



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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# 130<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 16 – 20.3.2014

Assembly  
Item 2

A/130/2-P.4  
13 March 2014

## CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN EMERGENCY ITEM IN THE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

### Request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Ukraine

On 13 March 2014, the President of the IPU received from the Chairman of the Parliament of Ukraine a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Russian Federation aggression against Ukraine".

Delegates to the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request (Annex I), as well as an explanatory memorandum (Annex II) and a draft resolution (Annex III) in support thereof.

The 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Ukraine on Monday, 17 March 2014.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a major event of international concern on which it appears necessary for the IPU to express its opinion. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted;
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted;
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject;
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE IPU BY THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENT OF UKRAINE**

*Courtesy translation from Ukrainian*

Kiev, 12 March 2014

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with IPU Assembly Rule 11.1, the delegation of the Parliamentary Group of Ukraine to the IPU proposes the inclusion on the agenda of the 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, to be held in Geneva from 16 to 20 March 2014, of an emergency item entitled:

"Russian Federation aggression against Ukraine".

We are pleased to enclose, for the attention of the Assembly, an explanatory memorandum and draft resolution on the subject of this proposal.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Oleksandr TURCHYNOV  
Chairman of the Parliament of Ukraine

## **RUSSIAN FEDERATION AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE**

### ***Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Ukraine***

The Parliamentary Group of Ukraine to the Inter-Parliamentary Union requests the inclusion of an emergency item entitled *Russian Federation aggression against Ukraine* on the agenda of the 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. The grounds for this request are set out below.

On 27 February 2014, the Russian Federation committed an act of aggression against Ukraine by deploying troops on the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The deployment of military forces and equipment of the Russian Army, involving troops from the Russian Black Sea Fleet provisionally stationed on the territory of Ukraine and from the territory of the Russian Federation, is a major violation of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation, the Agreement between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on the Stay of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Federation in the Territory of Ukraine, and of international legal instruments enshrining the principles of territorial integrity and the inviolability of national borders.

In response to calls by former President Viktor Yanukovich, who fled the country, and the self-proclaimed "prime minister" of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Sergey Aksyonov, on 1 March 2014 the Council of the Federation of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly endorsed President Putin's address on the use of Russian troops on the territory of Ukraine. However, under Ukrainian legislation, only the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine may, if needed, appeal to other States for the deployment of foreign troops.

The Russian Federation accuses Ukraine of numerous violations of the rights of Russian and Russian-speaking Ukrainian citizens and uses this to indirectly justify the aggression. However, to date there have been no confirmed cases of violations of the rights of Russian Federation citizens in the territory of Ukraine, including in Crimea. In addition, on 6 March 2014 Ms. Astrid Thors, the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), stated that she had found no evidence of violations of or threats to the human rights of Russian and Russian-speaking citizens of Ukraine during her mission to Crimea. Moreover, Ukraine agrees with the High Commissioner that it is the actions of the Autonomous Republic's self-proclaimed authorities, including their illegal decisions to become part of the Russian Federation and to hold the so-called "all-Crimean referendum", that have greatly exacerbated interethnic tensions. Citizens of Ukrainian ethnic origin and Crimean Tatars in particular are in danger.

After Russian military forces were deployed in the territory of the Autonomous Republic, including its central city of Simferopol, the local Supreme Council decided on 6 March 2014 to join the Russian Federation as a constituent entity and to hold the "all-Crimean referendum" on 16 March 2014. Ukraine does not recognize these decisions and considers that they are in breach of the Ukrainian Constitution and therefore unlawful.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine strongly protested the statement made on 11 March 2014 by the Russian Foreign Ministry recognizing the legitimacy of the "Declaration of Independence of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol City" adopted by the Supreme Council of Crimea. The "Declaration" is yet another unconstitutional act and legally null and void because it violates Ukrainian national legislation and the provisions of many international instruments ratified by United Nations Member States, including the Russian Federation.

The Russian troops currently in Crimea are forming, arming and controlling local paramilitary forces. The situation is characterized by an unprecedented number of flagrant violations of human rights and by disregard for Ukrainian legislation and international law.

International observers arriving in Ukraine to monitor respect for human rights are not allowed into the territory of the Autonomous Republic or are forced to leave the peninsula. For instance, the United Nations special envoy, Mr. Robert Serry, was forced to interrupt his visit to Crimea. None of the attempts made by a group of OSCE observers to reach the peninsula has been successful: the group was turned back at checkpoints manned by armed guards, including Russian troops.

Ukrainian servicemen have shown restraint and refused to react to provocation while blocked at their bases and in the face of constant pressure from armed groups, mostly Russian military units that have no right to be present in the territory of Ukraine.

Journalists, local Ukrainian activists and Ukrainian armed forces personnel have been violently abducted by illegal armed groups coordinated by Russian instructors, in flagrant disrespect for all the fundamental norms of Ukrainian and international law.

In view of the above, on 11 March 2014 the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted a resolution in which it referred to the safeguards enshrined in the Memorandum on Security Assurances signed in connection with Ukraine's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum) and appealed to the Memorandum's signatories and international organizations to take practical measures to ensure the security and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The Verkhovna Rada also demanded that the Russian Federation immediately withdraw its illegally deployed troops from the territory of Ukraine and cease its aggression against the Ukrainian State.

We urge the Inter-Parliamentary Union to make a clear assessment of the political and diplomatic actions of the Russian Federation, in order to roll back a dangerous precedent that poses a direct threat to the sovereignty of Ukraine and to global peace and stability.

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE

### *Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of UKRAINE*

The 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Affirming* its respect for the political independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, and *recognizing* the legitimacy of the Government of Ukraine throughout the territory of Ukraine,
- (2) *Recalling* the internationally recognized principles that are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and various United Nations declarations and conventions and have been repeatedly endorsed by the IPU,
- (3) *Affirming* the validity of the principles of international law and the duty of all States, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered, and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State,
- (4) *Recalling also* that the States party to the Charter of the United Nations are bound to respect the principle of non-intervention,
- (5) *Mindful* of the resolution adopted by the 91<sup>st</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Paris, March 1994) on *Prevention of conflicts, maintenance and consolidation of peace: Role and means of the United Nations and regional organizations*,
- (6) *Reaffirming* that the United Nations Security Council has primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security,
- (7) *Deeply concerned* by recent events caused by the military action of the Russian Federation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine,
- (8) *Confirming* that the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is the only legitimate authority on the territory of Ukraine empowered to adopt decisions relating to referendums on any questions, including the territorial structure of Ukraine,
  1. *Condemns* the use of force by the Russian Federation in contravention of its commitments under the Charter of the United Nations and relevant agreements and treaties;
  2. *Acknowledges* that such unlawful actions by the Russian Federation constitute an act of aggression against Ukraine and threaten international peace and security;
  3. *Requests* the Russian Federation to withdraw from the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, all the troops it deployed there in contravention of the relevant bilateral agreements;
  4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Ukrainian armed forces have exercised restraint and refrained from actively resisting the aggression, thus preventing a further escalation of the crisis;
  5. *Urges* the Russian Federation to respect the principles of international law by refraining from interfering in the domestic affairs of Ukraine, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;
  6. *Condemns* the unlawful document adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, on 6 March 2014 concerning Crimea's entry into the Russian Federation and the holding of the so called "all-Crimean

referendum” on 16 March 2014; *considers* this document to be unconstitutional and both the document and the outcome of the “all-Crimean referendum” as null and void;

7. *Deeply regrets* the statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on 11 March 2014 recognizing the “Declaration on the Independence of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol City” adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine;
8. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the United Nations Secretary-General, the Organization on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe to facilitate dialogue between the two parties and to monitor the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine;
9. *Deeply regrets* that international organizations have been prevented from entering the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, in order to monitor the situation and *denounces* the use of force against some of them in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine;
10. *Calls on* both parties to strive to settle their differences by peaceful means, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, to engage in substantive negotiations and to do everything possible to achieve lasting peace;
11. *Reaffirms* that a just and lasting solution to the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, must be based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and be the outcome of an active process of negotiation between the parties.