



STATEMENT

Statement in the Chamber on September 25, 2023

Ottawa, Ontario – September 25, 2023

Please see below the statement I made to fellow parliamentarians in the House today:

Before beginning our proceedings today, I wish to make a brief statement.

On Friday, in my remarks following the address by the President of Ukraine, I recognized an individual in the gallery. My intention was to show that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine is not a new one; that Ukrainians have unfortunately been subject to foreign aggression for far too long and that this must end.

I have subsequently become aware of more information which causes me to regret my decision to recognize this individual. I wish to apologize to the House. I am deeply sorry that I have offended many with my gesture and remarks.

I would also like to add that this initiative was entirely my own, the individual in question being from my riding and having been brought to my attention. No one—not even anyone among you, fellow parliamentarians, or from the Ukrainian delegation—was privy to my intention or my remarks prior to their delivery.

I thank all Members for their attention.

Hon. Anthony Rota, M.P.

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