

Committee: United Nations General Assembly First Committee (the Disarmament and International Security Committee)

Agenda Item: Russo-Ukrainian Conflict

Country: Turkey

The conflict between Ukraine and Russia began with the entry of the Russian army into the territory of Ukraine with a special military operation on February 24, 2022. In addition to changing regional and global balances, it caused a significant loss of life. The war also led to an increase in world food prices and the threat of famine in low-income countries because of the complete halt in Ukraine's seaborne grain shipments.

As a result of Turkey's mediation activities, negotiations were held between the two sides in Istanbul after the siege of Kiev by Russia. With these negotiations held on March 29, 2022, the Ukrainian side delivered the principles of a possible future written agreement to the Russian side, and the agreement was very close. However, the Ukrainian delegation abandoned the agreement after returning to Kiev.

Turkey led to sign of the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian ports between Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and the United Nations on July 22, 2022 with the aim of invigorating Ukraine's seaborne grain shipments. This agreement maintained for one year because Russia announced its withdrawal from the agreement in July 2023.

We think that the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian ports should be re-signed to contribute to the world economy and trade. In conclusion, we emphasize the words of our great leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, "Peace at home, peace in the world" and believe that permanent peace should be established between the two sides. We are ready to re-establish the negotiation table that we previously established in Istanbul for the construction of peace.

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