



CHAIRMAN OF THE VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE

17/7-2023/124067

Kyiv, 7 June 2023

Dear Colleague,

On 6 June 2023, the Russian Federation and its occupying forces blew up the dam of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant, located near the town of Nova Kakhovka in the temporarily occupied territory of the Kherson region. Dozens of settlements on both sides of the Dnipro river were flooded, which endangered the lives and well-being of tens of thousands of Ukrainians.

Undermining of the Kakhovka HPP dam, which has been planned, prepared and widely discussed by the Russian propaganda for a long time, is a large-scale terrorist act against Ukrainian critical infrastructure whose purpose was to cause as many victims and destruction as possible.

The catastrophic environmental consequences are still difficult to assess, but there is no doubt that it is the largest technological disaster in Europe in recent decades, which also creates additional nuclear risks due to a water level decrease at another Russian-occupied facility of critical infrastructure – the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant.

I am deeply convinced that Russian technological and ecological terrorism requires decisive efforts of the world community. In this regard, Ukraine convened the urgent meeting of the UN Security Council where it intends to bring the issue of the Russian terrorist attack to the consideration of the IAEA Board of Governors, as well as to engage the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

As a Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament, I call on your Parliament to reaffirm its political support to Ukraine and work close with the government of your country to allocate humanitarian aid to the inhabitants of the region who were forced to leave their homes, as well as to provide all possible support to the relevant Ukrainian services which are working to ensure safety of all those in need and eliminate the consequences of this extraordinary disaster.

I also believe that the time has come to strengthen sanctions pressure on Russia and increase efforts to support the entire complex of Ukrainian actions to liberate our country from the aggressor. I am convinced that thanks to our joint efforts and the unity shown by the entire free world we will be able to win this war and restore peace in Europe.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ruslan STEFANCHUK'.

Ruslan STEFANCHUK

Speakers of the Parliaments of the
EU and NATO member countries