

COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN LITHUANIA

STATEMENT

24th February, 2022
Vilnius

We, the leaders of 60 Lithuanian municipalities, strongly condemn the Russian military actions in the independent state of Ukraine and express our support for the Ukrainian people. Together with the highest officials of our country we demand that Russia's criminal aggression against the peaceful Ukrainian people is aborted immediately and urge the Western countries to launch an adequate response to the Russian attack.

The invasion of the hostile military power into the lives of every Ukrainian citizen cannot be justified and must be stopped in the very early stages.

During this difficult period, Lithuania and its people are as much as before ready to support Ukraine in all possible ways and formats, both bilateral and international. Lithuanian municipalities together with other state institutions will also provide consistent help to the Ukrainian people if they are forced to seek it in Lithuanian territory.

We appeal to our partner – The Association of Ukrainian Cities – and once again confirm our support to all the Ukrainian municipalities and its citizens.

Only three decades ago Lithuania defended its own freedom, therefore we are well aware of its value. We know what it feels like when one's homeland and family has to face the occupational regime and aggression that recognizes no values. We are confident that the Ukrainian people will succeed in defending their right to live in a free and independent state as well as their right to be a part of the democratic Europe. Hostile military actions against the sovereign country must never be tolerated and we are obliged to do everything to stop it so that it never repeats.

President

Mindaugas Sinkevičius