



HUMAN RIGHTS HOUSE  
FOUNDATION

**Human Rights House Foundation (HRRF) assessment of the draft resolution on Ukraine presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (draft as of 26 June 2014)**

**HRRF welcomes the resolution on Ukraine<sup>1</sup> and the extensive work conducted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the country.**

We are gravely concerned about the **lack of cooperation of the Ukrainian Minister of Interior** and of the State Security Service with the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU), and regret that the resolution does not note it. This lack of cooperation has prevented the latest from conducting a prompt and thorough investigation into the violent incidents of 2 May 2014 in Odesa, which caused the death of 42 people and injuries hundreds more<sup>2</sup>. We call upon the Authorities of Ukraine to make all possible efforts to facilitate the work of the HRMMU on its territory, and to conduct security and law enforcement operations in accordance with applicable international law, with due regard to the protection of those not involved in the fighting.

We also welcome the reference in the draft resolution to the **worrying human rights situation in Crimea**, and in particular on the situation of Crimean Tartar people, and on the ongoing activities by illegal armed groups in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

We join the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other international voices, in **condemning the enforcement of legislation of the Russian Federation on the territory of Crimea**, at variance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/262.

We deeply regret that the draft **resolution on Ukraine fails to acknowledge the role of civil society** in documenting human rights violations and in providing support to victims of such violations. In Ukraine, human rights NGOs have proven their strong commitment to the rule of law and the respect of all human rights for all people, as well as their high level of professionalism and excellence. We call upon the authorities of Ukraine to publicly acknowledge the important and legitimate role of human rights defenders in the promotion of human rights, democracy and rule of law, and avoid stigmatisation, as stated by the Human Rights Council resolution 22/6 of 21 March 2013.

**We also regret the lack of reference in the resolution to the request of assistance and the need for investigation by the International Criminal Court.** For long, we have called for a massive reform of the Ukrainian legislation in many fields. Unfortunately, the national judicial system now shows its limits and it is clear that it does not have the adequate knowledge, independence and resources to investigate all human rights violations since 29 November 2013 throughout the country.<sup>3</sup> The Court is indeed the only international body able to not only document human rights violations, but also investigate into those violations and end impunity.

**[“No peace plan without accountability for human rights”](#): HRHN’s joint letter of concern to President Petro Poroshenko of 26 June 2014**

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<sup>1</sup> See also OHCHR’s report published on 15 June 2014:

<http://www.ohchr.org/documents/countries/ua/hrmmureport15june2014.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> See also OHCHR’s report published on 15 June 2014, from Para 34 to 93:

<http://www.ohchr.org/documents/countries/ua/hrmmureport15june2014.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> “Ukraine: Human rights must be basic principle to end violence”, 19 May 2014, available at <http://humanrightshouse.org/Articles/20167.html>.