March 3, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington D.C. 20500

The Honorable Antony Blinken  
Secretary  
Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden and Secretary Blinken,

We write to call attention to the impending refugee crisis in Europe following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and request that you brief Congress on the administration’s plans to provide aid. Our NATO Allies and Partners who share a border with Ukraine are likely to experience an influx of several million refugees, and millions more will be internally displaced. The United States, together with the international community and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), must ensure that all Ukrainians fleeing their homes because of President Putin’s aggressive actions are provided with adequate humanitarian support.

On February 24, President Putin ordered a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, a sovereign country and valued U.S. partner. This follows weeks of speculation about a Russian invasion after the Kremlin moved 200,000 troops, weapons, supplies, and established temporary structures on the border of Ukraine. President Putin’s violation of Ukraine’s territorial integrity and national sovereignty is illegal and unacceptable. We applaud you for pledging your continuous support to Ukraine and vowing to hit Moscow with escalated and punishing sanctions to deter further action.

We are days into Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and already refugees are fleeing into Moldova, Romania, and Poland. We commend the thousands of U.S. troops in Eastern Europe who are preparing to help process fleeing Ukrainians. Additionally, we applaud the U.S. Agency for International Development’s (USAID) deployment of a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to respond to growing humanitarian needs. However, this cannot and will not be the end of the United States’ involvement in mitigating this potential humanitarian crisis. We urge you to work with the international community to provide funding for essential aid, including but not limited to shelter, food, water, sanitation, medical care, children’s aid, education, and COVID-19 supplies.

We ask that you share plans to deliver aid and update Congress on how the U.S. is coordinating with the international community and NGOs to accommodate Ukrainian refugees. We stand ready to work hand in hand with you to ensure that Congress provides any additional resources necessary to avert further catastrophe.
Thank you for your time and we look forward to an expeditious response.

Sincerely,

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.  
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

Jeff Fortenberry  
Member of Congress

John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

Cynthia Axne
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Ron Kind
Member of Congress
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Kathy E. Manning
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress

Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

Marie Newman  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

David E. Price  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

David J. Trone  
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress