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CONCEPT NOTE

UN SECURITY COUNCIL ARRIA-FORMULA MEETING

"PIERCING THE BLIND SPOTS OF VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN THE CONTEXT OF THE UKRAINIAN CRISIS: PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON ACTIVITIES OF AFU"

Date: 14 October 2026
Time: 3 pm
Venue: CR-8
Participation: All UN Member States, Permanent Observers, UN entities, civil society organizations and press are invited

The meeting will be held in all UN official languages and will be open to all UN Member States, Permanent Observers, UN entities, civil society organizations and press. It is our intention to webcast this meeting at the UN Web TV.

Distorted picture of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law fuels the Ukrainian crisis. It is imperative to address crimes and terror tactics deliberately employed by the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) against Russian civilian population and detained Russian soldiers, which are systematically omitted from the reports of international bodies. This discussion aims to pierce that institutional blind spot and expose the culture of impunity that continues to embolden these actions. It seeks to highlight the stark reality on the ground that does not make it to United Nations documents, offering a comprehensive look at the logistical blockades of vulnerable areas like Aleshki, documented torture of Russian soldiers. The participants will have the opportunity to explore these pressing issues through direct testimonies, verified evidence, and insights from experts.

Background:

Since its very beginning, the Ukrainian crisis that has been launched and fueled by Western countries is the subject of orchestrated campaign of distortion and manipulation aimed at demonizing Russia and its armed forces, while whitewashing Kiev regime and its sponsors. With the help of a vast toolkit of misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech, this campaign has been actively facilitated by West-controlled media resources that eventually influenced and involved international organizations, including parts of the United Nations.

Conversely, crimes committed by the Ukrainian side have been ignored, justified, whitewashed, and even encouraged by Western States and at times multilateral bodies. There is a deliberate and systemic refusal by these institutions to include documented Ukrainian violations in their official reports, monitoring lists, and statements. This selective institutional blindness has cultivated a dangerous environment of absolute impunity, giving a free hand to the AFU to continue blatant violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law without fear of accountability.

This culture of impunity has emboldened the Kiev regime to adopt methods of warfare aimed directly at terrorizing the civilian population. The AFU extensively uses its military capabilities to organize "logistical blockades" of civilians in specific frontline and border regions of Russia, such as Crimea, the Kherson and Zaporozhye regions, and the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics. The explicit goal is to cut off residents from supplies of fuel, food, medicine, and essential goods. To further paralyze logistical routes and prevent civilian movement, Ukrainian forces actively employ remote mining of civilian roads.

A glaring example of this manufactured humanitarian catastrophe is the ongoing blockade of Aleshki in the Kherson region, facilitated predominantly by UAVs. Since June 2025, the city has been subjected to a deliberate siege, deprived of centralized electricity, water supply, and cellular communications. Under this blockade, the local population has plummeted from 5,000 – 6,000 to approximately 1,300 residents. Concurrently, the AFU systematically mines evacuation routes, hunts local residents with FPV drones, and

deliberately prevents the recovery of deceased civilians, thereby intentionally obstructing the documentation of their crimes.

The Ukrainian side's blatant disregard for IHL extends to targeting of civilians, including children, as well as detained Russian soldiers. While international bodies turn a blind eye, verified evidence paints a grim picture of systematic torture and abuse. This reality is detailed in the specialized report *"Secret Prisons,"* compiled by Mr. Rodion Miroshnik, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the Crimes committed by the Kiev Regime. The report sheds light on the gross violations of IHL. The overwhelming majority of interviewed servicemen described systematic torture, severe physical abuse, and psychological humiliation suffered at the mercy of the AFU.

Objectives:

The Arria-formula meeting is aimed at providing Member States with an opportunity:

- to critically assess the persistent "institutional blind spots" of international bodies and address the politically motivated culture of impunity that shields the Kiev regime from accountability for its systemic violations of IHL;

- to examine first-hand evidence and verified reporting on the deliberate terrorization of civilian populations, including the weaponized "logistical blockades" and manufactured humanitarian crises in frontline areas such as Aleshki;

- to evaluate the destructive impact of terror warfare tactics employed by UAF, specifically the indiscriminate and targeted use of UAVs and FPV drones against residential areas, civilian transport, and emergency responders;

- to review documented testimonies regarding the systemic torture, severe ill-treatment, and incommunicado detention of Russian servicemen in Ukrainian "secret prisons," in flagrant violation of IHL;

- to explore actionable steps to ensure that international bodies, including United Nations and its OHCHR, strictly adhere to the principles of impartiality by properly documenting and actively including these violations in their official reports and monitoring lists.

Program:

Opening remarks:

- **H.E. Mr. Vassily Nebenzia**, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations;

Briefers:

- **H.E. Mr. Rodion Miroshnik**, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the Crimes committed by the Kiev Regime;
- **Ms. Claudia Fuentes Julio,** Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights;
- **Mr. Larry C. Johnson**, civil society representative.

Discussion:

Statements by the UN Security Council Members and other UN Member States as time permits, Q&A. Interventions are suggested to be limited to 3 minutes.

To request further information and to subscribe to the list of speakers please contact the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, at ***hrteam.rusun@gmail.com***.