

Statement in Parliament of Victoria, Australia

on 24 November 2011 by the:

Hon. M. J. GUY , Minister for Planning.

Saturday, 26 November, will mark the 78th anniversary of the Ukrainian Holodomor, or the famine, of 1932–33, and it will be the day that Ukrainians around the world will remember the victims of the Ukrainian genocide of that era. This was the most extensive and heinous crime the totalitarian Soviet regime perpetrated against Ukrainians and the Ukrainian nation. An attempt to subdue the nation 78 years ago destroyed its national spirit. Soviet authorities brutally eliminated millions of innocent Ukrainians, causing irreparable harm to the social fabric of the country and its society, spiritual culture and ethnic identity.

In commemoration of the 78th official anniversary of the Holodomor of 1932–33 the Congress and the Ukrainian diaspora around the world will remember this tragic historical event and mark the anniversary on this Saturday with memorial services, community vigils and other commemorative events. Here in Australia the Ukrainian community will also be marking the official anniversary of the 1932–33 Holodomor of the famine in Ukraine with a number of community events and church services. May our memory of the victims of the genocide of the Ukrainian nation be eternal.