
УКРАЇНА VS РОСІЙСЬКА ФЕДЕРАЦІЯ

РФ

Президент РФ

Телефонные разговоры с Ангелой Меркель и Дэвидом Кэмероном
20 февраля 2014 года, 23:30

Состоялись телефонные разговоры Владимира Путина с Федеральным канцлером Германии Ангелой Меркель и Премьер-министром Великобритании Дэвидом Кэмероном. Была выражена крайняя озабоченность происшедшим по вине радикального крыла оппозиции резким обострением вооружённого противостояния на Украине.

Владимир Путин акцентировал важность немедленного прекращения кровопролития, необходимость принятия срочных мер для стабилизации ситуации и пресечения экстремистских и террористических вылазок.

Президент России информировал Ангелу Меркель и Дэвида Кэмерона, что в Киев для участия в посреднической работе вылетает Уполномоченный по правам человека в России Владимир Лукин.

Телефонный разговор с Президентом Украины Виктором Януковичем
20 февраля 2014 года, 18:40

По инициативе украинской стороны состоялся телефонный разговор Владимира Путина с Виктором Януковичем, в ходе которого Президент Украины предложил главе Российского государства направить в Киев российского представителя для участия в переговорном процессе с оппозицией в качестве посредника.

Владимир Путин принял решение направить с этой миссией Уполномоченного по правам человека Владимира Лукина, который обладает богатейшим опытом дипломатической службы, значительным авторитетом среди правозащитников, возглавлял крупную оппозиционную партию.

ДРФ

В Госдуме прошли встречи с делегацией Верховного Совета Республики Крым

20 февраля прошли встречи с делегацией Верховного Совета Автономной Республики Крым во главе с Председателем Верховного Совета Владимиром Константиновым.

Председатель Госдумы Сергей Нарышкин и спикер Верховного Совета Автономной Республики Крым Владимир Константинов обсудили ситуацию на Украине.

"Обсуждалась ситуация на Украине, а также вопросы сотрудничества между Верховным Советом Автономной Республики Крым и Государственной Думой", – сказал С.Нарышкин. По его словам, в центре внимания также были "вопросы сотрудничества в гуманитарной сфере, а также важные для жителей Крыма и россиян вопросы подготовки к празднованию 70-летия победы в Великой Отечественной войне".

Владимир Константинов рассказывал о причинах случившегося: «Сейчас, когда есть серьезная разница в доходах людей, когда есть почва для нагнетания напряженности, – очень просто внушить один – два простых мысли-лозунга и управлять толпой в своих интересах».

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Он обратил внимание на то, что экстремисты не случайно активизировались во время Олимпиады: они понимали, что внимание России будет в значительной степени посвящено этим важным для российского народа соревнованиям, а арсенал дипломатических средств Москвы будет крайне ограниченным.

Первый заместитель Председателя Госдумы Иван Мельников рассказал о точке зрения КПРФ на последние события: «Мы согласны с официальными оценками России, что на Украине имеет место попытка государственного переворота. Члены нашей партии, от рядовых коммунистов до руководства, хорошо понимают, что ответственность за нынешний кризис несут экстремистские, неофашистские силы и поддерживающий их Запад. Вмешательство извне во внутренние дела Украины носит наглый и беспрецедентный характер и требует, по мнению КПРФ, более твердой морально-политической поддержки здоровых сил на Украине со стороны Москвы». В то же время Мельников отметил, у КПРФ есть понимание, что в нынешних обстоятельствах и на данном этапе пространство для маневра у Москвы ограничено.

Отвечая на вопросы российской стороны о возможных сценариях развития событий, Владимир Константинов отметил, что в случае прихода экстремистов к власти насильственным путем, Российская Федерация не должна, по его мнению, признавать такую власть. Эта позиция нашла полное понимание и поддержку у представителей КПРФ.

Встречаясь с заместителем Председателя Государственной Думы Николаем Левичевым (СПРАВЕДЛИВАЯ РОССИЯ), В.Константинов заявил, что полуостров может отделиться от Украины в случае серьезной дестабилизации ситуации в стране.

Роман Худяков, встречаясь с делегацией парламента Крыма, подтвердил позицию ЛДПР о том, что партия осуждает беспорядки на Майдане и Украине в целом. Одновременно он оценил происходящие события, как попытку вооруженного захвата власти, провоцируемого Западом. По его словам, ЛДПР будет всячески поддерживать народ Крыма.

Делегация Верховного Совета Крыма встретила также с членами фракции «Единая Россия» и членами Комитета по делам СНГ, евразийской интеграции и связям с соотечественниками.

На встречах обсуждались также вопросы гуманитарного сотрудничества парламентов, в том числе вопросы совместного празднования 70-летия освобождения Крыма от немецко-фашистских захватчиков.

20 ФЕВРАЛЯ 2014 ГОДА

МЗС РФ

Брифинг официального представителя МИД России А.К.Лукашевича, 20 февраля 2014 года

331-20-02-2014

О ситуации на Украине

С учетом нового драматического разворота в развитии ситуации на Украине хотел бы подтвердить принципиальные подходы России к разрастающемуся кризису, которые озвучены Президентом Российской Федерации В.В.Путиным, Председателем Правительства Российской Федерации Д.А.Медведевым, Пресс-секретарем главы государства Д.С.Песковым, Министром иностранных дел Российской Федерации С.В.Лавровым. Еще раз привлеку внимание к Заявлению МИД России от 19 февраля.

Нет сомнения – и это вновь показывают сегодняшние события – применение боевиками огнестрельного оружия, вновь доказывает, что речь идет об откровенной попытке государственного переворота и силового захвата власти. Решительно осуждаем действия радикалов-экстремистов, на которых лежит основная ответственность за насилие и

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кровавый произвол, а также оппозиционеров, оказавшихся не в состоянии выполнить достигнутые с властями договоренности.

Подтверждаем наше требование, чтобы лидеры «площади» незамедлительно остановили кровопролитие, продолжали поиск мирных развязок кризиса без угроз и ультиматумов. Ситуация может и должна быть урегулирована в рамках конституционных прерогатив действующей власти Украины.

Продолжающиеся попытки навязчиво посредничать извне, грозить санкциями и иными способами влиять на ситуацию неуместны и ни к чему хорошему привести не могут, а лишь усугубляют противостояние.

В данной ситуации вновь призываем все стороны поставить интересы Украины и ее народа выше собственных геополитических замыслов.

Из ответов на вопросы:

Вопрос: В случае, если Президент Украины В.Ф.Янукович уйдет в отставку, а его пост займет кто-либо из представителей оппозиции, выполнит ли официальная Москва свои обязательства по оказанию финансовой помощи, которая была обещана Киеву?

Ответ: Мы не комментируем гипотетические сценарии. Хочу привлечь Ваше внимание к сегодняшнему заявлению Председателя Правительства Российской Федерации Д.А.Медведева, которое он сделал несколько часов назад при открытии очередного заседания Кабинета министров. Цитирую: «Мы продолжим сотрудничать с нашими украинскими партнерами по всем направлениям, по которым договаривались, будем стараться делать все, чтобы исполнять обещания, которые давались».

В тоже время нам необходимо, чтобы сами партнеры были в тонусе, чтобы власть на Украине была легитимной и эффективной».

Вопрос: Если в результате выборов к власти придет оппозиция, то Москва продолжит сотрудничество, о котором было объявлено раньше?

Ответ: Никто пока не говорит про выборы. Гипотетический сценарий прихода к власти оппозиции мы не рассматриваем. Мы говорим открыто и предельно четко, что урегулирование нынешнего кризиса возможно и должно происходить между легитимной властью и представителями оппозиции. Мирные договоренности по поиску развязок конфликта – это и есть путь решения внутренних проблем. Как и в каких формах это будет осуществлено – прерогатива исключительно легитимной власти на Украине.

Вопрос: По сообщениям СМИ, в центре Киева от пуль снайперов погибло несколько десятков человек. По Вашему мнению, нынешняя власть Украины несет за это ответственность?

Ответ: Основную ответственность несут радикалы-боевики, которые взяли за оружие и призывают народ к вооруженному мятежу и свержению власти. По нашим сведениям, среди военнослужащих и представителей органов правопорядка есть погибшие. По телевидению показывают кадры, где боевики не скрывают, что в их распоряжении находится современное стрелковое оружие. Появились сообщения, что только сегодня в результате разграбления воинских складов боевики получили более 1,5 тысяч винтовок, автоматов и другого оружия. Поэтому основную ответственность несут экстремисты и боевики, которые продолжают эту кровавую вакханалию, вместо того, чтобы находить мирные пути разрешения конфликта.

Вопрос: Должна ли все-таки легитимная власть нести ответственность за происходящее в стране?

Ответ: На телевизионных кадрах видно, что подразделения внутренних войск МВД Украины и спецподразделение «Беркут» не имеют стрелкового оружия. Состав жертв и характер нанесенных увечий свидетельствуют, что большинство из них – представители правопорядка.

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Сейчас в Интернете много ложной информации. Некоторые европейские политики договорились даже до того, что увидели российский спецназ на «Майдане». Эту информацию нам пришлось оперативно опровергать, задействуя ресурсы социальных сетей. Не считаю нужным развивать данную тему. Мы сделали четкие и понятные заявления, исходя из которых вы можете сделать вывод, что Россия не вмешивается в процесс внутреннего конфликта и урегулирования на Украине. Я бы на этом остановился. Если мы будем комментировать каждый выстрел, лучше от этого на Украине не станет. Наше требование и призыв совершенно понятны: необходимо найти внутренние мирные пути урегулирования конфликта.

Вопрос: Вчера в своем заявлении МИД России отметил, что РФ намерена использовать все свое влияние, чтобы восстановить мир и спокойствие на Украине. Какие шаги будет предпринимать Россия для мирного урегулирования кризиса? В этом же комментарии появилось понятие «коричневая революция». Как понять слово «коричневая» в данном контексте?

Ответ: Использовать влияние – это широкое понятие методов и средств. Скажу откровенно, некоторые журналисты попытались представить дело таким образом, что между заявлениями Пресс-секретаря Президента России Д.С.Пескова и МИД России есть некий зазор. На самом деле, это совершенно не так. Мы продолжаем подчеркивать, что пути внутреннего урегулирования на Украине будут достигаться в формах и методах, которые легитимная власть сочтет целесообразными.

Наши контакты с Украиной продолжаются в различных областях. Сейчас в Киеве проводит консультации статс-секретарь – заместитель Министра иностранных дел России Г.Б.Карасин, который встречался со своим визави. Обсуждаются планы продолжения экономического сотрудничества. Я бы прокомментировал Ваш вопрос поговоркой: «Не надо искать черную кошку в темной комнате, особенно, когда ее там нет».

Что касается второго вопроса, скажу, что в нашем Заявлении мы обратили внимание СМИ и международных политиков на отсутствие какой-либо реакции со стороны мирового сообщества на лозунги, с которыми многие радикалы выходят на Майдан и действуют на Украине. Появляются явно неонацистские символы (свастику рисуют не только на фасадах зданий, но и в помещениях), звучат лозунги, выкрикиваемые на улицах отдельными бригадами, чувствуется «запах» антисемитизма, что заметили международные еврейские организации. Но все это почему-то не получает адекватной реакции со стороны как мировых СМИ, так и международных политиков.

«Коричневая чума» – очень опасный феномен, уничтоженный в свое время коллективными усилиями. Мы очень не хотим, чтобы он был воспроизведен в новых формах.

Вопрос: Все чаще в международной практике мы сталкиваемся с такими явлениями, когда то или иное государство объявляет акции в отношении политического руководства отдельной страны, бизнесменов и просто физических лиц. Имеет ли эта практика под собой законодательную почву, не является ли нарушением прав человека, есть ли рекомендации ООН в этой связи? Как бы Вы прокомментировали данный вопрос с учетом объявления американской стороной санкций в отношении политического руководства Украины?

Ответ: Не буду углубляться в детали и затевать теологическую дискуссию. Наша четкая линия заключается в следующем: если санкции носят коллективный характер и коллективно принимаются в СБ ООН – а только Совет Безопасности уполномочен принимать и реализовывать рестриктивные меры в отношении государств – мы придерживаемся взятых на себя обязательств, как это было в случаях с Ираном и Ливией. Что касается индивидуальных санкций США и ЕС, которыми они сейчас пытаются оперировать, то, с нашей точки зрения, а также с международно-правовых позиций их

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обоснования – это абсолютно нелегитимно, и мы с этим никак не связаны. Схожей позиции придерживаются очень многие государства-члены ООН.

СООБЩЕНИЕ ДЛЯ СМИ

О российско-украинских политических консультациях

326-20-02-2014

19 февраля в Киеве состоялись консультации статс-секретаря – заместителя Министра иностранных дел Российской Федерации Г.Б.Карасина с первым заместителем Министра иностранных дел Украины Р.М.Демченко.

Состоялся обмен мнениями о развитии внутривнутриполитической ситуации на Украине, подчеркнута настоятельная необходимость поиска ее урегулирования в конституционном поле.

Были рассмотрены основные вопросы российско-украинских отношений, включая график политических контактов на ближайший период, сотрудничество в торгово-экономической сфере.

В качестве сопредседателей двусторонней Подкомиссии по Черноморскому флоту Г.Б.Карасин и Р.М.Демченко обсудили подготовку двусторонних документов по проблематике пребывания Черноморского флота Российской Федерации на территории Украины.

Среди мероприятий культурно-гуманитарного комплекса были выделены совместные акции в обеих странах по празднованию 200-летия со дня рождения Т.Г.Шевченко.

Обсуждены также актуальные международные и региональные проблемы, в частности, приднестровское урегулирование.

Состоялась встреча Г.Б.Карасина с Министром иностранных дел Украины Л.А.Кожарой.

УКРАЇНА

МЗС України

Постійний представник Юрій Сергєєв дав інтерв'ю провідним телерадіокомпаніям світу щодо останніх подій в Україні

20 лютого 2014, 18:30

У зв'язку з підвищеною увагою світових медіа щодо ескалації протистояння в нашій державі, Постійний представник України при ООН Юрій Сергєєв 20 лютого 2014 року дав низку інтерв'ю провідним світовим медіа та телеканалам у режимі прямого включення.

Під час випуску новин на телеканалі CNN Ю.Сергєєв наголосив на необхідності широкоформатного діалогу між усіма сторонами конфлікту та неприпустимості загострення насильства. На думку Постпреда, усі суперечки в українському суспільстві мають вирішуватися виключно мирним та політичним шляхом, враховуючи інтереси усього суспільства.

У прямому включенні телекомпанії BBC з Лондона Ю.Сергєєв зазначив, що все ще існує простір для компромісу, у тому числі, за посередництва міжнародної спільноти.

В інтерв'ю телеканалу Al-Jazeera World та Al-Jazeera America Постійний представник висловив співчуття усім родичам та близьким загиблих, наголосивши на неприпустимості ескалації насильства в усіх його формах. Ю.Сергєєв висловив сподівання щодо можливого вирішення кризи в Україні з використанням механізмів парламентаризму.

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Окремо Ю.Сергеєв зазначив про необхідність об'єктивного розслідування усіх порушень прав людини у нашій державі через надмірне застосування сили.

Міністр закордонних справ України Леонід Кожара зустрівся з співдоповідачами Моніторингового комітету Парламентської асамблеї Ради Європи М. де Пурбе-Лундін та М.Репс

20 лютого 2014, 11:27

20 лютого 2014 року Міністр закордонних справ України Леонід Кожара зустрівся з співдоповідачами Моніторингового комітету Парламентської асамблеї Ради Європи М. де Пурбе-Лундін та М. Репс, які у рамках своїх повноважень перебувають в Україні з візитом.

Торкаючись подій, що наразі відбуваються в Україні, Глава зовнішньополітичного відомства відзначив ту увагу, яка надається Радою Європи питанням врегулювання політичної кризи в Україні, а також готовність надати сприяння українській стороні у цьому процесі. Зокрема, було відзначено важливість практичної імплементації рішення Комітету міністрів Ради Європи від 19 лютого 2014 року про створення Міжнародної консультативної групи.

Були також обговорені питання зовнішньополітичних пріоритетів України. Міністр наголосив на незмінності курсу країни на євроінтеграцію.

Заява співробітників Посольства України в США

(Посольство України в США)

20 лютого 2014, 20:20

Неможливо мовчати, коли твоя Батьківщина палає у вогні, від куль масово гинуть люди, панують шок, біль і страждання, існує реальна загроза державності і територіальній цілісності України.

Ми висловлюємо щирі співчуття родинам загиблих і поділяємо їх горе.

Українці століттями боролись за своє право жити у вільній, демократичній, незалежній країні, яку наше покоління зобов'язане побудувати.

Ми – із своїм народом, ми за його гідне європейське майбутнє.

У цей трагічний час верх мають взяти мудрість та негайне припинення кровопролиття і братовбивства.

Ми закликаємо до мирного розв'язання протистояння заради всього народу України, заради соборності нашої держави і її майбутнього.

It is impossible to keep silent when your Motherland is on fire, people are dying from bullets, there is shock, pain and suffering, and a real threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

We express our sincere condolences to the families of the deceased and share their pain.

Ukrainians fought for centuries for their right to live in a free, democratic and independent country, which our generation must build.

We are with our people, we stand for our people's genuine European future.

At this tragic time, wisdom must prevail, there must be an immediate end to bloodshed and fratricide.

We call for a peaceful resolution of the confrontation for the sake of the entire people of Ukraine, for the unity and the future of our country.

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Олександр Моцик, Надзвичайний та Повноважний Посол України в Сполучених Штатах Америки та 57 співробітників Посольства та Генеральних консульств України в Чикаго, Сан-Франциско та Нью-Йорку

Заява українських дипломатів у Франції

(Посольство України у Франції)

20 лютого 2014, 11:22

Заява українських дипломатів у Франції

В Україну прийшло велике горе. В кривавих зіткненнях на вулицях українських міст загинули наші співвітчизники. Людські життя безцінні, цим подіям немає виправдань.

Ми, співробітники Посольства України у Франції та Постійного Представництва України при ЮНЕСКО, висловлюємо глибокі співчуття родинам загиблих. Страшна статистика шокувала світ, але для кожного з нас це не просто лякаючі цифри, це одна велика трагедія, що об'єднала українців у скорботі. До крові ніколи не можна звикнути, смерть нічим не можна виправдати. Від болю бракує слів, проте мовчати ми не можемо.

Український народ століттями боровся та захищав свою незалежність і право самостійно визначати власне майбутнє. Неприпустимими є заяви, що ставлять під сумнів існування єдиної соборної Української держави. Ми рішуче засуджуємо дії, які штучно ділять Україну та українців.

Ми єдиний народ зі спільним прагненням – жити в сильній процвітаючій європейській країні. Це шлях, з якого ми не зійдемо.

Протягом останніх років українські дипломати у Франції, як і наші колеги в інших країнах ЄС, докладали титанічних зусиль для підписання Угоди про асоціацію. Ми є євроінтеграторами за покликанням та внутрішнім переконанням. Відхід від цього курсу для нас неприйнятний.

Ми вдячні французькому керівництву за послідовну позицію щодо реалізації Україною її європейського вибору. Працюючи у Франції, ми це відчували завжди і відчуваємо сьогодні. Сподіваємось на таку ж підтримку у майбутньому. Місце України в об'єднаній Європі.

Закликаємо тих, від кого залежать мир та спокій в Україні, забезпечити суспільну злагоду в державі заради збереження людських життів.

Запевняємо, що українська дипломатія і надалі служитиме народу в ім'я процвітання європейської незалежної України.

Заяву прийнято одногосно на загальних зборах колективу

КРАЇНИ – ЧЛЕНИ ГРУПИ "G-7"

США

З виступом посла Даніела В. Баера, представника США при ОБСЄ, на засіданні Постійної ради у Відні щодо подій в Україні можна ознайомитися нижче у розділі ОБСЄ.

Statement by the Press Secretary on Ukraine

THE WHITE HOUSE

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Office of the Press Secretary
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 20, 2014

Statement by the Press Secretary on Ukraine

We are outraged by the images of Ukrainian security forces firing automatic weapons on their own people. We urge President Yanukovich to immediately withdraw his security forces from downtown Kyiv and to respect the right of peaceful protest, and we urge protesters to express themselves peacefully. We urge the Ukrainian military not to get involved in a conflict that can and should be resolved by political means. The use of force will not resolve the crisis – clear steps must be taken to stop the violence and initiate meaningful dialogue that reduces tension and addresses the grievances of the Ukrainian people. The United States will work with our European allies to hold those responsible for violence accountable and to help the Ukrainian people get a unified and independent Ukraine back on the path to a better future.

Statement by Secretary Kerry on the Situation in Ukraine

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson
For Immediate Release
February 20, 2014

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KERRY

Situation in Ukraine

It's with anger and anguish that we have watched renewed violence on the streets of Kyiv today destroy more lives and rip apart more families. The people of Ukraine deserve far better than senseless death and suffering on the streets of one of Europe's great cities.

The violence must stop. We unequivocally condemn the use of force against civilians by security forces, and urge that those forces be withdrawn immediately. The people of Ukraine and the international community will hold to account those who are responsible for what has occurred, and the United States has already begun implementing sanctions through travel bans on Ukrainians responsible for the violence. Protestors should exercise their rights peacefully, and we urge the Ukrainian military to remain true to its non-political heritage and its professional traditions.

There is no time for brinksmanship or gamesmanship. President Yanukovich must undertake serious negotiations with opposition leaders immediately to establish a new interim government that will have broad support. That is the only way to begin the difficult but essential constitutional and economic reforms that Ukraine needs.

We reaffirm the commitment of the United States to the people of Ukraine and urge all members of the international community to help Ukraine return to stability. We will work with our friends and allies to support Ukraine and Ukrainians in these difficult days.

Readout of Vice President Biden's Call with Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Vice President
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 20, 2014

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The Vice President and President Yanukovich spoke by telephone this afternoon. The Vice President strongly condemned the violence against civilians in Kyiv. He called upon President Yanukovich to immediately pull back all security forces – police, snipers, military and paramilitary units, and irregular forces. The Vice President made clear that the United States is prepared to sanction those officials responsible for the violence. The Vice President urged President Yanukovich to take immediate and tangible steps to work with the opposition on a path forward that addresses the legitimate aspirations of the Ukrainian people. The Vice President underscored that the United States supports an independent, democratic Ukraine that pursues the future its people choose.

Readout of the Vice President's Call with Prime Minister Tusk of Poland

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2014

Vice President Biden spoke with Prime Minister Tusk by phone today to consult on the situation in Ukraine. They discussed steps the United States, Poland, and the European Union are taking to support an end to the violence and a political solution that is in the best interests of the Ukrainian people. The Vice President and Prime Minister agreed to stay in close touch in the days ahead.

Readout of the President Obama's Call with Chancellor Merkel

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2014

President Obama spoke with Chancellor Merkel by phone today, to consult on the situation in Ukraine. They agreed that it is critical that the United States, Germany and the European Union continue to stay in close touch in the days ahead on steps we can take to support an end to the violence and a political solution that is in the best interests of the Ukrainian people.

White House Press Briefing on Ukraine and Russia

Q Okay. And on a separate topic, the EU, looks like they've decided to impose sanctions on officials in Ukraine that they say are responsible for this violence. Does the U.S. plan to follow with sanctions of its own?

MR. EARNEST: I've seen those reports. It's unclear to me whether or not EU officials have actually confirmed those reports yet.

Q Some of the EU officials.

MR. EARNEST: Some of EUs have, okay. Or some EU officials have. I'm not in a position to confirm any additional steps that the United States has decided to take at this point.

The President and other senior members of this administration alluded yesterday to the fact that there were a range of tools that could be used by the administration to hold accountable those who have either ordered or are responsible for the violence that's being perpetrated by the Ukrainian government against peaceful protesters.

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So there are a range of options that are available, and it is fair to say that a range of options is being actively considered at the White House. But I don't have any specific things, any specific decisions about those options to relay to you now. As soon as some decisions have been made, if they are made, we'll let you know.

Let's skip around a little bit.

Q Apparently, a statement has come out by the EU and confirming – and I can read a piece of it if you want.

MR. EARNEST: I wasn't doubting the reports. I'm not surprised to hear that they've made this decision. We certainly are in close consultation with our EU allies on a range of topics, but particularly the situation in Ukraine.

Q Do you have any sense of timing on when a decision will be made by the U.S. on --

MR. EARNEST: I can't offer you any insight into that right now, other than to say that there are a range of options that are available to the President. He is actively considering those range of options, and as soon as there is a decision to announce we'll make sure that you and your colleagues are among the first to know.

Q Sorry to interrupt.

MR. EARNEST: That's okay. Roberta.

Q So yesterday, when the President said that "there will be consequences if people step over the line," has that line been crossed in the renewed violence this morning? And can you explain a little bit more about what that line is and what that meant?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I think the President was trying to make a couple of points when he said that. The first is that there is – that the government in Ukraine has a responsibility, has the primary responsibility for making sure that the violence that we've seen does not continue.

Now, that doesn't absolve protestors of their responsibility to exercise their right to peaceful protest in a peaceful manner. But the government of Ukraine has a unique responsibility to allow and to protect the rights of assembly and peaceful protest and freedom of speech that the Ukrainian people are seeking to exercise.

The President also was making clear that there are options available to the United States and to the international community, and to our allies – including those in the EU – to hold accountable those who perpetrate violence against peaceful protestors. So the options here are before us. Some of our allies are starting to make some decisions about them. This is something that we are actively considering here at the White House. But at this point, I don't have any specific decisions to share with you.

Q Can we get back to Ukraine, if we could? What do you tell the American people, the person sitting in their lounge chair watching this terrible violence, about what strategic interest the United States has in getting involved in this protest? What is the strategic interest of the United States?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I think there are a couple of things. I think that the American people I think are justifiably concerned – certainly the President is – when we see the basic human rights of anybody around the globe being so flagrantly trampled. That has certainly been part of the situation that appears to be underway in Ukraine. And that is a source of great concern here at the White House.

The other concern that we have is the desire – I guess it's a related concern – for countries to have governments that reflect the will and aspirations of their people. And what we have seen is an attempt by the Ukrainian regime to stifle dissent in their country, and that so much of the turmoil that's ongoing there is related to the desire of the Ukrainian people to have a government and a leadership that reflects their will and their preferences.

So what the President has been encouraging is for the violence to come to an immediate end and for the government and the opposition to sit down at the table and try to reach a diplomatic solution to this disagreement that would include a unity government that would allow the country of Ukraine to be integrated into the international community and to have solid

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relationships with their neighbors, but also to have solid relationships with countries all around the world. And that is our longer-term goal here.

But any time that we see that there is this kind of turmoil that has resulted in some basic civil rights being violated is a source of some concern.

Q As far as the national security of the United States, is there anything that's happening in that square in Kyiv that really impacts the United States?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I think this is something that we're monitoring, that this is something that has aroused a lot of concern – because, again, as a freedom-loving country and a freedom-loving people, it is the subject of significant concern when the rights of peaceful protestors who are trying to exercise their right of peaceful assembly, who are trying to exercise their right to express their disagreement with political decisions, having those rights being trampled is the source of some concern.

And that's why the President is considering options like sanctions. That's why the State Department announced the decision that they made yesterday to put a visa ban in place for government officials in Ukraine who have been judged to be accountable for some of the violence that's taken place there.

So this is the subject of some concern, and it's why the President is considering a range of options that are available to him.

Q And how much is the bigger picture of the United States and Russia – “spheres of influence,” going back – echoes of a Cold War – how much of that is of concern to the White House?

MR. EARNEST: Well, the President talked about this a little bit at the news conference yesterday, that this idea of “spheres of influence” is a pretty outdated notion; that what we're seeing in Ukraine is a frustration on the part of the population that their government, that their elected representatives are not reflecting their aspirations, and that we're starting to see a rolling-back in some of the basic democratic institutions in that country, and that it is clear that at least some of the human rights – basic human rights that we hold so dear in this country are not being respected in that country. And that's the source of quite a bit of concern.

But it is not necessarily related to any effort by former Cold War adversaries to try to gain a foothold in one country or another. This shouldn't be a zero-sum game. This should be – it's in the interest of the international community for peace and stability to be restored in Ukraine, and that's what we're striving toward. It's the view of the President and it's the view of this administration that that stability and peace will only be achieved through conversations and through talks, and through a willingness of both the government and the opposition to sit across the table and try to find some solutions. This situation will not be resolved through violence.

Q What's the sense of urgency on sanctions with Ukraine? What's the timeline?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I can't give you a specific timeline. But given the violence that we saw overnight in Ukraine, I think it's fair to say that the options available to the President are being considered with some urgency.

Q Why does the administration believe sanctions would help and not punish some of the very citizens of Ukraine that the United States theoretically would like to help?

MR. EARNEST: Well, unintended consequences of the sort that you have highlighted here are one of the reasons that these kinds of things are under consideration, that making a decision about sanctions can't just be a kneejerk reaction; that it's important for us to consider the range of consequences that could ensue from applying some sanctions. But, again, there is a sense of urgency that is being felt because of the terrible violence that we saw overnight.

Q Is it fair to say that you're looking at maybe granular sanctions that might focus on those wealthiest in Ukraine who have assets inside and outside of the country, but have also been supportive of the Yanukovich government?

MR. EARNEST: I don't want to speculate about what the end result might be or what specific options the President is considering. There is a full toolkit – I think someone described it as

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yesterday – and that’s what the President is taking a look at that entire toolkit and will make some decisions based on the kinds of policies that would have the maximum effect.

And again, the result that we’re trying to get to here is an end to the violence on both sides and conversations between the opposition and the government about a unity government that could be formed, about a technical government that would reflect the will and aspirations of the Ukrainian people.

Q Speaking of those potential conversations, there were reports this morning that Vladimir Putin wants to send an envoy to Ukraine to participate in talks between the opposition and the Yanukovich government. How would the administration look upon that – favorable or unfavorably?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I don’t have a specific reaction in terms of personnel that may be sent from the Putin administration to Ukraine. But suffice it to say that the United States and Russia do share a common interest in peace and stability in Ukraine. That is certainly what the Obama administration is advocating for. And because it’s in the clear interest of the Russians, we are hopeful that that’s what – that Putin –

Q The White House would not view that as meddling?

MR. EARNEST: Again, I wouldn’t have anything to say specifically about an individual, an emissary from the Putin administration heading to Ukraine. But suffice it to say that there is shared interest on the part of not just of Russia and the United States, but countries all around the world for peace and stability to be restored in Ukraine.

Jon-Christopher.

Q Jay – Josh, excuse me – (laughter.) I could never mistake –

MR. EARNEST: It’s okay, I’ve been called worse.

Q We’ll leave it at that. (Laughter.) Needless to say, things have gone from worse to worse. There are 45 million Ukrainians affected not only in Kyiv but in other major cities across the country. How does it complicate things that it’s been reported that the protestors now have taken 67 police officers as prisoners and that they will not back down until Yanukovich has resigned?

MR. EARNEST: There is no question that what we’re looking at here is a chaotic and violent situation, and trying to get to the bottom of individual actions that have taken place all across the country is very difficult. But we have been very clear for quite some time now that the Yanukovich government has the primary responsibility to ensure that violence does not occur, or to bring violence to an end when it does. And that is a responsibility that they should take seriously, and they need to exercise the authority and control that they have to bring that violence to an end. There’s also a responsibility on the part of protestors to make sure that they’re expressing their concerns and expressing their right to peaceful assembly in a peaceful way.

Q But it looks like it’s no longer peaceful, Josh.

MR. EARNEST: That’s evident from the reports.

Q The reporting is – the footage is unbelievable.

MR. EARNEST: Again, there’s –

Q There’s Molotov cocktails, et cetera, burning –

MR. EARNEST: That there is chaos and violence there, that is of significant concern to this administration. We are calling on all sides to end the violence. We do need to get to a place where we can have constructive talks between the opposition and the government. While those talks are ongoing, the violence should be put to rest, and that’s what this administration is working to do – from the Vice President’s repeated calls to President Yanukovich, to senior members of the State Department who have traveled to Ukraine in recent weeks, to our diplomatic staff in Ukraine right now that is putting themselves in harm’s way to try to bring an end to the violence.

Q Can you give us any insight as to some of the conversations that the President may have had with some of the leaders in NATO, for example?

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MR. EARNEST: I'm not in a position to do that right now. I wouldn't rule out that the President may have some conversations later today with some of our allies around the world that do have a vested interest in peace and stability in Ukraine. If we're in a position to read out those calls later today, we'll do that.

Q Josh, back on Ukraine, I just wondered – when you were talking about the full toolkit, is this just a conversation about sanctions, or is a U.S. military option on the table like it is for other crises like Syria? Is this a different situation, or is a military option on the table?

MR. EARNEST: Right now the things – when I talked about options that are under active consideration right now, we're talking about sanctions.

Q You today and the President last night at the news conference sort of downplayed that this is a Cold War kind of back-and-forth with Putin. Wall Street Journal on its front page today reports, "The Obama administration has found itself repeatedly caught off guard by Putin's moves in places like Syria, Iran, Egypt and even NSA leaker Edward Snowden." Is there frustration here at the White House that there's at least a perception around the world that Putin is in control over the President on some of these issues?

MR. EARNEST: I'm not sure that's the prevailing sentiment around the globe. It might be the prevailing sentiment in the Wall Street Journal editorial --

Q This is the front-page news story.

MR. EARNEST: Okay. Okay. Well, again, if you take a look at some of the examples that you've cited, there is a lot of common ground between the United States and Russia that could be staked out. But again, it is not in Russia's interest and it's not in the world's interest for there to be this continued violence and instability in Ukraine. It is not in Russia's interest, I think as they themselves have said, for their client state, Syria, to be coming apart at the seams based on some sectarian tensions.

Q Right, but in that case – the President has made that case directly to Putin and he doesn't seem to be listening. So isn't there a perception that he's – you've made that case on Syria again and again, client state, and he doesn't listen.

MR. EARNEST: We have. But I guess the point I'm trying to make here is it's not as if Mr. Putin has his feet up on his desk, sighing with relief about the current situation in either Ukraine or Syria right now. The fact of the matter is it is not in Russia's interest for there to be this continuing sectarian violence that is threatening to pull apart this client state, the only client state that Russia has in the Middle East right now.

So I guess this highlights something that the President alluded to in his comments yesterday, that resolutions to these terrible situations are not a zero-sum game; that trying to bring peace and stability – or at least to get both sides to put down arms and sit across the negotiating table from one another – to try to put in place governments that are actually representative of the will of the people are in the broader global interest, and that there is nothing for the United States to gain at the expense of Russia for some of these changes to start happening. In fact, the perpetuation of this violence, frankly, runs counter to the national interests of the United States. And I assume and I think it stands to reason that President Putin would think the same thing about Russia's interests in these situations.

Q Thank you, sir. So "spheres of influence" and Cold War chessboards notwithstanding, obviously Russia is a big player in Ukraine and in this crisis. And to a large degree, it's an adversarial relationship with the United States, especially over this back-and-forth over the last several weeks culminating in the President's comments last night about Vladimir Putin. So why doesn't the President pick up the phone and call Vladimir Putin and try to come to some sort of agreement as Kyiv burns?

MR. EARNEST: Well, the President tried to make this point last night, and I will not do it as eloquently as he did but I'm going to give it a shot anyway – as long as I'm standing up here. The fact of the matter is the dispute that is ongoing in Ukraine now, as tragic and as violent as it is now, is not the result of differing perspectives in Ukraine between the United States and

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Russia. That may have been true in the '70s and '80s, but it's not true today. That the turmoil that we're seeing in Ukraine is directly related to the aspirations of the Ukrainian people and their sense that their government is not doing a good job of representing their wishes and their aspirations. And you have people in Ukraine who are not focused on whether or not the United States would benefit from one decision of the Yanukovich administration. They're focused on whether or not the Ukrainian people benefit from a decision or two that is made by the Yanukovich administration.

So the focus on this situation shouldn't be on this outdated notion of spheres of influence. It should be focused on a peaceful resolution of the concerns of the Ukrainian people.

Q Yes, but it is essentially an East-West divide that triggered this, right? The EU versus Moscow and Yanukovich's decision to go to Moscow for loan guarantees. So is there – as the President looks over this range of options on sanctions, is there a concern that sanctions might have the opposite of the intended effect and drive Yanukovich further into the arms of Russia?

MR. EARNEST: Well, I'll say a couple of things about that. The first is – and Major sort of asked a version of this question earlier, which is that we do have a – we are carefully considering what our options are when it comes to sanctions, because there are a range of consequences, some intended and some not. So we're going to carefully consider the options that are available, and if and when a decision is made we'll make an announcement about those.

But our concern does not – our principal concern here does not lie in whether or not Vladimir Putin stands to gain or lose from the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Our principal concern is making sure that violence in Ukraine comes to an end, that the opposition and the government sit down at the negotiating table and reach an agreement to move forward in a way that will unify the government and integrate the Ukrainian government back into the international community. That is the principal focus of our policymaking.

And while there may be some geopolitical intrigue about whether or not Vladimir Putin's sphere of influence is enhanced or reduced by that outcome, that may be interesting sort of parlor conversation, but it's not how this administration views the dynamics that are at play in this situation.

Q Over the last 24 hours or so – on Ukraine – the President has been pretty firm in siding with the protestors and putting the brunt of the responsibility on the government similar to the way that he did in Syria over the many months of that conflict there. Is there any concern on the part of the administration that in the end there are some elements of the protestors that are nationalistic and that are maybe not the kinds of people that the United States wants to be siding with? Is that kind of dilemma similar to some of the issues that have played out in Syria as well? Is that being talked about?

MR. EARNEST: Well, they are obviously two very different situations. But you're right that, again, the situation on the ground in Kyiv and in some other cities in Ukraine is chaotic and violent, and so, in some cases, it is difficult to determine who is responsible for what specific action. But what is undeniably true – and this has been an operating principle for some time in terms of our dealings with Ukraine – is that the government does have the principal responsibility for restoring peace and ensuring that violence is not perpetrated against peaceful protestors.

It's also apparent that at least in some situations that that has not happened. And that is why you saw the State Department put this visa ban in place, and it's why the President is considering a range of other options. But we've also been just as clear that just because the government has the principal responsibility to keep the peace, it does not absolve protestors from their responsibility to exercise their right of assembly in a peaceful manner.

Q “Spheres of influence” aside, what is the White House's appraisal of how much influence Putin has over the Yanukovich government?

MR. EARNEST: Well, there are probably some experts in the United States government who are a little more well-versed on the history between President Putin and President Yanukovich. The

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focal point of our policymaking is ensuring that whoever the leader is of Ukraine, and regardless of what that person's relationship is with the President of Russia, that the government of Ukraine reflects the will and aspirations of the Ukrainian people, and that when those aspirations or when that will is not represented by the government, that there's a willingness by the government to respect that will, to respect the right – the basic right of the citizens to express their opposition, and to demonstrate a willingness to peacefully sit across the negotiating table and try to broker some political agreements without resorting to violence. That's the criteria that we're looking for here.

And so the question that you're asking about the relationship between President Yanukovich and President Putin is an interesting one and not irrelevant, but it is not the focal point of our decision-making at this point.

Q But if your goal is a government that reflects the will of the Ukrainian people, isn't Putin a key part of making that happen? And wouldn't that be a focus of your engagement of this crisis in general?

MR. EARNEST: Look, Ukraine obviously has a relationship with their neighbor, Russia, both a historical one but also a geographic one, because they're in such close proximity to one another. So, again, it's not a matter of that relationship, of the relationship between the President of Ukraine and the President of Russia, being irrelevant. But the focal point here is ensuring that the government of Ukraine is both respecting but also representing the will of the people. And because of their failure in recent months to serve the will of the people, we've seen a lot of conflict and strife in Ukraine.

And that's why we're urging both sides to put down arms, to sit down at the negotiating table and try to hammer out a political agreement here that will allow the government of Ukraine and the country of Ukraine to move forward in a way that better integrates them into the international community. And they can do all of that without there having to be a complicated assessment of the geopolitical consequences for Russia, the United States, or any other country.

ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНІЯ

The Prime Minister David Cameron has discussed the situation in Ukraine with Russian President Putin and the Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

20 February 2014

A Downing Street spokesman said:

The Prime Minister has made further phone calls on the terrible situation in Ukraine. He called President Putin shortly after 6pm, followed by the Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

All three leaders support the idea of a roadmap that has been put forward by European foreign ministers in Kiev today. The Prime Minister agreed with President Putin that they should both encourage all sides in Ukraine to get behind this emerging plan as a way to end the violence and open the way to a lasting peaceful solution.

The PM and Prime Minister Tusk discussed the EU targeted measures approved today and agreed that the EU should continue to look at the ways it can promote a peaceful and democratic settlement in Ukraine, recognising that continued violence will make it harder to reassure all Ukrainians that their legitimate aspirations will be realised.

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Foreign Secretary says EU will impose sanctions on Ukraine

20 February 2014

Leaving the Foreign Affairs Council, Foreign Secretary William Hague spoke about the sanctions which the EU is imposing on Ukraine.

On departure from the discussions with other EU Foreign Ministers about the situation in Kyiv, Foreign Secretary William Hague said:

We've had a strongly united discussion and decision among the EU foreign ministers today.

There is widespread horror in the European Union as well as in the United Kingdom at the scale of the loss of innocent life and the events of the last 48 hours.

Of course we call on all involved to turn away from violence, but some people are responsible for the violence and so we have decided to introduce targeted measures and targeted sanctions involving visa bans and asset freezes on those individuals who are responsible. The scale of the implementation will depend on developments to come and of course we want to see success in Government and opposition working together in order to bring about a peaceful situation and a peaceful and democratic settlement of the issues in Ukraine. But that is the decision the Council has made today.

In response to questions from journalists the Foreign Secretary made clear that these sanctions will involve "visa bans and asset freezes on those responsible for violence"... The decision that we have made also involves member states of the European Union making sure that they are not supplying to the Ukraine any equipment that can be used for internal repression."

On whether these sanctions would influence ministers in Kyiv the Foreign Secretary pointed out that "...It is a strong signal ...of how unacceptable this is. It should be unacceptable in any city or country in the world, unacceptable in a European city, a European country... And it's a signal of the EU's determination to do something about that."

PM's phone call with Chancellor Merkel to discuss Ukraine

20 February 2014

David Cameron called Chancellor Merkel to discuss the situation in Ukraine.

Following the phone call, a Downing Street spokesperson said:

The Prime Minister called Chancellor Merkel earlier this afternoon to discuss the appalling situation in Ukraine.

They are both extremely concerned by the spiralling violence. They agreed that the immediate priority must be to stop the violence and that President Yanukovich has a particular responsibility to help de-escalate the situation by pulling back government forces.

They discussed how they could work together and with international partners to foster a solution to the crisis. They agreed to do all they can to secure support from all sides in Ukraine for a

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possible roadmap, proposed by European foreign ministers in Kiev earlier today, which could lead to a peaceful solution to the crisis.

The Prime Minister plans to speak to more leaders in the next 24 hours and Ukraine will feature on the agenda of the PM's bilateral with Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte tomorrow afternoon.

Foreign Secretary condemns indefensible violence and deaths in Ukraine

20 February 2014

On arrival at the Foreign Affairs Council, Foreign Secretary William Hague called on Ukrainian government to prevent further violence.

Before entering discussions with other EU Foreign Ministers about the situation in Kyiv, Foreign Secretary William Hague said:

The latest scenes and events in Kyiv, including the killing of more protestors we've heard about this morning are utterly unacceptable and indefensible and the United Kingdom condemns these actions in the strongest terms.

By permitting such actions to take place, the Ukrainian Government is putting itself at odds with reasonable opinion all across the world.

We have summoned the Ukrainian Ambassador in London this morning to register our emphatic protest at these events and to call for immediate and far reaching change in the attitude of the Ukrainian authorities to ensuring a peaceful and democratic settlement of the issues in Ukraine.

It is not right to describe protestors as terrorists. A great many of them of course are simply seeking a better future for their country.

I think the European Union today has to act in a way that helps to stop the violence because without an end to the violence there will be no other progress of any kind in Ukraine either politically or in the desperate economic situation of the country.

So helping to stop the violence is the immediate priority. But we also have to act in a way that ultimately promotes a peaceful and democratic settlement of all of these issues. There has to be an international response to what has happened over the last few days and that is why we will be discussing sanctions measures against those responsible for the violence.

It is time on all sides for people to turn away from violence. But the Ukrainian Government of course bears the greatest responsibility and the particular responsibility to take the lead in making sure that happens.

FCO Minister summons Ukrainian Ambassador to UK

20 February 2014

Ukrainian Ambassador summoned to the FCO over shocking violence in Ukraine.

Following the reports of serious violence in Kyiv this morning, the Minister for Europe, the Rt Hon David Lidington MP, summoned the Ukrainian Ambassador to the UK, Volodymyr Khandogiy to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office today.

The Minister expressed extreme concern over the reports of further violence and deaths, and made clear that action against peaceful protestors on Independence Square is unacceptable. The Foreign Secretary and other EU Foreign Ministers will discuss Ukraine this afternoon at an extraordinary meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council.

ІТАЛІЯ

Ukraine: Bonino, EU measures against violence perpetrators

20 February 2014, 12:00

The extraordinary council of EU foreign ministers held yesterday in Brussels decided to issue a visa and financial asset ban on the perpetrators of violence in Ukraine”, reported Minister Emma Bonino as she left the council before its conclusion. The minister also announced the opening of visa simplifications “for the wounded, civil society and dissidents”.

“Attempt at close, critical dialogue also with the Russians”

The decision on the sanctions has not yet been formally taken by the council, but it is imminent. “The first priority is to prevent the country from exploding”, Bonino said, reporting that, in agreement with the three EU colleagues in Kiev, the council took the “decision to attempt a close, critical dialogue that also included the Russians”. “Our position is that power comes with responsibility, so the responsibility is, first and foremost, with the regime and the government. It must also be acknowledged that there are extremist groups and infiltrators of various types that we cannot pretend not to see”. This in response to those asking if the sanctions would also affect the Ukrainian opposition. The foreign minister underscored that “the document says sanctions will be extended to all persons who have perpetrated violence, and this, in my opinion, is very important”.

The EU has to act on Ukraine “in a very decisive way, but also gradual”, because “I have the impression that this crisis is going to be rather long”, Minister for Foreign Affairs Emma Bonino commented upon her arrival at an extraordinary meeting of EU foreign ministers in Brussels.

Bonino calls for sanctions, but also humanitarian action

In Europe’s response to Ukraine, in addition to sanctions “there has to be humanitarian support and receptiveness to the wounded and other requests that will be made of us”. The extraordinary council discussed measures such as “visa sanctions, I hope a weapons embargo and the question of financial assets”. To those who asked if the European sanctions under discussion would only affect the Ukrainian authorities or also opposition members that have been responsible for violent acts, the minister responded “those who hold the power have the greater responsibility, this is a principle that we should always bring to bear”.

Minister says maintain dialogue with Russia

According to Bonino, regarding the Ukrainian question, Europe must keep the dialogue going with Moscow. “I really do not believe there is any alternative; and then open channels can also mean firm dialogue, very firm, but certainly dialogue”.

КАНАДА

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announces additional sanctions against Yanukovich regime

Archived

Ottawa, Ontario 20 February 2014

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today issued the following statement on Canada’s response to the escalation of violence in Ukraine:

“Canada continues to be outraged by the ongoing violence in Ukraine. Our Government has responded by introducing a travel ban on the regime’s senior leaders and announcing medical aid to assist the protestors in their time of need. Today, our Government is taking additional action to increase pressure on the regime to end the violence.

“For months, our Government has delivered a strong message to the Ukrainian Government that its citizens must be allowed to exercise their democratic right to peaceful protest without being subjected to deadly force and appalling brutality. The outrageous violence being witnessed by the world must cease, and we hold the regime responsible for these actions against its own citizens.

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“Today, we are imposing an expanded travel ban which will prevent senior members of the Ukrainian Government and other individuals, who bear political responsibility for the violence, from travelling to Canada. This expands the scope of travel restrictions announced on January 28th. We will also be imposing economic sanctions on the Yanukovich regime and its supporters.

“It is our hope that these serious steps will convince the Ukrainian Government to seek a peaceful resolution to the crisis. We will continue to monitor developments in Ukraine, and, with our international allies, consider further options.

“Our Government, working with the Ukrainian-Canadian community and Members of our Caucus, will continue to stand by the Ukrainian people in their fight for a free and democratic Ukraine.”

Ukraine: economic sanctions and expanded travel ban

Archived

Ottawa, Ontario 20 February 2014

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting democracy in Ukraine. In consultation with like-minded countries, Canada is imposing targeted sanctions against those members of the Yanukovich regime and other individuals directly responsible for recent violent repression against Ukrainian citizens who are exercising their democratic right to peaceful protest.

The sanctions against Ukraine will be implemented using the Special Economic Measures Act (SEMA).

Rationale for Sanctions

For months, the Government of Canada has delivered a strong message to the Ukrainian Government that its citizens must be allowed to exercise their democratic right to peaceful protest without being subjected to deadly force and brutality. Such violence is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

The Government of Canada has led the world in condemning the violence and oppression in Ukraine. On January 28, 2014, Canada introduced a travel ban on the regime’s senior leaders. On February 18, 2014, Canada announced medical aid to assist the protestors in their time of need. On February 20, 2014, the Government of Canada announced additional sanctions to put pressure on the regime to end the violence.

Objectives of Canadian Sanctions

These sanctions aim to send a strong message to the Yanukovich regime that governments cannot act with impunity. The targeted sanctions are designed to limit the impact on the Ukrainian public, which is suffering as a result of the ongoing crisis. It is our hope that these serious steps will convince the Ukrainian Government to seek a peaceful resolution to the current impasse.

Description of Canadian Sanctions

Canada today announced a travel ban and economic sanctions against senior Ukrainian Government officials and supporters who bear political responsibility for the violence.

The travel ban would prevent these individuals from entering Canada.

The aim of the economic sanctions would be to freeze any assets in Canada belonging to senior Ukrainian Government officials, and would prohibit any person in Canada and any Canadian outside Canada from:

- a) dealing in any property, wherever situated, held by or on behalf of a designated person;
- b) entering into or facilitating, directly or indirectly, any transaction related to a dealing referred to in (a);
- c) providing any financial or other related service in respect of a dealing referred to in (a);
- d) making goods, wherever situated, available to a designated person; and,

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e) providing any financial or financial-related service to or for the benefit of a designated person.

НІМЕЧЧИНА

Chancellor calls for non-violence

Feb 20, 2014

Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed her dismay at the situation in the Ukraine. "The pictures which have been reaching us since yesterday from there are shocking", she said in Paris. She also called on both sides to cease all violence and go back to political dialogue.

After the Franco-German Council of Ministers in Paris, Merkel stressed that the "shocking images" made her feel for "all the victims of violence" in Kyiv and elsewhere in the Ukraine. Now everything must be done in order to reopen a political dialogue. The questions concerning a transitional government and free elections need to be settled.

Germany and France, just as the European Union as a whole, are ready to "talk with everyone", including President Yanukovich if he is willing to do so.

Conversation with Putin

Wednesday evening, Chancellor Merkel had a phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin. "We have agreed to continue to do everything in order to prevent a further escalation of violence", the Chancellor said afterwards. She also agreed with Putin to remain in close contact with Russia.

Reacting to the escalation in Kyiv, Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier traveled to the Ukrainian capital on Thursday morning with his Polish and French counterparts. The visit is taking place in consultation with EU High Representative Catherine Ashton.

Special EU Foreign Affairs Council

Ashton has scheduled an extraordinary EU Foreign Affairs Council for Thursday. The Ministers will meet in Brussels in order to adopt a common stance regarding the conflict in the Ukraine.

They will also discuss "what specific sanctions might be imposed if necessary", Merkel said. It is important to make clear that "we are serious when we say that the political process must resume and that we cannot simply tolerate what is happening", she added.

ФРАНЦІЯ

Ukraine – Déclaration de M. Laurent Fabius, ministre des affaires étrangères (Paris, 18 février 2014)

Je condamne la reprise des violences à Kiev et l'usage indiscriminé de la force qui a fait plusieurs victimes.

J'appelle l'ensemble des parties à faire preuve de la plus grande retenue et à reprendre immédiatement le chemin du dialogue.

C'est la seule voie pour parvenir à une solution politique qui puisse répondre aux aspirations du peuple ukrainien.

Ukraine – Réponse de Jean-Marc Ayrault, Premier ministre, à une question au Sénat (Paris, 20 février 2014)

Monsieur le Président, Mesdames et Messieurs les Sénateurs, Madame la Sénatrice, C'est une question grave que vous me posez, et vous avez raison, la situation en Ukraine et particulièrement à Kiev conduit à des violences totalement inadmissibles. Le bilan malheureusement ne cesse de s'alourdir. Cette situation est épouvantable et la télévision en

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direct nous donne des images qui sont effrayantes. Nous sommes donc directement interpellés par cette situation en Ukraine et la France n'a pas attendu pour condamner avec la plus extrême fermeté les violences. La France appelle au retour au calme et, comme vous l'avez mentionné, au retour au dialogue. C'est la seule position possible, c'est la seule façon pour aboutir à une solution politique. Hier, juste avant le Conseil des ministres franco-allemand, dans l'entretien que le président et moi-même avons abordé cette question avec la chancelière allemande, Angela Merkel. Avec la même préoccupation, mais aussi la même angoisse face au péril. Et nous avons très vite, sans hésitation, adopté la même position, France et Allemagne, afin d'entraîner aussi l'Union européenne, puisque aujourd'hui aura lieu un conseil des ministres des affaires étrangères. Nous avons décidé aussi que le ministre des affaires étrangères français, Laurent Fabius, se rendrait immédiatement à Kiev accompagné de son collègue Frank-Walter Steinmeier pour la République fédérale allemande, et d'un autre partenaire du triangle de Weimar, Radoslaw Sikorski, ministre des affaires étrangères de Pologne. Avec un message qui a été transmis aux autorités ukrainiennes, qui est un message de fermeté, il faut qu'il n'y ait aucune ambiguïté, pour leur dire que l'Union européenne ne laissera pas ces actes sans conséquences. Les trois ministres ont donc eu des contacts avec tout le monde. D'abord, avec l'opposition. Vous l'avez rappelé vous-même, vous avez eu des contacts. Puis cet après-midi, une rencontre extraordinaire des ministres des affaires étrangères doit avoir lieu à Bruxelles, et qui devra tirer les conséquences des discussions qui ont lieu à Kiev et qui continuent. À l'heure où je vous parle les trois ministres rencontrent les autorités ukrainiennes. C'est indispensable. Évidemment, on peut se gargariser de formules. Vous ne l'avez pas fait, Madame la Sénatrice, tant vous avez conscience, comme tous ceux qui sont ici dans cette assemblée, des risques. Et donc nous voulons convaincre qu'il faut sortir de cette spirale de la violence. La résolution de la crise que traverse l'Ukraine passe d'abord par la fin des violences, le retour au dialogue, l'engagement de tous les partenaires de l'Ukraine. Vous avez évoqué la Russie : bien sûr qu'il faut parler avec la Russie, il faut que l'Union européenne parle avec la Russie. Il faut une politique russe de l'Union européenne, qui n'est pas assez définie, mais c'est nécessaire. Et puis en même temps il faut être respectueux et garant de la souveraineté de l'Ukraine, et respectueux des choix du peuple ukrainien, qui aspire à la liberté et à la démocratie. Voilà le cadre de notre action, voilà l'urgence aussi, la nécessité d'agir et la France y travaille. Mais la France n'est pas seule, elle le fait avec ses partenaires européens et le conseil des ministres franco-allemand hier a été une étape importante, parce que nous avons une responsabilité particulière, d'entraîner les autres. Mme Ashton bien évidemment est associée à tous ces travaux. Je souhaite vraiment comme vous tous et toutes ici que nous sortions de cette spirale de la violence. Mais la France ne ménagera pas sa peine pour y contribuer./. (Source : site Internet du Premier ministre)

Україна – Інтерв'ю Міністра закордонних справ Франції Лорана Фабіуса радіо «Europe 1»

20 лютого 2014 р., м. Київ

Питання – «Ви щойно прибули до Києва, невдовзі у Вас зустріч з Президентом Януковичем, що Ви йому скажете?»

Лоран Фабіус – «Спочатку я зустрінуся з лідерами опозиції та після цього у мене буде зустріч з президентом Януковичем.

Я йому скажу, що перш за все слід зупинити насильство, яке є неприпустимим, та що ми збираємося сьогодні вводити санкції проти винних у застосуванні насильства. Я йому також скажу, що, якщо прагнеш знайти вихід – треба провести вибори, або, принаймні, здійснити перестановки на політичній сцені.

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Цієї ночі в Києві оголосили перемир'я, яке, не виключено, пов'язане з тим, що ми тут зранку, але в інших містах, та, зокрема, на сході України, ситуація залишається напруженою. Головна мета – сказати, що слід зупинити насильство.»

Питання – «Для Вас перемир'я – перший важливий крок?»

Лоран Фабіус – «Слід задіяти все, що дозволить зупинити насильство, але буде помилковим вважати, що спокій та мир відновилися. Ні, спокою поки ще немає. Багато чого ще слід зробити, але ми тут стикаємося з відвертим небажанням влади, яка, поки що ніяк не зрушить з місця. Роль Європи полягає в тому, щоб вона все ж таки зрушила з місця та погодилася на справжній діалог, чого поки що не відбулося.»

Питання – «Ви говорите про Європу. Багато країн, в тому числі Франція, вимагають застосувати санкції проти режиму Януковича. Вас чекають в Брюсселі на засіданні Ради міністрів закордонних справ країн ЄС. Якими можуть бути ці санкції?»

Лоран Фабіус – «Одразу після Києва я поїду до Брюсселя. Санкції, на наш розсуд, можуть бути цільовими, а значить персональними, вони включають заборону на в'їзд з одного боку, та відстеження та замороження активів певного числа можновладців, тому що в таких випадках слід бити по гаманцю».

ОСНОВНІ МІЖНАРОДНІ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ

ООН

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Ukraine

Excerpt from Secretary-General's remarks to the media following Security Council meeting on the Central African Republic

New York, 20 February 2014

Q: On Ukraine, can you tell us what the United Nations is doing and what it can do to stop violence in Kiev, and to find a solution in Ukraine? Thank you.

SG: As you know, since the beginning of this crisis in Ukraine, I have been very closely keeping in touch with the leadership of Ukraine, including President [Viktor] Yanukovich.

I am deeply saddened by the tragic turn of events in Ukraine, particularly yesterday and today, when almost more than 100 people have been killed through this renewed violence.

When I met President Yanukovich on 7 February in Sochi, on the margins of the Sochi Olympic Games, he assured me that the situation was improving. That has obviously not come to pass. On the contrary, the situation has escalated into serious violence with tragic loss of lives on all sides. My thoughts are with the families of the victims and those people who have been injured by this violence. I sincerely hope that a speedy recovery will come to all those people.

I continue to strongly appeal to all involved to cease the violence, and for the Ukrainian authorities to refrain from excessive use of force. I am appalled by the use of firearms by both the police and protesters.

I urge all parties to immediately resume a genuine dialogue. This is the only way to prevent further bloodshed and arrive at a solution to the deepening political, security and economic crisis.

I am in touch with key international actors and have been encouraging all to find an immediate and coordinated way to assist Ukrainians in resolving the crisis in a peaceful manner through inclusive dialogue.

The United Nations continues to stand with Ukrainians and with all the Ukrainian people and will do its part to support a peaceful resolution to this crisis.

Thank you.

ОБСЄ

Ambassador Daniel B. Baer on Events in Ukraine

United States Mission to the OSCE

On Events in Ukraine (transcript)

As delivered by Ambassador Daniel B. Baer

to the Permanent Council, Vienna

February 20, 2014

Given how quickly and terribly things are changing on the ground right now, I'm not going to read the statement that was prepared. I just want to make a few quick points, and we will obviously continue to follow what's going on in Kyiv and across Ukraine.

First, to express our deep sadness at the loss of life and our condolences to the representatives in this room but also to the Ukrainian people and the families of those who have lost their lives already. It's quite clear that the first priority right now should be the preservation of human life and there needs to be an immediate return to a cease-fire of some sort and then an immediate start of negotiations that can de-escalate the tensions.

In terms of substance, I would refer those in this room to President Obama's comments yesterday from Mexico as well as a briefing by a senior State Department official that has been posted on the website of the State Department and to other public comments from Washington. I know that Ambassador Pyatt and Ambassador Tombinski have issued a statement this morning, and I refer those here to those statements.

Finally, to echo our EU colleagues, we very much support and appreciate the ongoing efforts of the Chairmanship. This is clearly a breakdown in security and people's lives are being lost. We appreciate the Chairmanship's efforts as the leader of this political organization of 57 to encourage and support a movement toward a peaceful resolution.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CC

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION
STATEMENT**

Brussels, 20 February 2014

Statement by President Barroso on the situation in Ukraine

During his joint press point with the Czech Prime Minister Sobotka, President Barroso made the following statement on the situation in Ukraine:

"In our meeting today, Prime Minister Sobotka and I also exchanged views on the situation in Ukraine that we are following with great concern.

As you know, the situation is very difficult and remains extremely volatile. The immediate and urgent priority is to avoid further bloodshed and save human lives. This is also the message I conveyed yesterday to President Yanukovich. The authorities have a special responsibility in ensuring it and demonstrators also need to keep the peaceful nature of the protests. An immediate end to the violence and a meaningful dialogue, responding to democratic aspirations of the people of Ukraine is the only way to solve the political and institutional crisis. As you know, the European Union has been offering its sincere assistance to facilitate dialogue and de-escalate the situation. We have also reiterated our offer of political association and economic integration. But what we have to do now, the most immediate thing is to put an end to violence, violence to stop as soon as possible. We cannot forget the images of the last days and the tragic deaths and injuries of so many people. This is why the Foreign Affairs Council will meet today to discuss the adoption of targeted measures against those responsible for violence and use of

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excessive force. We will continue engaged and committed to a political, democratic and peaceful solution of the situation in Ukraine together with our international partners.

And I am happy to see that there is now a broad consensus among our Member States in the way to deal with this issue. Just yesterday, because you were meeting an important delegation of business leaders, I spoke about these matters with President Hollande of France and Chancellor Merkel of Germany and, in fact, I have understood how deep is also their commitment to find a peaceful solution and today in the meeting with Prime Minister Sobotka, I have seen the same concerns and determination."

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 6767/14 EN

3300th Council meeting Foreign Affairs

Brussels, 20 February 2014

President Catherine Ashton High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Main results of the Council:

The Council held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the situation in Ukraine. It was appalled and deeply dismayed by the deteriorating situation in Ukraine and in that light decided as a matter of urgency to introduce targeted sanctions against those responsible for human rights violations, violence and use of excessive force.

The Council held an in-depth discussion on the situation in Ukraine and adopted the following conclusions:

"1. The European Union is appalled and deeply dismayed by the deteriorating situation in Ukraine. No circumstances can justify the repression we are currently witnessing. We condemn in the strongest terms all use of violence. Those responsible for grave human rights violations should be brought to justice. Our thoughts are with the families of those who have lost their lives and with the injured. We call for an immediate end to the violence, full respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right of access to medical assistance, and for urgent independent investigations into Human Rights violations, notably through the Council of Europe International Advisory Panel. We call upon the Government to exercise maximum restraint and opposition leaders to distance themselves from those who resort to radical action, including violence. It urges the Ukrainian government to abide by its obligations under international Human Rights instruments to which it is a State party. Any further escalation, including the introduction of a State of Emergency, or the use of the armed forces against protesters must be avoided.

2. We call on all sides to engage, without further delay, in a meaningful dialogue, to fulfil the legitimate democratic aspirations of the Ukrainian people. Recalling its conclusions of 10 February, as well as statements by the President of the European Council, President of the European Commission, and the EU's High Representative, the Council remains fully committed to offering its assistance to promote political dialogue between the sides and help de-escalate the situation. We expect Ukraine's elected representatives to assume their political responsibilities, including in the Verkhovna Rada. The Council underlines that the prime responsibility for the current situation, and for taking the first step to enable such a dialogue lies squarely with President Yanukovich and the Ukrainian authorities.

3. The European Union continues to believe that any lasting solution to the political crisis must include constitutional reform, the formation of a new inclusive government and the creation of the conditions for democratic elections. We remain ready to support Ukraine in the process of reform to deliver a stable, prosperous and democratic future for its citizens. Our offer of political association and economic integration remains on the table. The Council recalls that the Association Agreement, including a DCFTA, does not constitute the final goal in EU-Ukraine

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cooperation. Furthermore, the European Union stands ready to offer assistance and support humanitarian organisations for the replenishment of stocks of medicine and medical equipment for the treatment of people affected by the violence.

4. In light of the deteriorating situation, the EU has decided as a matter of urgency to introduce targeted sanctions including asset freeze and visa ban against those responsible for human rights violations, violence and use of excessive force. Member States agreed to suspend export licences on equipment which might be used for internal repression and reassess export licences for equipment covered by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. The Council tasked the relevant Working Parties to make the necessary preparations immediately. The scale of implementation will be taken forward in the light of developments in Ukraine.

5. Faced with such grave crisis in Europe, the EU will continue to work in close cooperation with the international community, including in support of both the OSCE and the Council of Europe, to find a lasting, inclusive solution that respects the rights of all Ukrainians.

6. The Council underscores the importance of a vibrant civil society for ensuring the democratic and prosperous future of Ukraine. It reiterates the commitment to enhance people-to-people contacts between the EU and Ukraine, i.a. through the visa liberalisation process, along with agreed conditions in the framework of the VLAP. Meanwhile, the Council encourages Member States to make optimal use of the Visa Facilitation Agreement provisions and of flexibilities offered by the Visa Code."

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PC

PACE President: 'Stop the bloodshed in Ukraine'

Strasbourg, 20.02.2014

PRESIDENT

"The immediate priority at this moment in Ukraine is to stop the violence, stop the death toll and stop all forms of retaliation and retribution in order to prevent Ukraine from heading into an abyss," said Anne Brasseur, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE).

"The Parliamentary Assembly stands ready to help the people of Ukraine, but the violence must end. I am ready to work with the Verkhovna Rada, which has to live up to its parliamentary responsibility to find solutions to bring an end to the crisis."

"I support the work of the two PACE monitoring co-rapporteurs for Ukraine, Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE) and Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Sweden, EPP/CD), who are currently in Kyiv and are due to meet President Yanukovich today," she concluded.

НАТО

Генеральний секретар НАТО закликає Збройні сили України залишатися нейтральними

20 Feb. 2014

Я глибоко сумую з приводу жахливого кровопролиття в Україні і закликаю усі сторони негайно припинити насильство. А уряд, звичайно, несе особливу відповідальність за незастосування надмірної сили і збереження нейтралітету збройних сил.

Українські військові не повинні діяти проти свого власного народу. Якщо так станеться, це призведе до дуже негативних наслідків для наших відносин з українською владою. Єдиним виходом є мирний діалог і пошук рішень в демократичний спосіб. І я схвалюю усі міжнародні зусилля з прокладання шляху для такого демократичного і мирного розв'язання.