

11.03.22**Decision
of the Bundesrat**

Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding macro-financial assistance for Ukraine**COM(2022) 37 final; Council doc. 5849/22**

In its 1017th session held on 11 March 2022, the Bundesrat adopted the following Opinion pursuant to sections 3 and 5 of the Act on Cooperation between the Federation and the Federal States in European Union Affairs (EUZBLG):

1. With reference to Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter, the Bundesrat condemns the war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in the strongest possible terms. Once again, Russia is breaking core principles of international law and attacking the foundation of the European peace order. Russia is responsible for the suffering and death of countless people.
2. The Bundesrat calls on the Russian Federation to immediately cease all acts of aggression and to withdraw from Ukraine. It condemns the continued attacks on the Ukrainian civilian population and expects Russia to immediately begin serious talks about the protection of civilians.
3. Russia's war of aggression against a sovereign state is being rightly condemned by all EU Member States and by the overwhelming majority of the international community. The Bundesrat welcomes the fact that Europe, together with its partners and allies, is showing determination and unity in its response to this war of aggression. Ukraine can be sure of European support. Ukraine has the right to be a free, democratic and self-determined country.

4. The Bundesrat also welcomes the fact that the EU has immediately launched sanctions against Russia. The aggressive actions taken by Russia must have further economic, financial and diplomatic consequences.
5. It pays tribute to the great efforts made in Germany and especially in Ukraine's neighbouring countries to meet the needs of the ever-increasing numbers of refugees fleeing the war. Of particular note in this regard are the numerous initiatives taken by members of civil society.
6. The Bundesrat welcomes the fact that, for the first time, all EU Member States want to take in refugees jointly, quickly and without any red tape.
7. It asks the Federal Government to quickly put in place provisions together with the federal states (*Länder*) to implement this plan in practical terms in Germany. This relates to the reception procedure and accommodation of Ukrainian refugees, their medical care, their financial support and their access to the labour market.
8. The Bundesrat welcomes the decision of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding macro-financial assistance for Ukraine. This support, which amounts to EUR 1.2 billion, is a first important sign of European solidarity. The Bundesrat is committed to providing Ukraine with further necessary support measures unbureaucratically and quickly.