

Speech by Ruslan Illichov, Employers' Delegate from Ukraine

Dear Mr Chairman,

Dear Director-General,

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

There is war in Ukraine. The war for the freedom of our country against Russian aggression.

We face terrible damage, thousands of deaths, millions of people leave their homes and country.

Thousands of companies have shut down, many are working below capacity.

The war caused economic and food crisis in the world.

Ukrainian employers stand side by side with the people, army, government, country.

We see that democratic world is with Ukraine.

We are grateful to our international partners for their support.

Employers of Ukraine supported the Resolution of the ILO on the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

It identified a number of steps to support Ukraine and Ukrainian social partners.

Economic and political sanctions against Russia must be continued.

As well as its isolation from all the civilized world community.

The main task of Ukrainian employers together with the Government and trade unions is supporting economy and saving jobs.

6 million Ukrainian citizens had to leave their homes and move to other countries.

The ILO estimates are that 5 million people in Ukraine have already lost their jobs.

With the support of international partners, the ILO, we must do everything possible for them to return to Ukraine and their jobs in the future.

Today a lot is said about the afterwar reconstruction of Ukraine.

We are sure that the reconstruction of the country is our people, our own production and technological capabilities.

And today we must speak about jobs in Ukraine, practical steps for recovery, economic instruments.

They are key part of the plan to rebuild the country after the war.

Our friends from ILO member countries can also help us here.

Production cooperation, placing orders in Ukraine, new contracts.

All of these will give our people jobs and confidence in the future.

We are grateful to the ILO and personally to the Director General for the initiative to review the ILO projects in Ukraine according to our current needs.

For more than 100 years, the ILO has been working on the basis of the principles of social partnership and social dialogue.

Today, they remain relevant both in Ukraine and around the world.

And are supported by Ukrainian employers.

I wish all the participants of the Session fruitful work!

Thank you!

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY