

Member of the European Parliament

**Address to the Heads of States and Governments of NATO and EU countries  
NATO Secretary General  
President of the EU Commission**

**26.04.2022, Brussels**

**Honourable Officeholders,**

The global network of parliament members around the world United for Ukraine (U4U), which unites more than 200 parliamentarians from more than 30 countries, including members of the European Parliament, members of Ukraine's Supreme Rada and members of national parliaments makes a call to the governments of EU and NATO member states and third countries to rise immediately:

**- amount of the weapon systems and ammunition that Ukraine asks from its partners; deliver it with no delay and enhance coordination system of the western community to safeguard arms assistance delivery in the sustainable manner.**

Russian Federation aggressive war against Ukraine takes a new and decisive phase now when Russia begins executing a large-scale operation in the eastern Ukraine frontline.

Since the start of the 24 February phase of Russia's war Western community countries and EU have given public promises to deliver weapon systems and ammunition approximately of far less than 10 billion euros. Large part of announced decisions have still not yet been implemented.

War losses have been huge to aggressor state, but by comparative estimations Ukraine loses per day in ammunition, weapon systems and military side costs around 400 million euros in repurchase value.

It means that proportion of our aid and real needs of Ukraine are far from being in balance.

We want particularly stress irrelevance of some arguments, which have been used to avoid more decisive arms delivery policy.

First, that heavy weapon systems delivery will escalate war and therefore should be avoided. Last week positive decisions by some countries to start the delivery of some elements of heavy weaponry have shown that this paradigm has effectively cancelled. Therefore, there should be no taboos to start to deliver all the range of conventional weapons what Ukraine is asking for. Heavy weapons delivery is the most important element to shorten the war and avoid human losses in the course of longer war.

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Second, Ukraine soldiers would be untrained to use more sophisticated western weapon systems as air-defence, multiple rocket-launchers, self-propelled artillery and tanks. This is partly inaccurate and must be properly addressed by providing timely and appropriate training. Military experts and instructors can arrange training to all weapon systems in the smooth way, which could allow all weapon systems to take into full use from several days to maximum 2 months.

Third, that it takes time to arrange delivery of weapons due to logistical reasons. Practice shows, that with dedicated will, it takes in logistics only few days in all parts of European continent from political decision of the donor state to get weapon system to the battleground in Ukraine.

Fourth, that delivery of military equipment will harm our own defence capabilities in significant manner. One should assume that if Russia gets strategic gains on the ground in the course of this war, this would mean also major additional security threats to the whole continent of Europe. Furthermore, the current war need to trigger an immediate ramp-up of the manufacturing capabilities of military industry around the Alliance. NATO will remain comprehensive military superiority power over Russia also after member states will deliver of far more larger quantities of military aid.

Ukraine has asked particularly for long-range artillery, air defence systems, armoured vehicles, coastal defence systems, different types of fighter jets and cargo planes, attack drones, tanks, multiple launch rocket systems, ammunition and many other elements of weaponry.

In the nearest future, the most important priorities are modern western standards weapons, such as the long-range artillery assets including MLRS, type M270 or Himars, self-propelled howitzers 155 mm and heavy infantry mortars 120 mm, artillery shells with the extended range and high accuracy, medium-range air defence systems, anti-ship missiles, armoured combat vehicles (APCs/IFVs) and tanks.

We should now, in the critical phase of the war, not in the first hand measure our efforts to deliver arms on combined monetary terms, but with clear understanding of our responsibility to fulfil the slots of Ukraine defence needs and capabilities.

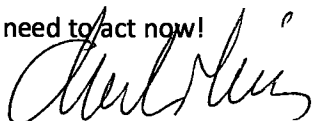
Therefore, we ask NATO and EU member states immediately act:

1. Increase the amount and the speed of weapons and ammunition delivery to Ukraine according to its top priorities.
2. Make full use of coordination mechanisms already established between Western countries for the delivery of military equipment to Ukraine.
3. Commit to a sustainable effort to continue providing Ukraine with military equipment as long as no peace agreement is in sight.

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We ask everybody in EU and NATO to recognize that Ukraine's war against Russian military invasion is a war for defence of a democracy, and that is why we need to mobilize all our resources to help Ukraine's victory in this war.

We need to act now!



Andrius Kubilius, MEP

Chairman,

On behalf of global parliamentary Network United for Ukraine