

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs The Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office King Charles Street London SW1A 2AH

17 July 2022

Dear Foreign Secretary,

I am writing to you on International Justice Day, which marks the adoption of the Rome Statute 24 years ago and comes almost five months since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. An act of aggression that is a crime under international law.

Russia's invasion has been marked by war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law. Its forces have killed civilians using indiscriminate weapons in populated areas. Russian soldiers have also extrajudicially executed civilians and looted civilian property. More than 14 million people have been uprooted by the conflict. Sexual crimes have also been reported.

There are reports that Ukrainian forces have operated out of residential areas, drawing Russian fire there and endangering the civilian population. There is also compelling evidence to indicate that both Russian and Ukrainian forces have mistreated prisoners of war.

All parties to the conflict that are responsible for crimes under international law, including the crime of aggression, must be brought to justice through independent, impartial, and fair trials.

To date, the UK and its partners have been united in support of Ukraine. However, the crimes and the suffering continues. Will you go further to help ensure Russia ends the aggression against Ukraine, violations of international law stop, and victims and survivors obtain justice? Will you also support a foreign policy that identifies a consistent and comprehensive approach to human rights and international justice as crucial to global security in an increasingly volatile world?

Will you ensure the UK Government:

- Increases its support to the ICC for all situations before the Court, including the Ukraine situation. This would include providing increased budgetary support, effective and efficient cooperation, and high-level political support.
- **Increases its support for a domestic investigation** into the situation in Ukraine into all core crimes and all parties to the conflict.
- Supports the establishment of an impartial hybrid tribunal within the Ukrainian system which meets
 the needs of victims; has jurisdiction over all parties to the conflict and all crimes under international
 law, including the crime of aggression and aims to increase future capacity in the Ukrainian domestic
 legal system.

Yours faithfully,

Lade

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