

ETUC call for action – War in Ukraine has to stop now!

adopted by the Extraordinary Executive Committee at the meeting of 01 March 2022

The ETUC Executive Committee, gathered on 1st March 2022:

Expresses its solidarity with the Ukrainian people, workers and trade unions.

Reiterates its condemnation of the Russian attack on Ukraine, demands the immediate stop of military operations, that Russian troops leave the country, and that real dialogue and talks for peace be intensified.

Mandates the ETUC Secretariat to closely follow the developments of the situation in Ukraine and in the neighbouring countries, and to take all necessary positions and actions aimed at helping trade unions and workers affected, and to contribute to stopping the war and to re-establishing peace, democracy, and social progress and justice in the country.

Mandates the ETUC Secretariat to return to the Executive Committee at its meeting on 16-17 March 2022 with a more comprehensive resolution on the situation in Ukraine.

Supports the ETUC call for action in the following areas:

- Lobby EU institutions and national governments, and the Council of Europe, in support of the ETUC demands and to keep the pressure high.
- Support all necessary actions against the Russian government and leadership, including any necessary sanctions and boycott initiatives against Russian products, goods and services.
- Advocate for the swift activation of the EU Temporary Protection Directive.
- Help establish humanitarian corridors in support of refugees, in the countries of the region and in all other EU countries.
- Recognise the specific situation of women and children in conflict zones, including the risks of gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence.
- Help provide safe passage at EU borders for citizens of third countries residing in Ukraine who do not hold a Schengen visa.
- Advocate for the establishment/continuation of extraordinary measures to support the economy, social protection systems and employment, in order to minimize the socio-economic impact of the war and of the related sanctions.
- Support trade unions in Ukraine and in the countries most exposed to the consequences of the Russian attack.
- Activate mobilising actions at EU and national level, including a Day of Action for Ukraine, to be coordinated at global level.
- Provide financial and humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian population via the Ukrainian trade unions – in this regarding, special contributions to the ITUC Solidarity Fund and through a Public Platform have been launched together with the ETUC.
- Redirect EU project funds at the disposal of the ETUC (UnionMigrantNet) to help Ukrainian refugees on the EU borders and on the EU territory.

- Mobilise ETUC reserves up to 500,000 EUR, also in order to raise EU funding, for Humanitarian Aid to be provided to the Ukrainian population, in cooperation with the Ukrainian trade unions.
- Establish an ETUC “Peace Task Force” to coordinate such actions and an ETUC “Peace Watch” to exchange information with and among affiliates.