



**ПОСТІЙНА ДЕЛЕГАЦІЯ ВЕРХОВНОЇ РАДИ
УКРАЇНИ
ПАРЛАМЕНТСЬКІЙ АСАМБЛЕЇ
ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ З БЕЗПЕКИ ТА
СПІВРОБІТНИЦТВА В ЄВРОПІ
(ПА ОБСЄ)**



**THE PERMANENT DELEGATION OF THE
VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE
AT THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF
THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE
(OSCE PA)**

H.E. Ms. Margareta Cederfelt,
President of the OSCE PA,
Copenhagen

Dear Ms.Cederfelt,

Dear friend,

I am writing you regarding the upcoming 22th Winter meeting of OSCE PA scheduled for 23-24 February 2023.

As you are well aware, on the 24th of February it will be one year since the russian federation has launched a full-scale war of aggression against my country. A decision to start this invasion was widely supported by the russian parliamentarians, including all members of the russian delegation to the OSCE PA.

This constitutes a gross violation of international law, including the Helsinki Final Act, and their unlawful actions were immediately addressed by the international community through imposing personal restrictive measure on them.

In the meantime, we have learned that the Austrian authorities are willing to issue visas to the members of the russian delegation. Accordingly, the russian parliamentarians will attend the Winter meeting.

We have no doubts that the russian delegation will use the OSCE PA platform for justification of the aggression against my country as well as for whitewashing numerous war crimes and crimes against humanity committed against the Ukrainian people. All this will undermine the integrity of the Assembly and will compromise a clear and steadfast position the Assembly has, so far, demonstrated with regard to the russian aggression since 2014.

In view of this, we do not find ourselves in a position to attend the Winter meeting in case of russia's participation. Such a position was expressed by the entire Ukrainian Parliament in its Appeal of February 6, 2023, to the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE and the parliaments of its member states regarding the unacceptability of the participation of members of the parliament of the russian federation in the work of the Assembly's statutory bodies.

A number of other delegations also expressed their strong reservation against the participation.

At this stage the only feasible solution to preserve the integrity of the Assembly, which standing on the guard of the OSCE principles and commitments, is to postpone the Winter meeting. This option has met understanding and support among partners.

We believe that under these extra-ordinary and exceptional circumstances the OSCE PA Bureau can be convened for an urgent meeting to adopt an appropriate decision.

I remain at Your disposal in order to agree on immediate actions.

Sincerely yours,

Head of the delegation

Mykyta POTURAIIEV