



## Security Council briefing on the Maintenance of Peace and Security of Ukraine, 10 January 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier  
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

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Thank you, President, and I also thank USG DiCarlo and Ms Wosornu for their sobering and informative briefings.

The Russian Federation has ended last year and started the new one by shooting over a hundred missiles and drones at densely populated areas in Kyiv and other major cities across Ukraine. It has killed civilians and destroyed civilian infrastructure, including residential buildings, schools, medical facilities, and life-supporting infrastructure.

Over 440 towns and villages were left without electricity and water supplies. Such attacks have not only brought loss, pain, and anguish for thousands of Ukrainians during one of the coldest months of winter, but they also constitute violations of international law.



Since the massive wave of attacks by Russia against Ukraine since December, the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine has recorded 90 civilian deaths, including two children. Over 421 civilians have been injured. These heinous attacks were conducted, in part, using ballistic missiles and ballistic missile launchers procured from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). We condemn these violations in the strongest terms and call for all parties to fully abide to with all Security Council resolutions.

We once again call on Russia to abide by international humanitarian law, and refrain from using weapons with wide impact area.

We reiterate our resolute condemnation of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which constitutes a manifest violation of the UN Charter. We also reaffirm our long-standing and unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.



## President

The humanitarian situation in Ukraine continues to drastically deteriorate. The cost already paid by the Ukrainian people, as we have stated it in this Council before, is unbearable. According to OHCHR, since the start of Russia's aggression there have been more than 29 thousand civilian casualties.

Russia's ongoing campaign of systematic air strikes against civilians and critical infrastructure in Ukraine must stop at once. These relentless and inhumane attacks only aim to increase human suffering and deprive Ukrainians of electricity, heating, food, medical care, and jeopardising food security all over the globe. We stress once again the importance of security and stability in the Black Sea.



Moreover, Russia has hindered humanitarian access to territories under their temporary control. Health care and other critical services for survivors of gender based-violence, sexual exploitation and abuse remain out of reach for many. This has prevented the delivery of much needed humanitarian assistance to families and children in these areas.

The constant shelling and destruction are not only exposing millions of Ukrainians to the risk of death or injury, but also to other serious protection risks, including psychological distress and loss or damage of documentation, particularly affecting the most vulnerable and people from marginalised groups. Russia and its leadership must be held fully accountable for waging a war of aggression and for other most serious crimes under international law, as well as for the massive damage caused by its war.

On this occasion, we also salute the brave Russian women who since November, facing intimidation and harassment, have energized a grass roots movement in various cities, demanding that mobilised soldiers return home.



In closing, President, today's meeting illustrates, once again, the far-reaching consequences of this war. It was another stark reminder of its devastating repercussions on not just the region, but the rest of the world.

Most importantly, Russia must unconditionally and completely withdraw all its forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.

I thank you.