

Written statements submitted on the occasion of the fifty-fourth Session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene, 11 - 15 March 2024

(Comments of European Union, The United States of America)

European Union

Statement of the European Union and its Member states on the Russian aggression against Ukraine

The European Union and its Member States express their full solidarity with Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. The European Union and its Member States condemn in the strongest possible terms Russia's unprovoked and unjustified act of aggression against Ukraine, which grossly violates international law and the United Nations Charter, and undermines international security and stability. The European Union and its Member States demand that Russia immediately cease its military actions, withdraw all its troops from the entire territory of Ukraine and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognised borders and abide by United Nations General Assembly resolution titled "Aggression against Ukraine" supported by 141 states at the 11th emergency special session. The European Union and its Member States resolutely support Ukraine's inherent right of self-defence and the Ukrainian armed forces' efforts to defend Ukraine's territorial integrity and population in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. At all times Russia must respect its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, including with respect to the protection of civilians, women and children. Russia also needs to stop its disinformation campaign and cyber-attacks.

The United States of America

U.S. Statement on the Russia-Ukraine War

The United States condemns in the strongest possible terms Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war against Ukraine and its people, which is exacting a devastating human toll. The United States remains unwavering in its support of the government and people of Ukraine as they defend their country and their freedom.

Thanks to the remarkable success of its Black Sea Humanitarian Corridor, Ukraine is exporting food at close to its pre-war levels, despite Russia's continued attempts to destroy Ukraine's grain storage and port facilities as part of its brutal and needless war. Russia's actions run contrary to the multilateral science- and consensus-based process that is foundational to the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the World Health Organization.

Russia's brutal full-scale invasion of Ukraine and its decade-long violation of Ukraine's sovereignty is a flagrant contravention of the UN Charter. We urge Russia to withdraw its troops from Ukraine immediately.