

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Illinois Division

Український Конґресовий Комітет Америки - Відділ Іллиной

2247 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60622

uccaillinois.org

Facebook/UCCAillinois

September 17, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin United States Senator 711 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

## Appeal to support S. Res. 4848 - designate Russian federation as a state sponsor of terrorism Video attached – statement by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky

Dear Senator Durbin,

We write on behalf of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America - Illinois Division (UCCA IL), which represents some 200,000 Ukrainian Americans in the State of Illinois, united with the nearly 2 million Americans of Ukrainian descent in the United States in our support for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine. We believe that a democratic and independent Ukraine is in the national security interests of the United States.

For over six months, russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine has caused immeasurable suffering and the loss of thousands of civilian lives. The kremlin's indiscriminate bombing throughout Ukraine of medical facilities, residential dwellings, and areas designated as shelters cannot be described in any other way than as blatant terrorist acts. Daily images of intense artillery shelling and missiles hitting cities and villages in Ukraine remind us of the devastation the world witnessed in Syria years ago. In both those instances, the kremlin was responsible for acts of barbarism and the deaths of thousands of innocent individuals. The world has now witnessed indescribable horrors in Bucha, Irpin, Mariupol, Izyum and many other cities in Ukraine. The russian government's use of violence, torture, and intimidation against innocent civilians in Ukraine to achieve its political purposes can only be defined as international terrorism and must be condemned!

We share the following link related to the most recent tragic discoveries in Izyum, Ukraine <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUpsdmnTdKY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUpsdmnTdKY</a>

As informed and concerned American citizens, we appeal to you to support S.Res.4848, which would designate the russian federation as a state sponsor of terrorism. It is necessary that russia must be recognized as a sponsor of terror and suffer the full consequences of its actions. We look forward to your support of this resolution. Best regards,

Dan I. Diaczun

Dan I. Diaczun President

Marta Farion Vice President

Paulo T. Bandriwsky

Pavlo T. Bandriwsky Vice President

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Maria Korkatsch Groszko, PhD Vice President