

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement: Canadian Section of ParlAmericas opposes Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Last week marked one month since the Russian Federation expanded its unprovoked military invasion of Ukraine.

In condemning this most recent invasion, members of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas are shocked at, and saddened by, Russia's disrespect for human life, democracy and international law. As well, we are dismayed by the violence and destruction in Ukraine, and by the disinformation being circulated to justify Russia's actions.

We recognize the negative impacts of sanctions and other measures on Russians, but we want especially to express solidarity with our parliamentary counterparts in Ukraine and with all Ukrainians who are suffering as a result of the ongoing attacks. We salute Ukrainians' courage and tenacity, and will continue to use our voices to support the cause of freedom for Ukraine and an end to Russia's attacks. Like people throughout the world, we are advocating everyone's right to live in a peaceful, sustainable world.

Once a conflict between countries is underway, the opportunity to effect change through parliamentary diplomacy is limited. Though we know our words alone cannot stop airstrikes or tanks, or help the millions who are suffering because of the war in Ukraine, we add our sentiments and hopes for the future to those of other legislators around the globe.

ParlAmericas' members believe in multilateralism as an avenue for co-operation and the peaceful settlement of differences. As members of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas, we affirm our support for democracy, gender equality and sustainable development. Values, principles and efforts in all three areas have been – and continue to be – threatened because of Russia's attacks on Ukraine. We call for an immediate end to these attacks and for enhanced diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict.