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Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's oral update on Ukraine

5 October 2021

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger,
Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Madam President,

Liechtenstein thanks the High Commissioner for Human Rights for her oral update on Ukraine and for her continued monitoring efforts in this regard.

We regret that the human rights situation in Eastern Ukraine remains a matter of concern. Allegations of torture, including allegations of the widespread use of torture in Donetsk, as well as cases of arbitrary arrest and detention continue to be reported. An immediate halt to all human rights violations as well as accountability for these crimes needs to be treated as a priority. Victims and survivors must be provided with justice and redress, also in order to prevent the further occurrence of violations. Both, the Minsk Agreement as well as human rights and international humanitarian law, need to be upheld by all parties.

With regard to the Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea, we are concerned about the deterioration of the human rights situation, in particular the numerous allegations of

torture and ill-treatment of persons detained by law enforcement entities as well as by reports of arbitrary arrests.

Liechtenstein does not recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea and strongly calls on the Russian Federation to uphold its obligations as the occupying Power under international human rights law and international humanitarian law and to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders. Furthermore, full cooperation with independent international mechanisms and observers, such as the OHCHR, needs to be ensured and unhindered access to all occupied territories must to be granted.

I thank you.