

Statement on third Anniversary of Russian Invasion of Ukraine

Today marks three years since Russia's illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022.

As we mark this sombre anniversary, the Assembly of European Regions (AER) reaffirms our unwavering commitment to a Ukraine that is sovereign, free and whole, with a thriving democracy rooted in communities across every region, city and town.

The cause of supporting Ukraine is one that truly unites the membership of the AER. Since Russia's unprovoked invasion in 2022, regions and cities have been at the forefront of efforts to help Ukraine—sending vital aid, mobilising financial support, and welcoming Ukrainians into their communities.

At AER, we are committed to strengthening those links in the spirit of building a truly European community, where Ukrainian towns, cities and regions are vital and valued partners in peace and prosperity. Our network is broad and deep, and through our Ukraine Focus Group, member regions are forging long-term partnerships under a joint commitment to Ukraine's European future.

We believe that Europe is not complete without Ukraine. Working alongside institutional partners, the AER and our members will redouble efforts in support of Ukraine's accession to the European Union.

For as long as it takes, the Assembly of European Regions will work tirelessly together in solidarity with Ukraine.

Strasbourg/Brussels, 24 February 2025



Albert Castellanos Maduell
AER President