



**Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine**
to the Kingdom of Denmark

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As you know by now, Ukraine is invaded by Russian Federation. This is an unprovoked full-scale war and a fast-escalating humanitarian disaster, with 352 civilians, including 16 children, killed and 2040 people injured, including 45 children, since February 24. As of today, over 360 000 Ukrainians had to leave the country as refugees, and over a million have become IDPs.

So far, despite certain amount of protests within Russia, the official Kremlin has not changed its position: they are planning to put an end to Ukrainian statehood no matter the human cost. Clearly, popular protests do not work in Russia, as they have not worked in the recent past. However, there are signals pointing to the fact that municipal authorities in hundreds of Russian cities do not share their government's stance on this war, and they have greater potential of influencing the situation in the country.

Aarhus is a twin sister of Sankt Petersburg. As a Mayor of Aarhus you have a power to address your counterparts in Russia with a firm demand for them to start acting now in resisting the criminal regime of the Kremlin before it's too late. They may stop Russian conscripts of their city from being sent to Ukraine and they may mobilize their communities to go on streets. We call on you to contact them as soon as possible and require immediate action, unless they wish for Aarhus to sever its ties with Sankt Petersburg as well as with the rest of the civilized world. In a critical situation like this, such rigidity is absolutely necessary, as it may save lives.

We strongly believe that your action may yield real results in Russia right now. Stand with Ukraine and act now!

Yours sincerely,
Mykhailo Vydoinyk

