

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA MARKING  
IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY IN UKRAINE'S STRUGGLE FOR  
DEMOCRACY/ DÉCLARATION DU PREMIER MINISTRE DU CANADA À  
L'OCCASION D'UN IMPORTANT ANNIVERSAIRE DU COMBAT DE  
L'UKRAINE POUR LA DÉMOCRATIE**

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA MARKING  
IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY IN UKRAINE'S STRUGGLE FOR  
DEMOCRACY**

*French to follow*

**February 27, 2015** - Prime Minister Stephen Harper today issued the following statement marking an important anniversary in Ukraine's struggle for peace, democracy and freedom:

“On this day in 2014, following months of protests, the Ukrainian people welcomed a new government after courageously shedding the corrupt Yanukovich regime.

“In doing so, the citizens of Ukraine chose democracy and a future with Europe. Today, we salute the brave demonstrators who were instrumental in this democratic revolution, including the ‘Heavenly Hundred’ who gave their lives in the hopes that their country could be free.

“We applaud the significant progress that Ukraine has made over the last year towards a democratic and prosperous future, including the holding of successful presidential and parliamentary elections and the completion of an historic association agreement with the European Union. We encourage Ukraine to continue its momentum towards meaningful reforms in areas such as anti-corruption, rule of law, and democracy.

“Canada has played a proud part in supporting Ukraine's transition to freedom and democracy, including significant contributions to economic and governance reforms, stability loans and humanitarian and non-lethal military assistance, as well as providing hundreds of electoral observers.

“Ukraine's progress over the last year has taken place against the tragic backdrop of the Putin regime's aggression. Canada remains steadfast in its commitment to the people of Ukraine in the face of this aggression, which has cost the lives of more than 5,600 people.

“Our position has been clear since the outset: we recognize the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and will never recognize the illegal Russian occupation of any part of that country.

“Our Government has backed up our words with actions. We have imposed sanctions against over 270 Russian and Ukrainian individuals and entities, delivered non-lethal military equipment

to the Ukrainian government and provided support through NATO to build up the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

“The cost to Russia will continue to rise if it persists in escalating the conflict and refuses to allow a peaceful resolution.

“As we mark this important anniversary in Ukraine, Canada re-commits to standing firmly with Ukrainian citizens as we have done since the beginning of the crisis. We strongly believe that peace, democracy and freedom will prevail and we will work with the brave people of Ukraine and with our partners to ensure that it does.”

## **Backgrounder**

### **THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA’S RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE**

The Government of Canada is taking important steps to support Ukraine and impose sanctions against those responsible for the ongoing crisis.

#### **February 25, 2015**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement calling on Russia to immediately end the detention of Nadiya Savchenko, who is on a hunger strike protesting her unlawful detention by the Russian authorities.

#### **February 23, 2015**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, met in Ottawa with Andriy Parubiy, First Deputy Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada (parliament) of Ukraine and former Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council.

#### **February 20, 2015**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement condemning the ongoing violations of the ceasefire in Eastern Ukraine by Russian-backed separatists and calling for them to proceed with the full implementation of their Minsk commitments.

#### **February 17, 2015**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced additional economic sanctions and travel bans against 37 Russian and Ukrainian individuals, and economic sanctions against 17 Russian and Ukrainian entities.

#### **February 9, 2015**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper met with Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, who was visiting Ottawa. During their meeting they discussed the international community's response to the crisis in Ukraine.

### **February 2, 2015**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, announced that Canada will join the U.S. – Ukraine Joint Commission on Defense Reform and Bilateral Cooperation in order to better coordinate Canada's ongoing provision of assistance to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

### **January 28, 2015**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced additional support – in the form of a second \$200 million low-interest loan – to help Ukraine's newly-elected government restore macroeconomic stability, promote sustainable growth, and support programming consistent with Canadian development priorities.

### **January 26, 2015**

As part of his second trade mission to Ukraine, Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, on behalf of Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, announced four initiatives totalling over \$52 million to support economic and governance reform, and promote sustainable economic growth for Ukrainian small- and medium-sized businesses in the dairy and grain sectors.

### **January 26, 2015**

Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, announced renewed negotiations toward a Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement.

### **January 25, 2015**

Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, announced a trade and development mission to Ukraine from January 25 to 26, 2015.

### **January 24, 2015**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement expressing outrage over indiscriminate rocket attacks against the city of Mariupol by Russian-backed insurgents.

### **January 22, 2015**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement demanding that Russia fully abide by its commitments under the Minsk agreements and condemning hostilities in eastern Ukraine.

## **January 6, 2015**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that the Royal Canadian Navy frigate, Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Fredericton*, arrived in Lisbon, Portugal, to join the Standing NATO Maritime Forces as part of Operation REASSURANCE.

## **December 19, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced additional economic sanctions and travel bans against 20 Russian and Ukrainian individuals, and new export restrictions on technologies used in Russia's oil exploration and extractive sector.

## **December 19, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Fredericton* was preparing to deploy overseas to join the Standing NATO Maritime Forces in the Mediterranean Sea as part of NATO measures to promote security and stability in Central and Eastern Europe in light of Russia's aggression against Ukraine.

## **December 8, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that Canada had signed a Declaration of Intent with Ukraine for joint military training and capacity building in response to Russia's aggression in that country.

## **December 4, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a news release at the conclusion of the first part of a visit to Europe and the Middle East, during which he attended the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Foreign Ministerial Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Foreign Ministerial Council in Basel, Switzerland. The Ukraine crisis was front and centre at the OSCE ministerial council and Minister Baird reaffirmed Canada's commitment and support for Ukraine and recognized the role that the OSCE needs to play.

## **December 2, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement welcoming the forming of a new government in Ukraine.

## **November 26, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that Canada will provide further non-lethal military equipment to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. The donated military gear will include equipment such as tactical communications systems,

explosive ordinance disposal equipment, tactical medical kits and night vision goggles. National Defence will deliver winterized gear to expand the capabilities of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

#### **November 21, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement on the first anniversary of Maidan protests in Ukraine against the corrupt Yanukovich regime.

#### **November 18, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, delivered a speech at the NATO Council of Canada Conference where he addresses Putin's narrative on Ukraine.

#### **November 16, 2014**

On the margins of the G-20 Summit, Prime Minister Stephen Harper met with Herman Van Rompuy, outgoing President of the European Council, and Jean-Claude Juncker, the new President of the European Commission, where they asserted the importance of being resolute in the face of the ongoing violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity by the Putin regime.

#### **November 13, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement condemning the escalation of violence in eastern Ukraine and reported movement of additional Russian troops and weapons into Ukraine.

#### **November 13, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release following the completion of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Toronto*'s participation in the Turkish-led Exercise MAVI BALINA as part of Operation REASSURANCE deployment in the Mediterranean Sea in response to the Putin regime's aggressive military actions against Ukraine.

#### **November 5, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement strongly condemning Russia's continued provocative actions following reports that its troops were moving closer to the border with Ukraine.

#### **October 28, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement following a meeting in Ottawa with his U.S. counterpart, Secretary of State John Kerry, where they discussed their cooperation on a number of international issues, including the situation in Ukraine.

#### **October 26, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement congratulating the people of Ukraine following the completion of voting in the October 26, 2014, Parliamentary elections.

#### **October 26, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release following the completion of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Toronto*'s participation in Exercise NOBLE JUSTIFICATION as part of Operation REASSURANCE deployment in the Mediterranean Sea in response to the Putin regime's aggressive military actions against Ukraine.

#### **October 24, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement ahead of Ukraine's Parliamentary elections commending the people of Ukraine for their resiliency and determination for a better future.

#### **October 13, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) *Toronto* was joining Exercise NOBLE JUSTIFICATION as part of her Operation REASSURANCE NATO deployment in response to Russia's aggressive military actions against Ukraine. HMCS *Toronto* and other Standing NATO Maritime Group 2 warships conducted Task Force training exercises and force integration activities in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea region from October 13 to 26, 2014.

#### **October 8, 2014**

Andrew Bennett, Canada's Ambassador for Religious Freedom, issued a news release announcing two projects to be supported by the Religious Freedom Fund in Ukraine to foster the development of a political culture in Ukraine that facilitates democratization. This includes \$950,000 in Canadian support over three years for *Promoting Security for Religious Communities and Others in Ukraine* and \$240,000 in Canadian support over two years for *Promotion of Religious Tolerance and Reconciliation in Ukrainian Civil Society*.

#### **October 6, 2014**

Andrew Bennett, Canada's Ambassador for Religious Freedom, issued a news release announcing he would visit Kyiv and Lviv, Ukraine, from October 6 to 11, 2014. During his visit, Ambassador Bennett would meet with government officials, religious leaders, as well

as civil society leaders to demonstrate Canada's interest and commitment to religious freedom through support to Ukrainian institutions and to support the Ukrainian people.

### **October 3, 2014**

Parliamentary Secretary James Bezan, on behalf of Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, issued a news release announcing \$9.76 million in Canadian support over five years for *Quality and Accessible Legal Aid*, a new project to help provide legal aid services to the most vulnerable in Ukraine.

### **September 25, 2014**

On the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his G-7 counterparts issued a joint statement welcoming the Minsk agreements of September 5 and 19, 2014, as an important step towards a sustainable, mutually agreed ceasefire, a secure Russian-Ukrainian border and the return of peace and stability to Eastern Ukraine with the establishment of a 'special status' zone. The Ministers urged Russia to meet its own commitments to the Minsk agreement, including by withdrawing all of its forces, weapons and equipment from Ukraine, securing and respecting the international border between the two countries with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe monitoring, and ensuring that all hostages are released.

### **September 17, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release welcoming 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.

### **September 16, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement announcing 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 that will be taking place in Ukraine on October 26, 2014.

### **September 16, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a news release detailing the specifics of Canada's election observer mission in Ukraine.

### **September 11, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing that President Petro Poroshenko of Ukraine would 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 in Ukraine and will send short and long-term observers to the October 26, 2014, Ukrainian Parliamentary elections.

### **September 11, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release welcoming the report produced by Canada's election observer mission on the May 25, 2014 Ukrainian Presidential election. The Prime Minister received the report from Senator Raynell Andreychuk and former Ontario Premier Mike Harris, co-chairs of the team, in Toronto.

### **September 4, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that 13 Canadian Army soldiers would participate in Exercise RAPID TRIDENT 14, a multinational exercise at the International Peacekeeping and Security Centre in Yavoriv, Ukraine from September 11 to 28, 2014. The Exercise focused on improving stability and peace support operations in the region.

### **September 4, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Toronto* would work with vessels from several partner nations in the Black Sea as part of Operation REASSURANCE from September 6 to 27, 2014. In the wake of Russia's aggression in Central and Eastern Europe, these training exercises and maritime situational awareness operations served to enhance maritime security in the Black Sea.

### **September 4, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing 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, three NATO Centres of Excellence in the Baltic States – Cooperative Cyber Defence, Energy Security and Strategic Communications – will each receive \$1 million (a total of \$3 million) to help deter Russian operations in Eastern Europe.



## **September 2, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that approximately 100 Canadian Armed Forces soldiers would participate in Exercise STEADFAST JAVELIN II in Latvia as part of Operation REASSURANCE, Canada's commitment to working with our NATO Allies to promote security and stability in Central and Eastern Europe.

## **September 1, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that the Canadian Air Task Force (ATF) had officially joined NATO's Baltic Air Policing (BAP) mission following a hand-over ceremony in Siauliai, Lithuania, as Canada's continued contribution promoting security and stability in Central and Eastern Europe in the face of increasing Russian hostility. While participating in BAP, four CF-188 Hornet aircraft and more than 130 airmen and airwomen from the Royal Canadian Air Force worked with NATO Allies from September to December 2014, in order to preserve the integrity of the airspace of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and react to any intrusions.

## **August 28, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement condemning further Russian incursion into Ukraine and calling on Russia to immediately cease its aggressive acts, respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, withdraw its forces, and end the flow of arms, including anti-aircraft systems across the border.

## **August 24, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement on the occasion of the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Ukraine's independence. He took the opportunity to call on the Putin regime to cease all provocative military activity in Ukraine.

## **August 15, 2014**

Parliamentary Secretary Lois Brown issued a news release announcing \$3,832,000 in Canadian support over five years to the International Finance Corporation for its *Engaging the Private Sector for Small and Medium Farm Business Development* project that will help improve the performance of small and medium agricultural enterprises in Ukraine.

## **August 7, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing that a Canadian CC-130J Hercules would leave on August 7, 2014, from Canadian Forces Base Trenton, in order to deliver important non-kinetic (non-lethal) security assistance to Ukraine to help the country secure its eastern border against Russian aggression.

### **August 6, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing additional economic sanctions and travel bans against 19 Russian and Ukrainian individuals, and economic sanctions against 22 Russian and Ukrainian groups and economic entities.

### **August 5, 2014**

Parliamentary Secretary Lois Brown, together with Parliamentary Secretary Jeff Watson, issued a news release announcing \$3.6 million in additional funding to a successful initiative that is helping establish a more effective and responsive juvenile justice system in Ukraine.

### **August 1, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement marking the opening of Canada's National Ukrainian Festival. He took the opportunity to underline the destabilizing impact of the Putin regime's ongoing military activity in Ukraine.

### **July 30, 2014**

Canada and other G-7 leaders issued a joint statement expressing their grave concern over Russia's continued actions to undermine Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence. In addition, they demanded a prompt, full, unimpeded and transparent international investigation into the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and a cease-fire at and around the crash site. They further called for a peaceful settlement of the crisis in Ukraine, a sustainable general cease-fire, and for Russia to end its support to separatist groups and ensure effective border control.

### **July 30, 2014**

Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, issued a news release announcing \$8.1 million in Canadian support over three years for Strengthening Multi-Party Democracy, a new project that will help strengthen democracy and the role of civil society in Ukraine.

### **July 29, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing the intent to impose additional sanctions on Russia.

### **July 26, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper wrote an opinion-editorial published in The Globe and Mail newspaper titled "Our duty is to stand firm in the face of Russian aggression."

### **July 24, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing new economic sanctions and travel bans against Ukrainian individuals, as well as economic sanctions against Ukrainian entities and a broad range of entities related to various Russian sectors.

**July 23, 2014**

Parliamentary Secretary James Bezan and Member of Parliament Ted Opitz, on behalf of Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, issued a news release announcing \$3.2 million in Canadian support to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Human Rights Training for Judges project to strengthen the justice system and rule of law in Ukraine.

**July 21, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing the intent to implement economic sanctions against a broad range of entities related to various Russian sectors.

**July 17, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement in response to the downing of a Malaysia Airlines passenger aircraft in Eastern Ukraine.

**July 14, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement expressing concern over the escalating violence in Ukraine and called on the Putin regime to show good faith in talks with Kyiv.

**July 11, 2014**

Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, issued a news release following the conclusion of his three-day trade and development mission to Ukraine that built on the strong Canada-Ukraine people-to-people ties, explored further deeper economic cooperation, and created opportunities for Canada-Ukrainian partnerships.

**July 11, 2014**

Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, on behalf of Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, issued a news release announcing \$19.6 million in Canadian support to train horticultural farmers to improve agricultural practices and have better access to financing and new markets in Ukraine.

**July 11, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing additional economic sanctions and travel bans against 14 individuals.

**July 9, 2014**

Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade, issued a news release announcing that he would lead a Canadian delegation on a three-day trade and development mission to Ukraine to demonstrate Canada's continued support for the country. Minister Fast would meet with Ukrainian Economic Development and Trade Minister Pavlo Sheremeta to discuss ways to advance the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement, and announced \$100,000 to support Ukraine's Economic Advisory Council.

**June 27, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release welcoming the signing of the remaining chapters of the European Union (EU)-Ukraine Association Agreement which provide for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area between the EU and Ukraine.

**June 21, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing further economic sanctions and travel bans against 11 Russian and Ukrainian individuals plus one additional entity.

**June 7, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement from Kyiv, Ukraine, on the occasion of the swearing-in of Petro Poroshenko as President of Ukraine.

**June 3, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing that he would be travelling to Kyiv, Ukraine, on June 7, 2014, to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Petro Poroshenko as the new President of Ukraine.

**May 27, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement congratulating Petro Poroshenko on the results of the May 25th Presidential election in Ukraine.

**May 20, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing that Senator Raynell Andreychuk and former Ontario Premier Mike Harris would lead the Canadian bilateral election observation mission to Ukraine, joining hundreds of Canadian election observers arriving in Ukraine.

**May 12, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing economic sanctions and travel bans against an additional 12 Ukrainian and Russian individuals.

**May 4, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing economic sanctions against 16 additional Russian entities.

**May 2, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing that Canadian Army soldiers would take part in Exercise ORZEL ALERT in Swidwin, Poland, from May 5 to 9, 2014, as part of NATO assurance measures in Central and Eastern Europe.

**April 30, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing that Canada would commit Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Regina*, deployed at the time in the Arabian Sea, to NATO Standing Maritime Forces to further demonstrate support for Alliance solidarity.

**April 28, 2014**

Rob Nicholson, Minister of National Defence, issued a news release announcing that six CF-18 fighter aircraft would leave on April 29, 2014, for Romania as part of the Government of Canada's contributions to NATO measures to reassure Allies in Central and Eastern Europe.

**April 28, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing economic sanctions against nine additional Russians and two Russian banks. Travel bans were also imposed on the nine individuals.

**April 25, 2014**

Canada and other G-7 leaders issued a joint statement expressing deep concern at the continued efforts by separatists backed by Russia to destabilize Eastern Ukraine. Leaders also committed to taking further steps to ensure a peaceful and stable environment for the May 25 Presidential election.

**April 23, 2014**

In the lead up to Ukraine's Presidential election, Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing \$11 million in support of 500 observers travelling to Ukraine to monitor the upcoming Presidential election.

### **April 17, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing that Canada was offering the following capabilities to enhance the readiness of NATO allies: six Royal Canadian Air Force CF-18 fighter aircrafts and up to 20 staff officers to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe to assist NATO planning efforts.

### **April 12, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a statement announcing that Canada was imposing sanctions on two additional individuals and on a Crimean oil and gas company, Chornomornaftogaz.

### **March 27, 2014**

Canada co-sponsored a resolution on Ukraine at the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution – supported by 100 member-States, with only 11 voting against – reaffirmed Ukraine’s sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, and underscored the invalidity of the referendum in Crimea.

### **March 24, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, meeting with other G-7 leaders in The Hague, issued the Hague Declaration. In the Declaration, the leaders announced that they would not attend a planned G-8 Summit in Sochi but would instead convene as a G-7, without Russia, in Brussels in June 2014. They also reaffirmed their “support for Ukraine’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence” while condemning “Russia’s illegal attempt to annex Crimea.”

### **March 22, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release following the conclusion of a visit to Ukraine where he met with Acting President Oleksandr Turchynov and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk. He also announced Canada’s contribution of \$775,000 to a political and security monitoring mission to Ukraine, led by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

### **March 21, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing economic sanctions against 14 additional Russian officials and one financial institution, Bank Rossiya. Travel bans were also imposed on these 14 individuals.

### **March 18, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing economic sanctions and travel bans against an additional 17 Ukrainian and Russian officials responsible for undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and for facilitating Russian military action against Ukraine.

**March 17, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper met with Vadym Prystaiko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada, to discuss the ongoing situation in Ukraine.

**March 17, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing further economic sanctions under the *Special Economic Measures Act* and additional travel bans against Ukrainian and Russian officials.

**March 16, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement on the results of the Crimean “referendum,” reiterating that this “referendum” was illegitimate, had no legal effect, and that Canada did not recognize its outcome.

**March 13, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing \$220 million in support to help Ukraine stabilize its economy and promote economic and social development. The support will be provided in the form of a loan or loan guarantee, conditional on a broader package that includes International Monetary Fund (IMF) support for Ukraine. \$20 million of this commitment will assist the IMF in delivering technical assistance in order to help Ukraine manage its economic transition and financial sector reforms.

**March 12, 2014**

Canada and other G-7 leaders issued a statement calling on the Russian Federation to cease all efforts to change the status of Crimea contrary to Ukrainian law and in violation of international law. They called on the Russian Federation to immediately halt actions supporting a referendum on the territory of Crimea regarding its status, in direct violation of the Constitution of Ukraine.

**March 6, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement identifying Russia's invasion of Ukraine as an act of aggression, and a clear violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and international law. He further added that Canada would not recognize a referendum held in a region currently under illegal military occupation.

### **March 5, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing that, at the request of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, Canada would freeze the assets of members of the Yanukovich regime. As a result, 18 people, including members of the former Yanukovich regime, members of their families, and their close associates, were listed in regulations under the *Freezing Assets of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act*.

Canada also suspended its participation in the Canada-Russia Intergovernmental Economic Commission.

Prime Minister Harper announced that at Ukraine's request, Canada, along with a number of other member countries of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, would participate in a military observer mission that would report on military activities in Ukraine. Canada contributed two military observers.

### **March 4, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement announcing that, effective immediately, all planned bilateral activities between the Canadian Armed Forces and the military of the Russian Federation were suspended. This included exercises, such as NORAD's Exercise Vigilant Eagle, and scheduled meetings.

### **March 3, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke with Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Prime Minister of Ukraine, about developments in Crimea and other regions in the south and east of Ukraine. Prime Minister Harper condemned in the strongest terms President Putin's military intervention in Ukraine.

### **March 3, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a statement once again calling on President Vladimir Putin to immediately withdraw his military from Crimea, adding that the situation in Ukraine remains extremely serious for global peace and security. He added that he has cancelled government representation at the Paralympic Games and instructed officials to review all planned bilateral interaction with Russia.

### **March 2, 2014**

Canada and other G-7 leaders issued a joint statement condemning the Russian Federation's clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. In addition, they announced that they would "suspend our participation in activities associated with the preparation of the scheduled G-8 Summit in Sochi in June, until the environment comes back to where the G-8 is able to have a meaningful discussion."



## **March 1, 2014**

In response to the very serious developments in Ukraine, Prime Minister Stephen Harper convened a meeting of Cabinet Ministers, which was preceded by a bilateral phone call with President Barack Obama. In a statement, the Prime Minister announced:

- Canada was suspending its engagement in preparation for the G-8 Summit, currently planned for Sochi, and that the Canadian Ambassador in Russia was being recalled for consultations;
- Canada's support for the immediate deployment of international monitors from the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe to Ukraine; and,
- Canada's engagement in discussions aimed at developing a financial aid package for Ukraine.

## **February 28, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a news release recapping the successful mission to Ukraine which he led, and during which he and the Canadian delegation of parliamentarians and representatives of the Ukrainian-Canadian community met with key members of the new government.

## **February 25, 2014**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued a news release announcing that Canada would send a delegation of parliamentarians, community leaders and government officials, led by John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Ukraine on February 28, 2014, to meet with members of the anticipated Ukrainian transitional government and civil society.

## **February 14, 2014**

John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, issued a news release which announced funding for supplies, equipment and medical care for Ukrainian activists through a contribution to the International Renaissance Foundation, a Ukrainian non-governmental organization.

## **January 26, 2014**

Andrew Bennett, Canada's Ambassador for Religious Freedom, issued a news release recapping the successful visit to Ukraine which he led, and during which he expressed Canada's ongoing concern about violations of basic freedoms and reinforced Canada's commitment to the Ukrainian people.