



**Country: The Kyrgyz Republic**

**Delegate's Name: Anass GOTAR**

**United Nations General Assembly**

**2022 Topic: Russia-Ukraine crisis**

**Arab Youth International Model United Nations - Dubai**

Thank you very much.

Distinguished Mr. President,

Your honor Madam secretary-general,

Your Excellencies,

Distinguished heads of states,

Prime ministers and ministers,

Ladies and gentlemen.

The Kyrgyz delegation is concerned about the steep evolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict over the past few months, but we are also pleased that today we have all come together to discuss and seek to find a congruent remedy to this conflict which has continued to hinder and impede world cooperation and peace.

Honorable audience, our delegation is very alarmed and have been wary of endorsing Russian President Vladimir Putin's aggression. Our geographic isolation and continued dependence on Russia for export routes, security assistance, and labour markets also make us reluctant to condemn Putin's actions. Fearful that Moscow might turn on us next.



Following the imposition of Western sanctions, some of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) members, including us, refused to accept customs duties from Russia in roubles. As the Russian military campaign struggled and the extent of human suffering in Ukraine became increasingly evident, our government moved beyond muted expressions of concern to more open critique. We allowed some anti-war protests, permitted civil society groups to collect humanitarian assistance for Ukraine, and clamped down on local displays of the “Z” sign used by supporters of the war. Also, it is worth mentioning that we reiterated our commitment to Ukraine’s territorial integrity.

The Delegation of Kyrgyzstan is aware that the current invasion is an unhumanitarian inappropriate act against the Ukrainian people, therefore, we managed to send recently several humanitarian assistance and medical supplies to Ukraine. Our foreign minister also reiterated Kyrgyzstan’s commitment to the principle of territorial integrity and called for the establishment of stable humanitarian corridors in Ukraine.

On a second basis, our delegation wants to highlight the fact that we can all relate that the damages engendered by the war are humongous, but our country’s economy is one of the most impacted so far, especially, as we are considered among the poorest nations in the region, in addition to that, we depend on remittances from migrants working in Russia, where remittances alone account for 30% of our GDP. Thus, we certainly do agree that the measures taken against Russia are pushing it to stop, however, these actions are implicitly causing the fall of our remittances, as Russia’s economy declines amid sanctions.

Despite being efficient or not, the economic sanctions that you are undertaking are certainly weakening Russia, yet, the effect of economic downturn in Russia are already being felt here. There is growing inflation and we may expect shortages of basic products in the coming months. We are also likely to witness growing civil unrest and large-scale instability as the ongoing Ukraine crisis will increase frustration amongst our unemployed youth. The war will also widen the border and ethnic faultlines in the Central Asian region. Worse than that, as the ruble falls to just 155 against the dollar (a record low), our nation will face the dual pressures of collapsing state and household budgets, leaving millions suffering from food insecurity.

The world is at a fragile stage, on the brink of a global catastrophe, and this dialogue between Russia and Ukraine is of paramount importance in launching a possible peace process. Please know that imposing sanctions and further escalation of tensions in the world will merely cause serious economic and humanitarian disasters.

Our peoples have a common history. We went through difficult times together. Therefore, we never had, and could not have had, the option of taking sides in this conflict. To conclude, Bishkek stands for a peaceful solution to all issues through political and diplomatic means and we firmly adhere to all UN norms and to the principle of territorial integrity, in particular.



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