



Minutes

Meeting of the Presidium of the Association of Towns Awarded the Europe Prize

7 March, 14.00, online meeting

Participants

1. **Krzysztof Matyjaszczyk**, President of the Association, Mayor of Częstochowa;
2. **Herbert Hofauer**, The first Mayor of Altötting;
3. **Ingrid Heihs**, City Councillor, St. Pölten;
4. **Ralf Arnemann**, City councillor, Darmstadt;
5. **Ruslan Marcinkiv**, Mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk;
6. **Ann-Kathrin Allekotte**, Mayor of Mülheim an der Ruhr;
7. **Carmen Leyte**, Chairperson of the Europe Prize Sub-Committee, PACE;
8. **Joanna Iskierka**, Director of the Mayor's Office, Częstochowa;
9. **Prisca Barthel**, Office of PACE;
10. **Marzena Cuprjak-Wagner**, Częstochowa City Hall.

1. Welcoming of the participants to the meeting by Krzysztof Matyjaszczyk, President of the Association.

2. Address by Mr Ruslan Marcinkiv, Mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk:

- information on the current situation in Ukraine;
- request for support for Ukraine;
- request for support for Ukraine's efforts to close the airspace over the country.

3. Presentation of the Association's draft position on the war in Ukraine to be sent to Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament.

4. Discussion on the draft position presented:

Ingrid Heihs:

- Acceptance of the draft letter after deletion of the section on the call for closure of airspace over Ukraine;

Ralf Arnemann:

- Acceptance of the draft letter after deletion of the section on the call to close the airspace over Ukraine;



Herbert Hofauer:

- acceptance of the draft letter after deletion of the section on the call for closure of the airspace over Ukraine;
- Proposal to set up an aid fund for those affected by the ongoing hostilities in Ukraine;

Ann-Kathrin Allekotte:

- Acceptance of the draft letter after deletion of the passage on closing the airspace over Ukraine;
- Information on aid activities undertaken by Mülheim an der Ruhr for Ukraine;

Carmen Leyte:

- Greeting the participants of the meeting and expressing solidarity with the Ukrainian people;
- non-acceptance of the draft letter calling for the closure of airspace over Ukraine;

Krzysztof Matyjaszczyk:

- Proposal to prepare an appeal on behalf of the Ukrainian members of the Association to close the airspace over Ukraine.

No objection.

Ralf Arnemann:

- Proposal for the TAEP Association to be a bridge between the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the EU and the Polish Government.
- Expresses readiness to discuss with representatives of the European Parliament.

5. Discussion on a possible change of topic for the Strasbourg conference.

Herbert Hofauer:

- Proposal to change the subject
- due to the exceptional situation in Europe - suggestion to change the topic to: "Peace in Europe"

Ralf Arnemann:

- Proposal to change the theme of the conference.

President:

- In accordance with the Statutes, the topic of the conference is chosen by the General Assembly of the Association.



- the topic of the conference should remain unchanged, in view of what has been agreed so far (i.a. with Mayor of Strasbourg), while the current situation in Ukraine should be discussed at the General Assembly.

- the topic of peace on the European continent will be discussed during the discussion with the participation of representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at the General Assembly.

6. Closing of the meeting.