

7 February 2014

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Dear Mesdames:

Dear Sirs:

Re: European Parliament resolution of 6 February 2014 on the situation in Ukraine

The Ukrainian World Congress welcomes the adoption of the *European Parliament resolution of 6 February 2014 on the situation in Ukraine* that responds to the numerous calls of Ukrainians both in Ukraine and the diaspora, including the Ukrainian World Congress.

At this critical moment in the history of Ukraine, we commend the European Parliament's principled support for the people of Ukraine as they stand firm on EuroMaidans throughout the country in defense of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Your continued support will be critical for ensuring that Ukraine withstands the pressures being exerted from internal and external sources in an attempt to quell the aspirations of the people for a dignified life in a free society.

The Ukrainian World Congress welcomes the call of the European Parliament for the continued engagement of the European Union to mediate and facilitate a process leading to a de-escalation, a more constructive political dialogue in Ukraine and a solution to the crisis. The proposed establishment of a permanent European Parliament mission in Ukraine will greatly contribute to the diffusion of tension. We strongly encourage that such mission be established without delay and are willing to assist you in this important endeavour.

The Ukrainian World Congress also fully supports the ongoing work of the European Union and its partners in:

- a) creating a substantial support package for Ukraine to be offered to a credible new interim government in order to alleviate the present tight situation in respect of payments; and
- b) preparing a long-term package of concrete financial support to help Ukraine tackle its worsening financial and social situation and provide economic support to launch the necessary deep and comprehensive reforms of the Ukrainian economy.

Finally, we highlight with approval the following paragraphs from the European Parliament resolution, which provide an accurate assessment of the situation and demonstrate eloquently the resolve of the MEPs to address in a meaningful way the present crisis in Ukraine:

[The European Parliament...]

6. Demands in particular that President Yanukovych cease the shameful deployment of Berkut riot police and other security forces in provoking, kidnapping, harassing, torturing, beating and humiliating supporters of the EuroMaidans, as well as arbitrary arrests and over-extended pre-trial detentions [...];
14. Calls for the EU institutions and the Member States to take immediate action, including increased diplomatic pressure and the preparation of personalised targeted measures (travel sanctions and asset and property freezes) with regard to all those Ukrainian officials and legislators and their business sponsors (oligarchs) who are responsible for the crackdowns on and deaths of protestors, and to step up efforts to stop money laundering and tax evasion by Ukrainian companies and businesspeople in European banks;
20. Calls on Russia to adopt a constructive attitude and to stop retaliatory measures and undue pressure aimed at undermining the sovereign right of its neighbours freely to determine their future; urges the EU and its Member States to speak to Russia with one voice in support of the European aspirations of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries that freely choose to deepen their relations with the EU; emphasizes that applying political, economic and other coercion is in breach of the Helsinki Final Act and the 1994 Budapest Memorandum concerning Ukraine's security [...].

On behalf of the Ukrainian World Congress and its member organizations, we continue to offer you our full cooperation as we work toward resolving the current crisis in Ukraine peacefully and democratically.

Sincerely,

UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS



Eugene Czolij
President

c.c. Ukrainian World Congress Member Organizations

The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) is the international coordinating body for Ukrainian communities in the diaspora representing the interests of over 20 million Ukrainians. The UWC has member organizations in 33 countries and ties with Ukrainians in 14 additional countries. Founded in 1967, the UWC was recognized in 2003 by the United Nations Economic and Social Council as a non-governmental organization (NGO) with special consultative status.