## JOINT DECLARATION

by

President of the Czech Republic, H.E. Petr Pavel,
President of the Slovak Republic, H.E. Zuzana Čaputová
and President of Ukraine, H.E. Volodymyr Zelenskyy

Presidents of the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine met on 28 April 2023 in Kyiv, where three heads of states issued the following Joint Declaration:

Marking the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the establishment of mutual diplomatic relations and reflecting on close friendly relations among the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, and Ukraine.

Sharing a common history, common universal values and the common future in the European project of peace and prosperity,

Underlining that the shared history of the three nations and mutual respect offer a solid basis for enhancing further mutually beneficial cooperation and intensive ties in areas of joint interests with positive impacts for the people,

Emphasizing the EU and NATO's unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and recalling all the relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly to this end,

Condemning in the strongest possible terms Russian Federation's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine that undermines the basic principles of the United Nations' Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and the international rules-based order,

Supporting Ukraine's inherent right to self-defense based on the Article 51 of the United Nations' Charter and its sovereign right to decide about its own future and to choose its own security arrangements,

Appreciating the unprecedented role and scale of the assistance provided by the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic from the very beginning of the Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, including through lethal and non-lethal military assistance, winterization, humanitarian aid, hospitality and strong support for the refugees from Ukraine on their soil,

Acknowledging Ukraine's significant contribution to the security of Euro-Atlantic area and beyond, in particular through heroically standing up to Russia's military aggression,

Recalling that the Constitution of Ukraine defines acquiring full-fledged membership in the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as a strategic course of the state and noting the overwhelming support of Ukraine's population in this regard,

Recalling the Joint Statement of Presidents of nine Central and Eastern European NATO Member States as of October 2, 2022, which highlighted the support to Ukraine's future membership in the Alliance and encouraged the Allies to increase their military assistance to Ukraine substantially,

## The Presidents of three nations:

- Emphasize sharing universal values, including respect for dignity, freedom, democracy, equality and diversity, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including rights of persons belonging to national minorities and media freedom that are at the heart of the EU project;
- Agree that a sovereign, free and democratic Ukraine is one of the key factors for ensuring security and stability in Europe;

assist Ukraine with its transformation efforts, including through sharing their integration experiences;

- Reaffirm the necessity of a transparent process of recovery and the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine based on the EU reform agendas and in close cooperation with civil society to safeguard the European future of modern Ukraine, and express mutual interest in working together on relief and reconstruction, wherever safe and possible;
- Reconfirm mutual interest to sustain and further strengthen Ukraine's defense capabilities vis-à-vis Russia's aggression, the Czech and the Slovak Republics' support providing necessary assistance and enhancing mutual cooperation in the military industry field and training;
- Agree to further encourage robust international political, practical and material support for Ukraine aimed at ensuring its abilities to effectively defend its territories on land, at sea and in the air:
- Reaffirm their intention to cooperate at European and international fora with regard to liberation of Ukraine's territories temporarily occupied by Russia, particularly by promoting the President Zelenskyy's Peace Formula and the International Crimea Platform:
- Emphasize the global importance of Ukraine's consistent efforts of continuing the Black Sea Grain Initiative and the Grain from Ukraine Humanitarian Program, aimed at enhancing the world-wide food security, and agree to mitigate the risks of abusing the Green corridors:
- Express their readiness to contribute to processes regarding the new international security arrangements for Ukraine before its NATO membership;
- Welcome Ukraine's significant progress in advancing on the path of Euro-Atlantic integration, in particular with regard to the country's growing interoperability with NATO standards;
- Confirm their commitment to strengthen joint efforts to ensure further progress towards implementation of EU and NATO standards by Ukraine on its path towards the membership in both organizations;
- Note that the Czech and the Slovak Republics as two NATO members stand ready to intensify their support of Ukraine's ambition to join the Alliance once the conditions allow for it:
- Agree that the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine will to work closely on all the matters mentioned above in bilateral, trilateral or in multilateral formats.

Signed in Kyiv on 28 April 2023, in English language.

For the Czech Republic

For the Slovak Republic

For/Ukraine

H.E. President

Petr Pavel

H.E. President

Zuzana Čaputová

H.E. President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy