

# Putin seeks to achieve yet another „zeroing” of his international law violations

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Despite being a permanent member of the UN Security Council, Russia fails to fulfill its exclusive duty, which is to maintain international peace and security. In addition, by vetoing the most important resolutions and setting up dubious Arria meetings, Russia discredits one of the six main UN bodies.

The Russian Federation has repeatedly ignored calls to fulfill own obligations under the UN Charter, including in relation to Ukraine. Conflicts around the world (including frozen ones) continue over Russia's fault: Ukraine, Libya, Syria, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. Instead of stopping the bloodshed, Russia vetoes key resolutions by the UN Security Council, exploiting its status in the United Nations, thereby jeopardizing the authority and ability of the entire Security Council to fulfill its most important function – to ensure international peace and security.

The most important resolutions of the UN SC, including on the war in Libya and Syria, on settling the Crimea annexation dispute settlement, on the investigation into the MH17 downing were vetoed by the same permanent member of the Security Council, the Russian Federation, which jeopardizes not only its reputation but also the lives of millions of civilians. If Russia finds annoying the principle of conscientious implementation of international agreements, there is always a way out, for example, allowing a worthy country that will fulfill obligations rather than cover up own crimes to take a vacant seat at the UN SC.

Sanctions have already been imposed on Russian and more are yet to come until Russia ceases its aggression against Ukraine and after Ukrainian territories are fully deoccupied.

In order to legalize the annexation of Crimea and the war in Donbas, Russia periodically initiates Arria meetings of the UN Security Council. Under the guise of rights protection and exploiting the non-statutory format of such meetings, the Russians have been inviting dubious individuals, such as the "ministers" representing the unrecognized "LPR-DPR," as well as Russian assets who had fled from Ukraine to Russia (Azarov, Tsarev). People who are „invited" to such Arria meetings hold Russian passports and are accordingly considered Russian citizens. Such individuals are undoubtedly handled by Kremlin's secret services.

In 2020, the world faced a devastating challenge posed by COVID-19. As the planet struggles with the pandemic, Moscow has tried to push for the UN General Assembly to adopt its version of the Declaration of Solidarity amid the COVID-19 threat, which included the idea of □□lifting international sanctions off of Russia and its satellites. Thus, by using the UN rostrum, Russia tried to circulate the thesis about the need for the West, in the face of a common deadly threat, to forget albeit temporarily) about sanctions, Russian aggression against Ukraine, the issues of Donbas and Crimea, and unite with the Kremlin. If not, it's the U.S. and the RU who will be to blame for any new coronavirus victims.

While addressing the West on reconciliation and unification in tackling COVID-19, the Kremlin is actually doing the opposite. First, Russian bombers flying over the Atlantic remain an issue, as does the „force testing" of NATO's defense in the Barents and Norwegian Seas, as well as in the region close to Alaska. Secondly, the Zapad (West) 2021 joint exercise is underway, while military drills have become a regular occurrence in the occupied Crimea. Third, Russian troops continue to engage in hostilities across Donbas, blatantly

ignoring the agreements reached in the Normandy Four format.

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