

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
17 March 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 March 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you of the following.

On 13 March 2014, the Government of Ukraine referred to the European Court of Human Rights a breach of the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights by the Russian Federation, and lodged an inter-State application under article 33 of the Convention against the Russian Federation. The inter-State application has been registered under No. 20958/14, *Ukraine v. Russia*.

The Government of Ukraine also submitted a request under rule 39 of the Rules of Court to indicate to the Russian Federation an interim measure aimed at resolving the situation on the territory of Crimea and Ukraine on the whole.

Considering that the current situation gives rise to a continuing risk of serious violations of the European Convention, and with a view to preventing such violations, the President of the Third Section of the Court has decided to apply rule 39 of the Rules of Court calling upon both contracting parties concerned to refrain from taking any measures, in particular military actions, which might entail breaches of the Convention rights of the civilian population, including putting their life and health at risk, and to comply with their engagements under the Convention, notably in respect of articles 2 (right to life) and 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment).

According to the Court's practice, rule 39 of the Rules of Court is applied in extraordinary cases when, after considering all the information available, the Court finds that not applying the above Rule may lead to irreversible consequences.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yuriy **Sergeyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

