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**УКРАЇНА VS РОСІЙСЬКА ФЕДЕРАЦІЯ**

**РФ**

**ДД РФ**

**Комитет Госдумы по делам СНГ решительно осудил попытки возложить на Россию вину за события на Украине**

Комитет по делам Содружества Независимых Государств, евразийской интеграции и связям с соотечественниками на закрытом заседании обсудил ситуацию на Украине.

Председатель Комитета Леонид Слуцкий по итогам заседания заявил: «Многие западные политики, в том числе и главы государств пытаются сделать Россию виноватой в том, что происходит на Украине. Решительно отмечаем и осуждаем подобные измышления.

Многим нашим «стратегическим друзьям» как кость в горле создаваемые интеграционные проекты на постсоветском пространстве, прежде всего Евразийский экономический союз.

Подключение Украины к Таможенному союзу произвело среди них эффект неразорвавшейся бомбы. Западные политики-тяжеловесы хлынули на Украину, выступали на Майдане, поправ нормы международного права. Политика, финансируемая через неправительственные организации Запада, привела к бесконтрольному разгулу бандитствующей толпы, пролилась кровь. Те, кто хочет установить на планете однополярный мир, не пренебрегают кровопролитием, принося в жертву судьбы целых народов. Россия в этом не виновата», – сказал Л.Слуцкий.

Он сообщил, что Комитет рекомендовал российскому МИДу «не общаться с западными партнерами на тему вины России в украинских событиях», поскольку такое общение уже «само по себе оскорбительно».

Л.Слуцкий подчеркнул, что Россия выступает за мирное разрешение конфликта и сохранение территориальной целостности Украины. Такую позицию, по его словам, разделяют все фракции в Госдуме. «Но мы понимаем право крымчан выносить на референдум те вопросы, которые они считают важными», – отметил он, добавив, что назначенный на 16 марта референдум, «сформирует коллегиальную позицию населения Крыма».

По словам члена Комитета Василия Лихачева, право на референдум и на изменение статуса Крыма вытекает из Всеобщей декларации прав человека 1948 года и пактов по правам человека, принятых Генассамблеей ООН в 1966 году. «Нормативные акты ООН обязывают современные государства содействовать реализации права народов на самоопределение», – сказал он.

«Международное публичное право и соответствующие международные документы, включая устав ООН, заключительный акт Хельсинского совещания по вопросам безопасности и сотрудничества 1975 года говорят о политических правах населения и конкретного человека, в том числе праве на волеизъявление по политическому спектру. Это важнейший инструмент для реализации политических программ, которые поставило руководство Крыма», – считает депутат.

6 марта 2014 года

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**В Госдуме обсудили аспекты отражения событий на Украине в российских и зарубежных СМИ**

6 марта Комитет по информационной политике, информационным технологиям провел расширенное заседание на тему: «Отражение событий на Украине в российских и зарубежных СМИ».

В заседании приняли участие депутаты Государственной Думы, представители информационных агентств России и общественных организаций.

Председатель Комитета по информационной политике, информационным технологиям и связи Алексей Митрофанов считает, что, украинские и западные средства массовой информации необъективно освещают происходящее в регионе. «Зарубежные и СМИ Украины отражают только промайдаповские настроения. Российские журналисты более объективны», – отметил он. А.Митрофанов также назвал действия так называемых новых властей Украины по отключению российских телеканалов «противоречащими всем международным договоренностям».

Депутат Госдумы Александр Ющенко поделился своими впечатлениями от поездки на Украину в конце февраля. «Люди, находящиеся на Майдане, не поддерживают пришедших к власти в Киеве. Сам Майдан в тягость новым властям страны», – считает А.Ющенко.

Председатель Комитета по образованию Вячеслав Никонов отметил, что в зарубежных СМИ обозначена и пророссийская позиция. Иностранные журналисты, по его словам, увидели, что в ряде регионов Украины к власти пришли радикально настроенные силы. «В мире узнали, что треть населения Украины это русские. Узнали, что есть серьезные проблемы с использованием русского языка», – подчеркнул В.Никонов. Тем не менее, он отметил, что «России нужно продумать систему своего информационного воздействия для работы в глобальном информационном пространстве».

Председатель фракции ЛДПР Владимир Жириновский уверен, что события на Украине негативно скажутся на ее русскоговорящем населении.

Другие участники заседания также отмечали, что на Украине активно ретранслируется точка зрения зарубежных СМИ и критически настроенных общественных деятелей России.

Заместитель генерального директора «Интерфакса» Алексей Горшков сообщил, что сотрудники отдела агентства на Украине «верны своим стандартам и объективно освещают происходящее». Обстановку, в которой приходится работать его коллегам он охарактеризовал как «сложная». В этой связи депутат Госдумы Роман Чуйченко отметил важность работы журналистов для тех, кто заинтересован в получении объективной информации о событиях на Украине.

Первый заместитель генерального директора ИТАР-ТАСС Михаил Гусман призвал журналистское сообщество «работать с пониманием, что Украина – наш партнер и надежный союзник», и добавил, что «на Украине считают российские СМИ более объективными».

6 марта 2014 года

#### МЗС РФ

#### **Комментарий для СМИ Министра иностранных дел России С.В.Лаврова по итогам встречи с Госсекретарем США Дж.Керри, Рим, 6 марта 2014 года**

473-06-03-2014

Сегодня в Риме вслед за вчерашними контактами в Париже мы еще раз переговорили с Дж.Керри. Продолжили дискуссии о том, как можно максимально эффективно содействовать преодолению кризиса на Украине в правовом, конституционном поле, прежде всего, опираясь на договоренности, достигнутые 21 февраля. У нас нет пока окончательного взаимного понимания, мы хотим глубже уяснить, что имеют в виду наши партнеры, предлагая создать некий международный механизм, каким будет его состав. Подчеркну еще раз, для нас самое главное – уважать договоренности от 21 февраля, прежде всего о конституционной реформе, создании правительства национального единства, проведении выборов уже после конституционной реформы. Второй важнейший аспект – любой процесс, который может быть поддержан, должен обязательно опираться

на ясно выраженное согласие всех регионов Украины – прежде всего, в данном случае нас беспокоят Крым и другие юго-восточные области.

Договорились, что мы дополнительно изучим мысли в отношении конкретных предстоящих шагов, переданные мне сегодня Дж.Керри. Пока мы не можем сообщить мировому сообществу, что у нас есть согласие. По возвращении в Россию я буду докладывать Президенту В.В.Путину о том, как прошли беседы и какие вопросы обсуждались. После этого Президент России будет принимать решение.

**Вопрос:** Будет ли Россия как-то отвечать на введенные сегодня американцами санкции?

**С.В.Лавров:** Я привлек внимание Госсекретаря США (как это сделал и вчера в Париже), что продолжается безостановочное нагнетание атмосферы, объявлено о неких закрытых списках российских граждан, которым будет запрещен въезд в США. Он заверил, что этих списков пока нет, есть только поручение. Но это дела не меняет. Это все равно угроза, равно как и решение заморозить деятельность «восьмерки», Совета Россия-НАТО. Эти структуры нам нужны не больше, чем нашим партнерам и мировому сообществу, которое весьма заинтересовано, чтобы между Россией и Западом шел нормальный диалог без попыток ультиматумов, требований в одностороннем порядке изменить нашу позицию, которую – в данном случае с Украиной – Президент России предельно подробно и четко изложил. Эта позиция пользуется широким пониманием в мире. К сожалению, информационный фон заполнен односторонними, полуистеричными оценками. Я еще раз сказал Дж.Керри, который вроде бы это понимает, что подобные действия далеко не помогают нормальной работе. Под угрозой ультиматумов и санкций честно работать нельзя.

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**Комментарий официального представителя МИД России А.К.Лукашевича в связи с «фактологическими выкладками» Госдепартамента США по ситуации на Украине**

472-06-03-2014

Размещенная на сайте Госдепартамента справка с «опровержением» фактов, приведенных Президентом России В.В.Путиным в ходе пресс-конференции 4 марта о ситуации на Украине, поражает не столько примитивным искажением реальности, сколько цинизмом и неприкрытыми «двойными стандартами».

Госдепартамент пытается сыграть на бессовестно однобокой трактовке событий, будто и не было многочисленных свидетельств бесчинств, чинимых радикал-националистами, включая расправы под телекамеры над неугодными или провокационные убийства снайперами, что подтверждается, в частности, из «независимых источников». В Вашингтоне, конечно, не могут признать, что сами подпитывали «майdan», поощряли свержение законной власти насильственным путем, расчищая путь тем, кто сейчас выдает себя за легитимную власть в Киеве.

Не будем опускаться до полемики с низкопробной пропагандой. Скажем лишь: в очередной раз мы имеем дело с неприемлемым высокомерием и претензиями на истину в последней инстанции. У США нет и не может быть морального права на нравоучения по поводу соблюдения международных норм и уважения суверенитета других стран. Как быть с бомбардировками бывшей Югославии или вторжением в Ирак по сфальсифицированному поводу?

Если обратиться к более отдаленной истории, можно найти немало примеров американских военных интервенций далеко за пределами национальных границ и в отсутствие реальной угрозы безопасности самих США. Вьетнамская война унесла жизни двух миллионов мирных жителей, не говоря уже о полностью разрушенной стране и отравленной окружающей среде. Под предлогом защиты своих граждан, всего лишь оказавшихся в зонах конфликтов, США вторгались в Ливан в 1958 г., а в 1965 г. – в Доминиканскую Республику, атаковали крошечную Гренаду в 1983 г., бомбили Ливию в 1986 г., а три года спустя оккупировали Панаму. И, тем не менее, Россию смеют упрекать

в «вооруженной агрессии», когда она вступается за своих соотечественников, составляющих большинство населения Крыма, чтобы не дать ультранационалистическим силам устроить еще один кровавый «майдан».

Очевидно, что в Вашингтоне по-прежнему не в состоянии адекватно воспринимать развитие событий не по американским лекалам. Не могут преодолеть себя, смириться с тем, что не получается всегда и везде диктовать свою волю и выступать в привычной еще недавно роли «непогрешимого судьбы», за которым – последнее слово. Сдают нервы, но это не основание валить с больной головы на здоровую.

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**Ответ российского представителя в Совете управляющих (СУ) МАГАТЭ Г.В.Берденникова на заявление украинского представителя на сессии СУ, Вена, 5 марта 2014 года**

466-06-03-2014

Россия последовательно выступает против политизации работы МАГАТЭ, которое, в соответствии с его Уставом, должно осуществлять функции, направленные на «достижение более скорого и широкого использования атомной энергии для поддержания мира, здоровья и безопасности во всем мире».

Заявление представителя Украины и его обращение к Гендиректору – это не что иное, как провокация, направленная на то, чтобы в своих политических целях испортить рабочую атмосферу в Совете управляющих, которую нам удавалось общими усилиями сохранять даже в годы «холодной войны», и разрушить МАГАТЭ как специализированную площадку глобального сотрудничества в атомной области, в том числе по важнейшим вопросам нераспространения ядерного оружия. В этой связи мы обратили внимание на звучащие в Верховной Раде призывы к воссозданию на Украине ядерного оружия.

Выступление украинского коллеги показывает глубину истерики, охватившей власти в Киеве. Они видят угрозы там, где их не существует, занимаются злобной клеветой на Россию, галлюцинируют на тему о фантомных опасностях с внешней стороны, хотя понятно, что единственная реальная угроза Украине сегодня – это они сами.

Мы принимаем к сведению мнение Гендиректора МАГАТЭ, высказанное им в ходе пресс-конференции «на полях» Совета управляющих 3 марта с.г. о том, что никаких рисков или угроз ядерным объектам на Украине Агентство не фиксирует. Это важное заявление.

Кроме того, обращаем внимание Агентства на то, что принимать заведомо провокационные сигналы от действующих в Киеве властей, которые, на наш взгляд, не вполне легитимны, в складывающейся ситуации не только контрпродуктивно, но и недопустимо.

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**Краткий комментарий для СМИ Министра иностранных дел России С.В.Лаврова по итогам встречи с Госсекретарем США Дж.Керри, Париж, 5 марта 2014 года**

464-06-03-2014

Хочу очень коротко сказать, что мы провели встречу с Госсекретарем США Дж.Керри по ситуации на Украине и в отношении действий, которые наши партнеры пытаются предпринимать по линии ОБСЕ, Совета Россия-НАТО, в других международных организациях – действий, которые не помогают создать атмосферу диалога и конструктивного сотрудничества. Дж.Керри признал, что такую атмосферу создавать нужно и что в условиях угроз и ультиматумов трудно заниматься честными договоренностями, которые потом помогут украинскому народу стабилизировать ситуацию. Мы согласились в том, что нужно помогать всем украинцам реализовывать договоренности, достигнутые 21 февраля. Сейчас мы выезжаем в МИД Франции, где нас ждут другие участники этого процесса, включая министров иностранных дел Франции,

Польши, Германиї, которые визировали и свидетельствовали подписанию указанного соглашения в Киеве 21 февраля.

## УКРАЇНА

**В.о. Президента України – Голова Верховної Ради України  
ВР України**

**У четвер 6 березня 2014 року відбулась зустріч Голови Верховної Ради України Олександра Турчинова з Міністром закордонних справ Королівства Норвегія Бьорге Бренде і Міністром закордонних справ Фінляндської Республіки Ерккі Туоміоя.**

Під час зустрічі Сторони обговорили питання щодо ситуації, що склалась в Україні.

За словами О.Турчинова, новий Уряд відпрацював програму щодо стабілізації економічної ситуації в Україні. "Ми відновили співпрацю з МВФ та сподіваємось на підтримку всієї міжнародної спільноти", – сказав він, додавши, що на шляху стабілізації ситуації в країні стала військова агресія Російської Федерації.

"Не маючи жодних підстав, Росія ввела війська на територію України", – зазначив Голова Верховної Ради, підкресливши, що влада захищає всіх людей, які проживають в нашій країні – незалежно від мови, на якій вони розмовляють, релігії, яку сповідують, чи їх національності.

Він повідомив, що влада звернулась до міжнародних інституцій з проханням надіслати своїх спостерігачів, "але російські військові ведуть себе надзвичайно агресивно: були спроби заблокувати представників ОБСЄ та ООН".

Разом з тим, О.Турчинов висловив переконання, що Україна за допомогою своїх стратегічних партнерів зможе знайти політичне рішення для розв'язання складної ситуації в Криму та зупинить військову агресію.

Він також наголосив, що жодним агресивним діям "не зупинити курс на стабілізацію ситуації в країні та європейську інтеграцію". "Україна – відкрита країна, ми хочемо розбудувати демократичні зразкові стосунки між громадами, релігійними організаціями, громадянським суспільством та владою", – підсумував О.Турчинов.

Зі свого боку Міністри закордонних справ Норвегії та Фінляндії запевнили, що ЄС робитиме все для того, щоб "знайти вирішення проблемної ситуації в Криму в політичній площині".

"Ми недвозначно заявили про нашу чітку позицію протистояння будь-якому насильству", – зазначив Б.Бренде, додавши, що Європа дуже уважно та з великою підтримкою стежить за всіма зусиллями, які нова влада докладає щодо стабілізації економічної та політичної ситуації в Україні. "Протистояння повинно закінчитись шляхом повного відновлення територіальної цілісності України", – наголосив Голова МЗС Норвегії.

Крім того, міністри провідних європейських країн запевнили, що Європа готова надавати всіляку підтримку в питанні реформування України. "Ми приїхали, щоб надати політичну підтримку та показати солідарність з українським керівництвом. Україна може розраховувати на нашу всіляку підтримку", – сказав Е.Туоміоя.

*(Прес-секретар Голови Верховної Ради України)*

## **КМ України**

**Відбулася зустріч Прем'єр-міністра Арсенія Яценюка з Президентом Європарламенту**

06.03.2014 | 11:54 ДЕПАРТАМЕНТ ІНФОРМАЦІЇ ТА КОМУНІКАЦІЙ 3  
ГРОМАДСЬКІСТЮ СЕКРЕТАРІАТУ КМУ

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

У четвер, 6 березня, Прем'єр-міністр України Арсеній Яценюк у Брюсселі провів зустріч із Президентом Європейського парламенту Мартіном Шульцом.

За підсумками зустрічі Арсеній Яценюк повідомив журналістам, що із Президентом Європарламенту обговорювалися шляхи подолання кризи, «яка стосується не тільки України та Росії, а всієї Європи»: «Нам потрібно усвідомити, що це наша спільна відповідальність».

За його словами, на столі зараз багато варіантів: «Ми притримуємося політичного шляху, і від Росії залежить, чи готова вона вирішити цей конфлікт і провести реальні переговори для стабілізації ситуації, чи буде намагатися посилити напругу».

Прем'єр-міністр наголосив, що об'єкти Військово-морських сил України досі блокуються: «Ми звертаємося до російського президента та російської влади відвести свої війська і дотримуватися міжнародних угод, підписаних Україною та Росією».

«Нам необхідно терміново, підкреслюю – терміново – знайти вирішення», – наголосив Арсеній Яценюк і підкреслив, що Україна готова знайти рішення за столом переговорів разом із США, ЄС, Росією.

«Звертаємося до Росії відповісти, чи готові вони зберегти мир і стабільність у Європі, чи будуть далі провокувати й створювати напругу в наших двосторонніх та багатосторонніх відносинах», – наголосив Прем'єр-міністр.

Нагадаємо, Прем'єр-міністр України Арсеній Яценюк перебуває з одноденним робочим візитом у Брюсселі, де на запрошення Ради Європейського союзу бере участь у позачерговому саміті глав держав і урядів країн ЄС.

У рамках робочого візиту відбудуться зустрічі Арсенія Яценюка з Головою Ради Європейського Союзу Германом Ван Ромпеем, Президентом Європейської комісії Жозе Мануелем Баррозу, Генеральним секретарем НАТО Андерсом фог Расмуссеном.

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**Арсеній Яценюк у Брюсселі: Україна готова підписати Угоду з ЄС якнайшвидше**  
(ПУ при ЄС)

06 березня 2014, 17:02

Український Уряд ставить собі за мету підписати Угоду про асоціацію з ЄС. Ми готові підписати цю Угоду якнайшвидше. Про це заявив Прем'єр-міністр України Арсеній Яценюк на прес-конференції в Брюсселі за підсумками участі в позачерговому саміті глав держав і урядів країн ЄС.

Прем'єр-міністр висловив вдячність європейським партнерам за економічний пакет, який був запропонований Україні. «Нам необхідно невідкладно стабілізувати ситуацію», – підкреслив він.

Він зазначив, що економічна ситуація є для України дуже чутливим питанням: «Проте Уряд намагається зберегти стабільність, виконати свої зобов'язання, покрити всі бюджетні видатки та забезпечити соціальними виплатами українців».

Арсеній Яценюк також підкреслив, що Кабінет Міністрів відновив переговори з МВФ: «Це невід'ємна умова для стабілізації економіки України. Ми готові до переговорів та до виконання угоди, яка має бути підписана між Україною та МВФ».

Прем'єр-міністр також наголосив, що військова криза в Україні – «це криза для всієї Європи».

Він повідомив, що на саміті глав держав і урядів країн ЄС відбулася «чітка й відкрита дискусія, як знайти шлях до вирішення цього конфлікту виключно з допомогою політичних та дипломатичних інструментів»: «Ми прагнемо подолати цю кризу мирними засобами. Ми віддані цінностям нашої незалежності та цілісності й переконані, що знайдемо шляхи виходу, які дозволять всім зрозуміти, що Україна – це незалежна держава, ніхто не має права втручатися у нашу внутрішню політику і всі зацікавлені в мирі та стабільності в Україні та в регіоні».

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

Арсеній Яценюк підкреслив, що подальша ескалація і загострення ситуації в Криму, матиме вкрай негативні наслідки для української економіки в цілому. «Вкрай важко переконати іноземних інвесторів інвестувати в країну, по території якої їздять російські танки і ходять російські солдати, – зазначив Глава Уряду. – Не виключаю, що це також частина плану».

«Звертаємося до російської влади з вимогою відвести свої війська до бараків, не підтримувати нелегітимний так званий уряд Криму та розпочати реальні переговори для мирного вирішення кризи... Виконувати міжнародні угоди, не підривати незалежність і територіальну цілісність України та не підтримувати тих, хто хоче, щоб Україна розпалася», – наголосив Прем'єр-міністр.

«Прийшов час зупинитися. Побудова нових Берлінських стін – це не та архітектура глобальної безпеки, яку сповідують сьогодні в світі», – підкреслив він.

Арсеній Яценюк звернувся до президента Росії: «Mr Putin, tear down this wall» («Пане Путін, знесіть цю стіну»).

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### **Одностороннє застосування угоди про ЗВТ надасть вагомої підтримки українській економіці, – А.Яценюк у Брюсселі**

(ПУ при ЄС)

06 березня 2014, 14:31

«Ми вітаємо пропозицію Європейського Союзу щодо одностороннього застосування частини Угоди про зону вільної торгівлі», – наголосив Прем'єр-міністр України Арсеній Яценюк на прес-конференції в Брюсселі за підсумками участі в позачерговому саміті глав держав і урядів країн ЄС.

Як підкреслив Арсеній Яценюк, це означатиме, що Європейський Союз відкрив свій ринок для українських товарів: «Це надасть дуже вагомої підтримки українській економіці і українському бізнесу, так як ми зможемо експортувати наші товари до країн-членів ЄС».

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### **Міністр фінансів провів зустріч з Міністром закордонних справ Швеції**

06.03.2014 | 17:55 Прес-служба Міністерства фінансів

5 березня Міністр фінансів України Олександр Шлапак провів зустріч з Міністром закордонних справ Швеції Карлом Більдтом.

Під час бесіди Міністр фінансів висловив щиру подяку європейським партнерам за відчутну підтримку Уряду України у нелегкий для країни час.

Також у ході зустрічі Олександр Шлапак повідомив, що серед основних завдань, які стоять сьогодні перед Урядом, в цілому та перед Міністерством фінансів України, зокрема – це зниження рівня корупції, скорочення дефіциту державного бюджету та забезпечення активної співпраці з міжнародними партнерами задля стабілізації фінансово-економічної ситуації в країні.

Міністр фінансів зауважив, що Уряд наразі розпочав реалізацію програми жорсткої економії державних коштів. Окрім того, вже зроблені перші ефективні заходи спрямовані на раціоналізацію державних видатків та збільшення притоку іноземних інвестицій в країну.

У свою чергу, Міністр закордонних справ Швеції Карл Більдт зазначив, що Уряд України може розраховувати на підтримку з боку міжнародної спільноти та надання експертної допомоги на всіх рівнях.

На думку Карла Більдта, стан економіки європейський країн та світова економічна ситуація в цілому поступово покращуються, і це дає надії для всього світу дивитися з оптимізмом на майбутнє.

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**НАТО може допомогти в політичному та дипломатичному врегулюванні кризи, – Глава Уряду**  
06.03.2014 | 18:42 ДЕПАРТАМЕНТ ІНФОРМАЦІЇ ТА КОМУНІКАЦІЙ З ГРОМАДСЬКІСТЮ СЕКРЕТАРІАТУ КМУ

У четвер, 6 березня, Прем'єр-міністр України Арсеній Яценюк у Брюсселі провів зустріч з Генеральним секретарем НАТО Андерсом фог Расмуссеном.

Під час прес-конференції за підсумками зустрічі Арсеній Яценюк наголосив, що вирішити кризу в Україні необхідно виключно мирним шляхом: «Зрозуміло, що силовий шлях не на столі».

«Ми не розглядаємо військовий варіант як шлях виходу з кризи. Ми далі переконані, що маємо зробити все можливе, аби подолати кризу виключно політичним та дипломатичним шляхом. НАТО, яке дуже важливий політичний інструмент у вирішенні проблем глобальної безпеки, може в цьому дуже допомогти», – наголосив Арсеній Яценюк.

Він підкреслив, що в той же час «від російської влади залежить, чи зробить вона крок назад і перший крок до стабілізації ситуації в регіоні й припинення ескалації напруги між Україною та Росією і у всій Європі».

«Закликали російську владу відвести війська та виконувати міжнародні угоди. Ще раз підкреслюю, що це відповідальність російської влади. Вони це розпочали, і вони мають це закінчити», – наголосив Прем'єр-міністр.

Арсеній Яценюк також зазначив, що передав Генеральному секретареві НАТО запрошення провести зустріч у Києві. Він висловив переконання у важливості більш тісної співпраці та додаткової гуманітарної й технічної підтримки з боку НАТО у вдосконаленні системи оборони та безпеки України.

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**Перший віце-прем'єр-міністр провів зустріч з делегацією Атлантичної ради США та Польського інституту міжнародних справ**  
07.03.2014 | 09:20 Прес-служба Першого віце-прем'єр-міністра

У четвер, 6 березня, в Будинку Уряду відбулася зустріч Першого віце-прем'єр-міністра України Віталія Яреми з Віце-президентом Атлантичної ради США Деймоном Вілсоном, радником Атлантичної ради США Іоаном Бжезинським, директором Польського інституту міжнародних справ Марчином Заборовським та аналітиком з питань України Польського інституту міжнародних справ Євгеном Воробйовим.

Під час зустрічі Віталій Ярема обговорив з представниками міжнародних організацій поточні події в Україні, зокрема, було підняте питання російсько-українського конфлікту в Автономній Республіці Крим.

В ході розмови Віталій Ярема зазначив, що «Україна і наш народ останнім часом переживає непрості часи, які пов'язані зі зміною влади і тими злочинами, які влада Януковича вчинила проти власного народу». «А сьогодні маємо новий виклик, ще більш серйозний – зовнішня агресія з боку Російської Федерації», – додав політик.

Деймон Вілсон та Іоан Бжезинський зі свого боку висловили необхідність та готовність надання підтримки Україні з боку її західних партнерів. Окрему увагу під час своїх виступів вони приділили питанню розробки «дорожньої карти» політики Сполучених Штатів Америки та Європейського Союзу для підтримки України.

Говорячи про роботу Кабінету Міністрів України, Віталій Ярема наголосив, що «основними завданнями нового Уряду є якнайшвидше встановлення миру на території України, оперативне розслідування злочинів, вчинених попередньою владою, та встановлення демократії і верховенства права на території України».

Насамкінець Перший віце-прем'єр-міністр подякував за підтримку України у такий складний момент. «Сьогодні будь-яка підтримка міжнародних інституцій, особливо тих, які мають великий авторитет у світі, є для нас надзвичайно важливою», – сказав він. Політик додав, що протягом останніх днів лише завдяки тиску з боку міжнародних організацій російська сторона понизила темп тієї агресії, який спостерігався у перші дні.

### МЗС України

#### **Aide mémoire щодо порушення Росією імперативних норм міжнародного права (jus cogens)**

06 березня 2014, 21:10

1 марта 2014 года в 17.21 по киевскому времени Совет Федерации Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации единогласно поддержал обращение Президента Российской Федерации В.В. Путина о введении «ограниченного военного контингента» вооруженных сил России на территорию Украины.

Это решение было принято в нарушение Устава ООН, Декларации о принципах международного права 1970 года, Хельсинского заключительного акта СБСЕ 1975 года, Договора о дружбе и сотрудничестве между Российской Федерацией и Украиной 1997 года, а также целого ряда других международных договоров. В то же время демонстративный отказ Российской Федерации от предварительных консультаций с Украиной и государствами-гарантами ее территориальной целостности (Великобританией, США, Францией и Китаем) является показательным пренебрежением своими международно-правовыми обязательствами, закрепленными в Будапештском меморандуме 1994 года.

Этот правовой нигилизм подтверждается заявлением Президента Российской Федерации В.В.Путина, сделанным во время пресс-конференции 04 марта 2014 года. В частности, В.В. Путин заявил, что в результате событий последних нескольких месяцев на территории Украины возникло новое государство, в отношении которого Россия никаких обязывающих документов не подписывала.

Решение Совета Федерации ФС РФ о применении вооруженных сил на территории независимого суверенного государства, одного из основателей ООН, противоречит нормам международного права, касающихся ситуаций, когда защита прав и законных интересов собственных граждан, которые пребывают за пределами территории своего государства, допускают военное вмешательство государства их гражданства. Согласно Конституции Украины и соответствующих норм международного права Автономная Республика Крым является неотъемлемой частью Украины и одной из административно-территориальных единиц государства Украина. Подчеркиваем, что ни одна надлежащим образом уполномоченная национальная, иностранная или международная организация не заявляла о нарушении на территории Украины (в частности, в Автономной Республике Крым) прав человека, что требовало бы вмешательства какого-либо международного субъекта или международного сообщества. Таким образом, обращение самозванных руководителей одной из административных единиц Украины – Автономной Республики Крым – к российским властям с призывом предоставить военную помощь является противоправным, а любые решения, принятые на основании этого обращения, нелегитимны. Это подтверждается, в частности, установлением криминальной ответственности за публичные призывы к развязыванию войны как по законодательству Украины (статья 436 Уголовного кодекса Украины), так и по законодательству Российской Федерации (статья 354 Уголовного кодекса РФ).

Признаки этого же преступления явно присутствуют в так называемом Заявлении гражданина Украины В.Януковича к Президенту России В.В. Путину с просьбой использовать Вооруженные Силы Российской Федерации для восстановления законности,

мира, правопорядка, стабільності і захисту населення України. Указанное Заявление прямо противоречит статье 85 Конституции Украины, согласно которой право принятия решения о допуске иностранных вооруженных сил на территорию Украины принадлежит исключительно Парламенту Украины.

Применяя принцип добросовестного толкования международных договоров, констатируем существенное нарушение положений Соглашения между Украиной и Российской Федерацией о статусе и условиях пребывания Черноморского флота Российской Федерации на территории Украины от 8 августа 1997 года, в частности пункта 1 статьи 6, где определено, что воинские формирования Черноморского флота РФ «осуществляют свою деятельность в местах дислокации в соответствии с законодательством Российской Федерации, уважают суверенитет Украины, соблюдают ее законодательство и не допускают вмешательства во внутренние дела Украины». Нарушен также и пункт 2 статьи 8, в соответствии с которым воинские формирования Черноморского флота РФ «проводят учения и другие мероприятия боевой и оперативной подготовки в пределах учебных центров, полигонов, позиционных районов и районов рассредоточения, стрельбищ и, кроме запретных зон, в отведенных зонах воздушного пространства по согласованию с компетентными органами Украины». Такого согласования с компетентными органами Украины со стороны соответствующих органов РФ не было. Однако российские военные (о своем гражданстве они сообщили СМИ) покинули места своей дислокации в нарушение норм Соглашения.

Принимая во внимание изложенное, действия Российской Федерации являются актом агрессии, то есть международным преступлением. Напоминаем, что международное право предусматривает особый режим международной ответственности государства, которое нарушает императивные нормы общего международного права, а лица, виновные в совершении преступления агрессии, несут индивидуальную уголовную ответственность по международному праву.

Таким образом, действия Российской Федерации создают правовые основания для реализации Украиной своего неотъемлемого права на индивидуальную и коллективную самооборону, которое закреплено в статье 51 Устава ООН, в том числе, обращение к другим государствам, структурам для отражения внешней агрессии. Принимая во внимание многочисленные нарушения Российской Федерацией многосторонних и двусторонних договоров, Украина также имеет право остановить выполнение любых своих обязательств по двусторонним договорам с Россией, в частности относительно временного размещения Черноморского Флота Российской Федерации на территории Украины.

Пренебрежение Российской Федерацией основными принципами международного права неизбежно приведет к серьезным политическим, экономическим, военным потерям в условиях современного глобального мира, к дестабилизации ситуации не только в Восточной Европе, но и внутри России. Использование Россией как повода к военной агрессии несуществующие и неподтвержденные нарушения коллективных прав населения определенного региона или регионов Украины в будущем с большой вероятностью станет прецедентом для аналогичного военного вмешательства во внутренние дела других государств со стороны многонациональной Российской Федерации и может быть использовано другими государствами для вмешательства во внутренние дела России и поддержки сепаратистских движений в ее отдельных регионах.

Политика Российской Федерации по отношению к Украине разрушает не только двустороннюю международно-правовую базу. Она угрожает общей системе международного права.

Международное право есть и остается инструментом мирного разрешения споров между государствами. Любое вмешательство одного государства во внутренние дела другого является недопустимым и должно быть осуждено международным сообществом.

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

Еще раз подчеркиваем, что своими действиями Российская Федерация нарушила императивные нормы общего международного права (*jus cogens*), которые принимаются и признаются международным сообществом государств в целом как нормы, отклонение от которых недопустимо (статья 53 Венской конвенции о праве международных договоров 1969 года). Нормы *jus cogens* есть критериями для определения законности других норм и фундаментом международного правопорядка. Таким образом, заявление Президента Российской Федерации В.В.Путина о непризнании Правительства Украины противоречат международному праву.

Исходя из того, что нарушение Российской Федерацией норм *jus cogens* есть прямым посягательством на интересы мирового сообщества в целом, это создает для государств обязанность не допустить их безнаказанность как *obligatio erga omnes* (обязанность перед всеми). При этом, осуществление преступления агрессии несет за собой криминальную ответственность определенных должностных лиц государства-агрессора.

**6 марта 2014 года**

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**Заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров прийняв делегацію ОБСЄ**

06 березня 2014, 15:24

6 березня ц.р. заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров прийняв делегацію ОБСЄ, до складу якої увійшли Особистий представник Діючого голови ОБСЄ з питань України Тім Гульдманн, Верховний комісар ОБСЄ у справах національних меншин Астріт Торс та Представник ОБСЄ з питань свободи ЗМІ Дуня Міятович.

Зазначена делегація перебуває з візитом в Україні з 3 березня з метою ознайомлення з поточною ситуацією в нашій державі, в тому числі в АР Крим у контексті присутності російських військ на території півострова.

Делегація ОБСЄ висловила глибоку стурбованість нинішнім станом справ в Криму, назвавши ситуацію надзвичайно небезпечною. Було повідомлено про перешкоджання їх роботі в АР Крим з боку озброєних людей, відмову самопроголошеного керівництва Криму зустрітися з делегацією.

А.Олефіров звернувся до ОБСЄ з проханням сприяти якомога скорішому започаткуванню роботи моніторингової місії ОБСЄ в Україні, у тому числі в АР Крим.

Сторони детально зупинилися на можливостях залучення потенціалу інститутів ОБСЄ, зокрема Верховного комісара ОБСЄ у справах національних меншин та Представника ОБСЄ з питань свободи ЗМІ, до врегулювання ситуації в нашій країні.

Під час зустрічі А.Олефіров, серед іншого, запевнив, що всі органи державної влади України приділяють особливу увагу реалізації завдань, що сприятимуть зміцненню в українському суспільстві принципів свободи слова, толерантності і недискримінації, розбудови суспільства на засадах демократії та верховенства права.

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**Заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров зустрівся з Міністром закордонних справ Фінляндії Ерккі Туоміоя**

06 березня 2014, 15:30

6 березня ц.р. в МЗС України відбулася зустріч заступника Міністра – керівника апарату Андрія Олефірова з Міністром закордонних справ Фінляндії Ерккі Туоміоя.

В ході зустрічі було обговорено внутрішньополітичну ситуацію в Україні, у тому числі розвиток подій в АРК у зв'язку з агресивними діями РФ по відношенню до нашої держави.

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

Сторони окреслили шляхи взаємодії України та Фінляндії з метою збереження суверенітету та територіальної цілісності України, чому, зокрема, сприятиме діяльність моніторингової місії ОБСЄ в Україні.

Окрему увагу у ході зустрічі було приділено перспективам реалізації євроінтеграційного курсу України.

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**Данила Лубківського призначено заступником Міністра закордонних справ України**  
06 березня 2014, 15:36

Розпорядженням Кабінету Міністрів України 6 березня ц.р. Данила Лубківського призначено на посаду заступника Міністра закордонних справ України.

Данило Лубківський, 1975 року народження, закінчив факультет міжнародних відносин Львівського національного університету імені Івана Франка.

На дипломатичній службі з 1998 року. Працював на посадах аташе, третього, другого секретаря офісу Міністра закордонних справ України, був помічником і радником керівників зовнішньополітичного відомства України.

У 2001-2004 роках третій, другий, перший секретар Постійного представництва України при ООН у Нью-Йорку, член Делегації України до Ради Безпеки ООН у 2001 році.

Брав участь у численних двосторонніх і багатосторонніх переговорних процесах, діяльності України в рамках Ради Безпеки і Генеральної Асамблеї ООН, міжнародних конференцій і форумів ЄС, НАТО, Ради Європи, ОБСЄ, ГУАМ, ОЧЕС та інших міжнародних організацій.

28 січня 2008 року був призначений Радником Президента України.

З червня 2006 року до березня 2010 року очолював Службу підготовки виступів Президента України, Головну службу комунікації Секретаріату Президента України.

Має дипломатичний ранг Надзвичайного і Повноважного Посланника першого класу.

30 листопада 2009 року нагороджений Орденом Данила Галицького.

З 2010 по 2014 рік займався активною громадською діяльністю.

З іноземних мов вільно володіє англійською, російською і чеською.

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**Заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров зустрівся із заступником Міністра закордонних справ Турецької Республіки Алі Кемалем Айдином**

06 березня 2014, 18:30

6 березня ц.р. у МЗС України відбулася зустріч заступника Міністра – керівника апарату Андрія Олефірова із заступником Міністра закордонних справ Турецької Республіки Алі Кемалем Айдином.

Сторони детально обговорили внутрішньополітичну ситуацію в Україні, зокрема розвиток подій в АР Крим. А.К.Айдин ще раз підтвердив позицію керівництва Туреччини стосовно поваги до суверенітету України та її територіальної цілісності, наголосивши, що Крим є невід'ємною частиною Української держави.

Співрозмовники також домовились надати імпульсу подальшому розвитку українсько-турецького стратегічного партнерства.

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**З території України вивезено останню партію компонента рідкого ракетного палива «меланж» для його утилізації**

07 березня 2014, 18:04

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

6 березня 2014 року в рамках міжнародного проекту Україна – ОБСЄ з території України вивезено останню партію компонента рідкого ракетного палива «меланж» для його утилізації за межами України.

Останні партії «меланжу» були завантажені 28 лютого та 3 березня 2014 року з місць зберігання у м.Біла Церква та смт.Любашівка у присутності представників міністерства оборони України, МЗС України, ОБСЄ, а також російського підприємства-підрядника.

У рамках цього проекту, що був започаткований у 2009 році, було утилізовано близько 16 тис тон. цієї високотоксичної рідини, яка залишилась у спадщину від Радянського Союзу. «Меланж» використовувався як окислювач палива для ракет середньої і малої дальності (РСМД). Відтак в ході виконання Україною своїх міжнародних зобов'язань за Договором про РСМД від 1987 року (набув чинності для України в 1992 році), виникла нагальна потреба утилізації «меланжу».

Проект Україна – ОБСЄ є унікальним оскільки забезпечив утилізацію українського меланжу на російському підприємстві за кошти донорів з країн Заходу та з використанням механізмів ОБСЄ. Він став найбільшим за обсягами донорського фінансування в історії Організації.

Внески до проекту зробили такі країни, як Данія, Іспанія, Німеччина, Норвегія, Польща, США, Угорщина, Фінляндія, Чехія і Швеція.

В результаті ліквідації цього джерела екологічної катастрофи зітхнула з полегшенням вся світова спільнота. Прямої загрози життю позбулись мешканці територій навколо п'яти військових баз зберігання «меланжу», зокрема, у Калинівці, Вінницької обл., Ценжеві, Івано-Франківської обл., Радехові, Львівської обл., Білій Церкві, Київської обл., Шевченковому, Харківській обл. та Любашівки, Одеської області.

Українська сторона висловлює подяку країнам донорам та ОБСЄ за надану підтримку та відзначає конструктивне співробітництво між усіма учасниками проекту.

Успішне перевезення останньої партії «меланжу» територією України засвідчило здатність нової української влади забезпечити безпеку поводження з високотоксичними речовинами навіть в складних внутрішньополітичних умовах.

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### **Постійний представник України Ю.Клименко зустрівся з Генеральним секретарем ЮНКТАД М.Кітуї**

(ПП України у Женеві)

06 березня 2014, 21:38

6 березня відбулась зустріч Постійного представника України в Женеві Юрія Клименка з Генеральним секретарем Конференції ООН з торгівлі та розвитку (ЮНКТАД) Мукісою Кітуї.

Постійний представник поінформував про нинішню ситуацію в Україні, кроки чинної влади, спрямовані на забезпечення суверенітету та територіальної цілісності держави, а також дії Уряду з відновлення її економіки і реалізації назрілих реформ. Генеральний секретар ЮНКТАД, зі свого боку, запевнив у підтримці України на шляху її модернізації.

Під час зустрічі було обговорено актуальні питання взаємодії між Україною та ЮНКТАД, а також перспективи її подальшого розвитку. У цьому зв'язку Ю.Клименко подякував

М.Кітуї за технічну допомогу, яка надається нашій державі, зокрема, в контексті здійснюваного ЮНКТАД Огляду з конкурентного права в Україні. З українського боку також було висловлено заінтересованість, у зв'язку із теперішнім фінансово-економічним становищем у державі, в розширенні співпраці та започаткуванні нових проектів в рамках діючих програм ЮНКТАД, зокрема, Системи з реформування та автоматизації процесу митного оформлення (ASYCUDA).

**КРАЇНИ-ЧЛЕНИ ГРУПИ "G-7"**

США

**Statement by the President on Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

March 6, 2014

James S. Brady Press Briefing Room

1:05 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good afternoon, everybody. Before Jay takes some of your questions, I wanted to provide a brief update on our efforts to address the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.

Since the Russian intervention, we've been mobilizing the international community to condemn this violation of international law and to support the people and government of Ukraine.

This morning I signed an executive order that authorizes sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, or for stealing the assets of the Ukrainian people.

According to my guidance, the State Department has also put in place restrictions on the travel of certain individuals and officials. These decisions continue our efforts to impose a cost on Russia and those responsible for the situation in Crimea. And they also give us the flexibility to adjust our response going forward based on Russia's actions.

We took these steps in close coordination with our European allies. I've spoken to several of our closest friends around the world, and I'm pleased that our international unity is on display at this important moment. Already, we've moved together to announced substantial assistance for the government in Kyiv, and today in Brussels, our allies took similar steps to impose costs on Russia. I am confident that we are moving forward together, united in our determination to oppose actions that violate international law and to support the government and people of Ukraine.

And that includes standing up for the principle of state sovereignty. The proposed referendum on the future of Crimea would violate the Ukrainian constitution and violate international law. Any discussion about the future of Ukraine must include the legitimate government of Ukraine. In 2014, we are well beyond the days when borders can be redrawn over the heads of democratic leaders.

While we take these steps, I want to be clear that there is also a way to resolve this crisis that respects the interests of the Russian Federation, as well as the Ukrainian people. Let international monitors into all of Ukraine, including Crimea, to ensure the rights of all Ukrainians are being respected, including ethnic Russians. Begin consultations between the government of Russia and Ukraine, with the participation of the international community. Russia would maintain its basing rights in Crimea, provided that it abides by its agreements and respects Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. And the world should support the people of Ukraine as they move to elections in May.

That's the path of de-escalation, and Secretary Kerry is engaged in discussions with all of the relevant parties, including Russia and Ukraine to pursue that path. But if this violation of international law continues, the resolve of the United States, and our allies and the international community will remain firm. Meanwhile, we've taken steps to reaffirm our commitment to the security and democracy of our allies in Eastern Europe and to support the people of Ukraine.

One last point – there's been a lot of talk in Congress about these issues. Today, once again, I'm calling on Congress to follow up on these words with action, specifically to support the IMF's capacity to lend resources to Ukraine and to provide American assistance for the Ukrainian government so that they can weather this storm and stabilize their economy, make needed reforms, deliver for their people, all of which will provide a smoother pathway for the elections that have already been scheduled in May.

Today the world can see that the United States is united with our allies and partners in upholding international law and pursuing a just outcome that advances global security and the future that

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the Ukrainian people deserve. That's what we're going to continue to do in the days to come until we have seen a resolution to this crisis.

Thanks very much. And Jay and Ben and others will be happy to take your questions.

END 1:10 P.M. EST

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### **Readout of President Obama's Call with President Putin of Russia**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

March 6, 2014

President Obama spoke for an hour this afternoon with President Putin of Russia. President Obama emphasized that Russia's actions are in violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, which has led us to take several steps in response, in coordination with our European partners. President Obama indicated that there is a way to resolve the situation diplomatically, which addresses the interests of Russia, the people of Ukraine, and the international community. As a part of that resolution, the governments of Ukraine and Russia would hold direct talks, facilitated by the international community; international monitors could ensure that the rights of all Ukrainians are protected, including ethnic Russians; Russian forces would return to their bases; and the international community would work together to support the Ukrainian people as they prepare for elections in May. President Obama indicated that Secretary Kerry would continue discussions with Foreign Minister Lavrov, the government of Ukraine, and other international partners in the days to come to advance those objectives.

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### **Ukraine in the White House Daily Press Briefing**

March 6, 2014

Q Jay, thank you. Just to follow up on what the President said. This move toward an independent Crimea, or this referendum, does the White House see that as being pushed by President Putin? And are there steps that the U.S. can take against the pro-Russian leaders in the Crimea peninsula to stop this – what you are calling an unconstitutional move by within the region?

MR. CARNEY: Well, when it comes to the framework announced today and the President just discussed, we have not – we're not naming individuals in the framework itself. The EO, the executive order creates a framework for action and sanctions – that would include Ukrainians and Russians, and then, obviously, that would include Ukrainians and Russians in any part of Ukraine, including Crimea. But I don't have a – and we are not identifying individuals as part of either the visa ban or the executive order.

As for Russia's involvement in what's happening in Ukraine, I think it's self-evident that Russia has, in contravention of international law, intervened militarily in Crimea. Russian forces are responsible for blocking roads and blockading military installations and bases. And Russia needs to, instead of pursuing that path, work with the OSCE and the United Nations and the Ukrainian government towards addressing the concerns that Russia claims were the motivation for the action that it has taken, which is concern about the protection of the rights of ethnic Russians in parts of Ukraine, in particular in Crimea.

The way to do that is to allow monitors in and to allow fact-finders in who can assess whether or not the rights of any Ukrainian citizens are being violated. That is certainly the far more appropriate course of action that they should take.

Q Does the White House believe that President Putin is – his goal here is outright annexation of the region, of the Crimean peninsula? Or is it more to gain leverage against the West in this continuing struggle?

MR. CARNEY: Rather than assess motives, we can assess facts, which are as follows: Russia violated international law and treaties and conventions and obligations that it, itself, has signed

by violating the territorial integrity of a sovereign state, the sovereign state of Ukraine – violated an agreement with Ukraine and other partners made in Budapest in 1994.

The fact that Russia has interests in Ukraine and has specifically interests in Crimea is one that we have recognized. They have a military base there, a lawfully established military base, as part of an agreement with the sovereign state of Ukraine. And our whole point has been, together with our many allies and partners, that Russia ought to pursue its concerns and interests in a lawful manner, consistent with the U.N. Charter, consistent with the Budapest Memorandum. And that is what we are pressing Russia to do.

Q There have been calls in Congress for the administration to ease export – natural gas export restrictions to at least help supply Ukraine if their supply of natural gas from Russia gets cut off, but also perhaps even Europeans. What's the administration's position on that?

MR. CARNEY: Jim, the administration is taking immediate steps to assist the government of Ukraine, including in the area of energy security, energy efficiency, and energy sector reform. Our support for energy-related reforms will help the government of Ukraine to take the steps needed to restore economic stability and growth, and reduce Ukrainian dependence on Russian gas – imported Russian gas.

The Department of Energy has regulatory authority over liquefied natural gas exports – LNG exports – and DOE will continue to make public interest determinations on a case-by-case basis, considering economic, energy security, environmental and geopolitical impacts, among other factors.

So we are moving forward to assist Ukraine in many ways, including in the area of energy security. On the matter of the regulatory authority for LNG exports, that's something that DOE handles on a case-by-case basis.

Q So the assistance basically is giving them access to suppliers elsewhere in the world, other international suppliers other than Russia, is that basically what that assistance –

MR. CARNEY: Well, I think that's one form of it. The State Department would have more details about the whole package.

Q Jay, why is President Putin not being targeted himself under these sanctions you announced today, since he presumably is the one who ordered the Crimean operation?

MR. CARNEY: First of all, Steve, just to be clear, the executive order established a framework for sanctions. It does not specify individuals. It establishes a broad authority that can be used as appropriate, given the situation on the ground.

So the Secretary of Treasury is now, under this executive order, allowed, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to impose sanctions for the conduct described in the order. Entities and individuals sanctioned under this executive order will be placed on the Office of Foreign Assets Control Specially Designated Nationals List. Their property under U.S. jurisdiction will be blocked and U.S. persons will be prohibited from doing business with them. In addition, the border – the order, rather, suspends entry into the United States of any alien designated pursuant to the order.

So this creates an authority that is broad and that can be used, executed by the Secretary of the Treasury as appropriate pursuant to the situation on the ground.

Q And how large a universe of people are we talking about? Dozens, hundreds? How many fall under this category?

MR. CARNEY: I'm not aware of a limit on the number.

Q And just one last thing. You've been warning about a move in Eastern Ukraine would be destabilizing. Are you getting any indications that that is, in fact, happening?

MR. CARNEY: Well, I certainly don't have any intelligence assessments to provide to you. I think that, as Russian officials noted a couple of days ago, the exercises that were announced had supposedly ended in Western Russia near the Ukrainian border and those units were returned to bases. But that's something we obviously monitor closely.

There are other activities happening on the ground in Eastern Ukraine that, of course, are of concern and that we monitor closely, and about which we have conversations with the Ukrainian government and others.

Q Jay, to follow up specifically on – Steve asked you about Putin. I didn't hear an answer. Is Putin –

MR. CARNEY: No Russian individuals or entities are blocked pursuant to the executive order. It provides a flexible tool that in the coming days and weeks can be used to sanction persons responsible for – and I could go through the list but – in other words, the EO – nobody has been sanctioned under this EO. The authority has been granted, broad authority has been granted to issue those sanctions as appropriate.

Q Are you saying you don't rule out that Vladimir Putin could be one of the people sanctioned under this order? A travel ban on Putin –

MR. CARNEY: I'm not discussing any individual. The parameters are laid out in the executive order as to whom it would apply and those judgments will be made as we evaluate the situation on the ground.

Q Well, you just said people responsible. This is Vladimir Putin's policy. It's not like there's rogue operators in Russia that are doing this. This is Putin's policy, a policy he has defended. So it sounds to me like you're describing actions that would be taken against President Putin.

MR. CARNEY: Well, what I am, in fact, saying, as opposed to what it might sound like I'm saying, is that the executive order does not name individuals or entities, does not identify individuals or entities; it establishes a framework that creates the authority to identify individuals. That has not happened as of yet.

Q Okay, let me try this a different way. Do you think Vladimir Putin is responsible for what is going on in Crimea right now, for Russian activity in Crimea?

MR. CARNEY: We have made clear that we strongly disagree with the Russian approach; that Russia is obviously responsible for its military forces that, contrary to some of the myths that have been put forward by Russian officials, it is clear through strong evidence that members of Russian security forces are at the heart of the highly organized anti-Ukraine forces in Crimea. And while these units wear uniforms without insignia, they drive vehicles with Russian military license plates and freely identify themselves as Russian security forces when asked by the Ukrainian military, and when asked by your colleagues who are there reporting on the story. Moreover, these individuals are armed with weapons that are not generally available to civilians. So, absolutely. But that –

Q Absolutely. So just to be crystal clear – Vladimir Putin is the one –

MR. CARNEY: Well, we hold Russia accountable for the actions that Russia is taking in this regard. And we call on Russia – we call on President Putin – to avail itself of the opportunity to address its concerns about ethnic Russians and the rights of ethnic Russians in Crimea and elsewhere in Ukraine through the allowance of OSCE or U.N. monitors into Ukraine so that they can make assessments about those concerns.

Q And this last thing. When you say there's no limit on who can be – come under this order –

MR. CARNEY: Well, I'm certainly not aware of a numeric limit. What it does is establish a framework so that entities and individuals who are identified to fall under the categories that the executive order outlines can be targeted with sanctions. But again, there is no list of individuals. This is an establishment of authority to act.

Q But can you give us any idea of a range? There's obviously going to be a first round of this. Are we talking about dozens of people? Are we talking about thousands of people? I'm just trying to get any kind of an indication of how widespread this is.

MR. CARNEY: Again, I don't have a – the point of the EO is to provide a flexible tool that will allow us to sanction those who are most directly involved in destabilizing Ukraine, including the military intervention in Crimea. And it does not preclude further steps should the situation deteriorate.

And as the President just made clear, the steps that Russia has taken violate Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and are a breach of international law. And that is not just our view; it is the view of countries and leaders across the region and the world.

Jim.

Q The President just said a few moments ago that he wants to deescalate this crisis, but don't these actions, by definition, escalate the pressure, escalate what you hope to accomplish?

MR. CARNEY: No. The facts are that Russia has intervened militarily in Crimea. That is undeniable. The authority that the executive order provides is a flexible tool that allows for the imposition of sanctions on individuals and entities, and it's entirely appropriate at this stage to have that authority available for exercise by the Secretary of Treasury in consultation with the Secretary of State. We note that our European partners and allies have also taken action.

In the meantime, we are aggressively pursuing with our partners and allies in Europe a diplomatic solution to this. We are making clear to the Russians that there is a far better way to address the concerns that they say have motivated the action they've taken. And we are also not just pursuing that avenue diplomatically; we are also, with our partners and allies, providing assistance to the legitimate government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people at a very difficult time economically, not to mention politically, because of the situation caused by the intervention in Crimea.

Q And the Russians have threatened to retaliate with sanctions of their own. Has the administration sort of done a cost-benefit analysis and basically said this is a risk that you're willing to take?

MR. CARNEY: Well, we've seen reports that Russia is considering its own sanctions, but we have no details. And our focus right now is to see what we, together with our international partners, can do to convince Russia to remove its military forces, to return them to their bases in Crimea, and to restore Ukraine's territorial integrity. So that's what we're focused on.

Q And what about – getting back to Vladimir Putin, do you have any sense whatsoever that he is getting your message?

MR. CARNEY: He certainly is. I think that we have made it very clear to Russian leaders, including President Putin, including Foreign Minister Lavrov. Secretary Kerry has had numerous meetings and conversations with the Foreign Minister. The President spoke with President Putin. Those consultations are ongoing, so I don't have any doubt that he, President Putin, is very clear about our position – not just our position, again, but the position held by our European and international partners.

Q And it sounds like – just lastly, judging by what the President said, this White House is not giving up Crimea in this crisis.

MR. CARNEY: Crimea is a part of Ukraine, the sovereign state of Ukraine. Ukraine's territorial integrity is recognized and validated under the United Nations Charter. It is recognized and validated through an agreement to which Russia is directly a signatory, the Budapest Memorandum. The vote in the Crimean legislative body, the proposed referendum, are not legitimate under the Ukrainian constitution and would not be legitimate if the referendum were to take place. Any decisions about the status of a region or province within Ukraine have to be made in accordance with the Ukrainian constitution. And I think that's, again, not just our view but a view held broadly across the world.

Q Jay, is the best way to view the framework is that they are a deterrent to dissuade Russia from moving out of Crimea? Since they're not in effect now, so they're not penalizing individuals or businesses for what's already happened, but they may be invoked if something worse happens? Is that the proper way to interpret them?

MR. CARNEY: Well, I'll leave the interpretation to you. I think that the executive order makes clear what the President said, which is there are costs to this action. And this is a piece of the cost.

The State Department is imposing visa restrictions on a number of officials and individuals, reflecting a policy decision to deny visas to those responsible for or complicit in threatening the

sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. And that is separate and apart from the executive order that –

Q Right, that's happening, but the sanctions are not.

MR. CARNEY: Well, no, the sanctions require the executive order that the President has signed. And we've now created the framework –

Q Right, but if I understood you earlier, you said clearly that they have not been implemented.

MR. CARNEY: At this time they have not – there is not – there are not individuals and entities targeted yet through sanctions.

Q Okay. Following down the course of the interpretation, if you were in this chair or any of these chairs, you might read the executive order and ask yourself who better fits the definition of the words in the executive order of responsibility than Vladimir Putin. Would that be an unfair interpretation?

MR. CARNEY: I'll leave the interpretation to you. I can simply say that it does not –

Q Do you disagree with that?

MR. CARNEY: Again, Major, we've made clear our view, shared broadly across Europe and the world, that Russia in its actions has violated Ukraine's territorial integrity, that Russia has violated Ukraine's sovereignty, that Russia has taken action that is inconsistent with the obligations it has under the U.N. Charter and through the Budapest Memorandum that it signed with Ukraine and other partners. So our view on who is responsible for the actions that have taken place is very clear.

The EO establishes a framework through which sanctions can be imposed on individuals and entities, but it does not at this stage name individuals or entities. So I'm not going to jump ahead and speculate about who might be named, or what entities might be included.

Q Let me ask you one question about the Rada. I know in general the administration has been supportive of the process by which it dealt with Yanukovich abdicating. But some analysts here have said there are other actions that the Rada took after that, singling out Russian language and other aspects of those Russian speakers within Ukraine that might have been viewed legitimately as provocative by the Russians – not justifying their action but viewed as somewhat troublesome or worrisome. Is there anything the administration has to say about those actions undertaken by the Rada that might have complicated this situation unnecessarily?

MR. CARNEY: Well, we certainly believe that the Rada, the parliament, has conducted itself very well and in keeping with its authority under the Ukrainian constitution. One of the myths that has been put out there by President Putin and others is that somehow President Yanukovich is still the President, that he was forced to flee, but, in fact, he signed an agreement that explicitly called for the Ukrainian parliament, the Rada, to pass a bill that would return to power the 2004 constitution, make that the governing document. Fulfilling its obligation, the Rada did that very quickly. And before signing it, Yanukovich fled the country – packed up his belongings and fled the country, and left in his wake a cornucopia of evidence suggesting widespread corruption and abuse of his power and authority and legitimacy. So again –

Q I'm talking about the moves the Rada made after.

MR. CARNEY: Well, I understand, but I'm not – what I think is very clear is that the Ukrainian government and the Ukrainian parliament have conducted themselves professionally and responsibly in an extremely difficult situation. And we have every step of the way made clear that it is very important for Ukrainian authorities to protect and guarantee the rights of ethnic Russians and all other ethnic minorities in Ukraine. And the tension we've seen in Crimea has been brought about by the actions taken by Russian military forces and those allied with them.

Q Jay, it was five years ago today that Secretary – then Secretary Clinton hit the button on the Russian reset. Does the President have any regrets about that approach? Did he misjudge the Russians' ambitions and intentions here?

MR. CARNEY: What the President set out to do when he took office was to establish a bilateral relationship with Russia that ensured that the United States was very clear-eyed and not either romantic or dismissive about the capacity to advance our interests in that relationship. That

approach has led to cooperation between the United States and Russia, and Russia and other international partners, when it comes to Iran. It has led to cooperation between the United States and Russia when it comes to resupplying U.S. forces in Afghanistan. And it has led to other areas of cooperation, including in the area of the START II treaty.

What it has also meant is that that approach has allowed us to be extremely blunt when we have powerful disagreements with the Russians. And we have been blunt all along, and that includes in the area of missile defense. It includes, obviously, most notably, with regard to Syria, and here, as well as in other areas. So –

Q He still went into Ukraine.

MR. CARNEY: What we –

Q He still went in. Here you're trying to – you have to mobilize –

MR. CARNEY: I know that there is an argument out there, factless, founded on no substantiated basis, that suggests that the President of Russia has taken the action that he's taken because of actions the United States has taken. I think that any historian, anybody knowledgeable about Russia or the former Soviet Union, would be as dismissive of that suggestion as I am trying to be now.

Q Well, you were – the President was dismissive when Mitt Romney, in the last campaign, said Russia was our number-one geopolitical foe. Any regrets about that?

MR. CARNEY: No, because, again – you have a situation where Russia is violating international law because a country that Moscow – a government that Moscow supported was rejected by the vast majority of the Ukrainian people and because they wanted to determine their own future; because they wanted to be able to make the decision as to their integration with Europe; they didn't want to be dictated to by an outside state or an outside authority. I think it's hardly a demonstration of – it's not a positive thing for Russia that Ukraine has been moving in this direction.

Our whole point is it doesn't have to be a negative thing. It is a mistake certainly in the long run for Russia not to accept the fact that Ukraine can, and the Ukrainian people should be able to decide for themselves in a democratic manner how they will integrate with Europe, and that doing so does not mean they cannot maintain their long, historical and cultural ties and economic ties to Russia. They can and should be able to do both, and it should not be a threat to Russia to do so.

So I think on this matter I think it's very important to note that when it comes to these kinds of situations on the international scene, partisan politics are fine – we engage in them every day here – “here” I mean Washington – but in a case like this, why – instead of being a partisan Republican and attacking the President, be a partisan American in identifying the outrageous actions in violation of international law that have taken place.

Q Do you think John McCain and Lindsey Graham and some of those critics have been –

MR. CARNEY: I think that partisanship, as others have identified, in this circumstance is unwarranted, because in fact the President and others – the administration has been taking concrete action in response to the violation of international law that has taken place. We are working in concert with our partners to do so. And it is in the United States' interest and the interest of our allies and partners and in the interest of the Ukrainian people to support Ukraine and to work to persuade Russia to reverse course.

Q Thank you. When the President was out here he mentioned elections in Ukraine. Is he also going to recognize – or what does he think about the Crimea referendum? Is he going to not recognize that?

MR. CARNEY: I think we've said, and I'll repeat, that the referendum that has been scheduled to take place does not comport with the Ukrainian constitution. It is certainly, again – as established in the Ukrainian constitution, a decision on the status of a region of Ukraine in relation to the nation of Ukraine, or in relation to the rest of Ukraine has to be done in accordance with the Ukrainian constitution and in keeping with the will of the Ukrainian people.

So, no, that's not a legitimate step. And I think nobody outside of Moscow and some parts of Crimea have suggested it is.

Q And one other question. You mentioned DOE and the rules on liquefied natural gas. Does the President want the department to accelerate those rules? What does he want to do? I'm not clear.

MR. CARNEY: There's a process that establishes a case-by-case evaluation. And how that works is something that the Department of Energy can explain. I don't have anything more on that from the White House.

Peter.

Q Jay, when do you plan to designate individuals? I know the visa bans, those have already taken place. But authority exists for implementation; it hasn't taken place in terms of sanctions, so when do you plan to designate individuals?

MR. CARNEY: I don't have a specified timing for you. What the action taken today does is provide the tools necessary and the flexible set of tools to sanction individuals and entities. But we'll obviously make you aware of any action that's taken, but I don't have a timetable for you.

Q I guess what I'm asking is, is the referendum sort of the next deadline? In other words, if they were to park themselves, the Russian troops that are in Crimea right now – if they were to continue to park themselves, but the referendum doesn't take place, then is that a status quo that doesn't require any further actions? You said there would be costs or consequences for what's already taken place, but you're not actually implementing the costs as they relate to sanctions.

MR. CARNEY: Well, again, I think you're missing the fact that we've already taken action including suspending bilateral discussions with Russia on trade and investment, suspending –

Q I mean, new action. Understood.

MR. CARNEY: That's already old hat? That probably doesn't feel that way to Russia. But suspending – including exercises, bilateral meetings, port visits and planning conferences, and our agreement with G7 nations to suspend for the time being our participation in activities associated with the preparation of the scheduled G8 summit in Sochi, Russia, in June.

Depending on how the situation develops, the United States is prepared to consider additional steps and sanctions as necessary. So I'm not going to attach the issuance of specific sanctions to any action or inaction, anticipated or otherwise, except to say the EO allows for the Secretary of Treasury to take this action in consultation with the Secretary of State. And, in the meantime, the visa bans have been put in place, and all these other actions have happened. Our European allies have announced their own set of actions. Canada has taken action.

So I think if you look at the mosaic, if you will, there is a broad international consensus here that recognizes that what Russia has done here is in clear violation of international law.

Q You brought up international monitors. It's been discussed by the administration for the last several days. I want to get a sense from you how you can have international monitors given the situation that took place yesterday, where U.N. Special Envoy Serry was basically forced by "armed thugs," as described by some administration members out of that region.

MR. CARNEY: Well, it's totally unacceptable that the U.N. Special Envoy was accosted at gunpoint and threatened yesterday during his visit to Crimea. The United Nations has sought to deescalate the situation, and the inviolability of its envoys is enshrined in international law.

This sets a dangerous precedent, and we call on Russia to allow international monitors to verify that the rights of all Ukrainians are being respected throughout all of Ukraine, including in Crimea. But there's no question this is unacceptable, and it makes more urgent the need for Russia to pursue a diplomatic, peaceful resolution to this – one that does not have Russia continuing to violate international law. Russian security forces need to return to their bases. Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity needs to be protected. And any concerns that Russia has about its interests in Ukraine, in the Crimea, its interests in the rights of ethnic Russians, can and should be addressed in accordance with international law, through the United Nations, through the OSCE.

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And we are absolutely willing to support that effort. Blocking the ability of the U.N. Special Envoy to enter Ukraine, or to have an effective visit in Ukraine, only reinforces to the world the lawlessness of the action that's taken place thus far.

Peter.

Q Just last question. Hillary Clinton yesterday made some remarks – she clarified some remarks where she basically compared the situation taking place in Ukraine and Russia to lessons that were learned in 1930s Germany in terms of the effort of Russia to go in claiming that they were protecting ethnic minorities, ethnic Russians, in this case. Is that a fair comparison that Hillary Clinton was making?

MR. CARNEY: Well, I would refer you to former Secretary Clinton. I think that, as I think she said later, she was talking about tactics. But I think that we are dealing with a problem in 2014 that we can address in ways that we're addressing now, very aggressively, with our international partners.

Scott.

Q Thanks, Jay. In drawing up this executive order and thinking about the implications of it, did the President express whether or not he thought Putin would be subject to it?

MR. CARNEY: Again, Scott, I'm just not going to discuss individuals or entities because none are identified in the executive order, and no individual or entity has been identified under the executive order. And I'm not going to characterize conversations with the President about it.

I think it's very clear what the executive order sets out to do and the authority that it establishes. And judgments about individuals and entities that will be targeted with sanctions will be made along the way, but I'm not going to speculate about who or what entity might be included in that list.

Q Who makes the assessment? Will it be the National Security Council or will it be the State Department? Who decides who's on the list and who's off the list?

MR. CARNEY: Well, the authority – the EO establishes the framework that allows the Secretary of Treasury, Jack Lew, in consultation with Secretary of State Kerry, to impose sanctions for the conduct described in the order. So the execution of that authority rests with the Secretary of the Treasury in consultation with the Secretary of State, obviously all of this at the direction of the President.

Q Last question. In 2011, the President put sanctions directly on Bashar al-Assad, and I'm wondering what the difference would be in forcefully sanctioning a head of state in that situation and not doing so in this situation.

MR. CARNEY: You're presupposing something that is not consistent with what we've announced today.

Q It doesn't sound like you're going to – Putin could be on this list.

MR. CARNEY: Again, what we have done today establishes the framework, establishes the authority to take action against individuals and entities. We're not putting people on the list, we're not taking people off the list right now. We're simply – we've established the framework for that authority.

Q Okay. Just to be clear – if there's a possibility he will be on this list.

MR. CARNEY: I'm just not going to engage in hypotheticals about individuals. What we have clearly said is that –

Q But you're trying to have it both ways here. You're saying I can't assume he's not, but you won't rule it out.

MR. CARNEY: I'm not ruling anything in or out.

Q Two clarifications on Ukraine. I just want to go back to the question about whether the President's EO is issuing a warning or it is imposing costs – because senior administration officials were clear earlier today that this is designed – the President's order is designed to respond to violations of international law that have already occurred. So can I just go back to the question, if President Putin and the Russian Federation pursues the diplomatic way out that the

President outlined, would this executive order be null and void? In other words, would they be avoiding the punishment if they follow the President's –

MR. CARNEY: Well, when you say “the punishment,” the executive order establishes an authority that is very broad and very flexible for the Secretary of Treasury to exercise. So the actions – it's sort of like an accordion; the number of individuals and entities that can be named, as well as the kind and level of sanctions that can be imposed are very broad. So it's sort of impossible to answer that question, except to say that I don't think people who focus on these things and understand how these authorities work would view it any other way than that is a concrete action that makes clear our position and our readiness to impose sanctions. And this is the step you need to take in order to do that.

And I'm not going to then speculate about if Russia does this or if the Crimean parliament does that, what then will we do. We've made clear that we have set forward the authority that is very flexible to take action appropriately –

Q But I guess I'm still confused.

MR. CARNEY: – building on the action we've already taken.

Q I guess I'm just – I'm still confused about whether this is a fait accompli. In other words, names will go on this list; there will be a bite to this because of the violations that have already occurred? But you're using language that says, “can be imposed,” “might be” – names might be added to this. So do you understand the confusion that we're having?

MR. CARNEY: Well, I suppose I understand the question. But I don't want to get ahead of actions that would be taken under the authority established in this executive order. And the authority is real and it is broad.

Q One other follow-up on this. Can you offer an example of how the economic bite would actually hit those entities or individuals who were directly or indirectly involved in violations that have already occurred, based on the property and holdings in the United States?

MR. CARNEY: I would refer you to the Department of Treasury. I mean, I think that if you look at discussions of this in the press and actions taken, for example, by the Europeans, there's a way to answer that question.

Carol.

Q On Tuesday, some administration officials said that some remarks from President Putin had indicated a pause in the escalation of the crisis. And the President said that he seemed to be taking a moment to reflect. Is that still the case? When did we pass that moment? Are these actions today an indication that that pause is no longer correct?

MR. CARNEY: No – the President and others were referring specifically to the announcement, apparently fulfilled, of the decision to move military units in the West of Russia back to their barracks after the completion of the announced exercises. But I think in some ways – this is an answer to Alexis's question – the action we're taking today has to do with the clear and continued violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity that is happening today and has been happening now for several days.

So we're closely monitoring events in Crimea, in Eastern Ukraine, in all of Ukraine, and are urging the Russians to move towards a diplomatic resolution, towards a direct dialogue with the Ukrainian government about steps that can be taken with ample precedent using international monitors to ensure that the rights of ethnic Russians in Ukraine are protected and respected, and that the interest that Russia has in Ukraine, in particular its military facilities in Crimea, are protected and are protected in keeping with the agreement that the Ukrainian government and the Russian government have together. But the only violation of that agreement thus far has been through the actions of the Russian government.

Let me go to Jessica.

Q A question about how the White House views the Chinese role in this Ukrainian crisis. I know yesterday, Ambassador Rice spoke with Foreign Minister [sic] Yang. And according to the readout, they agreed on a solution that would uphold Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. President Xi has had a phone call with President Putin in which he characterized it as

“accidental” and “had the elements of the inevitable.” I’m just wondering where the White House sees them, as particularly since those could be construed as conflicting messages?

MR. CARNEY: I would simply say that we are working with all our partners on the United Nations Security Council and elsewhere in together recognizing that the actions that Russia has taken are a violation of – are in violation of international law. I don’t think those actions were an accident, and I don’t think anybody believes they were an accident. Thank you all very much.

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**Remarks on Ukraine by Secretary of State John Kerry at a Press Availability in Rome**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Office of the Spokesperson

March 6, 2014

Rome, Italy

**SECRETARY KERRY:** (In Italian.) Good evening, everybody.....(other)

Now, let me say a word about a subject that I know is on everybody’s mind, and that’s the question of Ukraine. Just a few moments ago, President Obama spoke in Washington and laid out the steps that he has ordered with respect to this situation at this time, which are in keeping with precisely what we said last week we would do as a consequence of the steps that Russia decided to take with respect to Crimea. As you have heard me say all week, the choices that Russia has made escalated this situation, and we believe that Russia has the opportunity now – together with the rest of us – but Russia particularly has the opportunity now to make the right choices in order to de-escalate.

The United States also has choices to make, and President Obama has been clear that we cannot allow Russia or any country to defy international law with impunity. There’s no place in the community of nations for the kind of aggression and steps that we have seen taken in Crimea in Ukraine in these last days.

So today, as we announced we would last week, we have taken specific steps, and the State Department also has taken specific steps in response to what has occurred. Starting today, at President Obama’s direction, the State Department is putting in place tough visa restrictions on a number of officials and other individuals. And the United States will not grant visas to those who threaten the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine, and if they already have one, it will be revoked in those individual cases.

Now, let me remind you that this decision comes on top of our existing policy to deny visas to those who are involved in human rights abuses or political oppression in Ukraine. And it is also on top of other steps that the United States has already taken which we have announced. Now, at the same time, President Obama has issued an executive order that gives the Treasury Department the legal framework to sanction those who threaten Ukraine’s sovereignty, security, and democracy, those who contribute to the misappropriation of Ukraine’s state assets, and just as importantly, those who try to assert government authority over any part of Ukraine without authorization from the legitimate government in Kyiv.

I want to emphasize – and there’s a reason why only the legal framework was put in place and not the specific designations – and that reason is that even as we will keep faith with what we have said we would do, we want to be able to have the dialogue that leads to the de-escalation. We want to be able to continue the intense discussions with both sides in order to try to normalize and end this crisis. And we will absolutely consider, if we have to, additional steps beyond what we’ve done. But our preference – and the President has said this and I have said this – is to emphasize the possibilities for the dialogue that can lead to the normalization and defusing of this crisis.

Now, yesterday in Paris, we had lengthy discussions and we met also, obviously, with our Ukrainian counterpart, the foreign minister of Ukraine, and discussed with him Ukrainian thoughts about what should form the centerpiece of our approach to this effort to negotiate. And with the Ukrainian view in mind and with the input of all of our allies in the European

community, we have made suggestions to Foreign Minister Lavrov which he is currently taking personally to President Putin in Sochi, I believe, and we have agreed to stay in close touch in order to see if there is a way forward, and try to get to the negotiating table with the parties necessary to be able to stabilize this.

We've been in very close touch all day with our European counterparts – both those who were here in Rome as well as by telephone for those who were in Brussels. And we agreed that over the course of the next hours, next days, there is an imperative to try to move quickly in order to prevent a mistake or misinterpretation or any other measures that might preclude our opportunity to be able to find the political solution that we believe is the best way to proceed.

The Ukrainian people, we are convinced beyond any doubt whatsoever, want nothing more than the right to determine their own future, and they want to be able to live freely in a safe and prosperous country where they can make the choices that people make in other countries around the world. And they have the international community's full support, and while we reserve the right to take steps beyond those things that were announced today, we want President Putin and Russia and everyone to understand our preference is to get back to a normality and get back to a place where the rights of the people of Ukraine will be respected and the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the nation will be respected.

The United States will continue to stand with the Ukrainian people, as will our allies and friends in the European community and elsewhere, in order to stand up for the values that we all believe in our fellow – that define our fellow democracies. So thank you very, very much, and I look forward to the opportunity to take a couple questions.

**MS. HART:** Great, thank you. The first question is from Elise Labott of CNN.

**QUESTION:** Thank you, Mr. Secretary. You said that the Ukrainian people have the right to determine their own future. Does that include the people of Crimea? Don't they have the right to determine their own future? Are there any conditions under which the U.S. might accept a referendum as part of the solution?

And then on your meeting with Foreign Minister Lavrov, Minister Fabius said that he's forming this contact group and that the Russians might agree. Did you talk about this with the minister, and do you see this as a useful mechanism that might happen in the coming days?

And lastly, I'm wondering if you talked to him about the fact that he told you last week that the exercises that the Russians were doing had nothing to do with Ukraine. We now know that that was a pretext to mask the Russian intervention.

**SECRETARY KERRY:** What was the first part of that question? I'm sorry.

**QUESTION:** Well, we understand that –

**SECRETARY KERRY:** We now know what?

**QUESTION:** Well, we know that the – this exercise did have a lot to do with the Ukraine and perhaps it was a pretext for Russia to go into the Crimea. I'm just wondering – you've invested a lot in your relationship with Minister Lavrov, and I'm wondering if you feel misled by him at all and whether you spoke with him about that. Thank you.

**SECRETARY KERRY:** Well, let me take the first part of that question. Crimea is part of Ukraine. Crimea is Ukraine. And we support the territorial integrity of Ukraine, and the Government of Ukraine needs to be involved in any kind of decision with respect to any part of Ukraine. Any referendum on Ukraine is going to have to be absolutely consistent with Ukrainian law. And it's my understanding that the constitution of Ukraine requires all – requires an all-Ukraine referendum; in other words, every part of Ukraine, all Ukrainians, would have to be part of a referendum with respect to the territory of Ukraine. So therefore, the proposed referendum would violate the constitution of Ukraine and international law and the sovereignty of Ukraine itself.

**QUESTION:** But if it was a Ukraine-wide referendum –

**SECRETARY KERRY:** If it were – if it adheres to the constitution of Ukraine, it's up to Ukrainians to define that. It's not up to the United States or Russia to make that decision.

Ukrainians need to live by Ukrainian law and according to the constitution, and their constitution would require precisely what I just said. So that is, I think, critical to anything that would flow.

Secondly, with respect to a contact group and where we're proceeding, frankly, I think everybody has been working to put a contact group together. I think it's been a general assumption of all of us in unity that we would like to see if a contact group can be put together. And I think that the key here is whether or not that is going to be something that will work in the context of Russia's willingness to do this, and obviously Ukrainian views about this.

Thus far, the Ukrainian Government has expressed their desire to have the support of a contact group, providing, of course, that the government – that Russia is dealing with them in that context. This can't be in lieu of the respect for the existing Government of Ukraine, and we don't intend for it to be, and none of us who have been part of the discussions about a contact group view this as anything except supportive of the process. But I believe there is a way to structure this, and that is obviously part of what we are now engaged in discussions with Russia through Foreign Minister Lavrov and to Mr. Putin.

With respect to the relationship with Foreign Minister Lavrov, it's professional, as all of my relationships are with any foreign minister. There are moments in the course of a meeting over a year where you may be able to laugh at something, and there are moments where you disagree and disagree very strongly. And we work professionally, both of us, to represent our countries, represent our point of views, and try to get the work of diplomacy done.

This is obviously a moment where we have disagreement, as we do on some other issues. But where we can, we try to find a way forward, whether it's been on chemical weapons in Syria or with respect to Iran and P5+1, or the enforcement of the START treaty and other kinds of issues, Afghanistan and other things.

So we will continue to work in a professional manner in order to try to resolve those issues that come to us and to try to do so in a way that advances the global interests of peace and stability and security. And that's what I'm trying to do.

So another question.

**MS. HART:** Great. Our final question comes from Oliviero Bergamini from TG1. Thank you.

**QUESTION:** *Buonasera*, Mr. Secretary. Are you satisfied with the way the European Union is dealing with this crisis? Because there seems to be quite a distance between countries like Poland that are really close to the position of the United States, and countries like Germany, and Italy to some extent, they get a lot of their energy supplies from Russia, they seem to be much softer on the theme of economic sanctions and so on. That's actually the reason why Prime Minister Renzi might be late for dinner because they are not finding an agreement right now in Brussels.

**SECRETARY KERRY:** Well, actually, they did announce an agreement in Brussels, and –

**QUESTION:** Okay. Yeah, there was something. So do you – how do you see the attitude of the European Union?

**SECRETARY KERRY:** I think the European Union has been extremely cooperative and has been a partner in this thoroughly. There's been a complete and total communication and sharing of information and sharing of ideas. I do not believe there is a gap. There may be some differences of opinion about timing or about one particular choice versus another. That's not unusual when you have as many countries working together as we do.

But fundamentally with respect to the question of what has happened and the need to protect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, there is no difference whatsoever. With respect to the need to have some sanctions as a result of what has happened in Crimea, there is no difference whatsoever. And Europe on its own tonight has made its announcement through its own process and own debate that they have taken some steps.

Now, Europe joins us in absolutely believing that we are all better served by getting back to a normality and a stability that will come through good diplomacy and good efforts to try to find a path forward that can protect the territorial integrity of Ukraine, protect legitimate interests where they exist of ethnic Russians and/or of other agreements like the base agreement and other things that Russia has that are in law. Those are things that we can deal with. And our hope is

that together – Europe, the United States, and others, Canada, Japan – there are a lot of countries interested in what is happening. And I think they all want to be supportive for a process that de-escalates, that reduces tension.

We have a lot of things to do together. We do not need to be distracted or split apart by virtue of what has happened in Ukraine. I think it is fair to say, and I have said that Russia does have some interests in the region. But they need to be dealt with according to law and in a proper way, and dealt with in a way that can respect the integrity of the country, and that's what we're trying to do.

At the same time, the Ukrainian people have an overriding interest, a paramount interest here in having their rights protected, their sovereignty protected, their hopes and aspirations which they died to achieve, that needs to be respected. And that's the tension here, and that's the – that's what we're trying to balance as we approach a diplomatic and peaceful resolution of this, rather than an escalation that could harm the efforts of a lot of other initiatives that we all are focused on.

Thank you all very much. Appreciate it.

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### **U.S. Envoy Power Remarks to Press at U.N. on Ukraine**

March 6, 2014

U.S. Mission to the United Nations: Remarks at a UN Security Council Stakeout on Ukraine

Ambassador Power: Good afternoon, everybody. We have just received a very disturbing briefing from Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson on the situation in Ukraine and the unacceptable treatment of Special Envoy Serry in Crimea.

We condemn the attack on Envoy Serry. And we have made clear over the past – as we have made clear over the past few days, getting monitors into Crimea is a critical task and one the Russians should welcome, given their stated concern for ethnic Russians in Ukraine. We are also extremely concerned about reports that the so-called Deputy Prime Minister of Crimea has called Ukrainian military units stationed in Crimea an occupying force. They are not.

As President Obama made clear earlier today, there is a way to resolve this crisis that respects the interests of the Russian Federation, as well as the Ukrainian people. Let international monitors into all of Ukraine, including Crimea, to ensure the rights of all Ukrainians are being respected, including ethnic Russians. Begin consultations between the government of Russia and Ukraine, with the participation of the international community. Supporting the people of Ukraine as they move to elections in May is critical so that they can choose their leaders without outside intimidation.

That is the path of de-escalation. And Secretary Kerry is engaged in discussions with all of the relevant parties, including Russia and Ukraine, to pursue that path. But if this violation of international law continues, the resolve of the United States and our allies and the international community will remain firm.

You saw that earlier today President Obama signed an executive order that authorizes sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, or for stealing the assets of the Ukrainian people, among other things. And today in Brussels, our allies also took steps to impose costs on Russia. I am confident that we are moving forward together, united in our determination to oppose actions that violate international law and to support the government and the people of Ukraine.

That includes standing up for the principle of state sovereignty, so I also want to say a word about the referendum that we've seen so much about today. The proposed referendum on the future of Crimea would violate the Ukrainian constitution. The Ukrainian constitution makes clear that any measure altering the territory of Ukraine must be decided by an all-Ukrainian national referendum. We will not recognize the results of a referendum of this nature. Any discussion about the future of Ukraine must include the legitimate government of Ukraine. In

2014, we are well beyond the days when borders can be redrawn over the heads of democratic leaders.

So, again, we want to make clear what is and is not happening in Ukraine, and why it's so important to get monitors into Crimea. And we call on Russia to allow UN and OSCE monitors to gather the facts on the ground, so that they cannot continue to be twisted as we have seen.

It is not too late, but every day – particularly with moves like that made today in Crimea – the risk of military escalation increases.

With that, I will take a few questions.

Reporter: Ambassador, you just heard your colleague, Mark Lyall Grant, say that it's unlikely that the Security Council will produce any sort of product in the coming days. The Council appears quite clearly deadlocked on the issue. Does that bother you, and do you see any point in continuing this exercise which sort of has Cold War echoes to it?

And did you get any sense of the Russians changing their position? Is there any movement towards compromise? A few days ago there was some hope that President Putin was indicating, you know, that they were moving in a direction that was more acceptable for Europe and the United States.

Ambassador Power: Thank you for that. First, let me say that I think the word "deadlock" suggests a kind of even, 8-7, deadlock among Council members, and that's not at all the nature of the discussions, as I think you heard in the public sessions as well, where Russia finds itself extremely isolated. Every Council member has stressed over the course of the last few days the importance of the UN Charter, the importance of territorial integrity, the importance of sovereignty, etc; and raised great concerns on the potential for escalation. So, I think there is utility in coming together in order to highlight, particularly in these public meetings, the extent of Russia's isolation as it takes the moves that it has taken.

I would also note that, of course, part of what we're doing is also trying to engage the UN Secretariat. And, so even without a Council product, we have succeeded, I think, as a Council, with overwhelming support within the Council, if not unanimity, we have succeeded in sending a message to the Secretary General. And he has embraced the plea, again, not just from the Security Council but I think from the broader UN membership, to get involved. And he's of course sent not only Robert Serry, but then Jan Eliasson, the Deputy Secretary General, the highest envoy the Secretary General himself could send. And now Assistant Secretary General Simonovich, who will be there will a slightly larger team doing fact-finding on the human rights and other fronts. So, the challenge, I think, is that, you know, monitors keep encountering the same resistance in Crimea. So the practical challenge is really about, will Russia at some point stand up and call on the Crimean authorities and use their own authority that they've established on the ground with their military maneuvers and so forth, to ensure the safety and the access for the international communities that are sent by this institution? And Russia is very much a part of this institution. And so that's, again, the message that we continue to send.

In terms of hope for, you know, a negotiated way out of this perilous moment, I would just say, again, that Secretary Kerry has continued to engage Foreign Minister Lavrov, European foreign ministers. We are certainly not giving up. You heard from President Obama today that while we have put an executive order down that would include sanctions for those violating territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, as well as those who steal assets, as well as those who commit human rights abuses, our goal here is to pull Russia back from the brink, and to look out, again, for the interests and the welfare of the Ukrainian people. So our goal is what it has been from the beginning of this crisis, which is that there's a diplomatic way out of this pathway.

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**Ambassador Pyatt on CNN's The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer**

March 6, 2014

BLITZER: Let's ask the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine right now. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt is joining us on the phone from Kiev.

What's the answer, Ambassador, to that question? For all practical purposes, is Crimea under the control of Russia right now?

GEOFFREY PYATT, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO UKRAINE (via telephone): Well, I think, Wolf, you heard the answer to that from Secretary Kerry. It's a strong view of U.S. policy that Crimea is part of Ukraine and we're going to stand by Ukraine's territorial integrity, as we have for the past 22 years. Clearly, the events of the past few days are of grave concern. It appears that the Russian hold in Crimea is tightening. You had Nick Burns' characterization of the referendum announcement as farcical. And it's very hard to imagine any way in which this – legitimately, why you have the country under effective military occupation by un-badged Russian forces. So – but this is an issue on which all Ukrainians are united. I mean, one of the things that's striking to me here in Kiev, is the agreement you see across the country – and there's been lots in the press about divisions of – but across the country from Donetsk to Lviv, from the East to the West there's a clear desire to see the country stick together.

BLITZER: Well, is it your sense though that, if they go ahead with this referendum – and presumably the ethnic Russians in Crimea who feel close to Russia may not necessarily trust the government, the new government, in Kiev. Do you think they would vote to secede, in effect?

PYATT: I don't know how the vote is going to turn out but it's very hard to imagine a fair vote under current circumstances, without observers, with Russian troops on the ground, with great deals of political intimidation. You see that already in terms of the kind of reception that's been given to some of the pro-Ukraine demonstrators that have surfaced in places like Simferopol. So, it's hard to predict how this will turn out. But I don't think it matters that much because the important thing is that the Ukrainian government is committed to preserving their relationship with Crimea. Prime Minister Yatsenyuk has talked about steps to grant Crimea greater autonomy under the Ukrainian constitution. You also – we have to remember the situation of the Crimean Tartars, a historically important Muslim population, which is very supportive of the authorities in Kiev.

BLITZER: Ambassador, good luck over there. You have a tough job ahead of you. We'll stay in very close touch with you.

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**Ambassador Pyatt on CNN's Amanpour with Hala Gorani**

March 6, 2014

GORANI: Geoffrey Pyatt is Obama's man in Kyiv. He's the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine and he joins me now on the phone.

Thanks, Ambassador, for being with us now.

What if Crimea goes ahead with this referendum on March 16th, essentially to enter – to, quote, "enter into the Russian Federation and break away from Ukraine"?

What happens then?

GEOFFREY PYATT, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO UKRAINE: Well, it's hard to speculate, Hala, but I think one thing that's clear is that as far as the international community is concerned, as far as the United States is concerned, and as far as the government of Ukraine is concerned, Crimea will remain part of this country.

GORANI: So who – do you think that Moscow's directly behind this push by the Crimean parliament?

PYATT: I'm sorry, Hala? I lost you on the last question, please.

GORANI: Do you think Moscow is directly behind this push by the Crimean parliament to organize a referendum so quickly on this question?

PYATT: You know, it's hard to tell. Let me just say as far as our work with Moscow is concerned on this, as your reports stated earlier, Secretary Kerry, the President, and the Vice President are all deeply engaged with Russia at this point to try to find and off-ramp from the

crisis, to de-escalate, to identify diplomatic measures to address Russia's legitimate interests in Crimea and Russia's expressed concerns.

But I can certainly say that there's no way in which this referendum announcement advances that goal. In fact, the referendum, combined with other steps to tighten the grip in Crimea, are a step backwards.

GORANI: So you're still hopeful here? I mean, despite the fact that essentially the situation hasn't de-escalated? If anything, it has escalated with the announcement of this referendum.

PYATT: Well we're working as hard as we can to create a diplomatic path here. We're working with our European partners on the question of international observers. Unfortunately, the UN representative, Ambassador Serry, was forcibly expelled from Crimea last night.

And the observers from Vienna, from the OSCE – the military observers who sought access to the Crimea, invited I should note, by the sovereign government of Ukraine – were not allowed to enter Crimean territory when they arrived there this afternoon.

So there's a lot to worry about, but we're not going to give up on the diplomatic effort, because we're convinced that over the long term, Russia, along with the United States, like all of Ukraine's neighbors, has an interest in a country which is sovereign, united, and stable.

GORANI: But nothing that diplomats have done so far has worked, Ambassador.

PYATT: No, which is why you have the announcement of additional steps today – President Obama's announcement, which you reported earlier regarding the Executive Order creating an additional tool to use against those who threaten Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In addition, we have already implemented U.S. visa bans on individuals who are associated with these threats on Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. You remember the last time we talked, we had already moved ahead with visa bans for individuals in Ukraine involved with human rights abuses, and now we're broadening that.

GORANI: But – if I may jump in, this just sounds like a very small step. And the E.U. itself isn't even going down the road of sanctions yet. I mean, is any of this pressure really going to help Western countries achieve their goal, which is to get Russia to back away militarily and, you know, relinquish control of Crimea?

Is that realistic?

PYATT: Well, the important thing to remember is that Russia today finds itself incredibly isolated. That was apparent in the UN Security Council earlier this week. It was striking if you looked at the statement by the Chinese representative defending Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The entire international community has expressed concern about what can only be viewed as a military invasion and now, with the seizure of television stations, with the imposition of this illegal referendum, with additional steps to crack down on international presence, it certainly looks like Russia is isolating itself through these actions, but we are going to remain engaged.

GORANI: Well, the Economy Minister yesterday, of the acting government in Kyiv, told me that there are – there is actually an open channel of communication between himself and his Russian counterpart and others in the government, for instance, the acting prime minister has spoken to Dmitry Medvedev in Russia so that there seem to be some discussions between the acting government in Kyiv and Moscow here.

Do you find that encouraging? What could it yield to, do you think?

PYATT: Exactly Hala. We are very supportive of the dialogue between Moscow and Kyiv. I would note that it really goes across the board – Minister Sheremeta, who you spoke to, has had contact with his counterpart. Prime Minister Yatsenyuk has done the same, President Turchynov has spoken to the Speaker of the Duma. The heads of the defense and security establishments have engaged with their counterparts.

We think it's through this kind of direct conversation that Russia and Ukraine can stabilize their relationship, and we certainly believe that Ukraine needs to have a strong relationship with Russia, because Russia plays a huge role here.

GORANI: And do you think it all depends really on Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia? Some people have looked at his actions over the last few weeks and accused him of trying to recompose parts of the Soviet Union.

Do you agree with that?

PYATT: Well, on the first question, I really can't diagnose who's calling the shots in Moscow at this point. But again, our hope is that whoever is calling the shots will play the long game and recognize where Russia's interests lie vis-à-vis Russia's enduring relationship with Ukraine. At this point a lot of the actions that have been taken – the actions that are coming from Moscow – have united Ukrainians and have alienated Ukrainians from Russia.

And it's quite telling to think that last night you had a huge demonstration, ten thousand people in the eastern city of Donetsk – an anti-Russia demonstration in a Russian-speaking city – because people don't like the idea of a military invasion in what they consider their sovereign territory.

GORANI: All right. Thanks very much, Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt, the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, joining us on the phone from the Ukrainian capital.

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**Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on Executive Order on Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

March 6, 2014

Via Conference Call

8:38 A.M. EST

MS. HAYDEN: Thank you very much. Good morning, everyone. Thank you so much for joining. This conference call is to discuss the visa restrictions and executive order that were released today in relation to Ukraine. We have several speakers today, all of whom are senior administration officials. The call is on background so they should be referred to and this attributed to senior administration officials. There is no embargo on this call.

With that, I will turn it over to our first senior administration official.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Thanks, everybody, for joining the call. I just want to give you a bit of an overview of where things stand and the actions we've taken today.

To begin with, since the Russian intervention in Ukraine you have seen us work on several lines of effort to mobilize international unity, to condemn the Russian intervention, to impose costs on Russia for that intervention so that they are isolated politically and economically, to provide additional support for the government in Kyiv. And you've seen both the United States and the European Union make important announcements about our support for the Ukrainian people over the last several days while also, again, indicating that there is an opportunity for Russia to deescalate going forward.

In terms of how that's manifested, you have seen broad international unity in the condemnations out of the North Atlantic Council, out of our European allies, and out of the G7 countries. We suspended preparatory meetings for the G8 in Sochi. The United States has pulled down and cancelled discussions associated with keeping trade and commercial ties to Russia. We've also cancelled military exercises and joint consultations with Russia on those specific issues, while providing additional reassurance to our European allies about our commitment to their security.

With today's actions we have taken additional steps to impose costs on Russia and those who are responsible for the violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. That includes an executive order that gives us a great deal of flexibility to target individuals and entities who are responsible for this violation of international law and of Georgian – sorry – Ukrainian sovereignty. And we are also imposing visa restrictions, which further imposes a cost on individuals responsible for the violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

So this should send a strong message that we intend to impose costs on Russia for this intervention. It also gives us flexibility, however, to respond in the coming days based on Russia's continued actions. So, again, we already have grave concerns over the intervention in

Crimea. The situation, of course, could escalate further if we see actions into Eastern Ukraine, and we have the flexibility, therefore, to calibrate and escalate our own response if we see further Russian destabilizing actions, just as we are going to impose a cost for what has already taken place in Crimea.

At the same time, there continues to be a way to deescalate the situation, to allow international monitors into not just Eastern Ukraine but also Crimea to assure the protection of all Ukrainian citizens including ethnic Russians; to have immediate discussions between the Russian government and the government in Kyiv with the support of the international community; and to work towards the elections that the Ukrainian people will have in May to determine their next democratically elected government.

With that, I'll turn it over to my Treasury colleague to discuss the EO.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Thank you. Today the EO issued by the President allows the Secretary of the Treasury to impose powerful financial sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for an array of activities related to the situation developing in Ukraine.

There's four main criteria for designation: First, it allows us to target those undermining democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine; second, those threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine; third, those misappropriating state assets of Ukraine; and fourth, those purporting to assert governmental authority over any part of Ukraine without authorization from the Ukrainian government in Kyiv.

In addition, we also are afforded in this executive order the authority to target derivatives – in other words, those who are acting on behalf of, or providing material support to, or those who are under control by anyone listed.

This is a powerful and flexible tool that will allow us to target those who are most directly involved in destabilizing Ukraine, including the military intervention in Crimea. It does not preclude further steps should the situation deteriorate.

Finally, we have not listed specific individuals or entities today, but this authority is now in place and we will be looking to use it as appropriate in response to developments on the ground.

Thank you.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: The State Department is putting in place visa restrictions on a number of officials and individuals, which reflects a policy decision to deny visas to officials or other persons who have been complicit in or responsible for supporting actions which threaten the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine, including the Russian troop movements not authorized to or consented to by the government of Ukraine, and potentially, any other unauthorized actions by regional authorities in Ukraine.

So we have put this – we have this authority, are implementing it, and we will be restricting visas as well as pulling a number of visas where people already have them.

Q A couple quick questions. I know you can't give us the names of those on the visa ban. Can you give us a sense of the scope of it, rough numbers of some sort? And you mentioned that those who have visas will have them pulled. Are they notified of that? And then, secondly, why now, this morning, before the Lavrov talks, not after? Did the Crimea referendum thing that they talked about today play a part? And are we going to – and are you saying you're not going to do these other sanctions except in response to further actions by the Russians, or we're going to take further actions even without further escalation?

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: I'll go first and then turn it over to my colleague. First, on the why now, Peter, we've been preparing very quickly this executive order. We believe that there need to be costs and consequences for Russia for what they've already done in Crimea. That is a violation of international law, a violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. So there will be individuals who are designated pursuant to what we've already seen in Crimea.

The point I was making is that we also have flexibility under this EO and any other additional sanctions we may impose should we see further escalatory behavior by the Russian Federation.

We've been working on this in close consultation and coordination with our European allies. They were aware that we are taking this step. They have taken some steps related to the events in Ukraine – they'll make their own decisions, of course, going forward. But it's important to note that we have been closely coordinating with them in this effort.

Again, the Russian Federation continues to have the opportunity to deescalate the situation. I know Secretary Kerry is meeting with Prime Minister Lavrov this morning to continue those discussions. But we're not going to put on hold our efforts to impose a cost for what has been a violation of international law already.

I'll turn it over to my colleague for the visa question.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Yes, Peter, we would notify anyone who holds a U.S. visa that that visa had been revoked. And we will do so as occasion arises. The authority allows us to add people to the visa ban list, and we will be looking at additional names as more information unfolds.

Q Can you just give us sort of the U.S. reaction to the announcement of the referendum today? And secondly, you've talked a lot about watching for other movement into Eastern Ukraine. Is it still the U.S. assessment that you're not seeing that kind of movement at this point?

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Sure, thanks, Julie. First of all, with respect to the referendum that was announced, it is the belief of the United States that decisions about Crimea or any part of Ukraine needs to be made with the government in Kyiv. This is a country with clearly defined international borders, and ultimately only the people of Ukraine can make determinations about their political future. And the government in Kyiv has to be a part of any decisions that are made about the future of Crimea or any other region.

And I think you saw the Prime Minister make comments about their openness to discussions about various arrangements going forward. They have to be at the table. You can't have a situation in which the legitimate government of the country is excluded from decision-making about different parts of that country. That is clearly a violation of international law and of how these things are done.

So we will continue to support the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Ukraine as a whole, and we will continue to insist that the government in Kyiv be engaged in any discussion about the future of any and all parts of Ukraine.

With respect to movements, what we have seen to date, of course, is a violation of Ukraine's borders, its territorial integrity, and also the basing agreement that the Russians had with respect to their facility on the Black Sea. We have not seen movements into Eastern Ukraine. Were we to see that, we believe that would be a significant escalation of the situation, would further destabilize the situation, and would invite a further response from the United States and the international community. So it's something that we're watching closely.

We've also said that international monitors are the best way to assure that the rights of all Ukrainians are being protected, including ethnic Russians. And a monitoring team from the OSCE has arrived in Ukraine, has moved out to different parts of the country, has an important set of experiences and capabilities to ensure that basic rights are being protected. We believe that that monitoring mission should expand into Crimea and can be the basis for a way of deescalating the crisis.

Q For those of us who are here in Crimea, it's very obvious kind of what's going on – law and order is increasingly being run by Russian soldiers and what is essentially their proxies, pro-Russian activists. Do you have any notion that the sanctions today or the actions today will actually impact the people who are delivering orders to these soldiers on the ground, to these people who are doing things like detaining Robert Serry yesterday? Do you have any sense of who the people are who are pulling strings in Crimea and whether there's even a command structure that would allow you to target people who are making decisions here and who are increasingly targeting journalists and Westerners, not only including Serry but including OSCE members yesterday as well? Thanks.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Thanks, Nate. I'll make a couple comments and then my colleague may want to comment as well.

We have seen, obviously in addition to the basic violation of Ukraine's borders and the basing agreement in Crimea, we have seen those concerning reports that you mention. I think we do have an ability to establish individuals or entities that we believe are responsible for supporting those actions. Frankly, the very flexibility of this tool, the fact, frankly, that we have not yet designated individuals I think should be leading people in Russia, people in Crimea to be asking whether or not they're going to see their name in a designation.

So I think this is a very clear message that the United States is going to use the authorities that we have to target the assets, the travel of individuals who are responsible for that concerning behavior. And the flexibility it affords us I think should lead some of those individuals to be questioning whether or not they're going to find their name on a list. But I turn it over to Treasury to say anything else.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Nothing to add.

Q I want to return to Peter's question about the connection and timing with the referendum announcement. I hear what you're saying on your concerns about the referendum. Our guidance earlier this week from administration officials was that you would take the week to watch how things played out. We were not expecting to see even the step towards sanctions this week. Did something expedite your timeframe? And also, can you talk about whether the concerns of countries like Moldova and former Soviet republics are considering – are making the U.S. consider expanding its approach in doing any sort of preemptive assistance to any other countries besides Ukraine? Thanks.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Margaret, no, the referendum announcement had nothing to do with the timing of this. We were planning this action – frankly, we had to prepare the EO, to get it ready. We were also coordinating with our European allies. And I believe what we said throughout the week was not that we were going to hold off on any action until the end of the week; it was that we were going to have to prepare our various tools and make decisions about the timing of implementing them.

And now that we have this EO ready to go, we felt it was appropriate to signal the types of tools that are available to the United States, the types of costs that we're prepared to impose on Russia and those who are responsible for what we're seeing in Crimea.

So it wasn't tied to the referendum; it was tied to basically the preparation of this tool, the consultations that we've had with European partners, and President Obama was able to discuss these issues with Chancellor Merkel, with Prime Minister Cameron. I know Secretary Kerry has been in touch with the Foreign Ministers of Italy, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, as well as Cathy Ashton. And I think this sends a signal that Russia is not going to be able to avoid accountability for the types of actions that we've seen to date.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Just to add something to the question about Moldova, the Moldovan Prime Minister was here early this week on the snow day. The Georgian Prime Minister was here the last couple of weeks. Secretary Kerry hosted a U.S.-Georgia bilateral working group, and I believe the Vice President saw both of those leaders during their respective visits. So we've had, because of earlier scheduled visits, good opportunities to see these leaders.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: I should have added, Margaret – that's a good addition by my State colleague – the President was able to see the Moldovan Prime Minister and the Georgian Prime Minister, along with the Vice President. I think separate and apart from how we're responding specifically to events in Ukraine with these types of actions, we're also providing additional reassurance to our allies in Eastern Europe and partners like Moldova and Georgia.

In addition to those meetings, you saw DOD, for instance, yesterday announce that they are going to be expanding their Baltic overflights, which provide additional reassurance to Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. They are going to be reinforcing our aviation detachment in Poland, and there is going to be a meeting of the Chiefs of Defense of Central and Eastern

Europe with General Breedlove. So we continue to reassure our Eastern European allies that at this very delicate and potentially destabilizing time, the United States is strongly committed to their security.

Q I was hoping you might be able to just clarify something for me. Have individuals been identified for the sanctions, on listing them? Or now that the EO is in place, can you begin to identify people to take sanctions against? And additionally, you mentioned that this is an attempt to impose a cost on the Russians. If they do pull their troops back to their bases, will these be rolled back as well, or will these stay in place as sort of a punitive measure?

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: We can calibrate our sanctions and our actions based on what the Russians do. And, obviously, were they to deescalate the situation, pull back into their base, that would very much affect our calculus as to how we move forward with these types of actions. Like I said, we believe that there should be measures taken based on what's already happened in Crimea. We've already taken a number of those measures in our bilateral actions and statements out of the international community. But we would certainly evaluate the situation if there were to be that type of constructive action taken by the Russians.

On individuals, Treasury can speak to the EO. And as my State colleague said, we don't publish the names of those who are affected by visa bans. Suffice to say, that – well, I'll leave it to Treasury, actually, to describe their process for reviewing individuals.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: So as I noted at the outset, the financial sanctions authority put in place today does not contain an annex. So no individuals or companies have been blocked or designated for sanctions this morning. What the authority does, though, is put in place a powerful tool that will allow us to target individuals and companies in the future that we see directly responsible for these destabilizing activities, as well as assets – that we identified in the executive order today.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Just to answer the questions about visas, just to clarify, there are individuals who have had their visas pulled or would be banned from visas. And those individuals, while I won't give names or numbers, this does include Russians and Ukrainians.

Q Well, you answered one of my questions here. Thanks for doing the call. I was going to ask about former President Yanukovich, because he has been targeted by the European Union, but I suppose you're not willing to go that far. But yesterday, the Russians were threatening retaliatory sanctions of their own and I'm just curious if that's been taken into consideration here.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: I'll take the first and if anybody wants to add on Yanukovich. We've seen those comments by the Russians. Frankly, that does not concern us or factor into our decision-making on this. We believe, number one, that Russia has already paid a cost in terms of seeing its stock market contract, seeing significant instability with its currency. I think they have a fragile economy. And similarly, they also have a set of individuals who have been engaged in supporting corruption and supporting the destabilizing actions we've seen in Crimea. So there are specific vulnerabilities there, given the nature of the Russian system and the Russian economy, that these types of sanctions can be brought to bear on.

In terms of individuals, we have a process of reviewing who could be designated. That is underway so we have begun the process of identifying potential individuals. I'll send it over to my colleague to see if he has anything to add on that or Yanukovich.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Nothing to add in particular on Yanukovich. I would just say that anybody who is involved or complicit in activities that are threatening the sovereignty, territorial integrity, or stability of Ukraine is as of this morning on notice that they may be targeted for U.S. sanctions.

Q In the context of your last comment on the vulnerability of the Russian economy, one of the (inaudible) of Russia's influence in the region is its supply of energy. I'm wondering whether the administration is giving any thought to pressuring Russia through energy moves such as tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve or through expediting approvals to export U.S. natural gas as a way to put pressure on Russia. Thank you.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: I wouldn't want to speculate about some of the specific steps you mention. We're certainly aware of the Russian reliance on energy as a source of support for its economy. I do know that this has been a subject that we and the Europeans have taken into account. As I've said, you've already seen instability in the Russian economy based on their destabilizing actions. Again, the further Russia escalates this, the more they're going to face potential costs from the United States, Europe, and other countries around the world.

So I don't want to speculate on the specific actions associated with energy markets or U.S. tools in that regard. But we are very aware of that dynamic. It is something that we take into account as we make these decisions.

And again, frankly, I think, over time, what you're going to see is that if Russia continues to perpetuate this crisis, this violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, it is going to bring greater isolation to their economy. It is going to, I think, carry with it not just the costs that are imposed through punitive actions like this, but the costs for having instability in the neighborhood. And that is not something that they are going to be able to compensate for.

And so we believe that there is a significant vulnerability over time that should affect Russia's calculus. And that's why we're seeking through these types of punitive measures taken by the United States and through our coordination with other allies and partners to make clear that we're not going to accept a status quo in which Russia can violate the sovereignty of its neighbors with some type of impunity. And so today's action builds on the steps we've already taken. I think if the situation continues, you can see further steps that we would anticipate and that we would coordinate with our European allies on.

Anything my colleagues want to add before we wrap up the call?

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Only to say that the State Department and the USG has been working on long-term efforts to help Europe diversify its gas sources. This has been in motion for a number of years and is beginning to yield results.

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL: Well, thanks everybody for joining the call.

MS. HAYDEN: Just a reminder – this is Caitlin – that the call was on background. These were senior administration officials and there's no embargo. So thanks for joining us. Bye.

END 9:05 A.M. EST

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**Hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Ukraine  
Chaired by: Representative Ed Royce (R-CA)**

**Witness: Eric Rubin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs**

Time: 9:05 a.m. EST, Date: Thursday, March 6, 2014

ERIC RUBIN: Thank you. Chairman Royce, Ranking Member Engel, members of this committee, I'm grateful for the opportunity to speak to you today on U.S. policy toward Ukraine. I'd also like to express appreciation for Ukrainian Ambassador Motsyk joining us today. We very much appreciate his presence.

Let me begin by thanking this committee for its deep engagement on this issue. In our efforts to back the aspirations of the Ukrainian people, we've been heartened by the robust bipartisan support that we've received from this committee and from Congress more broadly. House Resolution 447, introduced by Ranking Member Engel and passed by the House on February 10, sent a powerful message that the American people stand wholly and unequivocally with the people of Ukraine in their hour of need. You have notified us that you're marking up a new resolution today, and we welcome your leadership.

We've had close and constant contact with Congress in every step of this grave situation. Our united efforts have demonstrated to the people of Ukraine and to the international community

that the United States is resolute in its support of Ukraine's desire for a democratic, peaceful and prosperous future.

I'd like to address two areas in my remarks. I'll begin by discussing the political situation in Ukraine. Second, I will talk about regional stability, Russia's military intervention in Ukraine and the response of the United States and the international community to Russia's action.

I've submitted a more detailed written testimony for the record. I underscored that the situation in the region is extremely fluid and changing by the hour. We continue to adapt as it evolves. I would also like to underscore that the situation has changed as recently as this morning, and we have taken additional actions as recently as this morning, which I'm prepared to discuss in further detail.

Let me also add a few words about my own deep personal commitment to Ukraine and its future. I first worked to support the Ukrainian people and their aspirations for freedom in 1989, when I was the internal politics and nationalities affairs officer on the Soviet desk of the State Department. I helped open relations with independent Ukraine in 1991, and my wife and I lived and worked in Kiev from 1994 through 1996, in the early days of Ukraine's independence. I speak Ukrainian, and I have friends throughout Ukraine.

Over the tumultuous events of the past several months, I've watched with horror as Ukrainians were cut down by snipers in the heart of Kiev. But I've also been inspired by the people of Ukraine, their determination, their courage and their insistence on the possibility of a better future for themselves and their country.

I would like to start by emphasizing that the democratic transition that has occurred in Ukraine is an expression of the will of the Ukrainian people. It is not about the United States. It is not about Russia. The people of Ukraine have made a decision about their future. The Rada, the country's democratically elected parliament has taken the steps of creating a transitional government following former President Yanukovich's abdication.

Ukraine's lawmakers in the Rada have fulfilled their obligation to the people by preparing to tackle pressing economic and political issues facing the country until new presidential elections can be held in May. These decisions have been supported by overwhelming majorities in the Rada, including members of President Yanukovich's party.

The United States welcomed the formation of the new government and is working with its leadership as it ensures the protection of the rights of all Ukrainians, including all members of minority groups. As the international community looks for ways to help Ukraine, we will focus on the government's efforts to build a strong, sovereign and democratic country reflecting the will of the people of Ukraine. The decision of the Ukrainian people regarding their government needs to be respected.

Russia's military intervention in Ukraine has endangered the promise of Ukraine's democratic transition. As Secretary Kerry said in Kiev on Tuesday: The contrast could not be clearer. Determined Ukrainians demonstrating strength through unity and a Russian government out of excuses, hiding its hand behind falsehoods, intimidation, and provocations.

The United States fully and unambiguously condemns Russia's military intervention in Ukrainian territory. We've repeatedly indicated that Russia's actions in Crimea are a violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity and a breach of international law, including Russia's obligations under the U.N. Charter, and of its 1997 Treaty of Friendship, with Ukraine, as well as Russia's basing agreement of 1997 with Ukraine. Russia agreed in that treaty to respect the sovereignty of Ukraine and not to interfere in Ukraine's internal affairs. This is also a blatant affront to the 1994 Budapest Memorandum and the Helsinki Final Act.

We have already taken actions consistent with the unacceptability of Russia's military intervention. Shoulder to shoulder with our G-7 counterparts, we have suspended participation in the G-8 Sochi preparations. We have suspended all talks with Russia on any future trade or investment agreements. We have suspended military to military contacts. We have issued a statement with the unanimous approval of the members of the North Atlantic Council strongly condemning the Russian military escalation in Crimea. NATO is stepping up efforts to increase

our Baltic air policing mission and we are working on ways to strengthen our aviation detachment cooperation with Poland. We are considering other measures to provide reassurance to our allies.

And today the United States has marshalled a full package of measures aimed at demonstrating the force of U.S. resolve in the face of unprovoked military aggression, intervention and threats. Pursuant to the president's guidance, the State Department is putting in place visa restrictions on a number of officials and individuals, reflecting a policy decision to deny visas to those responsible for or complicit in threatening the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

In addition, the president has signed an executive order that authorizes sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for activities undermining democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine; threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine; contributing to the misappropriation of state assets of Ukraine; or purporting to assert governmental authority over any part of Ukraine without authorization from the Ukrainian government in Kiev. We have made it clear to Russia and others that steps to undermine Ukrainian democracy and territorial integrity will result in further political and economic isolation should they continue on this path.

Mr. Chairman, our focus remains on de-escalation of tensions. We continue to explore the possibility of an off-ramp that could lead to the relaxation of tensions in Ukraine, if the Russians are willing to take it. We support direct talks between the Ukrainian and Russian governments. Secretary Kerry met yesterday in Paris separately with the foreign ministers of Ukraine and Russia, as well as with European counterparts, in an effort to get such talks going.

The OSCE and United Nations are in the process of deploying monitors in the country, including Crimea and eastern Ukraine. These monitors will provide transparency about the activity of military and paramilitary forces, monitor for abuse, and defuse tensions between groups. They, along with senior delegations from our NATO allies to the region, will offer objective on-the-ground information to counteract Russia's flagrant propaganda campaign.

And let me be clear on this point. There are no confirmed reports of threats to ethnic Russians, no confirmed reports of a massive movement of ethnic Russian refugees, no threat to Russian naval bases. The interim Ukrainian government is a body that represents the will of the people. It is not an extremist cabal. Russia's assertions are nothing more than a veneer used to justify its military action.

I would also like to state before this committee that the United States is closely monitoring the reports of anti-Semitic acts. We take this issue very, very seriously. It's an issue I've worked for more than 20 years personally. And I would like to concur with the statement that you made indicating that we have no such information indicating that there are widespread anti-Semitic incidents. We have been in touch with the chief Rabbi, with leaders of all the major Jewish groups in Ukraine. And we believe that this accusation is, again, being used to justify an unjustifiable military intervention.

REP. ROYCE: Thank you very much, Mr. Rubin.

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**Deputy Secretary Burns on Ukraine at U.S. Senate Hearing**  
**U.S. Department of State**  
**Testimony by William J. Burns**  
**Deputy Secretary of State**  
**Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations**  
**Washington, DC**  
**March 6, 2014**  
**Ukraine Update**

Chairman Menendez, Ranking Member Corker, Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity. I'm pleased to be joined by Matt Olsen and Derek Chollet. I ask that my written testimony be entered into the record.

Before addressing the issue of extremism in the Levant, let me first offer a quick assessment of developments in Ukraine, as you requested.

Ukraine

A great deal is at stake in Ukraine today. Less than 48 hours ago in Kyiv, not far from the Shrine of the Fallen, Secretary Kerry made clear America's deep and abiding commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, in the face of Russian aggression, and our determination to ensure that the people of Ukraine get to make their own choices about their future. That's a bedrock conviction for the United States. On my own visit last week, I was profoundly moved by the bravery and selflessness of Ukrainians, and profoundly impressed by the commitment of the new interim government to reach across ethnic and regional lines and build a stable, democratic and inclusive Ukraine, with good relations with all of its neighbors, including Russia.

While we and our partners worked to support Ukraine's transition, Russia worked actively to undermine it. Russia's military intervention in Crimea is a brazen violation of its international obligations, and no amount of Russian posturing can obscure that fact.

Ukraine's interim government, approved by 82 percent of the Rada, including most members of Yanukovich's party, has shown admirable restraint in the face of massive provocation. They need and deserve our strong support. President Obama, Secretary Kerry and the entire Administration have been working hard, steadily and methodically, to build urgent international backing for Ukraine, counter-pressure against Russia, reassurance to other neighbors, and a path to de-escalation. Our strategy has four main elements, and we look forward to working with Congress on each of them.

First, immediate support for Ukraine as it deals with enormous economic challenges and prepares for critical national elections at the end of May. On Tuesday, Secretary Kerry announced our intent to seek a \$1 billion loan guarantee. That will be part of a major international effort to build a strong economic support package for Ukraine as it undertakes reform. That effort includes the IMF and the EU, which laid out its own substantial assistance package yesterday. Prime Minister Yatsenyuk and his colleagues are committed partners, and understand that the Ukrainian government has difficult reform choices to make, after inheriting an economic mess from Yanukovich. Ukraine's considerable economic potential has never been matched by its business environment or economic leadership, and now is the time to begin to get its financial house in order and realize its promise.

Second, deterring further encroachment on Ukrainian territory and pressing for an end to Russia's occupation of Crimea. President Obama has led broad international condemnation of Russia's intervention, with strong, unified statements from the G-7 and NATO, as well as the EU, whose leaders are meeting today in an emergency summit. We are sending international observers from the OSCE to Crimea and eastern Ukraine to bear witness to what is happening and make clear that minorities are not at risk. This was never a credible claim by Russia, nor a credible pretext for military intervention.

We are making clear that there are costs for what Russia has already done, and working with our partners to make clear that the costs will increase significantly if intervention expands. Today, the President signed an executive order authorizing sanctions – including asset freezes and travel bans on individuals and entities responsible for activities undermining democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine; threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine; contributing to the misappropriation of state assets of Ukraine; or that purport to exercise authority over any part of Ukraine without authorization from the Ukrainian government in Kyiv. This E.O. will be used in a flexible way to designate those most directly involved in destabilizing Ukraine.

The State Department today also put in place visa restrictions on a number of officials and individuals. We continue to look at every aspect of our relationship with Russia, from suspension of preparations for the Sochi G-8 Summit to pausing key elements in our bilateral dialogue.

Third, bolstering Ukraine's neighbors. We are moving immediately to reinforce our Washington Treaty commitments to our allies. As Secretary Hagel stressed yesterday, we are taking concrete steps to support NATO partners, through intensified joint training with our aviation detachment in Poland and enhanced participation in NATO's air policing mission in the Baltics.

And fourth, Secretary Kerry is working intensively to de-escalate the crisis, in order to restore Ukraine's sovereignty while creating a diplomatic off-ramp. We support direct dialogue between Kyiv and Moscow, facilitated by an international contact group. As the President and Secretary Kerry have emphasized, we do not seek confrontation with Russia. It is clearly in the interests of both Ukraine and Russia to have a healthy relationship, born of centuries of cultural, economic and social ties. The will for that exists among Ukraine's new leaders. But it cannot happen if Russia continues down its current dangerous and irresponsible path. That will only bring greater isolation and mounting costs for Russia.

Our strategy, it seems to me, needs to be steady and determined, mindful of what's at stake for Ukrainians as well as for international norms. We also need to be mindful of the enduring strengths of the United States and its partners, and the very real weaknesses sometimes obscured by Russian bluster. Most of all, President Putin underestimates the commitment of Ukrainians, across their country, to sovereignty and independence, and to writing their own future. No one should underestimate the power of patient and resolute counter-pressure, using all of the non-military means at our disposal, working with our allies, and leaving the door open to de-escalation and diplomacy if Russia is prepared to play by international rules.

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**Statement by the White House Press Secretary on Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2014

As President Obama has made clear, the United States is pursuing and reviewing a wide range of options in response to Russia's ongoing violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity – actions that constitute a threat to peace and security and a breach of international law, including Russia's obligations under the UN Charter and of its 1997 military basing agreement with Ukraine, and that are inconsistent with the 1994 Budapest Memorandum and the Helsinki Final Act.

Pursuant to the President's guidance, today the State Department is putting in place visa restrictions on a number of officials and individuals, reflecting a policy decision to deny visas to those responsible for or complicit in threatening the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. This new step stands in addition to the policy already implemented to deny visas to those involved in human rights abuses related to political oppression in Ukraine.

In addition, the President has signed an Executive Order that authorizes sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for activities undermining democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine; threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine; contributing to the misappropriation of state assets of Ukraine; or purporting to assert governmental authority over any part of Ukraine without authorization from the Ukrainian government in Kyiv. This E.O. is a flexible tool that will allow us to sanction those who are most directly involved in destabilizing Ukraine, including the military intervention in Crimea, and does not preclude further steps should the situation deteriorate.

These actions build upon the previous actions the United States has taken, including suspending bilateral discussions with Russia on trade and investment; suspending other bilateral meetings on a case-by-case basis; putting on hold U.S.-Russia military-to-military engagement, including

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

exercises, bilateral meetings, port visits, and planning conferences; and our agreement with G-7 nations to suspend for the time being our participation in activities associated with the preparation of the scheduled G-8 Summit in Sochi in June. Depending on how the situation develops, the United States is prepared to consider additional steps and sanctions as necessary.

At the same time, as the President has said, we seek to work with all parties to achieve a diplomatic solution that de-escalates the situation and restores Ukraine's sovereignty. We call on Russia to take the opportunity before it to resolve this crisis through direct and immediate dialogue with the Government of Ukraine, the immediate pull-back of Russia's military forces to their bases, the restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity, and support for the urgent deployment of international observers and human rights monitors who can assure that the rights of all Ukrainians are protected, including ethnic Russians, and who can support the Ukrainian government's efforts to hold a free and fair election on May 25.

As we follow developments in Ukraine closely, the United States reaffirms its unwavering commitment to our collective defense commitments under the North Atlantic Treaty. We will continue to pursue measures that reinforce those commitments, to include the provision of additional support to NATO's Baltic Air Policing mission and our aviation detachment in Poland.

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### **Remarks by Treasury's Lew on Ukraine to House Panel**

06 March 2014

On March 6, Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew testified before the House Ways and Means Committee on President Obama's budget proposals for the federal government for the fiscal year that begins October 1. At the beginning of his testimony, Lew had prepared remarks on Ukraine, which are published below. The full text of Lew's prepared remarks is available on the Treasury Department website.

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### **U.S. Department of the Treasury**

Washington, D.C.

March 6, 2014

### **Testimony of Secretary Lew before the House Ways and Means Committee on the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2015**

#### **As prepared for delivery**

Before I begin, let me say a few words about the situation in Ukraine. President Obama has explained in no uncertain terms, that the steps Russia has taken violate Ukraine's sovereignty, Ukraine's territorial integrity, and are a breach of international law. As the President announced this morning, he has signed an Executive Order to authorize sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for activities that undermine the democratic process, threaten the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, or misappropriate state assets within Ukraine. This E.O. is a flexible tool that will allow us to sanction those who are most directly involved in destabilizing Ukraine, including the military intervention in Crimea, and does not preclude further steps should the situation deteriorate.

These sanctions build upon the previous actions that the United States has taken but, at the same time, as the President has said, we are prepared to work with all parties to de-escalate the situation and we call on Russia to take the necessary actions to resolve this crisis. It is in Russia, the United States, and the world's interest to have a stable and prosperous Ukraine. As the

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Ukrainian government prepares for elections in May, it is critical that the international community work together to support its efforts to restore economic stability.

I have spoken with the Ukrainian Prime Minister a number of times now, and he has told me that the government is ready to adopt vital economic reforms. We have been working closely with international partners and Congress to develop an assistance package that will help the Ukrainian government implement the reforms needed to restore financial stability and return to economic growth. As part of this international effort, the United States has developed a package of bilateral assistance focused on meeting Ukraine's most pressing needs. This package will include \$1 billion in loan guarantees and IMF quota legislation, which would support the IMF's capacity to lend additional resources to Ukraine and help preserve continued U.S. leadership within this important institution at a critical time.

While the United States will not increase our total financial commitment to the IMF by approving the 2010 reforms, it is important to note that for every dollar the United States contributes to the IMF, other countries provide four dollars more.

At a time when the U.S. is at the forefront of international calls in urging the Fund to play a central and active first responder role in Ukraine, it is imperative that we secure passage of IMF legislation now so we can show support for the IMF in this critical moment and preserve our leading influential voice in the institution.

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### **Message to Congress Blocking Property of Certain Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 6, 2014

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the "order") declaring a national emergency with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States posed by the situation in Ukraine.

The order does not target the country of Ukraine, but rather is aimed at persons – including persons who have asserted governmental authority in the Crimean region without the authorization of the Government of Ukraine – who undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets. The order blocks the property and interests in property and suspends entry into the United States of any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

- to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have engaged in, directly or indirectly, any of the following:
  - o actions or policies that undermine democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine;
  - o actions or policies that threaten the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine; or
  - o misappropriation of state assets of Ukraine or of an economically significant entity in Ukraine;
- to have asserted governmental authority over any part or region of Ukraine without the authorization of the Government of Ukraine;
- to be a leader of an entity that has, or whose members have, engaged in any activity described above or of an entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order;

- to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, any activity described above or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order; or
  - to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order.
- I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the order. All agencies of the United States Government are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.
- I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

BARACK OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
March 6, 2014.

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**Executive Order Blocking Property of Certain Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary  
For Immediate Release  
March 6, 2014

Related: Message to Congress Blocking Property of Certain Persons Contributing to the Situation in Ukraine

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (IEEPA), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) (NEA), section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (8 U.S.C. 1182(f)), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code,

I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, find that the actions and policies of persons – including persons who have asserted governmental authority in the Crimean region without the authorization of the Government of Ukraine – that undermine democratic processes and institutions in Ukraine; threaten its peace, security, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; and contribute to the misappropriation of its assets, constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, and I hereby declare a national emergency to deal with that threat. I hereby order:

Section 1. (a) All property and interests in property that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States, or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of any United States person (including any foreign branch) of the following persons are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in: any person determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State:

- (i) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have engaged in, directly or indirectly, any of the following:
  - (A) actions or policies that undermine democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine;
  - (B) actions or policies that threaten the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine; or
  - (C) misappropriation of state assets of Ukraine or of an economically significant entity in Ukraine;

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(ii) to have asserted governmental authority over any part or region of Ukraine without the authorization of the Government of Ukraine;

(iii) to be a leader of an entity that has, or whose members have, engaged in any activity described in subsection (a)(i) or (a)(ii) of this section or of an entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order;

(iv) to have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, any activity described in subsection (a)(i) or (a)(ii) of this section or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order; or

(v) to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order.

(b) The prohibitions in subsection (a) of this section apply except to the extent provided by statutes, or in regulations, orders, directives, or licenses that may be issued pursuant to this order, and notwithstanding any contract entered into or any license or permit granted prior to the effective date of this order.

Sec. 2. I hereby find that the unrestricted immigrant and nonimmigrant entry into the United States of aliens determined to meet one or more of the criteria in subsection 1(a) of this order would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, and I hereby suspend entry into the United States, as immigrants or nonimmigrants, of such persons. Such persons shall be treated as persons covered by section 1 of Proclamation 8693 of July 24, 2011 (Suspension of Entry of Aliens Subject to United Nations Security Council Travel Bans and International Emergency Economic Powers Act Sanctions).

Sec. 3. I hereby determine that the making of donations of the type of articles specified in section 203(b)(2) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(2)) by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to section 1 of this order would seriously impair my ability to deal with the national emergency declared in this order, and I hereby prohibit such donations as provided by section 1 of this order.

Sec. 4. The prohibitions in section 1 of this order include but are not limited to:

(a) the making of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order; and

(b) the receipt of any contribution or provision of funds, goods, or services from any such person.

Sec. 5. (a) Any transaction that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.

(b) Any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibitions set forth in this order is prohibited.

Sec. 6. For the purposes of this order:

(a) the term "person" means an individual or entity;

(b) the term "entity" means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, group, subgroup, or other organization; and

(c) the term "United States person" means any United States citizen, permanent resident alien, entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States (including foreign branches), or any person in the United States.

Sec. 7. For those persons whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States, I find that because of the ability to transfer funds or other assets instantaneously, prior notice to such persons of measures to be taken pursuant to this order would render those measures ineffectual. I therefore determine that for these measures to be effective in addressing the national emergency declared in this order, there need be no prior notice of a listing or determination made pursuant to section 1 of this order.

**15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.**

Sec. 8. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this order. The Secretary of the Treasury may redelegate any of these functions to other officers and agencies of the United States Government consistent with applicable law. All agencies of the United States Government are hereby directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of this order.

Sec. 9. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to submit the recurring and final reports to the Congress on the national emergency declared in this order, consistent with section 401(c) of the NEA (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)) and section 204(c) of IEEPA (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)).

Sec. 10. This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

BARACK OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
March 6, 2014.

**ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНІЯ**

**UK helps Ukraine recover misappropriated assets**

6 March 2014

UK sends team to Kyiv to assist Ukrainian government with asset recovery. EU freezes assets of 18 Ukrainians.

UK experts in financial intelligence, money laundering and tracing criminal assets have travelled to Kyiv to help the Ukrainian government recover misappropriated assets.

The National Crime Agency led task force will be working with the Ukrainian authorities to assess the scope and scale of investigations into misappropriated assets and will be identifying the best way for the UK to assist with any such investigations. The NCA team will also identify any immediate impact the situation has on the UK.

In parallel, EU sanctions that impose an asset freeze on 18 Ukrainians suspected of misappropriating state funds came into effect today. The result of these sanctions will be that any assets in the UK which are owned, held or controlled by any of the 18 listed individuals will be frozen, thereby allowing the necessary time for criminal investigations to take place. The Government has laid the necessary legislation in Parliament to impose penalties in the UK for breaching these sanctions measures. HM Treasury will be working closely with law enforcement bodies over the coming weeks and months to ensure that we are robustly implementing these measures, including looking to uncover assets which may be hidden behind complex company structures. Those assets that are proven to be the proceeds of corruption can ultimately be returned to Ukraine.

The UK has led the call for the urgent and immediate imposition of these measures.

By taking action against former President Yanukovich and 17 others, we send a strong message to the Ukrainian government that the UK and European Union will help the Ukrainian people in their hour of need.

**КАНАДА**

**Statement by the Prime Minister of Canada on the situation in Ukraine**

Ottawa, Ontario – 6 March 2014

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today issued the following statement in response to news that on March 16 the Parliament of Crimea will hold a referendum on joining Russia:

"Russia's invasion of Ukraine is an act of aggression, a clear violation of Ukraine's sovereignty, and of international law. Canada will not recognize a referendum held in a region currently under illegal military occupation.

"We will continue to view the situation in Ukraine with the gravest concern and will continue to cooperate closely with our G-7 partners and like-minded allies."

### ПІМЕЧЧИНА

#### **Support for Ukraine reaffirmed**

Mar 06, 2014

Brussels

**Following an extraordinary meeting in Brussels, Angela Merkel has stressed that the EU heads of state and government strongly condemn "the violation of Ukraine's sovereignty in Crimea". As an initial response, negotiations with Russia on visa liberalisation are to be suspended.**

"We have relations with Russia that are in our mutual interests," said the Chancellor. But the action taken in Ukraine and over Crimea demand a response.

She made it quite clear that the planned referendum on the future status of Crimea is contrary to the Ukrainian Constitution. The announcement has further aggravated an already tense situation.

#### ***European Union responds to Crimean crisis***

The latest events once again influenced the conclusions of the 28 heads of state and government, said Angela Merkel. The EU's first step is to suspend negotiations on visa liberalisation and on the New Agreement between the European Union and Russia.

#### ***Call for a contact group to be set up***

**The Chancellor underlined the importance of a contact or coordination group, which would deal with questions of territorial integrity, minorities and the preparations for elections.**

The European Union would play an important part in this contact group "We expressly confirm our commitment to this group and we want to see a coordination or contact group of this sort put in place. The outcome of talks so far does not yet make this possible, though," said the Chancellor.

#### ***European Union's three-step approach***

Angela Merkel then laid out the further steps agreed by the EU heads of state and government as response: should no contact group be established, or should a contact group fail to achieve results, the EU would, as a second step, reserve the right to restrict the travel of certain individuals and freeze the assets held by this group. This would happen in close consultation with the United States of America.

Should there be any further destabilisation of the situation in Crimea, or should military action ensue, the third step would "lead to severe and far reaching consequences for relations between the European Union and the Russian Federation," added Angela Merkel. She did, however, stress, "I hope it will not come to that".

The EU would still like to see a diplomatic process, and is gearing all efforts to achieving this.

#### ***Financial support and Association Agreement***

Angela Merkel also pledged Ukraine the financial and political support of the European Union. It is very important to ensure that material assistance reach Ukraine swiftly.

Initially 610 million euros can be provided at short notice. A further sum of one billion euros can then be made available on the basis of a European Council decision.

The political chapters of the Association Agreement with Ukraine can also be signed very rapidly, said the Chancellor. This would be a sign of friendship and solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

European Council President Herman Van Rompuy called the extraordinary meeting of EU heads of state or government on 6 March in Brussels in response to the current situation in Ukraine. The President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Lady Catherine Ashton, also attended. The heads of state and government had the opportunity to meet the Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk.

### **ФРАНЦІЯ**

#### **Ukraine – Déclaration de M. François Hollande, président de la République, au Conseil européen extraordinaire (Bruxelles, 06 mars 2014)**

Le Conseil européen va exprimer la voix de l'Union sur la question de l'Ukraine en donnant son soutien au gouvernement ukrainien pour mener les réformes économiques et organiser l'élection présidentielle. Ensuite, il va y avoir la pression – la plus forte possible – sur la Russie pour engager un processus de désescalade. Dans les pressions, il y a bien sûr le recours éventuel à des sanctions mais des pressions pourquoi faire? Que recherchons-nous? Pas pour faire monter, une fois encore, les tensions, mais au contraire ouvrir la voie du dialogue. C'est ce que nous avons fait déjà, hier à Paris, et cela a été une première étape, je pense utile. Il faut qu'il y ait maintenant une pression suffisamment forte exercée par l'Europe pour diminuer la tension, ouvrir la voie du dialogue et permettre enfin à l'Ukraine de pouvoir décider de son destin.

Q – Tout le monde n'est pas sur cette ligne, la Pologne, la Lituanie...

R – Il faut être tous ensemble. Pour être efficaces, tous les Européens doivent parler de la même façon, avec la même détermination et avec les mêmes objectifs. Ce que je fais au nom de la France, je le fais pour l'Europe, pour que nous puissions faire les pressions nécessaires afin d'ouvrir la voie du dialogue, de la médiation et de la négociation. C'est ce que j'ai dit à Vladimir Poutine lorsque je l'ai eu au téléphone il y a quelques jours. Je l'ai redit à son ministre des affaires étrangères et nous allons continuer. Si l'Europe est unie, elle sera à mon sens utile pour aboutir à cette solution: la pression, diminuer la tension et arriver à une médiation dans l'intérêt de l'Ukraine. Merci./. (Source: site Internet de la présidence de la République)

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#### **Ukraine – Conférence de presse de M. Laurent Fabius, ministre des affaires étrangères (Rome, 06 mars 2014)**

Q – Est-ce que M. Lavrov, est-ce que les Russes, sur l'Ukraine, ont bougé?

R – Il se trouve que nous avons ici, aujourd'hui, un peu les mêmes participants qu'hier, parce qu'il y avait, outre la France, le Royaume-Uni, l'Allemagne, à la fois nos partenaires américains et les Russes. Nous avons un peu parlé de l'Ukraine. En même temps, il y a d'autres décisions qui se prennent ailleurs, à Bruxelles, aujourd'hui, et puis les États-Unis ont fait connaître un certain nombre de positions. Les choses ont bougé. Revenons à hier soir, puisqu'il faut suivre la totalité du film. Hier soir, nous nous sommes mis d'accord avec les Russes pour essayer de mettre en place un groupe de contact qui comprendra à la fois les Russes, les Ukrainiens bien sûr, les Américains, nous-mêmes, d'autres pays et l'OSCE, et nous nous sommes mis d'accord pour essayer de faire cela. Comment? En rédigeant des propositions, que M. Lavrov va montrer au président Poutine, et s'il y a accord sur ces propositions, le groupe de contact sera mis en place. Les Russes ne nous ont pas encore donné leur accord, mais nous avons rédigé une proposition, que nous avons d'ailleurs examinée ce matin avec John Kerry. Ça, c'est un élément nouveau. En sens différent, vous avez vu que ce matin, a été rendu publique par le Parlement de

Crimée l'idée de soumettre à référendum la question suivante: ou bien une autonomie plus grande de la Crimée, ce qu'on peut admettre, ou bien un rattachement direct à la Russie, alors là on change complètement de système, puisque cela veut dire que l'intégrité territoriale de l'Ukraine ne serait pas respectée, alors que pour nous, l'intégrité territoriale du pays est fondamentale.

Q – On s'opposerait à un rattachement?

R – J'en parlais avec mon collègue chinois récemment: si vous admettez le principe qu'une région, n'importe laquelle, dans un pays, en contradiction avec les règles constitutionnelles de ce pays, peut décider de se rattacher à un autre pays, surtout si cet autre pays l'a encouragée à le faire, cela veut dire qu'il n'y a plus de paix internationale et de frontières assurées, donc il faut être très vigilant là-dessus. Imaginez ce que cela pourrait vouloir dire en Europe. Telle région, en contradiction avec les règles constitutionnelles et ce que souhaite son gouvernement, déciderait de changer de pays? Imaginez ce que cela pourrait vouloir dire en Afrique, au Proche et Moyen-Orient, imaginez ce que cela pourrait vouloir dire en Chine ou ailleurs, donc il faut faire très attention à cela. Et puis il y a les décisions qui sont en train d'être prises à Bruxelles, et d'autre part les États-Unis ont rendue publique une première liste de sanctions, donc ce sont des éléments différents. Mais revenons à l'essentiel: pour nous, l'essentiel, c'est, d'une part, de dire que l'intervention russe n'est pas acceptable et qu'il faut faire preuve de fermeté, parce qu'il y a un principe, l'intégrité territoriale, qu'il faut respecter, et de l'autre côté, obtenir une désescalade, et c'est le sens de ce groupe de contact dont nous souhaitons qu'il puisse être mis sur pied rapidement.

Q – A propos des sanctions, les États-Unis ont pris des sanctions, gel des avoirs, etc. Vous avez vu John Kerry, qu'est-ce que vous vous êtes dit? Quelle est la position de la France?

R – John Kerry m'a mis au courant de la décision américaine, qu'il avait d'ailleurs déjà laissée entendre hier. Et par ailleurs il y a en ce moment même, je pense que ce n'est pas terminé, une réunion des chefs d'État et de gouvernement à Bruxelles qui délibère précisément de la position qui va être adoptée. Je ne veux pas en préjuger, mais c'est en train d'être discuté, puisque vous m'interrogez, il est deux heures de l'après-midi.

Q – On ne va pas dans le sens d'une désescalade, si d'un côté la Crimée demande le rattachement à la Russie, et de l'autre les Occidentaux, déjà, adoptent des sanctions?

R – Évidemment, en ce qui concerne l'Ukraine et la Crimée, il ne faut pas qu'il y ait des mesures qui soient prises qui violent l'intégrité territoriale, ça c'est clair. Donc ce qui est souhaité, c'est qu'il y ait une baisse de la pression. En ce qui nous concerne, notre attitude en tant qu'Européens, ce que nous avons décidé déjà lundi, lors de la réunion des ministres des affaires étrangères, c'est d'évoquer des sanctions, mais de les lier à l'escalade ou à la désescalade. Il est évident que par rapport aux actions qui ont été menées par les Russes et à ce qui se passe en Ukraine, on ne peut pas rester sans rien faire. Mais en même temps, il ne faut pas prendre des actions qui empêcheraient cette désescalade. Donc c'est de cela que les chefs d'État et de gouvernement sont en train de discuter en ce moment, et la réponse sera apportée dans quelques dizaines de minutes. Q – Les Américains, ça va dans quel sens?

R – Les Américains avaient dit qu'ils prendraient des sanctions ciblées, mais pas la totalité, par exemple, en ce qui concerne les relations économiques, les relations militaires, ou d'autres aspects encore, il n'a pas été décidé de prendre des sanctions. Là, ce sont des mesures qu'on appelle ciblées et qui visent quelques personnes. Et nous avons pris des sanctions qui sont maintenant effectives, qui concernent non pas les Russes mais les Ukrainiens, et en particulier ce que j'appellerais «l'équipe Yanoukovitch», et nous avons pris des sanctions qui sont effectives pour geler les avoirs, parce qu'il y a eu certainement des abus financiers. Nous l'avions annoncé, et nous l'avons fait. Mais cela concerne les Ukrainiens.

Q – Chaque jour, la crise monte ou descend. Aujourd'hui, c'est une journée d'escalade ou de désescalade?

R – Hier, à Paris, c'était plutôt une journée de désescalade.

Q – Et aujourd'hui?

R – Aujourd’hui, je dirais que cela dépendra de ce qui sera, dans quelques minutes, décidé à Bruxelles, et cela dépendra aussi de la réaction russe. Merci beaucoup.

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**Ukraine – Entretien de M. Laurent Fabius, ministre des affaires étrangères, avec «ITélé» (Rome, 06 mars 2014)**

Nous allons être dans la ligne de ce que nous avons décidé lundi avec les ministres des affaires étrangères, c’est-à-dire de prendre des sanctions, sauf s’il y a désescalade. C’est un système efficace. Si l’on dit aux Russes: «on ne fait rien, vous pouvez mettre la main sur la Crimée, on ne bouge pas», alors il n’y a aucune raison qu’ils renoncent. Si en revanche, dès aujourd’hui, on leur dévoile la façon dont on frappe à travers des sanctions, alors il n’y aura pas de discussion. L’idée vers laquelle nous allons, c’est de prendre des sanctions mais qui ne s’appliqueront que s’il n’y a pas de désescalade.

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**Ukraine – Entretiens de M. Laurent Fabius, ministre des affaires étrangères, avec différents médias (Rome, 06 mars 2014)**

La situation nouvelle est la proposition du parlement de Crimée, qui est sous contrôle, d’organiser un référendum rapidement, c’est-à-dire le 16 mars, dont les questions seraient le choix entre plus d’autonomie et le rattachement à la Russie.

Q – (inaudible)

R – C’est quelque chose de très grave./ – Si vous admettez le principe qu’une région, dans un pays, en contradiction avec les règles constitutionnelles de ce pays, peut décider de se rattacher à un autre pays, surtout si cet autre pays l’a encouragé à le faire, cela veut dire qu’il n’y a plus de paix internationale ni de frontière assurée. Il faut être très vigilant là-dessus. Imaginez ce que cela pourrait vouloir dire en Europe: de telles régions, en contradiction avec les règles constitutionnelles et ce que souhaite son gouvernement, décideraient de changer de pays? Imaginez ce que cela pourrait vouloir dire en Afrique, au Proche, au Moyen-Orient, en Chine ou ailleurs. Il faut faire très attention à cela.

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**06/03/2014 – Paris – Point de presse  
Ukraine**

Q – La visite en France vendredi du président ukrainien par intérim Olexandre Tourtchinov et (ou) celle du Premier ministre Iatseniouk est-elle confirmée, comme cela avait été évoqué par Laurent Fabius hier?

R – Ces visites ne sont pas confirmées.

Le ministre des affaires étrangères s’est longuement entretenu hier avec son homologue ukrainien, M. Andreï Dechtchitsa, auquel il a rappelé la mobilisation de la France pour permettre un dialogue constructif et une sortie de crise.

Q – Une réaction à l’annonce d’un referendum sur un rattachement de la Crimée à la Russie?

R – Nous sommes attachés à l’intégrité territoriale de l’Ukraine, dans le respect de la diversité de ce pays.

**ОСНОВНІ МІЖНАРОДНІ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ**

**ОБСЄ**

**6 березня ц.р. відбулося чергове засідання Постійної ради ОБСЄ, основна увага під**

**час якого була приділена ситуації навколо України.**

(ППУ України у Відні)

06 березня 2014, 20:00

Глава Делегації України, Постійний представник України при міжнародних організаціях у Відні І.В.Прокопчук детально поінформував держав-учасниць ОБСЄ про останні події в Криму, звертаючи увагу на те, що ситуація залишається напруженою, а численні заклики до російської сторони відновити діалог залишаються без відповіді. Він також звернувся до міжнародної спільноти з проханням практичними кроками засвідчити свою підтримку єдності та неподільності України.

Більшість делегацій держав-учасниць ОБСЄ вкотре була солідарна в підтримці суверенітету та територіальної цілісності України, звернулася із закликом до Росії дотримуватися міжнародних зобов'язань та двосторонніх угод з Україною, а також відвести своїх військових до місць дислокації та утриматися від підтримки сепаратистських рухів в Криму.

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**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna Ihor Prokopchuk on current situation around Ukraine at the OSCE Permanent Council meeting, 6 March 2014**

06 березня 2014, 18:18

Over the recent days we have engaged in intensive discussions within different OSCE formats regarding Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine's Autonomous Republic of Crimea. I would like to thank all the colleagues who on behalf of their states have expressed full support to Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity within the existing and internationally recognized borders.

Despite the meaningful international efforts to peacefully resolve the crisis, the situation in Crimea remains tense, primarily due to the unwillingness of the Russian Federation to pull back their troops to the places of permanent stationing and engage into dialogue with Ukrainian authorities. Russian political and military leadership continue dissociating themselves from armed persons wearing Russian-like uniform without distinctive signs, who have taken under siege the Ukrainian military sites, airports and roads throughout Crimea, Russian guns, equipment, transport vehicles and helicopters.

For the time being, Russian Navy is blocking Sevastopol Bay and Striletska Bay with Ukrainian ships inside them. Ukrainian Defense Ministry informs of numerous provocations, notably attempts to seize the Ukrainian ships or to persuade under intimidation the Ukrainian Navy staff to surrender to the Russian or so called "Crimean" sides.

The same attempts are reported to be undertaken in relation the servicemen of Ukrainian Armed Forces, blocked on their sites across the Crimean peninsula: in Sevastopol, Simferopol, Kirovske, Feodosiya, Yevpatoria, Kerch, Bakhchisarai, Perevalne etc, as well as towards the Ukrainian border guards. After rejecting offers to betray Ukraine they and their families face continuing threats and insults.

Even under these difficult circumstances Ukrainian servicemen exercise restraint and do not respond to provocations in order to prevent further escalation of tensions.

The Russian Federation consistently justifies its military aggression in Ukraine with ungrounded pretext of protecting the Russian-speaking community amid alleged chaos and destabilization in Ukraine. In this connection I again reiterate that there are no objective grounds for such allegations.

The 2012 Language Law, in particular, will remain valid until new language legislation, being fully in line with the Ukrainian Constitution and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, is adopted.

In order to ensure full transparency in the area of human rights protection the Ukrainian

Government has invited a Human Rights Assessment Mission (HRAM) to Ukraine. This mission already starts its deployment in Ukraine today.

The main purpose of the Mission is to assess the human rights situation in Crimea, including minority rights, against the background of the recent developments in Ukraine.

The HRAM is undertaken by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities within their respective mandates. I would like to reiterate Ukraine's readiness to provide all possible assistance to the work of the Mission.

Over the recent days the national unity was outspokenly demonstrated by Ukrainian people, who crowded the streets of Ukrainian cities throughout Ukraine to say No to war. "I am a Russian speaker and don't need protection!" – has become a popular slogan in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Odesa, Donetsk, Kherson and many other southern and eastern Ukrainian cities.

Thus, the single destabilizing factor in Ukraine today are illegal actions of Russian servicemen in Crimea and continuing violation by the Russian Federation of its commitments under bilateral and multilateral agreements, in particular the 1994 Budapest Memorandum.

We witness that the Russian Federation encourages unlawful actions of the separatist forces in Crimea, including so-called elections of new "prime minister of Crimea" and voting for "referendum of 30 March", both took place in the sieged building of the local parliament, in the presence of unnamed armed persons, without civil control and media coverage. I emphasize that these decisions are illegitimate as contradicting the Constitution and other laws of Ukraine.

In impeding the freedom of movement, the so-called "Crimean authorities" have made security checkpoints on both entry ways to the peninsula. We are aware of the reports that the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the CiO's Personal Envoy on Ukraine faced troubles in entering Crimea via these checkpoints on 4 March.

We are concerned about the facts of impeding the activities of OSCE representatives in Ukraine. The potential of the OSCE is to be fully applied in the present situation to assist its peaceful resolution. We therefore welcome the visits of Ambassador Guldemann, CiO's Personal Envoy on Ukraine, Mrs. Astrid Thors, High Commissioner on National Minorities, as well as Mrs. Dunja Mijatovic, Representative on the Freedom of Media to Ukraine, including Crimea. I look forward to their reports will provide us with comprehensive evaluation of the situation on the ground and help sharpening our grasp of security threats, stemming from events in Crimea, and the ways of addressing them.

We note with satisfaction that 23 OSCE participating States decided to send 43 unarmed military personnel to Ukraine in response to our request under Chapter III of the Vienna Document 2011. Ukraine is providing the military personnel, who are already in Ukraine for a weeklong mission, with necessary assistance on the ground.

The early establishment of a special monitoring mission with a view to reducing tensions and fostering peace and stability in Ukraine can play an important role in the process of political settlement of the crisis.

We call on all participating States, including the Russian Federation, to engage constructively to speedily finalize consultations on draft mandate of the monitoring mission.

As the way forward Ukraine reiterates its call on the Russian Federation to renew full implementation of imperative norms of international law, to renew full implementation of the OSCE founding principles, enshrined in 1975 Helsinki Final Act, to renew full implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements with Ukraine and to engage in a meaningful dialogue with the Ukrainian authorities on any issue of interest.

***Thank you!***

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**Personal Envoy Guldemann says situation in Crimea calm but very tense**  
KYIV 6 March 2014

## 15 РОЗДІЛ. 6 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР.

KYIV, 6 March 2014 – The Personal Envoy of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Tim Guldemann, briefing media in Kyiv today, commended the Ukrainian authorities for their efforts to de-escalate the situation on Crimea, adding that “the situation is calm, but very tense.” Guldemann, together with the High Commissioner of National Minorities, Astrid Thors, visited Crimea over the last two days and had the opportunity to meet with various stakeholders.

“It is a miracle that there has been no blood-shed yet,” he said.

Guldemann deplored the fact that, while in Crimea, he was not able to secure a meeting with Sergey Aksyonov and the commander of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Federation. He and Thors, however, had extensive talks with representatives from the Crimean Parliament as well as from public administration and civil society, including from the community of the Crimean Tatars. He also met with the representative of the acting Ukrainian President in Crimea.

Guldemann’s visit to Crimea, as well as various meetings with officials in Kyiv during his trip, were an essential step for preparations of further OSCE activities to assist Ukraine to overcome the crisis.

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### **Developing situation in Crimea alarming, says OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities**

KYIV 6 March 2014

KYIV, 6 March 2014 – OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities Astrid Thors is alarmed about the situation in Crimea.

On her return to Kyiv today, she said: “I am alarmed about the risk of violent conflict on the Crimean peninsula and the effects this could have on all communities, particularly the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar groups.”

Thors said the situation remains precarious. “Rash decisions on the future status of Crimea are a major source of tension and expose divisions between the peninsula’s communities that have been left unaddressed for decades. Like the Ukrainian community, Crimean Tatars have taken a different position to the majority population, which increases their vulnerability. Relations between ethnic groups on the peninsula are characterized by a growing climate of fear,” she said. “I remind the authorities in effective control of the Crimean peninsula that they are obliged to ensure security and respect for human rights, including minority rights, for all those present on the territory, regardless of whether they are of Russian, Ukrainian or Crimean Tatar or other origin.”

“There is a real risk of bloodshed. All decisions on essential issues, such as the status of Crimea, language policy or national minority policy, must be taken in dialogue with all parties and be consistent with international law,” said Thors. During her visit to Kyiv and Crimea, the High Commissioner found no evidence of violations or threats to the rights of Russian speakers.

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### **EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

Brussels, 6 March 2014

#### **Statement of the Heads of State or Government on Ukraine Brussels, 6 March 2014**

1. We met today with the Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatseniuk who informed us about the situation in his country. We applaud the courage and resilience shown by the Ukrainian people these last months and weeks.
2. We endorse the conclusions adopted by the Council on 3 March. We strongly condemn the unprovoked violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity by the Russian Federation and call on the Russian Federation to immediately withdraw its armed forces to the areas of their

permanent stationing, in accordance with the relevant agreements. We call on the Russian Federation to enable immediate access for international monitors. The solution to the crisis in Ukraine must be based on the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, as well as the strict adherence to international standards. We consider that the decision by the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to hold a referendum on the future status of the territory is contrary to the Ukrainian Constitution and therefore illegal.

3. The European Union has important relations with Ukraine and the Russian Federation and stands ready to engage in a frank and open dialogue with them. It has a special responsibility for peace, stability and prosperity in Europe. We will pursue these objectives using all available channels and ask the EU representatives to take all necessary initiatives. The European Union will also participate in the multilateral mechanism (contact/coordination group) being prepared to deescalate the situation which should have as its objectives inter alia to build confidence between the parties, watch over the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country, protect all citizens against intimidations, watch over the rights of minorities, help to prepare free and fair elections, and monitor implementation of agreements and commitments.

4. The European Union's and the Russian Federation's common objective of a relationship based on mutual interest and respect of international obligations needs to be promptly restored. It would be a matter of great regret if the Russian Federation failed to work in that direction, and in particular if it continued to refuse to participate in a productive dialogue with the Government of Ukraine. We have today decided to take actions, including those envisaged by the Council on 3 March, notably to suspend bilateral talks with the Russian Federation on visa matters as well as talks with the Russian Federation on the New Agreement. We support the decision of the European Members of the G8 and the EU institutions to suspend their participation in G8 Summit preparations until further notice.

5. The solution to the crisis should be found through negotiations between the Governments of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, including through potential multilateral mechanisms. Such negotiations need to start within the next few days and produce results within a limited timeframe. In the absence of such results the European Union will decide on additional measures, such as travel bans, asset freezes and the cancellation of the EU-Russia summit. The Commission and the EEAS will take forward preparatory work on these measures. Any further steps by the Russian Federation to destabilise the situation in Ukraine would lead to additional and far reaching consequences for relations in a broad range of economic areas between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and the Russian Federation, on the other hand.

6. The European Union commends the measured response shown so far by the new Ukrainian government. We encourage the Ukrainian authorities, through an inclusive process, to pursue their efforts to ensure free and fair elections, to advance constitutional reform and to investigate all acts of violence. Efforts should continue to reach out to all Ukrainian regions and population groups and to ensure full protection of the rights of people belonging to national minorities, drawing on the expertise of the Council of Europe and the OSCE.

7. We stand by Ukraine and commit to provide it with strong financial backing. We welcome the presentation of the comprehensive assistance package by the Commission and task all relevant Council bodies to process it rapidly. IMF support will be critical to unlocking assistance from the European Union. The immediate priority is to restore macroeconomic stability through sound fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies. At the same time, we call on the government to launch urgently an ambitious set of structural reforms, including to fight corruption, enhance transparency. We welcome the Council decision to freeze and recover assets of persons identified as responsible for the misappropriation of State funds. We are also prepared to respond immediately to humanitarian assistance requests.

8. The European Union and Ukraine have already taken an important step in deepening our relation by the initialling of the Association Agreement, including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area. We reiterate the European Union's commitment to signing the Association

Agreement, including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area. As a matter of priority, we will sign very shortly all the political chapters. The European Union intends to adopt unilateral measures which would allow Ukraine to benefit substantially from the advantages offered in the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area. Such measures would entail an offer to apply provisions related to the import of goods by reducing tariffs and opening tariff rate quotas by so called autonomous trade measures.

9. The European Union reiterates its commitment to enhance people to people contacts between the citizens of the European Union and Ukraine, i.a. through the visa liberalisation process, in line with agreed conditions in the framework of the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan.

10. Energy and energy security are an important part of the Union's external relations. We will continue our efforts to ensure security of supply. We also call for the effective and consistent implementation of the Third Energy Package by all players in the European energy market. The European Union also stands ready to assist Ukraine in securing its energy supply through further diversification, enhanced energy efficiency, and effective interconnections with the European Union.

11. The European Union expresses its objective to further strengthen the political association and economic integration with Georgia and the Republic of Moldova. We confirm our aim to sign the Association Agreements, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas, which we initialled in Vilnius last November, no later than at the end of August 2014.

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**EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

**THE PRESIDENT**

Brussels, 6 March 2014

EUCO 55/14 PRESSE 123 PR PCE 48

**Remarks by President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy following the extraordinary meeting of EU Heads of State or Government on Ukraine**

These last days have seen perhaps the most serious challenge to security on our continent since the Balkan Wars. This is why I called this extraordinary meeting of the Union's heads of state or government. We started today with a meeting with Prime Minister Yatseniuk of Ukraine. He gave a powerful, sobering account of the situation in his country; and we had a long exchange. It was the first such meeting of EU leaders with a non-member state country during my mandate. This in itself speaks of the seriousness we attach to the situation. The aim of this summit today was two-fold. First, on Russia – the impact of its recent actions, and our relationship. Second, on Ukraine – and how we can best stand by the country in this fateful moment. Leaders agreed on a joint statement on the situation, which we will publish shortly. Let me summarise the main points. First, we strongly condemn Russia's unprovoked violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity. We call on Russia to immediately withdraw its armed forces; and allow immediate access for international monitors. We consider the decision by Crimea's Supreme Council to hold a referendum as contrary to the Ukrainian constitution and therefore illegal.

We have important relations with both Russia and Ukraine and stand ready to engage with both, bilaterally as a Union and also in broader multilateral initiatives. The European Union will participate in the Contact Group. We want a solution in full respect of international law and the territorial integrity of countries. The situation must de-escalate – and failure by Russia to do so will have serious consequences on our bilateral relationship. We have a three-step approach. First, we have today decided to take actions including those envisaged by the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on 3rd of March, notably to suspend bilateral talks with the Russian Federation on visa matters as well as talks with the Russian Federation on the New Agreement. We support the decision of the European Members of the G8 and the EU institutions to suspend their participation in G8 Summit preparations until further notice. The solution to the crisis

should be found through negotiations between the Governments of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, including through potential multilateral mechanisms. Such negotiations need to start within the next few days and produce results within a limited timeframe. In the absence of such results the European Union will decide on additional measures, such as travel bans, asset freezes and the cancellation of the EURussia summit. The Commission and the EEAS will take forward preparatory work on these measures. Any further steps by the Russian Federation to destabilise the situation in Ukraine would lead to additional and far reaching consequences for relations in a broad range of economic areas between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and the Russian Federation, on the other hand. The new Ukrainian government's response so far has been remarkably measured, and we commended the Prime minister in that respect – as well as the people of Ukraine for their courage and resilience these last months and weeks. We stand by Ukraine, and reiterated the European commitment to signing the Association Agreement. Today we decided that as a matter of priority we will sign very shortly the political chapters. This means: before the Ukrainian elections of 25 May. We also commit to provide Ukraine with strong financial backing. The immediate priority in this field is restoring macro-economic stability. President Barroso will I am sure say more about the EU assistance package – I will just say we asked ministers to start work immediately. We intend to adopt special trade measures to allow Ukraine to benefit substantially soon from the advantages of the Free Trade Area. We remain committed to the visa liberalisation process, to encouraging contacts between the citizens of the EU and of Ukraine. We stand ready to assist also on energy security. Finally, we welcome our foreign ministers' decision to freeze and recover misappropriated (or stolen) State assets. From Ukraine's side, efforts must continue towards free and fair elections, constitutional reform and the investigation of all acts of violence. The way forward must be one of inclusiveness towards all regions, people and minorities. Fighting corruption and launching wider structural reforms will all be essential.

Also in our statement today, as regards Moldova and Georgia: we confirm our aim to sign the Association Agreements initialled in Vilnius last November no later than at the end of August. These are the main elements of our statement. Let me conclude by saying that today all leaders affirmed that as European Union, we have a special responsibility for peace, stability and prosperity on our continent, and we are ready to take that responsibility. Acts of aggression cannot be without consequences. These past days there has been intense coordination among leaders (and their ministers), not least on contacts with Russia. At the end of the day, dialogue is the only way out. The European Council is following very closely the events and will meet if needed. The majority of the people of Ukraine made a decisive choice in favour of our European values. It was a civilisation choice. They refused to live any longer in the Yanukovich era of lies, bribes, manipulation, blackmail and poverty. Europe must and will support them on the courageous road they have chosen towards a better future.