



Permanent Mission of Italy  
UN - Geneva

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**52nd session of the Human Rights Council  
Interactive Dialogue with the CoI on Ukraine**

*21 March 2023*

**Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva**

*Mr. President,*

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

For more than one year now, Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, a gross violation of the UN Charter and a threat to international security and stability, has been causing enormous suffering to the Ukrainian people, including children and other innocent civilians. It is also resulting in a global disruption with serious adverse effects, including on food and energy security, in particular for the most vulnerable countries in many parts of the world.

Italy is appalled by the information that continues to emerge, also thanks to the report of the Commission of Inquiry, of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and related crimes in Ukraine, including attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, summary executions, unlawful confinement, torture, sexual and gender-based violence, as well as forced transfers and deportations of children.

A lasting peace is our ultimate goal but it cannot be achieved without justice and the full respect of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. Those responsible for these atrocities must be held accountable. Therefore we continue to support investigations by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, the Commission of Inquiry and other accountability initiatives.

Italy stands in full solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

*I thank you*