



Statement by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan at the Human Rights Council Urgent Debate on the situation of human rights in Ukraine

03 March 2022

Mr. President,

Pakistan views the latest situation between Ukraine and the Russian Federation with deep concern and regret.

We note with deep concern the failure of diplomacy and human rights and humanitarian implications arising from the conflict. We condole the loss of precious human lives, stand in solidarity with the affected families and wish speedy recovery to the injured.

Pakistan is committed to the fundamental principles of the UN Charter: self-determination of peoples, non-use or threat of use of force, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and pacific settlement of disputes.

Pakistan urges restraint and avoidance of indiscriminate and disproportionate actions. Protection of human rights and adherence to obligations under international humanitarian law remains imperative. A diplomatic solution is indispensable to de-escalate the conflict, and mitigate further human suffering and displacement.

We welcome recent engagement between the two sides and urge its continuation. Human rights and protection of those stranded in the conflict should also be part of this dialogue process.

Humanitarian assistance must be extended to all affected without discrimination on the basis of race, nationality, religion and ethnicity. We support stepping up humanitarian efforts and facilitating safe evacuation of civilians.

Pakistan is seriously concerned over the safety and welfare of all civilians including Pakistan citizens and students in the conflict zone. Most of them have been evacuated and those remaining are being facilitated. We thank the cooperation extended by Ukrainian authorities as well as other countries. We call on all parties to provide safe passage to stranded civilians.

Mr. President,

Pakistan stresses faithful, universal and consistent respect by all States of the fundamental norms and principles of international law, as enshrined in the UN Charter and international human rights instruments. We hope the Council's deliberations and its outcome would help advance a diplomatic solution and safeguard basic rights of civilians affected by the conflict.