

**УКРАЇНА VS РОСІЙСЬКА ФЕДЕРАЦІЯ**

**РФ**

**Президент РФ**

**Рабочая встреча с Председателем Правительства Дмитрием Медведевым**

Владимир Путин провёл рабочую встречу с Председателем Правительства Дмитрием Медведевым.

27 марта 2014 года, 17:30

Московская область, Ново-Огарёво

Премьер информировал Президента о предстоящих решениях Правительства о порядке выплат зарплат, пенсий, социальных пособий и денежного довольствия военнослужащих и сотрудников правоохранительных органов в Крыму.

По словам главы кабинета министров, в ближайшее время будут также приняты все решения, касающиеся развития сети территориальных органов исполнительной власти в республике.

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**В.Путин:** Дмитрий Анатольевич, мы уже в принципе начали с Вами обсуждать проблемы присоединения к России Крыма и Севастополя. Уже давно об этом говорим, но сейчас подошло время принятия практических решений. Вы знаете, что на этой неделе там работали руководители силового блока: министры обороны и внутренних дел, [председатель] Следственного комитета, [директор] ФСБ. Они занимались и сейчас активно занимаются выстраиванием соответствующих силовых структур в Крыму и в Севастополе. Но уже подошло время поднимать вопросы, связанные с развитием экономики Крыма, с принятием решения по структурам управления, по каким-то льготам, связанным с развитием территории.

Я уверен, просто знаю точно, что Крым, безусловно, может и должен стать не реципиентом нашей федеральной помощи, а при правильной организации работы экономики полуострова Крым станет достаточно быстро самодостаточным и с экономической точки зрения весьма привлекательным. И конечно, нужно уже сейчас доработать (знаю, что Правительство активно этим занимается) решение социальных вопросов, связанных с пенсиями, пособиями, заработными платами.

Подошло время поднимать вопросы, связанные с развитием экономики Крыма, с принятием решения по структурам управления, льготам, связанным с развитием территории. Уверен, при правильной организации работы экономики полуострова Крым станет самодостаточным и с экономической точки зрения весьма привлекательным.

**Д.Медведев:** Владимир Владимирович, мы в понедельник провели большое совещание, в котором участвовали практически все члены Правительства, и я поставил несколько задач, которые необходимо в ближайшее время решить по Крыму и Севастополю в рамках этих договорённостей и тех решений, которые были приняты на высшем уровне.

Прежде всего, конечно, речь идёт о том, чтобы отстроить социальную сферу. Это люди, и они, конечно, имеют большие надежды, связанные с присоединением к Российской Федерации. Поэтому в самое ближайшее время коллеги по Правительству подготовят предложения, и мы примем решение о порядке выплат пенсий, социальных пособий, в том числе тех пособий, которые носят переходящий характер, которые ранее платили из украинского бюджета (мы исходим из того, что никто ничего не должен потерять, все только должны приобрести в результате присоединения), порядке выплат заработных плат как государственным гражданским служащим, так и военнослужащим, и [сотрудникам] правоохранительной службы. То есть по всем вопросам социального развития мы примем

решения и обязательно об этом сообщим нашим гражданам, живущим в Крыму и Севастополе.

Что касается системы управления, по Вашему поручению Правительство работает над тем, чтобы развернуть там сеть территориальных органов исполнительной власти. Мы исходим из того, что нужно создать разумное и достаточное количество таких органов, не забюрокративая саму по себе эту работу, но в то же время чтобы все наши территориальные органы там присутствовали. Буквально в ближайшие дни все решения будут приняты.

Что касается развития экономики – конечно, экономика Крыма сейчас не так хорошо развита, как, наверное, могла бы быть развита. Полностью согласен с тем, что потенциально Крым может генерировать довольно значительные доходы, которые будут направляться на развитие самой территории.

Для того чтобы это сделать, мы используем все возможные инструменты, включая налоговые льготы, которые сейчас обсуждаются, а также возможность создания особой экономической зоны. Такое поручение дано, и в ближайшее время мне будут доложены предложения – соответственно Правительство доложит Президенту.

**В.Путин:** Спасибо.

## ДД РФ

### **Вопросы интеграции образовательных систем России и Крыма стали темой очередного Совета по образованию и науке при Председателе Госдумы**

Сергей Нарышкин провел заседание Совета по образованию и науке при Председателе Госдумы, посвященное вопросам интеграции Крыма в российскую систему образования. Открывая заседание, С.Нарышкин отметил, что проводимая на протяжении 20 лет политика по украинизации населения Крыма провалилась. «Крымчане сохранили и историческую память, и культурное наследие практически без деформации», – констатировал он.

Вместе с тем, предстоит большая и серьезная работа по интеграции действующих на территории Крыма нескольких сотен общеобразовательных учреждений и нескольких десятков вузов и техникумов в российскую систему образования.

Для этого с российской стороны в приоритетном порядке должны быть внесены изменения в базовый закон об образовании и нормативные акты, регулирующие межбюджетные отношения.

По данным председателя Комитета по образованию Вячеслава Никонова, в Крыму и Севастополе насчитывается около полутора тысяч образовательных организаций, в которых обучается 435 тысяч человек. Численность педагогических работников – около 40 тысяч человек.

В процессе интеграции потребуется юридически оформить документы об эквивалентности уровней образования и ученых степеней, ознакомить крымских работников образования с российским образовательным законодательством, создать систему государственного надзора, лицензирования, аттестации, аккредитации и повышения квалификации в сфере образования.

Госдуме необходимо подготовить законопроект об особенностях функционирования образовательной системы Крыма и Севастополя в переходный период. Следует также зафиксировать, что в переходный период ряд положений российского закона об образовании не будет действовать на территории Крыма и Севастополя.

Для этого В.Никонов предложил сформировать рабочую группу из представителей Госдумы, Совета Федерации, федеральных министерств, Администрации Президента и органов власти Крыма и Севастополя. Он также сообщил, что Комитет уже приступил к работе над необходимыми поправками в российское законодательство.

Председатель постоянной комиссии Государственного Совета Республики Крым по образованию, науке и делам молодежи Валерий Косарев указал на необходимость обеспечения крымских учреждений образования учебной, научной и методической литературой по российским программам и стандартам. Наибольшие сложности, по его словам, возникнут в процессе интеграции высшего образования. «В Республике действуют порядка 89 вузов, хотя качественное образование дают не больше 10-12», – пояснил он.

Заместитель министра образования и науки Вениамин Каганов сообщил о принятом решении увеличить квоты на прием в российские вузы крымских выпускников, а заместитель руководителя Федеральной службы по надзору в сфере образования и науки Александр Бисеров предложил крымские учебные заведения, прошедшие перерегистрацию, считать аккредитованными до 31 декабря 2016 года. Он также пообещал, что на территории Крыма и Севастополя ЕГЭ в этом году будет добровольным. Первый заместитель руководителя фракции «Единая Россия» Николай Булаев заострил внимание участников заседания на том, что до начала нового учебного года осталось 155 дней и «нужно действовать». В частности, следует активизировать работу по повышению квалификации крымских педагогов, которым предстоит работать по российским образовательным стандартам.

По словам Н.Булаева, отсутствие решения о едином поставщике может привести к тому, что система образования Крыма и Севастополя не будет оснащена ни учебниками ни оборудованием. «Решение не принято, и мы знаем, какие бюрократические препоны в этой части могут возникнуть. Размыв поставки на многих поставщиков приведет к коррупционным явлениям», – предупредил он.

Депутат Государственного Совета Республики Крым, ректор Национальной академии природоохранного и курортного строительства Сергей Федоркин отметил, что на протяжении 20 лет крымские вузы Украиной практически не финансировались. Средства выделялись только на зарплаты преподавателей и сотрудников и на оплату коммунальных услуг. «Можете представить, в каком состоянии находится учебно-лабораторная база, особенно по техническим направлениям», – сказал он, добавив, что накануне референдума все деньги спецфонда вузов Крыма оказались в Киеве.

Ректор МГУ имени М.В.Ломоносова Виктор Садовничий предложил создать в Крыму федеральный университет на базе Таврического национального университета имени В.И.Вернадского, а в Севастополе – технический университет. Он также призвал в процессе интеграции аккуратнее подходить к вопросам собственности.

Заместитель председателя Комитета по образованию Алена Аршинова затронула тему модернизации дошкольного образования в Крыму, предложив включить два новых субъекта Федерации в перечень на получение соответствующих субсидий. По ее словам, на эти цели необходимо 1,2 млрд. рублей. «Очереди в детские сады на территории Крыма и Севастополя исчисляются десятками тысяч», – сообщила депутат.

Подводя итоги заседания, Сергей Нарышкин согласился с предложением о создании рабочей группы по вопросам интеграции Крыма в систему образования России и сообщил, что поручит возглавить ее своему заместителю Людмиле Швецовой.

27 МАРТА 2014 ГОДА

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### **Встреча с членами Совета палаты Совета Федерации**

На встрече Владимира Путина с членами Совета палаты Совета Федерации обсуждались вопросы интеграции двух новых субъектов Российской Федерации: Республики Крым и города федерального значения Севастополя – в единое правовое, экономическое, культурное, социальное и административное поле страны.

27 марта 2014 года, 15:30

Московская область, Ново-Огарёво

Во встрече приняли участие Председатель Совета Федерации Валентина Матвиенко, заместители Председателя Совета Федерации и руководители профильных комитетов.

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В.Путин: Уважаемая Валентина Ивановна! Уважаемые коллеги!

У нас эта встреча носит достаточно регулярный характер: мы не часто встречаемся, но такой формат не является чем-то особенным. Сегодня предлагаю поговорить, как в таких случаях говорят, по широкому кругу вопросов. Разумеется, мы не обойдём вниманием вхождение в состав Российской Федерации двух новых субъектов: Крыма и Севастополя.

Здесь возникает очень много вопросов, которые стоят перед нами и перед законодателями в том числе. Нужно плавно, аккуратно, последовательно и профессионально, не создавая никаких проблем для людей, а наоборот, создавая условия для развития экономики, социальной сферы двух новых субъектов Российской Федерации, обеспечить вхождение и Крыма, и Севастополя в нашу правовую систему.

Нужно уже активнее работать с коллегами из Крыма и Севастополя, подключать их к совместной работе. Нужно, чтобы наши граждане в Крыму и Севастополе чувствовали, что они не только объект какого-то нашего внимания, но и субъект совместной общей работы. Они полноценные, полноправные участники нашей совместной работы.

Поэтому нужно и в Совет законодателей их вводить, нам нужно работать на уровне муниципалитетов. В общем, нужно делать всё для того, чтобы как можно быстрее те, кто живут в Крыму и Севастополе, почувствовали себя полноценными гражданами Российской Федерации и принимали бы участие в нашей совместной работе. Это первое.

Второе. Нужно законодательно обеспечить всё, что касается развития экономики и Крыма, и Севастополя, развития социальной сферы. Здесь много вопросов. Сейчас мы с вами подробнее об этом наверняка поговорим.

Но нельзя забывать и про наши текущие общероссийские вопросы и проблемы, которыми мы с вами постоянно занимаемся, и, несмотря на то, что упомянутые мною события являются яркими и уникальными, тем не менее текущих дел, текущих задач с нас никто не снимал.

И поэтому я просил бы вас сегодня обратить внимание на эти на первый взгляд, может быть, не такие привлекательные темы, но чрезвычайно важные для граждан Российской Федерации, где бы они ни проживали. Имею в виду, прежде всего, законодательное обеспечение экономического и социального развития.

Нужно профессионально, не создавая никаких проблем для людей, обеспечить вхождение и Крыма, и Севастополя в нашу правовую систему.

Пожалуйста, Валентина Ивановна.

В.Матвиенко: Уважаемый Владимир Владимирович!

Мы знаем Вашу занятость. Я хочу Вас поблагодарить за то, что Вы нашли время сегодня встретиться с руководством Совета Федерации. Для нас это возможность сверить приоритетные направления нашей деятельности и проинформировать Вас о тех проблемах, которые волнуют людей в регионах, которые перед нами ставят региональные руководители.

Прежде всего хочу сказать, что члены Совета Федерации, как Вы знаете, единодушно поддержали воссоединение Крыма с Россией, Вашу позицию по защите наших соотечественников в Украине. По-другому, мы считаем, уважающее себя государство поступить просто не могло.

И вообще я хочу сказать, что Россия после зимней Олимпиады, которая была проведена просто блистательно, вошла в каждый российский дом. Россия после исторического события – воссоединения Крыма с Россией – это уже другая страна. Такого чувства гордости, патриотизма и единения нации наши граждане не испытывали уже давно. И такой единодушной поддержки политики Президента не было за всю новейшую историю России.

Мы понимаем, что предстоит очень большая работа по интеграции двух новых субъектов Федерации в российскую жизнь. И мы как законодатели понимаем и свою меру ответственности, Вы об этом сказали в своём вступительном слове. Как Вы и поручили, мы будем уделять этим вопросам приоритетное значение.

Совет Федерации практически перешёл в режим работы нон-стоп. В следующий вторник мы будем снова проводить внеочередное заседание по рассмотрению первоочередных законов, касающихся банковской системы Крыма и других, и готовы, если это будет необходимо, собираться незамедлительно, для того чтобы не задерживать идущие процессы.

В ближайшее время два новых сенатора от законодательных органов Крыма – 16 апреля у нас будет плановое заседание – уже приступят к работе в Совете Федерации. Мы, кстати, уже учредили два новых флага, изменили карту нашего сайта, теперь она имеет другие границы Российской Федерации.

И мы планируем не только активно привлечь наших коллег к работе Совета Федерации, но и Совета законодателей. Нам очень важно слышать их голос, слышать их мнение, чтобы они себя уже ощущали активными участниками законотворческого процесса.

Общими усилиями мы окажем помощь парламентариям Крыма и Севастополя в формировании регионального законодательства, конечно же, с учётом специфики новых субъектов Федерации – она, безусловно, есть – и создании условий для того, чтобы они активно участвовали в обсуждении и законопроектов, и в целом всех проблем, которые мы обсуждаем.

Владимир Владимирович, мы знаем, что Вы уже дали все необходимые указания, провели несколько совещаний по организации работы в переходный период. Правительство по Вашему поручению готовит комплексную программу экономического и социального развития Крыма и Севастополя. Состояние в Крыму, как мы знаем, плачевное, в силу того что украинские власти не уделяли должное внимание Крыму за все последние двадцать с лишним лет.

В то же время мы знаем, что у Крыма большой потенциал, и надо создать условия, чтобы этот потенциал эффективно заработал. Я уверена, что туда активно пойдёт отечественный и не только отечественный бизнес, если создать систему преференций, государственной поддержки. Может быть, создать, как предлагается, свободную экономическую зону, а может быть, и другие возможны здесь преференции.

И предложение членов Совета Федерации: учитывая важность скорейшего подъёма Крыма, интеграции его в Россию, может быть, придать этой программе статус президентской. Мне кажется, что это сразу повысило бы ответственность всех, кто будет отвечать за её реализацию.

Есть у нас ещё одно конкретное предложение, оно касается «Артека». Это тоже часть нашей славной, возвращённой истории самого известного в мире детского центра, который в год принимает более 30 тысяч детей.

«Артек» тоже многого натерпелся за последние 20 лет: и откусили кусок территории, и недофинансирование, его превратили практически в центр для детей богатых родителей. Мы считаем, что он должен сохранить свою уникальность как центр межнационального общения детей из стран СНГ, дальнего зарубежья и, конечно, наших лучших ребят, где мы можем готовить из них будущих лидеров.

Нужно законодательно обеспечить всё, что касается развития экономики и Крыма, и Севастополя, развития социальной сферы.

И таким, на наш взгляд, в полной мере он может стать, если придать ему статус президентского международного детского центра. Владимир Владимирович, просили бы Вас рассмотреть это предложение, дать поручение. Мне кажется, что «Артек» и его история того стоят.

<...>

Пожалуйста, Умаханов Ильяс Магомед-Саламович.

И.Умаханов: Уважаемый Владимир Владимирович!

Я с Вашего позволения вернусь всё же к теме Украины и Крыма, потому что Крым, Севастополь вернулись домой, вернулись в родную семью, люди наконец вздохнули с облегчением и стали жить с уверенностью в завтрашнем дне. Но нас не покидает тревога за наших собратьев на Украине, причём не только на юго-востоке страны.

Это миллионы русских, это представители различных национальностей, которых превращают в изгоев на своей собственной земле, безнаказанно попирают чувства собственного достоинства, издеваются, по существу лишают права на жизнь. И это только потому, что они говорят на другом языке или исповедуют другие религиозные убеждения. Там нет ни закона, ни власти, ни порядка.

Я двенадцатый год в составе российской делегации в ПАСЕ, и, скажу откровенно, западная демагогия и двойные стандарты нам всем изрядно надоели. В Страсбурге нам лицемерно говорили про демократию и международное право, а натовские самолёты в это же самое время бомбили Белград, Багдад, Триполи. Нам твердили про права человека, но не нашлось никого, кто бы решительно осудил бесчинства и криминальный беспредел в отношении русских. Нам рассказывали про верховенство закона и невмешательство во внутренние дела, а сами снабжали деньгами и оружием бандитов, выступали на митингах против легитимной власти, «подогревали» радикалов и при этом театрално раздавали там печенье.

К сожалению, на Украине зреет раковая опухоль вражды и ненависти. Через 70 лет после освобождения от фашистов в центре Европы подняли голову и хотят взять реванш бандиты, последователи предателей, бандеровцы в компании с такими мелкими шулерами от политики. Нас пытаются изолировать, шантажировать, не хотят слушать и слышать. Рассчитывают, что, жонглируя резолюциями, санкциями, можно ослабить Россию, а главное – лишить многонациональный народ Крыма права выбора. Это либо тотальное заблуждение, либо такой неприкрытый цинизм, ибо решение народа бесповоротное и окончательное.

Граждане страны должны всегда понимать, что у них есть набор законных средств и методов, которыми они могут воспользоваться, для того чтобы предъявить претензии власти, в том числе и митингами, демонстрациями, шествиями. Только это должно быть в рамках закона.

Поэтому депутатский корпус, члены Совета Федерации спокойно, но твёрдо намерены использовать все парламентские площадки, двухсторонний формат, личные контакты, для того чтобы донести правду до наших партнёров, до общественных организаций, средств массовой информации, простых граждан зарубежных стран. Мы намерены инициировать подготовку Белой книги о нарушениях прав человека на Украине, систематизировать все преступления этнического и религиозного характера и добиваться их рассмотрения и в международных организациях, и в международных судебных инстанциях.

Как известно, первой жертвой войны, в том числе информационной, является правда, поэтому мы не позволим украсть правду и украсть историческую справедливость. А это значит, кроме прочего, что мы должны сохранить и усилить общепатриотический подъём и такое небывалое единение народа.

Я в этой связи хочу сказать, что в августе текущего года исполняется 100 лет легендарной кавказской конной дивизии, вошедшей в историю как «дикая дивизия». Она на 90 процентов состояла из добровольцев Кавказа, а также представителей знатных дворянских родов России. Это была гордость российской армии, все они участвовали в Брусиловском прорыве. Там не было ни одного случая дезертирства, а ровно половину – это 3,5 тысячи человек — удостоили звания георгиевских кавалеров.

Примечательно, что бок о бок с ними сражались и крымские татары из крымского конного полка. Говорю об этом, потому что думаю, что подобные примеры служения Российскому

государству представителей национальной элиты заслуживают широкого освещения, ну и, наверное, такого художественного воплощения.

Уважаемый Владимир Владимирович, Россия – единственное федеративное государство на постсоветском пространстве. Как представитель Кавказа могу сказать, что ни один кавказский народ, покинувший Россию в XIX веке, нигде за рубежом не получил ни государственности, ни даже автономного статуса. Опыт нашей страны показывает замечательные примеры успешного развития национальных республик. Уверен, что Крым, Севастополь способны стать успешными, самодостаточными регионами, своеобразной витриной, где будут динамично решаться вопросы социально-экономического развития, межрелигиозного и межэтнического характера.

В этой связи одно соображение. Многие жители Украины, особенно, наверное, в случае эскалации, захотят переехать в Россию. Я предлагаю распространить действие госпрограммы по оказанию содействия добровольному переселению соотечественников на два новых субъекта: Севастополь и Крым, а также на все приграничные с Украиной субъекты Российской Федерации. Пока они в эту программу не включены.

И в заключение хочу сказать, что, наверное, пройдет время, осядет пена, уляжется эта истерия, но присоединение Крыма и Севостополя в благодарной памяти многих поколений останется как символ возрождения величия России, как символ небывалого подъема и единения российского народа.

В.Путин: Спасибо.

<...>

Я (З.Драгункина) вчера вернулась из Страсбурга, где во главе со Светланой Орловой мы бились за все позиции против 44 стран, они, конечно, не поддержали нас, но нас мощно поддержала Армения, Азербайджан воздержался, но всё равно с нами. Владимир Владимирович, в кулуарах и представители Восточной Украины, и многие даже из зарубежных стран подходили и говорили: ваши действия правильные. Правда, восточнуукраинцы просили Вам передать: защитить их, потому что, выступая смело, они переживают за то, что их ждёт. А другие коллеги говорили о том, что этим самым мы только подтверждаем, что держава наша великая и будет великой на мировой уровне.

Спасибо Вам огромное.

В.Путин: Спасибо вам большое за поддержку.

<...>

М.Маргелов: Уважаемый Владимир Владимирович!

Практически с самого начала кризиса на Украине по поручению Совета Федерации наш Комитет сформировал временную комиссию по мониторингу ситуации на Украине. Мы выезжали и в Харьков на съезд депутатов всех уровней, и в Крым ещё до референдума. Участвовали в миссии наблюдателей на референдуме. Эта работа будет продолжена, несмотря на то что многие из нас, в том числе сидящие за этим столом, уже «награждены» правительствами США, Канады и Евросоюза за нашу активную жизненную позицию.

В.Путин: Я думаю, что это не то, на что мы должны обращать внимание. Мы должны обращать внимание на интересы собственных граждан, собственного народа и собственной страны. И я хочу вас поблагодарить за поддержку.

<...>

### МЗС РФ

**З заявою Постійного представника РФ при ООН на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН.**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "проти".**

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## СООБЩЕНИЕ ДЛЯ СМИ

### О мартовском номере журнала «Международная жизнь»

670-27-03-2014

Вышел из печати мартовский номер журнала «Международная жизнь» (№3, 2014).

Журнал публикует поздравление Министра иностранных дел России С.В.Лаврова Президенту Швейцарской Конфедерации, начальнику Федерального департамента иностранных дел Швейцарской Конфедерации Д.Буркхальтеру по случаю 200-й годовщины установления дипломатических отношений между Российской Федерацией и Швейцарской Конфедерацией и ответное послание Президента Швейцарской Конфедерации. К этому событию также приурочено интервью директора Третьего Европейского департамента МИД России Д.Е.Любинского «В будущее российско-швейцарских отношений и мы, и наши партнеры смотрим с большим оптимизмом».

В разделе журнала «Украинский вектор» публикуются статьи сотрудника Департамента информации и печати МИД России Е.Ю.Ильина «Украина между Россией и Европой. Проблема исторического выбора», президента ПИР-Центра В.Орлова «Крымский кризис и вопрос гарантий безопасности Украине», профессора Университета Саленто (Италия) И.Пеллициари «Война за право помощи». **Представлен также информационный материал о соглашении от 18 февраля 2014 года между Ассоциацией российских дипломатов и Союзом дипломатов Украины.**

Ректор МГИМО (У) МИД России академик А.В.Торкунов и профессор Г.Д.Толорая выступают соавторами статьи «Северокорейский фактор и укрепление позиций России в Азии». Публикуется статья Чрезвычайного и Полномочного Посла России в Марокко В.П.Воробьева и профессора С.Курица «О программе «Мир без войн». Проблемам ликвидации последствий кризиса в банковском секторе Кипра посвящен материал Чрезвычайного и Полномочного Посла С.В.Осадчего.

В разделе журнала «Книжная полка» опубликованы рецензии на подготовленную Российским советом по международным делам (РСМД) трехтомную хрестоматию «Арктический регион: проблемы международного сотрудничества» и на монографию С.Плеханова «Глядя в будущее. Эмир Катара Хамад бин Халифа Аль Тани».

Со статьей, посвященной 80-летию юбилею Дипломатической академии МИД России, на страницах журнала выступает ректор академии Е.П.Бажанов.

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## СООБЩЕНИЕ ДЛЯ СМИ

### О консультациях заместителя Министра иностранных дел России А.Ю.Мешкова с личным посланником Действующего председателя ОБСЕ по Украине Т.Гульдманном

672-27-03-2014

27 марта заместитель Министра иностранных дел Российской Федерации А.Ю.Мешков провел консультации с личным посланником Действующего председателя ОБСЕ по Украине Т.Гульдманном.

В ходе встречи было обсуждено развертывание специальной мониторинговой миссии ОБСЕ на Украине и возможная роль этой Организации в прекращении разгула радикального украинского национализма, содействии диалогу, нормализации обстановки в стране и проведению конституционной реформы, отражающей интересы жителей всех регионов Украины.

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**Статья Министра иностранных дел России С.В.Лаврова «Приоритет России – укрепление дружбы и сотрудничества на европейском пространстве в XXI веке», опубликованная в мартовском юбилейном номере журнала Европейского клуба**

673-27-03-2014

С удовольствием пользуюсь возможностью обратиться к читателям юбилейного номера журнала российского парламентского Европейского клуба, который вносит полезный вклад в благородное дело развития широкого конструктивного сотрудничества на нашем континенте.

В прошлом столетии Европа пережила многочисленные потрясения, включая катастрофы двух мировых войн – соответствующие памятные даты отмечаются в нынешнем году. Эти трагические события служат наглядным примером того, к каким последствиям способны привести вера в собственную исключительность, попытки укрепить свою безопасность и обеспечить свои интересы за счет других. Казалось бы, сделав надлежащие выводы из истории, наш континент должен уверенно встать на путь взаимовыгодного партнерства и стабильного развития на благо нынешнего и будущих поколений. Тем более что идеологические разногласия, разделявшие Европу в XX веке, остались в прошлом – ставшая их символом Берлинская стена разрушена уже четверть века назад.

Однако наследие «холодной войны» до конца не преодолено, задача стирания разделительных линий в Европе еще далека от решения. Продолжаются попытки наших западных партнеров делить европейские государства на «свои» и «чужие», ставить их перед ложным выбором «с нами или против нас», что наглядно иллюстрирует ситуация вокруг Украины. Сохраняются визовые барьеры. Не выполнены сформулированные в рамках ОБСЕ и Совета Россия-НАТО задачи по созданию в Евро-Атлантике единого пространства мира, безопасности и стабильности.

При этом Европа уже не находится в центре глобальной политики, должна учитывать подъем других центров силы и влияния и отстаивать свои позиции в конкурентной борьбе. Очевидно, что обеспечить «старому континенту» достойное место в новой международной системе можно только через объединение потенциалов всех его стран, что придало бы мощный импульс их развитию, укрепило их положение на международной арене.

В этом контексте значение отношений между Российской Федерацией и Европейским союзом – двумя крупнейшими игроками на европейском пространстве – лишь возрастает. Нам немало удалось сделать за два последних десятилетия. Достигнута договоренность о создании четырех общих пространств. В 2012 году на рекордный уровень в 410 млрд. долл. вышел взаимный товарооборот, и есть основания полагать, что по итогам прошлого года эти показатели будут превзойдены. Наша страна – ведущий поставщик углеводородов на рынок Евросоюза. Россия и ЕС тесно взаимодействуют в инвестиционной сфере, реализуют взаимовыгодные проекты в инновационной и научно-технологической областях в рамках совместной инициативы «Партнерство для модернизации». Беспрецедентное развитие получили контакты между людьми.

Однако качественному рывку в отношениях все еще мешают стереотипы минувшей конфронтационной эпохи. Нам важно понять, готовы ли наши партнеры в Евросоюзе не на словах, а на деле опираться на принципы равенства, взаимного уважения и взаимного учета интересов. Исторический опыт демонстрирует, что попытки изолировать Россию приводили к тяжелым последствиям для всей Европы, и наоборот – активное вовлечение нашей страны в дела континента сопровождалось длительными периодами мира и развития.

На наш взгляд, Россия и Евросоюз подошли к рубежам, на которых усилия по углублению взаимодействия начинают пробуксовывать при отсутствии ясно сформулированных стратегических целей. Президент России В.В.Путин выдвинул инициативу последовательной гармонизации процессов европейской и евразийской интеграции в целях выхода в перспективе на единое экономическое и гуманитарное пространство от Атлантики до Тихого океана. Для реализации этой масштабной задачи есть все необходимые предпосылки – общие цивилизационные и культурные корни, высокая степень взаимодополняемости экономик, приверженность единым правилам торговли в

соответствии с нормами ВТО, необходимость поиска источников роста и инновационного развития.

Разумеется, выход на принципиально новый уровень взаимодействия между Россией и Евросоюзом вряд ли можно представить без самого активного участия в этих усилиях европейской общественности. Трудно при этом переоценить роль парламентских и общественных организаций России и стран ЕС в укреплении стратегического партнерства, доверия и взаимопонимания между народами, расширении гуманитарных связей и контактов. Весьма востребован потенциал парламентской дипломатии, в том числе по линии ОБСЕ и Совета Европы – парламентские ассамблеи этих организаций предоставляют важные площадки для развития общеевропейского сотрудничества на основе общих ценностей и стандартов. Для того, чтобы их возможности можно было реализовать в полной мере, необходимо отказаться от попыток их использования в качестве инструмента осуществления политики отдельных групп государств, сориентировать их деятельность на решение подлинно значимых задач строительства общеевропейского дома. Механизмы межпарламентского диалога следует активнее задействовать для углубления культурных, гуманитарных, образовательных связей, для нахождения эффективных ответов на такие проблемы, как массовое «негражданство», неконтролируемая миграция, наркотрафик, экстремизм, национализм, нетерпимость и дискриминация.

Весомым подспорьем в решении этих задач является деятельность Комитета парламентского сотрудничества Россия-ЕС, в рамках которого в конструктивном, деловом ключе обсуждаются ключевые аспекты двусторонних отношений.

С удовлетворением отмечаем активную вовлеченность гражданского общества в осмысление происходящих в Европе процессов. Деятельность общественных организаций вносит большой вклад в гуманитарное, культурное и экономическое сближение европейских народов, противодействие неонацизму, ксенофобии, попыткам фальсификации истории, в том числе Второй мировой войны. Свобода и многообразие форм общения по линии НПО зачастую позволяют смотреть на проблемы шире, чем в рамках традиционной дипломатии. Возможность вести неформальную дискуссию по любым, даже самым острым темам, весьма важна, особенно для многоплановых отношений Россия-ЕС.

Исходим из того, что укрепление сотрудничества по линии гражданских обществ будет способствовать скорейшему устранению визовых барьеров на континенте. Являясь явным анахронизмом, визы сдерживают расширение торгово-экономических, культурных связей, человеческих контактов, что является неотъемлемой предпосылкой строительства Большой Европы без разделительных линий.

Тесно сотрудничая с Федеральным Собранием Российской Федерации, со многими отечественными НПО, Министерство иностранных дел стремится поддерживать начинания общественной дипломатии. За последние годы был предпринят ряд конкретных шагов на этом направлении, включая создание Фонда поддержки публичной дипломатии им. А.М.Горчакова, Российского совета по международным делам. Эти структуры призваны содействовать продуктивному диалогу на внешнеполитическом направлении между государственными ведомствами и гражданским обществом.

Пользуясь случаем, поздравляю Европейский клуб с юбилеем, желаю успехов в деле упрочения доверия в Европе.

### УКРАЇНА

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

**Для України європейський вибір є дуже важливим. Про це заявив в.о. Президента**

**України, Голова Верховної Ради України Олександр Турчинов, відкриваючи у четвер 27 березня 2014 року 21-ше засідання Комітету з парламентського співробітництва Україна-ЄС.**

"У відносинах між Україною і ЄС починається новий, дуже важливий етап", – сказав він, додавши, що після підписання минулого тижня політичної частини Угоди про асоціацію між Україною та ЄС надалі головним інструментом парламентського діалогу між Україною та Євросоюзом стане Парламентський комітет Асоціації.

Голова Верховної Ради наголосив, що європейський вибір є дуже важливим для Українського народу, і "спроби зупинити прагнення українців до Європи, прагнення жити у спільному європейському домі стало поштовхом до Євромайдану".

О.Турчинов нагадав, що одразу після формування нового Уряду одним з перших рішень було саме відновлення євроінтеграції. Так само і Верховна Рада сказав він, більшістю голосів прийняла постанову, яка "фактично є дороговказом Україні, всім виконавчим структурам щодо європейської інтеграції, забезпечення нашого європейського шляху".

Підписання політичної частини Угоди О.Турчинов назвав початком нового рівня співпраці між Україною і ЄС. "Наше завдання – членство України в ЄС. І ми дякуємо нашим колегам з Європи, які активно підтримали це прагнення України, за те, що у важкі часи ви були з нами і підтримували нас", – сказав він.

Керівник Парламенту зазначив, що "на шляху до стабілізації ситуації в Україні, до побудови демократичної і могутньої України стала агресія Російської Федерації у Криму".

"Це не просто збіг у часі, коли Україна готувалася до підписання Угоди", – зауважив він.

Разом з тим, заявив О.Турчинов, "незважаючи на спробу анексії нашої території, рух України до Європи не зупинити".

"Ми дякуємо ЄС за чітку позицію, яку він демонструє зараз. Україна ніколи не визнає спроби Росії захопити Крим. Це є частина нашої держави, Крим був, є і буде українською землею, – заявив О.Турчинов. – Підтримка усіх цивілізованих країн і наших стратегічних партнерів з ЄС дає сподівання, що агресія буде провалена".

Він також побажав європейським колегам успіхів на виборах до Європарламенту.

"Україна і Європа – не просто партнери, а єдина родина, і ми впевнені, що Україна буде частиною великої, славної європейської родини", – підсумував О.Турчинов.

*(Прес-служба Апарату Верховної Ради України)*

## **КМ України**

### **Віктор Шейбут: Міграційна служба в Криму працює в штатному режимі**

27.03.2014 | 17:53 Прес-служба Державної міграційної служби

Перший заступник Голови Державної міграційної служби України Віктор Шейбут під час брифінгу в Кабінеті Міністрів України розповів присутнім про ситуацію з паспортами на півострові Крим, в якому режимі там працюють працівники ДМС та як і де кримчани можуть отримати необхідні паспортні послуги на території України.

«Міграційна служба України працює у штатному режимі. Наші співробітники, які знаходяться на території півострова – продовжують виконувати свої функціональні обов'язки. Паралельно в Криму працюють фахівці Федеральної міграційної служби Росії, проте ніякого відношення до нас вони не мають, ми з ними не контактуємо», – зазначив Віктор Шейбут.

Наразі по всій території Криму громадяни України мають право замінити паспорт, вклеїти фотокартку, змінити прізвище, свої установочні дані, поставити реєстрацію шлюбу – все це мешканці півострова можуть зробити у підрозділах ДМС на місцях.

«На випадок, якщо Державна міграційна служба України перестане існувати, жителі Криму зможуть зробити це в будь-якій точці України. Проте, слід зазначити, що

спрошення стосується лише громадян, зареєстрованих на Кримському півострові. Громадяни інших регіонів України можуть отримати зазначені послуги виключно за місцем проживання», – підкреслив представник ДМС України.

У зв'язку із неможливістю забезпечення доставки паспортів громадянина України для виїзду за кордон на Кримський півострів міграційна служба України була змушена припинити видачу цих документів на зазначеній території. Видача закордонних паспортів кримчанам здійснюється в Управлінні ДМС України в Херсонській області (адреса управління: м. Херсон, вул. Перекопська, 168).

Також представник Державної міграційної служби прокоментував заяви деяких ЗМІ, які поширюють неправдиву інформацію відносно того, що деякі диверсійні групи вкрали та використали внутрішні паспорти, які знаходилися в АР Крим: «Запевню всіх, що жоден чистий бланк паспортів внутрішнього використання не зник з Міграційної служби Криму. Усі паспорти та бланки, які там знаходилися – надійно збережені, знаходяться в надійному місці. В даному випадку ми їх усі опечатали, склали акти, інвентаризували. Документи підготовлені до транспортування на материкову частину України».

### МЗС України

**З заявою В.о.Міністра закордонних справ України А.Б.Дешиці на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН. (a.i. 33(b) – Prevention of armed conflict: strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution "Territorial integrity of Ukraine" – пункт порядку денного 33(b) – Запобігання військового конфлікту: зміцнення ролі посередництва у розв'язанні суперечностей, запобіганні конфліктів та резолюція "Територіальна цілісність України")**

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**Виступ Заступника Міністра закордонних справ України Данила Лубківського під час брифінгу в Українському кризовому медіа-центрі**  
27 березня 2014, 15:24

Останні два дні були досить насиченими.

Годину тому Прем'єр-міністр А.Яценюк представив амбітний план бюджету і бюджетних реформ.

Цей уряд має чітке бачення, як діяти. Цей уряд має намір змінити Україну і життя народу відповідно до європейських стандартів верховенства права і добробуту.

Ми працюємо в надзвичайно складних умовах. Однак, ми достатньо сильні для того, щоб діяти і працювати. Ми вітаємо таку необхідну нам зараз міжнародну підтримку.

Україна – не покинута напризволяще.

Очевидно, ми розуміємо, що на цьому етапі криза не може бути вирішена військовим шляхом.

Росія – це «Голіаф». Це впливова регіональна сила, яка може претендувати на свої «15 хвилин слави».

Але Росія не може виграти війну проти всього світу. І вона не може виграти війну проти міжнародного права, справедливості і правди.

Саме тому Україна впевнена, що правда і перемога будуть за нею. Україна переможе. Адже перемога України – це перемога міжнародного миру і стабільності. Це – перемога людського життя над будь-якими формами зла й агресії.

Я хотів би звернути вашу увагу на збільшення тиску на агресора з боку міжнародних організацій.

41 держава Ради ООН з прав людини подала офіційну скаргу щодо кричущої брехні про «порушення прав людини», які Росія використала як привід для війни.

### 33 РОЗДІЛ. 27 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР

40 країн підтримали заклик Верховного комісара ООН до «негайного, всебічного та незалежного розслідування». Ми підтримуємо цей заклик.

Нехай інспектори приходять, проводять розслідування – в результаті Москву виведуть на чисту воду.

Наразі ситуація довкола Криму обговорюється на спеціальній сесії Генеральної Асамблеї ООН.

Ми впевнені, що більшість держав-членів Об'єднаних Націй засудить дії Росії.

Що стосується можливого нарощування російської військової присутності на східному кордоні України – ми аналізуємо всі звіти і робимо необхідні висновки.

Ми готові стояти на своєму і захищати нашу Батьківщину.

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**Заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров прийняв делегацію ПА ОБСЄ на чолі з Жоао Соарешем**

27 березня 2014, 21:38

27 березня ц.р. Заступник Міністра закордонних справ України – керівник апарату Андрій Олефіров прийняв делегацію Парламентської асамблеї (ПА) ОБСЄ на чолі з Жоао Соарешем, Спеціальним координатором місії короткотермінових спостерігачів ОБСЄ за позачерговими виборами Президента України, які заплановані на 25 травня 2014 року, та Макісом Ворідісом, Главою спостережної місії ПА ОБСЄ за позачерговими виборами Президента України. Делегація ПА ОБСЄ здійснюватиме спостереження в нашій державі на запрошення в.о. Президента України, Голови Верховної Ради України О.В.Турчинова.

Українська сторона підтвердила налаштованість на проведення вільних, прозорих, демократичних виборів та готовність надавати всебічного сприяння роботі міжнародних спостерігачів.

Також відбувся обмін думками щодо внутрішньополітичної ситуації в Україні та розвитку подій навколо незаконної анексії Російською Федерацією Автономної Республіки Крим. Делегація ПА ОБСЄ підтвердила підтримку територіальної цілісності та непорушності кордонів України.

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**Відбулася телефонна розмова заступника Міністра закордонних справ України Данила Лубківського з Першим заступником Міністра закордонних справ Чеської Республіки Петром Друлаком**

28 березня 2014, 15:57

28 березня ц.р. відбулася телефонна розмова заступника Міністра закордонних справ України Данила Лубківського з Першим заступником Міністра закордонних справ Чеської Республіки Петром Друлаком.

У ході зустрічі було обговорено розвиток відносин між Україною і Чеською Республікою та першочергові завдання двостороннього політичного діалогу на найближчу перспективу. Д.Лубківський назвав взаємодію з Чехією такою, що становить виняткову політичну, громадську і культурну вагу.

Заступник Міністра подякував чеській стороні за рішучу підтримку територіальної цілісності України, а також засудження Урядом Чеської Республіки т.зв. референдуму в Криму як нелегітимного.

Д.Лубківський висловив вдячність чеській стороні за співавторство проекту резолюції щодо територіальної цілісності України, яка була ухвалена ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 р.

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**Посол України в Італії Євген Перелигін зустрівся з Головою парламентського комітету з контролю за втіленням Шенгенської угоди, діяльності Європолу та у сфері**

**міграції Лаурою Раветто**

(Посольство України в Італії)

27 березня 2014, 19:00

27 березня ц.р. відбулася зустріч Посла України в Італії Євгена Перелигіна з Головою парламентського комітету з контролю за втіленням Шенгенської угоди, діяльності Європолу та у сфері міграції Лаурою Раветто.

Під час зустрічі відбувся обмін думками щодо розвитку ситуації, у зв'язку з агресією Росії проти України.

Були також обговорені перспективи активізації взаємодії на міжпарламентському рівні між Україною та Італією у контексті імплементації нашою країною Плану дій щодо лібералізації візового режиму між Україною та ЄС.

**КРАЇНИ-ЧЛЕНИ ГРУПИ "G-7"**

**США**

**Statement by the Press Secretary on Ukraine**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

March 27, 2014

The United States welcomes the preliminary agreement between the Government of Ukraine and International Monetary Fund (IMF) staff on a loan program of \$14-18 billion. This represents a powerful sign of support from the international community for the Ukrainian government, as we help them stabilize and grow their economy, and move their democracy forward. The agreement is expected to unlock roughly \$27 billion in total support from the international community for Ukraine's people over the next two years, as the country implements historic reforms to address long-standing problems that have undermined Ukraine's economic strength and prosperity. It is important now for both the Government of Ukraine and the IMF to move expeditiously and complete the steps necessary to gain approval from the IMF Executive Board.

Together with our allies and partners, President Obama will continue to build international support for the Ukrainian people at this critical time. The IMF program will be a central component of a package of assistance to support Ukraine as it implements reforms and conducts free and fair elections that will allow all the Ukrainian people to determine the future of their country. We are working alongside international partners, including the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), to disburse rapid additional assistance to complement the IMF program and ease Ukraine's economic transition, particularly for the most vulnerable. As part of this international effort, we are working with Congress to quickly provide a \$1 billion loan guarantee and are offering technical and financial assistance to help Ukraine meet its most pressing needs. We also remain committed to providing the IMF with the resources it needs – in partnership with Congress – to provide strong support to countries like Ukraine as well as reinforcing the Fund's governance to reflect the global economy

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**Remarks by President Obama and Prime Minister Renzi of Italy in Joint Press Conference**

THE WHITE HOUSE, Office of the Press Secretary

March 27, 2014

Villa Madama

Rome, Italy

~Ukraine excerpts w/QAs

**PRESIDENT OBAMA:** As the Prime Minister indicated, we focused on the situation in Ukraine – something I’ve been talking about over the last three days – and we continue to see international unity in the face of a violation of international law and Ukraine’s territorial integrity. The IMF’s announcement today that it reached a preliminary agreement with Ukraine on a loan program is a major step forward. This significant package of support is going to help Ukraine stabilize its economy and meet the needs of the Ukrainian people over the long term because it provides the prospect for true growth. It will require some structural reforms, but it also means that Ukraine can go on a path that countries like Poland have been able to embark on and seen incredible growth over the last several years.

It’s also going to reinforce democratic reforms, and it should help unlock some \$27 billion in international support for Ukraine. So it’s a concrete signal of how the world is united with Ukraine as it makes tough choices at an incredibly difficult time.

And Ukraine’s leaders can show considerable courage and foresight by making the reforms that will help them grow their economy, leave behind the corruption of the past. And today, I want to call on the United States Congress to make sure that the United States does its part with an economic assistance package that helps support the Ukrainian people as they move forward.

As NATO allies, the United States and Italy are going to uphold our solemn obligation to the security of our allies. As G7 partners, our decision to move ahead with our summit in Brussels without Russia is an example, a signal of Russia’s growing isolation. The sanctions that the United States and the European Union have imposed will continue to grow if Russia doesn’t change course. But as I said yesterday in Brussels, we are continually hopeful that Russia walks through the door of diplomacy and works with all of us to try to resolve this issue in a peaceful way. And we will continue to coordinate closely with Italy and our other European partners throughout this crisis.

I thanked the Prime Minister as well as President Napolitano for Italy’s commitment to NATO. Italian forces have served admirably in Afghanistan, where Italy is one of our largest contributors to the coalition; in Kosovo, where Italians command the NATO force.

We discussed the need to boost economic growth on both sides of the Atlantic so that we’re creating jobs for our people, especially young people. And that’s why, in addition to the kinds of steps that the Prime Minister has outlined and that he plans to pursue internally, we have an opportunity also to move forward with a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership that can actually boost growth and investment not just for large, but also for small- and medium-sized businesses on both sides of the Atlantic.

Jim Acosta, CNN.

**Q** Thank you very much, Mr. President. Grazie, Mr. Prime Minister.

Mr. President, on Russia, with reports of troops building on the Ukrainian border, by taking the military option off the table are you sending a signal to Vladimir Putin that other parts of Ukraine are his for the taking? And why not send multinational peacekeepers to the Ukrainian border as a deterrent?

And to you, Mr. Prime Minister, the President said yesterday that the U.S. would defend any NATO ally. Are you making that same commitment when it comes to Russia?

**PRESIDENT OBAMA:** I think that I’ve been very clear in saying that we are going to do everything we can to support Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. But I think that it’s also important for us not to promise and then not be able to deliver. There are ways for us to hopefully influence Russian decision-making, and one of the most important things that we can do on that front is ensure that the Ukrainian government is stable, that its finances are stable, and that elections go forward as currently scheduled so that we have a legitimate, strong, representative, inclusive government with an economic program that it is implementing and carrying out.

And all those things are in place, but we’re going to have to put a lot of resources and a lot of effort – not just the United States, but Europe as well.

And I've been very impressed with Prime Minister Yatsenyuk and his current efforts. The decision to go forward with an IMF program with a lot of resources is going to require a lot of courage. But keep in mind that part of what prompted the original protests that led to the previous President leaving was an objection about the same corrupt practices, an economy that was completely inefficient that had led to a situation in which Poland's GDP had skyrocketed and the Ukraine's had plummeted when they started off at the same place just several years ago. I think the Prime Minister understands that. I think the Ukrainian people understand that. It will require some tough decisions, but Prime Minister Renzi is also making tough decisions; we've had to make some tough decisions. That's the nature of political leadership. And I think that's what the Ukrainian people are seeking, is a better future, even if it requires some short-term changes to business as usual.

**PRIME MINISTER RENZI:** The question for me is more clear and the answer is easy: Yes. Yes, because I think the crisis in Ukraine is a very bad situation, but the reaction of European Union and the United States is a reaction with one voice – not different voice, one voice. And for this reason I think the statement of G7 in Brussels and the decisions for the future are decisions very important for Italy and we are absolutely committed in this direction.

**Q (As interpreted.)** Let me confess that I'll probably have more than one question myself. I'll be quick. President Obama, you said you're concerned with regard to defense cuts in NATO countries, but you said that freedom doesn't come without a cost. But Europe is coming out of a very hard crisis, difficult crisis, and we know that we need austerity in many sectors, including defense. And, in fact, there's a debate ongoing right now in Italy on a possible reduction in the commissioning of F-35. So how can we reconcile the need to have fiscal discipline and to keep military spending under control? Now, you spoke about the structural reforms. Do you think that's the best way to reinvigorate the country?

Now, to the Prime Minister – did you talk about the Italian Marine riflemen during your talks?

**PRESIDENT OBAMA:** When it comes to defense spending, all of us have to make sure that our defense forces are efficient, effective; that for every dollar or lira that we're spending, that we're getting the most defense for our money.

And so, in the United States, we've reduced our defense spending as we've brought two wars to a close. There's a natural transition. The kinds of spending increases that we have seen were unsustainable. And I recognize that in Europe – and I discussed this with both Prime Minister Renzi as well as President Napolitano – there are opportunities for greater efficiencies not only within a country's own defenses, but also by collaborating between European countries so that you don't have too much duplication and excess capacity. And, in fact, Secretary General Rasmussen has repeatedly put forward plans for building NATO defense capacity in ways that reduce duplication and ensure that we are getting the most for our money.

But, having said that, there is a certain irreducible commitment that countries have to make if they're serious about NATO and the defense alliance. And I've been very realistic I think with my European partners: We, the United States, obviously have the largest military in the world, and we recognize we have some extraordinary responsibilities. We don't expect every country to duplicate exactly what we do. We have responsibilities in the Middle East. We have responsibilities in Asia, Latin America. We welcome those responsibilities, and we understand that that is a particular role that we play. But we're also a partnership in NATO, and we can't have a situation in which the United States is consistently spending over 3 percent of our GDP on defense, much of that focused on Europe, potentially more if we end up having ongoing crises within Europe, and Europe is spending, let's say, 1 percent. The gap becomes too large.

Obviously, small countries will still be having a lot less capacity than us, but, proportionally to their GDP, we need to make sure that everybody is doing their fair share. That's not just for our benefit; it's also because Europe is going to have its own unique defense needs.

Prime Minister Renzi spoke about the Mediterranean. Well, conceivably, Italy is going to develop more and more specialized capacity in addressing particular challenges in North Africa or in other parts of the Mediterranean. Well, that's going to require some resources in order to do

that. So this is not something that's going to have to happen overnight, but there has to be a trajectory that recognizes the need for everybody pitching in, because, as I said yesterday, we cannot take our freedom for granted.

**PRIME MINISTER RENZI:** (As interpreted.) Yes, we did speak about the two riflemen who are being illegally detained in India. And I thanked the U.S. and the U.S. government for the support that they've given us in this phase of the international discussion, and I've asked President Obama to be able to count on further support. We want the issue to be dealt with at an ever more international level.

But I need to be honest with you and, therefore, I need to say something about the questions that you addressed to President Obama, but also to the Italian government. In other words, I agree, I know what President Obama means when he says that freedom cannot come free of charge. And we cannot complain that there is pain and suffering in the world unless we wish to deal with these problems through an alliance based on freedom and democracy, and common and shared values. We have to shoulder our responsibilities.

And I think that Italy always has done its share over the years. We know where our strengths are, what the numbers are, but I think we've always been highly devoted and deeply committed. And I thanked President Obama for having recognized yet again the strong partnership between our countries. I mean, when Italians have been asked to shoulder responsibilities, they've always tried to do it with the utmost commitment and honor.

And I think that over the coming years, we're going to have to insist on the concept that was just illustrated by the President – i.e., we have to become specialized, especially in certain areas. We cannot keep saying that the EU has a role to play and then pull back, and say, well, the U.S. is there and they're always going to come to support us in the end. That's not right. It's not fair. We are partners and we have to work together. I agree with President Obama.

Now, the issues – and the President said quite rightly – pertaining to efficiencies and making our system more efficient, our public administration, we have to reduce costs there and in the defense sector. I mean, it's there for everyone to see. We wish to continue cooperating and collaborating with our partners. And we will, therefore, keep checking our budgets to make sure that we have the resources to intervene all over the world. And at the same time, we have to avoid any waste – and we know that in some sectors there has been waste.

**Q** Mr. President, on Russia, you've said that there are costs of further sanctions on the global – that would affect the global economy. How would U.S. companies with interests in Russia and Americans as a whole feel those costs?

And, Mr. Prime Minister, President Obama on this trip has said that Europeans need to step up when it comes to confronting Russia and also supporting Ukraine. But given the fragile recovery here in Italy, can Italy really step up or does it need to step back? And are you concerned that Congress's failure to approve additional IMF reforms would prevent the U.S. from stepping up enough? Thank you.

**PRESIDENT OBAMA:** This probably converges with the question you asked Prime Minister Renzi. We have not yet taken steps that would target entire sectors of the Russian economy like finance or military sales or energy. But what we are doing in consultation with our allies is to work through each of those sectors and look at what kinds of sanctions potentially could have a powerful impact.

None of them, to have a powerful impact on Russia, are going to have zero impact on us, because Russia is part of the world economy. This is part of the reason why I said yesterday we're not looking at a possible return to the Cold War. The economies have changed, the politics have changed. Russia is not leading an ideological bloc that's opposed to the world economy. Gazprom is listed on world markets and everybody owns a piece of everything.

So there will be some impact. Hopefully, we can design sanctions that minimize the impact on U.S. companies or Italian companies, and maximize the impact on the narrow set of interests in Russia that help drive the decisions that they're making. But those are highly technical. That's the work that's being done right now. Even better, hopefully, we don't have to use them because

Russia decides that they should take the wiser course and accept the offer of the international community and the Ukrainian government to try to resolve this in a peaceful and lawful way.

**PRIME MINISTER RENZI:** We affirm our commitment very clear, and we stay strong and very determined with our partners. And so there are values in our country. The first value is not money. The first value is the ideal of democracy and freedom.

(As interpreted.) But let me say something in Italian. This is a concept that I want Italians to understand. The Italian economy is not in any condition to be in a crisis and to, therefore, not be able to deal with the crisis in Ukraine. And this is an important concept and I want it to be crystal clear for our Italian journalist friends. We can be there. We can face up to a possible energy crisis. We have the resources with which to do that.

And we've always got to remember that we may have high public debt but we always have private savings, which is four times public debt, and we have a primary surplus. We've had this over the years at a constant level. And our economic growth statistics don't make us the Cinderella of Europe and international institutions. So we have to supersede this thinking. And it isn't only a question of making these economic and financial calculations.

When during the Second World War our American friends came to fight in this country, they didn't do it for economic reasons. And when I was the mayor of Florence, I went every year to the cemetery – which is one of the most impressive places because of the silence – the U.S. cemetery there. There were so many families who have lost their young American soldiers, and they lost their lives to defend the values and freedom in our country, a country that perhaps they had never even visited. Now, I don't think that that's a question of economic calculation or cost, you see.

And, therefore, I would ask our friends in the Italian press to realize that the data that we are working with in the Ukraine crisis and in the crisis with Russia aren't only based on economic considerations. And this is why the relations and our friendship with the United States of America have trade implications. And I think that during the European semester of presidency, we have to come to an agreement – hopefully, we'll manage to do this and maybe it will come in 2015 if we don't manage to do it during the Italian presidency – so I was saying we come to an agreement on the trade agreement with the United States.

But what I'm trying to say – and this is why I wish to thank President Obama – is that there are shared values. In just a moment, President Obama will be making a private visit in some of the most beautiful places in Rome, extraordinary places. Those beautiful and extraordinary places in Rome are – well, if they had been created today there would have been some bureaucrats saying, no, we're spending too much money, we're not creating the right thing. Those are places of beauty, you see, that have a huge impact of huge importance. And those are the places that don't make our country an economic superpower, but a cultural superpower.

So with the same kind of commitment with which we defend our past, we wish to build our future together with our allies. So I think we have to be a bit bolder, a bit more enthusiastic. And if you don't mind my saying this, we need to be a bit more ambitious, because I think that today Italy needs to start dreaming bigger than it has up to now.

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**З заявою Постійного представника США при ООН на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН.**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

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**Statement by Ambassador Samantha Power, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, On the Adoption of the General Assembly Resolution on Ukraine  
United States Mission to the United Nations  
Office of Press and Public Diplomacy**

799 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
March 27, 2014

**Statement by Ambassador Samantha Power, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, On the Adoption of the General Assembly Resolution on Ukraine, March 27, 2014**

Today, countries from every corner of the world made clear their support for Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty, their support for international law, and for the foundational norms that underpin the United Nations and international cooperation in the 21st century. The world has made clear that the international community will not accept Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea

The resolution adopted by the General Assembly is a clear call from the international community for all states to desist and refrain from actions that undermine Ukraine's national unity and territorial integrity. The resolution also stresses the importance of maintaining an inclusive political dialogue in Ukraine that reflects the diversity of its society.

I welcome the support from member states in every region who have joined together in condemning an act that blatantly undermines the UN Charter. The vote shows the strong global conviction, grounded in international law, that nations and peoples have the right to chart their own course free from external influences or fear of invasion. Many of today's votes were cast in recognition that while we may currently be discussing Ukraine, if such a blatant violation of a nation's borders is left unchecked, the consequences for other nations could be severe.

It is important to note that, in the face of international isolation, only a handful of states joined with Russia in defending its violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity. Many of these votes came from regimes that, like Russia, fear free expression and peaceful assembly. Today's vote shows that despite significant misinformation spread by Russia, the truth of what Russia has done in Crimea has penetrated to all the regions of the world.

The United States continues to encourage a resolution to this crisis through direct dialogue between Russia and Ukraine as supported by the international community; international monitors to ensure the rights of all Ukrainians are protected including vulnerable minorities in occupied Crimea; a free and fair presidential election in May; and an inclusive constitutional reform process. The United States stands with the people of Ukraine and will continue to support them as they build a democratic, stable and prosperous future.

**ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНІЯ**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

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**Foreign Secretary welcomes UN vote to support Crimea**

27 March 2014

Foreign Secretary William Hague backs UN resolution to respect Ukrainian territorial integrity. Following a UN General Assembly vote in favour of the resolution to affirm the commitment to Ukraine's territorial integrity, Foreign Secretary William Hague said:

The international community has sent a strong message through the passing of this resolution that Russia cannot simply trample over international law. The result reinforces the fundamental principles upon which the UN was founded: principles of territorial integrity and of the non-use of force. President Putin should take notice of this clear and resounding message and work together with all parties to de-escalate the situation.

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**Press briefing: morning 27 March 2014**

27 March 2014

Part of:

The Prime Minister's Spokesperson (PMS) answered questions on... Ukraine....

**Ukraine**

Asked whether the PM thought that the EU was responsible for the situation in the Ukraine, the PMS said that the PM was clear the responsibility lay with the Russian authorities and Russia's supporters in the Crimea.

**ІТАЛІЯ**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

**КАНАДА**

**З заявою Постійного представника Канади при ООН на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН.**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

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**PM delivers remarks at a joint press conference with Chancellor Merkel**

Berlin, Germany – 27 March 2014

Chancellor, let me begin by thanking you for the warm welcome you've shown me and the entire Canadian delegation.

As I mentioned earlier, this is my fifth visit to Germany as Prime Minister.

I'm always very grateful for your hospitality and the hospitality we receive from the German people more widely.

I also always appreciate any opportunity to exchange views with you, something we have now done for over eight years together, including during your bilateral visit to Ottawa in August 2012, which was the first such visit by a German chancellor in over a decade.

I've always valued our conversations and today was no different.

We exchanged views on a number of bilateral and international issues, including the grave developments that have been taking place in Ukraine over the past several weeks.

And we are united in our view that President Putin's actions are a clear and unacceptable violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

President Putin's actions are also in contravention of Russia's obligations under the UN Charter and its agreements, its own agreements, to respect Ukraine's borders.

We are also united in our view that Ukrainians alone are entitled to choose their own future and that their choice will be considered legitimate only if made in the absence of force or fear, which is the opposite of what truly happened in Crimea.

This viewpoint is a reflection of our shared values: freedom, democracy and rule of law.

These are values that we have long defended together on the world scene, as partners within the G-7, the G-20, the UN, the OECD and NATO, to name a few.

But our ties go way deeper.

Indeed, they are family ties.

In fact, there are in Canada more than three million people of German origin.

That is almost ten per cent of our entire population.

And as you know, I'm here in Germany today, as the Chancellor mentioned, with representatives of a large number of Canadian companies as well as organizations that represent many thousands of Canadian businesses.

They are here because trade creates prosperity and they are here because the Canada-European Union Free Trade Agreement will create opportunities we haven't even yet imagined.

These business people are here because trade with Germany is a vital part of the Canadian economy.

Ours is already a strong and diverse commercial relationship covering trade, investment, as well as research and development, things that all featured in the Chancellor's visit to Canada.

Germany is Canada's eighth-largest merchandise export market.

It ranks fourth among Canada's import suppliers and it is our fifth-largest in trade and services.

German companies have invested more than 11 billion dollars in Canada.

Likewise, Canadian firms hold more than seven billion dollars in direct investment in Germany and free trade will only grow those numbers.

That is why our Government launched the most ambitious program of trade negotiations in Canadian history.

We have increased the number of countries with which Canada enjoys free trade from 5 to 43, in the Americas, in Asia and, of course, in Europe.

The Canada-European Union trade framework is good news for both Canada and Germany.

Every region in Canada will benefit from increased trade with Germany, as will virtually every sector of our economy.

Aerospace, machinery, agriculture, consumer products, automotive, food and beverage sector, just to name a few.

So, please allow me to close by personally thanking you Angela for your determined efforts to make the Canada-EU Free Trade Agreement a reality.

We talked about some of the benefits for both of our countries.

For German companies let me emphasize the fact that when this agreement comes into force German companies located in Canada will be able to have free trade access not only to the market of the European Union, but also the market of NAFTA as well.

And this is a particularly advantageous position.

Angela, I know your steadfast commitment to seeing this deal done was instrumental in its ultimate success.

So, we're appreciative and are our two countries will be stronger for it.

Thank you.

### **НІМЕЧЧИНА**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

### **ФРАНЦІЯ**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

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**Russie – Entretien de M. Laurent Fabius, ministre des affaires étrangères, avec «I-télé» (Paris, 27 mars 2014)**

(...) Q – N'a-t-on pas commis une erreur à annuler le G8 de Sotchi? On aurait discuté avec les Russes à 7 contre un, ils auraient pu reculer.

R – Non, je pense que nous avons eu raison parce que le G8 est un accord sur des normes internationales communes, sur des façons de procéder communes. Or, ce qu'a fait la Russie en Crimée, c'est une violation des règles internationales, c'est une remise en cause de toutes les frontières. Il faut donc marquer le coup. Cela ne veut pas dire du tout que l'on rompt les relations avec la Russie. Nous avons des relations, je m'entretiens souvent au téléphone en ce moment avec mon collègue M. Lavrov, mais il faut aller vers la désescalade et il faut marquer ce que nous n'acceptons pas.

Q – Maintenez-vous votre menace de ne pas livrer aux Russes les navires militaires que nous leur avons vendus?

R – Il y a un contrat commercial qui, actuellement, est en train de courir normalement entre l'acheteur russe et le fabricant français. C'est au mois d'octobre que la France devra prendre sa décision d'autorisation, ou pas, d'exportation. Nous pensons qu'au mois d'octobre les circonstances auront évolué.

Q – Les circonstances auront évolué, mais est-ce qu'elles seront favorables? On a l'impression qu'en Ukraine les ultranationalistes sont en train de mettre leur empreinte sur le pays.

R – Non, je ne crois pas. M. Iatseniouk, le Premier ministre, est un homme très sérieux. Il faut aller vers les élections présidentielles libres et transparentes le 25 mai prochain. À partir du moment où il y aura un nouveau président élu, un nouveau pouvoir légitime, nous allons l'aider économiquement. À partir de ce moment-là, l'Ukraine doit pouvoir retrouver des relations normales avec les uns et les autres.

Q – Vladimir Poutine doit venir en France au printemps, il est toujours le bienvenu?

R – Nous allons discuter avec les Russes pour savoir si cette visite, à ce moment-là, est opportune ou s'il y a un autre moment qui est plus opportun. De toute les manières, il vient en France au mois de juin parce qu'il y a la commémoration de la guerre.

Q – Et de ce côté-là il n'y aura pas de prises d'otages si j'ose dire, de ces commémorations pourtant aux bras des Russes?

R – Non, je crois que c'est un hommage qui doit être rendu aux combattants de l'Histoire. Il est tout à fait normal que les différentes nations et leurs dirigeants soient là pour rendre hommage et pour dire: «plus jamais ça». (...).

## **ЯПОНІЯ**

**З заявою Постійного представника Японії при ООН на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН.**

**Голосування країни по Резолюції "Територіальна цілісність України" на засіданні ГА ООН 27 березня 2014 року – "за".**

## **ОСНОВНІ МІЖНАРОДНІ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ**

### **ООН**

#### **ГА ООН**

**Засідання ГА ООН A/68/PV.80 від 27 березня 2014 року**

**United Nations**

**A/68/PV.80**

**General Assembly**

**Sixty-eighth session**

**80th plenary meeting**

**Thursday, 27 March 2014, 10 a.m.**

**New York**

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**Official Records**

President: Mr. Ashe

(Antigua and Barbuda)

*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**Agenda item 33**

**Prevention of armed conflict**

**(b) Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution****Draft resolution (A/68/L.39)**

**The President:** I now give the floor to His Excellency Mr. Andrii Deshchytsia, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, to introduce draft resolution A/68/L.39.

**Mr. Deshchytsia (Ukraine):** Thank you, Mr. President, for convening today's meeting. It is a great honour and privilege for me to address the General Assembly. What has brought us here today is an issue of paramount importance. It is of crucial importance to my nation, of vital importance to every United Nations State Member and of even greater importance to the United Nations and the world order it embodies.

It has now been a month during which all possible and impossible boundaries of international law that had been so laboriously nourished by humankind – especially under this institution – have been ruthlessly trampled. What has happened in my country is a direct violation of the Charter of the United Nations. Many still struggle to grasp the reality that it happened in Ukraine, in the very heart of Europe. It happened in the twenty-first century.

Over the past month, we have witnessed the most flagrant violations of international law since the inception of the United Nations. After two weeks of military occupation, an integral part of Ukraine was forcibly annexed by a State that had previously committed itself to guaranteeing the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of my country in accordance with the Budapest Memorandum, by a State that happens to be one of the permanent members of the Security Council, entrusted by the membership of the United Nations with the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

That act of aggression was meticulously calibrated to strike at a time when Ukraine was forming an inclusive Government. Now, despite all odds, such a Government is up and running. The act was aimed at – and continues to be aimed at – undermining the presidential elections in my country. Let me assure the General Assembly that Ukraine is determined to carry out its elections as scheduled on 25 May.

Eight rounds of urgent discussions on the Russian military intervention in Ukraine held by the Security Council clearly demonstrated how isolated Russia is on the issue. The mixture of false justifications, half-truths, deliberate distortions, insults and naked lies offered by the Russian side have failed to impress the Council.

Just a few days ago, at the opening session of the third Nuclear Security Summit, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed the need to build a culture of nuclear security. He rightly emphasized that the time had come to strengthen the rule of law in both disarmament and non-proliferation. Speaking about efforts by the United Nations to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, the Secretary-General pointed out that the assurances provided to non-nuclear-weapon States by nuclear-weapon States must be honoured:

“In the case of Ukraine, security assurances were an essential condition for its accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. However, the credibility of the assurances given to Ukraine in the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 has been seriously undermined by recent events. The implications are profound, both for regional security and the integrity of the nuclear non-proliferation regime.”

We cannot agree more. Two years ago, when we proposed to the Russian side to sign a bilateral agreement on security and confidence-building measures, it refused, saying that the idea of an attack on Ukraine was absurd. Six months ago, we were preparing to have a trilateral meeting in The Hague among the leaders of Ukraine, the United States of America and Russia to celebrate

the twentieth anniversary of Ukraine's nuclear-free success story. Yet that plan was crushed almost overnight by the Russian aggression against Ukraine and its annexation of Crimea.

"We have consistently called for the recognition of a polycentric world order, equal and indivisible security in full conformity with the United Nations Charter's basic principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity of any State, inadmissibility of intervention in the domestic affairs... A just and democratic world order cannot be achieved without a strict observance of the principles of the supremacy of international law, mainly of the United Nations Charter".

Mr. President, you may think that the foregoing are my words. They are not. They are in fact an excerpt from the statement of position of the Russian Federation before the opening of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

"Recently a common argument has been increasingly made to the effect that the threat or use of force, directly prohibited by the Charter of the United Nations, is virtually the most effective method of addressing international problems, including the settlement of domestic conflicts... despite the fact that recent experience with such interventions has proved that they are ineffective, meaningless and destructive. That is an extremely dangerous path leading to the erosion of the foundations of today's world order and the subversion of the weapons of mass destruction non-proliferation regimes." (*A/68/PV.15, p. 34*)

That paragraph is also not Ukraine's, although we fully agree with its thrust. It is taken from a statement made by my colleague, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sergey Lavrov, at the general debate last September. There are volumes of such statements made by representatives of the Russian Federation at the United Nations.

"Practice what you preach", one might think. We in Ukraine do. As does the African Union, whose Constitutive Act, of 2001, calls in Article 4 for, inter alia, sovereign equality and interdependence among Member States of the Union, respect for borders and the prohibition of the use of force or threat to use force among Member States of the Union, and non-interference by any Member State in the internal affairs of another.

As does the Organization of American States, whose Charter clearly states that no territorial acquisitions or special advantages obtained either by force or by other means of coercion shall be recognized.

As does the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with its Charter renouncing aggression or other actions in any manner inconsistent with international law.

As does the European Union.

As does the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, with its 1975 Helsinki Final Act.

The list goes on and on.

Despite all the wrongs that have been inflicted on my country over the past month, draft resolution A/68/L.39, before the Assembly today, was drafted with the sole and strict goal of upholding the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The purpose of the draft resolution is to reinforce core United Nations principles at a moment when they are experiencing a major challenge. The text addresses respect for territorial integrity and the non-use of force to settle disputes. It does not break any new legal or normative ground. Yet it sends a crucial message that the international community will not allow what has happened in Crimea to set a precedent for further challenges to our rules-based international framework. It clearly serves a de-escalatory purpose and explicitly welcomes international efforts, including those by the Secretary-General, in support of a peaceful settlement of the situation with respect to Ukraine.

I am convinced that a strong vote today will help deter further aggressive moves. I sincerely thank all sponsors of the draft resolution, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", and look forward to its adoption by the General Assembly.

One month has cost us dearly. More inaction may cost us the Organization itself. By voting in favour of the draft resolution, the General Assembly will vote in favour of the United Nations Charter; a vote against it or abstention in the voting is tantamount to undermining the Charter.

**Mr. Churkin** (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): On 21 March an event occurred that is of truly historic significance. Following the referendum in the Crimea, during which the overwhelming majority of the Crimean population voted in favour of being with Russia, there was a reunification of Crimea and the Russian Federation. We call on everyone to respect that voluntary choice, just as Russia has done.

Russia could not refuse the Crimeans' wish to support their right to self-determination in fulfilling their long-standing aspirations. Historical justice has been vindicated. Crimea was an integral part of our country for several centuries. It shares with our country a common history, culture and, most important, a common people. Only when an arbitrary decision by the leadership of the former Soviet Union in 1954 to transfer the Crimean Sevastopol to the Ukrainian republic in the framework of a single State was that natural state of affairs upset. After the break-up of the Soviet Union, it became clear that Crimea was cut off from Russia. In 1992, the people of Crimea adopted a Constitution that established that Crimea would be an independent State within Ukraine. However, soon after that, the Constitution was changed by Kyiv without consulting the people of Crimea, and the status of the peninsula was reduced to an autonomous republic as part of a unitary Ukrainian State.

The Crimeans never accepted that state of affairs. They openly demonstrated their sympathy for Russia. Their patience snapped against the background of a deep political crisis that occurred in Ukraine. The crisis was to a large extent provoked by the adventurous actions of the current political forces, which sought to break the centuries-old ties of Russia and Ukraine, by giving Kyiv a false choice between either the European Union and the West or Russia. That policy was carried out with unprecedented bluntness. They could either sign a Ukraine-European Union association agreement, as demanded of the Ukrainian Government, or they could face sanctions. Within the ranks of anti-Government demonstrators were representatives of the European Union and the United States, who openly marched alongside them and called on them to openly carry out anti-Government actions.

The central square of the city – Maidan Nezalezhnosti – was turned into a militarized camp. Well-trained and equipped units of militants carried out violent attacks against law enforcement bodies and seized administrative buildings. In one of those buildings, the trade unions building, the so-called common diversion of the Maidan was organized. On the seventh floor of that building was a permanent staff member of the United States Embassy. By the way, it is from that building that snipers were shooting at police and demonstrators; that action was clearly aimed at provoking a violent overthrow of the Government.

At some point, it appeared that it would be possible to stop before the situation became worse. On 21 February, President Yanukovich and the leaders of the main opposition party signed an agreement, which provided for disarming the militants, freeing the administrative building that had been seized, establishing a Government of national unity, launching a constitutional process and holding presidential elections by the end of the year. However, someone thought that such a scenario was not sufficiently radical. The violence continued. Under the threat of physical violence, President Yanukovich had to leave Kyiv and then Ukraine.

The legitimate Government stopped operating in Kyiv. Violence became the rule of politics. In the Verkhovna Rada, the parties that supported the Yanukovich majority became victims of that violence. As a result, the Rada was reshuffled and, instead of a Government of national unity, a so-called Government of victors emerged. The shots were called by those who conducted an armed coup, national radicals who – according to the definition of the European Parliament – preached racist, anti-semitic and xenophobic views and seemed to hate everything that was Russian and did not conceal that they considered the Ukrainian allies of nazis as their ideological ancestors. Nearly the first decision of the new Government was to revoke the official status of the Russian language, which the Crimeans and the inhabitants of eastern and southern Ukraine use. In those regions, Kyiv began appointing Governors who were rejected by the local people. Threats were addressed to Crimea to send so-called friendship trains there – groups of militants that would continue the kind of violence being carried out in Kyiv and in the western and central

regions of Ukraine. All that created a kind of critical mass that led the Crimeans to take a decision on self-determination and reunification with Russia. I think that one has to be very misanthropic to criticize them for that.

In the light of all the reasons I just referred to, Russia is against the draft resolution A/68/L.39. It is confrontational in nature and seeks to put into question the meaning of the referendum that took place in Crimea, which has already played a key historical role. It would be counterproductive to challenge it.

At the same time, we think that the draft resolution contains some important and correct statements; for example, the call to refrain from unilateral actions or inflammatory rhetoric, which could lead to increased tensions. We think that, in order to heed that appeal, it is not necessary to adopt any resolutions. It is simply important to base our position on the interests of the Ukrainian people – the interests of normal international relations. We hope that kind of understanding will prevail in the course of today's discussion and in the course of the dialogue on Ukraine.

Russia has taken part in this dialogue in a most constructive fashion. Our advice is simple – it is important to implement the main provisions of the agreement of 21 February. Ukraine requires a true constitutional process with the participation of all civilized political forces in all regions that could lead to the kind of conditions where people do not have to fear for their lives and their safety and that would ensure that their fundamental rights can be exercised.

**The President:** I now give the floor to the Head of the Delegation of the European Union.

**Mr. Mayr-Harting** (European Union): I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this meeting of the General Assembly. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its member States. Montenegro, Albania, Norway and Georgia align themselves with this statement. After the horrors of the Second World War, the international community agreed on a new system of international relations based on the Charter of the United Nations. That system was designed to protect the peace and security of all countries around the world. It is our collective responsibility to safeguard it.

The European Union supports draft resolution A/68/L.39, on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, and all 28 States members of the European Union are sponsors. The draft resolution reconfirms the importance of the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, notably the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and to settle their disputes by peaceful means in full respect of international law.

Significantly, the draft resolution also affirms the General Assembly's commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Those principles are also prominently included in the political provisions of the Association Agreement signed on Friday, 21 March, between Ukraine and the European Union.

The European Union remains committed to upholding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The European Union does not recognize the illegal referendum in Crimea, which is in clear violation of the Ukrainian Constitution. It strongly condemns the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol to the Russian Federation and will not recognize it.

The European Union firmly believes that there is no place in the twenty-first century for the use of force and coercion to change borders in Europe or elsewhere. The European Union strongly condemns the clear violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity by acts of aggression by the Russian armed forces. The Russian actions are not only in breach of the Charter of the United Nations, they are also in clear breach of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and its subsequent processes and instruments within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which over the past 40 years have contributed to overcoming divisions in Europe and building a peaceful and united continent. Those actions also violate specific commitments to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity under the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 and the bilateral Treaty between the Russian

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Federation and Ukraine on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership of 1997.

The European Union urges Russia to take steps to de-escalate the crisis, immediately withdraw its forces back to their pre-crisis numbers and garrisons in line with its international commitments and avail itself of all the relevant international mechanisms to find a peaceful and negotiated solution, in full respect of its bilateral and multilateral commitments to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The European Union welcomes the meeting of Russia's Foreign Minister with his Ukrainian counterpart in The Hague this Monday, but deplores that Russia has still not taken steps to de-escalate the crisis and that direct talks between Ukraine and the Russian Federation have still not started. We call on both Ukraine and Russia to start a meaningful dialogue as soon as possible and without preconditions.

The European Union fully supports multilateral initiatives aimed at fostering peace, stability and security, and respect for human rights in Ukraine. We commend the visit of the Secretary-General to Moscow and Kyiv last week.

The European Union welcomes the agreement reached on 21 March on the deployment of an OSCE special monitoring mission to Ukraine to monitor and support the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments. The European Union is fully committed to the monitoring mission's success and calls for its early deployment throughout Ukraine.

We also applaud the deployment of a United Nations human rights monitoring mission to Ukraine. We welcome the fact that Assistant Secretary-General Šimonović was finally given access to Crimea. We call on the United Nations mission to be given such access as well. We strongly share the view of Assistant Secretary-General Šimonović that there is an urgent need to assess and report on human rights violations and on the implications of recent events and to monitor the current situation throughout the country so as to help investigations, prevent further violations and verify the truth with regard to the human rights situation. We also welcome the valuable contribution of the Council of Europe.

We commend the measured response shown thus far by Ukraine. We welcome the Ukrainian Government's commitment to ensuring the representative nature and inclusiveness of governmental structures reflecting regional diversity, to ensuring the full protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, to undertaking constitutional reform, to investigating all human rights violations and acts of violence and to fighting extremism. In that context, the European Union encourages the Government of Ukraine to ensure that the presidential elections to be held on 25 May are free and fair.

The European Union is ready to stand by Ukraine and committed to providing strong financial support to its economic and financial stabilization. We encourage other Member States and international organizations, including financial institutions, to assist in restoring the stability of Ukraine and supporting structural reforms.

The European Union supports the Ukrainian people and their right to choose their own future. Our common goal is to restore Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and uphold its independence. The European Union stands ready to facilitate and engage in a meaningful dialogue involving Ukraine and Russia, including through the establishment of a multilateral mechanism. The European Union will remain at the forefront of efforts to find a political solution in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

**Ms. Power** (United States of America): We meet today to express our collective judgement on the legality of the Russian Federation's military intervention in, and occupation of, Ukraine's Crimea region.

The draft resolution before us (A/68/L.39) is about one issue and one issue only – affirming our commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine. Through it, we make clear our ongoing support for the fundamental idea that borders are not mere suggestions. At the same time, this draft resolution expresses the desire of the international community to see a peaceful outcome to the dispute between Ukraine and Russia and stresses the importance of maintaining an inclusive political dialogue that reflects every segment of

Ukrainian society.

We have always said that Russia had legitimate interests in Ukraine. It has been disheartening in the extreme to see Russia carry on as if Ukrainians have no legitimate interests in Crimea, when Crimea is a part of Ukraine. Self-determination is a value that all of us here today hail. We do so while recognizing the critical, foundational importance of national and international law. Coercion cannot be the means by which to achieve self-determination. The chaos that would ensue is not a world that any of us can afford – it is a dangerous world. We echo the views expressed by all regions of the world these past weeks calling for a de-escalation of tensions and an electoral process in Ukraine that will allow the people of that country, in all of their diversity, to choose their leaders, freely, fairly and without coercion.

Speaking at The Hague two days ago, President Obama said,

“If the Ukrainian people are allowed to make their own decisions, their decision will be that they want to have a relationship with Europe and they want to have a relationship with Russia, and that this is not a zero-sum game”.

Ukraine was wise to bring its concerns before the General Assembly. It is wise to seek our backing for the preservation of its rights, which are also the rights of all of us to have our territory and independence respected. Ukraine is justified in seeking our votes in reaffirming and protecting its borders. It is justified in asking us not to recognize the new status quo that the Russian Federation has tried to create with its military. Ukraine merits our commendations for the restraint it has shown and the positive steps it has taken to prevent a further escalation of the crisis and deserves our full support in trying to persuade Russia to end its isolation and to move from a policy of unilateral confrontation and aggressive acts to a good faith diplomatic effort informed by facts, facilitated by dialogue and based on law.

We urge members to vote in favour of a draft resolution that enshrines the centrality of territorial integrity and calls for a diplomatic – not a military – solution to the crisis.

**Mr. Patriota** (Brazil): I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this plenary meeting. The situation in Ukraine is serious, and the international community must reaffirm its strong resolve to urgently find a peaceful solution to the crisis. It is appropriate that we discuss it under an agenda item that highlights the importance of prevention and diplomacy, namely, “Prevention of armed conflict: Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution”.

Brazil has been following the escalation of tensions in Ukraine attentively. Our concern reflects our close bilateral ties with Ukraine, which in 2009 were elevated to the level of a strategic partnership. Together Brazil and Ukraine are developing high-technology projects, including in the field of space technology. Brazil is also proud to be host to one of the largest communities of people of Ukrainian descent outside Europe. Brazil has stated its concern about the gravity of the situation since the very early stages of the crisis. We expressed deep regret over the deaths in Kyiv and urged all parties to conduct dialogue, underscoring that the political crisis should be addressed peacefully and on the basis of respect for institutions and human rights.

Brazil has consistently upheld that the Charter of the United Nations must be respected under all circumstances. That position reflects our unflinching defence of an international system based on cooperative multilateralism and respect for international law. In that regard, Brazil supports all efforts to achieve a peaceful solution to the crisis and urges the Russian Federation and Ukraine to engage in constructive talks aimed at resolving their differences. We commend the Secretary-General’s initiatives to de-escalate tensions, restore calm and promote dialogue. We encourage him to continue working on a diplomatic solution to the crisis. Brazil invites the parties to engage in an inclusive political dialogue that takes into account the diversity of the Ukrainian people and respects the rights of all Ukrainians, including all minorities.

In this situation, it is of the utmost importance that all stakeholders exercise maximum restraint.

**Mr. Reyes Rodríguez** (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): On 22 February, President Raúl Castro Ruíz said that the intervention of Western Powers must stop in order to enable the Ukrainian people to exercise their right to self-determination in a legitimate way, and that we should not ignore the

fact that such acts could have very serious consequences for international peace and security. As Cuba's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, pointed out at a press conference in Havana on 6 March, subsequent events have demonstrated the gravity and validity of that statement, and that we cannot accept the violent overthrow of a constitutional Government at the cost of dozens of dead and wounded as a result of an intervention by the United States and some of its NATO allies, threats to citizens' integrity based on their national origin and the destruction of legitimate and legally recognized institutions and entities. He added that those threatening the Russian Federation with sanctions and reprisals were the Governments that brought about regime change in Ukraine, and, prior to that, started wars of conquest, interfered or intervened directly in the internal affairs of various States around the world that disagreed with their goals of domination and defended their own sovereignty and independence. While earnestly opposed to the imposition of sanctions on the Russian Federation, Cuba condemns hypocrisy, double standards and the aggression manifest in the actions and pronouncements of NATO concerning the matter. The Cuban Foreign Minister warned that history would demand that the United States and its allies take responsibility for an increasingly offensive military doctrine outside the borders of the North Atlantic alliance, which threatens the sovereignty and independence of every State and constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. The attempt to extend NATO up to the borders of the Russian Federation is a serious threat to international peace, security and stability.

In his statement of 22 February, President Castro noted that numerous analogies could be found in United States unconventional warfare manuals that have been applied in various countries of our region and, with related refinements, on other continents, as the cases of Syria and Ukraine testify. He invited those who had doubts on the matter to look at United States Army Training Circular, TC 18-01, published on 30 November 2010 and entitled *Special Forces Unconventional Warfare*. Can the United States and NATO provide assurances that the use of force and the concepts of war envisaged in that document are not applicable to, nor can be applied against other countries, including some in Latin America and the Caribbean, a region that the second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States proclaimed a zone of peace?

I would like to conclude by emphasizing that Ukraine and Cuba are united by deep, historic, unbreakable ties. We will always remember Ukrainians' contribution to our development. In a modest way, we have tried to live up to our duty of solidarity, particularly with the children affected by the Chernobyl accident. No one has done more or with greater care for those children than the people of Cuba.

**Mr. Wenaweser** (Liechtenstein): The recent events and the current situation in Ukraine are a major challenge to the rule of law. All members of the Organization are bound by the obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of any State. The annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol is therefore a very serious violation of international law and of grave concern to the Government of Liechtenstein. We consider that action null and void and will not recognize it or its consequences. The annexation was preceded by an illegitimate declaration of independence based on a referendum held in violation of the Constitution of Ukraine and of basic tenets of international law, including paragraph 4 of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations. The events also starkly illustrate the continued relevance of an internationally agreed definition of aggression. Such a definition was agreed on by consensus at the 2010 Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in Kampala. We hope that States will continue to expeditiously ratify the amendments to the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression.

The Charter commits us to both the principle of territorial integrity and the right of all peoples to self-determination. The two are designed to be compatible, and the relationship between them was further elaborated in subsequent texts. In adopting the Declaration on Friendly Relations in 1970, the Assembly struck a careful balance between the right of self-determination and the principle of territorial integrity. Some 20 years ago, Liechtenstein presented an initiative to help

operationalize the right to self-determination through various degrees of self-administration. The initiative was aimed at encouraging States to provide appropriate levels of self-administration to entities within their borders, based on consultation and negotiation, with third-party assistance when necessary. Those ideas were designed to prevent dissatisfaction on the part of communities within States that could lead to claims of independence, without at the same time excluding independence as an option. Under that model, the various stages of self-administration, as well as the independence option, become the result of an agreement between the parties concerned. We are fully committed to the right of self-determination, exercised in conformity with international law. It is that very commitment that leads to the conclusion that the draft resolution before us is a balanced and faithful reflection of current international law. We therefore support it without any reservation.

The failed adoption of the draft resolution in the Security Council earlier this month raises important governance questions for the Organization. There has been a worrisome increase in the use of the veto and the threat thereof in the recent past, sometimes in a manner that prevented the United Nations from fulfilling its core functions. But the vote in the Council on 15 March (see S/PV.7138) gave rise to an additional concern that requires further consideration.

According to paragraph 3 of Article 27 of the Charter of the United Nations, Council members that are parties to a dispute shall abstain from voting on decisions under Chapter VI of the Charter. It seems to us that this provision should have been applied – a perception that has been only strengthened by the events since. It is important that the question finds the attention of the wider membership, together with other urgent issues concerning the use of the veto.

We support all efforts that will help prevent a further escalation of the situation in Ukraine, which remains volatile. We welcome the commitment of the Secretary-General and the efforts undertaken by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe under the chairmanship of Switzerland. We applaud in particular the agreement to deploy a special monitoring mission, and are confident that those international and regional efforts can greatly contribute to de-escalating the situation on the ground.

Before the events discussed in today's draft resolution and thereafter, the situation in Ukraine has been fuelled by a serious human rights crisis and at least partial breakdown of the rule of law. The strong and early engagement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has therefore been crucial, and we support the deployment of a mission by her Office throughout Ukraine. We believe that a return to the rule of law and effective protection of the rights of all persons belonging to minorities in the country are indispensable prerequisites for an inclusive political dialogue.

**Mr. Ulibarri** (Costa Rica) (*spoke in Spanish*): The draft resolution before the General Assembly (A/68/L.39) is of universal importance, yet its relevance is even greater to States that, due to their small size and limited resources, depend solely upon the legitimacy of international law to protect their sovereignty, defend their integrity, strengthen security and preserve peace.

The draft resolution arises from a severe bilateral crisis of disturbing global implications. But its text is broader than a specific geographic location and focuses on reaffirming the principles and standards of conduct that are crucial for stability, peace and international coexistence. Among those principles and standards must be noted respect for the territorial integrity of States, fulfillment of formal commitments among States, including rejection of the use of force in settling disputes, and full and genuine exercise of self-determination without falsehood or condition. For all of those reasons, it is also a draft resolution on respect for the Charter of the United Nations.

The Charter of the United Nations clearly defines rights and obligations in regard to which compliance is not optional. All Members of the Organization must respect them. But perhaps an even greater obligation weighs on the five States that, under Articles 23 and 27 of the Charter, possess special powers and responsibilities regarding the Organization, and hence to its other Members and the international community.

Costa Rica has no such power or competency, or any means to defend itself against external

aggression. Our weapon is international law. We view the draft resolution as a way to reaffirm and defend the law. Staying silent now, in the light of the very serious implications, risks leading to further, perhaps worse, future violations.

The illegitimate violation by force of Ukraine's territorial integrity is clear. Also clear is the fact that one of the three States that pledged in 1994 to respect Ukraine's borders in exchange for Ukraine's renunciation of nuclear weapons has failed to uphold its commitment, with serious implications for nuclear non-proliferation. That is a source of concern for the entire international community, but in particular for countries such as those of Latin America and the Caribbean that have declared themselves nuclear-weapon-free.

Similarly, we are concerned that in the light of real or perceived disputes, the first line of action has been the deployment of military force rather than the launching of dialogue. Neither conduct is acceptable. All lead to disturbing precedents and, added to other elements, in terms of the voting of 16 March in Crimea, more than opposing Ukraine's Constitution, such action has violated the legitimate exercise of the right to self-determination.

To be genuine, self-determination must be preceded by open debate based on clear rules accepted by all parties, impartial authorities and the presenting of real options to the people. Furthermore, self-determination must be exercised without exclusion, influence or intimidation. Unfortunately, those elements were absent in this case.

The fait accompli could impose a reality on the ground, but it will not establish rights. We hope that, with the Assembly's adoption, the draft resolution will be able to rectify the violations that have occurred and prevent worse ones from taking place, and thus ensure a more respectful, stable and peaceful future coexistence with respect for the rule of law.

**Mr. Rishchynski** (Canada): Russia's military intervention in Ukraine is a grave threat to international peace and security. Canada joins our partners and allies in condemning in the strongest terms this unilateral and unjustified assault on Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Under Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, all States are obliged to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any other State. Article 2 also reaffirms States' obligations to settle international disputes through peaceful means. Any attempt at disrupting the national unity or territorial integrity of a State is incompatible with the fundamental purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

*(spoke in French)*

Through its unilateral actions in invading and seeking to annex Crimea, Russia has blatantly violated those core principles. Crimea's so-called referendum was not authorized by Ukraine. It was conducted while Crimea was under Russia's illegal military occupation. The referendum is therefore illegitimate and null and void. We do not and will not recognize its outcome.

*(spoke in English)*

As a result of Russia's refusal to de-escalate, Canada has been forced, along with our Group of Seven partners and other allies, to take action. We have recalled our ambassador from Moscow for consultations. We have limited our engagement with Russia and suspended military-to-military contacts. We have frozen the assets of former Ukrainian officials, including former President Yanukovich. Last week, we imposed financial sanctions and entry bans on Russian and Crimean officials who bear responsibility for the crisis in Crimea and for threatening Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

It is not too late for Russia to choose an alternate path. Canada fully supports efforts in the deployment of a comprehensive special monitoring mission by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. We welcome Russia's support for the mission. However, the mission needs to be given access to all of Ukraine, including Crimea. Canada also supports the United Nations decision to send monitors to investigate reports of human rights violations across Ukraine, no matter the alleged perpetrators. That mission, too, must be allowed into Crimea.

We believe that Ukraine has the right to choose its own future, free of coercion and the threat of violence by outside Powers. As a result of Russia's aggression in Crimea, and its refusal to de-

escalate, Canada strongly supports draft resolution A/68/L.39 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine. The draft resolution reaffirms the international community's commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.*(spoke in French)*The draft resolution also stresses the importance of protecting the rights of all persons in Ukraine, including the rights of Crimean Tatars and other minorities. Finally, it calls upon all States, international organizations and agencies to oppose any alteration to the status of Crimea or the city of Sevastopol on the basis of the referendum of 16 March, which is illegitimate and has no validity.

*(spoke in English)*

The international community cannot return to the days of the 1930s, when stronger Powers carved up weaker nations. Relations between States must be governed by the rule of law, not the law of the jungle.

Canada calls on the Russian Federation to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, to conform to international law, to avoid any further loss of life and to fully reverse its occupation of Crimea. We therefore urge all Member States to support the draft resolution.

**Mr. Yoshikawa** (Japan): I thank you, Mr. President, for holding this important debate today on the situation in Ukraine.

Japan fully agrees with the draft resolution entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine" (A/68/L.39), and therefore decided to sponsor it. With your permission, Sir, I would like to state some key points regarding Japan's position on this matter.

The Russian Federation's recognition of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea's independence, along with its illegal attempt to annex Crimea, represents an infringement of the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. It is a clear violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Whether the international community looks at what is happening in Ukraine as a bystander or chooses to stand up and take appropriate action could have a grave impact on what the international community will look like in 10 or 20 years. As Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon recently said, we are at an important crossroads.

This is not a problem for Ukraine or Europe alone. Any attempt to change the status quo with the threat of force in the background is a serious challenge to the entire international community. No country in the world should overlook an attempt by another State to alter the status quo by such means.

Paragraph 3 of the draft resolution urges all parties to pursue immediately the peaceful resolution of the situation. In that regard, the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Russian Federation on 24 March is an important step. Continued and serious dialogue between both parties is of crucial importance.

As stated in the draft resolution, we welcome the efforts of the Secretary-General, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international and regional organizations to support a de-escalation of the situation with respect to Ukraine. Japan is ready to support such initiatives and has decided to contribute €100,000 to the activities of the OSCE in the field of the promotion of political dialogue in Ukraine.

At the same time, in order to ensure the economic stability of Ukraine, which is now facing severe financial conditions, strong support by the international community is indispensable. In this spirit, Japan has decided to make a financial contribution of up to \$1.5 billion for the stability and prosperity of Ukraine.

I would like to conclude by saying that Japan will vote in favour of the draft resolution. I further reaffirm Japan's commitment to the pursuit of a peaceful solution to the situation in Ukraine, working in close cooperation with the United Nations and other international organizations. Japan will remain seized of this matter and continue to play an active role.

**Mr. Liu Jieyi** (China) *(spoke in Chinese)*: China has been paying heightened attention to the developments in the situation in Ukraine. Recently, the spillover effects of the Ukraine crisis have become very obvious. The current stance of confrontation between the parties is something that China does not want to see at all.

The question of Ukraine involves the interests and concerns of various parties, so there should be a balanced approach to addressing the question. All parties should exercise restraint, refrain from exacerbating the situation and continue their efforts to iron out their differences through political and diplomatic means to solve the question of Ukraine within the framework of law and order.

China has been calling on the international community to make constructive efforts, including through good offices, to ease the situation in Ukraine. We believe that the actions the United Nations has taken on the question of Ukraine should reflect consensus by all parties and should be conducive to the relaxation of tensions and to achieving a political settlement of the crisis. China supports the mediation efforts by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. We have also taken note of the host of proposals put forward by the parties concerned on solving the question of Ukraine.

In the context of ongoing diplomatic mediation efforts by the parties concerned, an attempt to push ahead with a vote on draft resolution A/68/L.39, on the question of Ukraine, will only further complicate the situation.

China has always been opposed to intervention in the internal affairs of other countries and has always respected the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries. China has adopted a consistent, balanced and impartial approach to the question of Ukraine. China has proposed an initiative comprising three principled points for the political settlement of the crisis in Ukraine. China calls for the early establishment and implementation of an international coordination mechanism, with the participation of all parties concerned, in order to explore and consider the ideas, concepts and proposals for a political settlement. The most pressing matter now is to identify those ideas, concepts and proposals so as to prevent further escalation of tension.

China will continue to do its utmost to promote the maintenance of peace and dialogue and to play a more constructive role in achieving a political settlement of the Ukrainian crisis.

**Mr. Çevik** (Turkey): Turkey attaches importance to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political unity of Ukraine. The results of the illegal referendum held in Crimea on 16 March, in violation of the Ukrainian Constitution and international agreements, do not bear legal validity. Turkey does not recognize the *de facto* situation. We believe that establishing *faits accomplis* through military means is extremely dangerous and inimical and can lead to negative consequences for the stability and security of the entire region.

Turkey also places strong emphasis on the security, well-being and rights of the Crimean Tatar Turks, who are an integral part of the Crimean population. Since the onset of the crisis, they have responsibly and peacefully voiced their views and concerns, as they always have in the past. We will continue to closely follow their situation.

A political solution to the crisis in Ukraine should be found through diplomatic means on the basis of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, within the framework of universal democratic principles and in accordance with the law and international agreements. We will continue to convey that message in all relevant bilateral and multilateral platforms.

**Mr. Imnadze** (Georgia): At the outset, I would like to express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for opening the floor in this timely debate of the General Assembly under the agenda item "Prevention of armed conflict" in relation to the current situation in Ukraine.

As a sponsor of the draft resolution before us (A/68/L.39), Georgia also aligns itself with the statement made by the observer of the European Union. In my national capacity, I would like to make the following remarks.

Georgia unequivocally supports the political independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. It does not recognize the referendum conducted in Ukraine's Crimea region on 16 March as legal and legitimate.

What happened in Ukraine reminds us of what we saw in Georgia in 2008, when Russia seized Georgia's Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions. Six years after the war, 20 per cent of my country remains under illegal Russian occupation, with more than 400,000 internally displaced persons and refugees denied the right of return to their homes. Georgia's continuous calls on the Russian

Federation to reciprocate a pledge of non-use of force remain unanswered. Moreover, the violation of Georgia's airspace by Russian gunships and drones has become a frequent phenomenon of late.

The latest developments make it apparent that the existing security architecture of the current international system is being undermined and the credibility of United Nations threatened. We support closer international engagement in Ukraine through the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international and regional organizations. We deem it absolutely necessary that the internationally mandated mission have access to the whole territory of Ukraine, as requested by the Ukrainian Government. That is our principled position, again based on our own experience, when, following a Russian veto on the extension of the mandate of a United Nations mission to Georgia, six years after the war, we see a void in which no one is allowed to monitor the violations of human rights in the occupied territories.

Georgia joins the international community's call for no partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine or modification of its borders to take place through the threat or use of force or other unlawful means, as stipulated in the draft resolution before us.

Concerted action is needed. Only through such action can we restore the stability of the United Nations system and prevent the annihilation of international law. Georgia once again calls on all Member States to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

**Ms. Gunnarsdóttir** (Iceland): For a small country such as Iceland, respect for international law and relations between States are of crucial importance.

Russia's actions in Crimea have challenged the core principles of the United Nations. The annexation of Crimea is contrary to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, which stipulate, inter alia, the non-use of force to settle disputes and respect for the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Member States. Other international agreements have also been violated, such as the 1994 Budapest Memorandum and the 1997 Treaty between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership. Neither the so-called referendum of 16 March or Russia's annexation of Crimea change the legal status of the region. According to international law, Crimea is part of Ukraine. The referendum, which was held while Russian forces were in complete control of Crimea, was illegal and did not meet the basic standards for democratic elections.

The crisis must be resolved by peaceful means. We urge Russia to cooperate with the Ukrainian Government and the international community in order to find ways out of the crisis.

In this forum, it is natural to focus on international law, the preservation of peace and security and respect for human rights. The message from the international community is clear – violations of international law are unacceptable. It is important to demonstrate a strong international consensus on the crisis in Ukraine. The recent vote in the Security Council on a draft resolution in support of Ukraine, co-sponsored by Iceland, shows that Russia is isolated in this matter (see S/PV.7138).

The Foreign Minister of Iceland visited Ukraine last week. His message was clear – Iceland strongly supports the Ukrainian people and condemns Russia's actions. The use of military force to redraw national boundaries is unacceptable and will have serious consequences for Russia's international standing. Iceland is fully aligned with the European Union with regard to the introduction of restrictive measures in support of Ukraine.

In the current situation, Ukraine deserves our full political and economic support. Iceland calls for strong international support for Ukraine, not only here at the United Nations but also from other international organizations, including the international financial institutions. The situation in Ukraine is of grave concern to all States that value international law and peaceful cooperation. The violation of the sovereignty and territorial borders of Ukraine is not acceptable.

The most effective way to bring stability and security to Ukraine is to provide economic and political support to the Ukrainian people, who took to the streets in November last year, demanding change, political and economic reform and respect for democratic values and human rights. They suffered great losses but kept their hope. We cannot let them down. It is also

therefore of the utmost importance that the Ukrainian Government successfully meet the demands of its people in the democratic reform process ahead, while emphasizing the rule of law, good governance and robust anti-corruption measures, and safeguarding the rights of all people, including minorities.

We urge all parties to resolve the crisis by peaceful means through direct political dialogue, respecting the will of the Ukrainian people.

**Mrs. Rubiales de Chamorro** (Nicaragua) (*spoke in Spanish*): Once again, the General Assembly has been convened as a result of the use of force against sovereign States through measures aimed at overthrowing Governments elected by the votes of their citizens. That total rupture of the constitutional order leads to widespread violence and gives way to coups d'état.

This growing trend to destabilize legitimate, democratically constituted Governments in order to overthrow them, violating the sacred principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, which leads to crisis situations, real human tragedy and untold suffering for their peoples, is reprehensible and extremely worrying. Those who are speaking of democracy are precisely those who are actually subverting it by undemocratic methods in order to advance their own interests. We will not tire of repeating that such a policy of double standards is in truth the real threat to international peace and security.

We have seen in recent years how they have organized, financed and directed from outside internal situations of violence and terrorism in countries that do not yield to their interests, manipulating human rights and civil liberties with disinformation campaigns that start from their own centres of power to force regime change and replace them with regimes that will comply with their policies.

Our President Daniel Ortega Saavedra recently pointed out with clarity:

“We are witnessing these crises in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and recently in Eastern Europe, and the world remains turbulent. And who is turning the world upside down? Those who want to maintain the oppression of the peoples of our planet, who are trying to establish new forms of colonization, new forms of slavery in the name of democracy, in the name of liberty, stimulating barbarism.

“The same scheme that was used in Honduras to oust President Manuel Zelaya is what we have just seen in Ukraine – just as barbaric, just as brutal, just as bloody! Now in Ukraine there is a president put in place by the intervention. And Ukraine has a minority population that agrees with these brutal events, and another group – the majority – that is against them, which has led autonomous communities to demand their independence.”

It is not through policies based on double standards that we strengthen a world of peace. It is not through coups d'état to bring about regime change that we strengthen a world of peace. It is through unity, solidarity and the brotherhood between our peoples, through policies that favour of peace and development, and through diplomatic efforts and solutions that we will achieve the international peace and security. We uphold the principle of the right of peoples to self-determination, particularly when it is exercised in a sovereign, peaceful and legitimate manner through the vote.

Because we want peace and believe in the prevention and resolution of conflicts by peaceful means, we reject all unilateral methods, such as political or economic sanctions against the Russian Federation, as they violate international law and do not contribute to easing the tense atmosphere. We support an inclusive political settlement, the result of goodwill on all sides, so that stability and peace may prevail. That is why we will vote against draft resolution A/68/L.39.

**Mr. Llorenty Solíz** (Plurinational State of Bolivia) (*spoke in Spanish*): Once again, Bolivia exercises its right to take the floor before the General Assembly.

The fact that the Assembly has been convened to deal with an issue that could not be resolved in the Security Council shows once again the ossified and anachronistic ways in which the Organization works. It is no exaggeration to reiterate that Security Council reform and the revitalization of the Assembly cannot be postponed in order to bring about their democratization and to guarantee that they work effectively in accordance with the purposes and principles of the

Charter of the United Nations.

Bolivia is closely following the events that have been taking place. We are extremely concerned to see the possibility of an escalation of violence with unthinkable consequences. We call upon the parties to maintain restraint and resolve the situation through corresponding diplomatic and political channels. We welcome the steps taken to that end by the Secretary-General.

Bolivia is a pacifist country that respects international law and actively contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security. Bolivia will not take a position on the referendum that took place in Crimea nor on the territorial situation of that region.

Respectful of democratic principles and the principle of sovereign equality of States, Bolivia cannot remain silent in the light of the interruption of a constitutional process, in the light of a legitimately elected Government being overthrown. The phrase “regime change” can be heard in many parts of our planet. The same words and some of the same methods have been used for several decades to overthrow democratic Governments on all continents. Democratically elected Governments are stifled in the name of democracy. Wars are begun in the name of peace. Poverty is brought into being in the name of prosperity. That is the logic of the double standard – the double standard that a few insist on imposing on others.

Bolivia is asking whether it is a threat to international security when international law is talked about only when it serves one’s interests. Is it not a threat to international security when some violate the sovereignty of peoples? Is it not a threat to international security when some are trying to rebuild a unipolar world? Is it not a violation of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of a State when millions of dollars are provided through non-governmental organizations, when the media bombards countries with disinformation and when opponents of democratically elected Governments receive financial support? Is it not a threat to international peace and security when any Power can incessantly build up arms and needlessly use military force in all parts of the globe? Is it not a threat when the major Powers drag other countries into new confrontations as they see fit? Neither threats nor tanks should replace diplomacy.

The series of attacks suffered by our countries in recent years force us to remain vigilant. Bolivia condemns both the logic that seeks to impose isolation and the sanctions that are being implemented outside of international law. Our vote therefore does not represent support for or condemnation of a particular country. Rather, it is an expression of disagreement that matters affecting peoples can be manipulated by major Powers, undermining the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. For that reason, Bolivia will vote against draft resolution A/68/L.39 before us today.

**Mr. Pedersen** (Norway): Norway fully aligns itself with the statement made by the observer of the European Union. In addition, in the light of the fundamental principles of international relations and international law that we are discussing today, I would like to make a national statement on behalf of my country.

Norway supports the draft resolution contained in document A/68/L.39 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine. The draft resolution reconfirms the importance of the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations, notably the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and to settle their disputes by peaceful means in full respect of international law. Significantly, the draft resolution also affirms the General Assembly’s commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Respect for international law is fundamental in international relations. That is a key priority in Norway’s foreign policy. One of the most basic and important rules under international law is the prohibition of the use of force. No State has the right to intervene in the affairs of another State through the use of armed force or coercion. The international community must react when such fundamental principles and rules under international law are violated. We need to be clear on such important issues. Further, as was mentioned by the representatives of Costa Rica and Iceland, that is of particular importance for small countries.

Norway does not recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea or Sevastopol. There are no independent reports of abuse of Russian-speaking minorities in Crimea or in eastern Ukraine. If such abuse had been the case, several international mechanisms for dealing with such situations within the framework of the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) could have been called upon. Those mechanisms were not used in Crimea. Norway welcomes the adoption of the mandate for an OSCE special monitoring mission to Ukraine, and we commend the Conflict Prevention Centre for the swift deployment of personnel.

Over the past few weeks, the international community has tried to engage Russia in a political dialogue with Ukraine. Norway will strongly urge Russia to engage in such a political process in order to find a political solution and negotiated resolution to the conflict.

**Mr. Menelaou** (Cyprus): Cyprus aligns itself with the statement made by the observer of the European Union and the European Council conclusions. We will also vote in favour of draft resolution A/68/L.39.

Developments in Ukraine are a source of major concern. As a country that is enduring a foreign occupation, Cyprus stresses the importance of adhering to the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence which must be applied uniformly and for all. We believe that a political solution based on full respect for the principles of and obligations under international law is possible and must be pursued by all parties involved. We encourage restraint and a consensual approach and reiterate the importance of defusing the situation through diplomatic means.

In that regard, we welcome the mediation efforts of the Secretary-General and the deployment to Ukraine of Deputy Secretary-General Eliasson and Assistant Secretary-General Šimonović. We also welcome the deployment of the mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as the continued cooperation of the United Nations with other regional actors, such as the Council of Europe.

Cyprus enjoys close relations with both Ukraine and Russia. We encourage the Ukrainian authorities to reach out to all regions and population groups and to ensure full protection of the rights of people belonging to different ethnicities. The new Government should be representative of all Ukrainian citizens and their aspirations. We also encourage the Ukrainian authorities to investigate all acts of violence. At the same time, we encourage Russia to commit to a diplomatic solution and contribute to the de-escalation of tensions.

**The President:** We have heard the last speaker in the debate on sub-item (b) of agenda item 33. We shall now proceed to consider draft resolution A/68/L.39.

I now give the floor to those who have asked to speak in explanation of vote before the voting. May I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

**Ms. King** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): As a small State with a tiny population, open borders and no standing army, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines owes its continued peaceful existence as an independent and sovereign nation to a robust and universally accepted body of international law, which includes the United Nations Charter. As active members of the General Assembly, we take seriously former Secretary-General Kofi Annan's 1998 assessment that the contributions of small States "are the very glue of progressive international cooperation for the common good". We also agree wholeheartedly with former United States president John F. Kennedy's 1963 assertion that "small nations... can and must help build a world peace".

One of the essential contributions to be made by small States like ours is the tireless advocacy for timeless principles enshrined in international law. With no ideological or geostrategic axes to grind, we consider it our solemn obligation to not only articulate those principles, but to ensure that they are applied consistently and upheld in the international community as universal truths, rather than selective, uneven and unpredictable tools to further hegemonic or great Power ambition. Such a jaundiced view of international law would weaken the integrity and legitimacy of the General Assembly and, ultimately, the existential pillars upon which small and militarily

weak States rely.

Accordingly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines views the recent events in Crimea and Ukraine with great concern. We reiterate the call made by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in its 5 March statement for the pacific settlement of disputes and respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Secessionist referendums and those on the sovereignty of ethnically or historically distinct inhabitants of a particular geographic area should not be manipulated or selectively accepted by would-be imperial Powers. We note the sad irony that those most supportive of Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence now reject such a declaration by Crimea, while those with the strongest arguments against the decision of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the Kosovar unilateral declaration of independence now cite it approvingly. We also note that those who advised Argentina to take careful note of the views of 99 per cent of the residents in the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) are now branding the opinions of 97 per cent of the residents of Crimea as invalid.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines also recalls that the principles put forward to justify intervention in Ukraine are eerily similar to those posited 31 years ago in the context of our CARICOM neighbour Grenada. However, the legal defenders and dissenters have switched places this time.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has long advocated and advanced the principle of territorial integrity, even in the case of ongoing civil war and sectarian unrest. Similarly, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines firmly defends paragraph 4 of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, which prohibits the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State. We also view the principle of self-determination for non-implemented populations, particularly in the context of decolonization, to be sacrosanct.

Unfortunately, the nature of today's draft resolution (A/68/L.39) and the arguments of its chief proponents have called into question the universal and consistent applicability of international law in such and similar instances. Despite our real and continuing concerns over the events that have taken place in Crimea and Ukraine, we view today's draft resolution as motivated more by the principals than by principles. Many of the major Powers on either side of that particular dispute have reversed their long-standing positions on similar conflicts and are now on record as contradicting themselves, notwithstanding their efforts to find legal and factual distinctions. Also, it is regrettable that the Assembly has failed to consider the historical context of that particular geopolitical dispute and the nature of the recent change of regime in Ukraine.

Such concerns compel Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to abstain in the voting on the draft resolution.

**Mrs. Carrion** (Uruguay) (*spoke in Spanish*): Uruguay will abstain in the voting on draft resolution A/68/L.39, even though we agree with many of the concepts outlined in the draft text. On previous occasions, our country has expressed its views on conflicts or situations that threaten the main principles of international law, such as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. Our country's long-standing support for international law and the role of multilateralism has always led us to act consistently in upholding the law and the principle of the territorial integrity of States. The most recent cases were Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence and the referendum of the people of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). In both cases, we rejected the possibility of undermining such principles.

We believe that the territorial integrity of States is a principle of the United Nations and a fundamental standard of basic international law that all States should respect as a fundamental element for the peaceful coexistence and cooperation among members of the international community. In the light of that long-standing position of our country, in the specific case of the Crimean peninsula Uruguay believes that any declaration that is not in line with the constitutional principles of the Ukrainian State cannot alter the internationally recognized borders and therefore contravenes the principle of the territorial integrity of States. International legality must prevail.

However, while consistent in that regard, the draft resolution also contains other elements of a political nature that our country believes to be inappropriate and that significantly alter its scope, which, in our view, should focus solely on applying the principle of the territorial integrity of States.

The promotion of democratic principles is the responsibility of all actors involved in the current events in Ukraine. It is important that all such stakeholders contribute to the country's stability, the democratic legitimacy of its institutions and the peaceful resolution of the various interests present in the Ukrainian society, and prevent the heightening of tension at the national and regional levels.

Finally, Uruguay hopes that the conflict of interests that Ukraine is currently experiencing can be resolved exclusively by peaceful means on the basis of dialogue among the parties and in full respect for international law and democratic values.

**Mr. Escalante Hasbún** (El Salvador) (*spoke in Spanish*): El Salvador reaffirms its commitment to peace and the strict respect for human rights, international law and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. Likewise, we reiterate our total commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes and to the primacy of multilateralism.

In analysing the situation under consideration, we recall our history, in particular the invaluable backing and support that we received from the international community in resolving the internal conflict that affected the country in the 1980s. We reaffirm our commitment to peace and respect for human rights, international law and the principles enshrined in the Charter. We also note our overwhelming commitment to the peaceful resolution of disputes and, again, to the primacy of multilateral action.

El Salvador acknowledges the difficulties faced by the Ukrainian people. However, we believe that the complex situation faced by Ukraine and its neighbouring areas is not fully reflected in draft resolution A/68/L.39. The draft text does not promote areas of dialogue that would make it possible to reach a solution on the basis of the principles of international law and that primarily seek to de-escalate the conflict and to ensure human rights and the political, economic and social stability of the region.

Similarly, El Salvador believes that the content of the draft resolution will not help to resolve the root causes of the crisis. It does not call for dialogue among the actors and countries involved in the crisis or set an appropriate precedent for dealing with various points of inter- and intra-State tensions in the world on geographical grounds. Our country supports the efforts of the Secretary-General to promote a direct dialogue between the parties. We reiterate the need to implement of United Nations reform to enable the Organization to better respond to the current complex international reality. El Salvador appeals to all parties to continue to seek peaceful and diplomatic solutions that favour the people's call for and right to their own development.

Given all those points, El Salvador has taken the sovereign decision to abstain in the voting on the draft resolution before us, contained in document A/68/L.39.

**The President:** We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote before the vote.

I give the floor to the representative of the Secretariat.

**Mr. Botnaru** (Department for General Assembly and Conference Management): I should like to announce that, since the submission of draft resolution A/68/L.39, in addition to those delegations listed in the document, the following countries have become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

**The President:** The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/68/L.39, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine". A recorded vote has been requested.

*A recorded vote was taken.*

*In favour:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

*Against:*

Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Comoros, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Guyana, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Paraguay, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia

*Draft resolution A/68/L.39 was adopted by 100 votes to 11, with 58 abstentions (resolution 68/262).*

**The President:** Before giving the floor to speakers in explanation of vote after the voting, may I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

**Ms. Rodríguez Pineda** (Guatemala) (*spoke in Spanish*): Guatemala voted in favour of resolution 68/262, which was just adopted. We did so because we cannot endorse the territorial dismemberment of any State on the basis of unilateral arguments invoking people's right to self-determination. That violates both the Charter of the United Nations and the international order established over the past 69 years. That is why we also cannot accept the unilateral decision of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is an integral part of the sovereign territory of Ukraine, to convene a referendum that would in effect justify its secession from Ukraine. Nor can we accept the subsequent steps aimed at the annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation.

On the other hand, we have serious concerns about the situation. Our concerns originated with the street protests against the established Government in Ukraine, which evolved from peaceful protests to situations of violence and a breaking of the established constitutional order, whose legitimacy could be questionable. We hope that those doubts can be overcome through an open and inclusive electoral process, which fully respects the country's ethnic, cultural and regional diversity, opening the way to a plural Government which would seek friendly relations with all its neighbours. It is possible that a federal State could help in achieving those objectives. But it is up to the peoples of Ukraine to decide in a sovereign manner on their future.

We are also concerned about the present international environment, which seems to be the revival of a dividing fault line between East and West, which we believed was part of the past.

While we understand that the present international context makes it impossible to return to what we previously called the “Cold War”, which caused so much harm to the world and adversely affected my own country, that atmosphere of tension, if not of confrontation, makes us very uncomfortable and is eroding bit by bit the multiple channels of cooperation that have been built up between the Russian Federation and the main members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. We believe that the events in Ukraine that triggered those tensions also hold the potential to make the country a place where the main external actors in the international arena can come together, to the benefit of the entire world.

In light of all this, we urgently call on all parties to address the aforementioned conflict situation, which would require above all a diplomatic solution to the dispute between Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Such an outcome must take into account the diversity of the country and at the same time respect its territorial integrity. In that regard, we support the good offices that Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon offered, and we trust that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, together with the United Nations, can play a relevant role in reaching the aforementioned objective.

**Mrs. Ogwu (Nigeria):** Nigeria voted in favour of resolution 68/262, which was adopted today, solely on the basis of principle. We were guided by the same consideration when we voted for draft resolution S/2014/189, submitted to the Security Council on 15 March.

We want it to be clearly understood that in voting for those draft resolutions, Nigeria neither supports nor opposes any particular country or group of countries. Rather, Nigeria firmly upholds the sanctity of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, in accordance with the Declaration on Rights and Duties of States of 1949, the Constitutive Act of the African Union and other relevant instruments that protect the sovereignty of States, the inviolability of their borders and territorial integrity, as well as their political independence.

We did not take lightly the decision to vote in favour of the two texts. We weighed the evidence of the case on the scales of justice and the reality of the situation in our own part of the world. We also considered the universality of the application of the principles that we pledged to uphold in our interaction with the rest of the world. Both draft resolutions reaffirm the fundamental principles of international law and the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. We believe that States must respect the rule of law at the international level. They must demonstrate due regard for the universal and self-evident truth that all States are equal in the sight of the law, regardless of their size, their wealth, their power or their influence.

Nigeria had hoped that, after the failure of the Security Council to adopt the draft resolution before it, alternative means of addressing the situation in Ukraine would be found, such as resorting to regional dispute resolution arrangements to which the concerned parties belong. It is our firm conviction that peace can be achieved only on the basis of mutual respect. Indeed, respect is the foundation on which the rule of law is anchored. In that regard, we believe that the protection of ethnic minorities, the guarantee of their inviolable rights and respect for their dignity, among others, are the obligation of States. Therefore, no State should deny the rights of entire nationalities or strip them of their identities, including the use of their native languages.

The United Nations and its Member States must view with concern and apprehension and condemn without reservation all infringements of the Charter and provisions of international law wherever they occur and no matter who perpetrates them. Nigeria will continue to abide by the rule of law and respect the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. Nigeria takes this opportunity to reiterate its call that States should, as much as possible, endeavour to seek peaceful and amicable ways to settle their disputes, regardless of the nature of the disputes. Those principles, which are also enshrined in article 4 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, to which Nigeria solemnly subscribes, stress the need for respect for the internationally recognized borders of States.

Nigeria will continue to oppose the use and the threat of use of force in settling international disputes. We have consistently called for dialogue, mediation, restraint and an end to hostile rhetoric. Nigeria has advocated mediation and the pacific settlement of all disputes, including

territorial disputes. Our willing submission to the ruling of the International Court of Justice in our dispute with the Republic of Cameroon should serve as a beacon and an inspiration to all law-abiding nations.

As a long-standing member of the Non-Aligned Movement, Nigeria will not recognize power blocs or spheres of influence aimed at creating some ephemeral balance of power, which only serve to undermine rather than uphold the universal principles of the United Nations and supremacy of international law. Nigeria is resolved to facilitate the peaceful resolution of the situation in Ukraine and will, in that endeavour, be guided and inspired by universally accepted principles, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Constitutive Act of the African Union and other normative principles of international law.

**Mr. Errázuriz** (Chile) (*spoke in Spanish*): Chile values the fact that the General Assembly, as the only principal organ of the United Nations with universal membership, has spoken on the situation in Ukraine, because what is at stake are principles contemplated in the Charter of the United Nations and international law that affect the very coexistence of States, such as the obligation to refrain from the use or threat of use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of any State. Likewise, we support the appeal to all of the parties to resolve the situation peacefully through direct political dialogue, to refrain from unilateral actions and to commit to international mediation.

In the same vein, Chile reiterates its support for the efforts being made by the Secretary-General to prevent an escalation of the situation, to achieve a peaceful solution to the crisis, and for the due protection of the human rights of all people, including all minorities. Chile values the work that is being done in that area by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other regional organizations.

**Mr. Neo Ek Beng Mark** (Singapore): Singapore opposes the annexation of any country or territory, as it contravenes international law. We also object to any unprovoked invasion of a sovereign country under any pretext. Singapore affirms the principles of respect for the territorial integrity of and non-interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign nation, and respect for sovereignty and the rule of law.

Singapore therefore opposes the annexation of Crimea to Russia. All parties should respect international law and take steps to de-escalate tensions and resolve the crisis peacefully. Accordingly, Singapore voted in favour of resolution 68/262.

**Mrs. Perceval** (Argentina) (*spoke in Spanish*): On 15 March, the Security Council considered a draft resolution at a time of extreme tension in Ukraine, when there was a serious risk of the situation escalating and leading to violence. At that time, Argentina voted in favour of the aforementioned draft resolution, as we understood that it clarified the international standards and the fundamental principles that should guide the international community, without any reference to future acts or the hypothetical consequences of a referendum that had not yet taken place.

In that vein, once again, a text has been proposed based on a statement in line with an interpretation by the international community of domestic Ukrainian laws that is not coherent with the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of that country. In that respect, we have noted a lack of coherency in several statements.

The Charter of the United Nations is very clear and leaves no room for interpretations based on the circumstantial interests of each nation. My country regrets the fact that the parties involved in the situation under consideration today have not duly taken into account repeated appeals by the international community to respect the principles to which we have all adhered as Member States to respect the primacy of the principle of the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of all States; to abstain from military, economic or political intervention in the internal affairs of other States; and to strictly align their actions with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Argentina will continue to comply with those principles, and we regret the double standards employed by various members of the international community, who adapt their actions and statements to geopolitical necessities in order to deal with specific situations.

Argentina does not believe in adopting a confrontational stance that is a throwback to previous eras in which the international community was divided into separate and opposed blocs, thus preventing them from building a common future. We intend for our decisions not to fall back into the concept of a world divided by ideological barriers, a world where the principal victims were the peoples of Latin America, Africa and Asia. We believe that those situations cannot be resolved through unilateral acts of any kind, especially by actors with great influence who should, in fact, be relying on constructive diplomacy. We hope that they will assume their responsibilities.

We are convinced that we must all strive to avoid encouraging dissent and escalating tensions to promote confrontation. We believe that the timing in bringing the draft resolution before us for consideration does not contribute to fulfilling the objective of the entire international community to find a peaceful and political solution to the crisis; it is only contributing to making the situation even more complex.

Argentina will continue to promote a peaceful resolution of the conflict. Accordingly, we reject initiatives that seek to isolate one of the parties or impose unilateral economic sanctions that undermine the conditions that could lead to a dialogue that has become very urgent. We reaffirm once again that the international community should concentrate its efforts on persuading the parties to the Ukrainian crisis to start a constructive dialogue that will allow them find a peaceful solution to the current situation, strictly uphold human rights and international humanitarian law, and respect the ethnic, linguistic, cultural and religious rights of all minorities. At the same time, the efforts of the international community should be strictly framed within international law and the Charter of the United Nations with the aim of bringing domestic peace to that country and creating an atmosphere conducive to international negotiations.

Our position on territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, be it through political, economic or military means, is as clear as it is consistent with our actions. However, in times like these, resolution 68/262 goes in the direction of limiting dialogue and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. We therefore abstained in the voting. At the same time, we emphatically support the steps taken by the Secretary-General in this and in all conflicts that involve States Members of the United Nations.

**Ms. Al-Thani** (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): We have followed the situation in Ukraine very closely and we would like a just solution to the crisis to be found in a consensual manner, in accordance with the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. On the basis of our belief in peaceful and consensual solution to the conflict, we encourage all the parties to avoid any escalation of violence, seek compromise and inclusive dialogue, and engage cooperatively and constructively in the search for a solution acceptable to all.

We were bound by the principles of international law and the United Nations Charter when we voted in favour of resolution 68/262. Those principles are internationally accepted. They include, in particular, the principles of the non-use of force, of settling international conflicts peacefully, of respecting the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of all States Members of the United Nations, and of maintaining a comprehensive political dialogue. From our examination of the draft resolution, we came to understand that it sought to assert the aforementioned principles of international law. On the basis of those principles, we voted in favour of resolution 68/262.

**Mr. Ja Song Nam** (Democratic People's Republic of Korea): The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea voted against resolution 68/262, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine". In that regard, as a follow-up, I would like to clarify the position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As far as the current crisis in Ukraine is concerned, it has been unquestionably caused by the interference of the United States and other Western countries in the internal affairs of Ukraine and their instigation of chaos and disorder. It is the principled position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to formally oppose and reject any attempt to overthrow legitimate Governments and social systems through such forms of conspiracy as interventions, pressure and

the colour revolutions. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea respects the rights of the people of Ukraine and their choices based on respect for the principle of equal rights and the self-determination of peoples, as stipulated in the Charter of the United Nations and other international laws and regulations.

The United States and other Western countries have unlawfully interfered in the internal affairs of Ukraine and instigated chaos and disorder, thereby bringing instability, violence and strife between peoples in Ukraine to extreme levels. That is the main cause of the reunification of Ukraine with Russia.

It is a well-established practice of the United States to intervene in the internal affairs of sovereign States and provoke chaos and bloodshed for the purposes of gaining hegemony over the world. In particular, the United States is ruthlessly imposing sanctions, blockades and isolation upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea while openly threatening it through military exercises. In addition, the United States is advancing its historical human rights conspiracy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by driving it to a dangerous degree and extreme ends. All those acts serve the purposes of the United States and the Western countries in stifling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the simple reason that we are not in complete agreement with them.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea notes that the reunification of Ukraine with Russia has been undertaken in a legitimate manner by means of a referendum based on the voluntary wishes of the people of Ukraine in line with the right to self-determination set forth in the Charter of the United Nations. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea therefore voted against resolution 68/262. Further, we intend to oppose all efforts aimed at overthrowing legitimate Governments and social systems and at undermining respect for the right and the choice of the people of Ukraine, which is based on the principles of equal rights and self-determination stipulated in the United Nations Charter and other international laws and regulations.

In conclusion, we hope that the current situation in Ukraine will be resolved in a fair manner to bring about peace and stability in accordance with the wishes and interests of the people of Ukraine pursuant to internationally recognized laws and principles, in particular the principles of equal rights and the self-determination of peoples.

**Mr. Khalil** (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): We are meeting today in order to discuss a very important matter having to do with the global international order. We believe that this is the appropriate way to consider the issue. We believe that the current global order has not been able to absorb the changes the world has seen over the past 25 years following the collapse of a global order marked by bipolarity and the Cold War. As a result, the current crisis in Ukraine is only a sign of the aftermath of a former order that we wish had remained in the past.

We believe, in accordance with the principles of international law, that the best way to resolve crises in the international community is to employ diplomacy and avoid escalation. However, we are also convinced that the world today needs reform and a total revamping of international institutions in order to make them better suited to the current situation and able to take into account elements that the international community should have been taking into consideration over the past two decades.

We observe, in that respect, that in many cases international law is not consistent when it comes to the concerns of States, which may be better addressed at the regional rather than the international level if we are to guarantee peaceful coexistence and good-neighbourly relations among States. It is also true that there is sometimes a contradiction between the will of the people and the legal frameworks that govern them. As a result, those elements must be reconciled.

If we do not deal with those phenomena actively through the establishment of creative mechanisms that are not selective and are able to strike a balance between principles and interests, international and regional crises will follow one upon another, and the international order will not be able to contain them. That is why Egypt abstained in the voting on resolution

68/262, just adopted.

**Mr. Nguyen Trac Ba** (Viet Nam): Viet Nam is following the situation in Ukraine and Crimea closely and attentively, and it is our wish that the parties concerned exercise restraint and seek political solutions to the current situation in order to resolve issues through peaceful means on the basis of respect for the fundamental principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the legitimate aspirations of people for the early stabilization of the situation, for the sake of peace and stability in the region and the world.

**Mr. Meza-Cuadra Velásquez** (Peru) (*spoke in Spanish*): Peru's vote in favour of resolution 68/262, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", was another statement of our consistent position advocating respect and adherence to the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In that regard, Peru believes that the peaceful resolution of disputes and respect for international treaties are essential to guarantee international peace and security.

Peru recognizes the Secretary-General's efforts to promote mediation, and in that respect we appeal for constructive and inclusive dialogue that takes into account the legitimate interests of all the parties involved, with which Peru maintains friendly and cooperative relations. My country believes that, with regard to international law, it is essential to avoid a return to the dynamics of the past, which were fraught with divisions and confrontation and thus undermined our peoples' progress and development.

**Mr. Bamrungphong** (Thailand): Thailand has carefully considered resolution 68/262 and decided to vote in favour of it because of the overriding importance that Thailand attaches to the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the peaceful resolution of conflict. Thailand recognizes that the current situation is complex and delicate. It is our fervent hope that all efforts will be made to bring about an immediate de-escalation of tensions and that the door will be kept open for dialogue that would lead to a political solution and the restoration of peace as soon as possible based on the legitimate interests of all parties concerned.

**Mr. Lupan** (Republic of Moldova): The Republic of Moldova has followed with great concern the unfolding of the situation in Ukraine and remains deeply worried about the developments in that neighbouring and friendly country. In that context, we have already stressed our position in support of the principles of international law applying to all Member States – in this particular case to Ukraine – on their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within internationally recognized borders, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, including Article 2. We also believe that bilateral and multilateral agreements make up a body of international law that must be observed, including in the case of Ukraine.

While welcoming the commitment of the Ukrainian authorities to respect and protect the rights of all persons in Ukraine, including minorities, we acknowledge that the future of Ukraine can be considered and decided upon only based on the free will and aspirations of all Ukrainians themselves, without any outside influence.

We regret the conduct of the so-called referendum in Crimea. The Government of the Republic of Moldova expressed its position on 16 March and reiterates that the so-called referendum on the status of the Crimean peninsula cannot be legal, due to the fact that it contravenes the Ukrainian Constitution and international law. The conditions in which the so-called referendum took place cannot be considered representative of the free expression of the people's will and does not correspond to relevant international standards and law. The Republic of Moldova stands with the people of Ukraine and will provide all possible support to efforts to overcome the current crisis in a peaceful manner and in conformity with the principles of international law.

We commend the ongoing United Nations efforts with regard to the crisis and look forward to the continued constructive role of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the United Nations system as a whole in that regard. We also welcome the 21 March decision of the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to deploy a special OSCE monitoring mission to Ukraine, taken this time by consensus, which is a good example for the United Nations to follow.

The crisis in Ukraine presents difficulties for the existing system of inter-State relations and the United Nations. The implementation of international principles on sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of States, the rule of law, including in the context of multilateral and bilateral relations, respect for human rights and free and fair expression of the popular will are paramount to the well-functioning of this Organization in particular and to the system of international security and international relations as a whole.

As a country that has had an unresolved and protracted separatist conflict on its territory for over 20 years, we look forward to the resolution of conflict through peaceful means and dialogue. That is why my delegation voted in favour of resolution 68/262, in support of respect for the Charter of the United Nations and its principles.

**Mr. Abdrakhmanov** (Kazakhstan): The crisis in Ukraine is particularly painful and sensitive for Kazakhstan. For centuries, the Kazakh, Russian and Ukrainian people have lived in friendship and accord. Today, Kazakhstan is home to Kazakhs, Russians, Ukrainians, Tatars, Germans, Poles, Koreans and many others living in peace and harmony. Together we raise our children, strengthen unity and friendship and create a prosperous future for our common land, Kazakhstan. In its statements, Kazakhstan has repeatedly confirmed its adherence to the fundamental principles of international law. We are interested in Ukraine remaining a sovereign, stable and independent State. The economic recovery of Ukraine is the main priority and prerequisite for the full-fledged normalization of the country's situation.

Kazakhstan always follows an independent foreign policy based on a balance of interests. Kazakhstan's position that conflicts should be resolved through negotiations, under the auspices of the United Nations, reflects the views and interests of the majority of States of the world. In today's critical circumstances, we have to take into account the *faits accomplis* and current realities. It is of crucial importance to heed the voice of reason and search all possible ways to achieve a peaceful settlement of the crisis through political and diplomatic means and within the framework of internationally agreed formats.

Kazakhstan calls upon all parties involved to leave emotions, mutual accusations and finger-pointing behind and reject the language of ultimatums and sanctions. We should not allow a further escalation of tensions and avoid making the situation more complicated, which could have unpredictable consequences on both the regional and global scales. We stand ready to promote and support international mediation efforts and facilitate the negotiation process among all parties and their leaders with a view to the earliest resolution of the situation in Ukraine.

In light of the all this, Kazakhstan abstained in the voting.

**Mr. Raja Zaib Shah** (Malaysia): Respect for the Charter of the United Nations is paramount to the maintenance of international peace and security. The Charter enshrines the principles of sovereign equality among Member States and the non-interference in the internal affairs of its Members. Malaysia has always upheld those noble principles. We call upon all parties to adhere to the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations.

Malaysia values its close relations with both Russia and Ukraine. In that regard, we urge both countries to engage in dialogue and explore all possible means of finding a peaceful solution. We hope that both sides will adopt a moderate approach and work towards an amicable solution. Malaysia also supports every peaceful effort, including the international diplomatic initiative aimed at resolving the situation in Ukraine.

Malaysia hopes that all efforts will be exhausted before other measures are considered. All parties involved must respect the rule of law, act responsibly and aim towards finding a peaceful settlement. We believe that the exercise of moderation by all concerned parties could contribute towards reaching a sustainable solution. We would not like to see an escalation of the situation and urge all parties to exercise restraint. The interests, welfare and security of the people of Ukraine must be given the top priority, while taking into account the implications on the overall stability and peace in the region.

**Mr. Musayev** (Azerbaijan): Azerbaijan voted in favour of resolution 68/262 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine. Our position is based on the following understanding. The current situation

in Ukraine is a matter of serious concern requiring continued international and regional efforts towards a de-escalation of the crisis and finding a peaceful and negotiated solution in accordance with international law and the Constitution of Ukraine.

The Republic of Azerbaijan condemns extremism, radicalism and separatism in all their forms and manifestations and reiterates its unequivocal adherence to the fundamental principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of States, which constitute the basic foundation of international relations and the international legal order. We strongly support the resolution of all conflicts between Member States through political dialogue on the basis of the aforementioned principles.

In situations of armed conflict or political crisis involving inter-State relations, no solution can be reached which is inconsistent with international law, particularly where fundamental norms are concerned, such as the obligation to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. We believe that the strict observance of those norms concerning friendly relations and cooperation among States and the fulfilment in good faith of the obligations assumed by States are of the greatest importance for the maintenance of international peace and security.

**Ms. Richards** (Jamaica): Jamaica is firmly committed to the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, including respect for the territorial integrity of sovereign States, as well as the resolution of disputes through peaceful means. In that connection, we remain concerned about the situation in Ukraine and consider that the complexities of the situation require the international community to act in a determined, but balanced, manner. That is based on our view that the rule of law and the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter have to be respected by all States, whether large or small. That protects the weak from the strong and ensures that the use or threat of use of force is avoided. It is also important that the application by the international community of the principles underpinning the Charter be undertaken in an even-handed manner, thereby avoiding unnecessary tension for partial political gain.

It was after weighing such considerations that Jamaica took the decision to abstain in the voting on resolution 68/262, as in our view it makes some presumptions that could in effect result in more tensions in the region, delaying the search for a peaceful solution. In keeping with the statement of the Caribbean Community on 5 March, Jamaica continues to support the call for the use of international mediation and/or negotiations to address security and human rights concerns in Ukraine, under the auspices of the United Nations. We further reiterate the call made by the Caribbean Community for all parties involved to act with self-restraint and responsibility in order to reduce tensions and avoid destabilization in that region.

**Mr. Moncada** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) (*spoke in Spanish*): The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela voted against resolution 68/262 on the situation in Ukraine since we believe that the resolution does not give the attention necessary to the delicate political situation that resulted from the interruption of the democratic constitutional fabric in that European State, which led to the establishment of a *de facto* Government.

Venezuela reiterated its commitment to promoting, protecting and upholding international order, international law and its institutions, human rights and fundamental freedoms. Our national position, which is based on constitutional premises, is consistent with the doctrine that has been developed in the Union of South American Nations, in which its members have categorically opposed changes in the democratic constitutional order of the States of the region.

Our country reiterates its rejection of the overthrow of the democratically elected Government of Ukraine by extremist groups, whose activity, which is encouraged by external Powers connected to opposition groups in the *de facto* Ukrainian Government, led to very unfortunate events and undermined democracy and the rule of law in the country. Given the negative impact on the peace and stability of that region, such a situation cannot be disregarded since it threatens the security of major parts of the Ukrainian population, who believe their human rights, including their right to life, to be at risk.

Furthermore, we are concerned about the increasing trend of democratically elected Governments being overthrown by groups with extremist ideologies inherited from those that in

the past were responsible for the outbreak of the Second World War and the systematic extermination of millions of human beings and that now, in Ukraine, with the complicity and indifference of certain States, reappear stirring up violence in order to incite hatred, intolerance, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and racism, fuelling the risk of a conflict with unpredictable repercussions.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reiterates its call for dialogue and negotiations between the parties in order to overcome the political crisis in Ukraine. We are convinced that it is up to the Ukrainian people to resolve their differences peacefully through an inclusive and democratic dialogue with a view to re-establishing the constitutional order that has been undermined. The international community should support direct dialogue between the parties so as to contribute to the validity of the democratic rule of law, taking into account the legitimate interests of all members of Ukraine's various communities and regions.

**Mr. Lasso Mendoza** (Ecuador) (*spoke in Spanish*): My country has closely followed the serious events in Ukraine since last year, when the demonstrations began in the city of Kyiv. The protests intensified throughout the month of December 2013 and then in January and February of this year and degenerated into street battles provoked by violent agents on both sides, which caused human and material losses and were aggravated by the irresponsible presence of foreign politicians, who encouraged the protesters to reject the Government of Ukraine. That spiral of violence created the conditions for the establishment of an irregular Government in Ukraine without to date having clarified the procedures used to remove a democratically elected President.

Those very serious events are the precedents for the referendum that took place on 16 March in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and in the city of Sevastopol. Such precedents are of crucial importance in considering the agenda item before us because foreign interference in the internal affairs of Ukraine began long before 16 March. Regrettably, that was not mentioned in resolution 68/262.

In that regard, my delegation would like to say the following. First, my country supports the principles of territorial integrity and of the self-determination of peoples. Secondly, for my country a local referendum is not sufficient to justify a change in the territorial integrity of a State. Thirdly, Ecuador condemns any interference in the internal affairs of other States and any form of intervention, whether it be armed incursion, aggression, occupation or an economic or military blockade. Fourthly, we reject foreign interference in the affairs of Ukraine, which have caused the political destabilization of that country since last year. Fifthly, my country, Ecuador, does not recognize Governments established following the collapse of a democratic order. We oppose the propensity of certain Powers to provoke regime change through the use or threat of use of force. Sixthly, my country does not acknowledge the validity of any unilateral sanctions that a State or a group of States seek to impose on another outside the Charter of the United Nations.

For all those reasons, my country abstained in the voting on the resolution.

**Mr. Lazarev** (Belarus) (*spoke in Russian*): Belarus welcomes all efforts to find a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Ukraine and to de-escalate the situation in the region. Belarus supports first and foremost resort to mechanisms that are less representative than the General Assembly but that may now be more successful in bringing about a peaceful resolution of the situation. We note the important work in Ukraine of the United Nations human rights monitoring mission and the assessment mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

**Mr. Boukadoum** (Algeria): Algeria, along with several other countries, abstained in the voting on the resolution submitted for our consideration today. Despite our abstention, we would like to reiterate our strict adherence to the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, specifically those stated in Articles 1 and 2 that refer to territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty, as well as equal rights and self-determination. We consider those principles as the main cornerstones of international relations and the basis of international law.

Algeria takes pride in its close and friendly relationship both with the Russian Federation and with Ukraine, and cannot but join the calls for the continuation and strengthening of the dialogue to avoid escalation so as to solve the differences and to quell unwanted consequences. We are encouraged by all efforts aimed at calming the current tensions, including those of the Secretary-General, whose personal endeavours we support in that regard. Algeria will obviously continue to contribute to that end, both directly or within the regional and political groups to which we belong, in order to ease the tensions.

**Ms. Flores** (Honduras) (*spoke in Spanish*): The Republic of Honduras voted in favour of resolution 68/262 on the basis of its full respect for the principles of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, which inspire the international community and are the foundation of the Charter of the United Nations. Those principles contribute to and should continue to be the basis for a constructive dialogue towards the peaceful resolution of conflicts between the political actors. Honduras trusts that the resolution not only strengthens the principles that gave rise to the United Nations but also is a means for maintaining peace, security and the international order. Finally, we call on the rest of the international community to continue to respect the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

**Mr. Ferreira** (Cabo Verde) (*spoke in French*): Cabo Verde understands that relations among States must be guided and supported by the universally accepted principles of international law. The Republic of Cabo Verde voted in favour of resolution 68/262 because, as a State Member of the United Nations, we believe that the solution to a dispute can be achieved only through respect for principles, including those enshrined in the Charter of the Organization, that seek to promote and preserve peace in the world.

On behalf of the Government, I would also like to note and underscore that Cabo Verde's vote is first and foremost in favour of world and regional peace, and that it was exercised in the conviction that political dialogue and the pursuit of peaceful and negotiated solutions remain the path to follow in settling disputes such as the one we are currently considering.

**Mr. Dabbashi** (Libya) (*spoke in Arabic*): Libya voted in favour of resolution 68/262 on the basis of our commitment to defending the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

We in Libya are fully aware of the historical background of the problems on the Crimean peninsula. We are fully aware of the Russian Federation's interest in Ukraine. Nevertheless, we also cannot ignore the principle of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. Those principles are entrenched in the Charter of the United Nations and in international law. Furthermore, the Constitutive Act of the African Union, of which Libya is a member, clearly states the need to respect the post-independence boundaries of States. Therefore, any changes in the borders of any State must be undertaken within the constitutional order of that country and in accordance with the relevant national laws.

Libya stresses the importance of dialogue and diplomatic efforts in resolving inter- and intra-State disputes. We believe that all States are duty-bound to not exploit difficult internal conditions in other States in order to interfere in their internal affairs and undermine their territorial integrity and independence. Libya hopes that the parties concerned will exercise self-restraint, not escalate the situation and endeavour to find a peaceful solution that respects the rights of all.

Ukraine and Russia are neighbours. They must be able to co-exist, and they should draw on their historical relations and the interests of their peoples to find a solution that will normalize relations between them as soon as possible. The international community ought to be encouraging them in that direction.

**Mr. Ntwaagae** (Botswana): I thank you, Mr. President, for affording me the opportunity to explain Botswana's position on resolution 68/262 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, which the Assembly has just adopted.

Botswana has been following the unfolding events in Ukraine closely and with deep concern. We are profoundly disturbed by the conflict and escalating tension between two sovereign,

neighbouring States that share very deep historical ties. We continue to hope for a diplomatic and amicable solution to the crisis based on the ideals of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

In that context, Botswana would like to reaffirm its strong faith in the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitutive Act of the African Union, specifically in relation to the respect for the sovereign equality, unity and territorial integrity of States. We believe those, among other principles of international law, to be essential for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Botswana therefore does not support the dismemberment of sovereign nations, either through unilateral declarations of independence or through coercion by external forces. As the Assembly may be aware, Botswana has consistently acted in accordance with those principles in the past, as we believe they are paramount to the maintenance of international peace and stability.

Botswana fully recognizes that the political crisis in Ukraine was precipitated by, among others, the unconstitutional removal of a democratically elected President. We therefore believe that it is critical, at this juncture, for sufficient space to be allowed for the diplomatic efforts that are currently under way at the bilateral level between Ukraine and Russia and at the international level to be pursued to their logical conclusion. Our continued hope is that those processes will deliver a positive and amicable outcome that not only serves to end the hostility between Ukraine and Russia, but also facilitates improved relations between those two sovereign States. Botswana feels very strongly that it is essential for the international community to have a balanced and impartial approach to the conflict.

Because of those considerations, Botswana abstained in the voting on the resolution.

**Mr. Scappini Ricciardi** (Paraguay) (*spoke in Spanish*): With regard to resolution 68/262, entitled “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”, the delegation of Paraguay would like to make the following explanation of its abstention in the voting.

The Government of Paraguay has followed closely the events that have occurred on the Crimean peninsula.

It is of interest to us because we consider the Russian Federation and Ukraine to be fraternal countries with which we have enjoy cooperation in various areas. People of Russian and Ukrainian origin in our country have assisted us in the development of various areas of our country. That closeness means that we wish all the best for those two countries.

Paraguay reiterates its adherence to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as they are the essential guiding concepts of our foreign policy. The Government of Paraguay therefore believes that the best way to resolve the current situation is through direct and open dialogue leading to a peaceful and political solution of the dispute.

**Mr. Nazarian** (Armenia): We would also like to speak in explanation of position on resolution 68/262, which was just adopted by the Assembly.

Armenia has consistently, over the years, taken a principled position on the promotion of democracy, freedom and rights, including and in particular the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, as universal values and principles embraced by the Assembly and based on the Charter of the United Nations.

The key to resolving any crisis is to act within the framework of international law and seek an early solution to the differences through dialogue and cooperation. The current situation in Ukraine is a sensitive matter, and we strongly believe that an enduring solution can only be realized between the parties concerned through dialogue in a peaceful and negotiated manner.

Peaceful dialogue is also a responsible process. We support the view, expressed in this Hall earlier on numerous occasions, that solutions cannot be achieved as a result of statements made or resolutions adopted by the Assembly. On that basis, my delegation voted against the resolution just adopted.

**The President:** We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote. The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 33.

*The meeting rose at 1 p.m.*

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**Резолюція A/68/L.39 68-ї сесії Генеральної Асамблеї ООН від 24 березня 2014 року  
"Територіальна цілісність України"**

**United Nations**

**A/68/L.39 General Assembly**

**Distr.: Limited**

**24 March 2014**

**Original: English 14-27344 (E) 250314**

**\*1427344\***

**Sixty-eighth session**

**Agenda item 33 (b) Prevention of armed conflict: strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution Canada, Costa Rica, Germany, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine: draft resolution**

### **Territorial integrity of Ukraine**

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the paramount importance of the Charter of the United Nations in the promotion of the rule of law among nations,

Recalling the obligations of all States under Article 2 of the Charter to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein that the territory of a State shall not be the object of acquisition by another State resulting from the threat or use of force, and that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of a State or country or of its political independence is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Recalling further the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed in Helsinki on 1 August 1975, the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, of 5 December 1994 (Budapest Memorandum), the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation of 31 May 1997, and the Alma-Ata Declaration of 21 December 1991,

Stressing the importance of maintaining the inclusive political dialogue in Ukraine that reflects the diversity of its society and includes representation from all parts of Ukraine,

Welcoming the continued efforts by the Secretary-General and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international and regional organizations to support de-escalation of the situation with respect to Ukraine,

Noting that the referendum held in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on 16 March 2014 was not authorized by Ukraine,

1. Affirms its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;
2. Calls upon all States to desist and refrain from actions aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine, including any attempts to modify Ukraine's borders through the threat or use of force or other unlawful means;

3. Urges all parties to pursue immediately the peaceful resolution of the situation with respect to Ukraine through direct political dialogue, to exercise restraint, to refrain from unilateral actions and inflammatory rhetoric that may increase tensions, and to engage fully with international mediation efforts;
4. Welcomes the efforts of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international and regional organizations to assist Ukraine in protecting the rights of all persons in Ukraine, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities;
5. Underscores that the referendum held in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on 16 March 2014, having no validity, cannot form the basis for any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or of the city of Sevastopol;
6. Calls upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration of the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on the basis of the above-mentioned referendum and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing any such altered status.

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**Резолюція А / 68 / L.39 68-ї Сесії Генеральної Асамблеї ООН від 24 березня 2014 року "Територіальна цілісність України" (неофіційний переклад українською мовою)**

**Організація Об'єднаних Націй**

**А / 68 / L.39 Генеральна Асамблея**

**Distr.: Limited**

**24 березня 2014**

**Оригінал: англійська 14-27344 (R) 250314**

**\* 1427344 \***

**Шістдесят восьма сесія**

**Пункт 33 (б) Запобігання збройним конфліктам: посилення ролі посередництва у мирному врегулюванні спорів, запобігання і врегулювання конфліктів Канада, Коста-Ріка, Німеччина, Литва, Польща та Україна: проект резолюції**

**Територіальна цілісність України**

Генеральна Асамблея,

Підтверджуючи першорядну важливість Статуту Організації Об'єднаних Націй щодо зміцнення верховенства права між народами,

Посилаючись на зобов'язання всіх держав відповідно до статті 2 Статуту утримуватися у їх міжнародних відносинах від загрози силою або її застосування проти територіальної цілісності або політичної незалежності будь-якої держави, і вирішувати свої міжнародні спори мирними засобами,

Посилаючись також на свою резолюцію 2625 (XXV) від 24 жовтня 1970 року, якою вона схвалила Декларацію щодо принципів міжнародного права, що стосуються дружніх відносин і співробітництва між державами відповідно до Статуту Організації Об'єднаних Націй, і підтверджуючи принципи, що містяться в ньому, стосовно того, що територія держави не може бути об'єктом набуття іншою державою в результаті погрози силою або її застосування, і що будь-яка спроба, спрямована на часткове або повне порушення національної єдності і територіальної цілісності держави або країни або її політичної незалежності є несумісною з цілями і принципами Статуту,

Посилаючись далі на Заключний акт Наради з безпеки і співробітництва в Європі, підписаної в Гельсінкі 1 серпня 1975 року, Меморандум про гарантії безпеки у зв'язку з приєднанням України до Договору про нерозповсюдження ядерної зброї від 5 грудня 1994 року (Будапештський меморандум), Договір про дружбу, співробітництво і партнерство

### 33 РОЗДІЛ. 27 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР

між Україною і Російською Федерацією від 31 травня 1997 року, і Алма-Атинську декларація від 21 грудня 1991 року,

Наголошуючи на важливості збереження всеосяжного політичного діалогу в Україні, який відображає різноманітність її суспільства і включає в себе представників в усіх куточках України,

Вітаючи триваючі зусилля Генерального секретаря та Організації з безпеки і співробітництва в Європі та інших міжнародних і регіональних організацій для підтримки деескалації ситуації щодо України,

Відзначаючи, що референдум в Автономній Республіці Крим і місті Севастополі 16 березня 2014 року, не було санкціоновано Україною,

1. Підтверджує свою прихильність суверенітету, політичній незалежності, єдності і територіальній цілісності України в межах її міжнародно визнаних кордонів;
2. Закликає всі держави не допускати та утримуватися від дій, спрямованих на часткове або повне порушення національної єдності і територіальній цілісності України, в тому числі від будь-яких спроб зміни кордону України через погрози силою або її застосування або інших незаконних засобів;
3. Настійно закликає всі сторони негайно продовжити мирне розв'язання ситуації щодо України шляхом прямого політичного діалогу, виявляти стриманість, утримуватися від односторонніх дій і підбурюючої риторики, які можуть посилити напруженість, і в повній мірі брати участь у міжнародних посередницьких зусиллях;
4. Вітає зусилля Організації Об'єднаних Націй, Організації з безпеки і співробітництва в Європі та інших міжнародних і регіональних організацій з надання допомоги Україні в захисті прав усіх осіб в Україні, в тому числі прав осіб, що належать до меншин;
5. Підкреслює, що референдум, проведений в Автономній Республіці Крим та в м. Севастополі 16 березня 2014 року, не маючи юридичної сили, не може слугувати підставою для будь-яких змін статусу Автономної Республіки Крим або міста Севастополя;
6. Закликає всі держави, міжнародні організації та спеціалізовані установи не визнавати ніяких змін статусу Автономної Республіки Крим та міста Севастополя на основі вищезгаданого референдуму і утримуватися від будь-яких дій або справ, які можуть інтерпретуватися як визнання будь-якої зміни статусу.

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#### TODAYS MEETINGS GENERAL ASSEMBLY: 68TH SESSION - 80TH PLENARY MTG

Vote Name:  
Item 33(b) A/68/L.39 Draft Resolution Territorial Integrity of Ukraine  
Resolution 68/262

Yes  
100

No  
11

Abstain  
58

Vote Time: 3/27/2014 11:56:03 AM

A AFGHANISTAN	A DOMINICA	Y LITHUANIA	A SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
Y ALBANIA	Y DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Y LUXEMBOURG	Y SAUDI ARABIA
A ALGERIA	A ECUADOR	Y MADAGASCAR	A SENEGAL
Y ANDORRA	A EGYPT	Y MALAWI	Y SERBIA
A ANGOLA	A EL SALVADOR	Y MALAYSIA	Y SEYCHELLES
A ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	Y MALDIVES	Y SIERRA LEONE
A ARGENTINA	A ERITREA	A MALI	Y SINGAPORE
N ARMENIA	Y ESTONIA	Y MALTA	Y SLOVAKIA
Y AUSTRALIA	A ETHIOPIA	Y MARSHALL ISLANDS	Y SLOVENIA
Y AUSTRIA	A FIJI	A MAURITANIA	Y SOLOMON ISLANDS
Y AZERBAIJAN	Y FINLAND	Y MAURITIUS	Y SOMALIA
Y BAHAMAS	Y FRANCE	Y MEXICO	A SOUTH AFRICA
Y BAHRAIN	A GABON	Y MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF)	A SOUTH SUDAN
A BANGLADESH	A GAMBIA	Y MONACO	Y SPAIN
Y BARBADOS	Y GEORGIA	A MONGOLIA	A SRI LANKA
N BELARUS	Y GERMANY	Y MONTENEGRO	N SUDAN
Y BELGIUM	GHANA	MOROCCO	A SURINAME
BELIZE	Y GREECE	A MOZAMBIQUE	A SWAZILAND
Y BENIN	GRENADA	A MYANMAR	Y SWEDEN
Y BHUTAN	Y GUATEMALA	A NAMIBIA	Y SWITZERLAND
N BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)	Y GUINEA	A NAURU	N SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	GUINEA-BISSAU	A NEPAL	TAJIKISTAN
A BOTSWANA	A GUYANA	Y NETHERLANDS	Y THAILAND
A BRAZIL	Y HAITI	Y NEW ZEALAND	Y THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
A BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	Y HONDURAS	N NICARAGUA	TIMOR-LESTE
Y BULGARIA	Y HUNGARY	Y NIGER	Y TOGO
A BURKINA FASO	Y ICELAND	Y NIGERIA	TONGA
A BURUNDI	A INDIA	Y NORWAY	Y TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Y CABO VERDE	Y INDONESIA	OMAN	Y TUNISIA
A CAMBODIA	IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)	A PAKISTAN	Y TURKEY
Y CAMEROON	A IRAQ	Y PALAU	TURKMENISTAN
Y CANADA	Y IRELAND	Y PANAMA	TUVALU
Y CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	ISRAEL	Y PAPUA NEW GUINEA	A UGANDA
Y CHAD	Y ITALY	A PARAGUAY	Y UKRAINE
Y CHILE	A JAMAICA	Y PERU	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
A CHINA	Y JAPAN	Y PHILIPPINES	Y UNITED KINGDOM
Y COLOMBIA	Y JORDAN	Y POLAND	A UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
A COMOROS	A KAZAKHSTAN	Y PORTUGAL	Y UNITED STATES
CONGO	A KENYA	Y QATAR	A URUGUAY
Y COSTA RICA	Y KIRIBATI	Y REPUBLIC OF KOREA	A UZBEKISTAN
COTE D'IVOIRE	Y KUWAIT	Y REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	VANUATU
Y CROATIA	KYRGYZSTAN	Y ROMANIA	N VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)
N CUBA	LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	N RUSSIAN FEDERATION	A VIET NAM
Y CYPRUS	Y LATVIA	A RWANDA	YEMEN
Y CZECH REPUBLIC	LEBANON	A SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	A ZAMBIA
N DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA	A LESOTHO	A SAINT LUCIA	N ZIMBABWE
Y DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	Y LIBERIA	A SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	
Y DENMARK	Y LIBYA	Y SAMOA	
A DJIBOUTI	Y LIECHTENSTEIN	Y SAN MARINO	

ОБС

**Statement by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk on "Ongoing violations by the Russian Federation of the OSCE commitments in Ukraine"**

27 березня 2014, 16:27

**Delivered at 992th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council on 27 March 2014**

Since the first days of march we have engaged in intensive dialogue seeking efficient ways to respond to the most serious, since the end of the Cold war, threat to the regional, European and global security, stemming from violation by the Russian Federation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of my country through illegal occupation and later annexation of Ukraine's Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Those actions by the Russian Federation constituted and continue to constitute a flagrant breach of imperative norms of international law, the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, bilateral and multilateral agreements, which guarantee Ukraine's territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-intervention in its internal affairs. As such those actions were strongly condemned in clear terms by international partners of the Russian Federation, including in the OSCE.

On 13 March 2014 the Government of Ukraine lodged to the European Court of Human Rights an inter-State application under Article 33 of the European Convention on Human Rights against the Russian Federation. The Court indicated the interim measures, immediately calling upon both parties to refrain from taking any measures, in particular military actions, which might entail breaches of the Convention rights of the civilian population, including putting their life and health at risk, and to comply with the obligations under the Convention, notably in respect of Articles 2 (right to life) and 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment).

Contrary to this call of ECHR and calls of the international community, the Russian Federation took further steps to illegally annex Crimea. Such territorial acquisition is null and void under international law as it results from an act of aggression against Ukraine and is based on illegitimate and illegal so-called "referendum" in Crimea of 16 March, which violated the Constitution of Ukraine and norms of international law. I would like also to bring it to the attention of the Permanent Council that the Venice Commission reached a unanimous decision at its 98<sup>th</sup> plenary session (March 21-22, 2014) that the so-called "referendum" in Crimea was unconstitutional and illegal. Moreover, the Venice Commission also concluded that the Russian Federation law "About changes to the Federal Constitutional law regarding the adoption of new subjects of the Russian Federation" contradicts international law, in so far as it violates the principle of territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of another country.

***Dear colleagues,***

I regret to inform the Permanent Council that the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea has continued to deteriorate since our last meeting. The Russian troops have assaulted and stormed Ukrainian military bases, Navy and Border Guard units. In order to avoid deadly incidents and confronted with continuous provocations, intimidation and threats against Ukrainian servicemen the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine decided to carry out redeployment of Ukrainian military forces from the Crimea.

Over the recent days the Russian side has assaulted and captured ten Ukrainian naval ships, including flagship vessels, corvettes, landing ships, minesweepers and submarine, which had been earlier blocked from exit into the open sea by sinking old Russian vessels. I would recall that three years ago one of the captured Ukrainian ships, the "Kostyantyn Olshanskyi" landing ship, saved 193 people, including Russian citizens, evacuating them from Libya.

This is the state property of Ukraine which has its established value. The illegal acquisition of the state property by a foreign state would lead to serious political and legal consequences. Ukraine reserves its right to resort to international judicial bodies to return the property and demand compensation from the Russian Federation. Lawyers can probably debate on how to qualify these actions in legal terms – as acts of state robbery or piracy – when the cases are taken up in courts. We call on the Russian Federation to refrain from further violations of international law and immediately return the captured vessels and military equipment safe to Ukraine voluntarily.

Following the assaults on Ukrainian military and navy facilities several Ukrainian officers were abducted or detained. After days of illegal detention with their whereabouts unknown, it was

only yesterday that the officers were released. They report on measures of coercion from the Russian military.

In view of Russian occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and capturing, among other facilities, of the Ukrainian Naval Headquarters, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine decided to cancel 14<sup>th</sup> activation of the Black Sea Naval cooperation group – BLACKSEAFOR. Illegal actions by the Russian Federation undermined the very foundation of the Black Sea security system, which has been developed over many years, while their negative and unpredictable implications may affect not only the Black Sea region but the entire Europe.

Ukraine continues to view with serious concern ongoing concentration of Russian troops in the Crimea as well as in close vicinity to the Ukrainian border in the east and north of the country. The Russian military formations deployed close to the border with Ukraine at a long distance from their permanent bases of stationing belong to Russian elite forces of paratroopers and motorized armoured brigades.

We are seriously concerned about deterioration of situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea in the area of exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Concrete evidence of torture and abduction of the Ukrainian citizens has been registered, there is a wide-spread feeling of fear among the people on the peninsula. According to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, more than 3600 people from the Autonomous Republic of Crimea addressed Ukrainian authorities asking for assistance in leaving Crimea for other Ukrainian regions. Notably, nearly two-thirds of the refugees, most of them Russian language speakers, indicated preference for re-settlement to the western regions of Ukraine, proving again groundless the numerous attempts by the Russian media to play off Ukrainian ethnic communities and different regions against each other. All Ukrainian national TV channels and the local Crimean Tartar channel remain off the air in Crimea having been substituted by Russian channels. Pursuant to the outcomes of the visits to Ukraine in March of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and Representative on Freedom of the Media, including their expressed concerns after visiting Crimea, I wish to call on the Russian colleague to facilitate their access to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to establish in an impartial manner the real situation on the ground.

I already registered at our previous PC meeting the serious concern of the Ukrainian side over the media policy by Russian TV channels, disseminating deceitful information on Ukraine and labeling Ukrainian people as “neo-Nazi”, “fascists” and “extremists”. I wish to reiterate again that there can be no justification for dangerous falsifications, distortions and policies of inciting hatred between the Ukrainian and Russian peoples.

This week the Kyiv District Administrative Court suspended the broadcasting of four Russian TV Channels for the time of consideration of a lawsuit filed by the National Television and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine on account of non-compliance of their programming with the national legislation of Ukraine, which bans incitement of inter-ethnic hatred. This ruling is in line with the national legislation and provisions of the 1950 Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms which, in particular, stipulates that the exercise of the freedom of expression “*may be subject to ... restrictions..., as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interest of national security, territorial integrity or public safety...*”

Regrettably, we have also witnessed recently an increasing number of statements or commentaries released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation based on unverified and ungrounded information. This information is thoroughly checked by the Ukrainian side and has not found its proof. In this context I would also recall the last meeting of the Permanent Council of 20 March, when delegations around the table sympathized with the Ukrainian delegation over the shooting of a Ukrainian serviceman in Simferopol during the assault on a Ukrainian military facility. Then my distinguished Russian colleague asserted that the shooting had been carried out by a 17 years old sniper from western Ukraine, who was already detained. This information was not true. It was refuted on the same day even by the

separatists-controlled so-called “Crimean prosecutors office”. In this connection I would like to call on the Russian colleagues not to use unverified and ungrounded information, which can only mislead our dialogue.

Ukraine continues to maintain the view that resumption of direct bilateral dialogue with the Russian Federation could be instrumental for clearing ungrounded allegations, de-escalating situation, resolving the crisis through diplomatic and political means on the solid basis of international law, bilateral and multilateral agreements.

Therefore, we welcome the fact that two Foreign Ministers met recently in The Hague. We are ready to furthering a direct dialogue with the Russian Federation on all issues of interest, dialogue based on those principles, that both Ukraine and the Russian Federation have committed themselves to abide by as UN member-states and OSCE participating States.

Being fully committed to promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, the Government of Ukraine demonstrates openness and transparency in relation to observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the national minority rights, on the territory of Ukraine. We believe that the OSCE engagement on the ground will contribute to dispelling concerns over alleged violations in this area and provide the OSCE participating States with reliable information.

In this regard we consider the active engagement of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, who is currently paying a visit to Ukraine, and her close monitoring of the situation on the ground, to be extremely important. The High Commissioner must have access to the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea.

The Human Rights Assessment Mission, consisting of the ODIHR’s and HCNM’s experts, which arrived to Ukraine upon invitation of the Government of the country, will be completing its work on the ground soon. We look forward to the report of the Mission, its conclusions and recommendations which will be thoroughly examined by Ukrainian authorities.

I wish to thank the Swiss Chairmanship for its tireless efforts leading to adoption of the Permanent Council decision of 21 March on deployment, upon request of the Government of Ukraine, of a special monitoring mission of international observers to Ukraine. The agreed mandate of the OSCE monitoring mission encompasses the entire territory of Ukraine, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is an integral part of the Ukrainian State.

We regard this special monitoring mission as an appropriate tool to collect information, report on the security situation, promote dialogue and reduce tensions.

*Dear colleagues,*

Later this evening, the United Nations General Assembly will be debating a draft resolution on “Territorial integrity of Ukraine”. The document is intended to confirm adherence to the fundamental principles of international peace and security. We therefore call upon the OSCE participating States to support the adoption of the aforementioned UNGA Resolution.

*Thank you.*

ЄС

**З заявою Постійного представника Євросоюзу при ООН на засіданні ГА ООН від 27 березня 2014 року можна ознайомитися у розділі ООН.**

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**Українська тема домінувала на зустрічі у Брюсселі президента США Барака Обами з лідерами Євросоюзу.**

(ПУ при ЄС)

27 березня 2014, 03:53

**Сторони провели консультації щодо спільної реакції на російське вторгнення до Криму та дій за можливої подальшої ескалації напруги. Основне коло питань торкалося спільного розширення санкцій щодо Росії й знаходження додаткових**

**шляхів постачання енергоносіїв, щоб звільнити співдружність від енергетичної залежності від російського газу.**

ЄС та США мають потужну й скоординовану позицію щодо подій в Україні, заявляють і лідери євроустанов, і господар Білого дому.

Європейці з американським лідером спробували об'єднати зусилля проти порушення міжнародних законів та на загрозу світовій рівновазі, які продемонструвала Москва військовим вторгненням в Україну та відокремленням Криму. І Барак Обама, і представники євроустанов повторили про свою підтримку українського народу та невизнання анексії частини української території.

Зрештою, Вашингтон та Брюссель, так би мовити, на офіційному й особистісному рівні дійшли згоди щодо колективної реакції на дії Російської Федерації. Як каже Барак Обама, «світ безпечніший та справедливіший, коли Європа та Америка разом».

«Ми об'єднані в наших зобов'язаннях щодо європейської безпеки, ми об'єднані в нашій рішучості ізолювати Росію та примусити її поплатитися за свої дії. Ми посилюємо координацію зусиль з нашими союзниками та партнерами», – заявив Обама, додавши, що в разі продовження росіянами порушень міжнародного права, Вашингтон і Євросоюз готові істотно поглиблювати санкції щодо Російської Федерації.

У терміновому зміцненні трансатлантичних відносин виникла потреба ще й через спроби Європейського союзу звільнитися від залежності від російського газу. У цьому сенсі голови Європейської ради та Єврокомісії на консультаціях із президентом Обамою спробували отримати від нього «зелене світло» на спрощений експорт до країн співдружності скрапленого газу, видобутого з американських сланців. Цьому має посприяти укладення зони вільної торгівлі між ЄС та США, каже американський лідер. Однак, міністри найбільших промислово розвинених країн світу, включно зі США та державами ЄС, вже найближчим часом мають зустрітися для обговорення проблеми диверсифікації постачань газу та нафти до держав, що залежать від російських енергоносіїв, пояснює голова Європейської ради **Герман Ван Ромпей**.

Тим часом, Обама зауважує: «Треба, щоб наші енергетичні міністерства розглянули шляхи посилення процесу диверсифікації енергопостачань... Це було б добре для Європи, це було б добре для Сполучених Штатів. Однак, це не станеться за одну ніч. Втім, криза (у Криму) вказує на те, що ми маємо рухатись у цьому напрямку вже зараз – причому негайно».

Зі свого боку, голова Єврокомісії **Жозе Мануель Баррозу** переконує: «Ми рішуче готуємо необхідні заходи, звичайно, консультуючись з нашими американськими партнерами. Важливо те, що ми запевняємо, що неприпустимі дії (Росії) матимуть для неї дуже серйозні наслідки».

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PC.DEL/346/14

27 March 2014

**EUROPEAN UNION  
OSCE  
Permanent Council Nr 992  
Vienna, 27 March 2014  
EU Statement on Ukraine**

The European Union and its Member States remain deeply concerned at the ongoing situation in Ukraine, in particular Crimea. We recall the European Council Conclusions of 20 March 2014. There is no place for the use of force and coercion to change borders in Europe in the 21st century. Russia's actions are in clear breach of the Helsinki principles.

We also recall that the Conclusions stated that 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.

We reiterate our concern at the increasing Russian military activity, the assaults on Ukrainian military bases and the kidnapping of Ukrainian military personnel in Crimea. We also express our deep concern about the numerous reports of human rights violations. Tensions between the peninsula's communities are on the rise and media freedom is under siege.

We commend the measured response shown so far by Ukraine. We reiterate the need for Russia to engage in a meaningful dialogue with the government of Ukraine with a view to finding a political solution to the crisis for the benefit of all Ukrainian citizens.

The European Union welcomes the adoption of a decision to deploy a Special OSCE Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. From the outset of this crisis, we called for an early deployment of an OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, including Crimea.

We do not accept the statement made by the Russian Federation following the adoption of this decision, alleging that Crimea is not part of Ukraine. Crimea is part of Ukraine. The European Union remains committed to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders. The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission has a mandate to work throughout Ukraine, including Crimea. We do not recognise the illegal referendum in Crimea, which is in clear violation of the Ukrainian Constitution. Nor do we recognise Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol. Rather, we reiterate our strong condemnation of this act, which is in contravention of international law, including the most fundamental OSCE principles.

The European Union commends the Swiss Chairmanship and the OSCE Executive Structures for the substantial work they have undertaken to prepare a Special OSCE Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and the swift steps taken since last Friday to deploy it. We want to thank the Chairmanship for their dedicated efforts over recent weeks to build consensus on the decision. We also highly appreciate the constructive engagement of the Government of Ukraine in the process leading up to its adoption. The fact that this organisation, thanks to the efforts of our CPC colleagues, manages to be present on the ground so quickly, is very encouraging and significant.

We expect all participating States to cooperate with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and that its members will have safe and secure access throughout Ukraine to fulfil their mandate. We stand ready to contribute to this mission with staff and other resources, including funding, and we encourage all other participating States to do likewise.

The Mission has our full support, as too do the many other ongoing efforts of the OSCE Chairmanship, the Executive Structures and the Project Coordinator in Ukraine, including support for a national dialogue.

We also welcome the activities that have been conducted within the framework of the Vienna document. All these efforts show that the OSCE has an important and valuable role to play throughout Ukraine in helping to stabilise the situation and solve this crisis.

We welcome the Ukrainian government's commitment to ensure the representative nature and inclusiveness of government structures, reflecting regional diversity, to ensure the full protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, to undertake a constitutional reform, to investigate all human rights violations and acts of violence and to fight extremism.

We wish to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the signature by the European Union, its Member States and Ukraine of the political provisions of the Association Agreement, which will lead to a closer relationship between the European Union and Ukraine.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, MONTENEGRO\*, ICELAND+, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidates ALBANIA and BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, as well

as GEORGIA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

\* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of euoffice@osce.org y eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
MEMO

Brussels, 27 March 2014

ENP Country Progress Report 2013 – Ukraine

*The 2014 annual “Neighbourhood Package” consists of a joint Communication (“Neighbourhood at the Crossroads”) and a set of country specific and regional reports. The report on the Republic of Ukraine underlines key/main developments and reform efforts in 2013 and makes recommendations for the future.*

*Ukraine decided on 21 November 2013 to suspend preparations for signing the Association Agreement (initialled in March 2012), citing national security interests and the need to restore lost trade with Russia and Commonwealth of Independent States partners. In the Joint Declaration from the Eastern Partnership Summit on 28-29 November, Ukraine reiterated its commitment to signing the Association Agreement.*

*Ukraine’s decision to suspend preparations for the signing of the AA/DCFTA sparked massive civil protests (so-called “Euromaidan”) in support of political association and economic integration with the EU. The President and the opposition reached an agreement on the way out of the political crisis on 21 February which was facilitated by the EU. Subsequently, the Parliament voted the law to reinstate the constitution of 2004. Following the sudden departure of President Yanukovich from Kyiv, the Parliament dismissed with constitutional majority President Yanukovich, for failing to perform his duties, and appointed a new government headed by the Prime Minister Yatsenuk.*

*Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity were violated clearly by acts of aggression by the Russian armed forces. The Federation Council of Russia authorised on 1 March the use of the armed forces on the territory of Ukraine. These actions are in clear breach of the UN Charter and the OSCE Helsinki Final Act, as well as of Russia’s specific commitments to respect Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity under the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 and the bilateral Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership of 1997. On 16 March 2014, a “referendum” was held in Crimea on joining the Russian Federation. On 18 March 2014, the Russian Federation signed a treaty with the de facto authorities of the Republic of Crimea and of the City of Sevastopol, sealing the de facto annexation of Crimea with immediate effect. As stated by Presidents H. Van Rompuy and JM. Barroso on 18 March, the European Union does neither recognise the illegal and illegitimate referendum in Crimea nor its outcome. The sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine must be respected. The European Union does not and will not recognise the annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol to the Russian Federation. The European Council shares the view on the illegality of the referendum and the ensuing steps, as expressed in its conclusions on 20 March 2014. On the next day, the EU and Ukraine signed the political provisions of the Association Agreement, and confirmed their commitment to proceed to the signature and conclusion of the remaining parts of the Agreement which together with the political provisions constitute a single instrument.*

In 2013, Ukraine partly addressed some of the recommendations of the last progress report, in particular those relating to electoral law and practice and the judiciary. On the basis of this year’s

report, and with a view to the sustained implementation of the Association Agenda in 2014, Ukraine is invited to:

- investigate independently the violent acts on both sides which occurred during civil protests, preferably with the support of the International Advisory Panel proposed by the CoE;
- take early steps to establish a reliable and uniform electoral system for regional, parliamentary and presidential elections and referenda, establish clear rules for balanced media access for candidates, and ensure that elections take place for Kyiv Mayor and City Council;
- bring the law on referenda into line with international standards, in particular by removing the possibility of by-passing Parliament when adopting constitutional amendments;
- adopt the law on reform of the Prosecutor General's Office, in line with the recommendations of the Venice Commission;
- take further steps to reform the judiciary to prevent any recurrence of selective justice;
- in the framework of the implementation of the Criminal Procedure Code, adopt a law establishing a State Bureau of Investigations;
- ensure that the constitutional reform process is carried out in an inclusive and transparent way and completed by September 2014, in line with the constitutional review procedure set out in the Constitution and in close cooperation with the European Commission for Democracy through Law of the CoE (Venice Commission);
- ensure that the revised constitution strengthens the independence of judges, adopt laws setting out the role of the High Council of Justice, the judicial system, and the status of judges;
- draft a plan for police reform, to pave the way for comprehensive reform of the police, including the establishment of a police complaint mechanism for allegations of ill-treatment and torture by law enforcement officers, as well as an independent and effective investigative mechanism for such crimes;
- step up the fight against conflicts of interest, corruption and fraud, targeting all areas of public life, including in particular in the judicial system and in the business world;
- reverse the backsliding on public procurement and budget transparency and begin implementing a public finance management strategy;
- make greater efforts to meet the remaining benchmarks set out in the Action Plan on Visa Liberalisation;
- comply with its obligations under international refugee and human rights law;
- establish a macroeconomic framework conducive to the resumption of International Monetary Fund (IMF) support, addressing such issues as fiscal sustainability in the energy sector;
- take further steps to improve the business climate;
- resolve the remaining trade cases (car recycling fees, local content of renewable energy equipment) which are not in compliance with Ukraine's WTO commitments;
- comply with its obligations under the Energy Community Treaty, in particular in areas such as independence of the energy regulator, unbundling, transparency, market opening.

Reforms initiated, carried out, or delayed during 2013 in the different areas of cooperation between the EU and Ukraine are described in the annual country report. Some of the issues reported deserve special attention.

There were positive developments in the field of **legal reform**, including the judiciary and its system of self-governance and some progress on cases of selective use of justice. No work was undertaken to improve other important pieces of legislation, such as laws on **presidential and local elections**. **Media freedom** worsened. Reports of physical attacks on journalists have become more frequent; documented attacks occurred in December 2013 and in January 2014 during the civil protest in Kiev.

The **perception of corruption** remained high. There was, however, an improvement in the field of anti-corruption legislation, through the adoption of legislation which addressed some of the UN and Council of Europe (CoE) recommendations in the context of the visa liberalisation action plan.

While Ukraine continued to be a country of origin, transit and destination for victims of human trafficking, good progress was made in 2013 in the **fight against human trafficking**.

**Economic performance** was weak in 2013. The recession that started in the second half of 2012 continued throughout 2013, and annual growth was negative.

The **Common Aviation Area Agreement** was initialled in November.

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## EU-Ukraine – BACKGROUND

### THE POLICY

The **European Neighbourhood Policy** governs the relations between the EU and Ukraine. Since 2009 the EU implements the **Eastern Partnership**, the Eastern dimension of the ENP framework, aiming at substantially upgrading engagement with the six Eastern neighbours via:

- a Bilateral track, whose objectives include the establishing of Association Agreements with Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas, once conditions have been met, as well as progress on visa and mobility issues, and
- a Multilateral track (i.e. intergovernmental platforms and Flagship Initiatives).

This approach allows for gradual political association and deeper economic integration.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

1998: EU-Ukraine Partnership and Cooperation Agreement entered into force.

2005: EU-Ukraine Action Plan was approved.

2007: Negotiations started for a far reaching Association Agreement (AA).

2007, 2008 and 2009: The EU's Civil Protection Mechanism (MIC) was mobilised to prepare a first assessment of the environmental damage and needs for pollution remediation efforts in Kerch Strait, in assessing the flooding of the Dnistr (Dniester) and the Prut rivers, to assist Ukraine in the flu pandemic as well as regarding a potential tailing dam collapse in Kalush.

2008: Visa facilitation and readmission agreements entered into force. Visa dialogue opened with a visa-free regime as a long term objective.

2008: Ukraine joined the WTO, paving the way for the negotiation of a DCFTA with the EU.

2007-2010: The ENPI<sup>1</sup> envelope for Ukraine stands at EUR 494 million, with additional allocation of EUR 28.6 million through the Governance Facility.

2008-2010: Neighbourhood Investment Facility committed EUR 22 million to five projects in Ukraine, mainly in the energy sector. Ukraine also benefitted partially from EUR 42 million in regional projects approved for the ENP East region.

2011-2013: An indicative ENPI envelope of EUR 470.1 million announced by the Commission.

2011-2013: The new National Indicative Programme (NIP) 2011-2013 for Ukraine was adopted in March 2010 and has a budget of EUR 470.1 million. The programme is geared towards supporting the achievement of key policy objectives as outlined in the EU-Ukraine Association Agenda and pursues 3 priorities: (1) good governance and the rule of law; (2) facilitation of the entry into force of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)) and (3) sustainable development.

2011: Conclusion of the negotiations on an Association Agreement, including Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

2011: Ukraine became a member of the Energy Community.

2012: Initialling of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

2013: Initialling of the EU-Ukraine Common Aviation Area Agreement.

### For further information:

Press release: Neighbourhood at the crossroads – tacking stock of a year of challenges (IP/14/315), 27 March 2014

For the Joint Communication check the EEAS website at [http://eeas.europa.eu/enp/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/enp/index_en.htm)

Website of Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle: [http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/fule/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/fule/index_en.htm)

Website of High Representative and Vice President of the European Commission, Catherine Ashton: [http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/ashton/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/ashton/index_en.htm)  
European Commission: European Neighbourhood Policy

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**Заключна Заява та Рекомендації 21-го засідання Комітету з парламентського співробітництва між Україною та ЄС**

27 березня 2014, 17:27

**26-28 березня 2014 року у м. Київ під спільним головуванням Сергія Тігіпка від імені Верховної Ради України, і Павела Ковалю від імені Європейського Парламенту відбулось Двадцять перше засідання Комітету з парламентського співробітництва між Україною та ЄС.**

**Комітет з парламентського співробітництва, обговоривши стан відносин між Україною та ЄС після Третього Саміту Східного Партнерства (28-29 листопада 2013 року, Вільнюс) та подальші події, що мали місце, ухвалив наступну Заключну Заяву та Рекомендації:**

**Комітет з парламентського співробітництва (КПС):**

1. Захоплюється стійкістю та зразковою мужністю, яку проявив український народ впродовж останніх місяців та його незмінній прихильності до європейських цінностей. Наголошує, що спільним інтересом України та ЄС є якнайшвидша реалізація прагнення народу України жити в демократичній європейській державі; ще раз заявляє про своє абсолютне переконання в праві народу України самостійно визначати майбутній шлях країни.
2. Рішуче засуджує акт агресії з боку Росії щодо вторгнення та окупації Криму, що є порушенням суверенітету та територіальної цілісності України. Наголошує, що він був здійснений та може знову здійснитися на підставі цілковито необґрунтованих аргументів. Нагадує, що проведення так званого «референдуму» в Автономній Республіці Крим 16 березня 2014 року відбулося всупереч Конституції України, в умовах фактичної російської окупації та з грубим порушенням основоположних норм міжнародного права. Таким чином він не несе за собою жодних юридичних наслідків, є недійсним і таким, що не може бути визнаним, а, отже, повинен вважатися незаконним та нелегітимним.
3. Закликає Російську Федерацію, як постійного члена Ради Безпеки ООН, належним чином виконувати свої міжнародні зобов'язання, зокрема, в рамках Будапештського меморандуму про гарантії безпеки 1994 року, а також інших міжнародних договорів та двосторонніх угод, укладених з Україною, і, відповідно, відновити легітимний статус Криму як невід'ємної частини України.
4. Закликає ЄС надавати підтримку Україні в усіх міжнародних організаціях та, зокрема, в міжнародних судових інстанціях, якщо Україна вирішить піднімати кримське питання в цих організаціях.
5. Висловлює глибоке занепокоєння антиукраїнською та спрямованою проти ЄС пропагандою, розпочатою Російською Федерацією з метою дезінформування російських громадян та провокування недовіри і ненависті до української та націй країн-членів ЄС, підриву ідеї євроатлантичного і євразійського безпекового співтовариства, схваленого Росією разом з іншими країнами-учасницями ОБСЄ Астанинською Пам'ятною декларацією 2010 року. Підкреслює, що такі агресивні дії Росії є грубим та цинічним порушенням зобов'язань, взятих на себе Російською Федерацією як постійним членом Ради Безпеки ООН, що має підтримувати міжнародний мир та безпеку, а також сприяти розвитку дружніх відносин між націями.

### 33 РОЗДІЛ. 27 БЕРЕЗНЯ 2014 РОКУ, ЧЕТВЕР

6. Закликає Російську Федерацію утриматися від будь-яких навмисних і організованих дій, не виправданого політичного втручання і економічного тиску, які можуть погіршити ситуацію в Україні, зокрема, в східних та південних регіонах.
7. Вітає рішення Європейського Союзу запровадити адресні санкції, зокрема, обмеження пересування та заморожування активів осіб, відповідальних за дії, що сприяють нетерпимості та ненависті, в тому числі, заклики до війни, та такі, що спрямовані на підринок або становлять загрозу територіальній цілісності, суверенітету і незалежності України. Слідом за рішенням Європейської Ради від 20-21 березня, вітає рішення Ради міністрів ЄС розширити список осіб, на яких поширюються обмежувальні заходи.
8. Закликає Російську Федерацію до прямого та відкритого діалогу з Урядом України, у разі необхідності, через наявні багатосторонні механізми, з метою мирного вирішення ситуації, що склалася, з урахуванням двосторонніх і багатосторонніх зобов'язань, в тому числі, щодо поваги суверенітету та територіальної цілісності України.
9. Наголошує на необхідності оцінки політики Східного Партнерства та визначення стратегічних кроків її майбутнього розвитку. Відзначає, в цьому зв'язку, доповідь П. Ковалю щодо оцінки та пріоритетів відносин ЄС з країнами Східного Партнерства, прийняту Європейським Парламентом 20 березня 2014 року.
10. Нагадує, що Угода про асоціацію з Україною не є кінцевою метою її відносин з ЄС. В цьому контексті зазначає, що відповідно до статті 49 Договору про Європейське Співтовариство, Україна, як і будь-яка інша європейська країна, має європейську перспективу та може подавати заявку на членство в ЄС, за умови, що вона дотримується принципів демократії, поважає фундаментальні свободи, права людини та меншин та забезпечує верховенства права.
11. Вітає прийняття Верховною Радою України Постанови «Про підтвердження курсу України на інтеграцію до Європейського Союзу та першочергові заходи у цьому напрямі» від 13 березня 2014, яка підтвердила прагнення значної частини суспільства та політичних сил щодо євроінтеграційного вибору України.
12. Вітає підписання 21 березня 2014 року Угоди про асоціацію між Україною та Європейським Союзом та негайне часткове застосування її політичних розділів, підтверджуючи тим самим незворотність та рішучість європейського вибору України. Закликає обидві сторони якомога швидше підписати інші частини Угоди та нагадує, що разом з політичними розділами вони складуть єдиний документ. Наголошує на тому, що політичні та фінансові зобов'язання ЄС щодо європейської інтеграції України вимагають взаємних значних зобов'язань щодо відданості демократичним принципам та цінностям, а також зобов'язань щодо прозорого використання фінансової допомоги ЄС.
13. Підтверджує взаємні зобов'язання Європейського Парламенту та Верховної Ради України щодо якнайшвидшої ратифікації Угоди про асоціацію. Наголошує на спільній відповідальності України та Європейського Союзу за успішну та всеохоплюючу імплементацію Угоди про асоціацію і закликає Кабінет Міністрів України у найкоротші терміни та, з проведенням відповідних консультацій з ЄС, завершити роботу над Національною Програмою з імплементації Угоди про асоціацію та затвердити її.
14. Вітає задекларовані українською владою зобов'язання провести дострокові президентські вибори у вільний, прозорий та демократичний спосіб у відповідності з чинними міжнародними стандартами. Закликає Європейський Парламент надати позитивну відповідь на прохання української влади щодо направлення спостережної місії за президентськими виборами в Україні як це пропонувалося у попередніх резолюціях Європейського Парламенту. Закликає Україну не піддаватися тиску щодо відкладення президентських виборів, запланованих на 25 травня 2014 року, оскільки це може зашкодити швидкому підписанню решти частин Угоди про асоціацію.
15. Закликає Європейський Союз та Уряд України якнайшвидше розробити відповідні програми та провести ефективну інформаційну кампанію для українських громадян щодо переваг політичної асоціації та економічної інтеграції з ЄС та з протидії неправдивої та

заангажованої інформації для регіонів України, зокрема для її східних і південних областей та на місцевому рівні.

16. Закликає Уряд України розпочати низку прозорих, всеосяжних та структурних реформ, спрямованих на зміцнення верховенства права, викорінення корупції шляхом прийняття та контролю за виконанням відповідного законодавства, створення збалансованої і функціональної системи урядування, заснованої на розподілі влад відповідно до європейських стандартів, значних реформ судової системи, вдосконалення виборчого та антидискримінаційного законодавства.

17. Звертає увагу Уряду України на першочергову важливість започаткування вкрай необхідних політичних, економічних та соціальних реформ, концентрації зусиль на створенні умов для сталого економічного розвитку, вдосконалення інвестиційного клімату, сприяння малому і середньому бізнесу разом із тими зобов'язаннями, які Україна вже взяла на себе.

18. Вітає рішення ЄС щодо надання значного пакету економічної та фінансової допомоги Україні з метою підтримки впровадження реформ, а також вітає швидке рішення щодо запровадження односторонніх торговельних заходів та надання макрофінансової допомоги. Закликає Європейський Союз якнайшвидше опрацювати можливість проведення в найкоротші терміни Міжнародної донорської конференції, як було запропоновано раніше, з метою напрацювання механізмів допомоги Україні у проведенні реформ та імплементації Угоди про асоціацію.

19. Наголошує, що прозоре та ретельне розслідування актів насильства та грубих порушень прав людини, що мали місце в Києві та інших регіонах України впродовж останніх місяців, а також проведення демократичних, чесних та прозорих виборів, боротьба з корупцією, утвердження принципу верховенства права та запровадження незалежної судової системи є критично важливими кроками для відновлення єдності країни та довіри суспільства до нової української влади. Відзначає також, що ті, хто є відповідальними за грубі порушення прав людини, що мали місце впродовж останніх місяців, повинні бути притягнені до відповідальності. Закликає владу України якнайшвидше розпочати правдиве та незалежне розслідування розстрілів, що мали місце під час подій на Майдані із залученням міжнародного компоненту та під наглядом Ради Європи.

20. Наголошує на важливості підтримки роботи місцевих неурядових громадських організацій щодо просування проєвропейського вибору та суспільного консенсусу, поглиблення міжлюдських контактів між громадянами Європейського Союзу та України через встановлення безвізового режиму, що є одним із фундаментальних інструментів європейської інтеграції. Закликає до просування на шляху до встановлення безвізового режиму для громадян України, що подорожують до країн-членів ЄС.

21. Наголошує на важливості інвестування в проєкти для молоді та майбутніх лідерів шляхом повноцінного використання наукових можливостей програми Еразмус+ та створення, серед іншого, університету Східного Партнерства та Європейського Коледжу Чорного моря, які б надавали можливості для розвитку освітніх програм на різних рівнях.

22. Перекоаний у тому, що допомога Україні з боку ЄС у забезпеченні енергетичної безпеки шляхом подальшої диверсифікації, підвищення енергоефективності та забезпечення успішних взаємозв'язків з Європейським Союзом зміцнить незалежність України від політичного та економічного тисків.

23. Підкреслює важливість завершення реформування існуючого мовного законодавства у тісній співпраці з Венеціанською Комісією з метою приведення його у відповідність до взятих Україною зобов'язань в рамках Європейської Хартії регіональних або міноритарних мов.

24. Висловлює намір провести наступне засідання Комітету з парламентського співробітництва між Україною та ЄС восени 2014 року в Брюсселі, дозвіл на проведення якого повинен отримати новий склад частини Європейського Парламенту у КПС, який

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буде визначено після виборів до Європейського Парламенту, проведення яких заплановане на 25 травня 2014 року.