



Council of European Municipalities and Regions  
*European Section of United Cities and Local Governments*

# UCLG Europe declaration on the escalation of war against Ukraine

Daejeon, 13 October 2022

We, European local and regional elected representatives, gathered on the occasion of the 7<sup>th</sup> UCLG World Congress and Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, express our utmost indignation about the recent escalation of war by the Russian Federation against Ukraine. The inhuman and dreadful war on our European continent, launched by the Russian army in February this year, still brings death and suffering to civilian populations in Ukraine, and destruction to Ukrainian municipalities.

We strongly condemn renewed targeting of civilian populations by the Russian army, including women and children, in breach of the Geneva Conventions protecting civilians in, and around war zones.

We equally condemn destruction by the Russian army of urban infrastructure in Ukrainian municipalities, which is required to provide basic local public services to civilian populations.

We recall our condemnation of attacks and violation of the territorial integrity and full sovereignty of Ukraine, adopted by the European section of UCLG on 24 February 2022.

We recall and reaffirm our declaration of full support for and solidarity with Ukrainian people, and with democratically elected mayors and councillors in the entire territory of Ukraine.

We reiterate our continuous support to associations of local and regional governments in Ukraine, who assist local and regional leaders in their work for local populations under wartime conditions.

We wish to recall values, upon which Europe is built, including peace, democracy, justice, equality and inclusion, and non-violent dialogue amongst European nations and populations. We remain firm in our commitment to support and promote the respect of international law and human rights all over Europe, and universally.

We call upon European local and regional leaders to reaffirm their solidarity with Ukrainian cities, districts and regions, support their peers in Ukraine, develop and deepen friendship links with Ukrainian local and regional governments and promote the reconstruction of cities destroyed by the unjust and unprovoked violence.

We call upon local and regional leaders around the world, united in the spirit of dialogue and co-operation in our global network UCLG, to support our declaration, and to condemn this war the Russian Federation wages against Ukraine, all military attacks by the Russian army against civilian populations, and against civilian urban infrastructure, which are both always unjustified.



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We call in particular upon our peers in the Russian Federation, members of the Eurasian Section of UCLG, to condemn the war against Ukraine by endorsing this declaration. The European municipal movement will be ready to support those that stand in solidarity with Ukraine, and act in favour of peace, democracy and human rights.

We call upon European institutions to support our efforts to rebuild local infrastructure in Ukraine, through city-to-city partnerships, as suggested by the Fast Recovery Plan proposed by the Office of the President of Ukraine.

We reiterate our own commitment to help Ukrainian cities in confronting the atrocities of the unjust war, and declare our readiness to work with our Ukrainian friends towards post-war reconstruction.