

Statement Governing Board of ALDA, meeting in Trieste, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2022

**The Governing Board of ALDA condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine, calls for immediate stop of the fights and calls for an immediate humanitarian corridor for the city of Mariupol, member of ALDA.**

The Governing Board of ALDA met in Trieste today to kick off the activities of 2022. The members of the Governing Board:

- Condemn in the strongest possible terms of Russian aggression against Ukraine, a free and independent state and a country which made its European choice since 2014. The invasion is killing innocent people every day;
- Call for an immediate ceasefire;
- Express their full support and friendship to ALDA’s Ukrainian members: the city of Mariupol, Dnipro and the District of Odessa as well as their support to partners and organizations that are part of ALDA’s networks in Ukraine;
- Following recommendation of ALDA’s members in Ukraine, they call for the immediate securisation of a humanitarian corridor for all cities in need, including the city of Mariupol, completely disconnected from aid;
- Call for the EU to be united and to continue to impose the sanctions, the way for us to avoid a global war;
- Express their support to Russian and Belarusians civil society and activists, who are putting their life at risk for saying their disagreement towards the Russian regime of Putin;
- Call all the members of ALDA:
  - To be vocal in their communities, to take a stand against the Russian aggression and to express their support to Ukraine, with a statement or the public exposure of the flag of Ukraine;
  - To contact national institutions expressing their willingness to hosting refugees;
  - To engaged with their constituencies in order to facilitate the welcoming and hosting of refugees;
  - To donate and support the organizations helping refugees.
  - To support the peace process in all possible ways;
  - To express also support to Russian activists and civil society, who are risking a lot for saying their disagreement with their governments;

<https://www.alda-europe.eu/library/ukraine-needs-us/>

ALDA, the European Association of Local Democracy, has more than 20 years of activities in supporting local democracy and citizens participation. ALDA has more than 350 members, from local authorities and civil society groups. It works in the EU and in neighborhood, including Ukraine with members and partners.

[www.alda-europe.eu](http://www.alda-europe.eu)

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