

Xi Calls for the Proper Settlement of the Ukraine Crisis

China does not want to see the situation in Ukraine to come to this. China stands for peace and opposes war. This is embedded in China's history and culture.

China makes a conclusion independently based on the merits of each matter. China advocates upholding international law and universally recognized norms governing international relations. China adheres to the UN Charter and promotes the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. These are the major principles that underpin China's approach to the Ukraine crisis.

China has put forward a six-point initiative on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, and is ready to provide further humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and other affected countries.

All sides need to jointly support Russia and Ukraine in having dialogue and negotiation that will produce results and lead to peace.

The US and NATO should also have dialogue with Russia to address the crux of the Ukraine crisis and ease the security concerns of both Russia and Ukraine.

With the need to fight COVID-19 on the one hand and protect the economy and people's livelihood on the other, things are already very difficult for countries around the world. As leaders of major countries, we need to think about how to properly address global hotspot issues and, more importantly, keep in mind global stability and the work and life of billions of people.

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Sweeping and indiscriminate sanctions would only make the people suffer. If further escalated, they could trigger serious crises in global economy and trade, finance, energy, food, and industrial and supply chains, crippling the already languishing world economy and causing irrevocable losses. The more complex the situation, the greater the need to remain cool-headed and rational. Whatever the circumstances, there is always a need for political courage to create space for peace and leave room for political settlement.

As two Chinese sayings go, "It takes two hands to clap." "He who tied the bell to the tiger must take it off." It is imperative that the parties involved demonstrate political will and find a proper settlement in view of both immediate and long-term needs. Other parties can and should create conditions to that end.

The pressing priority is to keep the dialogue and negotiation going, avoid civilian casualties, prevent a humanitarian crisis, and cease hostilities as soon as possible.

An enduring solution would be for major countries to respect each other, reject the Cold War mentality, refrain from bloc confrontation, and build step by step a balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture for the region and for the world. China has been doing its best for peace and will continue to play a constructive role.

——On the evening of 18 March, President Xi Jinping had a video call with US President Joe Biden at the request of the latter. The two Presidents had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on China-US relations, the situation in Ukraine, and other issues of mutual interest.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China)

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China Proposed a Six-point Initiative to Prevent a Massive Humanitarian Crisis

China considers preventing a massive humanitarian crisis one of the top priorities. To this end, China wishes to propose a six-point initiative:

- First, make sure that humanitarian operations abide by the principles of neutrality and impartiality, and avoid politicizing humanitarian issues:
- **Second**, give full attention to the displaced persons in and from Ukraine, and provide them with proper shelter;
- **Third**, ensure the protection of civilians, and prevent secondary humanitarian disasters in Ukraine:
- Fourth, provide for safe and smooth humanitarian aid activities, including providing rapid, safe and unimpeded humanitarian access:
- Fifth, provide for the safety of foreign nationals in Ukraine, allow them safe departure and help them return to their home countries; and
- Sixth, support the UN's coordinating role in channeling humanitarian aid and the work of the UN Crisis Coordinator for Ukraine.

China will continue its efforts to stem the humanitarian crisis. The Red Cross Society of China will provide Ukraine with a tranche of emergency humanitarian supplies as soon as possible.



Red Cross Society of China donated 5 million yuan (\$0.8 millon) of emergency humanitarian resources including blankets, formula, and quilts etc. to Red Cross Society of Ukraine. On March 21, Wang Wenbin, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, announced that China will provide an additional 10 million yuan (\$1.6 million) of humanitarian assistance to Ukraine (Courtesy of Red Cross Society of China)

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