

Resolution Regarding Ukraine, from the 55th Congress of Evangelical Christian-Baptists

As the Evangelical Christian-Baptists representatives of the churches of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan: We the delegates of the 55th congress declare regarding the difficult situation in Ukraine:

1. We love all of our fellow brothers and sisters in Ukraine. We recognize that the believers in Ukraine comprise the largest number of churches as well as individual believers. We also acknowledge that many believers from Ukraine lead ministries in other regions as well. Ukraine represents one of the early centers of the Evangelical-Christian Baptist movement in pre-revolutionary Russia. We also acknowledge the role of Kievan Rus' as the beginning in the further spread of Christianity in Russia.

2. We urge all parties to avoid actions that fuel discord and strife, and to hold to our Lord's command to, "*Love your neighbor as yourself.*" We urge all parties to turn away from any manifestations of hostility, hatred, bitterness, or bloodshed. We call on all to resist the temptation to escalate tensions and instead to pull back from the darkening abyss.

3. We first and foremost call for prayer. We recognize that prayer is the most important weapon in our spiritual struggle. "*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, ...*" Ephesians 6:12

- We pray for peace in Ukraine and that all peoples, nationalities, social, and political affiliations would have the PEACE which comes from our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We pray for the leaders of Ukraine, Russia as well as all world leaders who may have a voice in regional events and somehow were involved in this conflict. We pray that the political powers established by God would carry out their duties with insight and wisdom and would make wise decisions in the fear of God.

4. We commit ourselves, and call on all others to make every effort to assist the Ukrainian people in restoring peace and in living in a way that is pleasing to God. No one should add fuel to an already difficult situation, but instead offer healing oil to those whose lives have been wounded by strife. We must be true friends and Christian brothers. "*A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.*" Proverbs 17:17

5. We urge all believers of the Euro-Asiatic Federation of Evangelical Christian Baptist Churches to join us in a day of prayer and fasting on the 23rd of May. We pray that the Lord would give peace and mutual love, and bring an end to the strife in our land. We call on each individual believer and upon each congregation to lift up these needs in prayer.

With peace from the city of Almaty, Kazakhstan,
May 11, 2014

