



Ministerial Declaration of the Carpathian Convention on the impact of war on the environment in Ukraine and the need for cooperation and assistance

We, the Ministers and High-Level Representatives of the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, being responsible for implementation of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (hereinafter referred to as the “Carpathian Convention”), having met in Rzeszów, Poland on 22 November 2022, on the occasion of the Carpathian Ministerial Conference

Taking into account the Russian military aggression in Ukraine and its negative ecological, socio-economic and humanitarian consequences for the Carpathian region;

Recalling the provisions of the Carpathian Convention on the importance of sub-regional cooperation for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians;

Stressing the efforts invested in building strong collaboration and friendship for sustainable future of the unique Carpathian region, which the Ukrainian part of the Carpathians constitute a remarkable and critical part of;

Noting the statement by the deputy minister of environmental protection and natural resources of Ukraine and the report on the impact of war on the natural environment of the Carpathians in Ukraine and the identified needs to address its consequences

- reaffirm our close cooperation with Ukraine on the further implementation of the Carpathian Convention for the protection and sustainable development of the whole Carpathian region;
- express our will to assist Ukraine in possible measures needed to address the environmental consequences of the direct and indirect impacts of the war in Ukraine on the Carpathians, particularly on the natural environment and on the nature protection services;
- emphasize the role of the Carpathian Convention as an important intergovernmental mechanism and in this respect recommend further consultation with relevant actors on providing support to measures needed to address the consequences of the direct and indirect impacts of the war in Ukraine on the Carpathians, as appropriate;
- invite stakeholders and partners to contribute to the process of green recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine.