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Dear Mr. President/Chair, dear colleagues,

let me share with you a few brief remarks regarding the climate change topic in relation to the Czech Republic and the present situation.

I am sure that we are all aware of our responsibility to the future generations to hand over the World in the best possible condition. I really highly appreciate all the commitments of countries as mentioned in the previous speeches.

Therefore the European Union, of which the Czech Republic is a proud member country, has been preparing the so called European Green Deal aiming towards climate neutrality in 2050.

However, as we can see now, some of the assumptions of this plan are challenged by the present russian aggression in Ukraine as Russia has been an important supplier of gas and oil to Europe.

It is also crucial to stress that the war of such an extent as happens in Ukraine may itself be a threat to the climate, apart from being a huge cause of human suffering. Just imagine the amount of infrastructure needed to be rebuilt after the damage caused by the Russian army. And there will be many more necessary investments related to refugees in hosting countries.

As the Czech Republic will hold the presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of this year, we will definitely need to address these issues and try hard to find viable solutions. Solutions on government and parliament levels, solutions not only on the scope of the EU, but also on a global scale as we are all people living in only one world.

Therefore please note that a high level dialogue on protection of nature and sustainable agriculture organized by the Czech ministry of environment and Czech embassy in Jakarta should take place here in Indonesia in September as a side event to the Czech presidency of the Council of the EU.

Its goals are to implement EU strategy for cooperation with the Indo-Pacific and to exchange experience and discuss our roles in conservation of endangered species and fight against wildlife trafficking including necessary forensics.

To finish my speech, let me express my thanks to Indonesia for hosting this great IPU assembly. I hope our meeting will help to facilitate international debate about peace, climate change and other important issues. I wish it to all of us, but especially to people of Ukraine and other regions hit by a violence.

Thank you for your attention.

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