﻿February 15, 2022.

His Excellency Mr. António Guterres

Secretary-General

United Nations

New York, NY 10017

His Excellency Mr. Abdulla Shahid

President if the United Nations General Assembly

United Nations

New York, NY 10017

His Excellency Mr. Vasily Nebenzya

President od the Unuted Nations Security Council

United Nations

New York, NY 10017

Your Excellencies,

In accordance with the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crimes of Genocide:

* The Member States assume the primary responsibility for the protection of their civilian population as well as safeguarding and respecting the human rights of all persons within their territories, in accordance with their own jurisdiction and relevant rules of international law. By undertaking the primary responsibility for its population, each Member State pledges to protect its people from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.
* Collectively the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council assume the primary role of preserving international peace and security by preventing and halting violations of human rights and international laws that could escalate into genocide and other atrocities.

Both the judgements of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and that of the International Court of Justice established that the acts perpetrated in Srebrenica in 1995 constituted genocide.

Considering these judgements and the latest concerning events in Bosnia and Herzegovina, namely:

1. the inflammatory public statements and actions by the political, military and police leaders of the Republika Srpska entity, and
2. the public preparatory actions to strengthen the military, police and special forces of the Republika Srpska entity, displayed provocatively at the unconstitutional commemoration of the Republika Srpska Entity Day on January 9th 2022.

We are informing you that there is a justifiable and imminent concern that a genocidal intent modelled on the 1995 Srebrenica genocide could be carried out once again.

Given the significant function of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council in their core responsibility to protect against hate speech, human rights violations and contraventions of international humanitarian law, as well as to recognize and implement early warning systems to prevent situations that may escalate to genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and ethnic cleansing.

We therefore call on the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council to:

* act with urgency and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and principles of the Charter, as well as international law to implement all necessary measures, including military in order to prevent a new genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity from occurring within a United Nations Member State of Bosnia and Herzegovina; and
* to fully support victims' associations in their efforts to mark the 30th anniversary of the opening and operating of concentration camps, including detention and torture camps within Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as commemorating the 30th anniversary of the start of the siege of Sarajevo.

Conclusively we ask the United Nations General Assembly to officially support the establishment of memorials and museums on the sites of former concentration and death camps in Bosnia and Herzegovina, such as Omarska, in order to educate future generations and prevent the recurrence of genocide not only within Bosnia and Herzegovina but worldwide; and to condemn genocide denial and glorification of convicted war criminals.

Dr. Emir Ramic

Chairman of the Institute for Research of Genocide Canada