

**Rede Doris Fiala anlässlich der Dringlichkeitsdebatte im Europarat zu den Unruhen in der Ukraine, Donnerstag, 30. Januar 2014**

*Dear Ms President,*

*Ladies and gentlemen,*

*I am very grateful to my colleagues from ALDE group to give me a floor.*

*We should realise that Ukraine is a country in the centre of greater Europe, and violence, violation of the Council of Europe values and constitutional rights of people is happening in the heart of Europe!*

*I am proud that our rapporteurs, two brave women, had enough courage to come out with a very strong message to Ukrainian authorities and our group supports them in it.*

*But in addition, I have also a special mission, and I am honoured to perform it on behalf of young Ukrainian people living in Europe. People who want to express their solidarity with their homeland.*

*They addressed an open letter to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, signed by 1390 persons within 2 days.*

*I am sure that your hearts will be touched as mine was, when I read an extract of this letter:*

*" The recent use of force by the government against protesters, media, and civil societies, unprecedented in the Ukrainian history, was accompanied by acts of selective justice and adoption of draconian laws.*

*The numbers of victims are shocking: many are dead or missing; hundreds were injured, tortured and subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment. Acts of violence were conducted either directly by agents of the law enforcement or with their support.*

*We ask you to make use of all appropriate measures and mechanisms to stop the violence and systemic violation of human rights.*

*Sent monitors, mediators, establish independent international commission in order to duly investigate the crimes against people.*

*We join the position of those who have already pointed out the necessity of introducing targeted sanctions against the Ukrainian government officials."*

*Dear friends!*

*I am convinced that the message we send in our resolution today, first of all, should express our solidarity with these people who believe in Europe and its values.*

*They don't want to live in corrupted society; they want to live according to our values.*

*We are the "conscience of Europe" and should demand immediate stop of bloodbath in Ukraine, which continues as we speak, and urge the government not to transform the country into dictatorship.*

*We should all stand up against systems which allow corrupt officials and legislators.*

*We should facilitate visas regime to the people of Ukraine, allowing them to travel, learn languages, obtain better education and to acquire important knowledge of democratic state-building, which they can further use in developing their country, not to leave Ukraine, but to build real democracy in Ukraine.*

*On behalf of the group of Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe I call the members of the Assembly to support the resolution.*