



European Parliament

Brussels, 28 November 2022

Dear President of the European Commission,  
Dear High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Vice President of the European Commission,

With this letter, we want to draw your attention to the war crimes, human rights abuses, violence, torture, murders, rape, and alleged genocide committed by the Russian state and affiliated actors in Ukraine, specifically the Wagner group.

Russia's unprovoked war against Ukraine, the violations of international law and principles, and the atrocities committed by the Russian army and its affiliated mark a dark page for Europe and the world's history. We strongly condemn the deliberate terroristic attacks repeatedly perpetrated against civilians and civilian infrastructures, as well as the abuses and atrocities committed by Russian-affiliated actors.

For this reason, we call on the EU to further support Ukraine and take into account stricter measures against Russian-affiliated actors, firstly, the Wagner group. The Wagner Group is a Russia-based unincorporated private military entity that was established in 2014 and is responsible for the deployment of mercenaries in Ukraine. It is responsible for serious human rights abuses and atrocities against the Ukrainian civil population, such as in Bucha and Motizhyn. It undermines the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of Ukraine, as well as the stability and security of Ukraine.

Therefore, call on you to initiate two sorts of actions.

First, you recently announced your decision to start working on a ninth sanctions package against Russia. The EU already imposed restricted measures against individuals and entities related to the Wagner group, the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, and sanctions regimes relating to Libya and Syria, undermining Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Due to the close connexions between the Russian state and the Wagner group -financing, coordination, and action supervision- as well as the presence of Wagner group mercenaries in the operations in the course of which Russian human rights abuses were committed, we call on you to include in the ninth package of sanctions against Russia the Wagner group, any natural or legal persons, entities or bodies, or natural or legal persons, entities or bodies associated with it.

Second, having regard to the serious human rights abuses, atrocities, and indiscriminate attacks against civilians committed by the Wagner group in Syria, Libya, Central African Republic (CAR), Sudan, and Mozambique, which include torture and extrajudicial, summary, or



European Parliament

arbitrary executions and killings, and the most recent atrocities committed in Ukraine, such as in Bucha and Motizhyn, we call on you to include the Wagner group on the list of terrorist persons, groups and entities of the EU.

We, therefore, call on including the Wagner group both in the ninth package of sanctions against Russia currently under preparation and in the EU terrorist list.

Yours sincerely,

Pina PICIERNO, MEP

Michal ŠIMEČKA, MEP

Roberts ZILE, MEP

Robert BIEDROŃ, MEP

Andrius KUBILIUS, MEP

Nathalie LOISEAU, MEP

Irene TINAGLI, MEP

Juozas OLEKAS, MEP

Isabel SANTOS, MEP

Radosław SIKORSKI, MEP

Attila ARA-KOVACS, MEP

Brando BENIFEI, MEP

Dacian CIOLOȘ, MEP

Pascal DURAND, MEP

Malte GALLÉE, MEP

Vlad GHEORGHE, MEP

Bart GROOTHUIS, MEP

Sylvie GUILLAUME, MEP

Márton GYÖNGYÖSI, MEP

Teuvo HAKKARAINEN, MEP

Krzysztof HETMAN, MEP

Laura HUHTASAARI, MEP

Irena JOVEVA, MEP



European Parliament

Rasa JUKNEVIČIENĖ, MEP

Radan KANEV, MEP

Billy KELLEHER, MEP

Andrey KOVATCHEV, MEP

Dace MELBARDE, MEP

Karen MELCHIOR, MEP

Sven MIKSER, MEP

Kira Marie PETER-HANSEN, MEP

Thijs REUTEN, MEP

Daniela RONDINELLI, MEP

Bronis ROPĚ, MEP

Michaela ŠOJDROVÁ, MEP

Ivan ŠTEFANEC, MEP

Patrizia TOIA, MEP

Charlie WEIMERS, MEP

Tomáš ZDECHOVSKÝ, MEP