

Statement for the Record
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia
House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe
June 22, 2023

Chairman Kean, Ranking Member Keating, Members of the Committee: thank you for the opportunity to testify today. At the Department of Defense, I am responsible for policy regarding Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia. I want to focus my remarks on the U.S. policy response to Russia's aggression in Ukraine, and in particular our work alongside allies and partners to provide Ukrainian forces with the capabilities and training they need to defend the Ukrainian people and repel Russia's invasion.

Our objective in Ukraine is to ensure the existence of a free, prosperous, and democratic Ukraine that can defend itself and deter further Russian aggression. Ukraine is attempting to liberate its territory from Russian occupation or control, including in its latest counteroffensive. Ukraine is well-prepared and equipped. Although the course of a war is dynamic and unpredictable, we have great confidence in the training, capabilities, and preparedness of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The security assistance that the United States and our allies and partners have provided is substantial, but those resources reflect the shared interests and values at stake. Russia's war of aggression is a clear and present danger, not only to Ukraine itself but also to the security of Europe and to the basic principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity that uphold global stability. Russia's atrocities in Ukraine are an assault on our common values and our common humanity.

In a crisis of this magnitude, one that implicates our national interests and values and those of the larger free world, the United States must lead. When we lead with determination and purpose, our friends also respond.

For evidence, consider the collective contributions of the group of 50-plus nations Secretary Austin has assembled in the Ukraine Defense Contact Group. Last week I joined Secretary Austin in Brussels to participate in the 13th meeting

of the Contact Group, where we discussed how we can collectively address Ukraine's priority requirements—both for the immediate fight and for the longer term.

All told, we have marshaled over \$28 billion in security assistance commitments from allies and partners—including in top priority areas of air defense, armor, and artillery. Nine European countries have committed more than \$1 billion each. You can put the dollar figures in perspective by considering security assistance to Ukraine as a percentage of GDP. By that measure, the United States currently ranks only 12th globally.

It is also helpful to break down the contributions into categories of capabilities. For example, over half of the tanks, armored personnel carriers, and infantry fighting vehicles provided to Ukraine are from allies and partners. Over half of the 155mm artillery systems are from allies and partners. Over half of the counter-unmanned aerial system capabilities, and about half of the Stinger and Javelin missiles, are from allies and partners.

Moreover, our allies and partners are having a major impact in training Ukrainian forces. In fact, allies have trained more than three times the number of Ukrainian soldiers than the United States has trained.

Coalitions of allies have started to emerge to focus on certain capabilities. For example, Germany and Poland are collaborating to provide Ukraine with Leopard tanks, as well as the training and maintenance needed to make them effective. The Netherlands and Denmark are collaborating to set up training for Ukrainian pilots to fly fourth-generation fighter aircraft.

We are also starting to see allies make longer-term funding commitments. Germany has authorized about \$13 billion in support to Ukraine over the next nine to ten years. Norway has committed over \$7 billion in support over five years. On June 19, Denmark announced \$3.2 billion in funding over five years.

Finally, it is important to note the growing collaboration between the United States and our allies and partners on industrial production of critical capabilities for Ukraine, and to replenish our own stocks. The war has led the Department of

Defense to mobilize the defense industrial base in a way that we have not seen in decades, and we are working to further expand capacity. A forum of National Armaments Directors, set up under the auspices of the Contact Group and led by the Under Secretary for Acquisition and Sustainment, continues to coordinate these efforts internationally

In addition to providing a steady flow of security assistance to meet urgent needs on the battlefield, we prioritize the accountability of that assistance. To date, we have not seen credible evidence of the illicit diversion of U.S.-provided advanced conventional weapons, although Russia continues to spread disinformation to the contrary. That said, DoD continues to implement adapted end-use monitoring measures in Ukraine to track sensitive U.S. weapons systems and proactively prevent arms proliferation.

Importantly, DoD personnel at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv are conducting in-person site visits to verify arms inventories, when and where it is safe to do so.

To complement in-person verification, DoD has also expanded self-reporting mechanisms for the Ukrainians to provide additional data, and has provided them with handheld scanners to remotely account for equipment across the country – including locations where it is not safe for U.S. personnel to visit. Ukraine continues to provide this information openly and transparently, and has given our personnel unprecedented access to their military sites and databases to support these efforts.

Our ability to provide Ukraine's forces with the capabilities they need, now and over the longer term, rests on continued bipartisan support in Congress. I am committed to working closely with you to maintain enduring support for this national security imperative.