



COSTA RICA

## Russia – Ukraine crisis

### INTRODUCTION

The Russia-Ukraine Crisis is one that has spanned over 8 years and has now become an outright war, a bloody war that must be stopped. The neighboring countries had a series of conflicts from the year 2014 which involved loss of lives and annexation of Crimea by Russia. Russia believes Ukraine is a part of Russia and must do as Russia dictates. Ukraine, since it regained its freedom in 1991, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, has always stood as an independent state. Putin of Russia does not accept this to be true and over time had different clashes with the country, the last of which stemming from the belief that Ukraine, after setting aside its neutrality in 2014, was now in talks with NATO about joining the body, which Russia's Putin sees as putting Russia at risk of attack. To deter this move by Ukraine, Russia attacked Ukraine out rightly in February of this year. Costa Rica has always stood with nonviolence and care for her people and all people, we would always show our support for rule of law, promoting civil society and disarmament. This war is clearly a violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, not to mention the total disregard for the Minsk Agreement which was reached in 2015 after Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine

Costa Rica takes pride in its pacifistic stand in international matters. We have always stood with nonviolence and value for all human life, respect for the rule of law, promotion of civil society and disarmament, we stand, still, against the invasion of Ukraine and violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. We believe that all humans and countries have a right to their sovereignty, independence, management of its affair and international relationships it may choose to nurture for the betterment of its people. The crisis at hand is clearly a matter of blatant disregard for the rule of law, existing treaties, respect of a people, imposition of credulous beliefs on a people and hopes to avoid imagined disasters, which have now put Ukraine, and the world at large in this tenable situation. In the past we have co-sponsored High-level Arria Formula Meeting [March 2021], we have voted for sanctioning the Russian federation for their invasion, we have also voted them to be removed from the human rights council due to reports of human rights violation going on in Ukraine perpetuated by Russia, to further serve as a significant indication of where our hearts lie, with the people, local civilians and bystanders who never signed up for war. Also voting the call for "humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine" demanding a stop to the hostilities against Ukraine and attacks against civilians and civilian objects, however it seems these actions are not sufficient to curb these dastardly acts.



Dwight D. Eisenhower said, “War settles nothing”, and we believe this to be true, we know a lot can be achieved with dialogue, mutual respect and a culture of putting the people first. With that in mind we propose the following solution to the Russia-Ukraine Crisis

- With respect to the protection of civilians and general public in mind and the aid of the General Assembly. Dialogue around reinstalling the Minsk agreement which was agreed upon by all parties including Russia, in 2015, should be opened and encouraged. This would go a long way in showing the aggressor that discourse is still the best solution
- Ukraine should consider taking up its neutrality once again for the sake of its people and the general assembly and member countries should come together and make a unified stance against the actions of Russia, insisting on the cessation of hostilities. Also go a step further in guaranteeing the neutrality of Ukraine against threats.
- The importance of cooperation between the general assembly and security council, can't be over emphasized in bringing this war to an end. More should be done with recourse to the future and setting of standards that would serve as a deterrent to others who may want to promote wars and infringe on the rights of others in the future.

There is still time for dialogue, political and otherwise, the machinery used in war never knows or remembers who used it or why it was used, only the people do and when the guns are put away what memories are worth remembering would be the issue for the day. We can create our own memories by what we, together, consider to be worth saving and worth remembering.