



## DECLARATION OF THE MAYORS OF THE PACT OF FREE CITIES

The Russian Government's unprovoked and brazen decision to invade the free and independent state of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 is an act of war unparalleled in our lifetime in Europe.

As Mayors of the Pact of Free Cities we deeply condemn President Vladimir Putin's armed aggression against Ukraine. This invasion is one of the most severe threats to European peace and security since World War II.

Ukrainian cities and the entire country are under direct and unjustifiable attack. Putin's aim is to deprive the Ukrainian people the freedom to choose their own fate and their own alliances. We want to offer our resources, support and help to people in Ukraine and stand in solidarity with them in their fight for freedom and democracy.

Last week we offered membership in the Pact of Free Cities to the Mayor of Kyiv, Vitali Klitschko. We will do what we can to welcome him in this alliance as the mayor of the free capital of a free and democratic country.

25 February 2022