



POSLANECKÁ SNĚMKA
PARLAMENTU ČESKÉ



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
DRŽAVNI ZBOR



STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMEN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

In Ukraine, Russian aggressors have committed genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The invader hoped for an easy victory, and when it did not come, he ran amok of revenge. He targeted the elderly, women and children violating international humanitarian law. He sows death and fire.

The targets are housing estates, hospitals, schools, railway stations full of exiles, public administration buildings, and shopping centres. They are being shot down with bombs and rockets, filled with forbidden phosphorus and cluster charges.

The civilian inhabitants of Ukrainian cities have become hostages, who are not allowed by the aggressor to be evacuated through humanitarian corridors. Now the enemy is looking for an excuse to use chemical and biological weapons. He's blackmailing the world with a nuclear attack.

The Russians kidnap mayors and councillors to intimidate and torture them. This is not just an attack on the heroes of local communities. They want to break the morale of the defenders. It is also a sinister attack on democracy which the authorities of the Russian Federation fear the most.

Genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity do not have a statute of limitations. They will stand trial. Meanwhile, we must do everything we can to end the Ukrainian hecatomb. Therefore, we plead not only for the moral support of Ukraine in its war to preserve freedom, sovereignty and integrity.

We call on the EU member states and other democratic countries, to join the supply of arms to heroic defenders. Without the systematic transfer to the Ukrainian army of advanced technological electronic warfare, anti-tank, anti-aircraft and anti-missile defence systems, the bastion defending Europe will fall and the enemy will stand at our gates.

We appeal that Ukraine be immediately granted the status of a candidate country to the European Union. This is a key issue for the European security.

We call for the extension of sanctions imposed on Russia and Belarus on further economic and financial sectors, up to a complete embargo on trade with these countries. Nothing that depends on our decisions can serve the aggressors to escalate the war.

We call on the governments of European countries to immediately force the Russian Federation to protect humanitarian corridors through which civilians could leave the fighting areas.

Finally, we would like to ask EU member states to start work on a project that will allow - after repelling Russian aggression - for thorough reconstruction of Ukraine from the ruins of war. It has to be a Marshall Plan concept.

Ukraine pays the highest possible price for its aspirations to become part of the family, guided by democratic values. If we fail to support it effectively today, we will compromise these values.

We must not look away. We faced an unprecedentedly brutal war that Europe has not seen since the days of Hitler and Stalin. Ukrainians give their lives to defend our freedom and democracy. Their sacrifice will determine the future of the European Union. Their struggle requires us to help them immediately and effectively. Historical challenges require historical decisions.

Bogdan Klich

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The Senate
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Pavel Fischer

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