



Joint statement by the Speaker of the Parliament of Ukraine and the President of the Swiss Federal Assembly on the occasion of the Parliamentary Event *Parliament and Recovery* in the framework of the Ukraine Recovery Conference

4 July 2022

Lugano, Switzerland

Condemning Russia's unprovoked, unjustifiable and criminal war of aggression against Ukraine and the immeasurable suffering this war has brought upon the Ukrainian people;

Considering the urgent need to take comprehensive action to ensure daily life in the conditions of war, the recovery of Ukraine, and to address the abhorrent multiple consequences of the war, which affect all spheres of life;

Taking into account international standards and best democratic practices to ensure the functioning of parliaments as representative legislative bodies;

We, the Speaker of the Parliament of Ukraine and the President of the Swiss Federal Assembly, having participated in the discussion on *Parliament and Recovery* at URC2022, jointly identify the following priorities for parliamentary activities and international cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada in the process of Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction:

- Improve parliamentary mechanisms to ensure that the consequences of war are promptly and effectively addressed;
- Work together on best practices for parliamentary activities in order to align national legislation with the EU *acquis communautaire*; continue extending the high standards of EU law to the processes of preparing and adopting legislative acts;
- Raise the awareness of parliamentarians with regard to EU best practices with regard to for work in their constituencies; facilitate more active interaction with local governments, local citizens' associations, and voters;
- Strengthen local democracy and various forms of participatory democracy;
- Facilitate peer-to-peer partnerships between Ukrainian parliamentarians and those from other national parliaments to ensure voter engagement in constituencies and to promote professional interaction, humanitarian aid, and parliamentary diplomacy;



- Facilitate the development of a legal framework and practical tools concerning the digitalisation of certain parliamentary procedures in the same manner as in EU countries; ensure a high level of transparency, openness, and accountability of parliament; facilitate the encouragement of civic engagement;
- Mobilise the resources and experience of EU member states to ensure that the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is able to exercise its oversight function, scrutinize the activities of executive bodies, and ensure both the protection of human rights and civic control over public finances;
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of parliament to ensure effective scrutiny of draft laws and their evaluation by experts in the field of overcoming consequences of the war and Ukraine recovery, finance, anti-corruption, gender equality, etc.
- Develop Swiss-Ukrainian inter-parliamentary dialogue on the country's sustainable recovery and development during and after the war by intensifying contacts between the parliaments, their members, and their parliamentary services.