CONCEPT NOTE

UN SECURITY COUNCIL ARRIA-FORMULA MEETING
NEO-NAZISM AND RADICAL NATIONALISM: EXPLORING
ROOT CAUSES OF THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE

Date: July 11, 2022
Time: 3 pm – 6 pm
Venue: In-person meeting in the ECOSOC Chamber

Participation:
• All Member States are welcome to attend and speak
• Working languages: English
• The meeting will be webcast on UN WebTV (subject to approval by UNSC Members), recorded and available to the media.

Objective:

When the situation in and around Ukraine is being considered at various UN fora there are occasional voices of doubt of the Neo-Nazi nature of the current Maidan regime in Kiev and its armed fighters, including those from radical nationalist groups.

The meeting is set to address this issue. The discussion will give an opportunity to learn the history of Nazism in Ukraine and its current status.

Understanding this issue is indispensable for the unbiased analysis of the crimes of nationalist battalions against civilians in the East and South of Ukraine.

Background:

Ideologist of the infamous "Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists" (OUN) Stepan Bandera and the commander of the "Ukrainian rebel army" (UPA) Roman Shukhevych are probably the most notorious Ukrainian Nazi collaborators who never hesitated to give orders to kill Ukrainians, Jews, Poles and Russians to reach their political goals. These criminals
are now being praised by the current regime in Kiev and presented as national heroes even to the youngest generations through intrusive educational programs.

Such a perverted perception of history leaves no doubts as of why Ukraine has so far been one of the two UN delegations voting against the UNGA resolution on combatting the glorification of Nazism.

For the above-mentioned reasons the Maidan coup d'état back in 2014 was accompanied by torchlight processions and Nazi or Nazi-like mottos. This ideology, adjusted for contemporary use, remains at the core of "Azov" and similar fighting groups whose members are covered with Nazi-linked tattoos ("Wolfsangel" that inspired the "Azov" logo, Black Sun / "Schwarze Sonne" and Death's Head / "Totenkopf") as was exposed during the liberation of Mariupol. However, such a passion for Nazi legacy not only reveals itself in tattoos. The war crimes and tactics, torturing methods of certain divisions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine mimic those of the Third Reich. As do the methods of political and diplomatic elites who copy educational programs and propaganda campaigns.

Enthusiasts all over the globe are carefully recording numerous cases of glorification of Nazism. Some of them were mentioned in the letter circulated by our delegation on January 26, 2021 under the symbol S/2021/81.

Program:

- Welcoming remarks: H.E. Mr. Dmitry Polyanskiy, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
- Panel presentations: tbc
- Statements by UN Security Council members followed by other interested UN Member States as time permits
- Q&A: Interventions are suggested to be limited to 5 minutes
- Closing remarks: H.E. Mr. Dmitry Polyanskiy.