

#STOPTHEWARINUKRAINA

Faced with the enormous humanitarian crisis that has been taking place since the night of February 24th in Ukraine, caused by the **illegal military invasion** led by **Vladimir Putin**, the first objective of the **international community** and the **European Union** must be a **truce** with the immediate cessation of bombing and hostilities, especially against the civilian population.

The European Movement knows that the road to a ceasefire is hard: to date, all attempts at dialogue have failed because of Vladimir Putin's resolve to **conquer Kyiv, bring down the government of Volodymyr Zelensky and replace it with a puppet government** to start the "*denazification of the country*".

Up until now, each attempt at dialogue has clashed with the impassable wall of the aggressor. This is partly because most world leaders are – rightly – on the side of Ukraine.

The international community and the European Union must, however, continue to pursue this path with all the means at their disposal: the dialogue with Vladimir Putin must continue despite the circumstances, to impose a '*ceasefire*' as a *matter of priority*.

The European Movement has already proposed to follow other paths such as those provided for by the **United Nations statute** and by its **Chapter VII**. Chapter VII authorizes both the **Security Council** with a majority of nine out of fifteen members (although permanent members, Russia, China, the United States, France and the United Kingdom, maintain the right of veto) and the **General Assembly** in extraordinary session with a majority of 2/3 "*in the event of a stalemate in the Security Council*" to decide on *peace enforcement* measures that precede *peace-keeping interventions*.

These are the "*International Peace Forces*" that operate based on the document "*United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Principles and Guidelines*".

The vice president of Verkhova Rada (the Ukrainian Parliament), **Oleksandr Kornienko**, asked, on March 3rd, the deployment of a peace keeping mission on the Ukrainian territory. This was a plea to the United Nations asking for mediation to stop the war.

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The European Movement is also aware – and obviously does not underestimate this essential aspect – that said measures were never taken when there was a veto by one of the permanent members of the Security Council.

We also know that these forces are normally composed of soldiers from countries that are not part of NATO or of the group of those who support the regime of Vladimir Putin (which, in the resolution of the General Assembly condemning the Russian aggression against Ukraine, was composed of four countries).

During the several *peace enforcement* and *peace keeping* interventions, the majority of the military was made of military personnel from Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Jordan, Uruguay, Ghana, Nigeria, and they are therefore the vast majority in a position of relative neutrality between the aggressor and the attacked.

The European Movement recalls that in November 1950 the General Assembly of the United Nations - in an extraordinary session and to overcome the possible vetoes in the Security Council of the permanent members – adopted **resolution 377a "Uniting for peace"** which authorized the General Assembly itself to adopt by qualified majority measures of *peace enforcement* or *peace keeping*, although this resolution has never been applied.

Although it has not become customary law and its legitimacy will be contested, to give a voice to the General Assembly today would give significance and authority to the international institution, since it has already adopted by a large majority (141 votes in favor, 5 against and 35 abstentions) a **resolution condemning the Russian aggression against Ukraine.**

The European Movement hopes that the **35 countries that abstained** on the above-mentioned condemnation resolution and the **European Union** will urgently call for the convening of a **new Extraordinary General Assembly** demanding an **immediate ceasefire** and reopening the debate on Resolution 377A of 1950.

This road is obviously fraught with obstacles, but the immense humanitarian tragedy must push the international community to try and take even the most difficult roads.

The **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)** would play a **crucial role, as would the** updating of the 2014 and 2015 **Minsk Agreements**, so far never implemented by Russia and Ukraine, which should be put on the table for diplomatic negotiations at the initiative of the OSCE itself in cooperation with the European Union.

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While we make this attempt at appeasement, the coercive initiatives to isolate Vladimir Putin's regime must continue, including **economic and financial sanctions**, humanitarian aid but also military aid to Ukraine. "Cold" conflict is not against the Russian people, but against the new "Tsar" in power.

Among the coercive measures, the European Movement shares the [ten proposals](#) published on March 10, 2022 on *Libération* by Bernard Henri Levy, Sean Penn, Salman Rushdie and Sting. The first proposal requests the international justice system to examine all the legal procedures useful to blame Vladimir Putin and his generals for war crimes.

On the other hand, a group of international personalities on the initiative of MEP Pierre Larroustourou - including Marek Belka, former Prime Minister of Poland, Iratxe Garcia Pérez, President of the S&D Group in the European Parliament, Andrius Kubilius, former Prime Minister of Lithuania, Paul Magnette, President of the Belgian Socialist Party, Borys Tarasiuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the Council of Europe, and Guy Verhofstadt, former Prime Minister of Belgium – warned on *Le Monde* on March 15, 2022¹ that *"war criminals in Ukraine must know that they will not have peace until they are alive"* and that *"all states can prosecute every war criminal and every accomplice who is on its territory and request his extradition if they are third-country nationals...exercising their universal competence as was decided by the German and Spanish courts on March 8th"*.

The Prosecutor of the **International Criminal Court, Karim Kahn**, has already launched an investigation on March 2nd, which could be supported by **Eurojust**. Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, Estonia, and Latvia have already opened dossiers for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In addition to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, on March 16th, the order of the **International Court of Justice in The Hague** ordered Russia to stop all military operations in Ukraine with immediate effect. The order saw thirteen votes in favor, while the Russian and Chinese judges voted against.

It is up to humanitarian and non-governmental organizations operating in Ukraine and neighboring countries to gather evidence of the crimes that are being committed on Ukrainian soil and send it to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, quickly forming an international coalition and enriching the **ad hoc website created by Ukraine**.
#Putinwarcrimes.

¹ Art. *Le Monde* 15/3/2022 ([in french](#))

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According to French-British jurist **Philippe Sanders** – who launched an appeal together with former British Prime Minister **Gordon Brown** - the fastest and most effective way to indict Vladimir Putin should instead be the creation of a **special court** to try crimes of aggression and threats to peace on the basis of the United Nations Charter, which requires Member States to refrain "*in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State*".

The European Movement also believes that an **international campaign should be launched to denounce the repression of freedom and fundamental rights in Russia**, starting with a "*j'accuse*" of the crimes committed in the last twenty years by Vladimir Putin and his regime.

We must also launch an **information campaign** aimed at the Russian people, the world of culture, academia, art, science, and sport, together with international non-governmental organizations to which Russian associations belong. This can be done using loopholes still available through the media and social media channels that have not yet been obscured by the regime, expressing active solidarity with all those who have demonstrated against the aggression in Russia since February 24, **and forming a coalition of lawyers and international judges** who support the defense of all those arrested.
#freedomfortheRussianarrested.

The European Movement proposes that the European Union undertake the **translation into Russian and Ukrainian** of the "*Ventotene Manifesto*" by Ernesto Rossi and Altiero Spinelli with the preface by Eugenio Colorni. The manifesto already exists in the twenty-four official European languages and in Arabic. *Zum ewigen Frieden: Ein philosophischer Entwurf* (For perpetual peace) by Immanuel Kant should also be translated. Both documents should be distributed clandestinely to the **Russian opposition** and to the members of the **Verchovna Rada** (the Ukrainian Parliament) indicating that the way forward is that of **international peace** and the **overcoming of the absolute sovereignty** of nation-states.

While the procedure to respond to the Ukrainian government's request for "*candidate country*" status is underway, together with Georgia and Moldova, the European Movement once again argues that the conditions for a **European strategic autonomy** in the energy and defense sectors must be created quickly. The roadmap for **European Union reform must be opened** to go beyond the Treaty of Lisbon based on the results of the Conference on the Future of Europe and to build a **political union according to a federal model** starting from the **constituent role of the European Parliament** that will be elected in 2024.

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The European Union must use all the instruments provided for in the **Association Agreement with Ukraine** that entered into force in 2017, by strengthening humanitarian aid. With a view to the early cessation of Russia's armed aggression – an extraordinary reconstruction and *peace-building* plan should also be provided, to help Ukraine start internal reforms after the war to contribute to **compliance with the Copenhagen criteria** and **Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union**, which are essential for future accession.

As happened in 1950 between European countries that have fought for decades and have found in the Community dimension the path of cooperation and peace for the well-being of their citizens, the end of the war – under the conditions that the European Movement has summed up here – will have to allow the convening of a **European Conference for peace and security**. The conference should be modeled on the [Helsinki agreements](#) of 1975 and on the initiative of the European Union and the OSCE. Such Conference could contribute to **the relaunch of negotiations for the reduction and control of armaments** whose dimensions in financial terms – ten times greater than the expenditure for development cooperation – are the bearers of conflicts, misery, destruction, and suffering.

Brussels-Rome, March 17, 2022