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**Security Council
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**Letter dated 3 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of
the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic (see annex I) and a similar document between the Russian Federation and the Lugansk People's Republic (see annex II), as well as the requests of the leadership of the Donetsk People's Republic and the Lugansk People's Republic to the President of the Russian Federation for assistance in defence against the aggression of Ukraine (see annexes III and IV, respectively).*

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 73, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia

* Circulated in Russian and English only.



Annex I to the letter dated 3 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic

The Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

Building on the historically strong ties and a tradition of friendship and good relations between their peoples,

Believing that the strengthening of friendly relations, good-neighbourliness and mutual assistance between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic meets the fundamental national interests of the peoples of both States and serves the cause of peace, regional security and stability,

Reaffirming its commitment to the universally recognized principles and norms of international law, especially the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Wishing to elevate their relations to a new level by reaffirming their commitment to respecting universally recognized human rights norms,

Seeking to strengthen universal peace and international cooperation,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall develop their relations as friendly States, always guided by the principles of mutual respect for State sovereignty and territorial integrity; peaceful settlement of disputes and non-use of force or threat of force, including economic and other means of pressure; equal rights and non-interference in internal affairs; respect and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; fulfilment in good faith of international obligations and other universally recognized principles and norms of international law.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate closely in the field of foreign policy, work together towards strengthening peace and improving stability and security, and consult regularly to this end on international and regional challenges of mutual interest. They shall engage in coordinated efforts to promote the resolution of regional conflicts and other situations affecting the interests of the Contracting Parties.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall work closely with each other to protect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic. They shall engage in consultations without delay whenever either Contracting Party is, in its opinion, under threat of attack, with a view to ensuring their joint defence and upholding peace and mutual security. In the course of such consultations, the urgency, form and scope of the assistance to be provided by one Contracting Party to the other Contracting Party shall be determined with a view to eliminating the new threat.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall jointly take all measures within their power to remove threats to peace and breaches of the peace and to counter acts of aggression perpetrated against them by any State or group of States, and shall afford one another the necessary assistance, including military assistance, in the exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 5

For the purpose of ensuring the security of the Contracting Parties and also peace and stability, each of the Contracting Parties shall grant to the other Contracting Party the right to employ its armed forces in the construction, use and improvement of military infrastructure and military bases (installations) on its territory.

The conditions and procedure for exercising such a right in each specific case shall be determined by separate agreements.

The Contracting Parties will conclude separate agreements on military cooperation.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall not participate in any blocs or alliances directed against either of the Parties.

Both of the Contracting Parties shall refrain from participating in or supporting any action or activity directed directly or indirectly against the other Contracting Party and shall not permit its territory to be used in any way for the purpose of preparing or carrying out aggression or other violent acts against the other Contracting Party, nor shall it assist third States in armed conflicts between those States and the other Contracting Party.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties affirm and respect the territorial integrity and inviolability of the existing borders of the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic. The Parties will conclude a separate agreement on the State border between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic.

The protection of the State border of the Donetsk People's Republic will be carried out jointly by the Contracting Parties in the interests of their security and those of peace and stability.

The Contracting Parties will conclude a separate agreement on this matter.

Article 8

The citizens of one Contracting Party may hold the citizenship of the other Contracting Party under the conditions and in the manner prescribed by the laws of the Contracting Party whose citizenship is being acquired.

The Contracting Parties will conclude a separate agreement to regulate matters related to dual citizenship.

Article 9

Each of the Contracting Parties shall recognize, in its territory, documents issued by national and local authorities of the other Contracting Party.

Article 10

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to guarantee civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights and freedoms to persons residing in its territory, whatever their race, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property or other status.

Each Contracting Party shall uphold the rights of its citizens residing in the territory of the other Contracting Party and protect and support them in accordance with the universally recognized principles and norms of international law.

In the territory of a third State in which the Donetsk People's Republic has no representation, every citizen of the Donetsk People's Republic shall have the right to protection by the diplomatic missions or consular offices of the Russian Federation under the same conditions as citizens of the Russian Federation.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties shall take the necessary measures to ensure the free entry of their nationals into, exit from and movement through the territories of the Contracting Parties.

The Contracting Parties undertake to provide a common regime for the entry of their nationals into and departure from third States. The Contracting Parties shall develop and implement a coordinated set of measures regulating the entry into their territories and the departure from their territories of citizens of third States.

Article 12

The Contracting Parties shall take effective measures in their territories, including the adoption of relevant laws, to prevent and combat any action that constitutes incitement to violence against persons or groups on the basis of national, racial, ethnic or religious intolerance, hostility or hatred.

The Contracting Parties shall take effective measures in their territories to protect persons or groups who are or may be threatened with or subjected to violence, discrimination or hostility on account of their ethnic, linguistic, cultural or religious identity, as well as to protect their property.

Article 13

The Contracting Parties shall assure the protection of the ethnic, linguistic, cultural and religious identity of national minorities in their territories and shall create conditions for the preservation and development of that identity.

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to guarantee the right of persons belonging to national minorities, individually or in association with other persons belonging to national minorities, to express, preserve and develop their culture in all its aspects freely, without being subjected to any attempts to assimilate them against their will.

The Contracting Parties undertake to protect the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities and shall guarantee to such persons the right to equality before the law and to equal protection of the law without discrimination.

The Contracting Parties shall create the necessary conditions for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, in particular in matters concerning them.

Article 14

The laws governing State property, the property of legal entities and the property of citizens of one Contracting Party situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be governed by the laws of the Contracting Party where the property is located, unless otherwise provided for in relevant bilateral agreements to be concluded between the Contracting Parties.

If a Contracting Party claims ownership of property situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party that is claimed by third persons or States, the other Contracting Party shall take all necessary measures to protect and preserve such property pending a final determination of the issue of its ownership.

Article 15

The Contracting Parties shall strive to achieve a high degree of economic integration and to this end shall develop trade and economic cooperation, take measures to connect energy and transportation systems and integrate communications and telecommunications systems.

The Contracting Parties shall accord each other treatment no less favourable than that accorded to any third State in trade and economic relations.

The Contracting Parties shall ensure the development of economic, trade, scientific and technical relations at the level of government agencies; banks and the financial system; territorial and local (municipal) government agencies; enterprises, associations, organizations and institutions; joint enterprises and organizations; and individual entrepreneurs.

The Contracting Parties shall engage in a broad exchange of economic data and make it available to businesses, entrepreneurs and researchers of both Contracting Parties.

The Contracting Parties will conclude agreements on the development of trade, economic, scientific, technical and other areas of cooperation.

Article 16

The Russian Federation shall take effective measures to support and maintain the financial and banking systems of the Donetsk People's Republic on the assumption that the means of payment in the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic is the Russian rouble.

Article 17

The Contracting Parties shall ensure a favourable economic, financial and legal environment for business and other economic activities, including through the promotion and mutual protection of investments, to encourage in every possible way various forms of cooperation and direct links between citizens, enterprises, firms and other actors involved in economic cooperation of both Contracting Parties.

Article 18

The Contracting Parties shall assist each other in addressing the consequences of major environmental disasters in their territories and in providing mutual assistance in natural and human-made emergencies that threaten human activity.

Article 19

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate cooperation and contacts in the fields of culture, art, education, tourism and sports, and promote the free exchange of information. The Contracting Parties will conclude separate agreements on these aspects.

Article 20

The Contracting Parties shall develop cooperation in the field of health care and in the social and humanitarian spheres, recognizing the need for joint action to protect public health, develop medical science and practice, appropriate facilities, and provide medicines, medical equipment and children's food products.

Article 21

The Contracting Parties shall conclude separate agreements to settle issues in the field of health care and social security of citizens of one Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Article 22

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the fields of science and technology by encouraging direct links between educational institutions, research and development institutes and design and engineering institutes, and by implementing joint programmes and projects, especially in priority areas and in respect of frontier technologies.

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate and create favourable conditions in the areas of training, the exchange of scientists, specialists, postgraduate students and undergraduate students, and the mutual recognition of academic diplomas, academic titles and degrees.

The Contracting Parties will conclude a separate agreement on science and education.

Article 23

The Contracting Parties shall take measures to harmonize laws governing economic activity, including civil and tax laws and social security and pensions laws.

Article 24

The Contracting Parties, in accordance with the norms of international law and their national legislation, shall cooperate in combating crime, terrorism and other violent manifestations of extremism, drug trafficking, illegal migration, unlawful acts against the safety of civil aviation, maritime navigation and other modes of transport, smuggling, and theft of cultural property.

Article 25

The Contracting Parties shall regularly exchange information on the development, adoption and application of legal acts and international legal instruments.

Article 26

The Contracting Parties shall pay special attention to the development of contacts and cooperation between the parliaments and parliamentarians of both States.

Article 27

Disputes between the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation and application of this Treaty shall be settled by negotiation.

Article 28

This Treaty shall be subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the day of exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Article 29

This Treaty is concluded for a period of 10 years.

It shall be renewed automatically for successive periods of five years unless either of the Contracting Parties gives written notification of its wish to terminate the Treaty at least six months before the expiration of the next period.

By the time of withdrawal, the Contracting Party concerned must have fulfilled all obligations incurred during its participation in this Treaty.

Article 30

This Treaty may be amended and supplemented by separate protocols constituting an integral part of this Treaty. Either Contracting Party may propose amendments and additions by notifying the other Contracting Party.

Article 31

For the purpose of giving effect to this Treaty, the Contracting Parties shall, if necessary, enter into other treaties and agreements among themselves and establish appropriate coordinating bodies.

DONE at Moscow on 21 February 2022, in two copies, each in the Russian and Ukrainian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Russian Federation:
(Signed)

For the Donetsk People's Republic:
(Signed)

Annex II to the letter dated 3 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and the Lugansk People's Republic

The Russian Federation and the Lugansk People's Republic, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

Building on the historically strong ties and a tradition of friendship and good relations between their peoples,

Believing that the strengthening of friendly relations, good-neighbourliness and mutual assistance between the Russian Federation and the Lugansk People's Republic meets the fundamental national interests of the peoples of both States and serves the cause of peace, regional security and stability,

Reaffirming its commitment to the universally recognized principles and norms of international law, especially the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Wishing to elevate their relations to a new level by reaffirming their commitment to respecting universally recognized human rights norms,

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Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall work closely with each other to protect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of the Russian Federation and the Lugansk People's Republic. They shall engage in consultations without delay whenever either Contracting Party is, in its opinion, under threat of attack, with a view to ensuring their joint defence and upholding peace and mutual security. In the course of such consultations, the urgency, form and scope of the assistance to be provided by one Contracting Party to the other Contracting Party shall be determined with a view to eliminating the new threat.

Article 4

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By the time of withdrawal, the Contracting Party concerned must have fulfilled all obligations incurred during its participation in this Treaty.

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This Treaty may be amended and supplemented by separate protocols constituting an integral part of this Treaty. Either Contracting Party may propose amendments and additions by notifying the other Contracting Party.

Article 31

For the purpose of giving effect to this Treaty, the Contracting Parties shall, if necessary, enter into other treaties and agreements among themselves and establish appropriate coordinating bodies.

DONE at Moscow on 21 February 2022, in two copies, each in the Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Russian Federation:
(Signed)

For the Lugansk People's Republic:
(Signed)

Annex III to the letter dated 3 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

22 February 2022

Sir,

On behalf of the inhabitants of the Donetsk People's Republic and on my own behalf, I express my most sincere gratitude for recognizing the independence and sovereignty of our State and for signing the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic.

Military aggression on the part of Ukraine is intensifying, and the number of shelling incidents is growing. The economy of the industrial Donbass region is being destroyed, and the enemy is seeking to damage critical life-sustaining infrastructure. Residential areas, schools and health-care facilities are under fire. The South Donbas water supply infrastructure, the main source of drinking water for the Republic, have been damaged. About 300,000 people have been left without water.

The genocide of the population continues: the war has already taken the lives of more than 5,000 civilians, including 91 children.

To protect citizens, we were forced to declare an evacuation of the population. At present, more than 40,000 people have left the territory of the Republic and the evacuation is ongoing.

In connection with the current situation, and in accordance with articles 3 and 4 of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Russian Federation and the Donetsk People's Republic, I hereby request assistance in repelling the military aggression of the Ukrainian regime against the population of the Donetsk People's Republic.

(Signed) **D.V. Pushilin**
Head of the Donetsk People's Republic

Annex IV to the letter dated 3 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

22 February 2022

Sir,

I would first like to thank you once again on my own behalf and on behalf of the people of the Lugansk People's Republic for taking the important decision to recognize the Lugansk People's Republic, which a landmark event for us.

In view of threats from Kiev and the deteriorating situation, citizens of the Republic are forced to leave their homes and evacuate to the territory of the Russian Federation. More than 5,354 people had to leave the Republic, half of them children.

The ongoing military aggression by the Armed Forces of Ukraine against the Lugansk People's Republic has resulted in the destruction of civil and industrial infrastructure, schools, hospitals and kindergartens and, worst of all, the deaths of civilians, including children.

The actions of the Kiev regime demonstrate its unwillingness to implement the Minsk agreements and end the war in Donbass.

At present, Kiev is continuing to build up its military presence along the line of contact with the full support, including military support, of the United States of America and other Western States. The Kiev regime, contrary to its international obligations, insists on a military solution to the conflict with the Lugansk People's Republic.

In view of the above, dear Vladimir Vladimirovich, and in order to avoid civilian casualties and a humanitarian catastrophe, based on articles 3 and 4 of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Lugansk People's Republic and the Russian Federation of 21 February 2022, I hereby request your assistance in repelling the aggression of the Armed Forces and the armed groups of Ukraine.

(Signed) L.I. **Pasechnik**
Head of the Lugansk People's Republic
