Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

Request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 144th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Indonesia

On 20 March 2022, the IPU President received from the delegation of Indonesia a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 144th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The role of parliaments in supporting a peaceful resolution to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict".

Delegates to the 144th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request (Annex I), as well as an explanatory memorandum (Annex II) and a draft resolution (Annex III) in support thereof.

The 144th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Indonesia on Monday, 21 March 2022.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The IPU Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

(a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted.

(b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted.

(c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject.

(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.
COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE IPU PRESIDENT BY MR. FADLI ZON, CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Bali, 20 March 2022

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, pursuant to the convocation number A/144/C.1 on 31 January 2022 concerning the emergency item, it is stated that any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda, and that all proposals for an emergency item should be submitted to the IPU Secretariat by 17:00 on Sunday, 20 March 2022. Indonesia would therefore like to take this opportunity to propose an emergency item entitled:

"The role of parliaments in supporting a peaceful resolution to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict".

The Indonesian House is of the view that, regarding the Russian-Ukrainian Conflict, it is important for the global parliamentary community to support efforts in stopping the war, de-escalating the situation, ensuring a peaceful resolution to the conflict, providing unhindered humanitarian assistance for people in need, especially women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups, and establishing a secure humanitarian corridor to allow safe passage. It is an urgent need for parliaments’ solidarity to be enhanced through effective parliamentary diplomacy to address the overarching conflicts that have threatened peace, democracy and human rights all over the world.

We hope that Indonesia's proposal will make a contribution to promoting democracy, peace and stability, and under your Excellency’s leadership, the IPU will be more active and beneficial to all IPU Member Parliaments.

Thank you for your attention and support. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)  
Fadli ZON  
Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia
THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN CONFLICT

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Indonesia

This proposed emergency item aims to highlight the urgent need to enhance parliaments' solidarity through effective parliamentary diplomacy to address the overarching conflicts that have threatened peace, democracy and human rights all over the world. In crisis and conflict situations, parliaments have a fundamental role to play in resolving the conflict or building lasting peace through dialogue and reconciliation processes.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is the global organization of national parliaments, working for peace, democracy and human rights through political dialogue, cooperation and parliamentary action and is responsible for ensuring that our work is at the service of the people for peace and development. In line with the IPU Strategy for 2022-2026, collective parliamentary action on strengthening peace and security is imperative.

Today, the world is witnessing protracted conflict and violence which have pushed millions into dependence on humanitarian assistance. This has been exacerbated by the infringement of international laws and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

As the world struggles to recover from the pandemic, we are deeply concerned by the recent Russian-Ukrainian conflict which has caused disruption to millions of civilian lives and thousands of military casualties. This situation has also forced millions of people to flee the country, which has led to a worsening humanitarian crisis. The conflict has also had multiple effects leading to economic downturn and social chaos, which creates further complexities. Its impact has transcended administrative borders and become pervasive across the region.

In response to this situation, parliaments' collective action in promoting respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty is critical to ensure a conducive environment for peaceful dialogue to take place and the safe passage of all civilians, regardless of their national, ethnic and racial backgrounds. More importantly, parliamentary diplomacy is playing an increasingly important role in peace initiatives and conflict prevention efforts.

In this regard, it is important for the global parliamentary community to support efforts in stopping the war, deescalating the situation, ensuring a peaceful resolution to the conflict, and facilitating humanitarian assistance for people in need, especially women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups, and establishing a secure humanitarian corridor to allow safe passage.

Therefore, IPU Members must encourage their respective governments to refrain from the use of military force and promote feasible solutions to end the conflict. To follow up on this matter, it is recommended that the IPU establish a task force on the situation in Ukraine, led by the IPU and comprising members from concerned but impartial IPU Member Parliaments.
THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN CONFLICT

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of INDONESIA

The 144th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling the Inter-Parliamentary Union’s (IPU) role as the global organization of national parliaments working for peace, democracy and human rights,

(2) Recalling also the historical context of the IPU in facilitating peace processes through dialogue and diplomacy,

(3) Noting the Belgrade Declaration on Strengthening international law: Parliamentary roles and mechanisms, and the contribution of regional cooperation, endorsed at the 141st IPU Assembly in Serbia, which the IPU had agreed to dedicate to peace and international law,

(4) Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (1945) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948),

(5) Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 76/234 on Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security, adopted in December 2021,

(6) Recalling also UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women and peace and security, which addresses the impact of war on women and the importance of women’s full and equal participation in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and post-conflict reconstruction, adopted in October 2000,

(7) Noting the alarming overall situation in the European region,

(8) Deeply concerned about the protracted conflict and violence which have claimed civilian lives, including women, children and vulnerable groups, and caused military casualties,

(9) Noting the widespread effects of the conflict that are leading to global economic and social uncertainties,

1. Encourages parliaments to deploy their utmost efforts in accordance with their parliamentary duties, to encourage their respective national governments to take measures to stop conflict and help parties in conflict to achieve the necessary conditions allowing peace to take hold and flourish;

2. Encourages all IPU Member Parliaments to jointly support efforts to de-escalate the situation;

3. Calls for the governments involved to establish humanitarian corridors and ensure the safe passage of all civilians, including women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups;

4. Calls for IPU Member Parliaments to facilitate humanitarian assistance;

5. Appeals to the members of both the Russian and Ukrainian Parliaments to promote joint efforts to cease hostilities and seek a diplomatic resolution to the conflict;

6. Calls for all countries concerned to keep diplomatic channels open with both conflicting parties in order to encourage them to agree to a ceasefire forthwith;

7. Recommends that the IPU establish a Task Force on the situation in Ukraine to increase the role of parliaments in formulating feasible peaceful solutions.