



**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

220 East 51st Street
New York, N.Y., 10022

Phone : (212) 759-7003
Fax: (212) 355-9455

E-mail: uno_us@mfa.gov.ua
<http://ukraineun.org>

4132/28-110-60

16 January 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the Comment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine as of January 16, 2018, regarding the illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to the Russian Federation.

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having this letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly under sub-item (c) of Agenda item 72 of its 72nd Session and of the Security Council.

Please accept, **Excellency**, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enclosure: as stated.

Volodymyr Yelchenko
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
of the United Nations

New York

Comment of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to the Russian Federation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest against the illegal transfer to the Russian Federation of the citizens of Ukraine Muslim Aliev, Emir-Usein Kuku, Vadym Siruk, Enver Bekirov, Refat Alimov and Arsen Dzhapparov detained on the territory of the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea under trumped-up charges in terrorist activities.

In accordance with the norms of international humanitarian law the occupying power is forbidden from forceful transfer of citizens of the occupied state to the territory of the occupying power. The commission by the state-occupant of such unlawful actions entails its international legal responsibility.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine demands from the Russian side to stop the practice of illegal transfer of Ukrainian citizens from the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol to the Russian Federation and immediately return them to the territory of Ukraine.