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Greens/EFA welcome EU unity in response to Russian war of aggression

Today, the European Parliament are debating the role of the European Union and the changing security situation with Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, following Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine. The debate follows discussion on the situation of refugees in the wake of the Kremlin's invasion, that took place yesterday.

Viola von Cramon, Vice-Chair of the European Parliament Delegation for relations with the Ukrainian Parliament and Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, comments:

"The Greens/EFA Group stands firmly alongside Ukraine and all those working for peace and democracy. The Russian president does not comply with any UN convention, bombs cities and targets civilians. War crimes must be urgently investigated and punished at all costs.

"We grieve with those who have lost loved ones and friends, who are wounded and fleeing war and violence. The Russian president has underestimated the bravery of Ukrainians to defend their country and commitment of the West to stand up for international law.

"Putin's war has united the EU against the unbearable suffering and Russian oppression. The sanctions are having an effect. The EU is showing humanity and great solidarity towards those fleeing war, suffering and oppression."

Sergey Lagodinsky, Greens/EFA shadow rapporteur on Russia and substitute Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, comments:

"The Greens/EFA stand firmly with the Ukrainians. Our respect goes to all the courageous people who are raising their voices against the Russian war of aggression and propaganda campaign despite the criminal crackdown on public protest and suppression of the free press. They are defending peace, freedom and democracy and also all of us.

"It is our duty as the European Union to receive people fleeing quickly and without bureaucratic hurdles and to effectively support non-EU countries like Moldova. Those fleeing war from Ukraine or repression from Russia or Belarus must find a safe haven in the EU."

More:

Watch the plenary debate live here.

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