



КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS

CONGRÈS DES UKRAINIENS-CANADIENS

April 14, 2022

The Honourable Anita Anand, PC, MP
Minister of National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2

Dear Minister Anand:

Re: Canadian military aid to Ukraine

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) is grateful to the Government of Canada for the inclusion in the Federal Budget of \$500 million in additional military aid to Ukraine in 2022-23. This is a timely and critically important announcement.

However, the UCC fears that the deployment of this aid will take time as the Budget makes its way through the legislative process. This is time that the Ukrainian people do not have.

The war crimes and crimes against humanity that Russia is committing leave no doubt that Russia seeks the destruction of the Ukrainian state and the annihilation of the Ukrainian people.

As US President Joe Biden stated on April 12 “I called it genocide. It has become clearer and clearer that Putin is just trying to wipe out the idea of even being able to be Ukrainian.” Prime Minister Trudeau stated on April 13, “I think it’s absolutely right that more and more people be talking and using the word ‘genocide’ in terms of what Russia is doing.”

As long as the Russian Federation remains undeterred it will continue to commit atrocities against Ukrainian civilians. The only way to deter the Russian Federation is to provide Ukraine with the weapons it needs to defend itself and to drive the Russian Army from its territory.

The UCC and the Ukrainian Canadian community urge you to deliver military aid to Ukraine as quickly as possible. We ask that Canada immediately provides the Ukrainian Armed Forces with the weapons and equipment they need to liberate Ukrainian lands still under Russian occupation.

In particular, the Ukrainian Armed Forces require:

- **Naval defences and anti-ship missiles for coastal defence– such as Harpoons;**
- **Tanks, Armoured Personnel Carriers, artillery and MLRSs**
- **Anti-aircraft systems and fighter jets;**

On April 11, the European Union’s top diplomat, High Representative for Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell, urged EU states to provide Ukraine with the weapons it has requested in “days – not weeks.”

The UCC concurs with High Representative Borrell and we urge Canada to do everything in its power to immediately provide the weapons Ukraine is requesting.

Naval defence systems will help protect Ukraine from further attacks launched from the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. These systems will also protect Ukrainian ports critical to the export of grain and foodstuffs to the world, including countries likely to suffer from severe food insecurity and possibly even famine should delivery of Ukrainian agricultural exports be cut off or reduced significantly by Russia’s war against Ukraine.

Ukrainian Armed Forces are now advancing in several areas and need additional weapons to retake Ukrainian territory.

As one of Ukraine’s strongest supporters, we urge Canada to provide Ukraine with the military assistance the Ukrainian Forces need to defeat Russia and protect not only Ukraine, but all of Europe from the spectre of Russian tyranny.

Слава Україні! Героям Слава!

Yours very truly,

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS



Alexandra Chyczij, National President