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CONTINUED RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE: PERSPECTIVE OF CARIBBEAN STATES

Continued Russian aggression against Ukraine has had a lasting impact on many political, economic and social worldwide. Especially severe consequences have been noted after the start of the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Regions, which are fairly remotely located from the epicenter of the Russia-Ukraine war, such as Africa, Middle East, South Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean have experienced the repercussions of the hostilities. Particularly, since Ukraine and Russia are major exporters of commodities, such as agriculture crops, fertilizers and metals, halting of export flows and blocking of trade routes has had negative influences on global markets (Giordano & Michalczewsky, 2022). In case of Russia, one should also note the effect of international economic sanctions (Giordano & Michalczewsky, 2022).

One of regions of the world with a particular stance on the Russian aggression against Ukraine is the Caribbean region. Ukraine has had limited cooperation ties with the countries of the region until recently. It is necessary to further define the perspective of the Caribbean states regarding the continued Russian aggression against Ukraine in order to elaborate efficient ways of Caribbean-Ukraine collaboration. Thereby, it should be noted that at times the Caribbean region is included in the wider Latin American region, and at times it is regarded separately due to historical, economic, cultural and linguistic differences.

Generally, it should be noted that the Latin American countries (LAC) have demonstrated a range of perspectives on the russia-Ukraine war. The russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine is become a major shock to the global economy, which is unfolding as Latin America and the Caribbean countries are still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic. Particularly, the challenges are the increase of the price of food and energy, inflation rise, and slow-down of the global growth (Berg, Hidalgo, & Ziemer, 2025). Latin American countries keep showing divisions over their stance on the confrontation (Berg, Hidalgo, & Ziemer, 2025). Also, Latin America is one of the regions of the world where malicious russian propaganda targeting Ukraine is very wide-spread, involving a wide range of techniques to influence political decision-making, as well as public opinion (Zaporozhets, 2025).

The Caribbean states, particularly, through CARICOM, expressed their grave concern regarding the ongoing hostilities. The Heads of Government of CARICOM remain deeply concerned about the negative impact of the ongoing invasion of Ukraine by russia on energy, nuclear security, food security and environment (CARICOM, 2023). The countries of the Caribbean region also call for full adherence to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter (CARICOM, 2023). At the same time, Cuba as a long-standing russia's ally shows support for russia's actions. For instance, Cuba boycotted the final declaration of the Peace Summit held in Switzerland in the summer of 2024 (Berg, Hidalgo, & Ziemer, 2025).

It can be concluded that the perspective of the Caribbean states regarding the continued russian aggression against Ukraine remains peculiar. The states of the region, particularly, through CARICOM, express their concern and call on to end hostilities. At the same time, there are countries, such as Cuba, which openly support russia's stance. Ukraine needs to further promote diplomatic bilateral and multi-lateral relations with the countries of the region in order to counter russian propaganda and elaborate efficient ways of Caribbean-Ukraine collaboration.

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