



**Joint declaration
by the Speakers of the Parliaments of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine
on deepening parliamentary cooperation
in the area of security in view of the continuing escalation by Russia of its war of aggression
against Ukraine**

Białystok, 11 June 2024

We, the Speakers of the Parliaments of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, recognising the continued threat Russian war of aggression poses to the existing regional, European, transatlantic, and global order and determined to reinforce the role of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania in concern for security in Central and Eastern Europe and in support of Ukraine:

commend the courage and heroism of all Ukrainian citizens, members of the Armed Forces, in particular all those who have given their lives in the fight for Ukraine's freedom, as well as those who continue to fight against the Russia's armed aggression; we are resolute in our efforts to ensure that the world does not overlook Ukraine, especially at a time when public attention is often drawn to other pressing issues;

condemn the Kremlin's hybrid actions, cyberattacks, and disinformation in contravention of the *Charter of the United Nations*, against an international system based on law and democratic values; we also condemn the regimes of Belarus, Iran and North Korea, which support Russia militarily;

agree that current sanctions against Russian Federation are not sufficient to stop Putin's war machine, that they must be way more strengthened and their circumvention must be efficiently counteracted;

believe that a condition for ensuring sustainable peace in Europe is to secure Ukraine's place in Euro-Atlantic structures, and we expect that the NATO Summit in Washington in July to contribute to defining irreversible Ukraine's path to membership;

commit to continue the work on bilateral security cooperation agreements and their implementation within the framework of the G7 Declaration and regard commitments for sustained long term military assistance to Ukraine as a priority. Comprehensive support to enhance Ukraine's combat capability in the fight against Russia's war of aggression, as well as initiatives to ensure the rapid supply of weapons and ammunition to the Ukraine's armed forces we see as particularly important;

appreciate the prospect of establishing a NATO-Ukraine Joint Analysis, Training and Education Centre in Poland so that Ukraine can share its experience in combating Russia's war of aggression, which will at the same time contribute to strengthening NATO capabilities and to achieving full interoperability between Armed Forces of Ukraine and NATO forces;

welcome the decision of the US Congress to provide Ukraine with a financial assistance package that will significantly increase its defence capabilities;

recognize that the war effort is more effective without setting limitations to our support, we reiterate that Ukraine has the right to defend itself according to the international law, and that also includes striking legitimate military targets in Russian territory. Ukraine must be able to hit back the attacks that come from Russia or the occupied territories of Ukraine. We welcome that more and more Allies provide military support to Ukraine. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland will continue to do so;

welcome the readiness of some countries to join an international coalition and send their instructors to Ukraine, at a time suitable for them, to train Ukraine's military. Recognize that a significant escalation of the situation, which will pose a threat to Ukrainian statehood, will require more decisive actions from the pro-Ukrainian coalition;

support the Peace Formula of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Leaders of our countries expressed readiness to take part in the Global Peace Summit in Switzerland and we call on all states who respect Principles and Purposes of the UN Charter to join our countries. We see the planned Peace Summit as supportive of the universal values of sovereignty and territorial integrity of states and, at the same time, as an opportunity to address the global impact of Russia's aggression, including on food security and nuclear safety;

agree that Ukraine's accession negotiations with the European Union are a strategic objective for Ukraine and the European Union and that therefore, the First intergovernmental conference to open accession talks with Ukraine must be held no later than June 2024. Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania support Ukraine and are ready to share the experience of 20 years of their membership in the European Union;

will, in the common interest of our countries, Europe and the world, out of concern for our joint security, within the framework of our cooperation, constantly emphasise and strive to strengthen the importance of the Eastern aspect in the public, EU, and transatlantic narratives;

declare continued intensive cooperation between our nations, utilizing all available tools of parliamentary diplomacy, to counter the pressing and pervasive threat of Russia's neo-imperialist policies. These policies, we assert, pose the most significant security challenge since the conclusion of World War II;

firmly believe that our collective strength – Poles, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians – is the key to confronting the Russia's threat and ensuring regional security. We noted with interest the initiative of the 'Polish-Baltic-Ukrainian Culture Chain', aimed at further strengthening our cooperation based on shared history and culture and bringing our diverse societies closer together;

urge local governments to deepen their cooperation within the framework of various local initiatives, including cross-border projects focused on fostering the shared prosperity of our nations and societies. We are convinced that establishing a robust economic, energy, infrastructure, and digital base is crucial for resilience against threats from adversarial nations;

lend our full support to all social and local initiatives that bolster the cultural and historical bonds between our peoples, particularly those that empower the younger generation. We view the cultivation of a sense of collective responsibility for the region's security and prosperity, and the fortification of the spirit of social solidarity, as paramount in these turbulent times of geopolitical instability.

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