



SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION ON THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS IN THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

22 March 2022 No XIV-964
Vilnius

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

having regard to the fact that the war waged by the Russian Federation against independent Ukraine constitutes a gross violation of the principles of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations by threatening European and global security and stability, running counter to the mission and the values of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter: ‘UNESCO’), and undermining the efforts of the international community to build a culture of peace,

recalling that the purpose of UNESCO is to contribute to peace and security by promoting cooperation among nations in the educational, cultural and scientific fields, with a view to respecting justice, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, gender, language, or religion, as affirmed in the Charter of the United Nations,

noting that the destruction of cultural heritage and of educational, scientific and cultural institutions is a war crime, and that the destruction of the Ukrainian cultural treasures is detrimental to the cultural heritage of mankind as a whole,

endorsing the Decision ‘Impact and consequences of the current situation in Ukraine in all aspects of UNESCO’s mandate’, adopted by the Executive Board of UNESCO at its 7th Special Session on 15 March 2022;

stressing that the military actions of the Russian Federation and its accomplice, the Republic of Belarus, against Ukraine make membership of the United Nations and UNESCO impossible for these countries,

calls for a strong stance on the situation in Ukraine in line with UNESCO values and for action to be taken, within the limits of its mandate, against all violations committed by the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus;

calls for combating disinformation spread by the Russian Federation and for backing a free, independent and impartial media as one of the cornerstones of democracy;

urges that the security and freedom of expression of Ukrainian educators, academics, artists, and cultural workers be guaranteed;

encourages the monitoring of damage caused to the Ukrainian cultural treasures and educational and scientific infrastructure and the support for the revitalisation of Ukraine's education, culture and science;

calls for suspending the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus from UNESCO committees, intergovernmental councils and programmes in the fields of culture, education, science and information policy.

Speaker of the Seimas

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen