

DECLARATION 497

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH IN UKRAINE*

The Assembly,

1. **Reiterating** its condemnation of Russia's unprovoked and brutal war of aggression against Ukraine, for which Russia bears sole responsibility, and **denouncing** Russia's unacceptable attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, which have continued despite pledges to cease fire;
2. **Reaffirming** its unwavering support for Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders, and right to self-defence and self-determination, including its NATO membership path;
3. **Expressing** profound respect and admiration for the remarkable bravery, resilience and resolve of the people, the democratic institutions and the armed and security forces of Ukraine;
4. **Denouncing** the assistance provided by the Belarusian, Iranian, Chinese and North Korean regimes to Russia's war of aggression;
5. **Highlighting** that Russia's war against Ukraine is also a critical test of the collective resilience of democracies and that by supporting Ukraine, Allies also protect their own security and shared democratic values;
6. **Stressing** that the outcome of this war will shape the future European and international order and set a precedent that will influence the future actions and strategic calculations of Russia, China and other enablers of Russia's war against Ukraine, as well as those of other malign actors;
7. **Welcoming** efforts by the United States, in dialogue and consultation with European Allies and Canada, to bring about a just and lasting peace that provides for Ukraine's and Europe's long-term security, **saluting as well** efforts initiated by France and the United Kingdom to build a "coalition of the willing" to provide a reassurance force in support of peace, and **convinced** that transatlantic unity is essential to achieving and securing any sustainable agreement;
8. **Emphasising** that only a peace through strength can lead to lasting peace;
9. **Stressing** that there can be no impunity for Russian war crimes and other atrocities, and that all those responsible must be held accountable for violations and abuses of international law, human rights and international humanitarian law;
10. **Convinced** that a strong and independent Ukraine with robust, modernised, coherent, and well-equipped armed forces, capable of deterring and defending against future aggression, is vital for the stability of the Euro-Atlantic area;
11. **Stressing therefore** that any negotiated solution includes robust and credible security guarantees for Ukraine to deter future Russian aggression;

* Adopted by the Plenary Assembly at its Spring Session in Dayton, Ohio (United States) on Monday 26 May 2025.

12. **Welcoming** Allies' ongoing robust and vital financial and military assistance, which is critical to Ukraine's immediate and long-term defence needs and that will aid and support long-term European security;

13. **Welcoming** all EU initiatives supporting Ukraine, including the new EU Security Action for Europe instrument, which should be employed to the fullest extent in order to accelerate and scale up Ukrainian military production;

14. **Saluting** NATO's political and practical support for Ukraine, particularly through the NATO-Ukraine Council (NUC), the NATO Representation in Ukraine (NRU), the NATO Security Assistance and Training for Ukraine (NSATU), the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP), the Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, the Joint Analysis, Training and Education Centre (JATEC), and other instruments to support Ukraine now and for the long term;

15. **Reaffirming** its readiness and determination to support Ukraine's further democratic consolidation, which brings it closer to NATO membership, including through the NATO PA special fund to support Ukraine's democracy;

16. **URGES** the governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:

- a. to sustain and increase diplomatic, military, financial, and humanitarian support for Ukraine, to both address its immediate civilian and battlefield needs and strengthen its position at the negotiating table;
- b. to continue to work towards fairer burden sharing among all Allies across all types of assistance to Ukraine;
- c. to continue to step up and speed up the delivery of military assistance to Ukraine and to urgently ramp up Allied and Ukrainian defence industrial capacity and production, including through direct investments into Ukraine's domestic defence industrial base, notably via direct purchases from Ukrainian defence companies to supply the Ukrainian Armed Forces;
- d. to continue to train and equip the Ukrainian Armed Forces to strengthen Ukraine's long-term deterrence and defence posture;
- e. to keep up pressure on Russia by backing the ramping up and effective enforcement of sanctions against it and its accomplices, particularly in the oil and gas sector, including the Russian shadow fleet, as well as the banking and financial sectors;
- f. to maintain and bolster transatlantic unity in the pursuit of peace through strength in Ukraine
- g. to welcome the Summit recently hosted by Türkiye in Istanbul;
- h. to work together and with Ukraine to ensure that any agreement deters future Russian aggression, guarantees Ukraine's long-term security, and strengthens European and Euro-Atlantic security;
- i. to support efforts to put together a multinational reassurance force to help guarantee a future peace agreement;
- j. to reiterate their longstanding position that they will never recognise Russia's illegal and illegitimate occupation and annexation of Ukrainian territories;
- k. to reaffirm all elements of the July 2024 Washington Summit declaration and NATO-Ukraine Council Statement, and make full use of all of NATO's fora and instruments in support of Ukraine to deepen political consultation, bolster Ukraine's self-defence, transition Ukraine to

full interoperability with NATO, and continue bringing Ukraine closer to eventual membership;

- l. to invite Ukraine to participate in the NATO Summit in The Hague and hold a meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Council at the level of Heads of State and government;
- m. to reaffirm that Ukraine's future NATO membership is a sovereign decision of Ukraine and the NATO Allies alone, based solely on the will of the Ukrainian people and authorities and the fulfilment of membership criteria, and to reiterate that no third party – including the Russian Federation – can have a veto over NATO membership;
- n. to set NATO assistance to Ukraine on a sustainable footing by recommitting to the Pledge of Long-Term Security Assistance for Ukraine, and providing sustainable funding and speeding up the delivery of funds for the Comprehensive Assistance Package and NSATU trust funds;
- o. to further leverage JATEC to identify and apply lessons from Russia's war against Ukraine and increase Ukraine's interoperability with NATO;
- p. to increase cooperation with Ukraine and its defence industry on technology innovation, including by implementing joint activities to support Ukraine's self-defence via such initiatives as the NATO-Ukraine Innovation Cooperation Roadmap;
- q. to bring Ukraine's defence procurement further in line with Euro-Atlantic best practices, including through the Strategic Defence Procurement Review process;
- r. to continue to use the NUC format, to the fullest extent, for advancing Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations, for discussing issues of common security and as a crisis consultation mechanism;
- s. to step up cooperation with the Assembly in support of Ukraine;
- t. to allow for engagement between the NUC and the Assembly on the parliamentary dimension of the NATO-Ukraine relationship;
- u. to continue to strengthen the NRU;
- v. to designate a liaison officer in the NRU to work with the Assembly to support capacity-building efforts for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;
- w. to fully support Ukraine's path of democratic reform, including by establishing a Centre for Democratic Resilience at NATO Headquarters to serve as a platform for sharing resources and exchanging best practices as well as by helping Ukraine implement its adapted Annual National Programme;
- x. to work on an ambitious long-term plan for the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine, including by developing legal frameworks to allow for the full use of frozen Russian assets for Ukraine's reconstruction based on international law and the principle that the aggressor must pay for the consequences of its aggression;
- y. to welcome the Fourth Ukraine Recovery Conference (URC 2025), due to be co-hosted by Italy and Ukraine in Rome in July 2025, aimed at mobilising international support for Ukraine's recovery, reconstruction, reform, and modernisation, as well as to acknowledge the results of the previous conferences held in Lugano (2022), London (2023), and Berlin (2024);