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Prevention of armed conflict: strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Letter dated 19 August 2020 from the representatives of Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to inform you that on 26 July 2020 in Lublin, Poland, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Jacek Czaputowicz, of the Republic of Lithuania, Linas Linkevičius, and of Ukraine, Dmytro Kuleba, established the Lublin Triangle as a new platform for political, economic, security and social cooperation between the three countries.

The new tripartite format is based on the cultural and historical ties between the three countries, which date back many centuries. It envisages, in particular, regular meetings, including consultations on the margins of multilateral formats and with the involvement of chosen partners, as well as high-level consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the three countries.

The countries of the Lublin Triangle support the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and call upon the Russian Federation to stop its aggression against Ukraine. Poland, Lithuania and Ukraine declared that they do not recognize Russia's attempted annexation of Crimea and that under no circumstances will they recognize it in the future. They called on Russia to withdraw troops from the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, including from parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

They stressed their commitment to coordinate activities in order to uphold international law, both through trilateral cooperation and through collaboration within international organizations (inter alia, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe).

The three countries also emphasized the importance of intensifying cooperation between the European Union, the North Atlantic Alliance and the Eastern Partnership countries, and paying special attention to the development of the Three Seas Initiative.





Furthermore, they agreed that the development of trade, investment and infrastructure projects should be one of the building blocks of cooperation within the Lublin Triangle.

We have the honour to transmit herewith the Joint Declaration of the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine on establishing the Lublin Triangle (see annex).

We would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31 (b), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Audra Plepytė

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations

(Signed) Mariusz Lewicki

Chargé d'affaires a.i.

of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations

(Signed) Sergiy Kyslytsya

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 19 August 2020 from the representatives of Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Joint Declaration of the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine on establishing the Lublin Triangle

Lublin, 28 July 2020

Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine recognize the multi-centennial historical and cultural links between their nations.

They also recognize the benefits of creating even stronger political, economic, infrastructure, security, defense and cultural links between their countries in contemporary world.

They draw attention to the activities of Poland, Lithuania and Ukraine in the process of shaping the modern political, cultural and social realities of Central Europe.

At the same time, they underline the strategic importance of intensified cooperation between the European Union, NATO and Eastern Partnership countries and pay due attention to the functioning of the Three Seas Initiative.

They note with due attention common threats in security area as well as in others, i.e. pandemic threats.

They underline the important role of dialog between the three countries in the parliamentary dimension, especially within the Parliamentary Assembly Poland-Lithuania-Ukraine.

They recognize the benefits of their trilateral cooperation in the security sphere, in particular functioning of the Lithuanian-Polish-Ukrainian Brigade (LitPolUkrBrig).

Taking into account the ongoing Russian aggression in Ukraine, they commit to coordinating their activities in order to uphold the international law, both through trilateral cooperation and within international organizations (NATO, European Union, United Nations, Council of Europe, OSCE).

They declare invariably their strong condemnation of the attempted ann exation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol by the Russian Federation. They do not recognize it and will never do it. They also call upon Russian Federation to withdraw its troops from the parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine.

They reaffirm their unwavering support to Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within internationally recognized borders and call upon Russian Federation to stop its aggression against Ukraine, as well as its temporary occupation of Ukraine's territories of Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine.

They reiterate their firm support for the European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations of Ukraine and welcome its European choice.

They note with satisfaction granting of NATO Enhanced Opportunities Partner status to Ukraine. They support Ukraine's aspirations to NATO membership.

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Providing Ukraine with the NATO Membership Action Plan should be the next step to this direction.

They recommit to deepening and broadening of Polish-Lithuanian-Ukrainian military-to-military cooperation, both through bilateral and trilateral activities and by making full use of possibilities created by NATO.

They reaffirm the unwavering commitment to the development of the Eastern Partnership by broadening and deepening cooperation and proposing ambitious and strategic long-term goals.

They commit to providing mutual support in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

They envisage active actions aiming at promoting trade and investments, securing better access to regional infrastructure and improving its quality by stepping up with ambitious projects promoting cohesion in the region.

They support the cooperation of Ukraine with the Three Seas Initiative, as well as cooperation within other regional formats.

They support the effective implementation of political-economic reforms in Ukraine, taking into account Polish and Lithuanian experiences and best practices worked out in cooperation with other European countries.

They commit to strengthening people-to-people contacts and civil society cooperation, including between scientists and experts.

In order to ensure achieving the above-mentioned goals the Ministers decide to create a trilateral platform for political economic and social cooperation between the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Lithuania and Ukraine - Lublin Triangle.

The Ministers decide to organize their regular meetings, also in the margins of multilateral sessions and with the participation of chosen partners.

They also decide to organize consultations of high-level MFA officials and establish liaison-officers within the Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

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