



**Statement by Permanent Representative Kristín A. Árnadóttir.
1398 Permanent Council Meeting, Vienna, 10 November 2022.
Russia's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine.**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Every day that passes, Russia's premeditated, unprovoked and illegal war of aggression continues to cause tragic loss of life, suffering, damage, and destruction in Ukraine. Every day, the courageous Ukrainian people continue to defend their country from an aggressor, Russia, that does not respect the international rules that we are all bound by.

We strongly condemn the continued and escalated attacks by the Russian Federation against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including attacks on energy and water infrastructure and critical facilities. Russia's attacks on electricity infrastructure in Ukraine has left millions without power and heating. We continue to reiterate that directly targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure amounts to war crimes under international humanitarian law.

The Russian Federation has attempted to justify its war of aggression against Ukraine with a full-blown disinformation campaign, by spreading propaganda and lies. We categorically reject the false narratives of the Russian Federation and condemn its attempts to hide behind lies and propaganda while committing inexcusable atrocities and violating the most fundamental rules of international law. This includes the false claims by the Russian Federation alleging that Ukraine is preparing a "dirty bomb", which have been confirmed as baseless by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Mr. Chair

We will never recognise Russia's attempts to illegally annex Ukraine's territory. It is tragic that an OSCE participating State and Permanent Member of the UN Security Council continues to grossly undermine international and regional peace and security on such a large scale, with such devastating and widespread consequences for Ukraine as well as the whole world.

Accountability must and will be ensured for international crimes and all violations of international law. There can be no impunity for the atrocities committed over the course of this senseless and brutal war of aggression by the Russian Federation. We will continue to support all efforts to ensure justice and accountability.

Iceland reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine and its people. We continue to call on the Russian Federation to immediately stop this war. To respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders. To withdraw without delay its troops and equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.