

STATEMENT

by

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The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine Item 59/ UN General Assembly

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Mr President,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of the European Union. Allow me to add some additional remarks in my national capacity.

We regret that we must meet today once again due to the same reason – **a blatant violation of international law** by the state that as the permanent member of the Security Council has a primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security – the Russian Federation.

Russia demonstratively continues to disregard the principles of the UN Charter, including the prohibition of use of force and development of friendly relations. On the other hand, what Russia undoubtedly is familiar with is chaos, destruction, torment and anguish as for more than 500 days since it decided to start its senseless war of choice, Russia has made lives of Ukrainian citizens a living hell. This violent approach can ban traced back to 2014, when Russia began its militant campaign by occupying Ukraine's Crimea and part of the Donbass.

The Slovak Republic supports the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We do not recognize and continue to condemn the illegal annexation of Ukrainian territories, including Crimea, by the Russian Federation. Since the illegal annexation, the human rights situation on occupied territories has significantly deteriorated.

The Slovak Republic supports President Zelensky's ten-point peace plan and will actively support this initiative. We see this plan as Ukraine's interest in engaging with the goal of achieving **a comprehensive, just and lasting peace**. The Slovak Republic **supports ensuring full individual accountability** for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes under international law committed in Ukraine. In this context, the Slovak Republic supports the activities of the International Criminal Court that conducts independent and impartial investigations of crimes within its jurisdiction.

To conclude, we condemn that Russia once again continues in **spreading disinformation** and promoting hugely damaging false narrative instead of refraining from its unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine.

We therefore call on the Russian Federation to immediately cease its military activities in Ukraine and to unconditionally withdraw all troops and the occupation administration of the Russia from the entire territory of Ukraine.

Thank you.