

WHEREAS, Amid protests of voter fraud, a referendum was held in Crimea on Sunday, March 16, 2014. Following the referendum, Mr. Putin quickly pressed ahead with the formalities of asserting Russian control over the Crimean peninsula; and

WHEREAS, Undeterred by the imposition of international sanctions or by the threat of diplomatic isolation from the West, on March 18, 2014, Mr. Putin signed a treaty of accession with the region's new leaders to make Crimea and the City of Sevastopol regions of the Russian Federation; and

WHEREAS, The Russian occupation of Ukrainian territory and threats against the forces and people of Ukraine are blatant violations of international law and the standards of conduct of civilized nations; and

WHEREAS, Chicago is a city of immigrants and home to people of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Chicago is proud to be the home of thousands of people of Ukrainian birth and descent, who enrich our city by their dedication to democratic ideals, and by the preservation and presentation of their cultural heritage in many forms; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this second day of April 2014, do hereby strongly denounce the aggressive, illegal actions that Mr. Putin has taken in Crimea; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wholeheartedly support the actions of President Obama and our international partners on this issue, including the suspension of Russia from the G8, the imposition of sanctions and our ongoing efforts to aid and support the Ukrainian people; and