



February 11, 2022

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, PC, MP
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: Increasing threat of Russian invasion of Ukraine

Today, United States National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan stated that a further Russian military invasion of Ukraine could begin at any time and urged all Americans in Ukraine to leave as soon as possible, "and in any event in the next 24-48 hours." Sullivan stated, "If a Russian attack on Ukraine proceeds, it is likely to begin with aerial bombings and missile attacks that could obviously kill civilians without regard to their nationality. A subsequent ground invasion would obviously involve the onslaught of a massive force."

In view of the gravity of the situation and the necessity for the Ukrainian people to have the means to defend their country, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) strongly urges your Government to:

1. Immediately provide Ukraine with lethal defensive weapons;
2. Work with allies to immediately impose significant sanctions on the Russian economy and Russian officials.

The UCC is deeply disappointed that the Government of Canada has thus far refused to join numerous NATO allies – including the US, UK, Poland, the Baltic States – to provide lethal defensive weapons to Ukraine. The Ukrainian government has repeatedly made this request of Canada. The provision of weapons to Ukraine is overwhelmingly supported by the Canadian people. The provision of weapons will allow the Ukrainian people to defend themselves against a further Russian invasion.

Prime Minister, the future of Europe and the international rules-based order is being decided in the coming days in Ukraine. The Ukrainian people are bravely fighting in defence of the values that we as Canadians hold dear. Now is the time to aid them in that defence.

We appeal to you to make the right decision and immediately provide defensive weapons to Ukraine. Canada must stand with the Ukrainian people in their time of need.

Yours truly,
UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS


Alexandra Chyczij
National President

cc: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, PC, MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
The Honourable Anita Anand, PC, MP, Minister of National Defence