



## **4<sup>th</sup> cycle of Universal Periodic Review of Russia:**

31<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations Human Rights Council  
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

### **Torture and other forms of ill-treatment committed in the context of armed conflict by the representatives of the Russian Federation in the territory of Ukraine**

**Submitted by civil society organisations: the Human Rights Centre ZMINA (Ukraine),  
the Media Initiative for Human Rights (Ukraine) and the World Organisation Against  
Torture (Switzerland)**

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### **Civil Society Organizations Presenting the Submission:**

The gathering, verification, and processing of data for the submission were carried out jointly by the Human Rights Centre ZMINA, the Media Initiative for Human Rights, and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT). The Human Rights Centre ZMINA<sup>1</sup> was established in 2012 and the Media Initiative for Human Rights<sup>2</sup> was established in 2016. In 2022, the organizations were among the co-founders of the Ukraine 5am Coalition<sup>3</sup>, a coalition of Ukrainian human rights organizations that collect and document war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)<sup>4</sup> is the main coalition of NGOs fighting against torture and ill-treatment. Its movement has more than 200 local organizations, members of the SOS-Torture Network and is active in more than 90 countries around the world.

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<sup>2</sup> [www.mipl.org.ua/en/](http://www.mipl.org.ua/en/)

<sup>3</sup> [www.5am.in.ua/en](http://www.5am.in.ua/en)

<sup>4</sup> [www.omct.org](http://www.omct.org)

## Introduction

1. After the previous 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle of Universal Periodic Review of the Russian Federation, new human rights issues have emerged. Since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the Russian troops, security services and Russian-controlled armed groups have committed gross violations of international humanitarian and human rights law against civilians in the territories that have been or remain under the Russian control<sup>5</sup>. The numerous violations include among others torture and ill-treatment, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions, and deportations of the civilian population. Cases of torture and enforced disappearances committed by Russian armed forces in territories under their control are systematic and directed against specific groups of the civilian population.
2. This submission focuses on an analysis of patterns of torture and ill-treatment of civilians in the territories of the Kharkiv, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Kyiv, and Chernihiv regions of Ukraine, occupied by the Russian military in February-April 2022 and liberated later in 2022, as well as cases of enforced disappearances of civilians in the areas of the Kyiv, Kharkiv, Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Luhansk, Sumy and Chernihiv regions of Ukraine that have been or remain under Russian control as of April 2023.
3. The analysis is based on 57 in-depth interviews with civilians who had been victims and witnesses of torture and ill-treatment and 67 in-depth interviews with victims of enforced disappearances and relatives of victims. In-depth interviews were conducted by the Human Rights Centre ZMINA, the Media Initiative for Human Rights, and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) during the period of March 2022 to March 2023, including two missions to the Kharkiv region, (Eastern Ukraine) and Kyiv region (Central Ukraine) from 30 January to 4 February 2023 and 13 March to 16 March 2023 respectively.

### **Key recommendations to the government of Russian Federation:**

1. Stop any policy of systematic human rights and humanitarian law violations in relation to civilians in the territories of Ukraine, in particular the practice of torture and enforced disappearances;
2. Immediately publish the lists of detained and abducted civilians, provide their families with all the information about their whereabouts and release all civilians who have been subjected to enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and unlawful deprivation of liberty during the full-scale invasion of Ukraine and guarantee freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment;
3. Ensure unimpeded access of the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international organizations to Ukrainian civilian detainees;
4. Conduct effective investigations into cases of torture and ill-treatment of civilians in the occupied territories, ensure that those responsible for these crimes are brought to justice and provide rehabilitation and reparation for the victims.

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<sup>5</sup>[https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/coiukraine/A\\_HRC\\_52\\_62\\_AUV\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/coiukraine/A_HRC_52_62_AUV_EN.pdf)

## **Torture and inhuman treatment of civilians in the context of armed conflict**

### **Profiles of persons targeted**

4. While occupation of the Ukrainian territories, the Russian military systematically targeted four categories of local civilians: 1) veterans and former servicemen of the Ukrainian army, who were not serving by the start of full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022; 2) civilians who directly or indirectly cooperated with the Ukrainian army while the territory was/being under the control of the Russian troops; 3) persons who were openly and persistently disloyal to the Russian army and expressed this position publicly (local civic activists, volunteers, entrepreneurs, etc.); 4) heads and senior officials of local authorities who have refused to cooperate with the Russian army; 5) family members of the mentioned categories of civilians. Representatives of these groups are victims in 48% of documented cases of torture.
5. The Russian military has also made efforts to identify other disloyal civilians outside of the above-mentioned categories by:
  - getting denunciations from locals who supported the Russian invasion of Ukraine, including representatives of local authorities and law enforcement agencies
  - collecting information obtained by torturing other civilian detainees
  - conducting raids with searches and checks of electronic devices of locals
  - implementing of filtration procedures<sup>6</sup> in the occupied territories
  - tapping mobile phones and tracking social media activity<sup>7</sup>
6. Analysis of cases from different regions of Ukraine indicates the selectivity of targeting civilians depending on the region and its perceived level of (non) support for the Russian invasion among the local population. For example, in the Kharkiv region, which borders Russia and where according to locals many supported the Russian invasion, only groups with close association with the Ukrainian resistance were targeted. The documented cases of torture in this region include mainly civilians who have friendship or family ties with Ukrainian servicemen, who served in the Ukrainian army before the full-scale invasion, who passed information to the Ukrainian army, or who are closely associated with the Ukrainian resistance in another way.
7. In cases documented in the Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Donetsk, Kyiv and Chernihiv regions, the Russian military tortured much wider circle of local residents who were perceived as suspicious and potentially dangerous, including those who: 1) lived near the Russian military positions that had recently been shelled by Ukrainian armed forces and were perceived as possible scouts for Ukrainian artillery; 2) had Ukrainian patriotic tattoos; 3) had Ukrainian-related content in their mobile phones (subscriptions to Ukrainian news, Ukrainian patriotic music, etc.); 5) had elements of clothing or shoes similar to the Ukrainian

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<sup>6</sup> [https://mipl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/OSCE\\_Filtration\\_eng\\_web.pdf](https://mipl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/OSCE_Filtration_eng_web.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/disappearances/cfi/newtechnologies/submissions/cso/wgeid-submission-human-rights-centre-zmina.pdf>

- military uniform (socks and underwear in khaki, etc.) 6) were engaged in humanitarian aid to the local population without coordination with the Russian military; 7) left comments and posts in support of Ukraine on social media and others.
8. The most non-selective violence against local population has been documented in the Kyiv and Chernihiv regions, Central and Northern Ukraine. The local population in these areas was perceived as negatively disposed towards Russia<sup>8</sup>. Interviews with victims indicate that residents of these regions were widely perceived by the Russian army as hostile and dangerous, even if they did not engage in any direct hostile acts against the Russian military. In these regions, there have been documented cases of targeting of random people who allegedly were perceived by the Russian troops as those who did not support the Russian invasion and were targeted as revenge for the Russian troops' military failures.
  9. Among those subjected to torture on suspicion of having affiliation with the Ukrainian resistance were members of vulnerable groups. Cases of torture of two humanitarian volunteers, two women, five elderly people and one person with severe chronic illnesses have been documented.

### **Purpose of torture**

10. 83% of survivors interviewed from six different regions of Ukraine reported that they were subjected to the most severe torture during interrogations aimed at obtaining information about the Ukrainian army or about other civilians disloyal to the occupation or at coercing cooperation with the Russian army.
11. In many cases of torture during interrogations, the Russian military also voiced a motive to punish civilians for their real or perceived cooperation with the Ukrainian army or civilian position in support of Ukraine. A number of interviewees were forced to “confess” to carrying out artillery reconnaissance for the Ukrainian army, serving in the Ukrainian army or organising peaceful protests against the occupation. In one documented case a schoolteacher was forced to introduce Russian school curricula in a local school among other things.
12. After a series of torture during interrogations, the Russian military released civilians if they agreed to cooperate. Some victims were forced to sign a written agreement or to video-record it. Another group of victims were released allegedly when the Russian military realised that they could not be useful and did not pose any threat. The average period of detention with interrogation ranged from a few days to two or three months. Some of the torture victims being transferred to Russia or occupied Crimea after they “confessed” under torture to helping the Ukrainian resistance<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.kiis.com.ua/?lang=eng&cat=reports&id=1054&page=1>

<sup>9</sup> <https://zmina.info/news/vykradenogo-na-hersonshhyni-aktyvista-sergiya-czygipu-perevely-do-novogo-sizo-jogo-pereviryaye-fsb/>

## **Circumstances of torture**

### *Arrest and interaction with perpetrators*

13. In 72% of documented cases, victims were arrested at their houses or workplace by a group of 7-15 Russian servicemen or representatives of the security services. During the arrests, their houses were searched, and documents and electronic devices were seized. In the other cases, the detentions took place in the streets of the residential areas where victims lived, at Russian checkpoints during so-called filtration procedures, or near Russian military vehicles.
14. Perpetrators made efforts not to be identified during arrest, transportation, detention and interrogations. Most victims were blindfolded immediately after arrest, in places of detention before being taken to an interrogation room and during transportation between places of detention. Most victims noted that even in those rare moments when they could interact with the Russian military, servicemen wore balaclavas covering their faces.
15. In some documented cases, the arrest of civilians was accompanied by threats of weapons, insults, strip-searches, or beating with hands or a machine gun. In the Kharkiv region, in one documented case a local resident died as a result of injuries caused by beatings during arrest and in the other cutting off an earlobe and torture by drowning was reported during the arrest.
16. When victims were arrested during filtration procedures, they were beaten, not fed for several days while being transported between filtration points, forced to stay outside in freezing temperatures with their hands tied and not allowed to use the toilet for many hours.
17. Almost all documented cases of torture relate to enforced disappearances or incommunicado detention, and several cases relate to arbitrary detention. Victims were subjected to enforced disappearances or incommunicado detention in the absence of any legal safeguards and procedures: without any information about the reason for the arrest, without access to a lawyer, without a decision of the courts or military administrations (excluding detention in so-called “Donetsk People's Republic”), the International Committee of the Red Cross was not allowed to visit the detainees. The relatives were not informed of the fact and grounds for detention, as well as the place of detention.

### *Places of detention*

18. Immediately or a few days after arrest, victims were transferred to places of centralised detention of civilians that had specific torture chambers (cells or rooms that have been used for numerous interrogations with the use of torture). The detention mostly took place in police stations, penal colonies, pre-trial detention centres and administrative or infrastructural civilian buildings. In some cases when victims were arrested in smaller settlements, they were kept in garages and basements of private and commercial civilian facilities for the first few days and transported to the larger detention center later.
19. Documented testimonies indicates that the Russian military aimed to concentrate and place victims near command centres (military command headquarters and commandant's

offices in large cities) or so-called filtration facilities, where military personnel specialising in conducting interrogations were present.

20. There was a clear division of roles of the perpetrators in at least three places of detention in the Kharkiv and the Zaporizhzhia regions (*Balaklia town police department, the Kharkiv region; Iziium city police department, the Kharkiv region; Berdyansk penal colony № 77, the Zaporizhzhia region*). There have been: 1) guards and convoys 2) interrogators 3) torturers 4) supervisors. In some cases, the roles of interrogators and torturers were performed by the same military personnel. Supervisors were FSB officers who coordinated arrests and detention of detainees, supervised the guards, and participated in interrogations. There is a lack of information in relation to other places of detention.
21. In most cases documented in the Kharkiv, the Zaporizhzhia, the Kherson and the Donetsk regions, the scenario of detention included:
1. one or a series of interrogations with use of torture to obtain information as a main objective
  2. keeping the victim in cruel and inhuman conditions between interrogations
  3. the release of the victims upon obtaining information, *or* when it was impossible to obtain information, *or* displacement to Russian territory/territories occupied before 2022, *or* death of the victims as a result of torture

#### Torture methods

22. Torture methods, circumstances of torture and deliberate inhumane conditions of detention are common across different regions and places of detention. 63% of survivors interviewed reported torture by electricity, 81% reported “professional” beatings, and 70% reported torture by starvation. Almost all interviewees reported that the most prolonged and brutal episodes of torture were related to interrogations.
23. Torture methods during interrogations included:
- *multiple uses of electric current* with a stun gun or a special device (“tapik”) for 20-30 minutes to different parts of the body;
  - *severe and prolonged beatings* with hands, feet, iron and plastic truncheons, bats, hammers and other items aimed at different part of body and organs. In some cases, victims noted that they were beaten in a manner to avoid leaving any marks (at their kneecaps and heels);
  - *holding victims in stressed positions* for several hours, including at night (“swallow pose” with the victim handcuffed behind their backs; handcuffing arms to a 24kg kettlebell; hanging victims by their feet; forcing to squat or be in a thigh-back position; forcing to sleep standing)
  - *strangulating* while the victim's hands are tied;
  - *mock executions* such as single or multiple gunshots near the head, putting the muzzle of a gun in the victim's mouth, forcing the victim to dig their own grave, etc.;
  - *traumatic immobilisation* by prolonged holding with tightly bound or handcuffed hands;
  - *staying undressed* at a low temperature for 3-4 hours;



- *torture with a bright light*. A lamp with bright pulsating light was pointed at the eyes of detainees during interrogations;
  - *threats*, including threats of sexual violence, threats to kill the victim or other detainees, threats of mutilation, treats to subject victim's relatives to torture, etc.;
  - *ethnically motivated violence* (beatings for speaking Ukrainian or for self-identifying as Ukrainian in the face of torturers, beatings accompanied by the torturer's denial of Ukraine's existence as a State);
  - *coercion to commit degrading acts* (recording videos to be posted on social media of torturers being beaten; jumping around for hours after beating; shouting praises about Russian political and military commanders and others).
24. Victims were held in inhumane conditions between interrogations. That include overcrowded cells, extremely low or high temperatures in places of detention, lack of proper food and/or water, lack of access to toilet and sanitary facilities and physical activities, prolonged detention in darkness or with bright lights 24 hours a day, incomunicado detention, denial in medical assistance.
25. A witness who was detained in the Kherson pre-trial detention centre reported that the administration of the detention centre had a regular collective torture "ritual". Civilian male detainees were forced to shout praises about the Russian military and political command and were beaten and subjected to torture with stun guns for refusing to do so every time guards opened their cells.
26. Interviewees from the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Donetsk regions reported as well that they were beaten with hands and machine guns, threatened with death and mutilation and not fed while transported to places of detention in Russia or so-called "Donetsk People's Republic" ("DPR"). Victims taken to Russia during the Russian withdrawal from central and northern Ukraine had especially harsh conditions of detention. They were kept in tents in freezing temperatures, not fed for days and beaten. The victims did not have proper access to sanitary facilities.
27. **Torture in places of detention in Russia and the so-called "DPR"**. There is very limited information on the fate and conditions of civilian victims of torture who have been taken to Russia after being subjected to enforced disappearances or arbitrary detentions in the occupied territories. This is due to the fact that very few people have been released since the start of the full-scale invasion. Some victims of enforced disappearances have been subjected to politically motivated criminal prosecution<sup>10</sup>.
28. The female victim transferred to pre-trial detention centre №1 in Kursk, Russia, after her abduction, testified about the brutal mass torture and interrogation of all detainees during the registration procedure at the detention centre. About 150 Ukrainian civilian detainees and prisoners of war (POWs) were held in a separate block of this detention facility. According to her, the women were kept incommunicado for many months, not provided with clothes or hygiene items, forbidden to sit or lie on the bed during the day and forced to

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<sup>10</sup> <https://mipl.org.ua/en/ukrainian-hostages-who-disappeared-in-crimea-the-story-of-one-cell-in-the-simferopol-pre-trial-detention-center/>



sing the Russian national anthem every day. A survivor also reported that one of the female civilian detainees had two suicide attempts due to being held incommunicado and unable to contact her infant daughter and elderly father. In addition, a witness regularly heard the screams of male detainees being beaten and tasered. Detainees who were held in penal colony №120 in Olenivka, the Donetsk region, also testified to severe beatings with hands, feet and truncheons during the registration procedure.

### *Consequences of torture*

29. As a result of torture, ill-treatment and poor conditions of detention, victims suffered severe physical traumas, such as bruises, hematomas, open wounds, severe damage to internal organs, fractures and cracks in bones, extreme weight loss of 10-20 kg in a short period of time, sensory and motor impairment, stroke, exacerbation of chronic diseases, etc.
30. Most of the victims and their relatives are in an extremely difficult psychological state as well. Some of them cried during the interviews, remembering their experiences. One of the victims reported hallucinations as a result of torture and poor detention conditions. Victims complained of intrusive memories, poor sleep when they scream and wake up several times during the night, and the inability to return to their normal lifestyle. After being released, some victims minimized their contact with others and withdrew into themselves, while others began to regularly abuse alcohol.
31. In the vast majority of cases, victims remain incapacitated for at least several months and have financial problems. At the same time, in most cases, the victims did not seek qualified medical care and do not have medical documents because they were initially afraid to seek first aid during the occupation, and after the liberation of the territory, they did not have the financial resources to pay for examination and treatment.

### **Responsible officials: chain of command and perpetrators**

32. Most victims from the Kharkiv, the Kherson and the Zaporizhzhia regions reported that their arrest and/or torture interrogation was supervised by one or a few senior servicemen, who coordinated other perpetrators involved. When the senior one was present during interrogations, he asked questions to the victims and gave commands to other soldiers directly carrying out acts of torture.
33. Also, some victims noted that the interrogators were well prepared to interrogate a particular victim (e.g. aware of the victims' past civil activities, details of victims' personal lives, their relatives, etc.). One victim who had been subjected to torture at the police station in Balakliia, the Kharkiv region, pointed out that specific interrogators were “responsible” for the specific victims. If a particular interrogator was absent for several weeks, the victims they dealt with were not called in for the interrogation until he returned.
34. Most of the victims subjected to torture in the Kharkiv, the Kherson and the Zaporizhzhya regions suggested that their arrest, interrogations and numerous torture incidents in places of detention were led by FSB officers.

35. In February 2022 *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* reported<sup>11</sup> that several Russian servicemen who served in the Kharkiv region received Russian state awards “*for organising work with the local population to identify and detain persons negatively disposed towards the Russian Federation Armed Forces*”. This information indicates that torture of civilians disloyal to the Russian troops in the area was allegedly carried out with the knowledge and encouragement of the highest military command of the Russian armed forces.

### **Investigation of torture by Russian state bodies**

36. Some victims stated that after being beaten, they were not released until the marks on their bodies (hematomas, etc.) had disappeared. In some cases, methods of beating were used that left no visible marks. The evidence indicates that these measures were taken by the Russian military to prevent the victims from properly documenting injuries resulting from torture.
37. Victims of torture were prevented to file any complaints and to seek any independent legal aid. Survivors reported that they were forced to write a statement or be video recorded saying that no violence had been used against them and that they had no claims against the Russian Federation. Those released from pre-trial detention facility №1 in Kursk, Russia, testified that the administration prohibited them from complaining about the beatings under the threat of even more severe torture before the visit of the civil prosecutor to the detention centre.
38. Within the several cases of torture committed by Russian military, the complaints were submitted to the Russian state bodies within the existing national procedures. However, the victims either did not get any information or the complaints are referred to different bodies without any criminal cases or formal investigation being initiated.

### **Enforced disappearances of civilians committed by representatives of Russia**

39. Enforced disappearances as well as torture of the civilian population, are widely used by the Russian armed forces in the territories of Ukraine occupied since 24 February 2022. The key groups targeted by the Russian Federation-controlled armed forces are local government representatives, humanitarian aid volunteers, politicians, journalists, editors and media owners, cultural, educational, religious figures, lawyers, family members of active citizens who were perceived by the Russian state agents as leaders of local communities and local opinion leaders. Another clear pattern is the enforced disappearances perpetrated by the Russian troops against ordinary civilians during their withdrawal from the occupied territories or during the movement of military equipment and personnel through certain territories.
40. The interviews conducted as well as the general situation in the territories under Russian control suggest that the purposes of enforced disappearances of this category of civilians are the following: 1) to force victims to cooperation with the Russian troops 2) to revenge for

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/skhemy-sekretna-fleshka-okupantiv/32260312.html>

non-support of Russian occupation 3) to prevent any activities, including humanitarian ones, in occupied territory that are not approved by the Russian troops.

41. The main characteristic of the absolute majority of cases is a denial of Russian state bodies to provide any information about persons abducted. In some cases, families receive information about the detainees from news broadcasts on Russian State TV channels and from prisoners of war (PoWs) released during exchanges.
42. Enforced disappearances occur both with and without witnesses. In the cases where witnesses were present during an enforced disappearance, they reported that the act was carried out by groups of armed military men in balaclavas, who behaved aggressively, threatened witnesses and tried to apparently deter civilians. The soldiers wore white or red armbands and drove in vehicles marked “Z”, which is the insignia of the Russian troops. In Sumy, Donetsk, and Kherson regions, several civilians were subjected to enforced disappearances while they were being checked at checkpoints within the so-called filtration facilities.
43. Some enforced disappearances were presumably carried out by members of the Russian intelligence agencies, as witnesses noted the specific manner of communication, the different uniforms from those of regular Russian military, and usage of the special equipment.
44. Relatives of some victims were able to find out from unofficial sources that the victims were transferred to prison facilities in the Bryansk and Kursk regions of Russia and occupied Crimea. Some people were transferred to Russia via Belarus. These civilians are held in pre-trial detention centres, penal colonies, and other places of detention there. The grounds for their detention are unknown. In several documented cases, the victims were held in separate blocks of detention facilities allocated specifically for Ukrainian civilian detainees and prisoners of war to prevent any leaks of information about them and to ensure incommunicado detention. There is also at least one documented case of three victims of enforced disappearances held in pre-trial detention centre № 1 in Kursk being transferred for four days to another detention facility and then brought back, allegedly to hide them for the period of a some inspection of pre-trial detention facility.
45. Russian State bodies, including administrations of places of detention, refuse to confirm that victims are being held and do not allow any communication with relatives, even when the families find out through unofficial channels that their loved one is being held in that particular place. Lawyers who work on these cases are denied the right to meet with their clients to provide legal assistance, and experience pressure from the Russian authorities. International Committee of the Red Cross as well as independent members of Public Oversight Commissions are also not allowed to visit the places of detention where civilian detainees from Ukraine are held. The result is that civilian detainees are kept completely incommunicado for weeks and months.
46. There are no official mechanisms and channels that would allow relatives of victims of enforced disappearances to obtain reliable information about their whereabouts, grounds for detention, and state of health. In addition, there are no effective national remedies in Russia to complaint about these human rights violations.

47. The authors of the report submitted communications to the UN Special Procedures such as the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and UN Special Rapporteurs regarding 32 cases of enforced disappearances of civilians in the territories of Ukraine occupied after February 24, 2022. As of the date of this submission, the Russian Federation has not conducted an effective investigation and has not provided the UN Special Procedures with reliable information on these cases.
48. In all of the documented cases, relatives of the victims noted that they have been greatly distressed by the absence of any information about the victims' fate. In the meantime, those released after enforced disappearances testified about torture and ill-treatment while in detention.

### **Recommendations to the government of Russian Federation:**

5. Stop any policy of systematic human rights and humanitarian law violations in relation to civilians in the territories of Ukraine, in particular the practice of torture and enforced disappearances;
6. Immediately publish the lists of detained and abducted civilians, provide their families with all the information about their whereabouts and release all civilians who have been subjected to enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and unlawful deprivation of liberty during the full-scale invasion of Ukraine and guarantee freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment
7. Ensure unimpeded access of the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international organizations to Ukrainian civilian detainees
8. Conduct effective investigations into cases of torture and ill-treatment of civilians in the occupied territories, ensure that those responsible for these crimes are brought to justice and provide rehabilitation and reparation for the victims;
9. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and bring its legislation into full compliance with all obligations under the Rome Statute;
10. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
11. Abolish national legislation that provides for refusal to execute judgments of the European Court of Human Rights issued until the denunciation by the Russian Federation of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and renew cooperation with Council of Europe and all its bodies;
12. Fully cooperate with the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, issue an invitation and grant them access to Ukrainian civilian detainees under Russian control and provide reliable information on their requests;
13. Ensure effective cooperation with all human rights treaty bodies, including the UN Committee against Torture and the UN Human Rights Committee, as well as with the



Independent International Commission of Inquiry in Ukraine and other UN mechanisms with a mandate to address cases of torture and ill-treatment;

14. Ensure implementation of the Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. Geneva, 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 8 June 1977.