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C40 Chair

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan

**Appeal of the Energy Transition coalition on necessity of Russian energy embargo
at municipal level**

Energy Transition Coalition consists of leading Ukrainian environmental NGOs and municipalities: NGOs Ecoclub, Ecoaction, Ekoltava, City of Sun, Khmelnytskyi Energy Cluster, All-Ukrainian Sustainable Development & Investment Agency, PravoPolice, Solar Energy Association of Ukraine, Mykolaiv municipality.

Ukrainian cities and communities have significantly succeeded in the recent years since the Revolution of Dignity, which decisively set the country's priorities with the European vector of development in 2014. Russian occupation of the Crimea and eastern districts of Ukraine followed immediately. The decentralization reform, the implementation of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, and Ukraine's accession to the European Green Deal have contributed to the fact that many Ukrainian communities today are taking into account environmental and climate priorities in development plans and making ambitious commitments. Moreover, more than 200 Ukrainian municipalities have already made climate commitments under the Covenant of Mayors.

Now all the plans of Ukrainian communities are under threat due to the full-scale military invasion of Russia. It is no coincidence that the primary cause of global climate change and Russia's attack on Ukraine is the consumption of fossil fuels by rich countries. For decades, developed countries have paid vast sums of money for Russia's energy resources, indulged in Putin's regime and empowered it, not doing enough to achieve energy independence.

Stopping the consumption of Russian oil, gas and coal will not only help end the war in Ukraine but will also make a significant contribution to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. It is a historical moment now, when one strong decision can save thousands of lives of Ukrainians and contribute to the well-being of all future generations.

Leading EU governments have not stopped buying Russian oil and gas, fearing a negative impact on the economy and rise in end-user prices, which might result in the increased support for populists who are playing the card of higher gas or petrol prices. Other influential players supporting the supplies from Russia are specific industries. They are

putting pressure on their governments and scaring them with significant damage and disruption of supply chains.

Hence, the European Union has paid €35 billion for Russian energy since the start of the full-scale war on February 24th, the EU's top diplomat Josep Borrell has said. Energy exports have allowed the Russian regime to accumulate resources for an armed attack on Ukraine and other countries. Now they are keeping the Russian economy from collapsing and are allowing the further massacre of Ukrainians.

In these circumstances, the position of municipalities can play a crucial role. A strong statement and appropriate actions from the leaders of cities demanding to stop Russian supplies will be a decisive step towards ceasing Russian aggression in Ukraine.

We ask you to spread the word among your member municipalities with a call to:

1. Refuse immediately consuming Russian energy by utility enterprises and other entities run by local authorities. Instead, we call on taking robust energy efficiency measures and reducing consumption, managing the demand. We encourage you to develop the renewable energy sector and to give preference to renewable source energy suppliers, diversify fossil energy supplies and abandon Russian supplies if imports are needed.
2. Implement emergency action plans in parts designed to ensure the functioning of transport, office buildings and housing in the absence of Russian energy supplies. Moreover, such a sudden cessation of supplies is indeed possible, either as a result of hostilities, or another decision by Putin, or Russian sabotage.
3. Ask your national governments to follow the example of municipalities, impose an embargo on Russian supplies, and instead invest in energy efficiency and RES.
4. Ask industrial enterprises operating in your municipalities or in the vicinity for collaboration in stopping the consumption of Russian energy and raw materials.
5. Develop and publish action plans to stop the procurement of Russian energy.
6. Conduct extensive information campaigns among residents of your cities and villages about the tragic consequences of Russian oil and gas consumption, as well as the possibility of reducing consumption due to changes in consumer behaviour.

We hope for your solid and uncompromising position!

Sincerely,

Coordinator of the Coalition



Ms. Nataliia Lytvyn