

STATEMENT

OF THE SAEIMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

On the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine

The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia:

strongly condemns the military aggression and wide-scale invasion by the Russian Federation into Ukraine;

strongly condemns the participation of Belarus in the military attack against Ukraine;

emphasises that the unjustifiable invasion of Ukrainian territory by the Russian Federation constitutes a gross violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, directly breaching Russia's obligations under Article 2 of the UN Charter and imperative norms of international law, as well as the obligations undertaken by Russia upon signing the Budapest Memorandum and committing itself to guaranteeing Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty;

demands that the Russian Federation and Belarus cease further military aggression, withdraw forces from the territory of Ukraine and deescalate the situation, engage in the search for a diplomatic solution, as well as end all further aggression and provocations against Ukraine and comply with their obligations under international agreements;

reaffirms the unwavering support of the Republic of Latvia for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders as underlined in the UN Resolution A/RES/68/262 "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", adopted on 27 March 2014;

expresses its solidarity with Ukraine and its society, and confirms its support for Ukraine's efforts to consolidate the country's democratic development and to achieve progress in its Euro-Atlantic integration process;

underscores the need for the European Union and its Member States, as well as allies and partners to speak with one voice in support of Ukraine's right to freely determine its own future, and calls on the international community to provide continued political support, economic and technical assistance wherever it is needed, including in areas related to security and defence;

stresses the importance of stepping up military support to Ukraine by providing it with defensive weapons in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter, which allows for individual and collective self-defence;

emphasises the need for NATO to immediately reinforce security measures and the allied presence on NATO's eastern flank, including by activating consultations under Article 4 of the North Atlantic Treaty;

considers the participation of Russia and Belarus in international organisations defending peace, security, human rights, and a rules-based international order incompatible with their unprovoked and unjustified aggression against Ukraine;

urges the international community to actively support Ukraine, calls on the United Nations and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe to address the violations of international law and obligations by the Russian Federation and to condemn them in the strongest terms;

urges the European Union to take immediate action by imposing the most severe sanctions on the Russian Federation, Belarus, and their officials responsible for this attack on the statehood of Ukraine;

calls on the Council of Europe to consider the expulsion of the Russian Federation from the organisation.