



**Permanent Mission of Ukraine**  
to the International  
Organizations in Vienna

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE  
ON RUSSIA'S WAR OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

**1096<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting**  
(05 February 2025)

Agenda Item 1, General Statements

Mr Chairperson,

I would like to deliver a statement on the subject of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Since our last discussion on this issue in the third trimester of 2024, the situation has continued to deteriorate due to Kremlin's relentless pursuit of imperialistic ambitions. Despite repeated international calls to end the war, and all peace initiatives, Russia has only escalated its war efforts, seeking to annihilate Ukraine's sovereignty and its people.

Regrettably, international instruments designed to prevent these actions — such as the UN Charter or the Geneva Conventions — have failed to stop the Russian Federation from committing further war crimes and embracing unrestricted terror as a deliberate strategy for waging this war. One striking example of this strategy is Russia's treatment of Ukrainian prisoners of war (PoWs)./

Reports by the UN Human Rights Office, the Independent Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, and various human rights organisations consistently document the systemic ill-treatment and torture of Ukrainian POWs by Russian authorities.

According to the United Nations, more than 95% of Ukrainian POWs have been subjected to torture while in captivity. Survivors of Russian captivity describe beatings, electric shocks, sexual violence, forced excessive exercise, sleep deprivation, mock executions, and other degrading treatment.

Worse still, many Ukrainians never even reach a POW camp. Summary executions of Ukrainians on the battlefield are increasing. The Ukrainian Prosecutor General's Office reports that 147 Ukrainian POWs have been executed by Russian forces since the start of the full-scale invasion. Regrettably, this number continues to rise as new executions are documented.

One of the latest atrocities occurred just recently. On 23 January 2025, the Prosecutor General's Office announced that an investigation was launched after a video surfaced on the Internet, showing the execution of six Ukrainian PoWs by Russian soldiers in the Donetsk region. Investigations are ongoing to identify the perpetrators and circumstances of this war crime.

Russia's complete disregard for international law extends beyond the battlefield to attacks on civilians. The Russian Federation continues to carry out indiscriminate strikes, resulting in widespread destruction and loss of life.

In just the past week, Ukrainian cities and communities have suffered hundreds of attacks. The aggressor launched nearly 50 missiles, approximately 660 attack drones, and over 760 guided aerial bombs.

One of the deadliest recent attacks occurred on 1 February, when Russian forces launched 165 missiles and drones of various types. In Poltava, a missile strike on a residential building killed 14 civilians, including children, among more than 30 victims of this Russian strike.

Just yesterday, on 4 February, another Russian missile struck the city of Izium in the Kharkiv region. The attack on an administrative building in the city centre resulted in the deaths of at least five people, including a pregnant woman, and left 50 others wounded.

Just yesterday, on 4 February, a Russian missile struck the city of Izium in the Kharkiv region, targeting an administrative building in the city centre. The attack claim the lives of at least five people, including a pregnant woman, and left 50 others injured.

Even Russian civilians are not spared from the Kremlin's reckless aggression. On 2 February, the Russian air force bombed a dormitory in a school in the town of Sudzha, Kursk region, killing at least four people who had been sheltering there. At least 84 more people were rescued by Ukrainian forces, who organised a rescue operation at the site of the strike.

Despite clear evidence that a Russian Su-34 fighter jet dropped the bomb, Russian authorities falsely accused Ukraine of a missile strike, attempting to obscure the truth with a fabricated investigation.

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy aptly described this brutality: "This is a state devoid of civility. And this is an evil that will not stop on its own."

Esteemed colleagues,

By persistently violating fundamental principles of international law, the Russian Federation threatens not only Ukraine but the entire international order, the core principles of humanity and common sense.

This behaviour emboldens other authoritarian regimes to act with similar recklessness, undermining global security.

Meanwhile, the Russian Federation continues to dismiss overwhelming documented evidence of its atrocities as mere provocations or, in their own words, as part of a "hybrid war launched by the West to destroy Russia's sovereignty." In doing so, it attempts to gaslight the international community and portray itself as a victim.

We call on all participating States not to succumb to Russia's deceptive rhetoric and respond firmly. The aggressor state must be recognised and treated as such.

Russia's hostile actions demand a strong response. The Kremlin understands only strength. To achieve a just peace, lasting security, and to counter Kremlin's imperialist ambitions, we must employ all available tools - military assets, sanctions, and political pressure.

Only a strategy of peace through strength can restore the rule of law and reestablish an effective international security order based on norms and principles.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.