

Security Council briefing on Maintenance of Peace and Security of Ukraine, 10 September 2024

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

Thank you President, and I also thank Acting USG Msuya for her briefing.

Since the last time this Council convened to discuss the situation in Ukraine, the situation on the ground has continued to deteriorate. Over the past days, we have witnessed an intensification of Russian missile and drone attacks in several Ukrainian cities. These include a large-scale drone attack on Kyiv that left fifty killed and more than three hundred injured.

These attacks have continued to add to the death and suffering that the Ukrainian population has been forced to endure since the Russian Federation launched its aggression on Ukraine two and a half years ago, in complete violation of the UN Charter.

Malta once again condemns such attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure. We reiterate our unwavering position that civilians must be protected, and that international humanitarian law must be respected by all parties at all times.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian situation in the country continues to deteriorate. This is deeply worrying. Malta extends its deep appreciation to OCHA and all humanitarian actors currently working on the ground. We call on the Russian Federation to facilitate the distribution of aid, and access to all humanitarian workers, in accordance with International Humanitarian Law.

As is always the case, children are also paying an extremely heavy price. Too many Ukrainian children have been killed. Those who have survived are left to suffer the brunt of war. They are left to deal with the loss of parents and family members, permanent injuries, displacement, long-term trauma, and exploitation. Others have been deported or forcibly transferred, actions that may constitute a war crime or a crime against humanity.

President

We will continue to support Ukraine and its right to defend itself in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter as long as this unjustified war of aggression continues.

To this end, we reiterate our full support to the mandate of the International Criminal Court, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, as well as to the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

In closing, President, we once again call on the Russian Federation to stop its attacks on Ukraine and halt its war of aggression.

We reaffirm our unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders.

The UN Charter is clear on the matter, and it is our collective duty to safeguard it. We must re-double our efforts towards a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine.

Commented [BSaM1]: Simon Grech at MaltaRep
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I thank you.