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Statement of Ireland

54th session of the Human Rights Council

ID with the Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine

25 September 2023

Mr President,

Ireland aligns with the EU statement and thanks the Commission for their oral update.

Ireland continues to condemn Russia's illegal and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, which is having devastating consequences both regionally and globally. We remain unwavering in our support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and its right to defend itself against sustained Russian aggression.

The Commission's findings indicate a harrowing pattern of violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law by the Russian armed forces, and we note with serious concern the finding that many of these violations may amount to war crimes.

Ireland remains steadfast in our commitment to ensuring comprehensive accountability for these crimes, to holding perpetrators to account, and to ensuring redress.

Ireland is a founding member of Council of Europe's Register of Damage, which will serve as a record of evidence and claims for damage, loss or injury caused to all natural and legal persons concerned, as well as to the State of Ukraine, by Russia's internationally wrongful acts in or against Ukraine.

Commissioners, what measures can be taken to ensure that the voices of survivors are to the forefront when considering how to deliver comprehensive accountability?