

Helena Carreiras

Ministra da Defesa Nacional

Intervenção da Ministra da Defesa Nacional, Helena Carreiras, por ocasião do briefing sobre a Ucrânia no Conselho de Segurança das Nações Unidas

Conselho de Segurança das Nações Unidas, Nova Iorque, 23 de fevereiro de 2024

Thank you, Madam President,

I welcome the opportunity to address the Security Council on the situation in Ukraine.

As Russia's illegal and unprovoked full-scale invasion enters its third year, and as the Ukrainian territories of Crimea and the Donbass reach a full decade under Russian illegal occupation, we cannot and will not fail to reiterate our resolute condemnation of these blatant violations of international law.

This war not only jeopardizes the foundations of international security; it has also sent shockwaves around the world, disrupting global food and energy markets, and affecting particularly the most vulnerable countries.

Ukraine can continue to count on Portugal's full and unwavering support, both bilaterally and collectively within every multilateral framework, including here at the United Nations. From day one, we have been unequivocal about where we stand: side-by-side with Ukraine.

The value of our commitments can only be measured by the consistency of our actions. In addition to our political support, Portugal has provided military support and humanitarian aid. In all these efforts, we have consistently responded to the calls of the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian Armed Forces, bearing in mind our shared commitment towards restoring peace and security in Europe. And it is not only the government, but the citizens of Portugal that strongly support this effort.

Ultimately, the goal is one and the same: to defend and uphold the rules, principles and values that are enshrined in the United Nations Charter. This can only happen with a just and sustainable solution that is in accordance with the Charter and with Ukraine's Peace Formula, and that holds accountable those responsible for the ongoing atrocities. We therefore call on Russia to cease all operations, retreat from Ukraine and respect international law. Together, united, we will prevail in supporting Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

I thank you.