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Russian draft resolution on Ukraine passed by UN Security Council

17/02/2015



The resolution was submitted to the UNSC by Russia on February 13, a day after the Minsk deal was agreed on. It is aimed at endorsing and executing the Minsk agreements. The document also expresses concern over the continuing violence in eastern Ukraine, and stresses the importance of resolving the conflict peacefully.

*"After the unprecedented diplomatic efforts last week, Ukraine has a chance to turn a dramatic page in its history,"* said Russia's UN envoy Vitaly Churkin, who expressed *"gratitude"* towards the other parties for endorsing the document.

Moscow would aid *"in full"* the realization of the agreement, he added.

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The resolution calls for a *"total ceasefire"* and a *"political solution"* that respects the *"sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine"*.

The plan, hammered out during 16-hour negotiations on February 12, stipulates the comprehensive ceasefire, the withdrawal of heavy weapons from the frontline, an all-for-all prisoner exchange, and passage for humanitarian aid convoys.

In the medium turn, the Minsk peace plan calls for the withdrawal of any *"foreign troops"* and *"mercenaries"* from the conflict zone, general amnesty for the rebels and the OSCE using its

drone fleet and monitors on the ground to ensure the implementation of agreements. It also provides for handing back of the border controls of the Ukrainian government, and lifting of the economic blockade that Kiev imposed on the eastern regions.

Eventually, the treaty proposes new elections in eastern Ukraine and a decentralization that would grant more power to the rebel regions.

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