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THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR: AN ABSOLUTE VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

Vivek Dhupdale

Assistant Professor and I/c Head, Department of Law, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

ABSTRACT:

The Russia-Ukraine war is an ongoing war that has unfortunately forced today's generation to witness it. However, the world had no idea that such a war would be declared so soon after World War II. Russia launched it after the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity in February 2014, focusing primarily on the situation in Crimea and the internationally recognized Donbass as part of Ukraine. The first eight years of conflict included the Russian annexation of Crimea and the war in Donbass between Ukraine and Russian-backed separatists, as well as naval incidents, cyber warfare and political tensions. After the deployment of Russian troops on the Russia-Ukraine border in late 2021, the conflict escalated significantly when Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022. However, there has been a great deal of civilian casualties and mass destruction of properties including historic buildings were the treasures of Ukraine and was a main tourist attraction. The ongoing war has turned the whole world upside down. Russia is attacking Ukraine with full force, ignoring the provisions of UNO and international humanitarian law (IHL). It has exceeded all limits of human rights violations of Ukrainian citizens. However, Ukraine is doing its best to defend itself with the help of some developed countries and countries in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). There is a feeling that the rights and actions of international organizations are failing to prevent the deaths of citizens in Ukraine. There have been cases of brutal / terrorist forces such as the Chechnya's Forces taking advantage of the situation and massacring thousands of innocent civilians in the Ukrainian cities. All European countries have expressed their clear protest against the Russian uncontrolled invasion of Ukraine with many of the countries have their vested interests for their own benefits and don't want to be targeted by Russia as Russia being the largest producers and supplier of natural gas and energy all over the European countries. The present research article is an attempt to find out the cause and effects of Human Rights violations during the Russia-Ukraine war and seeks to analyse the role of UNO and NATO in the process of peacekeeping attempts. It also attempts to suggest possible remedies to put end to the human rights violations of the civilians and to avoid future such conflicts and possible WWII which will be a disaster for the mankind and there will be no more life in this part of the universe.



KEYWORDS: Russia-Ukraine , the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Human Rights violations.



“War is delightful to those who have had no experience of it.”

- *Desiderius Erasmus¹*

1. INTRODUCTION:

The Russia-Ukraine war is an ongoing war that has unfortunately forced today's generation to witness it. However, the world had no idea that such a war would be declared so soon after World War II. Russia launched it after the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity in February 2014, focusing primarily on the situation in Crimea and the internationally recognized Donbass as part of Ukraine. The first eight years of conflict included the Russian annexation of Crimea and the war in Donbass between Ukraine and Russian-backed separatists, as well as naval incidents, cyber warfare and political tensions. After the deployment of Russian troops on the Russia-Ukraine border in late 2021, the conflict escalated significantly when Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022. However, there has been a great deal of civilian casualties and mass destruction. Properties and historic buildings in the east of Russia were the treasures of Ukraine and the main tourist attraction. The ongoing war has turned the whole world upside down. Russia is attacking Ukraine with full force, ignoring the provisions of UNO and international humanitarian law (IHL). It has exceeded all limits of human rights violations of Ukrainian citizens. However, Ukraine is doing its best to defend itself with the help of some developed countries and countries in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). There is a feeling that the rights and actions of international organizations are failing to prevent the deaths of citizens in Ukraine. There have been cases of brutal / terrorist forces such as the Chechnya's Forces taking advantage of the situation and massacring thousands of innocent civilians in the Ukrainian cities. All European countries have expressed their clear protest against the Russian uncontrolled invasion of Ukraine with many of the countries have their vested interests for their own benefits and don't want to be targeted by Russia as Russia being the largest producers and supplier of natural gas and energy all over the European countries. The present research article is an attempt to find out the cause and effects of Human Rights violations during the Russia-Ukraine war and seeks to analyse the role of UNO and NATO in the process of peacekeeping attempts. It also attempts to suggest possible remedies to put end to the human rights violations of the civilians and to avoid future such conflicts and possible WWIII which will be a disaster for the mankind and there will be no more life in this part of the universe.

There is a feeling that the rights and actions of international organizations are failing to prevent the deaths of citizens in Ukraine. Cases have surfaced of the deployment of brutal / terrorist forces like Chechnya's Force who took advantage of the situation and massacred thousands of innocent civilians in Bucha, Ukraine. All European countries have expressed their clear protest against the Russian uncontrolled invasion of Ukraine with many vested interests for their own benefit. The dissertation is an attempt to shed light on the serious responsibilities of the warring countries under the International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Russia and NATO have also sought to shed light on war crimes committed by Russian forces in Ukraine. Russian forces have tried to explain how human rights have been brutally

abused. Therefore, the actions of the Russian military violate international humanitarian law (IHL) (the law of the war).

2. SOME FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES ABOUT THE ONGOING RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR:

Russia, one of Europe's energy-producing giants, launched a full-scale military offensive on Ukraine on February 24, 2022, killing nearly 3,000 civilians and displacing more than 7 million, according to the United Nations. The conflict has forced another five million Ukrainians to flee to neighboring countries - most of them in Poland, a NATO country where the United States and other allies are helping to accommodate the influx of refugees. The World Economic Forum estimates that 16 million people will need humanitarian assistance as a result of the conflict, and the UN Security Council has repeatedly expressed concern about the disruption of the emergency aid channel, which has exacerbated the situation. Humanitarian crisis². The rapidly rising number of military and civilian deaths, the time-sensitive need of families for humanitarian assistance and the destruction of vital infrastructure and health services, the relevance of international humanitarian law and its protection and punishment are timely. Importance. The root cause of this attack is the Cold War between two giant energy producers and suppliers. The US and Russia are trying to gather allies by trying to forge ties with different countries. The United States is working to prevent Russia from emerging as a major energy producer and supplier. Similarly, many Russian countries, which were part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), have become disillusioned and liberated from Russia (the former USSR).

Russia's animosity between the two giants has further angered Russia as it moves to include these broken nations in NATO countries with the help of the United States and other European nations. This has led to a war between Russia and Ukraine in the form of a forced Russian invasion of Ukraine. The fact is that Russia wants to get back all the territories that were separated from it. However, the free nations do not want to go back and join Russia, because they want to enjoy freedom and liberty instead of being part of dictatorship and tyranny.

3. RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR AND THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SO FAR:

On 24th February, 2022, at a UN Security Council meeting aimed at deterring Russia from invading Ukraine, Putin refused to come to terms of maintaining peace and announced a full land, sea and air attack on Ukraine, targeting Ukrainian troops, property and cities. Across the country. US President Joe Biden has called the attack "unnecessary and unjust" and has since imposed sanctions on Russia's four largest banks, including the oil and gas industry, and European allies, including sanctions targeting the financial assets of Putin and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. The United States is providing military assistance to Ukraine, which has caused further damage to Russia. Biden has announced an additional \$ 800 million in military aid.³

In the wake of the Russian invasion, the United States has pledged 3.4 billion in security assistance, including heavy weapons and artillery. The United States has dramatically increased the number of American troops in Europe, bringing the total to more than a million. The United Nations, the G7, the EU and other countries are protesting Russia's actions and supporting the Ukrainian military. At the United Nations Emergency Convention on 2nd March, 2022, 141 of the 193 member states voted to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and to demand an immediate end to Russia's use of force in Ukraine.

In late March 2022, Russia announced that it would "reduce military activity" near Kyiv and Chernihiv. However, despite the promise, Russia continued its long-range missile attacks, which caused significant damage to Ukrainian military property, urban residential areas and transport and transportation infrastructure. Facilities were also completely destroyed by indiscriminate and brutal bombing of hospitals and residential complexes. By 6th April, 2022, Russia had withdrawn all troops from the Ukrainian capital. After the Russian withdrawal from the Kyiv region, Ukrainian citizens described the obvious war crimes committed by Russian forces, including summary executions, torture and rape. Hospitals and residential complexes were also fired upon and bombed. Negotiations between

European powers, including the United States, Russia and France and Germany, have so far had no effect.

It was the joint responsibility of the United Nations and NATO and other alliances to resolve disputes between Russia and Ukraine without relying on rival countries such as the United States. After World War II, five important nations came together to establish peace and harmony in the world. Other European and Asian countries, including the five countries, had promised that there would be no more bloodshed and that property, especially national monuments, etc. will not be destroyed. However, Russia-Ukraine has broken that promise and the war has destroyed the spirit of the creation of the UN.

Civilians in Mariupol⁴, Humanitarians are facing a crisis with severe shortages of food, water and heat. In March 2022, it is estimated that more than 90 percent of the city has been damaged or destroyed by Russian bombings on Mariupol.⁵ The number of civilians killed during the Russian siege of Mariupol was about twenty thousand, and satellite images show that there is a mass grave near Mariupol. Russian forces have been besieging the city for weeks and hundreds of civilians have been killed in air strikes. On April 18, after a failed attempt to capture Kyiv, Russia launched a new major offensive in eastern Ukraine. These developments have led Russia to attack Ukraine's sovereignty.

4. RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR: THE PRESENT SITUATION:

Russian forces have continued firing on Ukrainian positions in the southern regions of Zaporizhia, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Dnipropetrovsk. According to the UK's Institute for the Study of War (ISW), Russia's current priority in the south is to stop the Ukrainian counter-attack, which has succeeded in regaining some territory in recent weeks. To the west, Russia aimed to capture Odessa and prevent Ukraine from entering the Black Sea, but tight security in Mykolaiv prevented its troops from advancing, and in March, anti-Ukrainian rebellion forced them to retreat towards Kherson.

5. DESTRUCTION IN THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR:

Russian forces have continued firing on Ukrainian positions in the southern regions of Zaporizhia, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Dnipropetrovsk. According to the UK's Institute for the Study of War (ISW), Russia's current priority in the south is to stop the Ukrainian counter-attack, which has succeeded in regaining some territory in recent weeks. To the west, Russia aimed to capture Odessa and prevent Ukraine from entering the Black Sea, but tight defenses in Mykolaiv prevented its troops from advancing, and in March, Ukrainian counter-insurgency forced them to retreat towards Kherson.

6. RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR AND THE REGULATING LAWS:

John Locke once said that, 'where the law ends, tyranny begins' and the war is one of the part of tyranny⁶. War crimes happened easily in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. War crimes are criminal violations of international law on armed conflict. This law is also known as International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Many of the rules that apply to the IHL are found in the 1907 Hague Convention, the 1949 Geneva Convention, and subsequent additional protocols. However, every violation of the IHL is a war of crime. Only the most serious misconduct will increase the criminal liability of the individual offender. For example, deliberately targeting the civilian population is both a violation of the IHL, which increases the responsibility of the state, and it is also a war crime, for which individual criminals take criminal responsibility.

The modern formulations of the targeting rules are found in Protocol I of 1977⁷. Protocol I is fully applicable to this conflict, as both Ukraine and Russia are parties to Protocol I without any reservations. Indeed, when the Soviet Union assembled its identification tool, it declared, "The supreme Soviet of the USSR chose to recognize the protocol without any reservation," unlike some of its Western counterparts.⁸ However, despite the unconditional recognition, the recent invasion of Ukraine violated several provisions of Protocol I and the attack continues.

7. THE BASIC RULE OF TARGETING OBJECTS IN THE WAR:

Part IV of the Protocol⁹ Controls the targeting of ideas in a particular country during a war. The basic rule is that the parties to the conflict must distinguish between combat, civilian and military objectives, and civilian objects. Under Section 51 (2), as far as the civilian population as well as individual citizens are concerned, none of them should be the target of attack. This provision is available to citizens unless they are directly involved in hostilities. According to Article 52 (1) of the Protocol, civilian objects, such as homes and public places, cannot be objects of attack or retaliation. However, this does not mean that any attack that harms civilians or damages civilian property is illegal. These basic rules prevent them from being the target of an attack. In other words, in the event of an attack against a military objective, the degree of collateral damage is permitted. However, an upper limit is provided under Article 51 (5) (b) of the Protocol which states that the collateral loss must be in the expected proportions which may be higher in terms of tangible and direct military gain. Similarly, according to IHL provisions, the use of lethal weapons during war is prohibited. There are restrictions on what types of weapons and ammunition are allowed to be used during war.

8. ROLE OF IHL IN THE ARMED CONFLICTS:

International Humanitarian Law (IHL), also known as the law of armed conflict, is the law governing the conduct of war. It is a subgroup of international law aimed at minimizing the effects of armed conflict by protecting those involved in wars and limiting and regulating the means and methods of war available to combatants. International human rights law is motivated by moral values and the protection of human suffering. It consists of a set of rules established by agreement or custom, which seeks to protect persons and property / objects affected by armed conflict and limits the right of the disputing parties to use their methods of choice and tools of war.

The IHL provision says: You should not attack civilians. Efforts should be made to limit the impact of war on women, children or other civilians. The parties to the war should treat the prisoners humanely. They should not oppress the people. International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is a set of rules that, for humanitarian reasons, seeks to limit the consequences of armed conflict. It protects individuals who have not joined or are no longer involved in combat (including civilians, physicians, aid workers, wounded, sick and shipwrecked soldiers, prisoners of war or other prisoners of war) and limits the means and methods of warfare.

9. PURPOSE OF IHL:

International humanitarian law is designed to limit and reduce the suffering caused by war. Principles formed by the uncertain balance between the demands of war on the one hand and the rules of civilization on the other. It seeks to deter armed conflict groups from inhumane violence and cruelty and to provide significant protection to those directly affected by the war. The ongoing war was a terrible trend. The war causes unnecessary suffering to people and damage to property. The United Nations Charter has already put forward votes and discussed the circumstances under which states can use force. The IHL is concerned about the future of those who do not take part in the war. The goal of the IHL is to reduce the human suffering caused by war. It is primarily intended to create rules on how to wage war. This limits the use of weapons and guarantees equality in war.

10. SOURCES OF IHL:

The IHL is based on the traditions of ancient cultures and religions - war has always been subject to such practices and values. Today, the IHL establishes a single statutory body. The four Geneva Conventions of 1949, the Hague Convention of 1907, and Traditional International Law are the main sources of modern international humanitarian law (IHL).

11. TOOLS OF WAR PROHIBITED BY IHL:

Under convention and customary IHL, various forms of warfare are clearly prohibited. Below are some examples:

a) Falsehood:

It is defined as an act that promotes the confidence of an opponent, which encourages him to conclude that he has the right to provide immunity under international law applicable to military conflict or that he is bound to commit treason. "This means, for example, lying about a disability or illness to kill an enemy soldier. Fighting, that is, activities aimed at misleading the enemy who do not violate international law and do not respect the prohibition of lying, are not prohibited. This will include masks, decoys, mock operations and misinformation.

b) Proportionality:

Attacks directed at combat or other military objectives must respect the principle of proportionality. This means that an attack that is expected to result in accidental loss of life, injury to civilians and / or damage to civilian property is prohibited in terms of tangible and intangible military benefits. In other words, it is only after assessing that a military objective can be attacked that it is concluded that the loss and damage to civilians is not expected beyond the expected military benefits. The attack must also be canceled if it is revealed that the situation has changed according to that assessment.

c) Looting:

Forced occupation of private land by enemy-occupied or conquered forces is prohibited.

d) Starvation:

It is forbidden to starve civilians as a means of war. It is also forbidden to attack, kill, delete or make useless items that are necessary for the survival of the civilian population.

e) Quarterly denial:

It is forbidden to request that no quarter be sanctioned and thus not harass the enemy or start a war on that basis. Enemy forces must be given a chance to surrender and capture. We must respect and protect wounded soldiers.

12. WHAT KIND OF WEAPONS CAN THE WARRING PARTIES USE?

No, they do not have the freedom to do so. From the beginning, the IHL sought to limit the effects of armed conflict. To this end, the IHL imposes restrictions on the choice of weapons, media, and methods of warfare through general regulations and limits or restricts the use of certain weapons that cause unacceptable harm. The general rules that limit the choice of weapons, equipment, and methods of warfare are essentially principles and rules governing the use of weapons of mass destruction and anti-conduct, which primarily protect civilians and prohibit weapons. The nature of unnecessary injury or unnecessary distress, which also protects soldiers. Since 1860, states have imposed restrictions or limits on certain weapons because of their actual or potential human cost.

These include:¹⁰

- a) Prohibition on Explosion or Expansion of Bullets (1868),
- b) Extended Bullets (1899),
- c) Toxins and Respiratory Gases (1925),
- e) Biological Weapons (1972),
- f) Chemical Weapons (1993),
- g) Ammunition using undetectable fragments (1980),
- h) Blind Laser Weapons (1995),
- i) Anti-Personnel Mines (1997),
- j) Cluster munitions (2008),
- k) Atomic (2017),
- l) As well as restrictions on the use of firearms (1980),

m) Anti-personnel and anti-vehicle landmines, booby-traps and other equipment (1980 and 1996), and
m) Obligations related to the explosive remnants of war (2003).

Many of these weapons are now prohibited under customary law. All weapons, especially non-regular weapons, must comply with the IHL's general rules regarding adverse behaviour. When developing or acquiring new weapons, states must undergo a legal review to determine whether their use is prohibited by international law in specific or all circumstances. Consideration should be given to whether the use of weapons, tools or methods of warfare is consistent with the principles of humanity and the rules of public conscience.

13. WEAPONS USED BY RUSSIA DURING THE RECENT WAR:

According to Bonnie Docherty¹¹, Russia is using banned weapons around the world in its war against Ukraine¹². These banned weapons include: Cluster munitions, which are banned by the majority of the world's population under the 2008 Convention on Cluster Materials.¹³ The second, broader range is explosive weapons, most of which are being used extensively in populated areas. These weapons include rockets, missiles, artillery, aircraft bombs, and more. Explosive weapons are not banned as a category, but they are very problematic when used in populated areas, which are currently in large numbers in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Russia has also used weapons in hospitals treating wounded and sick people. Explosives not only cause immediate loss of life, but also damage to infrastructure, health care, education and more. In addition, of course, the displacement is very large and hundreds of thousands of people have already fled the country. These weapons are going to have a big, big impact on civilians. Under existing international humanitarian law (IHL), the use of explosive weapons, especially when they have these pervasive consequences, is often considered illegal and unlawful in populated areas because they cannot distinguish between soldiers and civilians.¹⁴

14. ROLE OF UN IN RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR:

The United Nations, in short, acts as a mediator in bilateral disputes, such as Russian-Ukrainian military involvement, to help nations negotiate during the escalation of world war and outbreaks of armed conflict, as well as to provide humanitarian assistance to affected civilians. Because of the damage caused by those wars. 'Preventive diplomacy and mediation' is an important role of the United Nations.

The United Nations Organization (UNO) has limitations on questioning the veto power used by the five major permanent members. However, efforts are being made to improve the validity of the veto power, which will now require the approval of members of the General Assembly and all other members of the UN. In addition to the various approvals imposed by almost all members of the UN and NATO and other UN member states, another immediate step taken by the UN General Assembly against Russia in the wake of Ukraine's brutal invasion is the use of a full resolution vote. Confirm the suspension by the UN Human Rights Council of the Russian Federation at the UN General Assembly meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at UN Headquarters. The United Nations General Assembly has approved a resolution suspending Russia from the World Human Rights Organization¹⁵.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, despite being a responsible nation after World War II, was a major blow to the world. The Russia-Ukraine war has forced the world to question the ability of international organizations to control and control attacks. Especially when Russian President Vladimir Putin is less likely to be held accountable for war crimes. The ongoing war has long called for reforms in international institutions such as the United Nations to prevent the current helpless and helpless situation in the near future.

15. ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC):

The International Criminal Court (ICC), which has prosecuted several people, including former Liberian President Charles Taylor.¹⁶ Although President Putin's activities are being investigated for possible war crimes in Ukraine, there are several limitations to prosecuting him for war crimes.

However, given that neither Ukraine nor Russia are state parties to Rome law, there are doubts about whether the ICC can prosecute Putin, which extends the court's jurisdiction over his signatories. Moreover, experts have also found that although the ICC has taken legal action to prosecute the Russian leader, it is impossible for him to get justice while he is in power.¹⁷

There are also the Geneva and Hague Conventions that establish rules for the treatment of civilians and prisoners of war, as well as Article 39 of the UN Charter.¹⁸ Which condemns aggressive wars. Nevertheless, the Geneva or Hague Conventions, as well as the UN Charter, require the United Nations Security Council to issue a resolution establishing a tribunal. This will not happen because Russia is in the Security Council and has the right to veto any resolution. Russian aggression has forced the Security Council to amend its veto. The veto is not intended to be repealed, instead, if 2/3 of the members of the General Assembly vote and / or four of the five members of the Security Council agree, provisions can be made to repeal it. Reforms will be difficult, as they will have to be approved by 2/3 of the UN General Assembly and all members of the Security Council.¹⁹

16. ROLE OF UDHR IN RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR:

In 1947, when the world became aware of the horrors of the Holocaust and pressured it to consider ways to prevent future genocide, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) began to be drafted. Along with Eleanor Roosevelt, Lebanese diplomat Charles Malik, Chinese politician Peng Chung Chang and representatives from six other countries, the UDHR became the focus of international human rights. Although the UDHR is not a law in itself, it has led to the drafting of two international conventions on human rights, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. (ICESCR). These documents exist as international agreements, which set up committees to monitor the implementation of human rights, issue notices to states, and publish reports. Despite such global initiatives, the veto power of Security Council members allows states to think in terms of national interests rather than international cooperation.

17. NEED TO UPHOLD THE IHL:

It is the duty of the parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law and to provide for the basic needs of the population under their control. If basic needs are not met, all states should allow humanitarian aid. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is committed to doing everything possible to rescue civilians from the dangers of crossfire and bombings in honour of the IHL during times of hostility. Protecting civilians and those who no longer participate in hostilities and visiting detainees and ensuring their rights are protected, preventing people from disappearing, reuniting families.

The international armed conflict, which involves vast military capabilities, and the humanitarian consequences that have not been seen in such a short period of time may appear to have different dimensions. The IHL was created to limit the consequences of such conflicts, and the Russia-Ukraine war is not an excuse. The IHL is not to prevent conflict but to reduce the consequences of conflict. Therefore, it is the duty of the parties to the conflict to respect the provisions of the IHL, as well as to take revenge against their enemy forces. Citizens should not pay the wrong price of their rulers. If leaders want to go to war, their first duty is to get the civilians out of the conflict zone, and war must be used in the conflict zone. They should avoid attacking public or residential areas. So many lives can be avoided.

18. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS:

The IHL only refers to armed conflict. It does not work if there is internal conflict or disruption. Internal unrest includes riots, demonstrations and sporadic acts of violence within state borders under international human rights law. It is also important to note that the legitimacy of military warfare (Jus ad Bellum) is not discussed by the IHL (Jus in Bello). Whatever the cause of the conflict or its validity, the IHL will treat all parties equally. The principles of international humanitarian law are as follows: to

differentiate between soldiers and civilians; prohibition of attacks on non-combatants; banning unnecessary suffering, the principle of necessity. The United Nations must take lead to avoid destruction of the earth by some unsatisfactory minds who does not agree with what is right for the betterment of the sustainability of life. The principles of 'live and Let live' must be the constant agenda of all the meetings or Conferences of General Assembly. UN should be equipped with a lot of strong power to use it whenever it is required in the interest of the Earth, which is the only planet with a beautiful nature and life in this entire universe. As it is rightly initiated by the UN of restricting the exercise of veto powers to behave irresponsibly only as per the approval of the majority of the members of General Assembly and other member countries. No country either permanent or temporary UN member and / or no matter how power it is, it should not be allowed to threaten and / or exploit or invade any smaller and less powerful. UN or NATO forces should immediately attack such country and put an end to the conflict. No country, which has ratified the conditions of not getting indulged in attacking any neighbouring country and violate the law of wars. UN should reform itself and emerge as a powerful protector of mother earth and all the nations, which deserve freedom and sovereignty.

NOTES AND REFERENCES:

¹Available at: https://www.google.com/search?q=Quotes+on+War&sxsrf=ALiCzsZJgJ1mFCzJ69cwGRAO5AuNbszW8g:1657199734300&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj6gvCL7ub4AhXszXM BHSJpAKgQ_AUoAXoECAEQAw&biw=1440&bih=724&dpr=1

²"Fearing a major humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, targeted attacks on civilians fleeing violence, Security Council spokesmen reiterate strong calls for an end to the conflict, "UN meeting coverage and *Press Releases* (7 March 2022). Available at: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2022/sc14823.doc.htm> (accessed 7 March 2022).

³Ibid.

⁴A port city in South-Eastern Ukraine.

⁵Ibid.

⁶Available at: <https://oll.libertyfund.org/quote/john-locke-on-the-idea-that-wherever-law-ends-tyranny-begins-1689>.

⁷Additional Protocols to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Geneva Conventions of 1949, ICRC, Geneva, p-95.

⁸Available at: <https://rwi.lu.se/blog/the-Russia-Ukraine-war-who-and-what-could-be-targeted-under-international-humanitarian-law/>

⁹Supra Note 11.

¹⁰Available at: <https://www.icrc.org/en/document/ihl-rules-of-war-faq-geneva-conventions>.

¹¹Bonnie Docherty is a lecturer in law at Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic, associate director of its armed struggle and civil defense initiative, and a researcher for Human Rights Watch.

¹²Ukraine war: Russia used cluster weapons at least 24 times, says UN's Bachelet

¹³Cluster munitions are large weapons, launched from the air or from the ground, containing dozens or hundreds of small weapons called "submunitions." They are dangerous for two reasons. One is that they spread submunitions over a wide area and are therefore irrational about what they hit. Secondly, a large number of submunitions do not explode and remain lying like landmines for the next few months, years, or even decades.

¹⁴Supra Point 16.

¹⁵The Russia-Ukraine war provides an opportunity to reform the UN. Available at: <https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2022/4/14/the-russia-ukraine-war-provides-an-opportunity-to-reform-the-un>

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷The UN created a special tribunal in 2002 with the unanimous support of the Security Council to try former Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes committed in the 1990s in the former Yugoslavia. This was possible because the disgraced leader had been defeated.

¹⁸Article 39 states that the Security Council shall determine and recommend the existence of any threat to the peace, the breach of the peace or the act of aggression, or decide on the measures to be taken in accordance with Articles 41 and 42.

¹⁹Supra point 21.