



Subject: Humanitarian and nuclear crisis in Ukraine

Dear President Roberta Metsola,

Since the 24th of February, Russian forces are destroying stationary military and civilian infrastructure in Ukraine. Nonetheless, deliberate obstructions by Russian invaders limits access of humanitarian assistance for civilians. Yesterday, a humanitarian convoy to Mariupol was blocked by Russia. Despite Russia's claims to provide safe passage of humanitarian columns for Ukrainian and foreign citizens, civilians still remain trapped and under direct siege, as the number of casualties and displaced people is only growing.

That is why it is an urgent issue to establish functioning humanitarian corridors allowing aid to enter and refugees to leave, in order to prevent a catastrophe. A special humanitarian mission, organized by EU institutions and aided by NATO must be implemented now. Through the direct air corridors, necessities such as food, medicine and clothing must be delivered, including establishment of guarded pick-up zones, for wounded and refugees.

Within the same deliberate obstructions orchestrated by Putin, a nuclear disaster is upon us.

It was confirmed by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that the staff at Chernobyl NPP are no longer carrying out repair and maintenance of safety-related equipment due to physical and psychological fatigue. This potential nuclear catastrophe will directly affect Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Europe.

Therefore, another part of the special humanitarian mission should include a group visit of international specialists from International Atomic Energy Agency, European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) and from Ukrainian energy operator Ukrenergo to evaluate safety of the power plant. EU must employ all its diplomatic channels to negotiate, at least a partial ceasefire in high-risk nuclear zones, defining areas, where no combat activities should take place.

Sincerely,
Liudas Mažylis, MEP