

CONGRESS OF RUSSIAN AMERICANS, INC.

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Congress of Russian Americans is shocked, saddened and dismayed by the tragic events which have unfolded during the last week in the Ukraine. We have always opposed any type of violence and hostile measures in handling any types of conflict and do not support any type of military confrontation.

We are greatly disturbed by the current loss of lives and concerned for all the persons affected and suffering as a result of the military actions. We are especially concerned at the prejudices and retaliations that are arising as a result throughout the United States and the world. Any form of retributions, including burning buildings, stores, egging and defacing homes, churches and other properties, is not only an unacceptable and unjust solution, but considered hate crimes and are illegal. The people, especially in our US democracy, should not be held accountable and punished due to choices and actions by any government leaders.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our members and colleagues, who have families, relatives and friends in both countries, as we are for all our Slavic brethren, and hope for a swift and sensible resolution to this offensive.

No one wins in War!

On behalf of the Congress of Russian Americans Natalie G. Sabelnik CRA President, National Board of Directors