

## NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ZP-071-1/22

Central Election Commission of Ukraine

Dear Friends

The National Electoral Commission of the Republic of Poland looks at the suffering of the Ukrainian people caused by the onslaught of the Russian Federation with great pain and grief, and admires the heroism shown by Ukrainians in defense of the sovereignty of their country.

The defense of Ukraine against this aggression is also a defense of the democratic world and civil rights, and all institutions that are responsible for conducting elections serve those rights. By starting the invasion, the authorities of the Russian Federation have proven that they are unfamiliar with those values and have put their state and its institutions away from all those for whom these values are the guarantee of peace, security, international cooperation and welfare of their citizens.

The National Electoral Commission of the Republic of Poland believes that institutions responsible for conducting elections, as one of the most important foundations of democracy, cannot cooperate with their Russian counterparts which have now become authorities of a state that brutally violates international standards, rights of other sovereign states and nations, and that is responsible for the death and suffering of the victims of war. The National Electoral Commission has decided to immediately terminate any contacts with those bodies and believes it cannot participate in organizations that would tolerate among their members authorities of any states involved in any actions that are an extreme negation of democratic values and human rights.

The National Electoral Commission of the Republic of Poland would like to express to the Central Election Commission of Ukraine – and through it, to the people of Ukraine and Ukrainian authorities – its deepest admiration for the courage and determination of those who today have been brutally attacked, have become the victims of suffering, and the defenders of values which are most dear to all democratic states and nations.

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Chairman of the National Electoral Commission

Sylwester Marciniak