

**Dear Chairperson!**  
**Ladies and gentlemen!**

My name is Refat Chubarov.

I am the Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People and, at the same time, a member of the National Parliament of Ukraine.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2014 I was expelled by the Russian occupants from my home and I am still prohibited to return to the Crimea.

I cannot be with my people, as well as with my friends and with my mother.

Earlier, Mustafa Dzemilev, the national leader of the Crimean Tatars and member of the Ukrainian Parliament was subjected to the same expulsion.

Let me add a few comments to the discussion on the role and responsibilities of Parliaments.

Due to their nature and duties, Parliaments are the first institutions to prevent any challenges threatening human rights and the rights of peoples – both at the national and international level.

However, in a situation when an authoritarian regime is settled up in a State, the National Parliament may become a sort of "a crazy printer", circulating decisions, lowered by the dictator.

In 2014, the Russian parliamentarians, by voting to provide Putin with the right to use the Russian troops on the territory of Ukraine and against Ukraine, cynically destroyed the entire legal structure of the world order and international relations.

Every action which brutally neglects the international law and causes international conflicts leads to terrible consequences.

More than 1 million 800 thousand Internally Displaced Persons in Ukraine, about 10 thousand of the killed, enormous losses in economy – these are the aftermath of the vote cast by the Russian Parliament.

In the temporarily occupied Crimea, the Tatars – the indigenous people on the Peninsula – have been taken hostages by the Russian occupants for speaking in open manner against the military invasion of Russia.

The statement made by the Russian Representative from this floor yesterday about the flourishing happiness that the Crimean Tatars enjoying after the occupation, absolutely contradicts the reality and intends to camouflage the repressive policies of the occupants aimed at

forcing the Crimean Tatars and Ukrainians to leave the Crimean Peninsula.

The systemic repressions and discrimination of Crimean Tatars in the occupied Crimea keep increasing every day.

The invaders have banned Majlis – the highest representative body of the Crimean Tatars and its members are systemically prosecuted.

Twenty-two Crimean Tatars, including my deputy in the Mejlis Mr. Chiyghoz, have been illegally detained. Their only fault is that they do not recognize the Russian occupation remaining faithful to their country – Ukraine.

The Russian invaders are resorting to cruelty in persecuting the young people who have the courage to have a different position from that of the invaders'. Dozens of young people have been forcibly abducted, later some of them have been found dead.

The Muslims who remain in Crimea are systemically repressed.

So in the case of Russia, we are witnessing how the Parliament has not only failed while performing the task to prevent the conflict, but in fact acted as a mechanism by which the war was launched.

That is why we are drawing our common attention to the inadmissibility of holding the IPU Assembly in St. Petersburg until the time when Russia comes back to the fundamentals of the international law and meets the high principles that the Inter-Parliamentary Union proclaims.

Thank you.