



THE SENATE  
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

13<sup>TH</sup> TERM

296<sup>th</sup>

**RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE**

Delivered on the 15<sup>th</sup> session held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council on EU-Russia relations – Push back, constrain and engage (Senate Print no. K 055/13, JOIN(2021) 20)**

**The Senate**

**I. Supports,**

in compliance with the Joint Communication, coordinated approach of the EU and its Member States towards the Russian Federation that is based on intensive dialogue and coordination between all Member States of the EU and its institutions;

**II. Recalls**

1. its 171<sup>st</sup> Resolution delivered on 21 April 2021 on relations between the Czech Republic and Russia in association with the attacks in Vrbětice, in which the Senate appealed for joint approach within the EU and NATO towards Russia and requested to discuss the current aggression against the Czech Republic as an EU Member State at the European Council meeting;
2. Conclusions of the Foreign Affairs Council agreed on 10 May 2021 declaring solidarity with the Czech Republic;
3. Conclusions of the Council agreed on 24 May 2021 condemning illegal, provocative and subversive activities of the Russian Federation against the EU, its Member States and other, such as the Eastern Partnership countries;
4. Final communiqué of the NATO summit held on 14 June 2021, in which Member States declared solidarity with the Czech Republic and called on the Russian Federation to revoke the decision to include the Czech Republic on the list of non-friendly states and to proceed in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of the United Nations;
5. Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Russian Federation on friendly relations and cooperation in the framework which the dialogue on controversial issues of mutual interest has not been successful;

## *Courtesy translation*

6. Regulation of the Government of the Russian Federation of 23 April 2021, which included the Czech Republic on the list of non-friendly states and which, according to the Czech Republic's communication to Russia, constitutes a violation of international law and the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations;

### **III. Appreciates**

the Resolution of the European Parliament adopted on 23 April 2021 condemning that the Russian intelligence services were responsible for the explosion of ammunition depots in Vrbětice, thus committing an act which undermines the sovereignty of the Czech Republic and constitutes an unacceptable hostile act, and calls on the EU Member States to take a coordinated approach towards Russia;

### **IV. Expresses its appreciation**

for the solidarity and assistance of the allies, which confirm solidarity of the states defending civil liberties, the rule of law and democracy;

### **V. States with concern that**

1. the repression of journalists, members of the political opposition and civil society in Russia is intensifying;
2. there will be no observer mission from part of OSCE, of which Russia is a Member State, during the elections to the Russian Parliament in September 2021;

### **VI. Is convinced that**

1. the EU's support of the Russian civil society is of paramount importance;
2. relations between EU Member States and Russia should be based on the following principles:
  - a) the implementation of the Second Minsk Agreement for the resolution of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine as a precondition for any significant changes in the EU-Russia relations;
  - b) strengthening of relations with the EU's eastern partners and other neighbours, including Central Asia;
  - c) strengthening of the EU's resilience in areas such as energy security, hybrid threats or strategic communication;
  - d) selective cooperation with Russia on matters of EU's interest;
  - e) establishing people-to-people contacts and support of Russian civil society;

### **VII. Authorises**

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic and the European Commission.

Miloš Vystrčil  
sign manual  
President of the Senate

Adéla Šípová  
sign manual  
Senate Verifier