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**Promotion and protection of human rights:
human rights situations and reports of
special rapporteurs and representatives**

**Security Council
Seventieth year**

**Letter dated 25 November 2015 from the Permanent
Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia's Supreme Court decision in the case of illegally convicted Ukrainians Oleh Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko (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 72 (c), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yuriy Sergeyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 25 November 2015 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 Russia's Supreme Court decision in the case of illegally convicted Ukrainians Oleh Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine strongly condemns the decision by Russia's Supreme Court to uphold the verdict against Ukrainian citizens Oleh Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko, who were sentenced to 20 and 10 years, respectively, in a maximum-security prison.

The politically motivated cases against Oleh Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko, as well as the illegal detention in Russia of other Ukrainian citizens, prove the lack of justice in the Russian Federation. These cases are yet another symbol of cynicism of Russia's current policy.

We urge the immediate release of politically convicted Ukrainian citizens Oleh Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko, as well as other Ukrainian political prisoners who are being detained by Russia on trumped-up charges.

We call on the international community and human rights institutions to exert all legal and political measures possible to release them and return to Ukraine all our citizens who are political hostages in Russia.
