



## **Intersessional ID on Ukraine**

19 December 2023

### **Oral Statement**

The International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute and the Ukrainian Bar Association condemn escalating violations of human rights and International Humanitarian Law amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity in the course of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, also confirmed by the latest oral updates of the COI on Ukraine.<sup>1</sup>

We condemn the "widespread and systematic" murder, torture, incommunicado detention, enforced disappearances and sexual violence in territories occupied by Russian armed forces, as also indicated in the COI's finding, and we are alarmed by the signs of genocide and ecocide in Ukraine.

We remain seriously concerned about the status and treatment of all Ukrainian children forcibly transferred and deported to the temporarily occupied territories and Russia. We call on the Russian Federation to immediately cease those practices and collaborate with Ukraine and international actors to ensure the children's safe return to Ukraine.

We also call on UN institutions and Member States through international cooperation to enhance accountability by means of universal jurisdiction, as well as provide robust support to the Ukraine's justice system and assist in effective investigation and prosecution of international crimes, in accordance with fair trial guarantees.

Thank you.

*This statement was delivered by:*

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<sup>1</sup> These include direct attacks on civilians and civilian objects, use of explosive weapons in populated areas, abduction of children, collective expulsion of Ukrainians from occupied territories to Russia, systematic torture and ill-treatment, including sexual violence.