



Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
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Dear Home Secretary,

Like most of the world, people in Ealing looked on in horror when we woke to find Russia had launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in the early hours of 24 February.

Their military is carrying an all-out military assault using missiles, tanks, and rocket launchers to target Kyiv, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Ivano-Frankivsk, and other major Ukrainian cities. Thousands of people including civilians have already lost their lives in this invasion, and over two million people have fled for their lives, in the biggest exodus in Europe since World War Two.

There are many Ukrainians in the UK, including those who live in Ealing, as well as from the nearby Baltic States and Russia too who have been profoundly affected by this war. There is justifiable fear about the safety of family and friends in Ukraine those now intent on defending their country against a mighty aggressor or forced into leaving their homes.

As the political leadership in Ealing, and home to the second largest Ukrainian population in London, we support the actions of the UK, EU, and wider international community in supporting Ukraine's democratically elected government against unprovoked invasion.

But we urge the Prime Minister and the UK Government to go even further in response to the Russian invasion showing greater compassion for those in the greatest and most immediate need.

We call for the immediate following actions:

- Follow the example of the Irish Government (and others in Europe) and immediately offer a safe and legal passage for Ukrainian refugees coming to the UK, fleeing danger from this war in their home country.
- Implement the harshest possible sanctions on the Russian Federation, more visa bans and asset freezes on Kremlin-linked figures and companies





In Ealing, we have a long and proud history of supporting refugees and would want to do so again as we have for those families fleeing restrictive regimes in Afghanistan and Syria.

We are willing to play our part and offer more than just words of encouragement. The situation in Ukraine is absolutely critical and Ukrainians need all the support they can get from their allies in the West.

We urge you now to move faster against this needless act of aggression, to do more in the name of Ukrainian and European safety and security.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Peter Mason
Leader of the Council

Cllr Aysha Raza
Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality