

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY !

Statement by Ambassador Barbara Žvokelj, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the International Organizations in Vienna, at the 1360th meeting of the Permanent Council on the Russian Federation's ongoing aggression against Ukraine (Agenda item 1)

Vienna, 3 March 2022

Mr Chairperson,

I would like to join others in expressing sincere condolences to the family of Maryna Fenina, who died in shelling, as well as to the families of other victims of this war.

Mr Chairperson,

Slovenia fully subscribes to the statement delivered earlier on behalf of the EU, but please allow me to inform on particular topic of grave concern.

During the Russian attack on 1 March, a rocket bomb targeted an administrative building in the central square of Kharkiv. It also severely damaged the Consulate of the Republic of Slovenia.

Slovenia strongly condemned this outrageous act and clear violation of international law. Bombarding buildings, which are not military objects, is a war crime under international law. The attack took place in the historic centre of the city of Kharkiv, where there are many residential buildings. Lives have been lost.

This is another proof of how indiscriminate Russian aggression is and we will insist that those responsible will be held accountable for all the crimes committed, including war crimes.

Slovenia urges participating States to support ICC prosecutor's investigation.

Mr Chairperson, I would like to ask for this statement to be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you