

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 25, 2022

The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Austin,

We write in our capacity as the bipartisan leadership of the United States delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly to convey an urgent request on behalf of our colleagues from the Ukrainian Parliament.

This morning, the U.S. delegation held an emergency meeting with the Ukrainian delegation to the Assembly. The head of the Ukrainian delegation, Yehor Cherniev, made an impassioned plea on three specific points of security assistance.

- (1) As the nature of the conflict evolves, there is a need for Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) to assist with long range artillery capabilities. Specifically, our Ukrainian colleagues would appreciate clarity from the Department of Defense on what is needed to provide the Ukrainian military with these systems as well as the training necessary to operate them effectively and in accordance with U.S. standards.

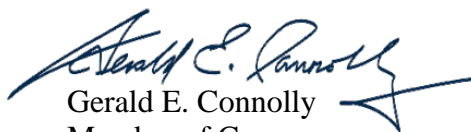
The MLRS is their top priority. They have also raised two additional points of assistance.

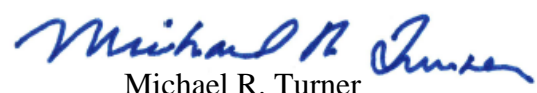
- (2) The Ukrainian air force requires immediate training for pilots.
- (3) The Ukrainian military is also requesting land-based anti-ship missiles to help break a blockade of Ukrainian agricultural products, which are critical to the global food supply.

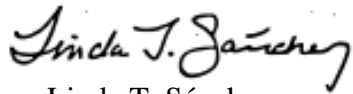
As the Department begins to implement the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022, please help us resolve these requests from our Ukrainian colleagues. If there are obstacles to fulfilling these requests immediately, please provide a detailed explanation of any sources of delay or consideration.

The Ukrainian people have already demonstrated the willingness to resist, they just require the means to do so.

Best Regards,


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress


Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



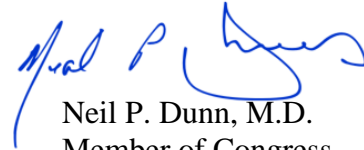
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