

## **CEBS supportive statement on Ukraine**

### **Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (50<sup>th</sup> Session)**

**3-7 March 2025, Geneva**

*Note: This statement is delivered on behalf of the following CEBS members: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.*

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates, colleagues

Last Monday, with continuous deep concern we marked the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. In this sobering moment – on behalf of the Central European and Baltic States members – I am honoured to express our unwavering support and solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

The figures presented by the Ukrainian delegation are terrible, given the profound impact that the repeated attacks bring not only on the national IP ecosystem and institutions responsible for safeguarding IPR development and protection, but also to all IP users.

The negative impacts described in the *WIPO report on assistance and support for Ukraine's innovation and creativity sector and intellectual property system* continue to deepen which is alarming. The millions of people who were forced and continue to flee their homes and country – given the repeated attacks against Ukrainian cities, infrastructure and civilians – raise serious concerns about the protection and utilisation of intellectual property, leaving a distinct mark on the landscape of patent in times of war. The damage to the infrastructure serving scientific, educational, research and cultural institutions, cause tremendous loss of the potential and capacity of various stakeholders of the Ukrainian IP ecosystem. Our duty as the members of this international community is to facilitate the voice and demand full respect for the principles of the UN Charter and international obligations.

The CEBS members demand the Russian Federation to immediately stop the war of aggression against Ukraine, in this sense reaffirming the UN General Assembly Resolutions condemning attempted annexation of Ukraine's territories, that is a clear international indication that no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal. We therefore demand that Ukraine's internationally recognised borders be fully acknowledged in all IP-related context and WIPO Global services.

Equally, we convey our message of gratitude to the Secretariat and WIPO members for the decision taken at the General Assembly to continue relevant assistance and support to Ukraine's IP sector hoping for its effective recovery. We welcome further information and reporting to WIPO member states on these activities.

Thank you!