J.Jasinskio str. 9-213, LT-01112 Vilnius, tel.: +3705 2496921 fax: +3705 2498078

E-mail: lpsk@lpsk.lt, home page: http://www.lpsk.lt

Vilnius, 24 February 2022

IN SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINIAN TRADE UNIONS AND ALL UKRAINIAN PEOPLE

Dear sisters and brothers,

The Lithuanian Trade Union Confederation (LPSK) is shocked and disgusted with the unprovoked and unjustified Russia's military aggression against Ukraine and its people. Such brutality, devastation, outrageous lies of Russia and political cynicism have no place in the XXIst century.

We call on Russia to immediately cease the hostilities, withdraw its military from Ukraine and fully respect Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence. We stand by Ukraine and its people as they face this unparalleled crisis.

Our thoughts are with you and our organization will support your fight.

We fully support and acknowledge the statement of Ukrainian trade unions and the facts mentioned in this document:

"1. Ukraine has been resisting the Russian Federation aggression since 2014.

As a result of the aggression, Ukrainian Crimea was annexed, parts of the Luhansk and Donetsk regions of Ukraine were occupied. Over the last eight years of RF aggression Ukraine has lost dozens of thousands of human lives, more than 1,5 million of our citizens were forced to become internally displaced persons.

2. The President of RF V. Putin by his decree of February 21, recognized the self-proclaimed Luhansk and Donetsk Republics as sovereign and independent states.

The recognition of self-proclaimed republics of the DNR/LNR is a violation of the international law and the destruction of the security system which has been developed after the Second World War and the collapse of the USSR, as well as an act of violation of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine with the *de facto* exit of RF from Minsk Agreements.

3. Besides, on February 21, RF started the official bringing of Russian troops into the occupied territory of the Luhansk and Donetsk Regions of Ukraine.

The mercenary army and the occupational Russian forces with the identification signs of armed forces of self-proclaimed Luhansk and Donetsk Republics already have been deployed illegally on the occupied territories.

4. The Ukrainian armed forces strictly observe the ceasefire regime. So far they conducted neither military nor unlawful actions in the occupied territories.

At the same time, in the territory controlled by Ukraine civilians of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions have been suffering from the constant artillery shelling from the side of the occupied territories over the last week.

Moreover, the RF is carrying out a campaign to discredit the Ukrainian Military by spreading of mass disinformation, provocations, false flag shelling in Luhansk and Donetsk Regions in order to find a *casus belli* to start a large-scale war."

Dear friends, we pray for you. We know that Ukraine is a brave country and we hope that this crisis will end soon.

Sincerely, Inga Ruginienė, President of the Lithuanian Trade Union Confederation

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