

Statement of the Riigikogu On condemning the annexation of the territory of Ukraine and declaring Russian regime a terrorist regime

The Riigikogu (Parliament of Estonia) strongly condemns the military actions of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the illegal annexation of the territories conquered during the aggression. Estonia will never recognise the violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine through aggressions or sham referendums. Violation of law can never create law.

Putin's regime with its threats of nuclear attack has turned Russia into the biggest danger to peace both in Europe and in the whole world.

Recalling the Statement of the Riigikogu of 23 February this year, the planning, preparation, initiation, or waging of a war of aggression or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements, or assurances are crimes against peace.

Taking into account the Statement of the Riigikogu of 21 April this year, in which the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine was recognised as an international crime and the mass atrocities committed against the civilian population as a genocide against the Ukrainian people, the Riigikogu supports the identification and investigation of crimes of war and genocide and the prosecution of the perpetrators.

The Riigikogu supports the investigations initiated by the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court to identify the crimes committed on the territory of Ukraine and considers it necessary to prosecute those guilty of crimes of aggression in an international special tribunal.

Supporting the call of the Parliament of Ukraine to countries and international organisations, the Riigikogu declares the Russian regime a terrorist regime and the Russian Federation a state supporting terrorism, whose actions must be confronted together. The Riigikogu calls on the international community to adopt similar declarations.

The Riigikogu condemns using in the aggression any armed groups established with the support of the authorities of the Russian Federation, such as the Wagner Group. The Riigikogu considers it necessary to define the armed forces of the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics established by the Russian Federation as well as the Wagner private military company as terrorist organisations.

The Riigikogu condemns the declaration and implementation of mobilisation by the Russian regime as breaches of international law. The mobilisation which is being carried out for the purpose of continuing the crime of aggression constitutes a crime against peace.

The Riigikogu supports the request to strip the Russian Federation of its status of a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

The Riigikogu calls on the European Union Member States to stand united in implementing the additional economic sanctions and sanctions against private individuals with regard to the Russian Federation and its ally Belarus, and to monitor the strict adherence to the sanctions put in place so far.

The Riigikogu calls on the European Union and NATO Member States to decisively increase military aid to Ukraine. This is needed to stand against the aggression of the Russian Federation and to restore the sovereignty of Ukraine on its territory within its internationally recognised borders. There is also a need to increase humanitarian aid to Ukraine and to support the country during the post-war reconstruction.

Estonia supports the people, the state, and the army of Ukraine with all the means available and believes in the victory of Ukraine as this is the only way to restore peace in Europe.

Jüri Ratas

President of the Riigikogu

Tallinn, 18.10.2022