

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 945

Condemning Members of the Russian Duma and Federation Council who voted to recognize the independence of Donetsk and Luhansk in flagrant violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, international law, and Russia's commitments under the 2015 Minsk agreement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2022

Mr. MELJER (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. UPTON, Mr. KATKO, Ms. MACE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mrs. KIM of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning Members of the Russian Duma and Federation Council who voted to recognize the independence of Donetsk and Luhansk in flagrant violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, international law, and Russia's commitments under the 2015 Minsk agreement.

Whereas, since Russia's illegal invasion and subsequent annexation of the Crimean peninsula from Ukraine in 2014, Russia has engineered the rise of new separatist movements in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of eastern Ukraine, collectively known as the Donbas;

Whereas the 2014 and 2015 Minsk agreements, designed to end the war in the Donbas region, established a ceasefire and provided a “special status” for the Donbas region that would enable it to enjoy limited autonomy while under continued control of the government of Ukraine;

Whereas, on February 15, 2022, Russia’s State Duma, the lower house of parliament, voted 351 to 16 to adopt a resolution calling for the diplomatic recognition of the so-called Donetsk People’s Republic (DPR) and the Luhansk People’s Republic (LPR), self-proclaimed break-away regions in the Donbas;

Whereas Russian President Vladimir Putin has issued baseless claims of “genocide” by the Ukrainian military against the population in the Donbas and local authorities ordered women and children to evacuate, marking a clear prelude to a Russian invasion;

Whereas, on February 21, 2022, President Putin signed decrees recognizing the DPR and LPR and ordered the Russian military to conduct “peacekeeping operations” in the territories, marking a dangerous military escalation and a blatant violation of the Minsk agreements and international law;

Whereas, on February 22, 2022, the Duma voted 398 to 0 and the Federation Council, Russia’s upper house of parliament, voted 154 to 0 to recognize the DPR and LPR and grant President Putin consent to use military force in the Donbas region; and

Whereas, on the same day, Russian tanks and troops moved into Donetsk and Luhansk in what the White House described as an “invasion”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) condemns Members of the Russian Duma
2 and Federation Council who voted to recognize the
3 independence of Donetsk and Luhansk in flagrant
4 violation of Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial in-
5 tegrity, international law, and Russia’s commitments
6 under the 2015 Minsk agreement;

7 (2) commends the European Union’s decision to
8 sanction 351 Russian legislators who appealed to
9 President Putin to recognize the Donetsk People’s
10 Republic (DPR) and the Luhansk People’s Republic
11 (LPR);

12 (3) calls on the Biden administration to sanc-
13 tion Members of the State Duma and Federation
14 Council who voted to recognize the DPR and LPR,
15 as well as close associates or family members of
16 those officials, pursuant to Executive Orders 13660
17 and 13661, which authorize sanctions against those
18 who “threaten [Ukraine’s] security, stability, sov-
19 ereignty, and territorial integrity” and are
20 “official[s] of the Government of the Russian Fed-
21 eration”; and

22 (4) stands firmly and decisively in support of
23 Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, and

- 1 against the Putin regime's military aggression and
- 2 blatant violations of international laws and norms.

