



European Committee of the Regions

Brussels, date of official registration

Dear Members,

As Russia further escalates its brutal attacks against Ukraine, deliberately targeting civilian infrastructure and residential buildings, the energy network is only able to cover 70% of peak demand power needs leaving millions of people without electricity and water. Cutting civilians from water, electricity and heating makes the humanitarian situation ever more dire. The desperation felt by the people suffering from Russia's attacks must continue to be countered with united and unwavering European solidarity and support.

The level of European support to Ukraine has already been impressive, but with Russia accelerating its violent attacks on energy infrastructure, we call on European regions and cities to provide further assistance in a coordinated Team Europe effort. With the recent onset of the indiscriminate missile attacks across the country, the Government of Ukraine quickly reached out to the European Union with urgent requests to fill the increasing needs for energy supplies like power generators, heating equipment and fuel.

The European Commission has been facilitating donations of energy equipment and fuel coming from the Member States and private donors, based on the specific requests from the national authorities of Ukraine. They are collected and delivered under a Team Europe banner via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). Through these efforts, over 55,000 energy items, including 775 power generators (ranging from 2kVA to 600kVA) have been delivered for the preservation and restoration of energy infrastructure.

Members of the European Committee of the Regions
Members of the Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Reconstruction of Ukraine

Cities and regions have opened their doors to Ukrainian displaced people, providing humanitarian aid. The EU has reacted quickly activating the Temporary Protection Directive and mobilising Cohesion resources under the CARE and FAST-CARE initiatives to provide immediate liquidity for emergency support and integration measures for people fleeing Russia's aggression, as well as to those receiving them, notably municipalities and local NGO's. In addition, we financially reinforced cross border programmes with Ukraine and Moldova to increase cooperation between bordering regions in these countries and neighbouring EU Member States. The European Committee of the Regions, together with EU and Ukrainian local and regional authorities' associations, have come together in the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Reconstruction of Ukraine.

We now launch a joint appeal to cities and regions, through the European Committee of the Regions, including the Working Group Ukraine, to take this solidarity effort one step further and to help identify possible donations of energy items both new or old (in particular power generators and heaters) to Ukraine. The Commission has set up a "rescEU energy hub" in Poland to receive and channel donations to Ukraine, with the transport costs co-financed by the Union budget. We encourage you to contact ECHO-Donations@ec.europa.eu

In case private sector companies wish to donate energy items, the Energy Community Secretariat acts as a first point of contact, to help them prepare a concrete list of offers and to submit it through the UCPM. We encourage private sector companies to contact: UkraineEmergencySupport@energy-community.org

We would be grateful for your kind attention to these latest, most critical needs.

Yours faithfully,

Janez Lenarčič

Commissioner for Crisis Management

Janes Jones

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Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms

Vasco Alves Cordeiro

President

European Committee of the Regions

Aleksandra Dulkiewicz

Chair of the Working Group Ukraine

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