Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 26, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

We want to express our gratitude for your Administration's unwavering support for Ukraine in its battle against Vladimir Putin's unlawful aggression. Your decisive leadership has been vital in thwarting Russia's initial advances and strengthening NATO's commitment to uphold democratic principles.

In this context, we urge you to reduce current limitations on Ukraine's use of long-range weapons supplied by the U.S. for targeting legitimate military sites within Russia. Continuing these restrictions not only hinders Ukraine's path to victory but also prolongs the suffering of its people as Russia escalates its assaults.

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the resilience and determination of the Ukrainian people have been remarkable. They have defied expectations, halting Russian advances and reclaiming significant territory under President Zelenskyy's leadership.

However, in the past couple of months, Russia has not wavered in striking civilians in Ukraine. In July 2024, Russia struck Ukrainian cities with more than 40 missile types, killing 42 people and damaging a children's hospital. Just this month, Russia struck Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city, which hit high-rise apartment buildings, leaving at least 21 wounded including an 8-year-old child. Russia also did not place restrictions on their weapons when it targeted Kharkiv earlier in August 2024, killing a 14-year old girl when a Russian guided bomb hit a playground.

Granting Ukraine greater access to long-range weaponry would enhance its operational capabilities, enabling precise attacks that could disrupt Russian military operations. While necessary support has eventually been provided, delays have cost Ukraine dearly in terms of both time and lives. We must act swiftly to empower Ukraine to defeat Russian aggression.

Throughout this conflict, Ukraine has consistently shown that, despite its challenges, it can overcome a formidable adversary when properly equipped. It is crucial for the United States and NATO allies to not only deter Russian aggression but to enable Ukraine to fight unhindered by restrictions.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue. We look forward to collaborating closely with you and your Administration to ensure Ukraine has the tools it needs to win.

Sincerely,

Catherine Cortez Masto

United States Senator

Jacky Rosen

United States Senator

Dina Titus

Member of Congress

Susie Lee

Member of Congress

Steven Horsford

Member of Congress