

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE March 3, 2022

TO Honorable members of the Dallas City Council

SUBJECT Resolution for Ukraine

Dear Colleagues:

In recent weeks, we have seen the West unite against the Russian Federation's unjustified and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

As an international city, Dallas has a keen interest in global affairs, and I believe it is important for the Dallas City Council to send a clear message that we stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

Accordingly, I am placing a resolution on our March 9 voting agenda condemning the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine; calling on our business, civic, and philanthropic communities to support Ukraine; suspending the City of Dallas' official relationship with Saratov, Russia while encouraging people-to-people work toward peace; and agreeing to not approve city contracts with entities that have significant Russian ties.

This resolution was developed in consultation with the Mayor's International Advisory Council, which is made up of a bipartisan group of Dallas residents who formerly held the rank of United States Ambassador. I have greatly appreciated their insight and input during this tumultuous time for the world.

Attached is a draft of the resolution that will be posted on the agenda on Friday. I look forward to the discussion on this matter, and it is my hope that we can unite around this cause.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Johnson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Eric Johnson
Mayor

Cc: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Mark Swann, City Auditor

RESOLUTION NO. _____

DRAFT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Ukraine, the second-largest country in Europe by land mass, has a long and rich history with its own unique language, literature, and cultural identity; and

WHEREAS, on August 24, 1991, Ukraine declared its independence from the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine is a democratic republic with a constitution that provides for a directly elected president; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine has been building its democratic institutions and working to improve the life of its residents; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation (hereinafter, “Russia”) launched an unprovoked and unjustified attack on Ukraine, invading a sovereign nation and forcing thousands to flee their homes to seek refuge in neighboring countries; and

WHEREAS, the United States and nations around the world have united to condemn the invasion and have levied sanctions against Russia and its financial institutions; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine is on the front lines of the battle for freedom of democratic countries around the world – and the fight against the evils of dictators; and

WHEREAS, the people and leaders of Ukraine have demonstrated incredible resolve, tenacity, and bravery in the face of the Russian invasion; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dallas, Texas, is home to a robust Ukrainian community, and Dallas is an international city — a welcoming place to people, businesses, and institutions from all over the world.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Dallas condemns Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine and stands with the Ukrainian people, with the Ukrainian community that now calls Dallas home, and with people in Russia and all over the world who are calling for peace and an end to Vladimir Putin’s war.

SECTION 2. That the City of Dallas supports the coalition of nations imposing sanctions on Russia and encourages its international business, civic, and philanthropic communities to support the Ukrainian people in all possible ways in their fight to retain their freedom.

SECTION 3. That while Vladimir Putin holds power over Russia, the City of Dallas hereby suspends any formal diplomatic ties with Russia, including the official relationship with Saratov, Russia and the potential establishment of any trade offices. However, the City of Dallas recognizes the long-time cultural, educational, and medical ties with the people of Saratov and supports any efforts by the people of Dallas and Saratov to work toward peace and understanding during this challenging time.

SECTION 4. That the City Council will not authorize any city contracts with any entities with significant ties to the Russian regime under Vladimir Putin.

SECTION 5. That the City Secretary of Dallas attests and affixes the seal of the City of Dallas to this resolution and that a copy be transmitted to the United States Department of State, the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth, the Dallas Regional Chamber, and the Ukrainian American Society of Texas.

SECTION 6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.