



# NATO Parliamentary Assembly

## DECLARATION

on

## SUPPORTING UKRAINE\*

The Assembly,

1. **Expressing** its solidarity with the people of Ukraine defending their national independence and territorial integrity;
2. **Deeply disturbed by** the resolutions of the Russian Duma and Federation Council to authorise the use of military force in Ukraine;
3. **Condemning** Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and its military and other actions to destabilise and undermine the sovereignty of other parts of Ukraine, and particularly its south-eastern regions;
4. **Denouncing** Russia's continuing deployment of unmarked uniformed troops and use of proxies as a tactic to deny involvement in what is a clear and undeniable aggression and occupation;
5. **Deploring** the use of intimidation, torture, and murder in efforts to destabilise Ukraine;
6. **Alarmed** that, following the occupation of Georgia's regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia in 2008, and now its illegal actions in Ukraine, Russia has established a pattern of using military force against, illegally occupying, and now also illegally annexing, territory of neighbouring states;
7. **Deeply concerned** by Russia's flagrant violation of international legal commitments and obligations, including the Budapest Memorandum, in which it guaranteed the territorial integrity of Ukraine;
8. **Mourning** the people of Ukraine who have lost their lives in this conflict following Russia's aggression;

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\* Presented by Hugh Bayley (United Kingdom), President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, and adopted by the Plenary assembly on Friday 30 May 2014, Vilnius, Lithuania

9. **Applauding** the successful conduct of the 25 May 2014 presidential elections, and the large turnout wherever voting took place, despite a very challenging environment and ongoing destabilisation which prevented Ukrainian citizens in Crimea and parts of Luhansk and Donetsk regions from exercising their constitutional right to vote;
10. **Convinced** that these elections are a critical step towards the consolidation of Ukraine's democracy and a clear signal in favour of national unity;
11. **URGES** the governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance and the European Union:
- a. to increase their political, financial, economic, material and technical support to the government and the people of Ukraine and to Ukraine's efforts to build a strong, accountable and democratic state which guarantees human rights and the rule of law;
  - b. to reaffirm that Russia's illegal territorial occupations will not be recognised, and to apply firmer sanctions against relevant Russian officials and entities until the aggression ends;
  - c. to increase measures to defend Central and Eastern European Allies and to demonstrate NATO's unswerving resolve to protect the territorial integrity of all its members;
  - d. to strengthen their public communication policies to counter Russia's misleading disinformation and propagandist campaigns;
12. **URGES** the newly elected President, the government and Parliament of Ukraine:
- a. to use proportional means to restore fully the Constitutional order and the rule of law on its territory;
  - b. to take concrete steps to reassure all of its citizens that Ukraine will scrupulously protect civic and human rights and the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, to resolutely tackle corruption, oligarchic schemes, and economic inequalities, and to strengthen the independence of the judiciary;
13. **CALLS UPON** the Russian Federation:
- a. to end immediately its unacceptable interference in Ukraine's domestic affairs as well as its military build-up along Russia's Western borders and to publicly urge pro-Russian forces in south-eastern Ukraine to honour the 17 April 2014 Geneva accords;
  - b. to engage in a direct and genuine dialogue with the newly elected President of Ukraine and with the government to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict, and allow Crimea's return under Ukraine's control and jurisdiction;
  - c. to respect the principle that all nations – including Ukraine – are free to exercise their own choices and decisions regarding their international economic and political aspirations and affiliations, in accordance with their national constitutions and laws;
  - d. to stop the occupation of its neighbours;
  - e. to respect and uphold the freedoms of expression and the press and to refrain from spreading misinformation aimed at distorting understanding of the situation in Ukraine and the views of majority and minority populations and ethnic groups in the region.