

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO NACIONALINIO SAUGUMO IR GYNYBOS KOMITETAS

SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENCE

RESOLUTION ON RESPECTING UKRAINE'S RIGHT TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THEIR SOVEREIGNTY, INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION (THE KYIV RESOLUTION)

In a special joint solidarity meeting of Lithuanian Parliament (Seimas) and Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) Defence Committees in Kyiv on 16th of February 2022, the Committee on National Security and Defence of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

expressing its deep concern over Russia's continuing hostile actions against Ukraine, massive buildup of the Russian military forces at the Ukrainian Eastern and Northern borders in Russia and Belarus, large-scale disinformation and propaganda campaigns, and cyber-attacks against Ukraine,

noting that the military escalation launched by the Russian Federation is aimed at undermining Ukraine's independence and restricting its right to self-determination, including the right to enter any alliances of its own choice,

considering that Russian Federation continues to put pressure on the region as a whole and challenges the entire European security architecture by aiming to restrict the right of sovereign nations to choose their own path, to transform NATO Alliance Eastern flank into 'second-class' members, and resurrect the long-rejected model of dividing Europe into spheres of influence,

underlining that Russian Federation brutally challenges world order agreed upon after the WWII, and pressurizes all Western democracies by creating the atmosphere of uncertainty and instigating fear by using coercion and throwing ultimatums at Ukraine, EU and NATO,

realising that only collective action can prevent the Russian Federation's repeated aggression against Ukraine and preserve peace and stability in Europe,

emphasising that strong support of the international community, and in particular of the European Union, for Ukraine and its society is of paramount importance at this time,

reiterating fundamental role of NATO as a guarantor of peace, stability and security in the Euro-Atlantic area,

reminding that any European democracy willing and able to contribute to the strengthening of Euro-Atlantic security and stability may become member of the Alliance, this right being an integral part of every State's right to self-determination,

whereas Ukraine has a European perspective, and can apply for membership of the European Union provided it adheres to all the Copenhagen criteria and the principles of democracy, and respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights, and ensures the rule of law,

reiterating the Resolution of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 27 April 2021, thereby expressing a strong and consistent support for Ukraine's European and Euro-Atlantic integration,

reaffirming the progress of Ukraine towards the political association and economic integration with the European Union,

believes that Ukraine's future belongs to the European civilization and therefore **expresses** unwavering support for Ukraine's membership aspirations of the Alliance and for Ukraine's membership of the European Union;

calls for effective use to be made of all existing and future cooperation opportunities and instruments, including the NATO Membership Action Plan for Ukraine;

strongly reiterates that Russia has no right to veto any State's membership in NATO, can not and must not acquire such a veto regarding Ukraine, as well as over any other decisions made by the Alliance:

strongly condemns resolution passed by the Russian State Duma initiating recognition of self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic as independent states, because such recognition would constitute a further blatant violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and would demonstrate flagrant disregard for Russia's commitments under the Minsk agreements;

calls on the international community to take all possible steps in order to prevent repeated military aggression of Russia against Ukraine by imposing insufferable sanctions on Russia in case of invasion or other form of military attack, and to provide all necessary assistance to Ukraine in defending its sovereignty and lives of its citizens, including the supply of lethal defence weapons;

emphasises that, in light of the imminent threat Ukraine is facing, now is the right time to uphold a credible perspective for Ukraine's accession to the EU, including to grant Ukraine the status of candidate country for membership in the EU;

calls on the parliaments of the EU and Alliance member states to support this position and stand in solidarity whilst protecting core democratic values of peace, sovereignty and rules-based world order.