

Position Paper



NIGER

Thursday, February 24, 2022 was the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine; an invasion whose consequences are felt beyond the borders of the European continent.

From the beginning of this invasion, Niger condemned with the utmost energy this act which is neither more nor less a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a sovereign country "Ukraine".

Indeed, based on the consensus of San Francisco which founded the international system and the beginning of a new era after the two world wars. We unreservedly condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Far from being isolated in our choice, 140 other countries voted in the same direction as Niger during the vote on resolution ES-11/1/L1 of March 02, 2022 (i.e. 06 days after the start of this invasion).

However, we are certainly against this invasion, but we believe more in a constructive resolution that can promote diplomacy than a sanction resolution.

This is why we abstained during the votes on resolution A/ES-11/L4 of April 07, 2022 aimed at sanctioning Russia.

Indeed, we firmly believe that sanctions will only aggravate this crisis and increase the disastrous consequences of the crisis with a world in the midst of a health crisis with many others challenges.

Russia and Ukraine; two countries playing an essential role on the international market, particularly in the production of agricultural inputs and petroleum-derived products; immersed in this crisis, create a big gap to fill on a global scale.

It is in this sense that Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General, fears a "hurricane of famine" citing African countries including Niger, as collateral victims of this war.

Already facing an arid climate combined with climate change and security challenges, Niger sees, under a helpless gaze, another factor come into play: The Ukraine-Russia crisis. This situation therefore portends a food crisis.

Indeed, Nigeriens agriculture is highly dependent on Ukrainian fertilizer, the rarity of which multiplies the purchase price and those despite the subsidies and tax reductions undertaken by the Nigeriens government.

Niger is no exception in the sub-region. This crisis is at the highest level of concern because its consequences spare no country in a globalized world.

Need we remind you that fossil fuels from oil are the most widely used in the world? Moreover, the rise in the price of a barrel affects the entire production chain. In this context, we are witnessing soaring prices in most countries of the world.

In view of all the collateral victims, Nigeriens keep faith in a resolution that would create a constructive atmosphere for the negotiations. We are convinced that the only real solution lies in mediation, compromise and diplomacy.

In this context of globalization, the Ukraine-Russian crisis can only have many collateral victims, it is urgent to make a better global reading of this crisis before any new resolution.

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We believe that the military escalation must immediately end and create better conditions for dialogue between the two parties.

Furthermore, we would like to remind you that we "owe" a better world as described in the Sustainable Development Goals to future generations.