

Joint Appeal
of the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy,
Speaker of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Ruslan Stefanchuk,
Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal
to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Ukraine has been and remains a reliable and predictable partner of NATO, fully sharing Euro-Atlantic values and being committed to the fundamental principles of Euro-Atlantic integration and deep democratic reforms based on the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Ukraine, as well as Annual National Programs under the auspices of the NATO-Ukraine Commission.

At the same time, today, Ukraine and the entire Euro-Atlantic community face unprecedented security challenges of a global nature. The war waged by the Russian Federation to destroy the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian state threatens the destruction of the world and European system.

The Russian authorities have clearly and unequivocally demonstrated their intentions to intensify hostilities through mobilization, make another attempt to annex the territory of Ukraine and continue their aggressive policy, in particular by holding so-called "referendums" and amending the constitution of the Russian Federation. Russia's energy and nuclear blackmail become permanent fact.

Under such conditions, maintaining a stable and predictable global security environment based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the North Atlantic Treaty is possible only if joint efforts are made to preserve peace. To this end, it is necessary to take proactive measures to deter and prevent any actions regarding the illegal annexation of the territory of Ukraine and the implementation of threats to use nuclear weapons.

Today, Ukraine ensures on the battlefield the peace and security on the Eastern flank of the Alliance. The unprovoked war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the entire civilized world and further threats its expansion, create the most critical security situation in the world since the end of the World War II and require extraordinary decisions from both Ukraine and NATO.

We have an unprecedentedly high level of support from the citizens of Ukraine regarding our country's accession to NATO, which is evidence of the country's deep understanding of the Alliance's role as the most effective security organization of our time.

Against this backdrop, we:

referring to the Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, which clearly states that any other European State in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area may be invited to accede to this Treaty;

taking into account Paragraph 18 of the Madrid Summit Declaration issued by NATO Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Madrid 29 June 2022, where Allies reaffirm their commitment to NATO's Open Door Policy and recognize that accession of Finland and Sweden – without MAP instrument - will make them more secure, as well as emphasize that their security is of direct importance to the Alliance, including during the accession process;

taking into account Paragraph 4 of the Madrid Summit Declaration issued by NATO Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Madrid 29 June 2022, which states that the Alliance reiterates its unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders extending to its territorial waters, as well as fully supports Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence and to choose its own security arrangements;

reiterating that the Russian Federation is the most significant and direct security threat to peace and stability, as defined in the NATO 2022 Strategic Concept adopted by Heads of State and Government at the NATO Summit in Madrid 29 June 2022, which requires the Alliance to strengthen the Euro-Atlantic security architecture, counter Russian threats and respond to its hostile actions with determination and resolve;

emphasizing significant achievements of Ukraine in advancing on the path of Euro-Atlantic integration, reforming the security and defense sector in accordance with NATO principles, as well as taking into account interoperability with NATO standards demonstrated by Ukraine Armed Forces on the battlefield every day, –

appeal to make the decision regarding Ukraine's membership in the Alliance, as an integral part of ensuring the security of Ukrainians and citizens of the entire Euro-Atlantic area.

At the same time, we propose to urgently consider the proposals initiated by Ukraine regarding a multi-level system of guaranteeing security based on multilateral and bilateral agreements of Ukraine, which are aimed at bringing Ukraine's defense potential to a level that will ensure a guaranteed deterrence of Russian aggression, strengthening of military support to Ukraine in order to build up its defense capabilities, facilitate the development of its defense industry and significantly increase the scope and volume of individual and collective training of the Ukrainian military. Implementation of these proposals before Ukraine's accession to NATO will ensure proactive deterrence of armed aggression against our country in order to end the war as soon as possible and prevent potential armed aggression in the future.

**President
of Ukraine**

**Speaker of the
Verkhovna Rada
of Ukraine**

**Prime Minister
of Ukraine**

**Volodymyr
ZELENSKYY**

**Ruslan
STEFANCHUK**

**Denys
SHMYHAL**