

POLAND AND CANADA ABOUT THE CRISIS IN  
UKRAINE

ПОЛЬША ТА КАНАДА ПРО КРИЗУ В УКРАЇНІ

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None of us can exactly understand and feel all the pain, fear and disappointment that are present in the lives of all those people who are living nowadays in the centre of war...and more harder to understand, how in the 21st century, in the world where every

country and every citizen of it declines to live in peace and harmony, Ukraine has become a staging area for war... Furthermore, our country faced the problem of the political and economical crisis, and as a result, it caused the impossibility of appropriate protection of national borders. At this time, when Ukraine is face to face with its own problems, we can clearly see who our friends are, whose words and actions show an expression of support and care, and who is just simply wordy. So let's find out the position and reaction of other countries on the situation in Ukraine.

**POLAND AND UKRAINE** (Neighbours and brothers)  
“There can be no free Poland without a free Ukraine,” according to a well-known phrase by Jozef Piisudski, Poland's interwar strongman. Poland, along with Canada, was the first country to recognise Ukraine's independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, and has since been a leading advocate of closer relations between Kiev and Brussels. And today, Poland tries to support Ukraine in every step and every choice that our Motherland takes. The latest news say that Poland reportedly already supplying arms to Ukraine. On Sept. 8, Polish Defense Minister Tomasz Siemoniak said Poland was free to sell arms to Ukraine, following days of confusion over NATO and Poland's position on arming the country against Russia.

**CANADA** Since the beginning of the crisis, Canada has taken a number of steps to support the Ukrainian people as they work to restore political and economic stability, including imposing sanctions against those responsible for the ongoing crisis. Canada has been clear: it remains ready to intensify its actions if a peaceful resolution is not reached. Canada is among the strongest international supporters of Ukraine's efforts to restore stability and implement democratic and economic reforms. Together with our allies and partners, it continues to call on Russia to follow through on its Geneva commitments to de-escalate the crisis and call off its provocateurs. Ukraine's sovereign territory must be respected and the Ukrainian people must be free to determine their own future.

In the face of ongoing Russian military aggression and illegal occupation, Canada has taken a number of steps to support the

Ukrainian people as they work to restore political and economic stability, including imposing sanctions against those responsible for the ongoing crisis. Canada has also taken steps to enhance the readiness of NATO through a number of reassurance measures to reinforce the Alliance's collective defense.

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting Ukraine during this important period of transition. Until Russia clearly demonstrates its respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Canada will continue to work with its allies and like-minded countries to apply pressure that will further isolate Russia economically and politically. Here some steps of supporting Ukraine that has been made by Canada

September 4, 2014 Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that Canada will be providing support for two initiatives that will help Ukraine and other NATO allies counter the threat posed by Russia's military expansion in the region. Support of \$1 million will be provided through the NATO Trust Funds to build up Ukrainian command and control and communications and computer capabilities to implement NATO standards throughout the Ukrainian Armed Forces. In addition, the three NATO Centres of Excellence in the region - Cyber Security, Energy Security and Strategic Communications - will each receive \$1 million (a total of \$3 million) to help deter Russian operations in Eastern Europe.

September 4, 2014 Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, announced that HMCS Toronto will work with vessels from several partner nations in the Black Sea as part of Operation REASSURANCE from September 6 to 27, 2014. September 4, 2014 The Department of National Defence announced that 13 Canadian Army soldiers will participate in Exercise RAPID TRIDENT, a multinational exercise at the International Peacekeeping and Security Centre in Yavoriv, Ukraine from September 11 to 28, 2014. The Exercise will focus on improving stability and peace support operations in the region.

September 11, 2014 Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that President Petro Poroshenko of Ukraine will make his

first official visit to Canada on September 17, 2014. In the release the Prime Minister also indicated that Canada is committed to contributing to free and fair elections and will send short and long-term observers to the October 26, 2014 Ukrainian Parliamentary elections.

September 16, 2014 John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced further economic sanctions and travel bans against four Russian individuals, and economic sanctions against five Russian entities and one financial institution that bear responsibility for the crisis in Ukraine. He also announced that Canada will be sending more than 300 electoral observers to participate in three different missions monitoring the Ukrainian Parliamentary elections.

September 17, 2014 Prime Minister Stephen Harper welcomed the visit by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko to Canada. During the visit, the leaders committed to working towards a bilateral free trade agreement. Prime Minister Harper also announced the following two measures that will promote economic and social development in Ukraine: Canada and Ukraine have reached an agreement on the provision of Canada's \$200 million loan to Ukraine to promote economic and financial sector reforms in the country; and, \$3 million in additional humanitarian assistance is being provided to Ukraine to assist the estimated 3.9 million people living in areas affected by violence, as well as the nearly 200,000 individuals registered as internally displaced throughout Ukraine.