**52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council**

**Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on his oral report on Ukraine**

**31st March 2023**

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

Mr President,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the EU statement.

We thank the High Commissioner for his presentation and express unwavering support to the priceless work of his Office and the HR Monitoring Mission in Ukraine.

The whole world continues to witness unspeakable suffering by the people in Ukraine unleashed by Russia’s war of aggression against their sovereign country.

Civilians remain under brutal attack by the Russian armed forces. Their homes are bombed and critical infrastructure systematically struck. Evidence of wilful killings, systematic and widespread torture, and unlawful transfers of civilians continues to mount.

It is highly alarming to see the devastating impacts on millions of children, having lost their families, if not their own life, lacking the access to basic needs and education, with many subjected to ongoing large-scale deportations, torture and other atrocities by Russian forces.

No violation of human rights and IHL can go unpunished. We welcome the ongoing investigations, including the recent ICC’s arrest warrants.

We will not relent in urging Russia to stop its war for once and for all. We also urge Russia to start fully cooperating with all international investigative mechanisms, including by granting them unimpeded access to all prisoners of war and detainees.

Peace and justice must and will prevail.

High Commissioner, how has your Office been addressing the existing allegations of genocide committed in Ukraine?

Thank you.