

Brussels, 23 February 2022

Dear colleagues,

The use of force and coercion to change borders has no place in the 21st century.

I would like to thank you for the unity shown over the last days notably through the swift adoption today of the sanctions package by Council.

The aggressive actions by the Russian Federation violate international law and the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. They also undermine the European security order.

It is important that we continue to be united and determined and jointly define our collective approach and actions. Therefore, I would like to invite you for a special European Council on Thursday 24 February, which will take place in person in Brussels and start at 20:00.

I would like us to discuss:

- the latest developments;
- how we protect the rules-based international order;
- how we deal with Russia notably holding Russia accountable for its actions;
- how we will further support Ukraine and its people.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow evening.

Charles MICHEL