

Offered by Councilors Breadon, Bok, Flynn, Flaherty, Baker, Louijeune, Edwards, Fernandes-Anderson, Lara, Murphy, Worrell, and Arroyo



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE UNPROVOKED INVASION AND EGREGIOUS ACT OF AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

- WHEREAS,** Massachusetts is home to thousands of Ukrainian Americans and to millions who care deeply for and stand strongly in support of the Ukrainian people; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On January 21, 1990, more than 300,000 Ukrainians called for unity and independence from the Soviet Union by forming a human chain between the cities of Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On August 24, 1991, the elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine declared the independence of Ukraine from the Soviet Union with an overwhelming majority vote; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On December 1, 1991, more than 90 percent of Ukrainian citizens voted in a national referendum in support of independence, with majorities in every region; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On February 8, 1994, Ukraine was the first member state of the Commonwealth of Independent States to join the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and has since been recognized as an Enhanced Opportunities Partner; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On December 5, 1994, in an effort to solidify security commitments to Ukraine in return for its nuclear disarmament, the United States, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom signed the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances, whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine's borders while refraining from the threat or use of force against Ukraine; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On November 22, 2004, Ukrainians peacefully took to the streets in protest of a fraudulent presidential election, beginning the Orange Revolution and resulting in new elections under free and fair conditions; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On November 21, 2013, the Euromaidan protests began in favor of signing the European Union-Ukraine Association Agreement, resulting in the Revolution of Dignity and the removal of President Viktor Yanukovich by the Verkhovna Rada; *and*
- WHEREAS,** On February 20, 2014, the military of the Russian Federation, without merit or cause, invaded the eastern part of the free and independent country of Ukraine, including the Crimean Peninsula, and backed a separatist insurgency in the Donbas region in eastern Ukraine, where fighting has killed over 14,000 people and millions more displaced; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Throughout 2021 and early 2022, Russia deployed a massive troop and weapons buildup on the border with Ukraine, and in the early morning of February 24, 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin launched a large-scale invasion of sovereign Ukraine;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council –

- (1) Condemns the Russian Federation’s illegal military invasion of Ukraine, its annexation of Crimea in 2014, its direct and indirect involvement in armed conflicts in eastern Ukraine, its human rights violations carried out in these territories, and the passportization of citizens in occupied Donbas and Crimea;
- (2) Affirms its unwavering support for Ukraine’s independence, sovereignty, self-governance, and territorial integrity by calling for the immediate cessation of the violent and illegal Russian military invasion of Ukraine which has lacked regard for civilian lives;
- (3) Commends the courage, resolve, and resilience shown by the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of sovereignty and democracy, and pays tribute to the many who gave their lives in pursuit of a free and democratic Ukraine;
- (4) Stands unequivocally with the people of Ukraine, including overseas Ukrainians and Ukrainian Americans in the City of Boston and their loved ones;
- (5) Calls on the Federal government to increase continuing humanitarian support and aid efforts in the resettlement of the estimated three to five million Ukrainian refugees who will be displaced by the war; and
- (6) Calls on the Biden Administration to stop buying oil from Russia.

Filed in City Council: March 2, 2022