

April 20, 2022

## Briefing Note

### Current Situation in Ukraine and the Work and Roles of Parliamentarians

*Prepared by the Parliamentary Centre and the Agency for Legislative Initiatives under the Parliamentary Accountability for the Security Sector (PASS Ukraine) project, funded by the Peace and Stabilisation Operations Program of Global Affairs Canada.*

*The analysis included in this note is based on media reports and information obtained from the Verkhovna Rada and other legislative bodies. It is essential that Ukraine's democratically elected officials continue to perform their duties while enduring Russia's unprovoked, illegal and horrific invasion.*

*This note is for information only and is not meant to convey opinions regarding policy decisions in the Verkhovna Rada's sole purview. The contents of this note do not necessarily reflect the views of PASS partners or Global Affairs Canada.*

*This note may not necessarily reflect the up-to-date current state of affairs as the situation changes every hour. Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of all information, acknowledging the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian and security situation, the disruption of the flow of information and organized disinformation all present incredible challenges.*

#### Sanctions

- The Committee on Youth and Sports has called for tougher sanctions against Russia, which includes an embargo on energy resources, disconnecting all Russian banks from SWIFT,<sup>1</sup> and excluding the Russian Federation from the UN Security Council.<sup>2</sup>
- First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Anti-Corruption Policy called on members of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank to not support the Russian military.<sup>3</sup>

#### Food crisis

- According to the Committee on Agrarian and Land Policy, Ukrainian farmers “must be provided with the resources necessary for sowing” in times of war. As of April 13, 2022, banks have issued loans to 2,080 agricultural producers for UAH 5,434,000,000. During the period of martial law, the government has abolished additional seed certification procedures, removed bureaucratic barriers to the exportation and licensing of

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<sup>1</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221868.html>

<sup>2</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221821.html>

<sup>3</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221906.html>

permitted product groups, abolished the licensing of corn and sunflower oil exports, and simplified the registration of agricultural machinery and equipment.<sup>4</sup>

- In his address to the WHO Director-General, Mykhailo Radutsky, Chairman of the Nation's Health Committee, drew attention to Ukraine's key role in providing food to Africa and Asia.<sup>5</sup>

### Diplomatic direction

- [Shalva Papuashvili](#), Speaker of the Georgian Parliament, and representatives of various parties within the Georgian Parliament arrived in Kyiv to express their support for Ukrainians.<sup>6</sup>
- Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, also visited Ukraine and held a meeting with Dmytro Natalukha, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Development.<sup>7</sup>
- Oleg Bondarenko, Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Policy, and Balthasar Lindauer, Director of EBRD's Nuclear Security Department, held an online meeting to prepare for the Assembly of Depositors of the International Cooperation Account for Chernobyl. In the meeting, the participants discussed the financing of urgent measures to restore safe working conditions at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.<sup>8</sup>

### Heavy weapons

- Olena Moshenets, Deputy Chairwoman of the Committee on Anti-Corruption Policy, called for an increase in supplies to Ukraine, such as aircrafts, anti-ship missiles, armored personnel carriers, and heavy air defense systems.<sup>9</sup>
- The Committee on Youth and Sport has asked NATO countries to provide modern air defenses and offensive weapons to Ukraine.<sup>10</sup>
- The Committee on Agrarian and Land Policy called for the provision of air defense and weapons.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221870.html>

<sup>5</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221824.html>

<sup>6</sup> (UKR video) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WZbdg3sjks>

<sup>7</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221869.html>

<sup>8</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221892.html>

<sup>9</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221926.html>

<sup>10</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221930.html>

<sup>11</sup> (UKR) <https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/razom/221925.html>