

CANADIAN HELLENIC CONGRESS ΕΛΛΗΝΟΚΑΝΑΔΙΚΟ ΚΟΓΚΡΕΣΟ CONGRÈS HELLÉNIQUE CANADIEN

1220, rue de Beauharnois, Suite 109, Montréal (QC) H4N 1J5 chc@chcongress.ca – www.chcongress.ca

For immediate release

"WE ARE WITH YOU!"

CHC PLEDGES SUPPORT TO UKRAINE AND ITS PEOPLE

Montreal, January 25, 2022-... The Canadian Hellenic Congress (CHC) is deeply concerned about the current situation at the Ukraine-Russia border and the rising tensions in the region and urges all parties to stand down and engage in open and diplomatic dialogue.

As tensions continue to escalate between Ukraine and Russia, the CHC expresses its unequivocal support for the people of Ukraine, its sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence, and calls upon both Ukraine and Russia to end their aggressive postures. Furthermore, the CHC commends the Canadian government's support for Ukraine and its people, as well as, its commitment to provide a substantial loan to the Ukrainian government to assist and support its economic resilience and democratic governance reforms. As well, the CHC calls upon the Trudeau government to play an active role within the NATO alliance with the aim of reducing tensions and avoiding any military intervention – by either side – that could be catastrophic for the region and its people.

While the CHC believes that any Russian invasion into Ukrainian territory would be unacceptable and should be met with a clear and firm response from Canada and the international community, it remains steadfast in its belief that all parties should respect their international obligations – including but not limited to the Minsk Agreement – and the language and cultural rights of all minorities, including the Russian-speaking minority in Eastern Ukraine.

"We are hoping for a speedy resolution to the conflict and for peace and stability for Ukraine. We urge Canada to continue to work closely with its allies and partners to support a strong and independent Ukraine" stated Dr. Theodore Halatsis, CHC President.

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For information: chc@chcongress.ca

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.