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57th regular session of the Human Rights Council

Item 4: Interactive dialogue with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression

24 September 2024

Oral Statement

The International Bar Association (IBA), the Ukrainian Bar Association (UBA), the International Services for Human Rights (ISHR), International Federation For Human Rights (FIDH), Human Rights House Foundation (HRHF) keep condemning ongoing widespread violations of human rights and International Humanitarian Law amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity in the course of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, including recent brutal attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructures.

In March 2023, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant against the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, finding reasonable grounds to believe that he bears individual criminal responsibility for crimes under Art. 25(3a) and 28(b) of the Rome Statute, in connection with Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

States Parties to the Rome Statute have a legal obligation to cooperate fully with the ICC. When the Court calls on them to arrest and surrender a suspect, they are required to do so. In this respect, we deplore that Mongolia recently failed to comply with its obligations and we urge other State Parties to respect their obligations and to cooperate with the Court in the future.

No one is above the law. We must stand with victims and those who seek justice and we must stand united against impunity. To this aim, cooperation with the ICC is essential.

The integrity of the ICC must always be preserved. We call on all States to ensure full cooperation with the Court, so that it can keep fulfilling its mandate of ensuring justice for all victims of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression.

Thank you.

This statement was delivered by:

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