



Fitzgerald House
Summerhill North
Cork
T23 TD90

Ambassador Larysa Gerasko

Ukraine Embassy
16 Elgin Rd,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4,
D04 NY31

4th March 2022

RE: Invasion of Ukraine

Dear Ambassador Larysa Gerasko

As you know from our meeting in November, Cork Chamber represents 1,200 members together employing 100,000 people throughout the city, metropolitan area and county. Our vision is to be a world-leading Chamber of Commerce, delivering on a progressive economic, social and sustainability agenda at the heart of a vibrant business community. We exist to bring people together for good.

The unprovoked assault on the sovereign democratic Ukrainian people is an assault on every value held dear by sovereign democratic people worldwide.

I write to express the solidarity and support of myself, our President, our Board and our members with you and the Ukrainian people. We are horrified by, and condemn in the strongest possible terms, Russia's unprovoked invasion of your sovereign, peaceful and democratic nation state.

The actions of the Russian Government and military have killed innocent civilians including children who were living in peace until they invaded your country.

Our membership is diverse and includes business owners and employees of every nationality including Ukrainians and Russians who all work together to create the vibrant economy and business community we

enjoy. We will always promote equality, diversity and inclusion and are equally and forcefully opposed to actions that have the opposite effect.

Cork Chamber of Commerce have taken a series of actions to show our solidarity with Ukraine. We have raised the Ukrainian flag alongside the Irish tricolour at our offices. We are donating funds and actively encouraging our members to donate to humanitarian charities. Among our membership there is a diverse array of initiatives underway as is so typical of the compassionate nature of the Cork business community.

We have written to the Russian Ambassador to Ireland appealing to his humanity and sense of reason to do everything he can to ensure no further death and destruction is brought to the people of Ukraine. We have written to the Irish Government asking that every possible step is taken to provide assistance and aid, and that the Ukraine be given every available support and sign of solidarity at EU level, in the UN and in interaction with NATO.

Henry Grattan once said, "A country, as enlightened as Ireland, chartered as Ireland, armed as Ireland, and injured as Ireland, will not be satisfied with anything less than liberty." I have no doubt but that the same is true of Ukraine today.

We hope that the international community will continue to further and deepen it's solidarity with Ukraine over the coming hours, days and weeks. Every value held by free nations is at stake.

If there is anything further we can do to support you and the Ukrainian people, please contact me.

Sincerely,



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