



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Unity Government

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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

49th session

Urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression

Myanmar statement

8 March 2022

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar welcomes the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council's urgent debate on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression, and the adoption of its corresponding resolution.

Myanmar adds its voice to the collective condemnation of the unprovoked acts of war directed against Ukraine and its people. These acts are a flagrant violation of the United Nations (UN) Charter and international law.

The Russian Federation's escalating attacks on Ukraine – conducted from air, land and sea – have claimed an unknown number of lives and driven hundreds of thousands of civilians into hiding and across borders. Shelling is destroying homes. Airstrikes are targeting critical civilian infrastructure. Armed troops are flooding city streets. Early reports of war crimes are also emerging, including the use of prohibited weapons.

Expansionist aggression has provoked a human rights crisis in the heart of Europe, and its cost will be borne out in civilian lives.

Accordingly, Myanmar supports the resolution – adopted with overwhelming support – including its calls for:

- immediate, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access, including across conflict lines
- the swift and verifiable withdrawal of all Russian Federation troops and Russian-backed armed groups from Ukraine territory; and
- the urgent establishment of an independent international commission of inquiry to investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law and to support accountability.

The political independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine and the fundamental and democratic rights of its people are protected by international law and must be defended by the international community. To this end, Myanmar also welcomes the General Assembly's adoption of its resolution entitled 'Aggression against Ukraine', which Myanmar cosponsored, as well as the decision of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to open an investigation into the Situation in Ukraine.

In the words of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, "we are all diminished by conflict." Consistent with the UN Charter, every effort must be made to stop the bloodshed.

Myanmar stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.