

For a common European response to the Ukraine crisis and the Ukrainian transformation process

Resolution submitted by: Political Committee 3, Foreign Relations and Global Europe.

The transformation process in Ukraine, starting with the Euromaidan revolution, demands a common response by all EU Member States and its citizens. JEF Europe demands active involvement and assistance by the EU and its Member States to support Ukraine in its striving for a European future. With the upcoming Dutch Referendum, EU-Ukraine relations, and with it the development of the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood is at stake. JEF Europe announces to actively reach out to the Ukrainian civil society in order to respond to the call of the Euromaidan movement for a European future of Ukraine.

JEF Europe,

- A. *Recalling* the ongoing war in the Donbass region of Ukraine and the humanitarian crisis due to 1.6 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), 1.1 million Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring countries and the temporary or permanent emigration of 400.000 Ukrainians to Poland;
- B. *Condemning* the violation of Ukraine's territorial integrity, the annexation of Crimea and the breach of international law by the Russian Federation;
- C. *Deeply disturbed* by the already 9.098 people killed and 20.732 wounded during the fights in the Donbass region;
- D. *Denouncing* that the Tatar minority in Russian-annexed Crimea faces systematic repression, marginalisation, and discrimination by Russian authorities;
- E. *Acknowledging* that, according to the OSCE, fighting in Eastern Ukraine is still ongoing and the Minsk II agreement is not yet implemented;
- F. *Regretting* that most peace-building efforts have been] pursued by individual Member States, particularly France and Germany in the so-called Normandy format, and with EU institutions largely being uninvolved;

- G. *Respecting* the demands expressed by the Euromaidan and Ukrainian civil society for a European future of Ukraine;
- H. *Welcoming* the ongoing reform process of Ukraine on all levels of Ukrainian society, e.g. by police reform, judicial reform and equality for LGBT people;
- I. *Welcoming* the signing of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and the entering into force of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement on 1 January 2016;
- J. *Fully aware* of Ukrainian internal struggles between the central government and far-right groups which contribute to continued destabilisation of the Ukrainian society;
- K. *Expecting* the implementation of demands of the Minsk II Agreement by the Ukrainian state by adopting the decentralisation law
- L. *Denouncing* that the Russian Federation has not yet met conditions demanded by the Minsk agreement, namely a ceasefire, withdrawal of heavy weapons, a prisoner exchange, a withdrawal of Russian troops, and an effective supervision by OSCE;
- M. *Deeply concerned* by the slowed down pace of Ukrainian reform efforts, mainly because of institutional corruption and corruption on all levels of society, oligarchs and old elites;
- N. *Acknowledging* the risk for the entire Eastern Neighbourhood if the Ukrainian transformation process does not materialise and in contrary lead to a failed state on EU borders;
- O. *Noting* with concern that anti-European groups are exploiting EU-Ukraine relations and undermining the Ukrainian reform process by co-opting the Dutch Referendum on the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement on the 6th of April 2016;
- P. *Considering* that the Dutch Referendum of the 6th April 2016 provides an opportunity to stimulate discussion on EU foreign policy and make a positive case for the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and constructive relations with Europe's Eastern neighbours more broadly;

JEF Europe,

1. *Demands* from the conflicting parties that the Minsk II agreement must be fully implemented as roadmap for de-escalation, including the ceasefire which is still violated, withdrawal of heavy weaponry, permanent monitoring by the OSCE

of contact lines, the all-for-all exchange of prisoners, access for humanitarian aid organisation to the territory held by the so-called DPR of Donetsk and Luhansk, restore Ukrainian control of its state border which is currently denied by Russia;

2. *Demands* an upholding of EU sanctions and individual sanctions against the Russian Federation, individuals and firms complicit with actions in Crimea or the Donbass region so long as the Minsk II Agreement is not fully implemented by the Russian Federation;

3. *Calls* upon the European Union to create conditions for enabling dialogue among the conflicting parties and their civil societies;

4. *Supports* firmly that the signed EU-Ukraine Association Agreement offers a mutual chance to boost pan-European trade comparable to the accession of central European and Baltic States economies in 2004, binds EU and Ukrainian societies stronger together and encourages free movement of people;

5. *Calls* on the EU and its Member States to help stabilising and strengthening the Ukrainian state and its economy by expanding its task force and making Ukraine more resilient and more capable to integrate closer with the EU;

6. *Calls* on the EU to further explore possibilities of integrating Ukraine in EU programmes and frameworks, as is currently done with regard to the Erasmus + programme, and to offer support in education and training through exchange and twinning programmes to make specifically young Ukrainian civil servants and politicians agents for change;

7. *Calls* on the EU to grant a clear European perspective for Ukraine and clarify the requirements for an accession to the EU.

8. *Requests* that the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine is substantially scaled up to support Pro-reform forces and capacity building;

9. *Calls* on the EU to strengthen Humanitarian Aid to Eastern Ukraine, IDPs and Ukrainian refugees in surrounding states;

10. *Calls* on the EU and its Member States to increase support for the civil society in Ukraine by empowering the Ukrainian Platform of the Civil Society Forum of the Eastern Partnership and to take into account preferences expressed

by civil society organizations of the Eastern Partnership on the evaluation and monitoring of Association Agreements;

11. *Supports* firmly the demand of the Ukrainian people for the separation of powers, an independent civil society, rule of law, and an economy that serves the majority rather than special interests;

12. *Supports* the ratification of the Association Agreement as important to help the Ukrainians in the development of democracy and the rule of law, and for the modernisation of the economy, in order to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the EU's eastern border;

13. *Commits* itself to responding to the call of the Ukrainian people and working towards a European future of Ukraine in close cooperation with the Ukrainian civil society and pro-European movements particularly the youth.