

22 June 2015, Warsaw

**Rt Hon Philip Hammond**

Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs

King Charles Street

London, SW1A2AH

Dear Secretary of State Hammond,

I am addressing you as the President of the Open Dialog Foundation (ODF), international NGO strongly committed to promoting broader respect for human rights, development of democratic structures and institutions, as well as rule of law in the post-Soviet space, **in relation to the EU sanctions imposed on the Russian Federation for its active and illegal involvement in the critical situation in Ukraine.**

From the very beginning of the protests on Maidan Square in Kiev, through tragic and repressive response of the then authorities, elections, change in power and current struggle both against the aggression in the east of the country, as well as on a systemic level to push for the necessary reforms, the Open Dialog Foundation has been standing firmly by the Ukrainian society. We have been organising direct humanitarian help and working along with Ukrainian political and civil society on sharing the know-how and building up capacities to prepare the reforms that the country so much needs. I am happy to furnish you with a summary of our activities in this field.

Ukraine has to be able to build upon its experiences in order to transition into a fully democratic system and society. In this context, the regular and pervasive interference of the Russian Federation, aimed at weakening the Ukrainian state, undermining its independence and credibility, fuelling indirectly the aggression in the east and spreading the propaganda, constitutes a reality that needs to be faced, understood and countered.

The continuous support of the EU, on all levels – political, economic and expert knowledge sharing, has been and is crucial and much appreciated. We believe that strong words and decisions have to be followed by concrete actions and we see the current and coherent position of the EU Member States on the EU sanctions against Russia as such.



**OPEN DIALOG**

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In order to further strengthen the message of support and transparent dialogue between the EU Member States and the civil society, **we would like to kindly ask you to inform us and render public information about concrete steps undertaken by your country in order to implement the said sanctions, as well as concrete cases of the application, in particular, of the restrictive measures.** We believe that increased transparency in this regard would be further beneficial to the cause and would help foster an increased genuine understanding of the EU position both within the EU Member States and abroad.

Please note that we have addressed Ministers of Foreign Affairs of all EU Member States with a similar request.

Sincerely yours,

  
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**Lyudmyla Kozlovska**

President of the Open Dialog Foundation

**Attachments:**

1. MyZWami – Summary of ODF's support measures for Ukraine between 21 November, 2013 and 25 November, 2014



### ***About Open Dialog Foundation***

*The statutory objectives of the Open Dialog Foundation include protection of human rights, democracy and rule of law in the post-Soviet area. The Foundation pursues its goals through the organisation of observation missions, including election observation and monitoring of the human rights situation in the countries of the region. Based on these activities, the Foundation creates reports and distributes them among the institutions of the EU, the OSCE and other international organisations, foreign ministries and parliaments of EU countries, analytical centres and media.*

*In addition to observational and analytical activities, the Foundation is actively engaged in cooperation with members of parliaments involved in foreign affairs, human rights and relationships with the countries of focus, in order to support the process of democratisation and liberalisation of internal policies in the post-Soviet area. Significant areas of the Foundation's activities also include support programmes for political prisoners and refugees. Particular attention of the Foundation is focused on the largest countries of the region: Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan.*

*Financial statements and annual reports on the activities of the Foundation are submitted to the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and are available on the Foundation's website. Statutory bodies of the Foundation are the Management Board and the Foundation Board. The current President of the Management Board is Lyudmyla Kozlovska, and the Head of the Foundation Board is Bartosz Kramek.*

*The Foundation's headquarters are located in Warsaw. The Foundation has permanent representatives in Brussels and Kiev.*

