

To the countries of G7

12 June 2024

Russian aggression against Ukraine is a brutal and blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and the rules based international order. It is not a war waged against Ukraine only. The aim is to restructure the international legal order, to invalidate the principles of the United Nations Charter and to redraw the European security architecture to Russia's interest. If aggression is left unpunished and the aggressor does not have to compensate for the damage done, it will send a message that aggression pays off as has been Russia's experience from the past.

Ukraine is the world's largest reconstruction effort since 1945 and the reconstruction of Ukraine needs to start now. The aggression against Ukraine has lasted for ten years with tragic consequences for Ukraine. To put a stop to the destruction, Ukraine needs funds to defend itself against the Russian aggression and to rebuild the country.

According to the World Bank at least \$500 billion is needed over the next decade for the recovery and reconstruction and the entire reconstruction can reach up to \$1 trillion. By comparison, the Marshall Plan was around \$100 billion in current valuation, spent over four years and seventeen countries.

The United Nations General Assembly has recognized that Russia must be held to account for any violations of international law in or against Ukraine. Including its aggression in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as any violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including making reparations for the injury and damage caused by such acts.

The G7 has emphasized that Russia's assets will remain immobilized until Russia pays for the damage it has caused to Ukraine. European Union has made headway by way of utilizing profits from Russia's immobilized assets, but we have to take the next step. The damage is calculable and recoverable. It must not be the burden of our taxpayers, instead Russia must comply with international obligations and compensate all damages caused by its aggression.

We are grateful for the work already conducted within the framework of the G7 in exploring options for using the Russia's immobilized state assets. We call upon the G7 to continue to work closely together with the European Union, its international partners and allies in finding a solution for the use of Russia's state assets to compensate for the damage caused in Ukraine. Russia needs to fulfil its obligation under international law and we must demonstrate that our policy against aggression is steadfast.

We emphasize our common determination to raise the cost of aggression, help Ukraine win the war and rebuild their country. Support to Ukraine is an investment in international peace and security. We support the use of Russia's state assets to ensure Russia compensates for the destruction it has caused to Ukraine.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Tsahkna', with a large, sweeping flourish above the text.

Margus Tsahkna
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Braže', with a large, stylized flourish above the text.

Baiba Braže
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Landsbergis', with a large, stylized flourish above the text.

Gabrielius Landsbergis
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania