



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya  
to the United Nations, New York  
Security Council - 2021-2022

BRIEFING ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE: MAINTENANCE OF PEACE &  
SECURITY OF UKRAINE

MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022

STATEMENT BY AMB. MARTIN KIMANI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

**Thank you Mr President and welcome back to New York.**

1. I thank USG and UN Women Executive Director, Sima Bahous, UNICEF's Director, of Emergencies, Manuel Fontaine, and Ms. Kateryna Cherepakha for their briefings. I also welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Ukraine, and the Permanent Representatives of the affected countries in the region.

**Mr President,**

2. We would not be here having this discussion but for the armed breach of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. We must again observe, and condemn, the continuing

disregard for International Law and the United Nations Charter, and the anarchic, dangerous world that has resulted.

3. Kenya condemns the recent bombing of the train station in **Kramatorsk** where more than fifty people were killed as they attempted to flee the war.
4. The war is causing massive civilian suffering. We do not have an accurate count of the lives lost to violence but they must be in the thousands. We have no figure for the instances of rape and other forms of sexual violence against girls and women, but it is certain that the number is high and rising.
5. We know that the overwhelming majority of refugees who have fled Ukraine are girls and women, and we also know that each one of them, in their own special way, has had their life shattered by this war. We know that such forced human movement and family separations increase the potential for sexual abuse, exploitation and human trafficking.
6. We must commend all the individuals, institutions and governments that are helping in every way possible. We especially thank those UN organisations such as UN Women, OCHA, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA and other agencies for the reports and action briefs that highlight the many challenges and key areas of concern for Ukrainian women and

girls. More than that, we thank them for the actions they are taking to help women and girls fleeing and trying to survive this war.

7. We also applaud the brave women of Ukraine that are fighting for peace and for their country. We recognize with admiration the women leading in government and civil society.
8. **Mr President**, in the last year our delegation has been in the Security Council, we have spoken regularly about Women, Peace and Security.
9. Most often it has been to applaud the role of women as peace-builders, and to urge their participation in decision-making at all levels.
10. Today, I urge that we let the full weight of their suffering settle into our minds. Perhaps then we will have the will as the Security Council and the International Community to attain a ceasefire. And the boldness of vision to undertake a diplomatic dialogue that can provide lasting security in Europe and globally.
11. The victims and survivors are fleeing bombs and bullets overwhelmingly fired by young men on the orders of their older, male superiors. These men are themselves dying in large numbers, and, in doing so, their mothers and sisters are mourning them.
12. On either side of the violence of this war are women. The ones who are suffering the effects of the war in Ukraine. And the mothers of the

soldiers in the Russian Federation who must wait in agony wondering if their sons will return home safely or whether they are involved in attacks on civilians. No one knows a greater agony than the grieving mother of a fallen soldier other than the mother whose son returns from a campaign of atrocity.

**Mr President,**

13. Mothers are on either side of the war. They are suffering the dangers and atrocities being carried out on their children and by their children. It is therefore exceedingly inappropriate that in the public reporting of the negotiations for a ceasefire, we see few women and mothers at the table.
14. We urge all relevant actors in the ongoing negotiations and those that follow, to ensure the inclusion of women as participants and decision-makers. The same should be the case for all the institutions and operations that are responding to this war.
15. We also call for humanitarian corridors be established and protected. We urge that the humanitarian actors make certain that their operations have the ability to aid women and girls, particularly those who are survivors of rape and other forms of Gender-Based Violence.
16. If the war continues for much longer, it will harm the food and energy security of many millions around the world. It will destroy livelihoods, increase poverty, and cause economic crises. For a global community

barely starting its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine is a damaging blow. The result will be early deaths, political instability and the escalation of other conflicts.

17. The humanitarian and developmental response to that suffering must leave no country or region behind. In this regard, Kenya continues to urge the Secretary General to rally the UN, the major economies, and international financial institutions to design instruments that offer the most vulnerable countries, particularly in the global south needed support.
18. **Mr President**, I finish by once again reaffirming Kenya's lasting support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Ukraine.

**I thank you.**