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 145th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Chile and the members of the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)

On 11 October 2022, the IPU Secretary General received from the delegation of Chile a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 145th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“Condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine and of the subsequent annexation of territories in defence of the territorial integrity of all States”.

Delegates to the 145th 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 145th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Chile on Wednesday, 12 October 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(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 SECRETARY GENERAL BY
THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

11 October 2022

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The National Congress of Chile, with the support of the Geopolitical Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) intends to propose the following emergency item for inclusion in the agenda of the 145th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) scheduled from 11 to 15 October 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda:

“Condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine and of the subsequent annexation of territories in defence of the territorial integrity of all States”.

The draft resolution along with the explanatory memorandum are attached with the request that the IPU Secretariat may circulate the same among the IPU Member Parliaments.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Claudia MIX (Ms.)
Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies
National Congress of Chile
CONDEMNATION OF THE INVASION OF UKRAINE AND OF THE SUBSEQUENT ANNEXATION OF TERRITORIES IN DEFENCE OF THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ALL STATES

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Chile and the members of GRULAC

The invasion of the sovereign state of Ukraine has caused the death and maiming of thousands of civilians and soldiers, the destruction of cities and infrastructure, and the displacement of millions of people as war refugees.

On 23 March 2022, the IPU adopted a resolution in favour of a peaceful solution to the war in Ukraine based on respect for international law, the Charter of the United Nations, and the principle of territorial integrity.

The Charter of the United Nations establishes that the organization’s members will refrain from resorting to the threat or use of force against any State’s territorial integrity or political independence.

Likewise, Resolution 49/1 of the United Nations Human Rights Council of 2022 refers to the human rights situation in Ukraine stemming from the aggression of the Russian Federation, leading to the opening of an investigation into alleged war crimes committed on Ukrainian territory.

The profound consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukrainian territory are causing alarm in the international community, which shows a humanitarian, migratory and refugee crisis that affects the whole world.

This is reflected especially in the upward spiral of food and fuel prices due to the war, threatening possible food crises.

For this reason, the IPU must call for an immediate end to the Russian military occupation on the sovereign territory of Ukraine, restoring its territorial integrity and the consequent respect for the rule of international law.

For this reason, the IPU is encouraged to support the creation of courts with specific jurisdiction for crimes committed in wars of aggression; make an urgent call to the international community to support the actions of UNICEF and other specialized agencies; call on the parliaments of the world to raise awareness among the competent national authorities of their States and civil society regarding the resultant humanitarian crisis, as well as in the process of reconstruction of Ukraine, in solidarity with its inhabitants.

Likewise, international organizations and governments and parliaments of the world, as well as multilateral financial entities, are requested to adopt and support effective and focused social policies to face global food insecurity.

For all these reasons, we ask the IPU to approve, as a matter of urgency, a new expression of solidarity with all the victims of the armed conflict in Ukraine and to condemn all war crimes or crimes against humanity, as well as any other violation of human rights, making a new call for the reduction of current tensions and exhausting all the means at our disposal to bring the parties closer to the mechanisms for peaceful resolution of conflicts through dialogue, cooperation and preventive diplomacy.
CONDEMNATION OF THE INVASION OF UKRAINE AND OF THE SUBSEQUENT ANNEXATION OF TERRITORIES IN DEFENCE OF THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ALL STATES

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of CHILE and the members of GRULAC

The 145th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling that the invasion of the sovereign State of Ukraine has resulted in the death and maiming of thousands of civilians and military personnel, the destruction of cities and infrastructure, and the displacement of millions of people as refugees of war,

(2) Considering that the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) works for peace and cooperation among peoples, and for the promotion and defense of human rights, which are universal in nature and whose unrestricted respect is an essential factor for democracy and the development of all nations,

(3) Noting the adoption on 23 March 2022 by the 144th IPU Assembly in Nusa Dua, Indonesia, of a resolution in favour of a “Peaceful resolution of the war in Ukraine, respecting international law, the Charter of the United Nations and territorial integrity”,

(4) Bearing in mind that the Charter of the United Nations states that “[a]ll Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state”,

(5) Having regard to United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-11/2 on the humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine, which calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, in particular of any attacks against civilians and civilian objects,

(6) Noting United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 49/1 of 4 March 2022 on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression, as well as United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution S-34/1 of 12 May 2022 calling for an investigation into war crimes committed on Ukrainian territory,

(7) Attentive to the content of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, especially the Fourth Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, and their Additional Protocols,

(8) Aware that the military aggression against Ukraine has continued for eight months now, despite multiple calls from the international community to put an end to the conflict and the resultant suffering of the civilian population,

(9) Alarmed by the profound consequences of invasion by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian territory, which point to a humanitarian, migration and refugee crisis affecting the entire world and, in particular: the sharp deterioration of the global economy, giving rise to major concerns; the situation in the Horn of Africa, with Somalia alone receiving 92% of its wheat imports from the Russian Federation and Ukraine; the upward spiral of food and fuel prices resulting from the war threatening to plunge the African population into a food crisis of potentially catastrophic proportions; and Europe meanwhile facing a cold winter with reduced gas supplies, with some 41% of this vital energy source coming from the Russian Federation,

1. Reiterates its call for an immediate end to the Russian military occupation of sovereign Ukrainian territory, restoring its territorial integrity and consequently the rule of international law;

2. Condemns in the strongest terms the serious violations of human dignity and the flagrant violations of human rights observed in the regions of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, Chernihiv and others;
3. Also condemns the use of extrajudicial executions, sexual and gender-based violence, and inhuman or degrading treatment as a weapon of war, in open violation of the Geneva Conventions relating to the treatment of prisoners of war, the care and assistance of the wounded and sick, and the due protection of the civilian population;

4. Reaffirms the importance of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, in connection with Russia’s territorial annexation;

5. Considers that, at this point in time, any entry of the troops of intergovernmental military forces, or actions that could reasonably imply an escalation of hostilities, whether perpetrated by the actors involved directly in the conflict or by third parties involved indirectly, far from contributing to the mitigation of the conflict, would hinder the international community’s search for diplomatic solutions; and moreover, that such direct interventions would not contribute to maintaining the geostrategic balance in the region, fueling security tensions and diverting attention from the humanitarian dimension of the war;

6. Supports the resolutions of various international bodies to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of war crimes committed in Ukraine, particularly the massacre in Mariupol, the evidence found of clandestine mass graves in Izium, the tragic events in Bucha, the hundreds of attacks on the country’s health infrastructure, the use of unguided bombs and cluster munitions against the civilian population in Chernihiv and Okhtyrka, among others, on the basis of the provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the Nuremberg principles developed by the International Law Commission of the United Nations;

7. Also supports the creation of courts with specific jurisdiction for crimes perpetrated in wars of aggression to hear cases of war crimes and human rights violations committed on Ukrainian territory, including summary executions and mass rape;

8. Urgently appeals to the international community to support the actions of UNICEF and other specialized aid agencies to alleviate the general deprivation suffered by 3 million children inside Ukrainian territory and another 2 million refugee children, who require rapid and life-saving assistance;

9. Calls on the parliaments of the world to raise awareness among the competent national authorities of their States and civil society of the need to contribute, insofar as they are able, to a solution to the humanitarian crisis involving the migration of 6 million Ukrainian citizens as refugees, and encourages the support and cooperation of the international community in the process of reconstructing Ukraine, in solidarity with its people and respecting the principles, values and norms of international humanitarian law;

10. Calls on the competent bodies of the United Nations system, the governments and parliaments of the world, and multilateral financial institutions to adopt and support effective and targeted social policies to address decisively global food insecurity resulting from the effects of the war, namely the rising prices of food, fuel and fertilizers, the supply of which has been severely disrupted or discontinued;

11. Expresses solidarity with all the victims of the armed conflict in Ukraine and condemns all war crimes, crimes against humanity and any other human rights violations;

12. Urges all States to address the humanitarian dimension of the conflict, to work together to reduce tensions and to exhaust all means available through mechanisms of peaceful settlement;

13. Invites the international community to explore new mechanisms of dialogue and cooperation in the search for preventive diplomacy, placing the relevance of security and the humanitarian situation at the center.