



EUROPEAN UNION

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EU Statement on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

Mr Chair, since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, at least 15,578 civilians were killed, including 784 children, and 43,352 injured, including 2,668 children, as reported by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine last month. At the same time, countless soldiers lost their lives as Ukraine continues to exercise its right to self-defence against the aggressor – the Russian Federation.

With its actions, Russia has abandoned the international rules-based order. The EU and its Member States resolutely condemn Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustifiable war of aggression against Ukraine, which constitutes a manifest violation of the UN Charter, as well as the OSCE's core principles and commitments.

We underline our strong support for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine based on the principles of the UN Charter and international law. We also reaffirm our strong commitment to ensuring full accountability for war crimes and the other most serious crimes committed in connection with Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Ukraine is not alone in its struggle. The EU and its Member States will continue to provide multi-faceted support, including political, financial, economic, humanitarian, military and diplomatic support to Ukraine and its people who bear the brunt of Russia's aggression which is reaching new heights of brutality and violence.

Consequences of Russia's full-scale military aggression against Ukraine also reverberate beyond Ukraine. Militarised Russia poses a persistent threat to European security for the foreseeable future. The EU and its Member States must contend with, adapt to, and prepare for this evolving threat landscape. The Defense Readiness Roadmap 2030 underlines the need to speed up and ramp up efforts in view of the increasing dangers of today.

In this context, we are also deepening our cooperation with the Ukrainian defence industry to better integrate Ukraine into the European industrial base. These efforts include the EU Defence Innovation Office in Kyiv, which strengthens the cooperation between the EU and Ukraine defence industries. The Office also helps identify bottlenecks and opportunities in EU-Ukraine cooperation in defence innovation as well as supports and encourages cooperation between innovators on both sides. Just last month, a project which will develop an AI-powered cyber defence system for drone swarms and includes a Ukrainian subcontractor was selected in the latest European Defence Fund call for proposals, as the European Commission will invest over EUR 1 billion in 57 new defence projects.

Mr Chair, we reaffirm our continued firm and unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Borders must not be changed by force, the aggressor cannot be rewarded and Ukraine's long-term security and ability to defend itself must be guaranteed.

The EU and its Member States fully support this week's proposal by President Zelenskyy for a ceasefire. Until now, it is Russia who has consistently acted in bad faith, not respecting even its own unilaterally declared ceasefires. Ukraine has repeatedly demonstrated its willingness to negotiate. A genuine ceasefire could provide space for meaningful negotiations towards ending Russia's war of aggression and restoring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace.

We call on Russia to stop its aggression and immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all of its forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.

The EU and its Member States urge all countries to immediately cease any assistance to Russia in its war of aggression against Ukraine, whether direct or indirect, and notably through the provision of dual-use goods and components. In particular, we strongly condemn the deployment of the DPRK's military forces in the war against Ukraine as well as the continued military support provided by Iran, Belarus and the DPRK, among others.

We also strongly condemn the repeated breaches of the airspace of our Member States by the Russian Federation, including of Romania on 2 May, as a consequence of the brutal Russian attacks against Ukraine's civilian infrastructure at the ports on

the Danube. We urge Russia to refrain from further violations of the airspace of the European Union's Member States, which represent a serious threat to regional security. We express our full solidarity with Romania.

Thank you.

Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.