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## Background

Russia's leaders seek to re-establish control over countries that spent centuries resisting colonialism.

- Russia's assault on Ukraine is a flagrant disregard of international agreements and norms.
- Instability in Ukraine genuinely threatens world peace at a time of global food insecurity. For example, more than 40% of Israel's and Libya's wheat comes from Ukraine .
- Russia's illegal occupation of Crimea and the war in Ukraine's easternmost regions cost **14,000 lives**.
- The U.S. and other countries **insisted Ukraine give up its nuclear arsenal in 1994, in exchange for security assurances**. Unwillingness to help Ukraine now will hamper other denuclearization efforts.
- Russia continues to **oppress the indigenous Muslim population** of Crimea, the Tatars. Catholics, Protestants, and Ukrainian Orthodox cannot freely practice their faith in Russian-occupied Donbas.

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## Recommendations

1.

- We urge the federal government to enact severe sanctions **now** that **would automatically go into effect** if Russia further invades Ukraine (analogous to the Iran snapback provisions)
- Sanctions against Kremlin leaders **personally**, including Vladimir Putin; freeze the assets of Russian oligarchs. No more villas in Miami and London for oligarchs.
  - We must **end, not just limit, Russian money laundering in the West**.
  - Stop the **Nord Stream II** pipeline, which greatly increases Russia's leverage over Europe.

2.

- We urge the U.S. to continue providing defense security assistance, specifically
- **Anti-aircraft, anti-tank, anti-ship systems, night vision goggles**, encrypted radios, and satellite communications equipment
  - Expanded programming to counteract **Russian disinformation** by investing in free press and Ukrainian civil society
  - Programs to counteract **cyber attacks and electronic warfare**

3.

- Continue respecting the self-determination of nations the Kremlin seeks to oppress:
- **Support every nation's sovereignty in the NATO alliance**, acknowledging the popular support for NATO in former Eastern Bloc countries.
  - Continue emphasizing "**Nothing about Ukraine without Ukraine**" – Ukraine must be represented at negotiations over Eastern European security.
  - Emphasize Russia's violation of the **Helsinki Final Act, the UN Charter**, and the 1994 Budapest Memorandum

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## Thank you!

We are grateful for U.S. support to Ukraine, including—

- A consistent bipartisan Congressional dedication to Ukraine's sovereignty
- Congress's and the Administration's commitments that further Russian aggression be extremely costly

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## Our Community

46,000 Michigan residents are of Ukrainian ancestry. Our community is centered around seven Ukrainian churches, two credit unions, the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic grade and middle schools, two Saturday language schools, the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum of Detroit, Ukrainian Cultural Center, Ukrainian Village, Ukrainian National Women's League, and many civic organizations and businesses. You can reach us at [UACrisisResponse@gmail.com](mailto:UACrisisResponse@gmail.com).