



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO
DELEGACIJA NATO PARLAMENTINĖJE ASAMBLĖJOJE
SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
DELEGATION TO THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

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Gerald E. Connolly, President of the NATO PA
Heads of the National Delegations to the NATO PA

Vilnius, 10 March 2022

Dear Colleagues,

Ukrainians continue to struggle in the war against the Russian occupation forces. Russia ignores all the standards of international law and violates *jus in bello* – the principle of fair warfare – by killing civilians and destroying civilian and critical infrastructure (nuclear power plants, oil and gas storage facilities, water supply facilities, electricity grids, etc.). Russian troops terrorise civilians by engaging in robbery, wreaking devastation on their property and raping Ukrainian women. Finally, Russia hinders the establishment of humanitarian corridors, and in the cases where Russia agrees to their establishment, it only does so for treacherously blocking them or for opening fire on the fleeing civilians.

The Delegation of the Republic of Lithuania to the NATO PA,

responding to the invitation from Gerald E. Connolly, President of the NATO PA, to search our souls and to explore ways in which parliaments and governments of individual states could contribute to the provision of assistance to Ukraine in order to meet Ukraine's current needs in warfare and enhance its sovereignty, territorial integrity, right to self-defence, and independence;

reiterates its condemnation of the Russian aggression against Ukraine and calls on NATO member countries to provide all possible humanitarian, military, political, economic and social assistance that Ukraine needs;

welcomes the political initiative proposed by Robert McConnell, founder of the US-Ukraine Foundation, and supported by 27 prominent US politicians and former military staff who have signed an open appeal to Joe Biden, President of the United States. The appeal calls on NATO Allies to introduce a ‘limited no-fly zone’ over the territory of Ukraine, in particular, for the protection of humanitarian corridors;

points out that the protection of the humanitarian corridors is an important yet insufficient instrument in a war where Russia applies non-civilised measures to achieve its political and military objectives; *suggests* ensuring the protection of other critical and civil infrastructure (nuclear power plants, oil and gas storage facilities, water supply facilities, electricity grids, etc.) in Ukraine by introducing a *no-fly zone* above these facilities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Audronius Ažubalis'. The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with a prominent vertical stroke on the left side.

Audronius Ažubalis

Chairman of the Delegation