

STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

The Benelux Parliament

- having regard to its previous statement in plenary on 25 March 2022 regarding “*Russia’s war against Ukraine*”;
 - having regard to its plenary session on 9 December 2022, where the members of the Benelux Parliament debated with the Deputy Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Mrs Olena Kondratiuk, on interregional defence cooperation;
 - having regard to the statement of 1 February 2023 of the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly regarding “*the Russian war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Russia*”;
 - with regard to the arrest warrant for the President of the Russian Federation, issued on 17 March 2023 by the International Criminal Court;
1. reiterates its unwavering support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;
 2. resolutely condemns:
 - a) the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against the people of Ukraine,
 - b) Russia’s aggression that has a heavy impact on individuals belonging to certain vulnerable groups, that include women, children, national and ethnic minorities;
 - c) Russia’s unlawful deportation of children in the occupied parts of Ukraine;
 - d) Russia’s deliberate attacks on civilian infrastructure;
 3. supports the setting up of the special tribunal to investigate these unlawful and unjust actions and to prosecute all those responsible for war crimes in Ukraine;
 4. reaffirms its support for providing military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine for as long as necessary;
 5. underlines that Russia’s actions are dangerously undermining the security of the Baltic and the Nordic States, with whom the Benelux Parliament has a structural cooperation;
 6. calls on the governments of the Benelux to continue their efforts in support of Ukraine, within the EU, NATO, Council of Europe, OSCE and other international organisations;
 7. invites its President to forward this statement to the Presidium of the Baltic Assembly.

The Hague, 18 March 2023