



**United Nations Security Council Arrria-formula meeting on
violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international
humanitarian law investigated by the Independent International
Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine**

Date: Friday 27 October 2023

Time: After conclusion of afternoon Security Council session (ca. 16:30–18:00)

Venue: ECOSOC Chamber

Objectives:

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine was established to investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights; violations of international humanitarian law; and related crimes in the context of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine.

This meeting is an opportunity for Security Council members to receive an update on the Commission of Inquiry's work, conclusions and recommendations to date.

Participants are invited to consider implications of the Commission's findings for measures to strengthen protection of civilians as the conflict continues, for securing accountability, and the implications for international peace and security.

Background:

The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine was established by the Human Rights Council on 4 March 2022 according to [resolution 49/1](#).

The mandate of the Commission of Inquiry was extended by the Council on 4 April 2023 for a further period of one year in [resolution 52/32](#). The Commission of Inquiry's findings are available on its [website](#). The Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine last briefed Council members on 27 April 2022.

The Commission of Inquiry has concluded that a wide range of grave human rights and humanitarian law violations and corresponding crimes – many amounting to war crimes, and some of them possibly to crimes against humanity – have been committed in many regions of Ukraine and in the Russian Federation.

The Commission has recommended that all alleged violations and crimes be investigated and those responsible be held accountable, either at the national or the international level. It calls for a comprehensive approach to accountability that includes both criminal responsibility and the victims' right to truth, reparation, and non-repetition.

Briefers: Members of the Commission of Inquiry

Erik Møse, Chair (Norway)



Erik Møse (Norway) is a former judge of the European Court of Human Rights, former President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and a former judge of the Supreme Court of Norway. He is an expert in international human rights law and international criminal law. He chaired the Council of Europe's Steering Committee for Human Rights, the expert committee drafting the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture, and has published extensively on human rights. Having presided over an international criminal tribunal, he has a profound understanding of human rights investigations and the collection of evidence.

Pablo de Greiff (Colombia)



Pablo de Greiff (Colombia) was the first Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation, and guarantees of non-recurrence (2012-2018). He holds a PhD in Political Theory. He has combined a distinguished academic career with a long trajectory as a practitioner, advising multilateral and national institutions and civil society organizations on justice issues in countries around the globe. From 2001 to 2014 he was Director of Research at the International Centre for Transitional Justice. Since 2014 has been Senior Fellow and Director of the Transitional Justice Program at the Centre for Human Rights and Global Justice at the School of Law, New York University.

Vrinda Grover (India)



Vrinda Grover is a practicing advocate in India with more than 30 years of experience in litigating constitutional law, criminal law and human rights. She was a member of the UN Women Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Advisory Group (2012-2016). In 2012, she participated in a fact-finding mission of the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT) and of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) in the Philippines to investigate the situation of human rights defenders in the country. Currently serving as the Chair of the Board of the International Service for Human Rights, she is also a founding member and independent expert of the Working Group on Human Rights in India and the UN.

Participation:

UN Security Council members are invited to participate and provide interventions. Participants are requested to limit interventions to three (3) minutes.

Non-Security Council members are welcome to attend the meeting. Subject to confirmation from SCAD, interpretation will be provided in the UN official languages. Subject to agreement by Council members, the Arria will be broadcast live on UN Web TV.

To inscribe to the list of speakers, please email Akshar Abhyankar at Akshar.Abhyankar@fcdo.gov.uk no later than **COP Wednesday 25 October**.