

## JOINT STATEMENT

by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia Robert Golob and the Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia, Robert Golob, and the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Denys Shmyhal, held a meeting, according to the results of which Heads of Government:

**Discussed** the state and prospects of bilateral Slovenian-Ukrainian relations against the backdrop of Russia's ongoing armed aggression against Ukraine, as well as security, economic and social challenges stemming from it for the European continent and the entire world;

**Condemned** Russian terror against civilian population and civilian infrastructure of Ukraine, including energy facilities, schools, hospitals and residential buildings, which are protected by international humanitarian law;

**Emphasized** the need for an immediate and complete withdrawal of all Russian troops and armed formations from the sovereign territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, extending to its territorial waters;

**Reiterated** Ukraine's inherent right of individual or collective self-defence according to the UN Charter Article 51, and emphasized the need of further strengthening Ukraine's defense capabilities with a purpose to restore its territorial integrity and sovereignty within internationally recognized borders, and supplying to that end to Ukraine military equipment and weapons, as well as cooperating in the field of defense-industrial potential development;

**Expressed support** to the Peace Formula of the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy, which gives common vision of the necessary steps that will ensure comprehensive, just and lasting peace for Ukraine and security for the whole world. The Republic of Slovenia is ready to support Ukraine's plan based on respect for its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and reaffirms its commitment to actively work with Ukraine on its implementation. The Republic of Slovenia and Ukraine support the idea of a Peace Formula Summit and will work together to ensure the widest possible international participation;

**Emphasized** the active participation of the Republic of Slovenia in the activities of the International Crimea Platform aimed at the de-occupation of Ukrainian Crimea;

**Emphasized** the importance of investigating the war crimes of Russia and its officials in order to bring the perpetrators to justice, and other crimes in accordance with the international law, in particular through the International Criminal Court, and supported the creation of a Special Tribunal regarding the crime of aggression against Ukraine;

**Welcomed** the historic decision of the leaders of the European Union Member States, adopted on June 23, 2022, granting the EU candidate country status to Ukraine. The Republic of Slovenia will continue its support for Ukraine's path towards full membership in the European Union based on fulfillment of necessary conditions;

**Reaffirmed** its commitment to strengthening joint efforts to ensure further progress towards the implementation of NATO standards and the integration of Ukraine into the North Atlantic Alliance. The Republic of Slovenia supports Ukraine to become part of the North Atlantic Alliance as soon as conditions allow, in line with the Bucharest NATO Summit Declaration;

**Strongly condemned** Russian irresponsible and provocative nuclear rhetoric and emphasized that the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is an unacceptable crime. Confirmed their support for the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency in providing assistance to Ukraine in ensuring nuclear safety in conditions of full-scale Russian aggression;

**Emphasized** the importance of expanding the Black Sea Grain Initiative and extending it to other Ukrainian seaports. Welcomed the implementation of the "Grain from Ukraine" humanitarian program aimed at strengthening global food security, and emphasized the importance of further implementation of the EU-Ukraine "Paths of Solidarity";

**Welcomed** Ukrainian support for the aspiration of Slovenia to acquire a non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council for the 2024-2025 term. Membership in the UN Security Council is a significant responsibility and is of pivotal importance for Ukraine to lend this support in the context of Russian aggression;

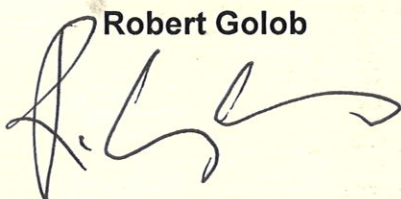
**Welcomed** readiness of the Republic of Slovenia to participate in the recovery, reconstruction and modernization of Ukraine, in particular in the areas of "green transition", digitalization and telecommunications, education, energy and energy efficiency, waste processing and water treatment, construction, planning and infrastructure;

**Encouraged** the business circles of the Republic of Slovenia and Ukraine to use the opportunities opened by the temporary removal of customs barriers for Ukrainian goods to strengthen the economic and trade relations between the two countries.

The Prime Minister of Ukraine expressed his gratitude for the multi-level assistance provided by the Republic of Slovenia, in particular military and humanitarian one as well as assistance for the restoration of the energy infrastructure of Ukraine, and for the support of Ukrainians who found temporary protection from war in the Republic of Slovenia.

Signed in Kyiv on 31 March 2023 in two copies in the English language.

**Prime Minister of the  
Republic of Slovenia**

**Robert Golob**  


**Prime Minister of  
Ukraine**

**Denys Shmyhal**  
