



**Statement by Ambassador Kristín A. Árnadóttir, Permanent Representative of Iceland. 1390th Permanent Council, 22 September 2022.
The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine**

Mr Chair

Yesterday we observed the International Day of Peace against the backdrop of the Russian Federation's illegal and brutal war of aggression against Ukraine.

We strongly condemn Russia's complete disregard for international humanitarian law and human rights law.

Another mass grave and torture chambers discovered in the newly liberated Kharkiv region have left us horrified and shocked. The Russian Federation has demonstrated that it has no respect for the sanctity of human life and dignity.

Documentation, investigation, and prosecution of all international crimes committed in Ukraine, must be ensured. Impunity is not an option.

Russia's war against Ukraine, combined with its earlier occupation of Crimea has deeply altered the security situation in the OSCE area. Instead of promoting and supporting efforts to strengthen security, dialogue, and cooperation to secure long-term peace and flourishing societies in the OSCE region, Russia has chosen to wage an illegal war against Ukraine, the multilateral system and the principles underlying diplomacy.

Moreover, the so called "referendums" planned in the occupied regions in Ukraine are meaningless and are not in line with international law.

Iceland will continue to defend and promote human rights, democratic values, and the rule of law. We will continue our unwavering support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people for as long as is needed. Unity in support of Ukraine and our common security, as well as protection of the international rule-based order will continue to be our priority.

I thank you.