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Department of Political Affairs - Security Council Affairs Division
Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch

21. Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)

The agenda item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))” was introduced after Ukraine requested to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council due to the deterioration of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea which threatened the territorial integrity of Ukraine.¹

During the period under review, the Council held 24 meetings in connection with this agenda item, including two closed meetings.² At these meetings, the Council discussed the political developments in Ukraine, with a focus on finding a peaceful solution to the crisis through political dialogue in coordination with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and through the trilateral contact group, which included representatives from Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the OSCE. The Council also considered the security situation, the humanitarian conditions in the eastern part of the country and the promotion of human rights.

The Council was regularly briefed on the political process and the security situation in the eastern part of Ukraine by the Department of Political Affairs (DPA). On two occasions, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) briefed the Council on the

¹ For more information, see part I, sect. 22 entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#)).”

² [S/PV.7123](#) and [S/PV.7131](#).

humanitarian impact of the conflict and reported on several of the humanitarian challenges, such as the growing number of internally displaced persons, the suspension of humanitarian programmes and the expulsion of humanitarian aid agencies. The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights briefed the Council several times and presented monthly reports of the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine tasked with providing objective assessments of the situation on the ground. In addition, the OSCE, including the Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, briefed the Council several times on multilateral diplomatic efforts to end the crisis.

In light of the referendum scheduled for 16 March 2014 in Crimea, on 15 March 2014, the Council held a vote on a draft resolution that would have declared invalid the referendum on the status of Crimea on the grounds that Ukraine had not authorized it. The draft resolution was not adopted by the Council, having failed to obtain the required number of affirmative votes.³

Deploring the downing of a civilian aircraft on an international flight, Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 in Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine on 17 July 2014, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2166 \(2014\)](#) to support a comprehensive, thorough and independent international investigation into the crash that resulted in the deaths of 298 people. On 29 July 2015, the Council held a vote on the draft resolution, presented by Malaysia, to establish an international tribunal for prosecuting persons responsible for crimes connected with the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17. The draft was not adopted by the Council.⁴

³ [S/2014/189](#).

⁴ [S/2015/562](#).

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<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.7123 28 February 2014 (closed)			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All invitees	
S/PV.7124 1 March 2014			Ukraine		Deputy Secretary-General, 4 Council members (France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States), Ukraine	
S/PV.7125 3 March 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7131 10 March 2014 (closed)			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7134 13 March 2014			Ukraine (Prime Minister)	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members ^a and all invitees	
S/PV.7138 15 March 2014		Draft resolution submitted by 42 Member States ^b (S/2014/189)	36 Member States ^c		All Council members and 1 invitee under rule 37 (Ukraine)	Draft resolution not adopted (S/2014/189) 13-1-1 ^d
S/PV.7144 19 March 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7157			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General	All Council members and all	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
16 April 2014				for Human Rights	invitees	
S/PV.7165 29 April 2014			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7185 28 May 2014			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7205 24 June 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs and Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7219 18 July 2014			Belgium, Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Ukraine, Viet Nam	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7221 21 July 2014		Draft resolution submitted by 25 Member States ^e (S/2014/510)	Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Ukraine, Viet Nam		All Council members ^f and 10 invitees under rule 37 ^g	Resolution 2166 (2014) 15-0-0
S/PV.7239 8 August 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7253 28 August 2014			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.7287 24 October 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7311 12 November 2014			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General ad interim for Political Affairs, Chief Monitor of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7365 21 January 2015			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7368 26 January 2015			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7395 27 February 2015				Special Representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine, Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine	All invitees	
S/PV.7400 6 March 2015			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Director of the Coordination and	All Council members and all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
				Response Division in the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights		
S/PV.7457 5 June 2015			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Deputy Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine	All Council members and all invitees	
S/PV.7498 29 July 2015		Draft resolution submitted by 19 Member States ^h (S/2015/562)	Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, Romania, Ukraine, Viet Nam		All council members ⁱ and 11 invitees under rule 37 ^j	Draft resolution not adopted (S/2015/562) 11-1-3 ^k
S/PV.7576 11 December 2015			Ukraine	Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Director of the Coordination and Response Division of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council Members and all invitees	

^aLuxemburg was represented by its Minister for Foreign and European Affairs.

^b Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States.

^c Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine.

^d For: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom and United States; against: Russian Federation; abstaining: China.

^e Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chad, Chile, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States and Viet Nam.

^f Two Council members were represented at the ministerial level: Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs) and Luxemburg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs).

^g Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Malaysia, Netherlands (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand, Philippines, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

^h Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Romania, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.

ⁱ Two Council members were represented at the ministerial level: Malaysia (Minister of Transport) and New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs).

^j Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Philippines, Ukraine (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Viet Nam.

^k For: Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom and United States; against: Russian Federation; abstaining: Angola, China and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).