctions started and were step by step strengthened after the Declaration of Independence of Crimea in March 2014 and later joining the RF. I am ready to discuss anywhere and with anybody the legality of the Declatarion of Independence of Crimea. But now I wish to strengthen the point, that sanctions are not in the interest neither of Europe nor of RF and to the people of Crimea they hurt its human rights.

Just shortly I will mention most serious hurting of human rights. According to Part 1 Article 2 of International Covenant on social, ... rights: All peoples may, for their own ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international eco nomic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law. In no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence

As I have told, EU declared first sanktions against Crimea on 17th of March 2014. Ukraine decided various limitations on Crimea in the same time by decisions of constitutional bodies or just limitations were caused by activities of unspecific groups of persons and ukrainian constitutional bodies did not inhibit them and their results did not remove.

Ukraine introduced the blockade of the supply of the fresh water to Crimea. By various technical measures led the fresh water sourcing on the territory of Ukraine but flowing to Crimea to another zones only not to come on territory of Crimea. In this way Crimea lost ¾ of the fresh water. Lack of fresh water is causing losing of agricultural lands.

Blocking of suply of electricity. In November 2015 unspecified persons blowed up two poles for high voltage electricity in Cherson oblast. The result was the shortage of electricity for almost half of the inhabitants of Crimea, including hospitals, schools and other social and culturaly importand facilities. In museums suffered hunderts of thousands of artefacts.

Rail roads. The government of Ukraine drasticaly reduced rail roads linkage with Crimea. Moving of Crimeans and their goods on the territory of Ukraine was minimized.

Blockade of internet, banking sphere and mobile telephones. On Crimea is not possible to use global credit cards, is not possible to phone by mobile phones with european operators, the optocables for internet were cut. Crimea had to link everything by pertinent cables of the RF.

Arriving to Crimea. Foreighers arriving to Crimea need special permission of the ukrainian migration service and thex may arrive to Crimea only through spedial border's crossings from Ukraine. Arrival to Crimea from Russia is forbidden and criminal.

Ladies and gentlemen, even if EU and Ukraine considers the secession of Crimea illegal, the human rights of ordinary peoples cannot be hurt. Let's consider the difference in approach of the western countries to Crimea and to Kosovo. And in Kosovo wasnt referendum, in Crimea was. Kosovo directly broke the resolution of the UN SC No. 1244, Crimea did not break anything except Secretary General of the Soviet Communist party Mr. Chrushchov donation of Crimea to Ukraine. French President

Emmanuel Macron started considerations about malign nature of sanctions against Russia both for Russia and for Europe. We could go one step further. We could call for abandoning sanctions. I propose, this conference accepts the **resolution**:

ODHIR Conference in Warsaw calls on Russia, Ukraine, European Union to abandon the sanctions against each other.

Warsaw, September 2019.