



The Results of the preliminary V4 and Ukraine Summits

Possible suggestions and proposals concerning the Alliance are marked in bold cursive.

The countries of the Visegrad Group recognize the situation in Ukraine and consider the stabilization, de-escalation and the preservation of peace in Ukraine the main goal of the Alliance. All the V4 countries have agreed on the further cooperation regarding the Ukrainian crisis. Together with Ukraine, the representatives of these countries have identified Ukraine as the Alliance's most important partner in the region, whose role should be to remain a neutral country that serves as a bridge between the east and the west. ***The countries have further agreed, that NATO should not abandon Ukraine and that it should be more assertive towards Russia, while at the same time it should exercise caution to prevent further escalation and other negative effects bearing in mind the energy dependency of some of the Alliance members and other factors. The countries would like to remind the members of the Alliance that it is imperative for NATO as a whole to find a strong common approach and at the same time to preserve its inner integrity.***

The Visegrad countries and Ukraine would welcome the positive response of NATO to the proposal of support in the fields of military recruitment, technology and intelligence. Poland has offered to share their military experiences and their military station in Stettin under the condition that the other states will increase their budgets for defence spending. ***At the same time, these countries suggest an increase of the NATO advisory presence in Ukraine and also plea to the Alliance to consider sending more material and technical support for the purpose of giving Ukraine a fighting chance against the rebels supplied by Russia.***

The Visegrad countries and Ukraine recognize the presence of disinformation and propaganda in Europe and their negative consequences such as the rise of extremism, radicalisation and populist, often far-right parties; and would like to encourage NATO member states not to neglect this issue, as it carries grave potential dangers. These countries have agreed on establishing an Informational Platform that would provide people with access to various viewpoints on events in order to ensure freedom of information, but also facilitate critical thought. Additionally, the platform should serve as an educational tool for the Visegrad citizens and also engages other non-governmental organizations already active in the field of debunking the propaganda. The platform is also aimed to increase the awareness of citizens of V4 group countries about NATO's role and their general media literacy. The Visegrad countries and Ukraine have agreed upon the fact, that education of both the producers and recipients of the information as well as facilitation of critical thinking is key.

The Visegrad countries, in order to decrease their dependability on Russia, have agreed to diversify their energy sources and therefore assure greater energy security. In short-term, the Visegrad countries will increase their dependency on other resources than gas - mostly coal, imported from Poland. In the long term, a Visegrad energy fund should be established, in order

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to finance, support and supervise the construction of the pipeline infrastructure in the North-South corridor. Visegrad countries would welcome an active participation of Ukraine on the fund as well. Goal of the new infrastructure is to provide an alternative to Russian gas in the form of liquid natural gas from Poland, or the gas and oil from Norway.

The countries of the Visegrad group and Ukraine have agreed that the outpour of weapons from Ukraine and their smuggling is a serious issue that endangers the security of our countries and the countries of the Schengen area as well as the member states of NATO. They have identified, that smuggling and organized crime as a whole are one of many problems caused by the bad economic situation of the country in conflict and that to prevent it we should address this cause. They have agreed to strengthen the protection of their Eastern borders which constitute the borders of the Schengen area, as well as the EU and NATO, to prevent smuggling also bearing in mind that possible escalation in Ukraine could cause increased migration pressure. To achieve this, the Visegrad group has agreed to harmonize their systems of border control, create shared databases, commonly implement new technologies and share information concerning the movement and control of the borders.

The Visegrad group, together with Ukraine have agreed, that it is of the utmost importance to help Ukraine to restore its economy and the well-being of the Ukrainian people. That however has to go hand in hand not only with economic reforms, but also with legislative and education reforms. The Visegrad group has proposed two solutions – one long term and one short term. The short term solution should address the situation as soon as possible and should come in the form of financial or material help with the condition that the use of this help would be monitored and controlled to prevent corruption and misuse of given aid. The long term solution is to provide Ukraine with experts to reform various sectors of the state administration – their main goal would not only be to conduct reforms, but also to teach Ukrainians on how to improve and change their system.