



UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE

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September 13, 2022

Dear Friends of Ukraine,

The kremlin's war of aggression against Ukraine has killed thousands of innocent civilians, injured thousands more, and has caused a humanitarian crisis the likes of which have not been seen in Europe since World War II. The world has watched in horror as russia continues to launch daily missile attacks on Ukrainian civilian targets. These tactics can be clearly classified as terrorist acts.

Several weeks into the war, President Biden answered a journalist's query by incriminating putin as a war criminal. But just last week, the President responded to an inquiry about designating russia as a State Sponsor of Terror with a simple one-word answer: NO. The United States government designates countries and international organizations as sponsors of terrorism. With the indiscriminate bombings that have resulted in the loss of untold numbers of innocent men, women, and children in Ukraine, it is apparent russia's actions can be classified as a 'state sponsor of terror'.

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington, DC public affairs bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), urges you to contact the U.S. Department of State to advocate for the designation of russia as a 'state sponsor of terror'. Currently, there are four countries listed as state sponsors of terror: Cuba, Syria, Iran, and North Korea. Your attention to this matter is urgently requested and would impart greater sanctions and other measures against russia for its terrorist actions in Ukraine.

The following efforts have been undertaken in the past six months to highlight this issue:

- Congressional Ukraine Caucus letter to Secretary Blinken in March 2022;
- U.S. congressional delegations to Ukraine have indicated their full support of designating russia as State Sponsor of Terror;
- The U.S. Senate passed S.Res.623 on July 27th calling for the designation status;
- A similar bill and resolution have been introduced in the House of Representatives and are awaiting passage; and,
- An op-ed was published by former U.S. senator Cory Gardner (Colorado) and UCCA President Andrew Futey: <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/ukraine-needs-more-us-support-to-win-its-fight-for-freedom/>

For your reference, attached please find "Quick Guide" infographics and a sample text you may use to contact the State Department to demand their designation of russia as a State Sponsor of Terror.

To contact the U.S. Department of State: <https://register.state.gov/contactus/contactusform>



SAMPLE TEXT:

Dear Secretary Blinken:

For the past six months, russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine has caused immeasurable suffering and loss of thousands of civilian lives. The kremlin's indiscriminate bombing throughout Ukraine of medical facilities, residential dwellings, and areas designated as shelters cannot be described in any other way than as terrorist acts.

Images from liberated cities, towns, and villages in Ukraine show the wanton destruction and devastation, not to mention the terror inflicted by the occupying forces. In all those instances, russia is responsible for acts of barbarism and the deaths of thousands of innocent individuals. The russian government's use of violence and intimidation against innocents in Ukraine and nuclear blackmail of a nuclear power station in southeast Ukraine to achieve its political purposes can only be defined as international terrorism!

As an informed and concerned American citizen, I appeal to you to designate russia as a State Sponsor of Terror and stop the war in Ukraine. The kremlin must be recognized as a sponsor of terror and suffer the consequences of its actions.

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Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) at: [unis.sawkiw@gmail.com](mailto:unis.sawkiw@gmail.com).

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