

Position Paper



The Islamic Republic of Mauritania

United Nations General Assembly

Topic: The Russo-Ukrainian Crisis

The crisis between Russia and Ukraine took an important turn on Thursday, February 24, 2022 with the declaration of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the first bombings and the entry on Ukrainian soil of Russian armed forces in the east, in the south via Crimea and in the north via Belarus, a Moscow ally. This entry into the war is the result of long months of tension between the two countries, as Russia does not accept Ukraine's rapprochement with the Western democracies and even less its desire to join NATO, a point that is unacceptable to Vladimir Putin who sees it as a threat to his borders.

Mauritania considers this attack to be a violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. It is contrary to the principles of the UN Charter While affirming that this is a conflict that is beyond us, but in the face of which we cannot remain indifferent, because there are economic and political consequences. Mauritania has adopted a very wise, balanced and above all prudent position.

We, in Mauritania, our position on the war in Ukraine finds all its meaning in our deep wish that the stakeholders reach a diplomatic solution that will quickly end the crisis.

All the states of the world, including Mauritania, have been impacted by this conflict, which we hope will become, thanks to the wonders of international diplomacy, an unfortunate memory for all humanity in the shortest possible time.

Russia's declaration of war on Ukraine had provoked a mixed international and regional reaction.

Mauritania is aware that conflicts must be settled only through diplomatic channels, which was confirmed by the Mauritanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ismael O. Cheikh Ahmed who held a meeting with the diplomatic missions of some European, American and Japanese countries devoted to the discussion of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

The minister met with the head of the European Union delegation in Nouakchott, Jones Guilym, along with the ambassadors of Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom and Japan, as well as the chargés de mission of the French and American embassies in Mauritania.

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The diplomats told the minister that they are carrying out a joint initiative to clarify the vision and position of their respective countries vis-à-vis the Ukrainian crisis.

In this context, Mauritania expresses its concern about this dangerous crisis and called for restraint and wisdom and an immediate end to the ceasefire.

Moreover, Mauritania insists on the need for the parties in conflict to sit around the negotiating table in order to reach a solution that puts an end to the crisis.

In order to cease all forms of hostility and to stop this war, Mauritania supports the efforts of the international community and the United Nations, whose Secretary General, Mr. Antonio Guterres, has repeatedly stated that "The weapons speak now, but the path of dialogue must always remain open. Mauritania is certain that dialogue must continue and that dialogue and negotiations are the only way out of the conflict.

The delegate
Sidi Lemrabott