



**MARSHAL OF THE SENATE  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

*Tomasz Grodzki*



**PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE  
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

*Miloš Vystrčil*

Prague, 20 April 2022

P. T. Presidents of the Parliaments  
of the European Union

Ladies and Gentlemen, Presidents of the Parliaments

As President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and Marshal of the Senate of the Republic of Poland, we have decided to write you a letter, which is the result of our joint visit which, together with delegations of both chambers, we made on 14 April 2022 to Borodianka, Irpin, Bucha and Kiev at the invitation of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Mr Ruslan Stefanchuk, as the first to respond.

We could see with our own eyes the unbelievable scale of the damage done by the Russian aggressor to ordinary residential and service buildings, which had nothing to do with military installations.

What touched us most deeply, however, were the recently discovered mass graves of innocent inhabitants of these towns, who had been killed simply because they were Ukrainians. The number of revealed murders is already running into hundreds of victims, and one dreads to think what may be happening in Mariupol and other towns in the east of the country. The mass graves that have been found are being meticulously examined by pathologists and other specialists from Ukraine and other countries, witnesses are being interviewed to document these cruel crimes as accurately as possible so that all the perpetrators can be tried and exemplarily punished.

After what we saw, we have no doubt that the crimes of the Russian aggressors are genocide. In Bucha in particular, according to witnesses, Russian soldiers organized a macabre safari, shooting people as if they were animals. Innocent civilians were killed purely and simply because they represented the nation whose existence Putin and his propagandists deny in their desire to conquer and erase an independent and sovereign state from the world map.

In the face of Russia's unjustified aggression, the free, democratic world has united in a way we have not seen for a long time. We are sheltering refugees, providing financial and military support to Ukraine, freezing the assets of Russian officials and oligarchs, striving to achieve independence from Russian fossil fuels as soon as possible and, with tough sanctions, to isolate Russia completely. However, more can be done. The war is entering a decisive phase, and without urgent supply of heavy military equipment to Ukraine, we risk losing it to the Russian empire, and ourselves watching the slow agony of a country that is struggling like David against Goliath.

We therefore appeal to all of you to use the authority and political might of your parliaments to mobilise those in power to ensure that Ukraine as quickly as possible receives the military equipment that President Zelenski so urgently calls for. This is extremely important for the fate of the war in Ukraine, but also for us, because in view of the madness of the Russian dictator, no one can be sure that the fighting on the Dnieper will not move on to the Vistula, the Rhine or the Seine or further afield. As history teaches us, indulging the aggressors or a policy of appeasement is a road to hell and usually escalates the conflict rather than putting an end to it.

Let no one be in any doubt that on Ukrainian territory there is a conflict between the civilisation of death, contempt for human beings, the violation of their fundamental rights and the civilisation of life, respect for human beings and respect for the values that bind the free, democratic world together.

If we do too little in defence of Ukraine, history will not forgive us.

If we do everything in the power of the free world to help Ukraine bring this cruel war to a victorious end, history will remember us.

Tomasz Grodzki



Miloš Vystrčil

