## **European Parliament**

2019-2024



### Plenary sitting

B9-0131/2023

13.2.2023

## **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 one year of Russia's invasion and war of aggression against Ukraine (2023/2558(RSP))

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#### B9-0131/2023

# European Parliament resolution on one year of Russia's invasion and war of aggression against Ukraine (2023/2558(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Ukraine and Russia,
- having regard to the UN Charter, the Hague Conventions, the Geneva Conventions and the additional protocols thereto, and to the Rome Statute,
- having regard to the joint statement following the 24th EU-Ukraine Summit of 3 February 2023,
- having regard to the European Council conclusions of 15 December 2022,
- having regard to the 2006 Agreement between the International Criminal Court and the European Union on cooperation and assistance<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to the UN General Assembly resolutions of 2 November 2022 entitled 'Report of the International Criminal Court' and 14 November 2022 entitled 'Furtherance of remedy and reparation for aggression against Ukraine',
- having regard to the report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) of 7 December 2022 entitled 'Killings of civilians: summary executions and attacks on individual civilians in Kyiv, Chernihiv, and Sumy regions in the context of the Russian Federation's armed attack against Ukraine',
- having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked, unjustified and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022; whereas Russia's actions in Ukraine over the past year continue to threaten peace and security in Europe and worldwide;
- B. whereas the Russian aggression against Ukraine started in 2014 with the occupation of parts of the Donbas region and the occupation and annexation of Ukraine's Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- C. whereas Russian forces have carried out indiscriminate attacks against residential areas and civilian infrastructure in Ukraine; whereas thousands of civilians, including hundreds of children, are among the confirmed murder victims, and many more have been tortured, harassed, raped, kidnapped or forcibly displaced; whereas these crimes are being used by the Russian army as weapons of war against the civilian population in Ukraine; whereas this inhumane conduct by the Russian forces and their proxies is in

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ L 115, 28.4.2006, p. 50.

total disregard of international humanitarian law;

- D. whereas millions of Ukrainians have been displaced inside and outside Ukraine, having fled from Russia's aggression; whereas Russia's continued aggression against Ukraine will keep forcing people to flee their homes; whereas Russia's war crimes will leave a generation of Ukrainian children traumatised and millions of Ukrainian civilians and military personnel requiring treatment for mental distress, depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder;
- E. whereas Russia continues to systematically destroy Ukraine's energy and civilian infrastructure with long-range missiles, as well as drones provided by the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the intention of inflicting extreme distress on the people and Government of Ukraine and breaking their morale;
- F. whereas the liberation of Ukrainian territories has led to the discovery of overwhelming evidence of structural and widespread human rights violations and war crimes committed by Russian forces and their proxies, such as summary executions and burials in mass graves, rape and other forms of sexual violence, torture, the use of civilians as human shields, the forced displacement of civilians (including children) to Russia, the destruction of ecosystems, the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects, including illegal cluster munitions in densely populated areas, and the targeted destruction of civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, homes and schools;
- G. whereas women and girls are particularly at risk during humanitarian and displacement crises, as they continue disproportionately to be the victims of gender-based violence; whereas many women have stayed in Ukraine and are serving in combat roles; whereas there are indications that Ukrainian women soldiers in captivity have been tortured and subjected to sexual violence; whereas the OHCHR has reported that, because men represent the majority of the victims of summary executions by Russian forces in the occupied territories, surviving family members many of them women are left behind to cope, often on their own, with limited family income, increased care burdens, and intense mental trauma and distress;
- H. whereas from 9 to 11 September 2022, illegal regional 'elections' were held by Russia in the illegally annexed Ukrainian Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which the EU does not recognise; whereas from 23 to 27 September 2022, so-called authorities, appointed illegitimately by Russia, held illegal 'referendums' in parts of the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions of Ukraine, in clear violation of the UN Charter and Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and this was followed by Russia's illegal annexation of those regions;
- I. whereas this conflict continues to have reverberations around the globe and to threaten security beyond Europe through both its impact on international food security and the sustained risk of nuclear accidents; whereas Russia's war of aggression shows Moscow's inability to move on from its archaic colonial understanding of its neighbours;
- J. whereas the Russian blockade of Ukraine's grain exports over the last year has created the risk of famine for many millions of people inside and outside Ukraine, making it reminiscent of the Holodomor; whereas the so-called grain deal remains precarious,

- while Ukrainian farmers face life-threatening risks when cultivating their lands for the upcoming season;
- K. whereas Russia has posed threats to the safety and security of nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes in Ukraine and their personnel, significantly raising the risk of an international nuclear accident; whereas Russia has seized and militarised the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, where the situation is deteriorating because of the psychological state of its Ukrainian staff and the condition of the equipment; whereas, despite its presence at Zaporizhzhia, the International Atomic Energy Agency has expressed concern that the world is becoming complacent about the dangers;
- L. whereas, despite the Russian aggression and the precarious socio-economic situation, the Government of Ukraine has managed to achieve some further success in the implementation of reforms promoting decentralisation and democratisation;
- 1. Condemns in the strongest possible terms Russia's continued war of aggression against Ukraine, as well as the involvement of Belarus in this war, and demands that Russia immediately terminate all military activities in Ukraine and unconditionally withdraw all forces and military equipment from the entire internationally recognised territory of Ukraine;
- 2. Expresses its undivided solidarity with the people of Ukraine, fully supports Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, and underlines that this war constitutes a serious violation of international law;
- 3. Strongly condemns the massive and grave violations of human rights and war crimes committed over the past 12 months by the Russian armed forces and various occupation authorities in Ukraine, including summary killings, rape and other forms of sexual assault, torture, abductions and the targeted destruction of residential areas; insists that the responsible government officials and military leaders, and other perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including intended genocide, must be held accountable; reiterates its full support for the work of the International Criminal Court in helping to end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community;
- 4. Underlines the continued need to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine, as well as to address the needs of the millions of people displaced from and within Ukraine, in particular those belonging to vulnerable groups; reiterates its call for the EU to step up its efforts to address the dire situation of those who have been forcibly deported to Russia and of the children who have been forcibly adopted in Russia;
- 5. Condemns in the strongest possible terms the use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon of war and stresses that this constitutes a war crime; calls for the EU and host countries of women and girls who have fled Ukraine to guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health and rights services, particularly emergency contraception, including for survivors of rape, and to support the provision of these services in Ukraine;
- 6. Is deeply concerned about the long-term environmental impact of the conflict and condemns Russia's acts of ecocide against Ukraine's flora and fauna and its poisoning

- of the atmosphere and water resources through its military actions; condemns also the methane leaks from the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines, which constitute an environmental attack on the EU;
- 7. Condemns in the strongest possible terms Russia's illegal annexation of the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions of Ukraine and the illegal sham 'referendums', which are in violation of Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in blatant breach of international law;
- 8. Reiterates that no one 'elected' in the illegally annexed Crimean peninsula during these elections has any legitimacy; stresses that Crimea unquestionably remains an integral part of Ukraine;
- 9. Calls on the Member States and the relevant EU institutions to increase and accelerate their military assistance to Ukraine, in particular the provision of weapons and ammunition in response to clearly identified needs; expresses its support for the recent decisions to provide Ukraine with modern heavy weapons;
- 10. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to enhance the supply of spare parts for energy networks and other types of critical infrastructure in Ukraine that have been destroyed by regular Russian missile strikes, in order to help the Ukrainian population through the rest of the winter;
- 11. Reiterates its support for the Member States' decision to grant EU candidate status to Ukraine, in line with Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union and as the beginning of a merit-based process; calls on the Member States to muster the political will to reenergise the enlargement process and deliver on their promises through concrete positive steps in the accession processes of countries that seek to join the Union and deserve to be part of the European family; underlines the crucial need for countries that wish to accede to the EU to implement the necessary reforms, in particular regarding the rule of law, democracy, fundamental freedoms and human rights;
- 12. Calls for further measures to be put in place and for the Member States to adopt the 10th package of sanctions against Russia as soon as possible, as well as to proactively submit proposals for the further development of sanctions by including new sectors and individuals; calls on the Member States to step up their checks to ensure the strict enforcement of the sanctions against Russia throughout the supply chain, including to prevent foreign intermediaries from selling EU products on to Russia; calls on all partners, in particular EU candidate countries and potential candidates, to align with the sanctions packages; asks the Commission and the Member States to consider measures against third countries seeking to help Russia and Belarus to circumvent the sanctions imposed;
- 13. Reiterates its call for an immediate and full embargo on imports of diamonds, fossil fuels and uranium from Russia, for the price cap on Russian petroleum products to be further decreased in coordination with G7 partners and for the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines to be completely abandoned, in order to stop the financing of Putin's war machine with EU money;
- 14. Calls for the EU institutions and Member States to bar Rosatom from ongoing

- investments in critical infrastructure in the EU and for all its activities in the EU to be stopped;
- 15. Calls for the establishment of a special tribunal in order to investigate and prosecute the crime of aggression committed by the political and military leadership of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and urges the Member States to provide political and financial support for the tribunal's establishment; believes that the EU must show leadership in this fight against impunity and for peace;
- 16. Welcomes the UN General Assembly's recognition that Russia must be held accountable for any violations of international law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law in or against Ukraine; supports the UN General Assembly recommendation to establish an international register of damage to record evidence concerning damage, loss or injury to all natural and legal persons concerned, and the widespread, long-term and severe damage inflicted by Russia upon the natural environment and the climate, including evidence of ecocide, as well as to promote and coordinate evidence gathering;
- 17. Calls on the Commission to continue to mobilise international partners and funds for reconstructing Ukraine by cooperating closely with local self-governments and the central government in Ukraine, while insisting on ambitious democratic and institutional reforms in areas such as media freedom, the rule of law, the fight against corruption, and decentralisation; reiterates its call to consider using the frozen assets of Russian individuals and the Russian Central Bank for Ukraine's reconstruction:
- 18. Calls on the UN General Assembly to keep Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on its agenda and calls on the EU's partners around the world to continue to provide political and humanitarian support for Ukraine as it defends its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity; calls on the European External Action Service and the Member States to increase their engagement with world leaders from other regions with regard to support for Ukraine and to strengthen international pressure on the Russian regime;
- 19. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the President, Government and Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and the President, Government and the Parliament of the Russian Federation.