



Declaration

The 21st G7 Speakers' Meeting

September 8, 2023 Tokyo

1. Russia's Aggression against Ukraine and the International Order

We, the Speakers and Presidents of Parliament of the G7 states, once again condemn in the strongest possible terms Russia's ongoing unprovoked, unjustified, brutal and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine. We emphasize that most serious crimes under international law committed by the Russian Federation on the territory of Ukraine must be duly investigated and prosecuted in line with international law. We call on Russia to immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw its forces and military equipment from the entire internationally recognized territory of Ukraine. We express our unwavering solidarity with the Ukrainian people, and support our governments' initiatives for reinforcing far-reaching sanctions against Russia and Belarus in order to undermine Russia's capacity to continue to wage its illegal war and the measures to strengthen cooperation with our global partners to fight circumvention of our sanctions.

We condemn the withdrawal of the Russian Federation from the Black Sea Grain Initiative and its weaponization of food. This withdrawal jeopardizes world food security and puts the most vulnerable at acute risk of hunger. We call on the Russian Federation to rejoin the initiative and enable exports of Ukrainian grain from the Black Sea ports.

We strongly condemn Russia's irresponsible nuclear rhetoric and its announcement of its intention to deploy nuclear weapons in Belarus. We reaffirm that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. We reiterate our position that threats by Russia of nuclear weapon use, let alone any use of nuclear weapons by Russia, in the context of its aggression against Ukraine are inadmissible. We call on Russia to recommit – in words and deeds – to the principles enshrined in the Joint Statement of the Leaders of the Five Nuclear-Weapon States issued on January 3, 2022, on Preventing Nuclear War and Avoiding Arms Races. We affirm that our respective parliaments will pursue efforts to minimize the risk of the use of nuclear weapons by Russia. We also find Russia's continued control and militarization of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant to be extremely alarming and urge Russia to immediately return the plant to the competent Ukrainian authorities.

The G7 states hold in common universal values such as freedom, democracy, and human rights, and with strong unity have effectively responded to major challenges facing the international community. However, we are keenly aware of the need to further increase cooperation and solidarity with like-minded partners in order to uphold and strengthen the free and open international order based on the rule of law. For instance, the commitment of the G7 states in the Indo-Pacific has become increasingly



significant while their contribution for the stability and prosperity of Africa and the Mediterranean is needed. We affirm the importance of undertaking parliamentary exchange in all continents as a means to deepen our relations with such global partners and gain valuable insights on common concerns.

Democracy is facing a growing threat from disinformation from hostile foreign actors, including Russia's disinformation and propaganda concerning its war of aggression against Ukraine. Democracy is predicated on maintaining an open information environment that is fully resilient to such threats while maintaining the fundamental rights of free speech. We therefore support the efforts to address the problem of disinformation, with full respect for human rights and freedom of expression. We further support continued efforts to cooperate internationally through fora such as the G7 Rapid Response Mechanism to coordinate the identification of and responses to diverse and evolving threats to democracy. Above all, we believe that parliaments are institutions that function as indispensable forums for providing the public with valuable, independent information. While they have a traditional duty of engaging in parliamentary debate, they also make a valuable contribution to strengthening democracy through their educational provisions for schoolchildren and young people and many other media options. As such, we reaffirm our commitment to continue to actively fight disinformation and fake news.

2. Energy Security and International Cooperation

The global energy crisis caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and weaponization of energy has underscored the importance to many countries of the need to restructure their energy security strategies. With global energy demand projected to grow through 2050, it is critical that energy supply chains remain secure.

To undermine Russia's revenue used to finance its aggression against Ukraine, the G7 states, the European Union and various other countries have effectively restricted the import of Russian crude oil and capped price levels of Russian crude oil and petroleum products. The oil price cap is designed to undermine Russia's ability to fund its illegal war in Ukraine by restricting the revenues flowing to the regime, while still enabling oil to continue to flow in a tight market and ensure that third countries can continue to secure affordable oil. However, tactics used to evade the G7 Coalition price caps, higher oil prices, and a narrowing discount on Russian crude have made sanctions less effective. Despite this, reports by the International Energy Agency indicate that Russian import earnings have declined, indicating that the sanctions are having an effect with Russian Government revenues from oil in June 2023 falling 44% year-on-year.

Although the optimal mix of energy sources differs from country to country depending on geographic and social conditions, the effective diversification of energy sources can improve energy security.



Further adoption of renewable and clean energy, nuclear power, and lower-emission energy will both reduce global emissions and contribute to energy security. Technological innovation for developing affordable energy sources that can be utilized in diverse environments is also indispensable. As was done in this meeting, we intend to continue to engage in dialogue on energy policy and share best practices in realizing energy security, and supporting each individual nations' emission reduction, diversified energy production efforts and collective endeavors in this direction. We highlight the real, urgent need and opportunity to increase energy security at the same time by diversifying supply, sources and routes, including by rapidly deploying clean, safe, sustainable and affordable energy and enhancing energy efficiency significantly. We emphasize that improving security, stability and affordability of global energy supply is a shared goal. In doing so, we affirm the vital role that the legislative plays in promoting technological innovations to meet our respective energy demands and maintain global energy security.

Responding to the current energy challenges and restructuring energy security strategies in line with this crisis constitute urgent issues. At the same time, these challenges provide opportunities to expand our energy partnerships, and to grow the use of technologies that improve energy security and reduce global emissions, such as nuclear, natural gas, and renewable energy.

There is a real need to maintain thorough and earnest communications regarding energy with society as a whole. In addition, as energy demand grows, it is important to engage with both local populations and industry to speed innovation and deployment of efficient, affordable, energy resources. We affirm the importance of our parliaments being open to the people and functioning as institutions that are engaged with the people and their needs in this fast changing world.



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