

SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

STATEMENT ON CONDEMNING THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S AGGRESSION AND WAR CRIMES IN UKRAINE

6 April 2022 Vilnius

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

shocked by the images made available in the global media on 3 April 2022 of the massive and brutal crimes committed in Bucha, Irpin, Mariupol and elsewhere by the Russian army against the civilian population of Ukraine, including women and children, namely, their torture, murder, sexual violence and desecration,

condemning the Kremlin's cynical propaganda denial of the crimes committed by Russian troops in Ukraine and Russia's attempt to convene an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council, falsely referring to the crimes as 'provocations by Ukrainian radical forces in Bucha',

noting that, since the beginning of the Russian military invasion, 10 million Ukrainians have been forced to flee their homes, more than 4 million have fled the country, thousands of Ukrainians have been killed, and this constitutes an irrefutable proof of the war crimes committed during the Russian aggression, and, now certainly, of the crimes against humanity committed against the innocent Ukrainian population,

noting that the Russian Federation abducts Ukranian civilians and deports them to the Russian territory;

calling on the international community to unanimously condemn Russia's aggression and its war crimes against Ukraine and to identify the crimes against the Ukrainian population as a genocide of the Ukrainian nation.

reminding to the international community that Russia had implemented a genocide against Ukraine back in 1932–1933 by consciously organising a famine known as Holodomor resulting in 14 million deaths of Ukrainian inhabitants.

welcoming the investigation initiated by the International Criminal Court into the war crimes committed in Ukraine and *hoping* that all the culprits, not only Putin, Lukashenko and the commanders of the Russian army who gave orders to torture and kill civilians, sexually abuse women and children, desecrate bodies, and perpetrate other crimes against humanity or failed to stop these crimes, but also ordinary soldiers will be held responsible for the bloodshed and destroyed lives of innocent Ukrainian people,

reaffirming that the sanctions imposed against the Kremlin regime are insufficient and, therefore, the Euro-Atlantic community, together with its partners, must urgently impose comprehensive sanctions, since only such sanctions have the power to undermine the Kremlin regime and impede Russia's aggression,

noting that regional and global peace and stability can only be achieved provided the whole world focuses on the main challenge of Russia's deputinisation, dismounting of the Kremlin's regime and ideology, and demilitarisation of the Russian Federation,

recalling Resolution No XIV-930 of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 24 February 2022 on the Aggression of Russia and Belarus against Ukraine,

condemns the military aggression, war crimes, and crimes against humanity committed by the Russian Federation with the assistance of the Republic of Belarus against sovereign Ukraine and its people;

calls on the Russian Federation to withdraw its military forces from the occupied territories of Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova and from Belarus,

supports the initiatives of democratic states to pool their efforts in collecting and investigating the evidence of the war crimes committed throughout the Ukrainian territory by the Russian Federation;

calls on the international organisations and parliaments of democratic states to urge their governments to step up the military, financial, humanitarian and diplomatic support for Ukraine, to unanimously support initiatives condemning Russia's military actions in Ukraine and isolating Russia from international and regional organisations, and to adopt equivalent decisions and impose equivalent sanctions against Belarus as a party to the military agression;

underlines that the actions of the Russian Federation are incompatible with its membership of the UN Human Rights Council and the United Nations as a whole and calls for the removal of the Russian Federation from the said organisations,

calls on the EU Member States to further impose the tightest possible sanctions against Russia so that no financial revenues from the EU Member States contribute to maintaining the Kremlin regime and the Russian economy as a source of funding the war and war crimes in Ukraine;

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calls on the EU Member States to immediately halt the imports of Russian oil and gas, impose a ban on Russian vessels entering any EU ports, and suspend all land transport to and from Russia in all EU Member States;

urges the EU Member States and NATO countries to lower the level of diplomatic representation with the Russian Federation;

calls on the European Commission to provide its opinion on Ukraine's application for membership of the European Union as soon as possible;

expresses its full solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

Laima Liucija Andrikienė

Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs