

Association of Ukrainians
in Great Britain



Союз Українців у
Великій Британії

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ВП Віктор Янукович
Президент України
вул. Банкова 11
01220 Київ
UKRAINE -УКРАЇНА

OPEN LETTER

Mr President

The Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB) is the largest representative body for Ukrainians and those of Ukrainian descent in the UK. Our aim is to promote, develop and support the interests of the Ukrainian community, on whose behalf we write.

We fully understand and support all Ukraine's efforts to create constructive partnerships with other countries which will benefit the Ukrainian people and enhance Ukraine's standing as a nation and its position on the world stage. But recent events, under your presidency, are seriously damaging Ukraine's sovereignty, democracy and integrity, which causes us extreme concern.

The Ukrainian community views with deep dismay the Kharkiv Agreement which debases Ukrainian territorial integrity in return for a short-term and unsustainable reduction in gas prices. Apart from the significant constitutional issues this agreement has raised, the benefits appear to be hugely unbalanced, with the Ukrainian people benefiting least.

On the same day as the world witnessed disgraceful scenes in the Ukrainian Parliament, you yourself decided to disregard the law of Ukraine at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) by denying that the Holodomor was an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation. In doing so you demonstrated that you are not prepared to defend or promote the truth about Ukraine's history.

You also misled PACE about the nature of the Kharkiv Agreement and about your role in allowing memorials to Stalin to be erected in Ukraine. The whole Ukrainian community feels the disgrace of a Ukrainian president who can allow new memorials to one of the most brutal dictators of the 20th century, who was directly responsible for the murder of millions of people.

In your oath of office, you vowed to defend through your actions the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine and the rights and freedoms of its citizens. However, your actions are actively threatening Ukraine's independence and sovereignty and are deepening divisions within Ukraine.

Ukrainians all over the world want a state leader that they can trust and respect and are therefore entitled to seek assurances from you that:

1. the position on the "Kharkiv Agreement" will be fully re-assessed by setting it aside for a full judicial review by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, which should address the open charges of

its unconstitutional nature, anti-state character and threat to the national interests and territorial integrity of Ukraine;

2. you and members of your party will fully respect the law on the 1932-33 Holodomor both within Ukraine and before the outside world;
3. the memorial to Stalin in Zaporizhia is immediately removed and proposed memorials to Stalin planned for Odessa and elsewhere in Ukraine will not be permitted.

We await your reply.

Yours sincerely


~~Zenko Lastowicki~~
~~President~~


Fedir Kurlak
General Secretary

- cc. UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Court of Saint James's
Mrs Anne Brasseur MEP
Paul Rowen MEP