## **European Parliament**

2019-2024



Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee

## STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION TO THE EU-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE, MEP WITOLD JAN WASZCZYKOWSKI,

## on the 10th anniversary of the Euromaidan protests

Brussels, 21 November 2023: Ten years ago, the message of Ukrainian society was loud and clear: Ukrainians demanded to be in charge of their own fate and of their chosen future as an equal, proud and democratic member of the European family. Human dignity and our shared values has been at the centre of this powerful message.

No one can take this away from the Ukrainian people. Yet, there has been a forceful attempt to turn this aspiration and dream into a nightmare, through malign interference, disinformation, destabilisation and the illegal annexation of Crimea, and as of February 2022, through an unprovoked and unjustified armed aggression and full-scale invasion.

The Ukrainian people have remained faithful to the legacy of the revolution of dignity and demonstrated their unbroken spirit, resilience, courage and creativity in overcoming aggression and fighting for their freedom and dignity.

We understand what is at stake and we are fully aware of your continued sacrifice. We need to take inspiration from your determination and resolve. We will remain your partner in standing up to Russian aggression and supporting your efforts to preserve an independent and democratic Ukraine, with a vibrant civil society and resilient institutions.

There is no credible alternative to supporting Ukraine: not only for as long as it takes but with whatever it takes to achieve your dream and to protect Ukrainian dignity. By keeping up financial, military and political support, by achieving accountability and justice and by firmly locking in Ukraine's EU accession path.

The European dream is alive today in Ukraine. As EU accession negotiations are now within reach, we will remain fully committed and work closely with Ukraine to make this dream come true in a merit-based process. No one has earned it more than Ukraine.

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