**51st session of the Human Rights Council**

**Interactive Dialogue with Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine**

*23 September 2022*

**Statement of the Czech Republic**

Mr. President,

We thank the Commission of Inquiry for their work and the oral update.

The Czech Republic remains horrified by the level of human rights violations caused by the Russian invasion. It is clear from the first moment that Russia brings only death, destruction and human suffering to Ukraine. Images from liberated territories speak for themselves – mass graves, torture chambers, mutilated bodies. We saw that in Bucha, Irpin’ and other places north of Kyiv, we see it now in Izium and Kharkiv region.

The only way how to put an end to this human suffering is to stop this senseless war. This is why, as we have done many times before, we urge the Russian Federation to give up its imperial appetites and leave the Ukrainian territory immediately. We believe that in the 21st century such attacks on the civilian population are unthinkable and abhorrent. As the war continues it becomes clear that a special international tribunal to prosecute these crimes is needed.

Distinguished Commissioners, do you believe that necessary procedures are set appropriately to make sure that the crimes are investigated to make sure that perpetrators will be brought to justice?

Thank you!