



**General Assembly  
Security Council**

Distr.: General  
25 March 2022

Original: English

**General Assembly  
Seventy-sixth session  
Agenda items 35 (a) and 67**

**Security Council  
Seventy-seventh year**

**Prevention of armed conflict**

**The situation in the temporarily occupied territories  
of Ukraine**

**Letter dated 24 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of  
Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the forced deportation of residents of Mariupol by Russia (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35 (a) and 67, and of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* **Sergiy Kyslytsya**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 24 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the forced deportation of residents of Mariupol by Russia**

24 March 2022

The Russian Federation has launched a new phase of terror against the city of Mariupol. Residents who survived Russian bombing and artillery shelling are now being forcibly deported to Russia.

Fifteen thousand residents of the Left Bank district of Mariupol are in grave danger. The Russian occupiers are forcing them to move to Russia. The invaders confiscate people's passports and other identity documents.

According to the information available, the Russian army has forcibly deported about 6,000 Mariupol residents to Russian filtration camps in order to use them as hostages and put more political pressure on Ukraine.

At the same time, the Russian armed forces are firing on evacuation columns trying to leave Mariupol for the territory of Ukraine free from Russian occupation. Russian troops continue to hold in detention a humanitarian convoy of buses that arrived a few days ago from Zaporizhia to take people from Mariupol.

Such actions by Russia are a gross violation of the laws and customs of war, the norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions.

We call on the world leaders gathered in Brussels today for the NATO, Group of Seven and EU summits to take urgent action to save the lives of the residents of Mariupol and other Ukrainian cities who have found themselves in an inhumane siege by the Russian army.

The international community must impose new tough sanctions on Russia to stop its deadly military machine, as well as cut off all business ties with Russian companies to stop funding Russia's war against Ukraine.

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