

**DECLARATION
OF THE VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE**

to the International Criminal Court on the recognition of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court by Ukraine over crimes against humanity, committed by senior officials of the state, which led to extremely grave consequences and mass murder of Ukrainian nationals during peaceful protests within the period 21 November 2013 - 22 February 2014

On behalf of the Ukrainian nation, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as the exclusive legislative body of Ukraine appeals to the International Criminal Court, recognizing its jurisdiction, for the purpose of bringing senior officials of Ukraine to criminal liability in the International Criminal Court in respect of crimes against humanity stipulated in article 7 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court during peaceful protests of people which took place in Ukraine within the period 30 November 2013 - 22 February 2014, namely Yanukovych Viktor Fedorovych – the President of Ukraine – and other officials to be determined by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

During three months, in Ukraine, law enforcement agencies unlawfully used physical force, special means and weapons towards the participants of peaceful actions in Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities on the orders of senior officials of the state. Excess of power and office duties by officials as well as commitment of other serious and grave crimes were systematic. It led to killing of over 100 nationals of Ukraine and other states, injuring and mutilating more than 2000 persons, 500 of whom are in serious condition, torturing civilian population (unlawful detention and abuse of a protester stripped naked at an air temperature under 15 °C, use of water cannons against participants in peaceful protests at an air temperature under 10 °C, infliction of physical injuries of varying severity, etc.). Abducting and enforced disappearing of persons, forcefully and unlawfully depriving of liberty, forcefully transferring to deserted places for the purpose of torture and murder, arbitrary imprisoning of many persons in different cities of Ukraine, brutal beating, unlawfully damaging peaceful actions participants' property (accommodation, cars, etc.) were outstanding features of the time.

Using organized criminal groups for the purpose of intimidating and abducting, torturing, murdering people, damaging their property etc, by the local authorities and police was unprecedented. As a rule, the persecution of

people was carried out on political grounds (opposition parties, civil society organizations, «Euromaidan», «AutoMaidan» activists etc.).

The above mentioned actions have resulted in the infliction of great suffering, serious harm to the mental and physical health of peaceful protests participants.

Taking into account that the illegal actions of these senior officials contain elements of serious and grave crimes against humanity fall within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine hereby:

1. Under article 11, paragraph 2, and article 12, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Rome Statute recognizes the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court in respect to crimes against humanity committed by senior officials of the state which led to extremely grave consequences and mass murder of Ukrainian nationals during peaceful protests that took place in Ukraine within the period 21 November 2013 - 22 February 2014.

2. Appeals to the International Criminal Court to determine those responsible for crimes against humanity as provided for in article 7 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and bring to justice Yanukovych Viktor Fedorovych – ex-President of Ukraine, Pshonka Viktor Pavlovych – ex-Prosecutor-General of Ukraine, Zakharchenko Vitalii Yuriiiovych – ex-Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, and other officials who issued and executed manifestly criminal orders which might be determined by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

O. Turchynov

Kyiv

25 February 2014

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