

Council of Europe
The Secretary General

Strasbourg, 19 August 2014

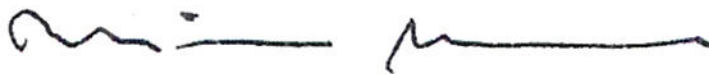
Dear Minister,

It is my responsibility as Secretary General of the Council of Europe to undertake every effort to assist our member States in ensuring that the rights guaranteed by the European Convention for Human Rights are effectively implemented, and to protect all displaced persons, regardless of who they are and where they live.

I wish to draw your attention today to the critical humanitarian situation that continues to unfold in relation to the on-going conflict in the eastern parts of Ukraine. According to international observers, the number of Internally Displaced Persons and refugees is increasing rapidly. The situation can only be described as dramatic, and it may deteriorate even further.

I therefore appeal to your government and to the governments of all our member States, to urgently consider supporting humanitarian aid to the region, in particular through the UNHCR and ICRC and in close coordination with the relevant national authorities. Such support, I believe, would certainly contribute to the long-term stabilisation of the region.

Yours sincerely,



Thorbjørn Jagland

Letter addressed to the
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of 45 member States of the Council of Europe

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