

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1405

July 29, 2022

The Honorable Antonio Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
United Nations Secretariat Building
405 East 42nd St., New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary-General Guterres,

As you well know, the main function of the United Nations is to preserve international peace and security. Obviously, your organization has failed. We are facing the biggest armed aggression since WWII, which is the greatest threat to peace and security - not just for Europe but for the entire world.

I am very disappointed with the lack of active UN leadership to stabilize the situation in Ukraine and restore international order. The recent "grain deal" is the latest failure to lead - we just saw what happened with the failed UN arrangement for the Ukrainian Azovstal fighters. The current war is destabilizing for many countries, especially the poorest ones. However, this brutal invasion is particularly tragic and devastating for the Ukrainian people. The potential implications of this "grain deal," which lacks proper enforcement mechanisms, can be very costly for Ukraine. As you are well aware, hours after this deal was signed, Russia hit the Ukrainian port of Odessa with cruise missiles. This reaffirms again that Russia cannot be trusted and effectively negates this agreement.

Therefore, as Russia has been granted such a significant lift of sanctions to export grains and fertilizers (which in effect increases Russia's ability to blackmail Europe with gas supplies), this agreement should be put on hold until better security arrangements are provided for Ukraine. I urge you to deploy UN ships to the Black Sea to enforce humanitarian corridors. Otherwise, Ukraine will run into a higher risk, caused by this arrangement, of its ports being bombed and destroyed after the departure of ships.

I also urge you to work actively on restoring international order, peace and security. I am copying all of my congressional colleagues and urge them to stop all significant funding to the United Nations until we see real efforts and results from your organization to stabilize our current international disorder.

I am also copying UN member-countries, since it is in their national interest, even if for different reasons, for all countries to stop this war. My office is open to work with anyone who is willing to have constructive dialogue to save human lives, including Russia, which has put itself on the path of destruction. Feel free to reach out anytime.

Sincerely,



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress (IN-05)

CC: Secretary Blinken, Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield, Administrator Power, Ambassador Brink,
Ambassadors to the United States, Members of Congress