



Plenary sitting

B9-0486/2022

16.11.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on recognising the Russian Federation as a state sponsor of terrorism
(2022/2896(RSP))

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on behalf of the S&D Group

**European Parliament resolution on recognising the Russian Federation as a state sponsor of terrorism
(2022/2896(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine, in particular those of 6 October 2022 on Russia’s escalation of its war of aggression against Ukraine¹ and of 19 May 2022 on the fight against impunity for war crimes in Ukraine²,
 - having regard to the declaration of the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine of 22 September 2022,
 - having regard to the statement by the President of the European Council on Russia’s violent attacks against Kyiv and other cities across Ukraine of 11 October 2022,
 - having regard to the statement of the G7 Ministers of Foreign Affairs of 4 November 2022 and to the statement of the G7 Leaders of 23 September 2022,
 - having regard to the Charter of the United Nations,
 - having regard to the Geneva Conventions, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war,
 - having regard to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC),
 - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Russian Federation has been launching indiscriminate attacks on residential areas and civilian infrastructure ever since it started its illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022, including the attacks of 16 March 2022 on the Mariupol theatre, of 7 April 2022 on the Kramatorsk railway station, of 27 June 2022 on a shopping centre in Kremenchuk, as well as the many massacres in Ukrainian cities and towns such as Bucha, Irpin, Izium, and Lyman, where mass graves of civilians were discovered after liberation from the Russian occupation;
- B. whereas the Russian Federation continues to persistently violate the principles of the UN Charter through its acts of aggression against the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and to blatantly and grossly violate international humanitarian law, inter alia by deliberately targeting civilian objects that ‘shall not be the object of attack’ according to Article 52(1) of the 1977 Additional Protocol I of the Geneva Conventions of 1949;

¹ Texts adopted: P9_TA(2022)0353.

² Texts adopted: P9_TA(2022)0218.

- C. whereas the recent escalation and intensification of Russian attacks on residential areas, civilian infrastructure and critical energy and water infrastructure has coincided with Russian military defeats on the battlefield and seems to be aimed at compensating for Russian military losses by terrorising the population of Ukraine, with a view to weakening its resistance and resolve to continue defending itself against the Russian Federation's aggression, and ultimately destroying living conditions in various regions across Ukraine, including its capital Kyiv;
- D. whereas the grave war crimes by the Russian Federation have prompted calls to recognise it as a 'terrorist state' or a 'state sponsor of terrorism' or to qualify its actions as 'state terrorism';
- E. whereas, unlike the United States or Canada, the EU does not have a legal framework in place to designate a third country as a 'state sponsor of terrorism', but can impose restrictive measures against persons, groups or entities involved in terrorist acts and does not require a third country to be designated as a 'state sponsor of terrorism' in order to be able to adopt severe sanctions against it;
- F. whereas the EU has therefore imposed sanctions on an unprecedented scale against the Russian Federation, namely targeted restrictive measures against 1 239 persons and 116 entities, as well as sector-wide measures against a broad range of economic sectors, in order to undermine the Russian Federation's ability to continue its illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, use disruptions of energy and food exports as an instrument of geopolitical coercion against its neighbours, artificially fuel food insecurity and famine on the global stage, undermine the rules-based international order and pose a major threat to international peace and security;
- G. whereas the parliaments of some EU Member States have called for the Russian Federation to be designated a 'state sponsor of terrorism' or a 'terrorist state' and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has adopted a resolution calling on its member states to 'declare the current Russian regime as a terrorist one';
1. Reiterates its condemnation of Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine and demands that the Russian Federation immediately, completely and unconditionally cease its attacks on residential areas and civilian infrastructure, terminate all military activities in Ukraine, withdraw all military forces, proxies and military equipment from the entire internationally recognised territory of Ukraine, end forced deportations of Ukrainian civilians, release all detained Ukrainians and permanently cease violating or threatening the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine;
 2. Underlines that the deliberate attacks of the Russian Federation on the civilian population, the destruction of civilian infrastructure and other serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, which amount to acts of terror against the population and destroy people's livelihoods, constitute war crimes that require a determined international response, in particular as they are being perpetrated by the Russian Federation as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, which bears special responsibility for maintaining peace and security;
 3. Reiterates its firm demand that all persons responsible for committing, assisting in or

organising human rights violations, atrocities and war crimes in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine must be identified as swiftly as possible, prosecuted and held to account in accordance with international law; fully supports the investigation launched by the Prosecutor of the ICC into the situation in Ukraine based on alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity, the work of the Commission of Inquiry under the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the efforts of independent civil society organisations aiming to collect and preserve the evidence of war crimes; encourages EU Member States to make even wider use of the principle of universal jurisdiction and to step up their support for international efforts to investigate and prosecute all the perpetrators of, and persons responsible for, war crimes in Ukraine; reiterates its call for the establishment of an ad hoc international tribunal to investigate and prosecute Russian crimes of aggression against Ukraine;

4. Reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the people of Ukraine, who have continued to show remarkable courage and resilience under the unabated threats and attacks since 24 February 2022 and over the last nine years of Russian aggression against the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine;
5. Appeals to all Russian people not only to refuse to be dragged into this war, but also to protest against the atrocious war crimes against the people of Ukraine, committed by the Russian Federation and in the name of the Russian people, and thereby to contribute to ending Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, a war that will also destroy the prospects of a safe and prosperous future for the Russian people;
6. Calls on the Council to take into account the Russian Federation's escalating acts of terror against the population of Ukraine and therefore to swiftly complete its work on a ninth sanctions package in response to Russia's persistent violations of international humanitarian law, which increasingly amount to sheer terror; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure the swift implementation and strict enforcement of all sanctions; calls on the Member States to actively prevent, investigate and prosecute any circumvention of the sanctions; calls on all Member States to remain united in their response to the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and on all countries that have applied for EU membership to align with the EU's sanctions policy;
7. Calls on the Council and the Member States to urgently and significantly increase their efforts to help Ukraine defend itself against the Russian war of aggression and against Russian attempts to destabilise Ukrainian state institutions, undermine the country's macroeconomic stability, destroy critical infrastructure in the areas of energy and transport, and civilian infrastructure in the areas of education, health and culture;
8. Welcomes the Commission's proposal of 9 November 2022 for an unprecedented EUR 18 billion support package for Ukraine in 2023 to ensure its macroeconomic stability, restore critical infrastructure and maintain essential public services, and affirms its support for the swift adoption of the proposal; welcomes also, in this context, the establishment of the G7 coordination mechanism to help Ukraine repair, restore and defend its critical energy and water infrastructure;
9. Emphasises the importance of the swift implementation of commitments to provide financial and technical assistance, in particular with a view to the approaching winter,

which puts large numbers of Ukrainians in danger, as they are at risk of having no access to basic services such as water, heating and electricity;

10. Calls on the High Representative, the European External Action Service and the Member States and their diplomatic services to continue working as closely and intensely as possible with international partners to increase the unity of the international community in condemning and countering the Russian Federation's actions, including Russian attempts to deflect responsibility for their blockade of Ukrainian agricultural exports and causing food shortages in third countries;
11. Reiterates its call on the Council and the Member States to establish an anti-corruption sanctions regime and to enhance the EU's anti-money laundering regime, such as by raising the transparency of crypto-asset transfers;
12. Emphasises that the Russian Federation's use of terror against the civilian population of Ukraine justifies a redoubling of efforts to establish a legal framework for the confiscation of assets frozen by sanctions for the reconstruction of Ukraine; calls on the Commission and the co-legislators to work swiftly to complete the legal regime for the confiscation of these assets;
13. Invites the Commission to put forward a proposal on how to strengthen the EU's legal framework for sanctions with a view to addressing the Russian Federation's escalating acts of terror against the population of Ukraine as well as against the population of third countries where, for example, Russian military proxies such as the so-called Wagner Group operate;
14. Invites national parliaments to consider following the example of the parliaments of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, which have stated that they consider the Russian regime to be a terrorist state, as this would contribute further to highlighting the increasing international isolation of the Russian Federation resulting from its war of aggression against Ukraine;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the President, Government and Parliament of Ukraine, and to the President, Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation.