



**Statement delivered by Eva Dröfn Hassell Guðmundsdóttir,  
Special Adviser, Permanent Mission of Iceland,  
at the 1446 Special Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council,  
Vienna, 6 October 2023**

*Thank you, Mr. Chair,*

Iceland aligns with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. Allow me to make the following remarks in my national capacity.

Iceland joins other participating States in condemning in the strongest possible terms the Russian Federation's deadly attack on the Ukrainian village of Hroza, targeting a grocery store and a café, killing more than 50 people, including a child, and injuring many others. Our thoughts are with the victims and all those that lost their loved ones in this despicable attack.

*Mr. Chair,*

Deliberate attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure constitute war crimes. Such attacks are unacceptable. This is yet another appalling attack demonstrating Russia's blatant violations of international law, including international humanitarian law. With its senseless war, continued indiscriminate attacks, and relentless terror against Ukraine's civilian population, the Russian Federation continuously disregards the most basic principles and values of human rights and human dignity, including the fundamental right to life.

There can be no impunity. Russia must be held accountable for its unlawful aggression, as well as the humanitarian catastrophe, damage, destruction, and loss of life it has caused, in accordance with international law.

Iceland urges Russia to immediately end its illegal war, withdraw its forces from the entire territory of Ukraine and abide by its international obligations.

Iceland remains resolute in our solidarity with Ukraine and our unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters.

*I thank you, Mr. Chair.*