

23.03.2022

H.E. Ms. Ursula von der Leyen,  
President of the European Commission

H.E. Mr. Charles Michel,  
President of the European Council

**JOINT LETTER ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA, THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA,  
THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, AND THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**

Russian invasion of Ukraine has brought suffering and death to a great number of civilians, provoking an unprecedented refugee crisis. Over 3,5 million Ukrainians have been forced to leave their country so far. Indiscriminate and illegal Russian attacks on civilian targets, including schools, hospitals and nurseries have become something ordinary. At the same time Ukraine's infrastructure has been systematically destroyed on a massive scale.

Two weeks ago we also committed in the Versaille Declaration to increase even further our pressure on invaders and declared readiness to move quickly with further sanctions. Russia only increased since then the strategy of terror and massive civilian areas bombardment. Therefore EU cannot lose momentum and accept war crimes and collateral fatalities among the civilian population as the new baseline. We believe now is the moment to adopt more stringent measures in order to stop Russian aggression.

Everyday thousands of Russian and Belarussian lorries provide Russia with goods and resources that support its ability to conduct military operation in Ukraine. We call on you to take the necessary steps to prohibit the road freight transport, from and to the territory of Russia and Belarus. To complement this, we propose also to block Russian and Belarussian vessels from entering the EU ports. As the transport sector is international by its very nature, we believe that measures in both modes need to be adopted simultaneously at the EU level in order to be truly effective. We are convinced that above measures in the transport sector would further limit the capabilities for the Russian Federation to sustain the aggression.

EU cannot adopt wait-and-see approach in the face of mass atrocities committed by Russia in Ukraine. We must together put maximum pressure on Russia to stop the war. This will only happen when Russia's actions meet with unanimous and powerful response from the EU, including new sanctions.

Yours sincerely,

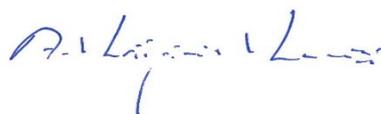
Mrs. Kaja Kallas  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia



Mrs. Ingrida Šimonytė  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania



Mr. Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia



Mr. Mateusz Morawiecki  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland

