



ASSEMBLY — 42ND SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY UKRAINE

(Presented by Ukraine)

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,**

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you on behalf of the delegation of the Government of Ukraine.

Taking this opportunity, let me reaffirm my country's strong commitment to the norms and principles of the 1944 Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) and its Annexes (Standards and Recommended Practices of ICAO). I would also like to inform you of the current situation in the field of civil aviation in Ukraine and highlight key developments since the 41st Assembly.

Civil aviation plays an important role in Ukraine, and we aim to see it growing in line with the values of the Chicago Convention and the priorities of ICAO. The theme of this 42nd Assembly "Safe Skies, Sustainable Future" illustrate our common objective of developing an ever safe, secure and more sustainable international civil aviation.

The past three years have however been very challenging for the civil aviation of Ukraine due to the Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified full-scale military invasion of Ukraine. The continued violation of Ukraine airspace sovereignty, a key principle at the heart of our global aviation system, prevents the Ukrainian aviation to grow and flourish as it does in your States and as it should in our. This unacceptable violation was recognized by the 41st Assembly in 2022, which condemned the Russian Federation for it and reaffirmed by the ICAO Council to this Assembly.

Unfortunately, due to ongoing Russian Federation's war of aggression against our State the situation in Ukraine has not improved since last Assembly and our airspace cannot reopen without putting the life of air passengers at risk. Every night, the Russian army carries out missile and drone attacks on critical and civilian infrastructure, including air navigation facilities, causing widespread destruction and loss of life. The continued violation of our airspace by the Russian Federation is preventing Ukraine and the Ukrainians from connecting to your countries and your citizens by air.

This situation is affecting our connectivity, and it is also impacting our air transport industry. The Ukrainian air operators continue to perform international flights beyond Ukraine's borders, and Ukrainian-registered

aircraft remain actively present in the airspace of partner states. But they cannot fly in the Ukrainian sky. Our national manufacturers design and produce aeronautical products but sadly the Antonov 225 “Mriya” (Dream in English) – the heaviest cargo aircraft ever to take to the air, was destroyed in 2022 near Kyiv as a result of the Russian Federation’s illegal and unprovoked full-scale military invasion of Ukraine. A small model of this aircraft and memorial plaque found home here at ICAO, in the Hall of this building, and is a reminder to all of us of this important piece of aviation history.

We remain committed to a sustainable global recovery and achieving international climate goals. In March 2025, Ukraine updated its Action Plan for reducing CO₂ emissions from aviation.

Ukraine needs your support for its efforts aimed at restoring a safe, secure, and resilient civil aviation system, and reaffirms its readiness to engage in constructive dialogue and cooperation throughout the Assembly and the upcoming triennium.

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Representatives of the Member-States,**

Ukraine notes with grave concern that today not only our country, but the entire international civil aviation community is affected by increasing violations of the Chicago Convention and of the international rules-based order.

The scale and number of these violations, which are seriously endangering the safety and security of international civil aviation and putting the life of air passengers at risk, have drastically increased over the past three years.

This Assembly will examine a number of those violations in the coming two weeks, including the dual registration of aircraft leased from foreign companies by the Russian Federation, permitting the operation of those aircraft without valid certificates of airworthiness and issuance of unauthorized certificates of airworthiness. There is a Significant Safety Concern against the Russian Federation on this matter, which remains unremedied to date. The ICAO Council, noting that the Russian Federation didn’t take any actions to address or resolve the infractions identified is asking the Assembly to restate that Assembly Resolution A41-2 remains in force and to urge the Russian Federation to take appropriate actions.

Ukraine is very concerned with increasing risks near or over conflict zones and praises ICAO’s ongoing work related to the conflict zones. It remains of utmost importance to ensure that States respect the Chicago Convention and its Article 3 bis in order to prevent future tragedies and reinforce the integrity of international civil aviation law. Ukraine notes in that respect the recent decision of the ICAO Council to condemn the Russian Federation for violating of the Chicago Convention which led to the downing of flight MH17.

Furthermore, the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) originating from the territory of the Russian Federation and its harmful impact on the safety and security of international civil aviation, is affecting the entire global civil aviation network, putting global safety and security at risk. The ICAO Council recognized that such action from the Russian Federation is against the principles enshrined in the Chicago Convention and determined it as an infraction of the Convention to be reported to this Assembly.

Mr. President,

In the current environment, where we see that what we achieved all together over the 80 years here at ICAO is endangered, it is especially vital that ICAO's governing bodies be composed of States that demonstrate consistent adherence to the principles of the Chicago Convention and international law.

One of the ICAO Council core tasks is to adopt International Standards and Practices. A state that bluntly and systematically disregards the international norms and practices adopted by the ICAO Council cannot seat among its members and credibly serve in the leadership of the Organization entrusted with safeguarding those very principles.

Ukraine wishes to reaffirm its confidence in ICAO's steadfast commitment to the rule of international civil aviation law and to the core principles enshrined in the Chicago Convention.

**Mr. President,
Distinguished Representatives of the Member-States,**

In conclusion, allow me to express our sincere gratitude for the opportunity to address this distinguished Assembly.

Ukraine remains deeply committed to ICAO's shared vision grounded in safety, cooperation, and respect for international law. Even in the face of Russia's war of aggression, Ukraine continues to believe in the strength of unity, dialogue, and multilateral engagement.

Ukraine stands ready to contribute constructively to the work of this Organization and work with all of you to the advancement of a safe, resilient, and rules-based global civil aviation system.

Thank you for your attention and continued support.

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