



**Statement by Ambassador Kristín A. Árnadóttir, Permanent Representative of Iceland. 1387th Permanent Council, 1 September 2022.
The Russian Federation's Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine**

While we align with the Statement of the European Union, allow me to stress the following in my national capacity.

We must reiterate that the Russian Federation's ongoing and illegal war against Ukraine, its sovereign, independent neighbour, is a blatant violation of international law.

The situation which the Russian Federation has created and is responsible for, by seizing control of the Zaporizhzhia power plant, the largest power plant in Ukraine and Europe, is alarming and extremely dangerous. We have seen the imminent danger escalate in recent weeks. This situation could have dramatic consequences.

Since its occupation of the power plant in March, the Russian Federation has prevented the power plant operators, Ukrainian authorities, and the IAEA, from ensuring nuclear safety and security.

Finally, after weeks and months of escalating danger, we hope that no obstacles will be to the IAEA's Mission to the power plant.

The IAEA Support and Assistance Mission to Zaporizhzhia must not be prevented from carrying out its work in Ukraine.

The Russian Federation must withdraw its forces from the Zaporizhzhia power plant and surrounding areas, and in no way hinder the IAEA Mission from carrying out its mandate and safeguards implementation.

We once again must urge the Russian Federation to stop its unjustified and illegal war, respect its international commitments and obligations. Again, we reiterate, diplomacy must prevail.

Thank you Mr. Chair.