

Human Rights Council – 38th Session

Interactive Dialogue on the regular periodic update on Ukraine 3 July 2018

Australian Statement

Australia thanks the OHCHR for its report on Ukraine.

We deplore ongoing fighting in eastern Ukraine and its impact on civilians and vital infrastructure. Australia calls on all parties to implement their Minsk 2 obligations. This remains the only agreed basis for resolving the crisis.

We reiterate our support for Ukraine's territorial integrity. We are gravely concerned by reports of continuing human rights abuses in occupied Crimea and eastern Ukraine. We urge the illegitimate authorities in those areas to cease politically motivated violence and repression, particularly against Tatars in Crimea, and respect all peoples' human rights.

Australia is also concerned by ongoing human rights abuses detailed in the report and slow implementation of human rights reforms throughout Ukraine. We are particularly concerned by reported attacks against vulnerable minorities, and the apparent impunity of some groups' threatening and violent activities. We call on the Government of Ukraine to take immediate action to address and bring to an end the human rights abuses documented by the OHCHR and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.

We support the OHCHR, and relevant special procedure mandate holders, continuing to report on the situation in Ukraine and would welcome the Deputy High Commissioner's views on options for ensuring accountability for perpetrators of human rights abuses in Ukraine.

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