The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

The above communication was received on 20 October 2015:

(Original: English)

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as the Depositary of […] the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 21 March 1950 […] and has the honour to inform of the following.

In February 2014 the Russian Federation launched armed aggression against Ukraine and occupied a part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and today exercises effective control over certain districts of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine. These actions are in gross violation of the Charter of the United Nations and constitute a threat to international peace and security. The Russian Federation, as the Aggressor State and Occupying Power, bears full responsibility for its actions and their consequences under international law.

The United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/68/262 of 27 March 2014 confirmed the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. The United Nations also called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

In this regard, Ukraine states that from 20 February 2014 and for the period of temporary occupation by the Russian Federation of a part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol – as a result of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation committed against Ukraine and until the complete restoration of the constitutional law and order and effective control by Ukraine over such occupied territory, as well as over certain districts of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine, which are temporarily not under control of Ukraine as a result of the
aggression of the Russian Federation, the application and implementation by Ukraine of the obligations 
under the above [Convention], as applied to the aforementioned occupied and uncontrolled territory of 
Ukraine, is limited and is not guaranteed.

Documents or requests made or issued by the occupying authorities of the Russian Federation, 
its officials at any level in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and by the 
illegal authorities in certain districts of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine, which are 
temporarily not under control of Ukraine, are null and void and have no legal effect regardless of 
whether they are presented directly or indirectly through the authorities of the Russian Federation.

The provisions of the [Convention] regarding the possibility of direct communication or 
interaction do not apply to the territorial organs of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and 
the city of Sevastopol, as well as in certain districts of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine, 
which are temporarily not under control of Ukraine. The procedure of the relevant communication is 
determined by the central authorities of Ukraine in Kyiv.

Therefore, the Ukrainian Side would be grateful if the Secretary-General of the United 
Nations, as the Depositary of […] the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of 
the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 21 March 1950 […] would circulate this notification on 
the specifics of the territorial application and implementation of the above [Convention] in Ukraine 
among all the Contracting States to [this Convention].”

11 November 2015

[Signature]

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations 
concerned. Depositary notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depositary notifications are 
made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty 
Collection on the Internet at https://treaties.un.org, under "Depositary Notifications (CNs)"). In addition, 
the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depositary 
notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also 