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Dear colleagues,

You are approached by the staff of the **Center for Army, Conversion and Disarmament Studies (CACDS)**, a well-known Ukrainian think-tank for the study of military security.

On February 24, Russia, under a contrived pretext, **launched a war against Ukraine, during which Russian troops resorted to war crimes, bombed civilians, and struck at critical infrastructure, including nuclear power plants.** The goal of the Russian leadership is the destruction of Ukrainian statehood and the Ukrainian nation, including by genocide of the Ukrainian people.

The Ukrainian army and society heroically defend their land, their homes, families, the right to peaceful, democratic development. At present, the armed forces of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people are showing unprecedented courage in destroying the Russian occupiers.

Ukraine highly appreciates the assistance of EU and NATO partner countries, especially in providing Ukraine with weapons, imposing sanctions on Russia, economic, diplomatic and information support.

At the same time, **the weak point of Ukrainian defense remains missile and air defense,** thanks to which the occupiers are shelling Ukrainian cities with cruise missiles "Kalibr", the missile systems "Iskander", aerial bombs.

Ensuring the **protection of the Ukrainian sky is a matter of security for Ukrainian people who die en masse during the shelling.**

In this regard, **CACDS asks you to help protect the Ukrainian sky by publishing this letter, an official statement from your organization, and a letter to your government requesting:**

1. Provide Ukraine with air and missile defense equipment, military aircrafts.
2. Impose full embargo on the purchase of Russian oil, gas, products and technologies of nuclear energy;
3. Prohibit Russian ships from entering foreign ports;
4. Terminate any cooperation with Russian banks.

The financing of the Russian economy ensures the existence of the Putin regime, which threatens not only Ukraine but the whole world, and only joint efforts can stop it.

Sincerely,

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