



FECEC appeal: banks have a duty to act for the victims of the war in Ukraine.

28 February 2022



After the shock, horror and indignation caused by the war in Ukraine, we feel a sense of duty. We express our solidarity with all the victims of this war, the most serious and unjust on European soil since the Second World War. Without being naive about geopolitics, we note that this war is the responsibility of the Russian leaders and that the Russian and Ukrainian peoples are victims of them. Many Russians have already stated this loud and clear in the media, at the risk of their lives. It is our turn to state loud and clear our rejection of this war. We must do everything to put an end to it. We must do everything to help the refugees who could number in the millions.

We also call on European leaders and the heads of the major European and world banks to do everything possible to help Ukraine defend its country, to act in favor of welcoming Ukrainian refugees, to do everything to prevent the Russian leaders from continuing to profit from trade and to enrich themselves.

We the representatives of European bank managers, call on the banks to use all their know-how and resources to achieve these goals.

-By providing as quickly as possible the necessary means to Ukrainians, refugees or not, by giving them payment facilities for example, but also to all the actors close to Ukraine who will have to welcome Ukrainian refugees.

-The banks have benefited from significant profits from COVID and should use part of these profits to help Ukrainian refugees.

-By blocking Russian financial activities

Directly, by blocking via SWIFT Russian activities, by mobilizing all their anti-money laundering know-how, by facilitating the monitoring and reporting of any suspicious Russian financial activity.

-By regulating and controlling crypto-currencies that can be used by oligarchs close to the Russian government to circumvent sanctions, and by promoting their use by Ukraine to receive international donations.

All these measures must be aimed at helping the victims and refugees and at stopping the war.

We express once again our solidarity with the Ukrainian people, the refugees and all those who help them and we have a special thought for our Polish colleagues of Dialog2005 who we know have been mobilized since the beginning of this crisis.