

**Statement**  
**by the Delegation of Ukraine at the UN GA Sixth Committee meeting under agenda**  
**item 109 "Measures to eliminate international terrorism"**  
(2 October 2023, New York)

**Mr. Chairman,**

Let me join the previous speakers in congratulating you on the assumption of this position and wish every success in your work.

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

Throughout the decades the international community has been exposed to the constantly evolving terrorism threat. ISIL/Da'esh, Al-Qaida, Boko Haram and other terrorist groups have grown from being regional menace to global threats to international peace and security. In recent years, the state-sponsored terrorist organization Wagner Group has been added to this list.

Regrettably, up to date, terrorist attacks in different parts of the world are still causing huge number of deaths and casualties, increase number of displaced people, wreak havoc and fear in our societies. We are affected by more sophisticated methods and tactics by terrorists, their mentors and sponsors are becoming crueler and more ambitious. Furthermore, some countries have integrated terrorism into their state policy that consequently has already led to flagrant violations of international law.

Ukraine recognizes the role of the UN in the global efforts to suppress international terrorism and to promote international cooperation in this field. We welcome the adoption of UN General Assembly resolution on the Eighth Review of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS), which, inter alia, reconfirms respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, focuses on tackling the root causes and conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism as well as strengthening states' capacity to counter this evil.

Ukraine remains fully committed to fighting against terrorism and violent extremism. In this regard, let me recall that on our initiative the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2341 (2017) on protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In the context of measures to eliminate international terrorism, we cannot but mention about the ongoing hostilities on our national territory caused by the war.

The aggression against Ukraine launched 9 years ago by temporary occupation of Ukrainian Crimea and certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions by Russia, has led to multiple terrorist acts.

One of the first such terrible acts by Russia occurred back in July 2014, when pro-Russian militants shot down the Malaysian airliner MH 17 on our territory. 298 passengers and crew died. Unfortunately, this was not enough to recognize this act as "state terrorism".

With its full-scaled invasion on 24 February 2022, the horror of terrorism has been brought to the entire territory of Ukraine. Today our country faces purely terrorist methods of warfare by the aggressor State, such as:

- missile shelling of critical civilian infrastructure (tens of thousands attacks since the beginning of the invasion);
- ecocide (a vivid example of which is the destruction of the Kakhovka dam on June 6, 2023).

Russia also arranges local environmental disasters along the entire frontline by mining and blowing up smaller dams;

- nuclear blackmail directed, inter alia, against other countries. High-ranking officials and official representatives of the Russian Federation openly threaten the international community with nuclear weapons. Russian nuclear warheads were reportedly delivered to the territory of another country bordering Ukraine. Moreover, power units of Zaporizhzhia NPP (nuclear power plant) on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine are actually mined.

The aforementioned actions against the civilian population of Ukraine, as well as objects of critical infrastructure in Ukraine, should be considered as acts of state terrorism.

The state-sponsored terrorist organization Wagner Group continues to serve as a military tool to achieve the Moscow's political goals, and not only in Ukraine. Despite recent events, including the group's attempted coup against Moscow and the alleged assassination of its leadership for such a desperate act, the threat posed by Wagner Group remains. Wagner has been involved in looting, torture, and barbarous murders. Its operations in Ukraine, the Middle East and Africa are a threat to global security.

The final legal qualification of the actions of the Russian Federation in Ukraine will be carried out by the International Criminal Court. Any person participating in the armed Russian aggression should be prosecuted. The Ukrainian judicial system is also working on it daily in cooperation with international partners.

The International Court of Justice of the United Nations has been considering Ukraine's application against Russia since 2017. The Court examines documentary materials that confirm serious violations of international law by the Russian Federation. In particular, numerous facts prove a breach of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

Ukraine is sincerely grateful to all partners and urges to continue providing support to the Ukrainian people in achieving peace, as they contribute their own lives for a common safe world and peaceful life for all nations.

All terrorist acts, wherever and by whomever they are committed, must be resolutely condemned and prosecuted. Ukraine fully supports all efforts of international community in this direction.

**Thank you.**