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Technical assistance and capacity-building

Written statement* submitted by Yakutia - Our Opinion, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[21 May 2023]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Human Rights Implications of the War in Ukraine

Our Non-governmental organization "Yakutia - Our Opinion" in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council states against war in Ukraine initiated by the Russian Federation.

War has led Ukraine to a humanitarian catastrophe.

Tens of thousands of Ukrainians died, millions of people were forced to become refugees.

Dozens of cities, hundreds of towns and villages were destroyed.

Infrastructure facilities have been destroyed.

But the most important thing is irretrievable losses.

This is the death of many thousands of citizens of Ukraine.

This was a real tragedy that occurred in Europe in the 21st century.

We express sympathy and support to the people of Ukraine.

We wish people of the Russian Federation a speedy understanding of what is happening and an end to the armed conflict, where military and mobilized citizens are dying.

We urge political leadership of the Russian Federation to stop hostilities in Ukraine and move towards a peaceful diplomatic solution to the conflict.

Basically, the inhabitants of poor regions and national republics, where poverty and unemployment dominate, are sent to war.

Death of the only breadwinner dooms the family to poverty and survival.

It is especially difficult for residents of rural areas, depressive regions of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation.

For example, in the countryside, life support and care for living creatures lies with the head of the family. In the event of his death in the war, the foundations of existence of the family are simply destroyed.

In general, poor hard life is typical for most regions of the Russian Federation. In connection with beginning of the armed conflict, the situation deteriorated significantly. The death and disability of men of working age will lead the Russian Federation to an economic crisis and extinction of entire territories.

Obviously, such a situation cannot be favorable for Russian society.

At present, there is a real threat of a third world war and a global nuclear catastrophe.

No sane person in the world can be interested in such an outcome.

It is necessary to stop this war, as it threatens the existence of mankind.

Based on the foregoing, we believe that the war in Ukraine should be immediately stopped without any conditions.

We urge political leadership of Ukraine and the Russian Federation to come to a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the name of saving the lives of their citizens and ensuring global world security.

The following immediate measures must also be taken:

- to carry out an exchange of prisoners of war on the principle of "All for all";
- to create a demilitarized zone in the area of the Zaporozhskaya nuclear power plant, transfer it under the control of IAEA specialists;
- to ensure the unhindered work of the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international humanitarian missions in the zone of armed conflict;
- to ensure uninterrupted power supply and logistical passage of humanitarian cargo throughout Ukraine.

For the part of the Non-Governmental Organization "Yakutia - Our Opinion" in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council, we are ready to take a personal part in the peaceful settlement of the armed conflict and in the further restoration of peace after the war.

We call on Russian civil society to stand against war.

To stand against the deaths of people on both sides.

The recent history of the Russian Federation shows the degree of influence of society.

In 1996, the war in the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation was stopped.

On August 31, 1996, agreements on cessation of hostilities were signed in Khasavyurt.

This was facilitated, among other things, by the activity of Russian citizens and the collection of signatures against the war.

The war in Ukraine has been going on for a year and takes people's lives every day.

It is necessary to put an end to this.

In connection with the current situation, we sent appeals to the UN Secretary General, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the heads of Türkiye and China.

In the event that a ceasefire is finally impossible, we propose, on the basis of Article 42 of the UN Charter, to consider the issue of introducing international security forces to the territory of an armed conflict to restore peace.

It is necessary to take measures to adjust procedure of the UN Security Council in order to prevent the state - a member of the UN Security Council with the right of "veto" to have the opportunity to:

-unilateral decision-making on the start of hostilities on the territory of a foreign state - a member of the UN in violation of international law;

-imposition of "veto" on decisions aimed at ending the armed conflict initiated by this state.
