

"Italy repudiates war as an instrument of offence against the freedom of other peoples and as a means of settlement of international disputes; it consents, on equal terms with other States, to the limitations of sovereignty necessary for an order that ensures peace and justice among nations; it promotes and encourages international organizations for this purpose'. (art.11 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic)

We stand with the war-torn Ukrainian people and victims of Russian aggression. Ukraine is resisting in many ways, military and civilian, but war is always a defeat, for all parties involved, for diplomacy and for politics. In recent days there has been growing concern about the dramatic acceleration of an atrocious conflict, which may lead to a tragic world war and which is already triggering a food crisis that is being paid for by so many, especially in some of the poorest nations on the planet.

It is the responsibility of the European Union to promote a concrete peace initiative. War has erupted in Europe and it is the EU countries that will bear the social, economic, energy and military consequences. The EU will be largely responsible for the financing and rebuilding of Ukrainian cities and infrastructure.

The EU must immediately act with one voice, with the united push of the European Parliament and the Commission, becoming a reliable intermediary not only delegating decisions that primarily concern Europe to the United States of America and NATO.

We must work to establish a new climate of harmony in Europe and start "a new climate of consensus in the world", as President Mattarella said in Strasbourg, "a dialogue, not tests of strength between great powers that must realise that they are less and less such".

Negotiations for a final peace agreement should be opened immediately!

Russia must immediately cease military operations, and we call on all parties involved to engage in peace talks and at the same time call for the immediate withdrawal of Russian troops.

We call on all international organisations, first and foremost the United Nations, but especially the European Union, to immediately assume responsibility for an intermediary role that will enable a ceasefire in Ukraine as soon as possible and avoid at all costs the widening and worsening of the conflict in other regions of Europe.

We demand that the European Union and our government act within the framework of the General Assembly of the United Nations, with decisive action vis-à-vis the Security Council for the deployment of forces ('peace-keeping') under the flag of the United Nations, to ensure respect for a ceasefire, making the protection of civilians their priority. Humanitarian operations should be intensified in Ukraine and on its borders. The United Nations must be guaranteed safe and unhindered access to all areas of the conflict.

We call for the immediate establishment of a safe humanitarian corridor for refugees and displaced persons, and for the transit of life-saving medical supplies and personnel.

We demand that a politically united European Union act in international negotiations as a mediating actor with a shared and strong position, becoming the important autonomous and independent actor needed in the phase of redefining new geopolitical balances. We must ward off the risk that Europe will be bypassed and that other fora will be used to take strategically fundamental decisions regarding a conflict in one of the countries on the EU's borders.

We demand that the EU apply Article 21 of the EU Treaty (Title V), which states: "The Union shall promote multilateral solutions to common problems, in particular within the United Nations. (...) The Union shall work to ensure a high level of cooperation in all fields of international relations in order to: (...) preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, ..."

We demand that the European Union activates a common and interdependent European security system, a genuine Defence and Security Union with two 'arms', one non-aggressive military and the other non-violent civil, whose objectives should be made explicit and clarified, and which should be aimed at the exclusive internal defence of the territory of the Union and its Member States and externally only, and strictly, as peace-keeping forces. Also, and at the same time, structuring unarmed civil defence networks and common policies of international cooperation for sustainable development.

We demand that the EU redefine the rules for the reception of refugees and immigrants and all those who flee wars, violence and misery. The reception of Ukrainian refugees has shown that the European Union can act quickly and effectively, using the instrument of temporary protection, and by bringing the reform of the Dublin Regulation to a conclusion.

We demand that the European Union promotes within the framework of the OSCE and the United Nations, and on the basis of existing international agreements (Helsinki Agreements of 1975), a treaty between all actors involved in the conflict, surpassing all the activities carried out so far in random order by individual European countries. Only an international conference can address the issue of multilateral disarmament, a priority for the survival of mankind in the time of weapons of mass destruction increasingly governed by artificial intelligence, and for global social and economic progress.

The European Union, a community of peoples and a great laboratory for the peaceful integration of states, can facilitate the construction of a system of multilateral geopolitical balance, whilst respecting different political and economic regimes, and boost the development of a shared world governance. For this reason, it will be urgent to tackle the profound reforms needed in international institutions, starting from the UN and its strategies and related multilateral bodies.