



# From Kherson prisons to Russian detention: Deportation and Arbitrary Detention of Ukrainian Pre-Conflict Prisoners.

JOINT ICC SUBMISSION  
ONLINE BRIEFING

Date : 26 May 2026

Time : 14:00 CET

**TO REGISTER >> [LINK](#)**

We are pleased to invite you to an online press briefing on our joint formal communication to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), concerning the deportation to Russia and unlawful detention of approximately 1,800 Ukrainian civilian prisoners following the occupation of Kherson and Mykolaiv oblasts in November 2022.

In our communication, we argue that these acts constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity. The deportation of prisoners took place within a broader and systematic policy of removing civilians from occupied Ukrainian territory, documented by international human rights bodies. Prisoners — entirely in the hands of their captors — were among the most defenceless victims of these transfers and have often remained overlooked.

### PRESENTATION OF THE COMMUNICATION

Hugues de Suremain, Dmitry Gurin  
European Prison Litigation Network

### MODERATION

Dr. Yuliya Zabyelina  
University of Alabama

### DISCUSSION

Iryna Didenko, Department of International Legal Cooperation, Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine

Oleksandr Ziuz, Department for Combating Crimes Committed in the Context of Armed Conflict, Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine

Oleh Tsvilyi, Hanna Skrypka, Protection for Prisoners of Ukraine

Mikhaylo Romanov, Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group

Nataliia Stepanenko, European Human Rights Advocacy Center

Event in English and Ukrainian with simultaneous interpretation.

This event is supported by the Fondation de France.  
Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only and  
do not necessarily reflect those of the Fondation de France.

Projet  
soutenu par

Fondation  
de  
France