

CRISIS ACTION

RUSSIA: STOP YOUR WAR ON UKRAINE

The government of Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a manifest violation of the United Nations Charter and an act of aggression that is a crime under international law. All those involved in this crime must be held accountable and the war must end immediately. Indiscriminate attacks violate international humanitarian law (the laws of war) and can constitute war crimes. Tell Russian authorities—including President Vladimir Putin, Minister of Defense General Sergey Shoigu and Russian Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov—that the government of Russia must stop its war on Ukraine, stop attacking civilians and civilian objects in Ukraine, stop violating the human rights of peaceful protesters, and comply with its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

TAKE ACTION

By each of us doing a small part, we can use the power of collective action to generate a global tidal wave of pressure on the Russian authorities mentioned above to stop the war and respect human rights. It won't be easy, but it IS possible. Amnesty is using all of the tools in its global toolbox, from activism to research—but we need YOU! Here are actions we encourage you to take and share with others. Please visit www.amnestyusa.org/UkraineCrisis for more information.

1. **Sign and share** Amnesty USA's [online petition](http://www.amnestyusa.org/UkraineCrisis) to Minister of Defense General Shoigu and Russian Ambassador to the USA Anatoly Antonov (available at www.amnestyusa.org/UkraineCrisis)
2. **Flood the Russian Ambassador to the USA and the Embassy** in DC and consulates in Houston, NYC and San Francisco with emails, letters, phone calls, postcards, faxes and Tweets, using the sample letter and messaging below. Direct your efforts to the Russian Ambassador to the USA, Anatoly Antonov, as well as to the Consul Generals in Houston, NYC and SF:

<p>Embassy of Russia to the USA Anatoly Antonov Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States of America 2650 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. Washington, DC 20007 Phone: (202) 298-5700 & (202) 939-8907 Fax: (202) 298-5735 Email: rusembusa@mid.ru & Ruspressusa@mid.ru Twitter: @RussiaInUSA Website: https://washington.mid.ru/en/ Salutation: Dear Ambassador</p>	<p>Russian Consulate, New York, NY 9 East 91 Street, New York, NY 10128 Phone:(212) 534-3782; (212) 348-0750 Fax:(212) 831-9162 Email: mailny@mid.ru Consul General: Sergei K. Ovsyannikov</p>
<p>Russian Consulate, Houston, TX 1333 West Loop South, Ste.1300, Houston, TX 77027 Phone: (713) 337-3300 Fax: (713) 337-3305 Email: info@rusconshouston.org</p>	<p>Russian Consulate, San Francisco, CA 2790 Green St., San Francisco, CA., 94123 Phone: (415) 928-6878 Fax: (415) 929-0306 Email: consulsf@consulrussia.org Consul General: Sergey V. Petrov</p>



Consul General: Alexander Zakharov	
------------------------------------	--

Sample message:

Dear Ambassador,

The government of Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a manifest violation of the United Nations Charter and an act of aggression that is a crime under international law. All those involved in this crime must be held accountable and the war must end immediately.

The Russian military's invasion of Ukraine has been marked by indiscriminate attacks on civilian areas and strikes on protected objects such as hospitals. Indiscriminate attacks violate international humanitarian law (the laws of war) and can constitute war crimes.

I urge you to do everything in your power to ensure that the government of Russia immediately ends its war on Ukraine, stops attacking civilians and civilian objects, stops carrying out indiscriminate attacks in violation of the laws of war and holds perpetrators to account, and stops arresting and violating the human rights of people in Russia who are peacefully protesting against the war.

Sincerely,

3. **Organize and join protests:** Demonstrations, protests, marches, and other visible actions are effective at getting attention of the media and people on social media, which can in turn add to the pressure Russian authorities on human rights. When organizing or attending such actions, please follow CDC protocols for protection against COVID-19. When organizing or attending actions with clothing or signs that identify you as part of Amnesty International, please use messaging that says: Russia: Stop Your War on Ukraine; Russia: Stop Attacking Civilians in Ukraine; or Stand with Ukraine. Invite your local media to cover the action and take and post lots of photos and videos on social media using the hashtag #StandWithUkraine. Please contact us for help with organizing events, alerting local media or any other questions: campaigns@aiusa.org.
4. **Share on social media:** Sharing information and actions on Twitter, Instagram, Tiktok, Facebook and other social media platforms is an effective way to engage and mobilize people, and put pressure on government officials. Please share content from the [@AmnestyUSA](https://twitter.com/AmnestyUSA) accounts and use the hashtag #StandWithUkraine.
5. **Write a letter to the editor (LTE) or op-ed in your local paper:** These are great ways to uplift human rights in your local media and we have this useful [LTE & Op-Ed Toolkit](#) to make it easy. Please refer to the sample letter above for guidance on what to write. If you need help, email us at campaigns@aiusa.org.
6. **Get Creative!** Share your ideas for creative actions and stunts with us at campaigns@aiusa.org.
7. **Let us know the actions you took:** Please email us at campaigns@aiusa.org to let us know the actions you took. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information, please visit www.amnestyusa.org/UkraineCrisis and refer to the following Amnesty documents:

March 3, 2022: Press Release: *Temporary Protection Is Needed for Everyone Fleeing Ukraine*
<https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/temporary-protection-is-needed-for-everyone-fleeing-ukraine/>

March 1, 2022: Press Release: *Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Is an Act of Aggression and Human Rights Catastrophe* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/russias-invasion-of-ukraine-is-an-act-of-aggression-and-human-rights-catastrophe/>

February 28, 2022: Press Release: *Kremlin Censors Media and Disperses Protesters Opposed to Ukraine Invasion in Russia* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/kremlin-censors-media-and-disperses-protesters-opposed-to-ukraine-invasion-in-russia/>

February 27, 2022: Press Release: *Cluster Munitions Kill Child and Two Other Civilians Taking Shelter at Preschool in Ukraine* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/cluster-munitions-kill-child-and-two-other-civilians-taking-shelter-at-a-preschool-in-ukraine/>

February 25, 2022: Press Release: *Russian Military Commits Indiscriminate Attacks During the Invasion of Ukraine* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/russian-military-commits-indiscriminate-attacks-during-the-invasion-of-ukraine/>

February 24, 2022: Press Release: *Soaring Concern for Human Rights and Human Lives as Russia Invades Ukraine* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/soaring-concern-for-human-rights-and-human-lives-as-russia-invades-ukraine/>

February 16, 2022: Letter: *Amnesty International USA urges the State Department to protect human rights in Ukraine as the risk of further conflict with Russia grows* <https://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/government-relations/advocacy/russia-ukraine-armed-conflict/>

On military interventions: Generally, Amnesty does not publicly take a position on particular military interventions, focusing instead on documenting and condemning human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law (the laws of war) and demanding accountability for war crimes and other serious violations. However, Amnesty may, in exceptional situations, oppose military interventions which are particularly likely to lead to human rights abuses. In order to do so, a decision must be taken by our International Board following consultation with our national sections. We have just completed this process. After hearing from the leaders of our national sections, the International Board decided that Amnesty International opposes Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE: Please continue to take action as long as the government of Russia continues its war on Ukraine. To report your actions or ask questions, please email us at campaigns@aiusa.org.