



Український Конгресовий Комітет Америки
Відділ Ілліной
Ukrainian Congress Committee of America
Illinois Division

2247 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60622
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March 1, 2014

The Honorable Senator Dick Durbin
230 South Dearborn Street
Suite 3892
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Illinois Division, representing the Ukrainian-American community, we express our appreciation for your strong condemnation of the aggressive steps by Russia in Ukraine. Thank you for your warning to President Putin not to invade Ukraine's territory and to respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We respectfully appeal to you to continue to intervene with President Putin and urge him to stop the provocative actions and military intervention in Crimea, to recall all Russian troops back to the Russian naval base and those troops that have been transported to Crimea directly from Russia, to leave Ukrainian sovereign territory and return to Russia. We also respectfully request that the United States abide by the 1994 multi-nation agreement known as the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances which guarantees the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Russian troops have entered Crimea. Russian troop transport planes landed at Crimean airports, Ukrainian airports have been taken over by Russian personnel, and troops are disembarking from transport planes. The Ukrainian permanent representative to the United Nations has asked for an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council.

Moreover, Ukraine's acting President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister have all called for support from the parties to the Budapest MSA agreement, for action by the UN Security Council, and for world leaders to address President Putin directly.

The situation is critical and time is of the essence. Senator Durbin, thank you for your statements and calls to prevent violence, for your support of the newly confirmed government of Ukraine, and for your continued strong stand on Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. We ask that you continue your calls for Russia's withdrawal of troops and respect of the people's choice for sovereignty, territorial integrity and a democratic future and to take action to ensure the calls are heeded.

Respectfully,

Alex Strilchuk
President

Paul Bandriwsky
Vice President

Marta Farion
Vice President