



RESOLUTION:

AGAINST RUSSIAN AGGRESSION IN UKRAINE

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting
In Zagreb, Croatia, on the 7th of March 2015

Recognising:

- The territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine and the inviolability of its borders. The right of Ukraine to conduct its internal and foreign policy independently;
- The security threat against the European community by the Russian Federation due to the continued violation of international law, which provided peace and stability in Europe in the post war period.
- The continued firing and open aggression by pro-Russian militants and regular Russian forces in Debaltseve, and other cities in Eastern Ukraine, despite the cease-fire agreed on February 12 in Minsk.
- The failure by Russian mercenaries and troops of the Russian Federation to withdraw heavy weapons from the current contact line, to withdraw all foreign armed forces from the territory of Ukraine and to disarm all illegal groups under the supervision of the OSCE.
- The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission being prevented from assessing compliance with the ceasefire, and the removal of heavy weapons by Russian mercenaries and troops of the Russian Federation.
- The continued illegal detention in a Russian prison of Ukrainian MP, and member of the Ukrainian delegation to PACE, Nadiya Savchenko. Her continued detention is illegal as the Minsk Agreement included her immediate release, and a PACE delegate has diplomatic immunity. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the European Parliament, PACE, EU ministers and high officials of the USA have made several appeals to officials of the Russian Federation to release the Ukrainian pilot.
- The intentional complications created by Russian terrorist groups in the preparation of prisoner exchanges.
- The fulfilment of conditions by Ukraine, following the ceasefire, with the aim of resolving the conflict peacefully during negotiations in Minsk.
- The YEPP Resolution from December 6, 2014 recognising the failure of peace agreements by Russia between 5 and 9 September 2014.

Acknowledging that:

- The Council of the European Union has taken collective action through a range of sanction regimes to curb Russian aggression.

- The brutal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Russian Federation.
- German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande made significant efforts to resolve the situation peacefully.
- In Minsk, Russia was recognised as responsible for the escalation of the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine.
- Russia and pro-Russian terrorists violated the ceasefire with attempts to capture Ukrainian cities in Eastern Ukraine.
- Russia denies fulfilment of the promise to release Nadiya Savchenko and other Ukrainian prisoners of war.
- YEPP welcomes the Ukrainian proposal to establish the Ukraine-EU Common Security and Defence Policy.

YEPP calls on:

- The Russian Federation to stop weaponry supplies to terrorist groups in the East of Ukraine;
- The Russian Federation to immediately stop the aggression against Ukraine and to fulfil commitments made in Minsk.
- The Russian Federation to immediately release illegally detained Nadiya Savchenko and other prisoners of war.
- The United Nations, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of NATO, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE to recognise the Russian Federation as the Aggressor State.
- The EU, USA and other countries fully implement the already decided sanctions and to strengthen sanctions against the Russian Federation due to the continued violation of peace agreements reached in Minsk on December 12, as well as against individuals involved in the abduction, illegal detention and the fabrication of charges against Nadiya Savchenko.
- The National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine to implement the relevant international sanctions against the Russian Federation.
- The Government of Ukraine to gather a comprehensive evidence base to call Russia to account for violation of the European Convention on Human Rights, the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, and war crimes during the war in the East and in the occupied Crimean Peninsula.
- The Russian Federation to compensate for the damages caused by the war in the East of Ukraine and the illegal annexation of Crimea.
- The Russian Federation to immediately start peaceful reintegration of all illegally annexed parts of Ukraine.
- The European Union to ensure the maintenance of and respect for the requirements of the Budapest memorandum on security assurances, as signed in 1994.