



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the UN Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva

Rue de l'Orangerie 141202
Genève, Suisse

+ 41 22 919 87 20
+ 41 22 734 38 01 (fax)
pm_un2@mfa.gov.ua

No 187/017

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food and has the honour to communicate the following.

As Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine entered its 28th months, it is with deep concern that the international community continues to witness pattern of widespread torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, wilful killing and summary execution by Russian invading forces of Ukrainian prisoners of war, persons *hors de combat* as well Ukrainian civilians arrested or detained by Russia in violation of international humanitarian law. There are numerous cases of unlawful subjecting of Ukrainian civilian detainees to prisoner-of-war internment. Russia's atrocities and unlawful practices targeting the protected persons constitute serious violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the Third and Fourth Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and the Additional Protocol I thereto of 8 June 1977, and clearly amount to war crimes.

The magnitude and severity of these crimes that were substantiated by numerous credible sources, including reports verified by the United Nations, cannot be overstated. The findings of the UN Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and the International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine confirm a consistent pattern of widespread torture carried out by the Russian authorities in places of internment and confinement. Furthermore, the systematic defiant refusal by the Russian Federation to grant representatives of the UN human rights monitoring mechanisms and the International Committee of the Red Cross access to Ukrainian prisoners of war and civilian detainees only adds to the urgency of the situation.

**United Nations Special Rapporteur
on the right to food**
Geneva

Bearing in mind relevant provisions of the HRC resolutions 52/32 and 55/23 “Situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression”, the Ukrainian Side would like to urge the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, to prioritize this issue and demand that the Russian Federation provide your mandate with unhindered, immediate and sustained access to all Ukrainian prisoners of war, unlawfully detained civilians in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine as well as in the territory of the Russian Federation itself and to ensure their humane and dignified treatment in line with international humanitarian and human rights law.

In view of the gravity of this situation, the Ukrainian side underlines the necessity of your immediate attention and action. We call upon your mandate to conduct a thorough analysis of all available information and determine the most effective strategies to address and put an end to the heinous crimes being perpetrated on a massive scale by the Russian Federation against Ukrainian prisoners of war and civilian detainees.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food the assurances of its highest consideration.

