

Mr. Chair,

I have the honor of speaking on behalf of Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and my own country, Ukraine.

The Charter of the United Nations is the main international treaty with a universal character, aimed at guaranteeing international peace and security. We have recently celebrated 75 years since the birth of the Charter and adopted the Declaration of Commemoration by consensus, which reiterates that the common endeavor for humanity is to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and reaffirms that the Charter of the United Nations, being the cornerstone of international law, has declared the principle of sovereign equality of States and respect of their territorial integrity.

Unlike previous years, unfortunately, this March, despite vigorous efforts by most of the delegations, no substantive Report was adopted by the Special Committee on the Charter, as some delegations

In these circumstances it is imperative to also recall the provisions of the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/53/101 dated 20 January 1999, entitled *Principles and guidelines for international negotiations*, which states the following: Negotiations should be conducted in good faith; States should adhere to the mutually agreed framework for conducting negotiations; States should endeavor to maintain a constructive atmosphere during negotiations and to refrain from any conduct which might undermine the negotiations and their progress.

Although Ukraine is exercising its inevitable right to self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter to repel Russian aggression and liberate its territories, it will not change its firm commitment to the rule of law, and will not turn from the path of using all available legal means to hold aggressor state accountable. Today we are finalizing the text of the ESS draft resolution, which will confirm the need for the establishment of an international mechanism for reparation for damage, loss or injury arising from the internationally wrongful acts of the Russian Federation in Ukraine.

Mr. Chair,

It is worth mentioning that what we see in Ukraine today is continuation of the same pattern of aggressive policy started in Georgia in the early 1990s, which continued with the full-scale military aggression against Georgia in 2008 and attempts to forcibly change the borders of a sovereign state in Europe and subsequent occupation of Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia by Russia.

Against this background, Russia continues to exercise effective control over 20% of Georgia's territory and its illegal military presence in Georgia's occupied regions, in parallel Russia intensifies annexation process of both regions, enhances installation of barbed wire fences and other artificial barriers along the occupation line, as well as continues illegal detentions and kidnappings of Georgian citizens, closure of the occupation line and restriction of freedom of movement that creates dire security, humanitarian and human rights situation on the ground.

In this light, our firm stance and decisive joint efforts of international community, first and foremost of the UN, are essential to ensure that Russia ceases its destructive actions against Georgia and the wider region and implements its international obligations envisaged by the UN Charter as well as the United 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement.

Nevertheless, Georgia has been adhering to the policy of peaceful resolution of Russia-Georgia conflict based on two main pillars: de-occupation of the Georgian regions on the one hand, and reconciliation and confidence building between the communities divided by the occupation lines, on the other, underpinned by respect of international law and the UN Charter. Furthermore,

Georgia is committed to utilize every peaceful means of disposal as stipulated in the Article 33 of the UN Charter, including, inter alia, engaging in negotiation

The United Nations solid actions and decisions to respond to the threat of international peace and security is vital as ever for the people of Ukraine, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova, who continue to face the threats from the use of force against their sovereignty, [ ( ) ] v0ni(r)1as