



PARLIAMENT OF ESTONIA



## Statement by Chairs of Foreign Affairs Committees on granting EU candidate status to Ukraine

10 June 2022

We, the Chairs of our respective parliament's Foreign Affairs Committees welcome the European Council conclusions on Ukraine adopted on 30 May 2022.

The sixth package of sanctions against Russia that cover crude oil and petroleum products delivered from Russia into the Member States is a strong signal of European commitment to ending Europe's energy dependence on Russia and limiting Europe's susceptibility to energy weaponization attempts against the bloc.

Today is a turning point for European history, providing momentum for the EU to exercise a proactive role at regional and global levels and build the Union's geopolitical power whilst reducing Russia's influence in EU neighbourhood countries.

The majority of Europeans support Ukraine's accession to the EU, and an absolute majority of Ukrainians desire Ukraine to join the European Union. It is an integral part of Europe, and we must be strong and convincing in our response to Ukraine's desire to join the Union. We also acknowledge that there are other potential candidates who aspire to join the European Union.

Ukrainian people are fighting for their country, their own lives, freedom, and democracy – for the same values we need to be fundamentally European. Therefore, granting EU candidate status to Ukraine would be an important political signal of support and hope for Ukraine and would reaffirm our commitment to our political ideals and foundational beliefs.

In this spirit, we call on the Member States of the European Union to open up to Ukraine a realistic prospect of membership in the European Union by granting it the status of a candidate country in the forthcoming European Council on 23-24 June 2022.

**Gari Cappelli**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
Parliament  
Croatia

**Pavel Fischer**

Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defense and Security  
Senate  
Czech Republic

**Marek Ženíšek**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
The Chamber of Deputies  
Czech Republic

**Mark Demesmaeker**

Chairman  
Committee on Transversal  
Affairs  
Senate  
Belgium

**Ventsislava Lyubenova**

Chairperson  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
National Assembly  
Bulgaria

**Marko Mihkelson**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
Riigikogu  
Estonia

**David McAllister**

Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
European Parliament

**Zsolt Németh**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
National Assembly  
Hungary

**Charlie Flanagan**

Chairman  
Joint Committee on Foreign  
Affairs and Defence  
House of the Oireachtas  
Ireland

**Rihards Kols**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
Saeima  
Latvia

**Laima Liucija Andrikienė**

Chairperson  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
Seimas  
Lithuania

**Bogdan Klich**

Chairman  
Foreign and European Union  
Affairs Committee  
Senate  
Poland

**Marek Kuchciński**

Chairman  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
Sejm  
Poland