

## On the situation in Ukraine

The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party convening in Budapest, Hungary on 19 to 21 November 2015:

### Whereas:

- the Bureau and ALDE members have repeatedly undertaken measures to ensure peace, stability and democracy in Ukraine, and assisted in the implementation of the basic provisions of the EU-Ukraine Association;
- the adoption of a new anti-corruption strategy and laws based on it to key sectors of anti-corruption activities in the country, and the creation of two specialised anti-corruption bodies have not led to a significant reduction of high officials' corruption;
- the number of victims of military operations in eastern Ukraine and the number of IDPs and refugees continues to increase, while the level of material security is totally inadequate, jeopardising their lives;

### Taking into account:

- EU policy embodied in resolutions of the EU Parliament and the EU Commission, aimed at helping reforms in all sectors of Ukraine;
- the rapid reaction of ALDE Party President Sir Graham Watson and ALDE Group leader in the European Parliament Guy Verhofstadt, the views of the liberal ALDE member parties on the issues and challenges that Ukrainian people faced during the war in eastern Ukraine and the holding of local elections;
- the data published by Transparency International and Freedom House on the reduction of freedom of speech in Ukraine;

### Calls on:

- the Liberal community, the European Parliament, the European Commission, EU leaders and governments to support by all means freedom of speech in Ukraine and to express their concerns about anti-democratic tendencies, to take action to reverse this tendency, and the persecution of those who criticise (civil society and media) the current government and put pressure on the media;
- Schengen Member States to continue the policy of visa liberalisation with Ukraine in order to establish close intercultural relations between Ukrainian and EU citizens;
- all EU institutions to monitor the use of funds for Ukraine provided by the EU and international organisations to conduct reforms, and to make

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additional aid subject to the report of the Ukrainian government on the effective use of the funds;

- international organisations and missions to increase its presence and humanitarian assistance in war-ravaged parts of Ukraine, to support Ukrainian public initiatives, and to assist IDPs and war victims;
- the President, the Prime Minister of Ukraine and the leaders of all factions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to ensure the practical implementation of a package of reforms, taking into account international agreements and treaties signed by Ukraine, to implement the liberal model of interaction between business and government, to ensure transparency and openness of reforming public finances and the judicial system of Ukraine with the mandatory quarterly report.

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