



Working Group on Ukraine

The Chair

Brussels, 15 February 2022

AD/BK/dg – D/273 (2022)

Vitali Klitschko  
Mayor of Kyiv  
Head of the Association of Ukrainian Cities

Dear Mr. Klitschko,

Myself and the members of the European Committee of the Regions Working Group on Ukraine would like to express our deepest concern about the Russian military build-up along its border with Ukraine. We unequivocally support Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and are firmly committed to the city of Kyiv's freedom and prosperity, as well as those of all Ukrainian cities, the association of which you are chairing.

We strongly hope that the current escalation of tensions will be finally resolved through diplomatic means. A military invasion of Ukraine would pose a severe threat to Ukrainians, to European security and to the safety of all European citizens.

We see inclusion and respect of all national minorities as an important element in countering territorial disintegration and destabilisation. Enhancing Ukraine's internal resilience increases its capacity to resist external threats. Reinforcing anticorruption measures, pursuing judicial reforms and building stronger democratic institutions respectful of minorities' rights will certainly help Ukraine be stronger in front of Russian military aggression. The European Committee of the Regions has been supporting capacity building of Ukrainian local and regional authorities for several years. Our members – particularly the undersigned members of the Working Group on Ukraine – stand ready to further support Ukrainian cities in building their resilience.

Yours sincerely,

Alexandra Dulciewicz