

Poland – Summit for Democracy – Voluntary Commitments

Since February 24, 2022 the international community of democratic states has been confronted with a new global situation resulting from Russia's brutal, unjustified and unprovoked war against Ukraine. Against this background, efforts to strengthen democratic practices domestically and in the world arena need to take into consideration the relation between democracy and security which is crucial for the stability and prosperity of a state in the international environment.

Russia's aggressive policy towards its neighbors and most recently towards Ukraine is a clear example of how the lack of democratic leadership, structures and procedures leads to degeneration of the political and social fabric, paving the way for oppressive and imperious ideas, aggression and war.

In view of the Russian aggression in Ukraine, Poland believes that the world community of democratic states must do everything in its power to support Ukraine to make sure that democracy prevails in the fight against tyranny.

In consideration of Russia's war against Ukraine, Poland undertakes to:

- continue actions aimed at ensuring accountability for violations of the international humanitarian and human rights law committed in Ukraine by the Russian Federation in the context of its military aggression;
- support Ukrainian government to address immediate needs of Ukrainian population,
- support Ukrainian population directly or indirectly affected by the Russian invasion by securing their access to livelihoods, basic goods and services;
- support Ukraine on its path of European integration by providing political and diplomatic support as well as assistance that may be needed in the process of transformation and implementation of reforms, with the aim of fulfillment of

criteria set by the European institutions and Ukraine's eventual accession to the EU;

- increase the capacity of economic stakeholders and businesses, in particular micro and small entrepreneurs to maintain operations and contribute to Ukraine's economic resilience and recovery;
- continue demanding that the Russian Federation stop its unjustified and unprovoked military aggression against Ukraine immediately and unconditionally withdraw all its forces from the entire territory of Ukraine;
- continue demanding that Belarus stop supporting Russian unjustified and unprovoked military aggression against Ukraine.
- continue demanding that the Russian Federation fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognized borders;
- oppose any further illegal activity of the Russian Federation leading to attempted annexation or incorporation of parts of Ukrainian territory to the Russian Federation; not recognizing results of any decisions of such character;
- continue calling for common action of international community to ensure that representatives of the Russian state and army, responsible for perpetrating horrific atrocities and war crimes against Ukrainian civilian population are held accountable in accordance with international law;
- continue further cooperation with entities and partners to investigate war crimes committed in Ukraine and supporting activities of dedicated international institutions in this regard;
- continue supporting an Independent International Commission of Inquiry appointed to investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and related crimes in the context of the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation;

- continue raising in the international fora the importance of protection of human rights of inhabitants of Crimea and other parts of Ukraine under control of Russia and its proxies;
- continue, in cooperation with allies, undertaking all possible measures in accordance with international law, to stop the Russian aggression against Ukraine;
- continue supporting democratically elected authorities of Ukraine;
- engage in the process of Ukraine's post-war reconstruction.

In view of the Polish nation's historic experience and dedication to freedom and democracy Poland undertakes to:

- promote, foster and call for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and good governance through its foreign policies, including in the international human rights fora, with a particular but not exclusive focus on the region of Eastern European countries;
- promote democracy and good governance through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Democracy Fund, active engagement within the work of the Community of Democracies and by putting forward on behalf of the cross-regional core-group the Human Rights Council resolution on good governance;
- advocate for promotion and protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and democratic institutions in the OSCE area;
- continue calling for the release of political prisoners, human rights defenders and those unlawfully detained in many corners of the globe for exercising their human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- continue raising in the international fora - the UN General Assembly or the Human Rights Council, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe -the importance of restoration of the respect for

human rights, and fundamental freedoms in Belarus, Russia and illegally annexed or occupied territories of Ukraine and Georgia;

- continue supporting international organizations and relevant mandate holders such as the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus and the OHCHR examination mechanism which work for improving human rights situation in Belarus and for holding human rights violators accountable
- continue providing assistance to representatives of Belarusian civil society and democratic opposition in exile, including in Poland;
- strengthen access to free media for Belarusian population;
- support-together with other partners - Russian human rights defenders and activists who had to flee their homes due to unprecedented, systemic attack on civil rights and freedoms in the Russian Federation;
- support the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (ODIHR/OSCE) by dispatching Polish observers to participate in the OSCE election-observation missions;
- continue to provide training and knowhow in particular to partners in Eastern European countries on how to develop strong and corruption resistant public administration.

In international fora, including in the UN Human Rights Council, UN General Assembly and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe Poland undertakes to strengthen efforts to promote human rights, foster human-based approaches and to fight corruption.

As a member of Human Rights Council in the ongoing term 2020-2022 Poland maintains its commitment to:

- promoting and protecting human rights as a key element for achieving sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental dimensions and advancing human rights principles and standards embodied in the Agenda 2030;
- promoting freedom of religion or belief including the protection of religious minorities through Polish leadership of New York-based UN Group of Friends of Victims of Acts of Violence based on Religion or Belief and observance of the International Day of Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief;
- promoting the respect and support for vulnerable groups including children and persons with disabilities by actively engaging in initiatives related with World Autism Awareness Day and World Down Syndrome Day.

During its on-going chairmanship in the OSCE in 2022 Poland undertakes to reinforce its support for the Human Dimension and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) thus actively promoting the implementation of democratic standards in the world.

In keeping with its foreign-policy priorities, Poland will respond to human rights situations in the world by issuing national statements and supporting relevant resolutions and documents.

Poland will also continue raising in the international fora including the Human Rights Council the issue of the negative impact of corruption on human rights, incl. by engaging in works of the core group of the Human Rights Council resolution on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights