



Security Council briefing on Threats to International Peace and Security (TIPS): Ukraine, 25 January 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Ms Francesca Gatt

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Thank you, President. I also thank USG Di Carlo for her informative briefing.

The military-transport plane crash illustrates once again the disastrous consequences of Russian aggression. This is the context. If Russian troops had not invaded Ukraine, and if Russia had upheld the United Nations Charter none of this would have happened.

We reiterate our condemnation of the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine, which constitutes a manifest violation of international law.



Russia's ongoing campaign of systematic air strikes against civilians and civilian infrastructure continues to bring suffering to Ukrainians. On Tuesday, Russian armed forces launched 44 missiles on cities, towns, and villages across Ukraine, which resulted in new casualties among the civilian population and the destruction of essential facilities, including medical and education buildings. Over 200 different objects were damaged, 18 people were killed and more than 130 were injured. All attacks must stop. All attacks are prohibited under international law. This is yet another reminder of the dire consequences of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

The protection of civilians in armed conflict, as well as the protection of prisoners of war in compliance with international law, including international humanitarian law must be upheld. International obligations must be upheld. Civilian casualties must be avoided, and civilians must be protected from harm at all times.



To conclude President, Malta once again, calls for Russia to end its hostilities, and withdraw its military forces, equipment, and proxies. The maintenance of international peace and security can only be ensured through a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine. We will continue to stand with Ukraine and its people in the fight they have been waging for over two years to exert their right to self-defense and preserve their territorial integrity and sovereignty.

I thank you.