**47th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Item 10 – Interactive Dialogue on High Commissioner‘s**

**report on Ukraine**

*9 July 2021*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the EU statement.

We reiterate our unwavering support to sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.

Madame Deputy High Commissioner, we thank you for your presentation. The Czech Republic supports the work of the OHCHR monitoring mission in Ukraine and we call on all parties to the conflict to fully cooperate with the mission. We regret that the two self-proclaimed “republics” in Donbas continue to deny access to detainees and places of detention to the monitoring mission. This is concerning in light of ongoing reports of arbitrary and incommunicado detentions as well as torture and ill-treatment occurring in the detention.

Similarly, with respect to illegally annexed Crimea, the report of the UN Secretary General presented today documents cases of serious violations of human rights, also including torture and ill-treatment, and the persisting pattern of impunity for perpetrators. We join the call of the Secretary General upon Russia, the occupying power, to uphold its obligations according to international law and to comply fully with the absolute prohibition of torture and ensure independent investigation of human rights violations in Crimea. We urge Russia to release all Ukrainian political prisoners.

*Madame Deputy High Commissioner, given the persisting atmosphere of impunity for perpetrators in Crimea and the self-proclaimed “republics” in Donbas, what more can the international community do to assist in addressing accountability and finding justice for victims of human rights violations?*

Thank you.