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Statement at the oral update by the High Commissioner on Ukraine

15 December 2021

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Madam High Commissioner, for the oral update on the situation in Ukraine and for the continued monitoring efforts in this regard.

We regret that the human rights situation in Eastern Ukraine remains a matter of concern, in particular due to the raise of civilian casualties as well as restrictions of the freedom of movement, including the closing of cross points, which continues to place a heavy burden on civilians who need to cross the contact line.

Liechtenstein stresses the importance of upholding standards of fair trial as well as the protection of journalists and human rights defenders from attacks and reprisals. All persons who were arbitrarily detained need to be released immediately.

We are particularly concerned about the imminent risk of further escalation of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine. This would further deteriorate the already dire humanitarian situation of the civilian population.

Liechtenstein calls on all parties to the conflict to refrain from provocations, to respect obligations under international law and to find a peaceful solution for the conflict. We would like to express our strong support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Madam High Commissioner,

What can the Human Rights Council do to prevent a further escalation of the situation in Eastern Ukraine?

I thank you.