

The 65th Series of Meetings of Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO

Geneva, Switzerland

July 9, 2024

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr. Chair, Director General, Distinguished delegates,

Unfortunately, as during the previous two assemblies, Ukraine is compelled to address Russia's ongoing unjustified and unprovoked aggression, that ravages our nation, undermines the fabric of the rules-based international order, disrupts the international property ecosystem, and challenges the core mandate of WIPO.

Yesterday, as the global IP community prepared for these Assemblies, Russia launched over 40 missiles across Ukraine.

Russian terrorists mercilessly targeted the largest children's Hospital in Europe. Thirty-eight innocent lives, including children, were lost, and over a hundred left gravely injured, over 100 civilian objects have been destroyed.

Since 2022, Russia has destroyed over 166,000 civilian infrastructure in Ukraine, including those in the IP sector. IP in Ukraine's sovereign territories, which are currently under Russia's temporary military control, remains under the Russian occupation.

Each day, the catastrophic consequences of Russia's war grow, extending far beyond Ukraine's borders.

A country that flagrantly disregards WIPO's mission by waging a war of aggression against another WIPO member, and systematically violates its IP rights, does not deserve a seat at this Assembly and forfeits any privilege to host the WIPO's external office.

Mr. Chair,

Despite Russia's aggression, Ukraine's Government continues to prioritize the development of a national IP system, leveraging WIPO's resources and projects to their fullest.

We are grateful to WIPO for its invaluable assistance in drafting the National IP Strategy, designed to fortify the resilience of Ukraine's innovation and creativity sectors.

We urge the International Bureau to maintain and deepen its cooperation with Ukrainian institutions, providing support to our IP community. The focus must be on mitigating the effects of this war and assisting in our recovery. We also request that WIPO to deliver an updated assessment of the medium- and long-term impacts of Russia's war on Ukraine's innovation and creativity sectors for our session next year.

Mr. Chair,

To conclude, WIPO was founded to help its Member States to promote IP as a tool for a better, more sustainable future for all. Achieving a just and lasting peace in Ukraine, grounded on the principles of the UN Charter and the peace framework agreed upon at the Global Peace Summit in Burgenstock, is essential. Without it, WIPO's noble mission risks becoming a "mission impossible."