



Human Rights
Institute

52st Session of the United Nations 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***

20 March 2023

Oral Statement

The International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute commends the work of the COI. We are appalled by the conclusion of its investigations indicating that Russia has committed extensive war crimes and possibly crimes against humanity in Ukraine.

We praise the ICC for its recent arrest warrant against President Vladimir Putin for bearing individual criminal responsibility for the abduction and deportation of Ukrainian children to Russian re-education camps.

Thousands of Ukrainian children are being held in Russian camps since the beginning of the invasion. There appears to be no mechanism or process for their return, yet.

In addition, there are allegations of mass deportations of Ukrainians from occupied territories to Russia. Russian officials have forcibly resettled an unspecified number of Ukrainian citizens to 57 regions in Russia, including Far East and Siberia.

High-ranking officials of the Russian Army stand accused of perpetrating systematic conflict-related sexual violence, and ordering the commission of other crimes, including rape, torture and inhuman and degrading treatment.

These criminal conducts are still ongoing. The COI report's conclusions, along with the ICC arrest warrant, raise public awareness that may help prevent the commission of further crimes.

We urge all states of this Council to vote for the renewal of the COI, to adequately resource it so that it can meaningfully and effectively fulfil its mandate, facilitating accountability for international crimes.

Thank you.

This statement was delivered by:

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