

**FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE 8TH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS OF THE
SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, THE SEJM AND SENATE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF POLAND, AND THE VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE**

28 March 2017

Warsaw

The Assembly of Members of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, the Sejm and Senate of the Republic of Poland, and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, having convened for its session on 27–28 March 2017,

expressing concern about the ongoing occupation of Crimea, lasting for more than three years now, and the intentions of the Russian Federation to continue escalating the armed conflict it started in eastern Ukraine;

recognising the importance of interparliamentary cooperation for the development of mutual relations and relations with the neighbouring countries;

convinced of the usefulness of reinforcing the mutual political, economic, cultural, and infrastructural ties;

expressing its deep concern over the violent reaction of the Belarusian authorities to public protests in the country;

confirms its full support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders; and calls on the Russian Federation to end the occupation of Crimea and stop violating human rights of the people of Crimea;

recalls that Russia is failing to comply with the provisions on security under the Minsk Agreements; the Russian Federation persists in taking steps to exacerbate the situation in Donbas, thus hindering progress in the peace process;

notes that there are grounds to continue the application of sanctions against the Russian Federation by the international community until the Russian Federation fully implements the Minsk Agreements and ends the occupation of Crimea;

stresses that it has discussed the initiatives of the Parliaments and Governments of the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Poland aimed at assisting Ukraine and **calls on** the national Parliaments of the EU Member States to consider individual national plans on bilateral assistance to Ukraine;

supports international initiatives, similar to the *Marshall Plan*, which allow for providing greater investment support to Ukraine's economy and are conditioned on Ukraine's reform progress;

agrees to send a joint letter addressed to the national Parliaments of the EU Member States and the United States Congress calling on them to initiate and implement joint initiatives of the Western community in support of Ukraine; and agrees to organise and coordinate joint visits;

calls for full and swift implementation of the EU's Association Agreement with Ukraine and completion of the visa waiver process for Ukrainian citizens;

strongly welcomes the final operational readiness level reached by the joint Lithuanian, Polish and Ukrainian brigade (LITPOLUKRBRIG); supports the idea of conferring the name of Konstanty Ostrogski, the Grand Hetman of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, on the brigade and proposes providing the brigade with a relevant banner;

calls on the EU institutions and Member States to provide more support for measures aimed at countering the campaigns of misinformation and propaganda and in particular at strengthening the independent and objective media in the Russian language;

highlights the need for a careful examination of cyber threats, as well as preparation of effective measures to fight against risks of this nature;

declares that Belarus's independence is a key element of the European security architecture;

recalls that society in Belarus has the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly and peaceful expression of protest against the government policy;

addresses the Belarusian authorities calling on them to support the fundamental human rights and freedoms that constitute the foundations on which the EU is willing to build its relations with Belarus;

calls on the Belarusian authorities to release all the imprisoned individuals without delay;

notes that it will engage in the development of cooperation between Belarus and the EU Member States and proposes its assistance in developing the crucial economic and public reforms as well as public dialogue;

highlights the threat to regional security posed by the unsafe construction of the nuclear power plant in Astravyets;

supports the actions that develop the relations between the citizens of Belarus and the EU and calls for the fastest possible completion of negotiations on the EU-Belarus agreements on readmission and visa facilitation for Belarusian citizens;

welcomes the successful youth exchanges between our countries; expresses its support for these initiatives, and calls on the state and municipal authorities to support them;

supports the efforts to develop the interconnections of the critical infrastructure (power lines, gas pipelines, rail and road networks) of Member States of the Assembly, as well as the infrastructure in the border region between Poland and Ukraine; **stresses** the potential and multifaceted benefits of the trans-European road project *Via Carpatia*, with a branch to Ukraine, as well as projects *Via Baltica* and *Rail Baltica*;

expresses its will to finalise, by the next session of the Assembly in Vilnius, the joint historical publication, entitled *Monarchies and the Res Publica*, as agreed by all the three parliaments in Lublin in 2009.

Stanislaw KARCZEWSKI

Viktoras PRANCKIETIS

Andrii PARUBII

**Marshal of the Senate
Republic of Poland**

**Speaker of the Seimas
Republic of Lithuania**

**Chairperson of the Verkhovna
Rada of Ukraine**

