

Title: Russian military aggression and temporary occupation of Crimea: catastrophic impact on the present and future of the indigenous peoples of Ukraine

ORGANIZER: Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, NGO “Crimean Tatar Resource Center”, Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people

Date: 19 April (10:00-11:15), CR-5

Interpretation languages: English/Ukrainian

Concept note:

The consequences of Russia’s occupation of Crimea in 2014 for the indigenous peoples in Ukraine were intensified by Russia's full-scale military invasion of Ukraine in 2022. The side event is dedicated to shed light on the multifaceted challenges faced by these communities. Through insightful discussions and analysis, the event aims to underscore the urgent need for international attention and action to address the plight of indigenous peoples in the face of ongoing aggression.

Speakers will tell about discriminatory policy and practice of Russia as an aggressor state in the occupied Crimea against indigenous peoples, and will analyze the consequences of the ban of the representative body of indigenous Crimean Tatar people, the Mejlis; as well as the illegal mobilization as a war crime for suppression voices of indigenous youth, the ongoing militarization of Crimea, which is used as a base for escalating aggression and the related humanitarian and environmental challenges.

Key topics to be discussed:

1. Indigenous peoples as victims of crimes against humanity and war crimes in the context of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine.
2. Mobilization as an instrument of hybrid deportation of indigenous peoples and pressure on indigenous Crimean Tatar youth.
3. The problem of realization of the right to self-determination of indigenous Crimean Tatar people in conditions of ongoing Russia’s aggression against Ukraine .
4. Mechanisms for the protection of indigenous peoples in armed conflict.

Opening remarks: H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the UN

Briefers:

Refat Chubarov – Chairman of Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people

Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations

Eskender Bariiev – Head of the Board of the Crimean Tatar Resource Center, member of Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people

Liudmyla Korotkykh – Deputy Head of the Crimean Tatar Youth Center

Suleiman Mamutov – Member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues