## **G7** Bars Meeting

## Second statement on the war in Ukraine

We, the representatives of the Bar Associations and Law Societies in the G7 countries (the "G7 Bars"), meeting on 29 April 2023 for the G7 Bars Meeting in Tokyo, recalling and reaffirming the statement on the war in Ukraine we adopted following the G7 Bars Meeting in May 2022 in Berlin,

- 1. Unequivocally condemn the war against Ukraine as perpetrated by the Russian Federation which represents an egregious unlawful attack undermining the rule of law in the region and internationally. All countries must respect the fundamental obligations, values, principles and freedoms set out in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Geneva Conventions as well as general principles of public international law and international humanitarian law. The war against Ukraine by military forces of the Russian Federation infringes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, violates the fundamental and generally accepted principles of international law and represents an egregious attack on the rule of law.
- 2. Express our support and solidarity for the members of the Ukrainian legal profession in seeking to uphold the rule of law, defend fundamental human rights, and secure the continued operation of the criminal and civil justice systems in Ukraine under the present circumstances.
- 3. Unequivocally also condemn the threats by the Russian government to use nuclear weapons in the armed conflict against Ukraine.
- 4. Reiterate, that it is essential even during an armed conflict, to preserve the independence of lawyers, the judiciary, and bar associations and to oppose any efforts to interfere with lawyers' ethical

provision of legal advice, legal representation, and other legal services.

5. Recall that all acts constituting war crimes and crimes against humanity under international law should be prosecuted and judged in an appropriate manner and in accordance with criminal international law.

Signed in Tokyo, 29 April 2023

Japan Federation of Bar Associations

Matoji Kobagashi

American Bar Association

Canadian Bar Association

Conseil National des Barreaux

Consigliø Nazionale Forense

Deutscher Anwaltverein

Law Society of England and Wales

Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe

Bundesrechtsanwaltskammer

A 1