

# **Urgent Appeal**

to the

**Council of Europe**

**European Parliament**

**OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

**and all institutions and citizens in Europe who care for democracy and  
compliance with international obligations**

## **Stop the European Commission from supporting Ukraine in breaching international law**

We, the undersigned organizations from all over Europe urge you to exert your influence in international politics. The United Nations ESPOO Implementation Committee on the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) clearly ruled non-compliance with the ESPOO convention by Ukraine in the case of the life-time extension of nuclear units, informing the Government of Ukraine on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013<sup>1</sup>.

In spite of this, the European Commission did not stop preparations to grant EUR 300 million loan (through its EURATOM loan facility) for Ukraine NPP Safety Upgrade Project which endorses these life-time extensions and enables more extensions at other nuclear power plants in Ukraine. Thereby the European Commission is giving support to the Ukrainian authorities despite acknowledged violation of rights of European citizens to be informed and consulted about the life-time extension of the nuclear programme in Ukraine. Non-governmental organization has been pointing out directly to the European Commission such inconsistencies and potentially arising risks.<sup>2</sup> The European Commission is also counteracting its own efforts laid down in the EU - Ukraine Association Agreement aimed at enforcing democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, a market economy and sustainable development, which is scheduled for signing in Vilnius in six months' time.

We urge you to call on the European Commission to use its financial and political leverage to ensure restoration of the rights of European citizens. We believe that the European Commission should freeze further loan approval and disbursement proceedings until Ukraine resolves the current non-compliance issues to the satisfaction of the Espoo Implementation Committee.

For more information go to: <http://bankwatch.org/news-media/for-journalists/press-releases/ukraines-nukes-are-breach-un-convention>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ecoclubrivne.org/files/Espoo13.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://bankwatch.org/sites/default/files/letter-EC-EuratomUANukes-20Jun2013.pdf>

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11. Urgewald  
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27. Zelenite political party,  
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