

#HRC51 Side Event / Zoom webinar

Monday 3 October

13:30 - 15:00 CEST

UKRAINE: Human rights violations and militarisation in Crimea

Even prior to Russia's renewed invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, [Ukrainian](#) and [international](#) human rights organisations reported severe violations of human rights in occupied Crimea; including, enforced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial punishment, and politically motivated persecution and deprivation of liberty. Occupied Crimea was consistently ranked as unfree on [global freedom indices](#) and annual United Nations General Assembly [resolutions](#) pointed to on-going human rights abuses on the peninsula.

In the six months since the start of Russia's renewed invasion of Ukraine, occupied Crimea remains a location of severe human rights violations and increasing militarisation by Russian authorities. As of July 26, 2022, at least [127 citizens](#) of Ukraine have been deprived of liberty due to politically and/or religiously motivated criminal prosecution. Increasingly draconian laws limiting the freedoms of assembly, association, and expression and opinion in Russia continue to be [applied](#) in occupied Crimea.

At the 51st session, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry established by the Council at HRC49 will provide an [oral update](#) to the Council. The Council will also receive a [quarterly update](#) from the High Commissioner. This side event allows an opportunity for civil society organisations to share new wide-ranging research and documentation on human rights violations in Crimea as well as the human rights implications for increasing militarisation of the peninsula.

The panel will focus on the following key questions:

- What are the most pressing human rights issues in Crimea today, and how is the situation changing in light of Russia's renewed invasion of Ukraine?
- What does the militarisation of Crimea by Russian authorities mean for human rights in Crimea and in the rest of Ukraine?
- What role does the Human Rights Council have in addressing the human rights situation?

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Welcome remarks

Emine Dzheppar (TBC)

First Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine

Speakers

Tetiana Pechonchyk

ZMINA Human Rights Centre

Mariia Sulialina

Almenda Centre for Civic Education

Volodymyr Chekrygin

Crimean Human Rights Group

Kateryna Rashkevskaya

Regional Center for Human Rights

Moderated by

Matthew Jones

Human Rights House Foundation



Permanent Mission of Norway
Geneva



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
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Permanent Mission
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